

# ICKENHAM MANOR FARM

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## SUMMARY

*A study of Ickenham Manor Farm, Ickenham, Middlesex (Nat. grid ref. TQ 088 851), before and during restoration found that the rear wing is of 14th-century date, and the main range retains a considerable amount of 16th-century decoration. It is probably the oldest surviving inhabited dwelling house in Middlesex.*

## HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The house used to be the manor house of the Manor of Ickenham. There are earthworks close by identified as moats. The estate can be traced back to three Saxon holdings amalgamated under Earl Roger of Shrewsbury by the time of Domesday Book. In the second quarter of the 14th century Nicholas Shorediche acquired it by marriage with Juette (Yvette?), heiress of John Charlton, a London merchant, and it remained in the Shorediche family until about 1812. (Juette also owned Southall Manor, which remained with the Shorediches until they sold it in 1496.) The next owner and lord of the manor was George Robinson, whose heirs sold it to Thomas Truesdale Clarke, lord of the adjoining Swakeleys Manor in 1859. The house, with only a few acres, was bought in 1961 by Sir Peter Tizard, a descendant of the Shorediche family (VCH 1971, pp 102–4; RCHM 1937, Ickenham (3) p 84a; Hughes 1983). I am grateful to the present owner, Humphrey Tizard, for allowing access to the house.

## DESCRIPTION OF THE HOUSE

Ickenham Manor Farm, listed Grade 1, is a two-storeyed house with a timber frame and walls of

timber, plaster and brick, plus a three-storeyed stair wing of similar structure in the north-west angle, and a pair of two-storeyed brick wings, at the south-east and north-east corners respectively. All the roofs are tiled.

Several phases of building are detectable in the present fabric. The house began as an open hall house of four bays, lying east to west, to which a large cross wing was added early in the 16th century. In the 17th the stair wing was built, and in the 18th a small parlour extension was added to the south east of the cross wing, while then, or shortly after, a small service extension was added at the north east. The existence of any earlier building on the site is not known.

## OPEN HALL HOUSES

In an open hall house the principal living room, the hall, had a hearth near the middle of the floor, and as a result the room was left open to the roof to permit the escape of smoke and fumes through a louvre, or chinks, in the roof. At one or both ends of the hall was a two-storeyed section, or bay, whose rooms were unheated. A passage with a door at each end crossed the house between the hall and one of the end bays—it might lie within the hall or in the wing. In the former case the hall would be protected from draughts by a screen dividing it from the passage. In the bay on the other side of the cross passage were service rooms, most commonly a pantry and a buttery for food and drink respectively. This was called the ‘low’ or service end of the house, while beyond the other, or ‘high’ end of the hall were private rooms for the owner. The upper chamber at that end was



Fig 1. *Ickenham Manor Farm—general views*

called a solar, a term superseded by 'parlour' from about the middle of the 16th century.

### THE REAR WING (Figs 2 & 3)

The oldest extant part of Ickenham Manor Farm is the rear wing of two bays representing part of an open hall and a two-storeyed bay. The roof is of crown post construction. The crown posts are unmoulded and braced to the collar plate only, with straight braces; the assembly marks on the braces indicate that the roof continued westward for another two bays. The rafters of the western bay are heavily sooted, showing the presence of an open hall, and the moulding on each side of the cambered tie beam and arch braces of the western cross frame show that the hall itself was at least two bays long.

The original walling was in large panels, with head (or upward) braces and studding, though none of the original studding remains and the wall posts survive below the ground floor ceilings

in small measure only. The posts are well squared and without jowls.

The joint tying the tie beam, wall plate and post (see Fig 3) at A has started, revealing a lap-dovetail joint with entrant shoulders secured by a peg which has snapped. It is not possible to tell whether there are secret notches within the joint. All the scarf joints in the top plates and collar plate are splayed and tabled joints, face-pegged with five or six pegs, and without internal notches, to judge by the one scarf which has been opened. Each is set over a post head (at B, C, and D); in the collar plate (at E), the only one not covered by a tie beam, the tenon on the head of the post acts as a face key, though not pegged, and the other scarfs are probably pierced in similar fashion.

There is no sign of the position of doors, windows or stairs. Nor is there any indication of the location of the cross passage, but, as the upper face of the collars is to the east, it ought to follow that the two present bays comprised the high end of the hall and the private rooms

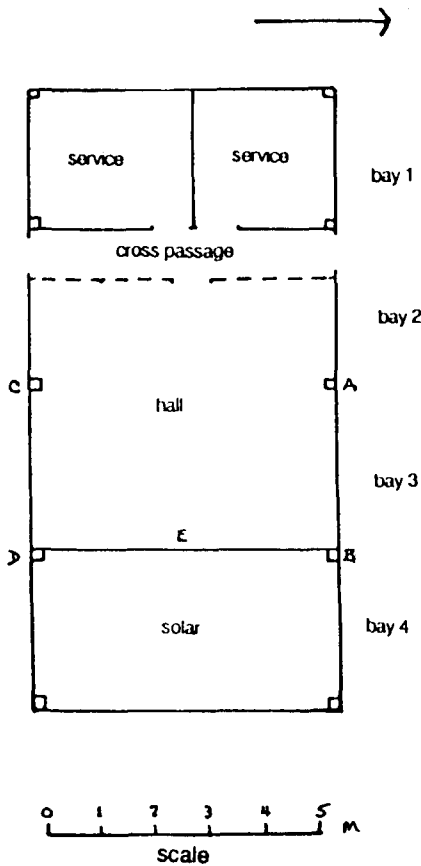


Fig 2. Plan of first phase 14th century

of the house. The entry and through passage would therefore have been in one of the missing bays. The only decorated members are the braces and tie beam of the central truss of the hall, and the tapered underside of the collar plate as it protrudes through what was the east gable.

The hall had no aisle, but mortices in the north posts (A and B) suggest that there may have been a single storey outshut or extension along the north side, removed when the cross wing was added; it is difficult to relate them to any later period.

### Date

The two most important pieces of evidence for dating this wing are the splayed and tabled scarf joint and the tying joint. When used in a plate, the scarf joint is early, and in the area of London and the home counties has been dated by

Hewett (1980, 263, no. 246) to the 13th and early 14th century. The joint has been found at two other places in north west Middlesex: Ruislip and Harrow. At Ruislip there are three examples in the arcade plate of the Great Barn, one at least being over a post. The barn has been dated to the late 13th or early 14th century on the evidence of its carpentry, which includes archaic features such as passing braces and angle ties (Hewett 1974). At Headstone Manor House in Harrow two examples of the scarf joint survive, one in a top plate, supported by a stud, the other in a crown plate (Airs 1972). Headstone Manor was built, on the evidence of documentary sources, about 1344.

The tying joint between post, wall plate and tie beam at A, especially when secured by a peg, as here, is also datable to the 14th century to judge by the two closest examples in Hewett (Hewett 1980 nos 279 and 286). Of the other features, straight braces to crown posts are earlier rather than later, though bracing the crown post only to the collar is more common towards the end of the medieval period (Mercer 1975, p 94-5); this last point however is but a slight counterweight to the other evidence. As at Headstone Manor, such moulding of timbers as survives takes the form of a plain chamfer only.

Both the buildings at Ruislip and at Headstone were built by a manorial lord of more than local importance and wealth, namely the Abbot of Bec and the Archbishop of Canterbury respectively, and may fairly be assumed to represent good current practice. The rear wing of Ickenham Manor Farm, lacking the additional archaic features of Ruislip, and being the house of someone at least a little less important than abbot or archbishop, can reasonably be dated to the middle or later part of the 14th century. The marriage of Juette Charlton to Nicholas Shorediche may have been a significant event. Later changes to the rear wing are dealt with below.

### THE CROSS WING (Figs 4, 5, 6, 7)

In the second phase of construction the cross wing, of two storeys throughout, was added at the east, producing a modified 'T' plan and it survives in its entirety. It is jettied at the north, has four bays, and a roof of clasped purlin and tie beam form. The timber used is stout, regular<sup>1</sup> and long—the longest piece observed, in the

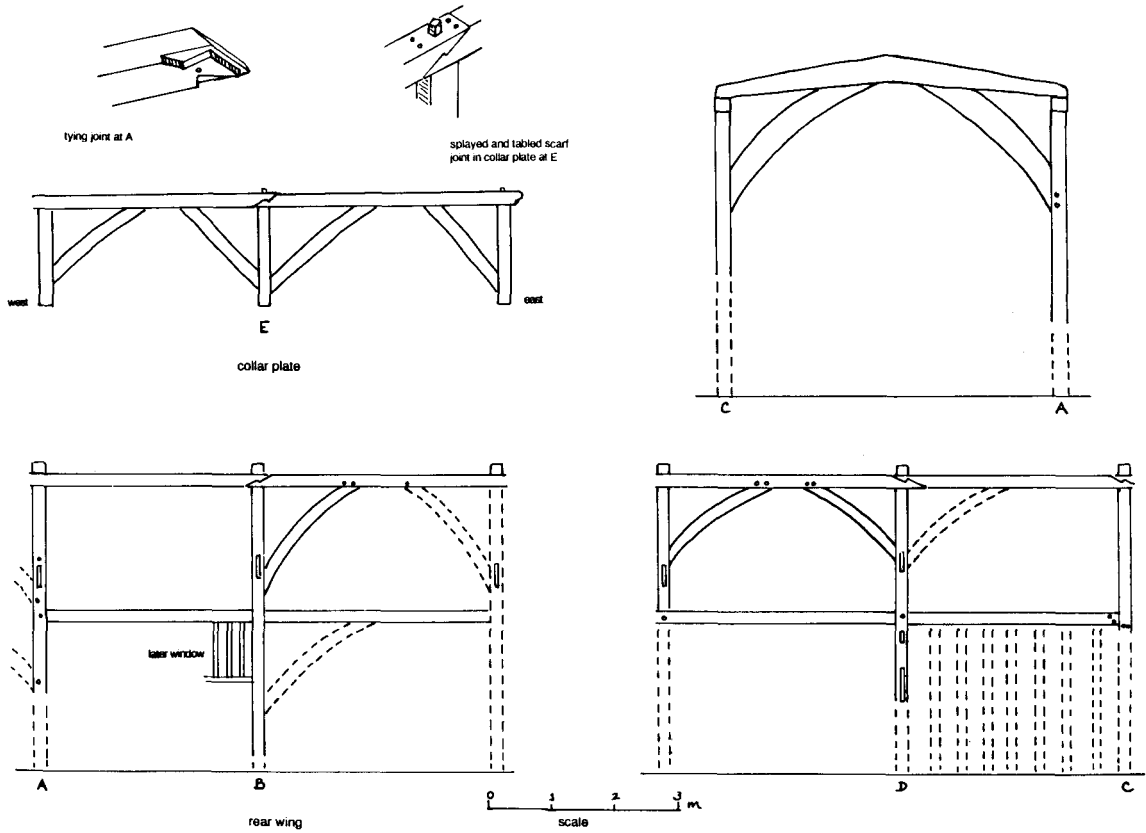


Fig 3. Rear wing—walls, central cross frame, details

western top-plate, measures 9.15 m (30 ft). The scarf joint used is face-halved and bladed (or tenoned) with one tenon housed, and secured with five pegs, a joint found from about 1475 (Hewett 1980, 269, no.269). The main wall posts, with integral cut and tapered jowls, extend to the full height of two storeys. There is no evidence that any hearths were provided originally.

Externally the walls had close studding, still visible in the upper wall at the north and in some parts of the east; elsewhere the walls have been underbuilt, or filled with brick. There was a porch two storeys high on the eastern side, sheltering the door to the cross passage, shown by the blocked doorway from the upper room to the porch chamber and mortices and peg holes in the adjoining posts. The hollow moulded inner edge of the doorway can be seen in the upper room.

## Ground floor

Though there are now only two rooms on the ground floor, partitioned at the central frame, the opposed doors at the northern end of the side walls in the southern room, and the numerous doors in the partition wall, mark a former screens or cross passage, now incorporated within the southern room. There is no longer any observable trace of a fixed screen as opposed to a moveable one. The southern room has transverse and axial ceiling beams with deep roll mouldings meeting in a mason's mitre. Since the (concealed) joists have no mouldings, the room probably had a ceiling from the beginning. One original window survives by the door in the eastern wall; its two lights are divided by a moulded mullion, rebated for glass, and they have four-centred heads with sunk spandrels beneath a square head. At the southern end of

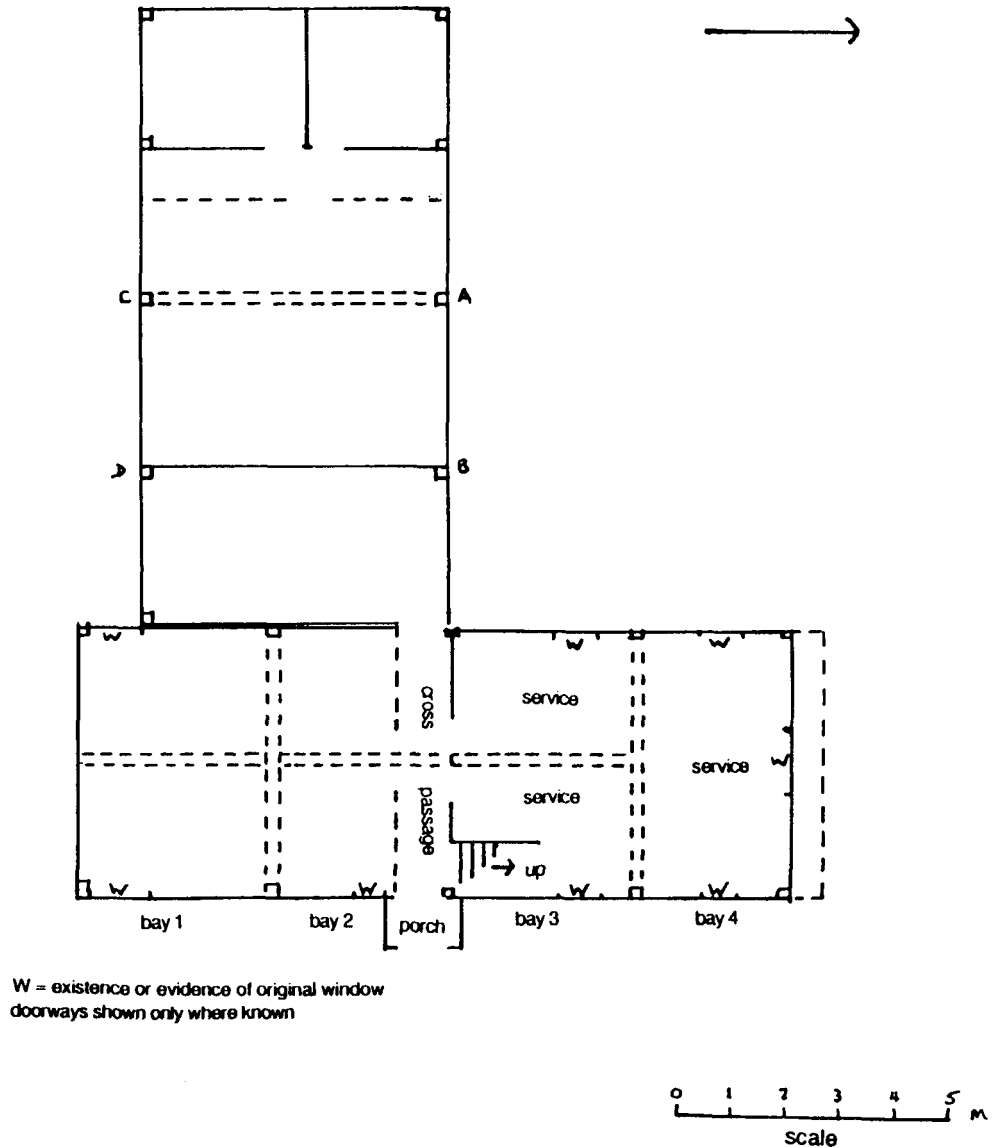


Fig 4. Plan of second phase mid 16th century

the same wall a low rail suggests the former existence of a larger, deeper window of unknown style. A similar rail opposite in the west wall indicates another. (The present hearth, centrally placed in the south wall, is an addition, probably of 18th-century date. Alongside it at the west is a concealed 17th-century hearth, with another in the room above, both served by a contemporary stack, but both of them additional.)

In the north wall of the cross passage four doorways are visible, one at each end, and two more flanking the central post which forms their common jamb. All but the second from the east

are blocked. The door at the west is a later insertion, but the other three are original and of identical design originally. The four-centred heads and mouldings of an early to middle 16th-century character, surviving in varying degrees of completeness, show that these three doors and the opposed doors at either end of the cross passage are contemporary.

The doors show that the present single room beyond was once subdivided, though in a way not now clear. The room has an original window in each of the eastern and western walls, like the one in the southern room, except that these have

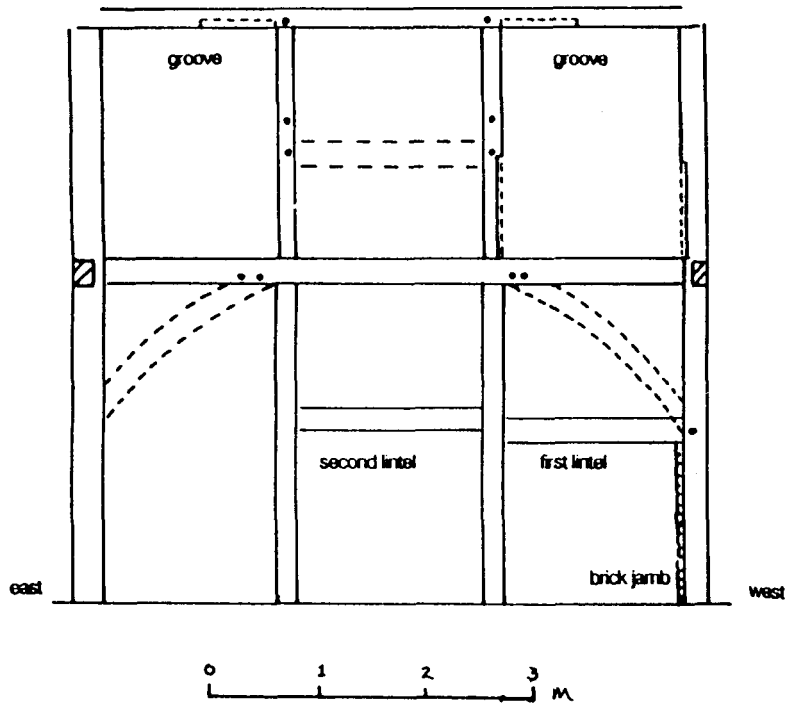


Fig 5. Cross wing—south wall

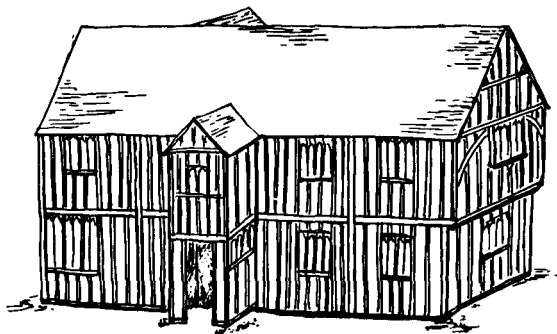


Fig 6. Cross wing—conjectured appearance from the east in mid 16th century

three and four lights. A third and similar window is concealed within the northern end of the east wall, and it was probably complemented by one opposite, later removed to make way for the stack, matching the position of a blocked window in the room above (see below).

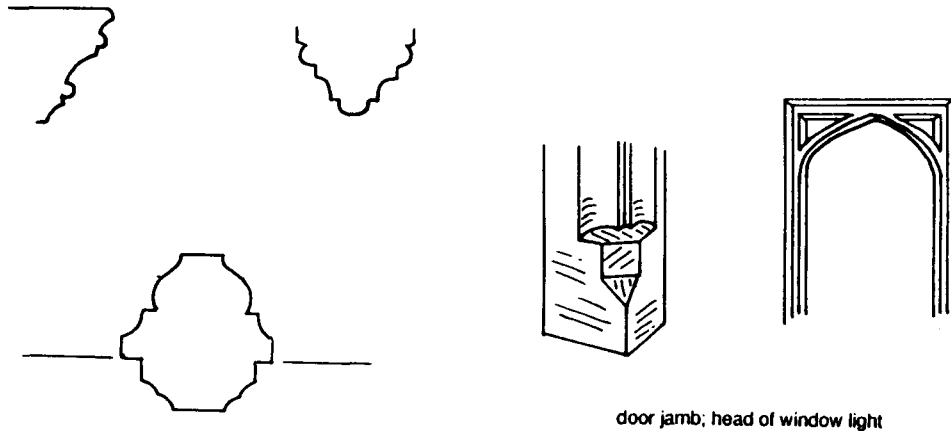
The ceiling beams have no decoration other than chamfers and step stops; the joists are concealed as in the south room. There is no indication of where the stair was, though the door at the eastern end of the cross passage indicates the most likely position; the joists

between the floors might give an answer, when accessible.

### Upper floor

The original layout of the upper floor is hard to disentangle from later changes. There may have been four rooms at first, divided at bay intervals, though the partition between the third and fourth bays is of much poorer material than elsewhere in the wing, and could be later work. The second bay from the south has a plain (now blocked) doorway into the rear wing.

Some of the evidence for earlier windows is ambiguous. The present window in the north wall was an oriel of shallow projection, to judge from traces on the outside of a moulded sill and bracket beneath the modern replacement; it may, however, have been one of the 17th-century changes (see below). A window in the west wall of the north bay (bay 4) has been blocked by the later stack, and is probably an original one. The south wall contained an undoubtedly original window, centrally placed like that in the northern wall, with a shutter groove above in the soffit of the top plate. Shutter grooves in the west plate



section of bressummer, beam and mullion

door jamb; head of window light

Fig 7. Cross wing—16th-century detail (not to scale)

of the south bay and the east plate of the third bay mark the position of other earlier windows. These positions reflect those of the lower windows, but as the original windows downstairs have no grooves (though in some cases the evidence could still be concealed) the grooves may refer to later, not original windows. There is nothing to show the style of the upper windows.

The only decoration of internal timbers upstairs consists of chamfers and step stops to the tie beams and posts, plus the hollow moulded inner edge of the doorway to the porch chamber.

### Use of rooms

The inference from the screens passage that the new wing provided up-to-date facilities—service rooms to the north side and a single storey hall to the south—produces contradictions. There is the apparent absence of provision for heating in the 'hall'. Though there was no original hearth of brick it is possible that a chimney of timber and plaster had been installed. The only site for it could have been that of the later 17th-century hearth and no traces have survived subsequent alterations to the wall and gable. Failing this, the room would have been heated by a portable grate, such as a chafing pan, or possibly a brazier. Such a room would not have been a hall.

If there were service rooms north of the cross passage, without a brick hearth none could have been a kitchen. If they were service rooms the

linen-fold panelling described in the RCHM report as being in this room in 1923 (RCHM 1923) could not have been an original feature of the room, but it could easily have come from elsewhere in the house, perhaps the southern room. The present owner was told that linen-fold panelling from the house was sold in 1947 or 1948.

The combination of parlour and service rooms in the same wing at this time in a house of this status would be unorthodox, and so would the placing of the wing at the further side of a solar bay—it might have been convenient in respect of the parlour but not, one would suppose, for the service rooms. The answer must be that the new wing did not provide a new hall and kitchen with other service rooms.

There are two possible alternatives, neither fully satisfactory. One is that the wing provided another, presumably better, parlour or chamber, and ancillary service rooms. In this case all access from the old to the new service rooms must have been via the original solar bay, which would have been undesirable. The other is that the wing provided a parlour and minor subsidiary chambers, with no service rooms at all, despite the classic layout of the cross passage. This is the more plausible answer, in view of the 17th-century alterations.

In either case it would follow that the open hall and the old kitchen were still in use. If that kitchen was detached and north of the hall—the outshuts already give a service character to that

area—the extension would emphasize the gathering of service facilities at the north side of the house, which was obviously the rear by now. The old main entrance into the passage adjoining the open hall was probably retained, the porch on the east being a subsidiary one, maybe leading into a garden or orchard. On a summer day the east front of the new wing must have made a charming picture. Its exterior was clearly intended to be ostentatious, whatever the internal use, and prompts the question of whether the hall wing was refitted with new glazed windows at this time—though no indication has been found.

### **Date**

The cross wing is datable by its doors, windows and ceiling beams to the first half of the 16th century, and the roof form and close studding are appropriate to this date<sup>2</sup>. The middle years of the century were a period of transition from open hall to two-storeyed house, so the absence of brick chimney stacks at Ickenham is in keeping—it is not now possible to tell if timber stacks were used. The use of glass was very up to date, though, and would have mitigated the chilliness of the rooms.

### **LATE 16th and 17th CENTURY ALTERATIONS** (Figs 5, 8, 9)

#### **Hall wing and cross wing**

At the end of the 16th or early in the 17th century several modifications were effected, probably part of a series, but the exact sequence is not known.

The first, however, was surely the provision of brick stacks and hearths in the new wing. At the south the present stack with paired flues served a hearth at each floor, one above the other. The lower one is blocked now; studding and a brace had to be removed to fit it in, and a narrow jamb of bricks was built against the south west post to support the wooden lintel—all trace of a fire-surround has gone. Its position in the corner of the room must have been dictated by the existence of the upper window in the centre of the wall. In the room above, the posts had to be trimmed back to make room for the stone fire surround, which is still in position. In the north bay of the new wing the lintel of the ground

floor hearth was higher than the others; the opening has since been reduced in size and fitted with a reproduction fireplace. The hearth above, now blocked, may have been contemporary or an insertion.

The ground floor bay window in the north wall incorporates remnants of a square set bay window inserted in the early 17th century, to judge by the external sunk panels of the mullions. Beside it at the east is an original frieze window of two lights with ovolo mouldings. It must be one of a pair originally flanking the bay, a composition which was very popular in good quality houses of the period. The oriel window above was probably contemporary.

Attention could then be turned to the rear wing. The old open hall was converted to two storeys and a single room created out of the two ground floor bays adjoining the cross wing. Axial and transverse beams of great size were inserted, halved on to the older framework, with mouldings virtually matching those in the hall of the cross wing, though in this case, at the point where the axial beams meet the transverse beams, they were scribed, that is, cut to fit round the moulding of the transverse beams to give the appearance of a true mitre. The joists were laid flat, tenoned at mid point into the beams, and have chamfers and broach (or pyramid) stops.

It is not possible to tell whether the rest of the rear wing was updated, or shortened to its present two bays. To judge by the narrowness of the earliest bricks in the present western wall it was truncated as part of the same scheme. Part of the lintel for a large hearth is embedded in the brickwork, and in the north wall of the new parlour is a window of late 16th or early 17th-century date, with plain inserted frame and four chamfered mullions, rebated for glass. The full width of the window is unknown because the western part of the frame is missing and the wall of the staircase wing blocks the remnant.

(The broken pieces of a stone fire-surround of late 16th-century pattern lie near an outhouse in the grounds. If the surround is genuine, which I cannot judge, it could have come from any one of the three ground floor fireplaces.)

#### **The staircase wing**

There is evidence of one or more previous structures in the north-west angle of the two wings. The two lower newel posts of the surviving stair still rest in the remnants of east-west sills



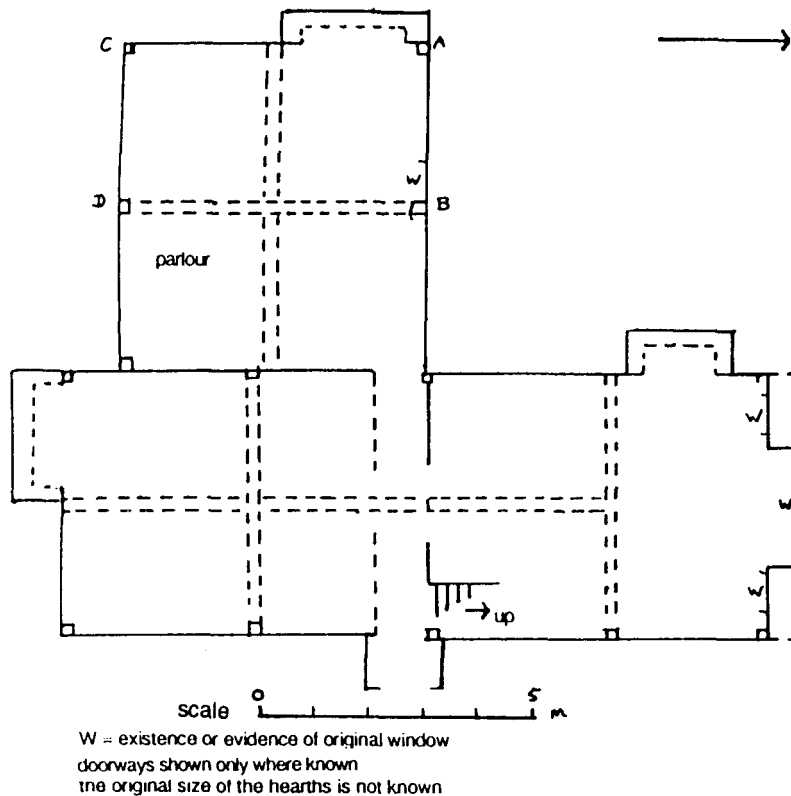


Fig 8. Plan after late 16th/early 17th-century changes

which have no present purpose, but probably remain from an outshut, or even from an earlier staircase serving the old rear wing.

The present staircase was built during the 17th century, three storeys in height, with accommodation on the ground and top floors. At the first floor a large landing gives access to each of the other wings as well as to the next flight, while a tiny room has been contrived in the stair well and borrows light from the landing through an unglazed ovolo moulded window. Most of the balusters along the landing are original but have been reset; they are symmetrically turned elongated vases, almost bobbins, and there is a nearly identical set, ascribed to 1629, at Great Lypiatt Manor, Wiltshire (Slocombe, 1988).

This staircase must at first have turned eastward at the foot within the wing, presumably with access to the north room of the cross wing through the door made in the west wall thereof, and maybe on to the screens passage through the additional door made at the west end of the partition wall.

The changes of use signified by these alterations can only be guessed. Though the higher lintel of the northern hearth might possibly mean that its room became a kitchen—a typical improvement of the period if a detached one had previously been in use—the frieze and bay windows seem unsuitable for a kitchen. Similarly the ceiling beams of the newly made room in the rear hall wing seem too grand for that use. Both this room and the southern room were suitable for use as reception or living rooms, such as hall or parlour. The problem of where the kitchen was remains. If, since there was now no passage in the old hall wing, the east porch became the main entrance, it would have been suitable for the south room of the cross wing to have been the hall, and for the new room in the rear wing to have been used as the more private parlour. The present owner says that the south room has traditionally been called the Court Room, an indication perhaps that manor courts were held in it, and a reinforcement of the view of it being the principal room.

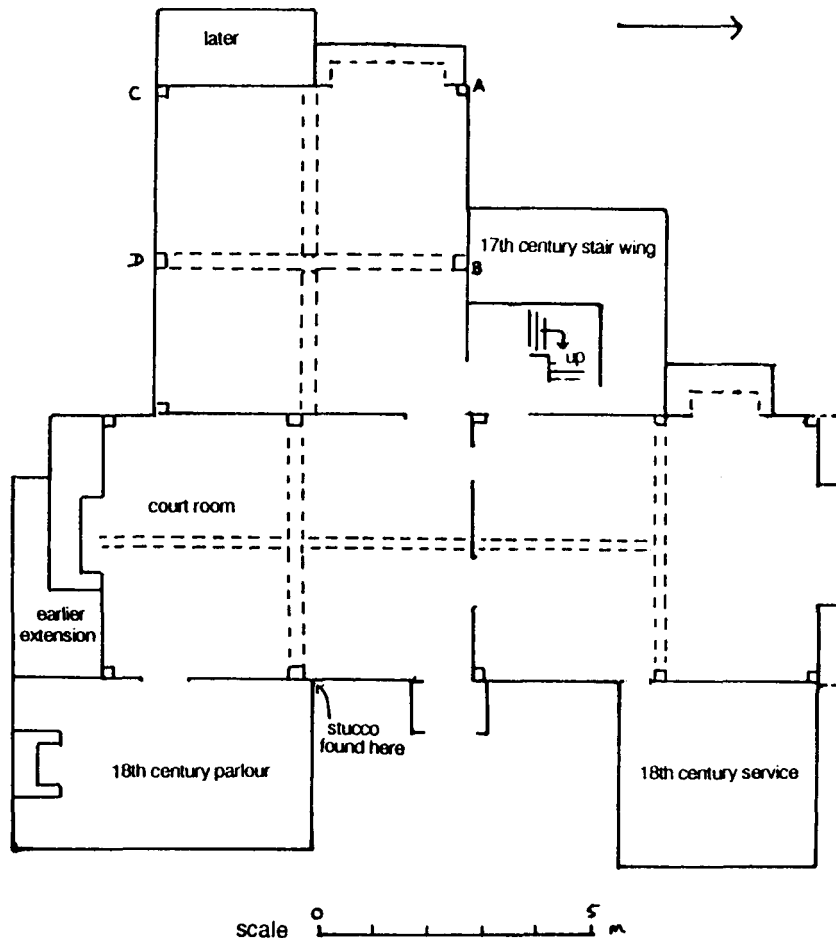


Fig 9. Plan after 17th and 18th-century alterations

### 18th CENTURY CHANGES AND ADDITIONS (Figs 5 and 9)

As with the earlier changes, it is difficult to give other than an approximate date to these. Most of them concerned the cross wing.

In the south room the earlier fireplace was blocked and another made alongside it, with a flue angled westward to usurp the existing one. The new lintel was a little higher than the other, with a chimney breast above created by adding another skin of walling a half-brick deep, the intention probably being to produce a more fashionable, symmetrical appearance to the room. At the same time a shallow two-storeyed extension of brick, with a string course of two bricks, was built to the south, enclosing the new hearth, part of the 17th century stack and the space east of it, and providing closets or dressing

rooms while doing away with the original central upper window.

It appears that part at least of the timber framing of the eastern wall was covered on the outside with plaster, scored to resemble stone blocks, and painted, for a section of the plaster was found *in situ* where the wall of a brick wing (see below) butts against it. It is very little weathered so could not have been in use long. Though stucco was already in use for quoins or window and door facings, this seems an early date for its use to imitate stone in a domestic setting.

Subsequently a small red brick wing was added at the south east, blocking an upper east window in the closet extension. The exterior has a raised string course three bricks deep. Closing bricks on the east façade suggest that the upper floor was

longer than the lower at the south east corner, but the reason is elusive. The roof is of clasped purlin type, with stout timbers and much reused material. The joists between the floors are well trimmed, and jointed to the girding beam with double tenons and spurred soffits. There is one room on each floor. The upper room has no contemporary fittings left, but the ground floor contains a curved-back fireplace, doorcase, door, panelling and alcoves of early to mid 18th-century style. Clearly it was an elegant new drawing room for the 18th-century owners.

The much plainer north east wing could have been built as part of the same phase, or later in the same century. It was of a service nature and had a cellar beneath it which is now filled. The passage between the two northern upper rooms of the cross wing, giving access to this addition, must have been fashioned at the same time, which might account for the poor quality of the passage partition. The passage along the western side of the southern of these two rooms may also be of this date.

The alterations of this century might indicate the destruction of western parts of the premises, the adaptation of part of what remained for kitchen or other service use, and the provision of additional residential rooms.

## OTHER MODIFICATIONS

There is not enough evidence to say when some of the changes to the house were made, when, for example the cross passage was eliminated, the porch removed, the stacks reduced, or the area at the foot of the stairs enlarged by setting back part of the north wall of the rear wing and permitting access to each ground floor room independently of the others. Some of the joists of the eastern bay of the rear wing have been severed at the north as though to take a staircase, but the shape is slightly irregular and no proper trimmer remains—the work may relate to 19th-century use of the house as a farmstead, or to its subdivision into four flats during World War II. The RCHM inspector found that the main entrance was still at the east in 1923, and, according to the present owner, a man who visited the house frequently as a child at about that time said that the present entrance hall was then a pantry with its own door into the cross wing (now blocked).

## THE SIGNIFICANCE OF ICKENHAM MANOR FARM

This house is important in county terms because it contains the remains of *only the second* surviving 14th-century dwelling house so far identified in Middlesex, and the earliest *still in domestic use*. The other survivor is Headstone Manor House in Harrow, whose 14th-century parts only passed out of domestic use in the middle 1980s. As here, only half of the open hall and one two-storeyed end remain at Headstone, though there the two-storeyed end is a cross wing and was the service end, and the hall was never converted to two storeys. Furthermore, Headstone was larger than Ickenham, and was a late example of a quasi-aisled hall. Both houses were moated, but while Headstone's remains complete and water filled, the moat at Ickenham has been truncated and partly filled.

The value of the cross wing at Ickenham lies in the quality and degree of its decoration, which again makes it an important house. To judge by remaining examples, the ornamentation of timber framed houses in Middlesex was understated almost to the point of plainness. There are surviving cases of adornment other than simple chamfers and step or cyma stops on beams, plates and arch braces, but the distribution is sparse; no crown posts with moulded caps or bases, for example, have yet come to light.

The most ornamental surviving house in Middlesex is undoubtedly Southall Manor House, built by Richard Awsiter in 1587 (Southall had been owned by the Shorediches of Ickenham until the end of the 15th century). It is much restored, though I believe the restorations follow the original. Within it has fine panelling, and elaborate fireplaces and chimney pieces of the best quality. The exterior exhibits diagonal and strapwork studding, oriel windows, frieze windows and a two storeyed porch, with many enrichments.

Ickenham Manor Farm shares some of these features to a greater extent than any other Middlesex house I have yet come across, though it has had very little restoration compared with Southall Manor House. The 16th-century cross wing at Ickenham is earlier in date than Southall Manor House; it is still of medieval plan with entry into a cross passage—the newer features such as lateral and terminal chimney stacks are additions. Southall has lateral and terminal stacks, and its plan has a central entrance hall

entered from the porch. The windows and doors at Ickenham are of an earlier type than those at Southall. These, and two-storeyed porches, oriel windows, bay windows, and frieze windows are uncommon in the surviving houses of the county, turned balusters rather less so. Like the later

Southall Manor, Ickenham Manor was a superior house, not that of a yeoman but of a member of the gentry—its builder, the lord of Ickenham Manor, could not have been short of money. The house is a rare representative of a house of this status and quality in Middlesex.

## GLOSSARY

<i>angle tie</i>	a timber tying two horizontal timbers together across the angle they make
<i>arcade plate</i>	a plate set over the arcade, or inner, posts of an aisled building
<i>axial</i>	in line with the length of the house
<i>blade</i>	a projection similar to a tenon, usually in a scarf joint
<i>chamfer</i>	surface formed by cutting off an edge
<i>clasped purlin</i>	a purlin supported by a collar
<i>collar</i>	transverse timber connecting rafters
<i>crown post</i>	upright post standing on a tie beam and supporting the crown plate
<i>crown plate</i>	plate in a crown post roof which supports the collars
<i>cyma</i>	a moulding with the profile of a double curve like an elongated 'S'
<i>face</i>	the upper surface of a piece of timber. (The 'upper face' of a collar is that side of the collar on which it is flush with the rafter to which it is joined)
<i>face halved</i>	a timber cut along its face to reduce the thickness
<i>jowl</i>	the thickening of a post at the top
<i>lap dovetail</i>	a dovetail joint where the two pieces of timber are not finished flush with each other, but one remains proud of the other
<i>lintel</i>	horizontal beam over a fireplace, door or window
<i>mason's mitre</i>	where two chamfered timbers meet at a right angle and the meeting point of the chamfers is cut entirely on one of the members, as generally in stonework
<i>mortice</i>	a socket cut to receive a tenon
<i>mullion</i>	the vertical member between lights in a window opening
<i>outshut</i>	compartment (not being an aisle) at the side of a house under a lean-to roof
<i>ovolo</i>	a moulding being the quarter of a circle
<i>passing brace</i>	a long brace running across one or more other timbers between the post and beam it assists
<i>plate</i>	a horizontal timber, usually at the top of a wall
<i>post</i>	a substantial vertical timber forming part of the main framework
<i>purlin</i>	a longitudinal timber in a roof slope, supporting rafters
<i>scarf</i>	joint between two timbers meeting end to end
<i>sill</i>	a horizontal member at the bottom of a framed wall, window or door frame
<i>soffit</i>	the lower or under surface of a timber
<i>spandrel</i>	the space between the line of an arch and its rectangular outer frame
<i>splay</i>	a cut at a sloping angle
<i>splayed and tabled</i>	a scarf where the splay is interrupted by a step cut in the timber
<i>step stop</i>	a stop where there is a step, or change of plane, between the chamfer and its end
<i>stop</i>	decorative ending of a chamfer
<i>stud</i>	a less substantial or minor timber in a wall
<i>tenon</i>	a rectangular projection from the end of a piece of timber
<i>tie beam</i>	main transverse timber connecting the tops of walls
<i>trimmer</i>	a short timber set across the ends of joists to allow for an opening, <i>eg</i> a staircase
<i>upward brace</i>	brace running from a vertical timber upwards to a horizontal one
<i>window light</i>	section of a window between the mullions

## NOTES

<sup>1</sup> Ian Tyers of the Museum of London kindly looked at two pieces of timber. A piece taken from the top plate of the rear wing proved to be too small in range of growth rings to be datable. A piece of wall post from the cross wing showed some 80 rings but they were too regularly spaced to be datable, indicating

that the wood had been carefully grown in what may have been a protected environment.

<sup>2</sup> Door frames and window mouldings of the type in the cross wing are found in the late 15th century as well as the 16th, *eg* Great Dixter, Northiam; Ockwells Manor, Bray; Little Wolford Manor; Eltham Palace, Kent; Turk Farm, Smarden; Arnolds Manor, Lambourne. In Middlesex there are closely parallel

door frames at Sutton House, Hackney, built in brick c. 1520. The mouldings of the ceiling beams are found in the late 15th and the 16th century; see similar examples c. 1450–1500 in Wood 1965 p 406, fig 117, nos 35–47. In Middlesex there are similar beams at Shepperton Rectory.

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