

Historic Building Record  
4 Atholl Crescent  
Perth  
PE68

**Alder Archaeology Ltd**  
**55 SOUTH METHVEN STREET**  
**PERTH PH1 5NX**  
Tel: 01738 622393  
Director@AlderArchaeology.co.uk

**HISTORIC BUILDING RECORD**  
**4 ATHOLL CRESCENT**  
**PERTH**  
**PE68**

1	<i>Background</i> .....	1
2	<i>Details of Work</i> .....	1
3	<i>Discussion</i> .....	7
Appendix 1	<i>Photographic Register</i> .....	7
Appendix 2	<i>Discovery &amp; Excavation in Scotland Entry</i> .....	15

*Illustration 1: Location*

*Illustration 2: Location*

*Illustration 3: Basement*

*Illustration 4: Ground Floor*

*Illustration 5: First Floor*

*Illustration 6: Attic*

*Illustration 7: North Elevation*

*Illustration 8: South Elevation*

*Illustration 9: Section*

*Illustration 10: Alterations*

*Illustration 11: Atholl Crescent facade*

*Illustration 12: Ground Floor, NE Room.*

*Illustration 13: Ground Floor, NE Room. Serving hatch and wide door.*

*Illustration 14: Ground Floor, NE Room. Moulded plaster cornice.*

*Illustration 15: Ground Floor, NW Room.*

*Illustration 16: Ground Floor, NW Room. Shutter with oak woodgrain effect.*

*Illustration 17: Spiral stair. Cantilever stone treads.*

*Illustration 18: Sockets for safety barrier at stair head.*

*Illustration 19: First Floor, N Rooms. Moulded plaster cornice and corbels.*

*Illustration 20: Central bay. Moulded plaster cornice and corbels.*

*Illustration 21: Ornate fireplace in E party wall.*

*Illustration 22: Spiral stair to attic. Stained glass window in S wall.*

*Illustration 23: Attic stair head and ceiling*

*Illustration 24: NE dormer. View to North Inch. Vent overhead.*

*Illustration 25: Rafters and sarking boards.*

*Illustration 26: Rafters, sarking boards and E party wall.*

*Illustration 27: Window roundels. Flowers and strawberries.*

*Illustration 28: Lower stained glass window. Single fixed pane. Repairs in red border?*

*Illustration 29: Window roundels. Bullfinch and Robin?*

*Illustration 30: Front Area. Steel sub-frame and cast iron switch box.*

*Illustration 31: Atholl Crescent. Pediment at No 5. Lamp post only at No 4.*

*Illustration 32: Rear elevation*

*Illustration 33: Rear elevation with drooped mansard over main stair.*

**Author** David Bowler BA, MPhil, FSA Scot, MCIfA  
**Illustrator** David Bowler  
**Editor** Chris Fyles, MA, FSA Scot, PCIfA.

## **ABSTRACT**

*Alder Archaeology produced a historic building record (site code PE68) of 4 Atholl Crescent, Perth, for Blazon Investments Ltd, in advance of internal alterations to return the building to residential use. The recording was undertaken on 05<sup>th</sup> and 07<sup>th</sup> August 2020.*

*The building is part of an A-listed late 18<sup>th</sup>-century crescent on the N edge of the historic burgh, facing the North Inch. For many years it was in use as professional offices, but preserves many features of its origins as a high status dwelling in what was a fashionable part of the growing Georgian city. This includes decorative plaster work, elegant doors and shutters, and ornate fireplaces.*

# **1 Background**

## **1.1 Introduction**

Mr Andrew Kirkwood on behalf of Blazon Investments Ltd commissioned Alder Archaeology to undertake an archaeological Historic Building Record of 4 Atholl Crescent, Perth. The proposed development will partially return this late 18<sup>th</sup>-century property to residential use, after many years of office use. The building is A-listed, located on the northern edge of the historic burgh, centred on NGR NO 11743 23932. The work (site code PE68) was undertaken on 05<sup>th</sup> and 07<sup>th</sup> August 2020. The requirement was to make a basic record of the existing building and its setting, with particular emphasis on significant internal features likely to be affected by the intended changes.

The work was designed to satisfy the archaeological condition on development application reference 19/01946/FLL.

## **1.2 Aims and Objectives**

The main aim of this investigation was to record the building as it currently is, with special attention to its high-quality internal features, and particularly where alterations are required to make the building suitable for modern residential use.

## **1.3 Reporting**

The present document has been prepared as the final report on this investigation. Copies will be sent to the client, The National Record of the Historic Environment at Historic Environment Scotland, and the Perth and Kinross Historic Environment Record.

## **1.4 Acknowledgements**

Terms of Reference were provided by Sophie Nicol of Perth and Kinross Heritage Trust. The work was arranged by Mr Andrew Kirkwood, Architect, on behalf of the client. Mr Graeme Simpson of Blazon Investments Ltd provided access to the building and gave most helpful background on the previous and future use of the building.

# **2 Details of Work**

## **2.1 The Site (Illus 1)**

Atholl Crescent is located on the northern edge of the historic burgh. It is bounded on the S side by Carpenter Street and Blackfriars Street, and on the N side by Atholl Street. The crescent faces N, and commands impressive views of the North Inch, one of Perth's two medieval common meadows, now a very popular park. Atholl Crescent was part of a late 18<sup>th</sup>-century expansion of the burgh, in effect Perth's New Town, and is intentionally of very formal and symmetrical design. The houses each consist of a basement, ground floor, second floor and attic storey, with central entrances and a symmetrical arrangement of twelve-pane sash and case windows in a painted ashlar facade. The houses have pitched slated roofs with central ridges aligned parallel to the facade, and dormers in the N and S facing slopes. The chimneys are all in the party walls, which rise above the slates to form a firebreak between the houses. Pilasters are

applied to the full height of the facade to separate each house from its neighbours. The central house of the crescent (No 5), now the Mason's Hall, has a large classical pediment occupying the whole width of the attic storey, with a central oculus, which naturally emphasises the formal symmetry of the design. The pilasters of No 5 are decorated with fluting, to further emphasise the importance of this central location. The arrangement of Carpenter Street and Blackfriars Street to the S give No 5 the largest space to the rear, now occupied by a large extension to accommodate the Mason's Hall, while the space diminishes progressively to E and W. No 4, directly to the E of No 5, is thus on a prominent and extensive site within the crescent.

Because of the curve of Atholl Crescent, No 4 faces very slightly E of N, but for convenience is here described as N facing.

## **2.2 Historical Potential**

The houses of Atholl Crescent would originally have been designed as high status dwellings, each housing a single extended family and its servants, with a degree of space, light, fresh air and elegance not available in the more cramped and crowded streets of the medieval burgh. There was ready access for carriages, with stables and coach houses at the rear, and on the North Inch an almost rural setting of parkland in the technical sense, with grazing, mature trees, riverside walks, and even a race course, all the amenities which fashionable society looked for in a New Town, and which Perth, always a 'Little Edinburgh' to Dundee's 'Little Glasgow', very properly felt it deserved.

In the 19<sup>th</sup> century, Perth continued to expand to the N. The Regency terraces and Victorian villas to the N of Atholl Street and around Balhousie have mostly remained in continual residential use. Atholl Crescent, on the other hand, was swallowed up in the expanding commercial core of Perth, The Quality moved away, and the houses were converted to offices for accountants, lawyers and similar professions. The grand and formal style of the houses rather suited such professional use, and they have suffered less alteration than they might have undergone as Victorian or 20<sup>th</sup>-century residences. The professions have now moved on in their turn, leaving 4 Atholl Crescent with much of its original character, sympathetically maintained and adapted to mid 20<sup>th</sup>-century professional use.

## **2.3 Proposed Alterations**

The basement storey is to continue in office use, and no alterations are proposed.

At ground level, the late 20th-century toilet block is no longer required, and will be converted to storage for each of the four flats, by blocking the windows and re-arranging the doors and partitions. The slightly recessed modern blockwork in front of the rear basement windows will be levelled up.

On the ground floor, two flats will be created, E and W, by combining the NE and SE rooms on one side, and the NW and SW rooms on the other. The 20<sup>th</sup>-century glass and timber screen and door behind the front entrance will be removed, the existing entrances to all the rooms will be blocked up, and new entrances from the central corridor will be created for the front NE and NW rooms. New doorways will connect each front room to the adjacent back room, E and W. The partition wall dividing the NE and SE rooms will be relocated to create space for a bathroom and open kitchen.

The existing partition between the NW and SW rooms will be retained, with a bathroom and open kitchen either side of the new doorway. New doors will be fitted to separate the stair from the adjacent corridors and back stair.

On the first floor, a single large flat will be created, entered centrally from the main stair. The existing partitions will mostly be retained, but the doorways will be rearranged so that the rooms all connect to each other rather than the stairway. The existing small toilet beside the stair will be enlarged to form an en-suite bathroom with the SE room.

In the attic, another large flat will be created, entered directly from the top of the stair. The existing hall or landing at the top of the stair will be taken into the flat, and various doorways and partitions will be re-arranged. The existing dormers will be supplemented with new velux roof lights.

As the partition walls are mostly to be retained, the plaster cornices on the ground and first floors will also mostly remain. Where partitions are to be re-positioned, the cornices will be replicated on the new partition walls.

## **2.4 Method**

The site was visited on 05<sup>th</sup> August 2020 and briefly on the 07<sup>th</sup>. The building was exhaustively photographed inside and out, to show as much of its fabric and condition as possible, and its relation to the surrounding townscape.

The photographic record was intentionally structured to allow intuitive cross-reference between detail and its wider setting. It is described in detail in Appendix 1 below, together with interpretive notes where relevant. The text which follows gives a general overview. The illustrations are based on architect's plans and elevations, annotated to show features of interest.

## **2.5 Results of Investigations**

### *2.5.1 General*

Because it is part of a crescent, the building naturally has a trapezoidal plan, and this is replicated in the individual rooms. The back (S) wall is straight, but the front (N) wall follows the curve of the crescent. The general plan is more or less symmetrical, with a central passage or hall, and a D-shaped spiral stair, embedded within the house plan and back wall, not projecting as a stair tower. There are four main rooms on each floor, with the two larger rooms on the N side, facing the N Inch, and the two smaller rooms facing S to the back court and Blackfriars Street.

Except in the basement, all internal walls are of lath and plaster on timber studding. Only the E and W party walls, the front and back walls, and the stair (attached to the back wall) are of masonry.

Each main room has (or had) its own fireplace in one of the E or W party walls, which carry all the flues up to the chimneys visible above the roof line. There are no other flues or fireplaces.

Most of the rooms have 12-paned sash and case windows with wooden shutters, except in the basement and attic, where the windows are naturally smaller. The glass is all

relatively modern, including Pilkington float glass. There were no surviving hand-made glass panes.

Most of the ground and first-floor doors were of softwood frame and panel construction, probably original, and generally about three feet (0.91 m) wide, as compared with the more common 2' 6" (0.76 m) found in later houses, eg the 1905 house in which this report is being written. The wide doors are evidently part of the elegance and social grace to which a high-status late-Georgian building (and its owners) naturally aspired. Romantic persons may imagine the rather voluminous ladies' fashions of the time. Others may recollect, say, HRH The Prince Regent.

Most of the ground and first-floor rooms and hallways have plaster cornices where the walls meet the ceiling. Traditional plaster cornices were made by building up a fillet of plaster in the angle, which was then shaped by running a profiled template of sheet zinc along the wet plaster. Deep or complex profiles would be built up in layers to prevent slumping, using progressively finer mixes with a higher gypsum content to achieve a bright and smooth finish. Very deep and heavy profiles might be built up on a wooden armature to reduce weight and economise on expensive gypsum plaster. Complex moulded designs required a different method, either pressing a mould into the wet plaster, or fitting pre-fabricated sections into place.

It is notable that deepest and most complex profiles are confined to the main rooms, and the elaborate moulded designs are found only in the NE room on the ground floor, and the NW room and N central bay on the first floor, clearly the most important public rooms in the building. Moulded plaster corbels are also found in two places, at the foot of the main stair on the ground floor, and in the N central bay on the first floor.

The doors, architraves and window surrounds are generally of stained and varnished softwood. On the ground floor, the shutters in the NE room and the mantelpiece in the NW room have been very skilfully decorated with deft brush and sponge work to simulate oak, a traditional technique known as scumbling, and quite popular in Scotland in the 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries, though not always so well done as here.

There is a serving hatch in the partition wall between the front and back rooms on the E side of the ground floor. This perhaps indicates the position of the dining room (front) and kitchen (back) when this was a private residence, though in theory it could have served for handling cash in its early days as an accountant's office, when cash was an important part of business.

It was clear that the most important public room, with its grand fireplace, moulded cornices, and a large window overlooking the North Inch, was the NE room on the first floor. This opened up into a central bay over the front door, with a similar cornice and window, and plaster corbels over the junction of the spaces. The primacy of the first floor or *piano nobile* is a long-established architectural tradition, and no surprise in a building with such obvious classical ambitions as Atholl Crescent.

This large space had been further enlarged in modern times by cutting a wide, round-topped opening into the adjacent NW room, clearly not part of the original layout, with its much simpler cornice and its own separate entrance from the hallway. This opening showed that the partition wall was surprisingly thin, nearer 4" (10 cm) than the 6" (15 cm) of more modern partitions. Similar thin partitions were exposed by an opening



over the store cupboard in the hall, and an interrupted partition in the attic. These presumably reflect the smaller dimensions of sawn timber studding available at the end of the 18<sup>th</sup> century, seen also at 199 - 205 High Street in Perth, and indeed in the roof structure of the present building.

### *2.5.2 Stairs*

There is a short back stair connecting the ground floor to the back court and basement stair, but no separate back stair to the upper floors. Despite the obviously grand and formal design, the servants, who probably lived and worked mainly in the attic and basement, would have had to use the main stair as they went about their duties around the house, and would thus have mingled with the family and their guests. Evidently this was acceptable in late 18<sup>th</sup>-century Perth, even in a house of considerable social standing.

The main stair is a very impressive feature, with its cantilever stone treads, wrought iron and mahogany banister, and the two decorated stained glass windows with hand-painted roundels depicting strawberries, daisies, flowers and birds, possibly a bullfinch and a robin. The machine-made moulded glass suggests a 19<sup>th</sup> or early 20<sup>th</sup>-century date, and there is some evidence of later repairs. At first floor level the banister on the hall or landing still has wooden sockets for safety gates of the type traditionally fitted to protect small children. The stairs are rather steep, and even adults might have benefitted from a barrier on the descending stair, but there is a similar fitting on the stair up to the attic, clearly intended to contain over-confident toddlers rather than protect absent-minded adults. This seems to be an interesting relic of a previous period when the house was in use by a family with small children.

### *2.5.3 Alterations*

The partition which forms the back wall of the NW front room on the ground floor does not line up with the stone wall in the basement below, or with the partition wall on the first floor above. Instead, the overhead partition seems to be supported (with a slight offset) by a beam in the ceiling of the ground floor room, forming a long alcove with a lowered ceiling in the N end of the ground floor room. The same happens in reverse between the NE and SE rooms, forming an alcove in the SE room. This can be seen in plan and section. This seems quite an adventurous piece of structural design for the late 18<sup>th</sup>-century, but the plaster cornices in all the affected rooms respect it, and show no obvious signs of disturbance or alteration. If this was a later insertion to enlarge the front room at the expense of the back room and vice versa, its purpose is not obvious, and it must have been very well and carefully done to restore all the different cornices in each room to their proper form.

Similarly, the small toilet on the first floor beside the stair could be a later insertion, as it breaks up the symmetry of the windows in the back (S) elevation, takes a small bite out of the wall of the stair itself, and a large bite out of the SE back room, and again has a lowered ceiling. However, the cornice in the SE room shows no sign of disruption, and there is no obvious other place for such a facility, unless perhaps in an outbuilding in the back court, now gone.

#### *2.5.4 Basement*

The internal features of the basement are generally modern. There are no cornices or shutters, fireplaces, doors and surrounds. In any case these would always have been plain and utilitarian.

In the outside 'Area' in front of the basement, there is a black cast iron switch box decorated with the Perth City crest, which controls the electricity supply to a black cast iron lamp post on the pavement just to the E of the entrance. This is the only lamp post in Atholl Crescent, curiously placed here, rather than in the centre of the crescent outside No 5 (the Masons' Hall) as might have been expected. There was a custom in Perth (and other Scottish towns) of placing a lamp post, often highly decorated, outside the Provost's house, as a mark of respect. When this custom was discontinued these lamp posts seem to have been left where they stood, and a number can be seen in Perth in various places. It may be that this is a slightly less ornate example of the practice, marking the former residence of a Provost or other dignitary at No 4.

#### *2.5.5 Attic*

The attic is similarly utilitarian. The doors are modern, and the fireplaces are all blocked.

The two back (S) rooms in the attic are necessarily separated by the stair, but the two front (N) rooms have been combined by cutting away most of the partition between them. Each attic room is lit by a dormer, of double width in the SW back room. There is a plain lath and plaster ceiling, of complex curved form over the stair, dictated by the D-shape plan and the roof structure above.

The NE front room has a curious round pressed-steel ventilator opening into the loft above.

#### *2.5.6 Roof*

The opportunity was taken to open up one of the loft hatches and photograph the internal roof structure. The rafters are apparently sawn, relatively light and shallow in section, and in places tapering out to sapwood towards the apex, as also seen in late 18<sup>th</sup>-century timbers at 199 - 205 High Street in Perth. They clasp a ridge beam (also quite light) rather than overlapping each other. There is a discontinuity in the ridge beam near the middle of the building, where one pair of rafters meet end-to-end, and are of double thickness (not depth). This may reflect a practical difficulty in obtaining timbers long (and straight) enough to span the full width of the building, but may also reflect the difficulty of roofing a trapezoidal building in a crescent, with presumably asymmetric roof trusses spanning between a straight back wall and a curved front wall. The ridge may not actually be absolutely straight, though this is not obvious from the ground or from Google Earth. The E party wall seems to be of grey sandstone rubble.

The roof over the main stair is in effect an enlarged dormer with a pitched mansard roof, but the whole dormer droops to the S, so that neither the ridge nor the eaves are horizontal, though the eaves droop more obviously. This works perfectly well in providing maximum headroom where needed as the spiral stair reaches the attic floor, and explains the complex shape of the attic ceiling at this point. Each house in Atholl Crescent seems to have its main stair in the same position in the back wall, but solves

the problem of roofing the stair in a slightly different way. The drooped mansard dormer seems to be unique to No 4.

### 3 Discussion

No 4 Atholl Crescent is part of a prominent and iconic aspect of late 18<sup>th</sup>-century Perth, at a time when it was expanding and growing in confidence and ambition, sharing in the general prosperity of the era. In design, proportion and detail it preserves many aspects of the taste, sensibility and social life of that and succeeding periods down to the present day. Its use as a high-status private residence and then as a professional office have both left their mark. Any alterations have been moderate and sensitive, elusive even, and have left it as a substantial, interesting and impressive property as it continues a long and useful life spanning parts of four centuries.

## Appendix 1 Photographic Register

<i>No</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>View</i>
	<b>01 Front Exterior</b>	
001	Atholl Crescent facade. No 4 to L of Masonic Hall (central pediment) at No 5.	SSW
002	4 Atholl Crescent. Basement, 2 floors and attic.	S
003	Atholl Crescent facade. No 4 to L of Masonic Hall (central pediment) at No 5.	SW
004 – 6	4 Atholl Crescent. Basement, 2 floors and attic. Cast iron lamp post to L of stair.	S
007	Basement 'Area'. Cast iron railings and stone access stair. Modern galvanised mild steel sub-frame to front stair.	WSW
	<b>02 Ground Floor</b>	
008 - 9	Front door interior. Wide door with eight panels, various locks and peep-hole. Pressed steel letter-box. Glazed window above.	N
010	Internal glazed door and partition. 19 <sup>th</sup> or early 20 <sup>th</sup> -century moulded glass. Plaster cornice.	S
011	Spiral stair at rear of building. Cantilever stone treads, wrought iron banister with mahogany handrail. Decorative plaster corbel over entry to stair.	S
012 - 13	Doors to E rooms. Decorative plaster corbel over entry to stair. Simple cornice.	E
014	Detail of plaster corbel.	E
015	View from stair to front entrance. Plaster corbels over entry to stair.	N
016	<b>NE Room.</b> Stained softwood window shutters and cupboard door. Oak pattern fire	NE

	surround. Moulded plaster cornice. Picture rail below.	
017	East party wall with cupboard and fireplace. Moulded plaster cornice. Picture rail below.	E
018	Detail of cupboard door. Stained softwood. Three panels.	E
019	Entrance door, six panels, stained softwood. Three ft wide. Serving hatch to SE room.	S
020	Front window, sash and case, 12 panes. View to N inch.	N
021 - 2	Detail of moulded plaster cornice and picture rail.	-
023	<b>SE Room.</b> Simple plaster cornice. Sash and case window, 12 panes. White painted shutters. View to apple tree in back court.	SE
024	Entrance door, and serving hatch to NE room. Reduced ceiling against N wall. Plaster cornice. Picture and dado rails.	NE
025	Entrance door, six panel, and serving hatch to NE room. Reduced ceiling against N wall. Plaster cornice. Picture and dado rails.	NW
026	Sash and case rear window, 12 panes. White painted shutters. View to back court and Blackfriars Street. Plaster cornice. Dado and picture rails.	SSW
027	Sash and case rear window, 12 panes. White painted shutters. View to back court and Blackfriars Street. Plaster cornice. Dado and picture rails.	S
028	Detail of cornice and picture rail.	-
029	<b>NW Room.</b> Cupboard in party wall. Shutters in front window. Plaster cornice.	NW
030	Modern glazed entrance door. Long alcove in S wall, with deep beam overhead, and reduced ceiling. Plaster cornice and picture rail follow main high ceiling. Simpler cornice in alcove.	SE
031	View to NE corner of room. Alcove beam and cornice overhead.	NE
032	Detail of front window. Wood-lined opening and shutters. Sash and case, twelve pane. View to N Inch obscured by external To Let sign.	N
033	Detail of shutters. Stained softwood, oak woodgrain effect.	E
034	<b>NE Room.</b> Detail of mantelpiece. Also oak woodgrain effect.	E
	<b>03 First Floor</b>	
035 - 6	Spiral stair. Cantilever stone treads. Wrought iron banister with mahogany handrail. Stained glass window.	SW

037	<b>Hall.</b> Cupboard doors and arched partition ahead. Left, entrance to W rooms.	NNW
038	Hall. Entrance to E rooms. Arched partition overhead.	NE
039	Hall cupboards open. Arched partition overhead.	N
040	<b>SW Room.</b> Back window in S wall. Corner shelves against W party wall. View to Blackfriars Street and Carpenter Court.	SW
041	West party wall with corner shelves. Vent shows position of blocked fireplace.	SW
042 - 3	Detail of S window. Sash and case, 12 pane, with painted wooden shutters. View to Blackfriars Street. Simple plaster cornice.	S
044	Detail of entrance door, with picture rail and simple plaster cornice.	NE
045	Detail of entrance door, with picture rail and simple plaster cornice.	E
046	<b>Hall.</b> Entrance to NE room, with arched partition overhead.	NE
047	Detail of sockets for safety barrier at stair head	WSW
048	<b>NE Room.</b> Front windows over N Inch. Sash and case, 12 pane. Painted wooden shutters. Moulded plaster cornice. Moulded plaster corbels over entrance to central bay. Arched partition leads to NW room.	NW
049 - 51	View to central bay and NW room beyond. Moulded plaster cornice, also in central bay. Moulded plaster corbels over entrance to central bay. Arched partition leads to NW room.	W
052	Detail of central bay, with moulded plaster cornice.	W
053	Detail of central bay, with moulded plaster cornice and corbels. Arched partition overhead	E
054 - 5	Ornate fireplace in E party wall.	E
056 - 8	Detail of central window in central bay, with view to N Inch.	N
059	<b>NW Room.</b> Arched partition, plaster cornice beyond.	W
060	SW corner, with plaster cornice and picture rail. Vent shows position of fireplace in W party wall.	SW
061 - 3	SE corner, with plaster cornice and picture rail. Narrow door.	SSE

064	<b>SE Room.</b> Entrance from hall.	E
065	SE corner. Picture rail. Plaster cornice. Back window overlooking back court. Sash and case, twelve pane. Ceiling damage above.	SE
066	S wall with window. Ceiling damage above.	SSW
067 - 8	Detail of window.	S
069 - 70	Detail of ceiling damage and attic floor.	S
071	NW corner, with plaster cornice. Re-entrant angle reflects toilet adjacent. Followed by cornice and picture rail.	NW
072	Detail of W wall, re-entrant angle formed by toilet adjacent.	WSW
073	<b>Toilet.</b> Entrance beside stair. Sockets for safety barrier at foot of stair.	SE
074	Toilet E of stair. Small window.	S
	<b>04 Attic</b>	
075	Spiral stair ascending to attic. Stained glass window in S wall.	SW
076	Attic Hall. Light extensions to banister. Doors to N rooms.	N
077 - 8	Attic Hall. Door to SE room. Plaster ceiling above.	E
079	Head of stair. Complex curved ceiling above. Extensions above banister.	SW
080	<b>SE Room.</b> SE corner, dormer and blocked fireplace in W party wall.	ESE
081	SE corner, dormer and blocked fireplace in W party wall. View to Carpenter Court.	SE
082	SW corner. Entrance door and dormer. Inspection hatch below window.	SW
083	Detail, dormer window. Modern sash and case, 8 pane. View to Blackfriars Street.	S
084	<b>NW and NE Rooms.</b> Open partition between. Blocked fireplace in E party wall.	ENE
085	Detail, NW dormer. Modern sash and case. Four pane. Inspection panel and timber box structure beneath. View to N Inch.	N
086	NW and NE rooms. Open partition between. Blocked fireplace in W party wall.	W
087	Detail, E party wall with blocked fireplace.	E
088 - 90	Detail, NE dormer. Modern sash and case. Four pane. Inspection panel to L. Ceiling vent overhead. View to N Inch	N

091 - 4	Detail of ceiling vent.	-
095	<b>SE Room.</b> SE corner with SE dormer. Shelves, heating cupboard and small storage cupboard in E party wall.	SE
096	E party wall with shelves, heating cupboard and small storage cupboard.	E
097	Detail, SE dormer. Modern sash and case. Four pane. Inspection panel to R. View to Blackfriars Street.	S
098	<b>Loft.</b> Detail of rafters and sarking boards. Unusual flat section rafters, with variable profiles. Rafters meet on ridge beam not overlap. Saw cuts straight, not circular. Unusual double thickness rafter overhead, with interrupted ridge beam (required by crescent plan). One deeper, thinner rafter beyond, perhaps modern repair.	W
099	Detail of rafters and sarking boards. Shallow section rafters. Meet on ridge beam, not overlap. Saw cuts straight, not circular. Modern water tank, flues and vent pipes (one displaced). E party wall, rubble masonry.	E
	<b>05 Stair</b>	
100	View from attic down to upper stained glass window. Two-part sash and case.	SE
101 - 3	Detail of window with roundels. Left, floral. Right, strawberries. Moulded glass surfaces suggest 19 <sup>th</sup> or early 20 <sup>th</sup> -century date. Right roundel has one border quadrant of darker blue. Repair?	S
104	View down to lower stained glass window. Single pane, fixed. Ruby red border has occasional pink pieces, including one with different texture, below left roundel. Repairs?	S
105 - 7	Detail of window with roundels. Birds against floral backgrounds. Left, Bullfinch? Right, Robin? Moulded glass surfaces suggest 19 <sup>th</sup> or early 20 <sup>th</sup> -century date.	S
108	View up to lower stained glass window.	S
	<b>06 Basement</b>	
109	Entrance to SW room and door to basement stairs.	W
110	View down basement stairs to ground-level toilet block (late 20 <sup>th</sup> -century). Basement stairs have stone treads and wrought iron banister with mahogany handrail, similar to main stair.	S
111	Fire exit door from toilet block into back court.	W
112	View up basement stairs from ground level.	N
113	Basement stairs turn and continue to basement.	NE
114	Foot of basement stairs. Drum structure on wooden posts is central space at foot of main stair above.	WSW
115	Basement Hall at foot of stair.	W

116	Cupboard under basement stair. Underside of stone treads.	S
117	<b>SW Room.</b> Rear window, sash and case, two pane. External bars	SW
118	SW corner.	SE
119	Basement hall. Door to central passage.	NNW
120	Central passage and basement front door.	N
121	<b>NW Room.</b> NW corner and NW front window. Sash and case, twelve pane, external bars. View into front Area.	NW
122	NE corner and NW front window. Sash and case, twelve pane, external bars. View into front Area.	NE
123	<b>NE Room.</b> Door from central corridor.	NE
124	NE corner. NE front window. Sash and case, twelve pane, external bars. View into front Area.	NE
125	NE front window. Sash and case, twelve pane, external bars. View into front Area.	N
126	NW corner. Entrance door and NE front window.	NW
127	<b>Central Store Room</b>	E
128	<b>SE Room.</b> Door from central store room.	SE
129	SE window. Sash and case, two pane, external bars. View to back court.	SSE
130	SE window. Sash and case, two pane, external bars. View to back court.	SE
131	NW corner. L, door to stair. R, door to central store room.	NW
	<b>07 Lobby</b>	
132	Detail of drum structure at foot of main stair, seen from below in basement. Octagonal pillar at foot of banister.	S
133	From foot of stair to internal glass screen door (20 <sup>th</sup> cent).	N
134	Front door, with pressed steel letter box (door missing). Early 20 <sup>th</sup> -cent?	N



	<b>08 Front Area</b>	
135	E half of front Area from main front door. Wrought iron railings, and curved front wall.	E
136	W half of front Area from main front door. Wrought iron railings. Access stair.	W
137	Area from adjacent property. Modern galvanised steel sub-frame of main front access. Basement door below. Black cast-iron switch box with city crest for adjacent lamp post.	E
138	Front area and pavement with cast iron lamp post just E of front access. Provost's lamp?	E
139	Main front door with lamp post to E.	S
140	Area with modern galvanised steel sub-frame under main access, and cast iron lamp post.	W
141	Detail of modern galvanised steel sub-frame under main access.	W
142	Detail of steel sub-frame and cast iron switch box.	E
	<b>09 Front Exterior</b>	
143	Street name at E end of crescent.	SE
144 - 5	General view of Atholl Crescent. Lamp post at No 4 is only example. Suggests special purpose	WSW
	<b>10 Rear Exterior</b>	
146 - 8	Junction of Atholl Crescent and Blackfriars Street.	SW
149	Blackfriars Street. Pend is rear access to 4 Atholl Crescent.	W
150 - 1	Pend. Rear Access to 4 Atholl Crescent.	NW
152	Rear view of 4 Atholl Crescent, with ground-level toilet block (Late 20 <sup>th</sup> -cent).	NW
153 - 6	General rear view. Drooped mansard roof over central stair.	NNE
157	Detail, SE dormer, flues emerging from roof at E party wall, and small first-floor toilet window to E of central stair.	NE
158	Detail, SW dormer. Mansard roof over stair has no gutters at sides. Side eaves slope down to S.	N
159	General view. S wall. Asymmetric effect of 1 <sup>st</sup> -floor toilet.	N
160	Detail, apple tree in NE corner of court. Adjacent property (No 3) has catslide over central stair, and modern sash and case windows.	NE
161	View to rear entrance pend.	SE
162	Rear entrance pend from Blackfriars Street.	N
163 - 5	View from Carpenter Street. Downward slope of roof over central stair is obvious. Roof light in loft.	NNE

166	View from Carpenter Street. Projection of Mason's Hall at No 5. Variety of treatments of central stair in other properties.	NE
	<b>07 Aug 2020</b>	
	<b>11 Ground Floor, SW Room</b>	
167	SW corner, with SW back window and blocked fireplace in W party wall.	SW
168	W party wall with blocked fireplace.	WSW
169	W party wall with blocked fireplace. Plaster cornice.	W
170	SE corner, with archaic IT equipment.	SE
171	E wall with entrance door and slight offset. Six-panel door, painted white.	E
172 - 4	Detail of SW back window. Sash and case, 12 panes, painted wooden shutters. View to back court.	S
175	NE corner with entrance door and offset in E wall.	NE
176	Detail of plaster cornice and offset in E wall.	ENE
177 - 8	Detail of SE corner with archaic IT equipment.	SE

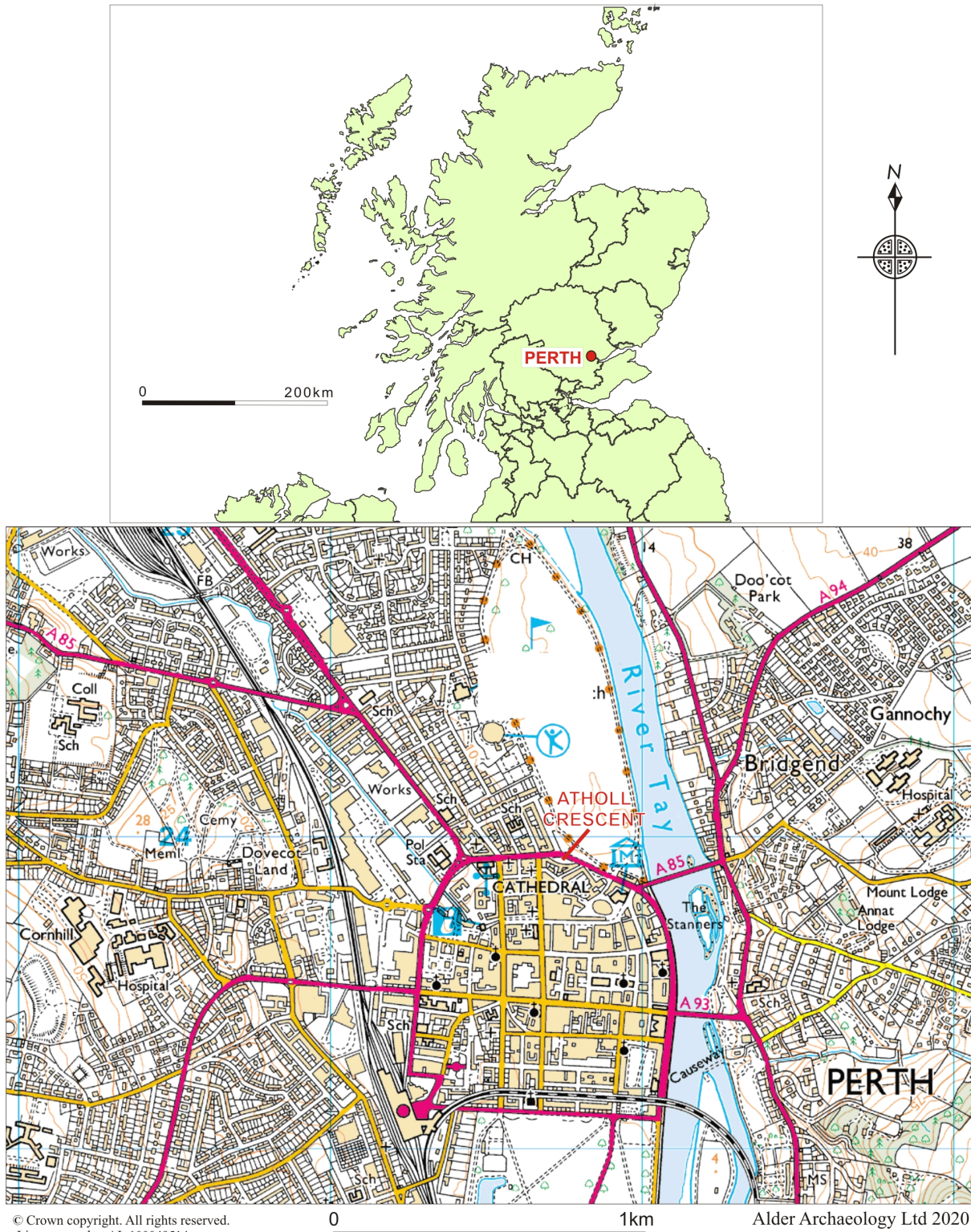
## Appendix 2 Discovery & Excavation in Scotland Entry

<b>LOCAL AUTHORITY:</b>	Perth & Kinross
<b>PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:</b>	4 Atholl Crescent, Perth
<b>PROJECT CODE:</b>	PE68
<b>PARISH:</b>	Perth
<b>NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:</b>	David Bowler
<b>NAME OF ORGANISATION:</b>	Alder Archaeology Ltd
<b>TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:</b>	Historic Building Recording
<b>NMRS NO(S):</b>	-
<b>SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):</b>	Town house
<b>SIGNIFICANT FINDS:</b>	-
<b>NGR (2 letters, 8 or 10 figures)</b>	NO 11743 23932
<b>START DATE (this season)</b>	05th August 2020
<b>END DATE (this season)</b>	07th August 2020
<b>PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)</b>	-
<b>MAIN DESCRIPTION:</b> (NARRATIVE) (May include information from other fields)	<p>Alder Archaeology produced a historic building record (site code PE68) of 4 Atholl Crescent, Perth, for Blazon Investments Ltd, in advance of internal alterations to return the building to residential use. The recording was undertaken on 05th and 07th August 2020.</p> <p>The building is part of an A-listed late 18th-century crescent on the N edge of the historic burgh, facing the North Inch. For many years it was in use as professional offices, but preserves many features of its origins as a high status dwelling in what was a fashionable part of the growing Georgian city. This includes decorative plaster work, elegant doors and shutters, and ornate fireplaces.</p>
<b>PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:</b>	none
<b>CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:</b>	-
<b>SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:</b>	Developer
<b>ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:</b>	Alder Archaeology Ltd, 55 South Methven Street, Perth PH1 5NX
<b>EMAIL ADDRESS:</b>	<a href="mailto:director@alderarchaeology.co.uk">director@alderarchaeology.co.uk</a>
<b>ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended/deposited)</b>	HES (intended)

Illus 1

4 Atholl Crescent, Perth: Location

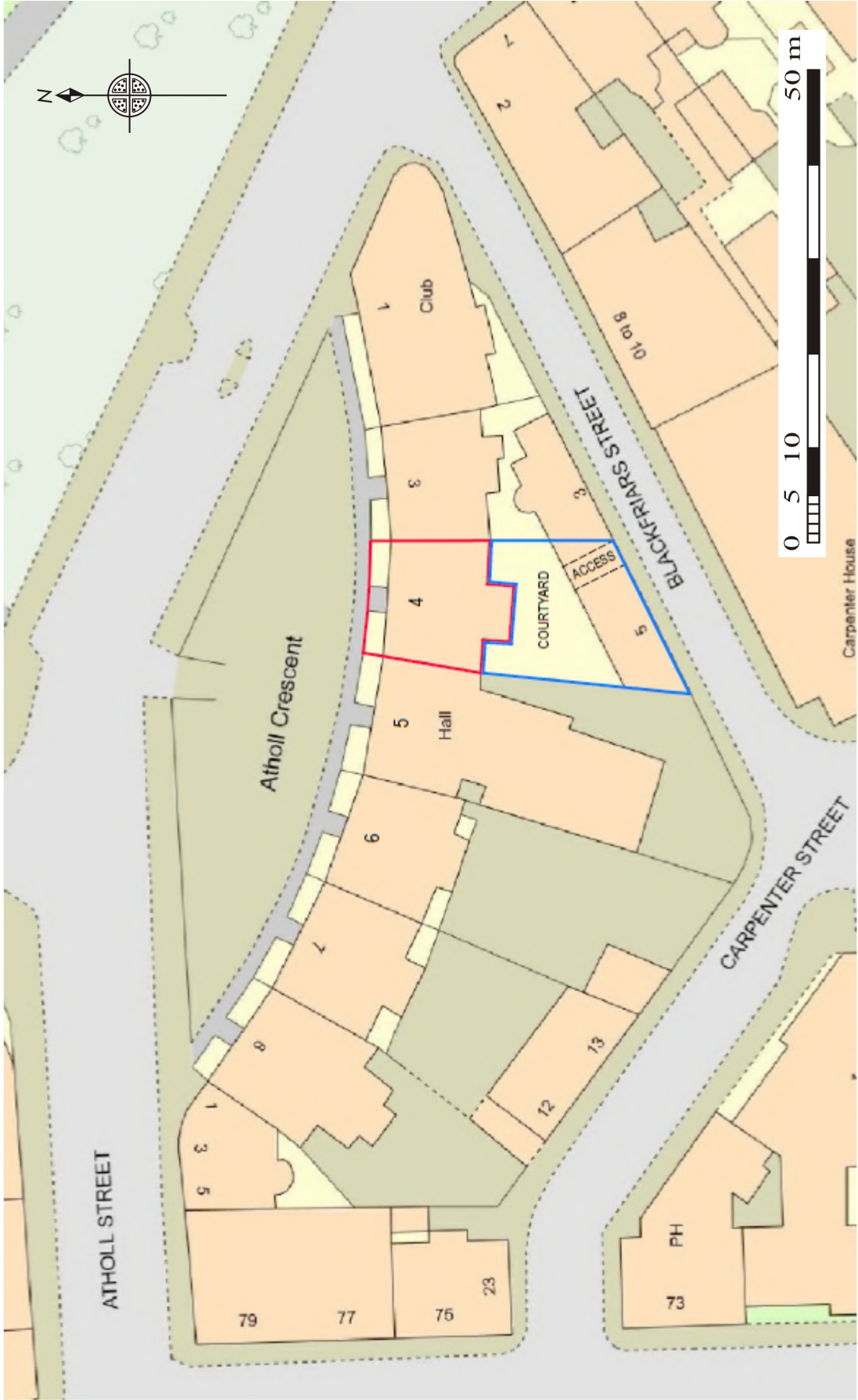
PE68



PE68

4 Atholl Crescent, Perth: Location

Illus 2



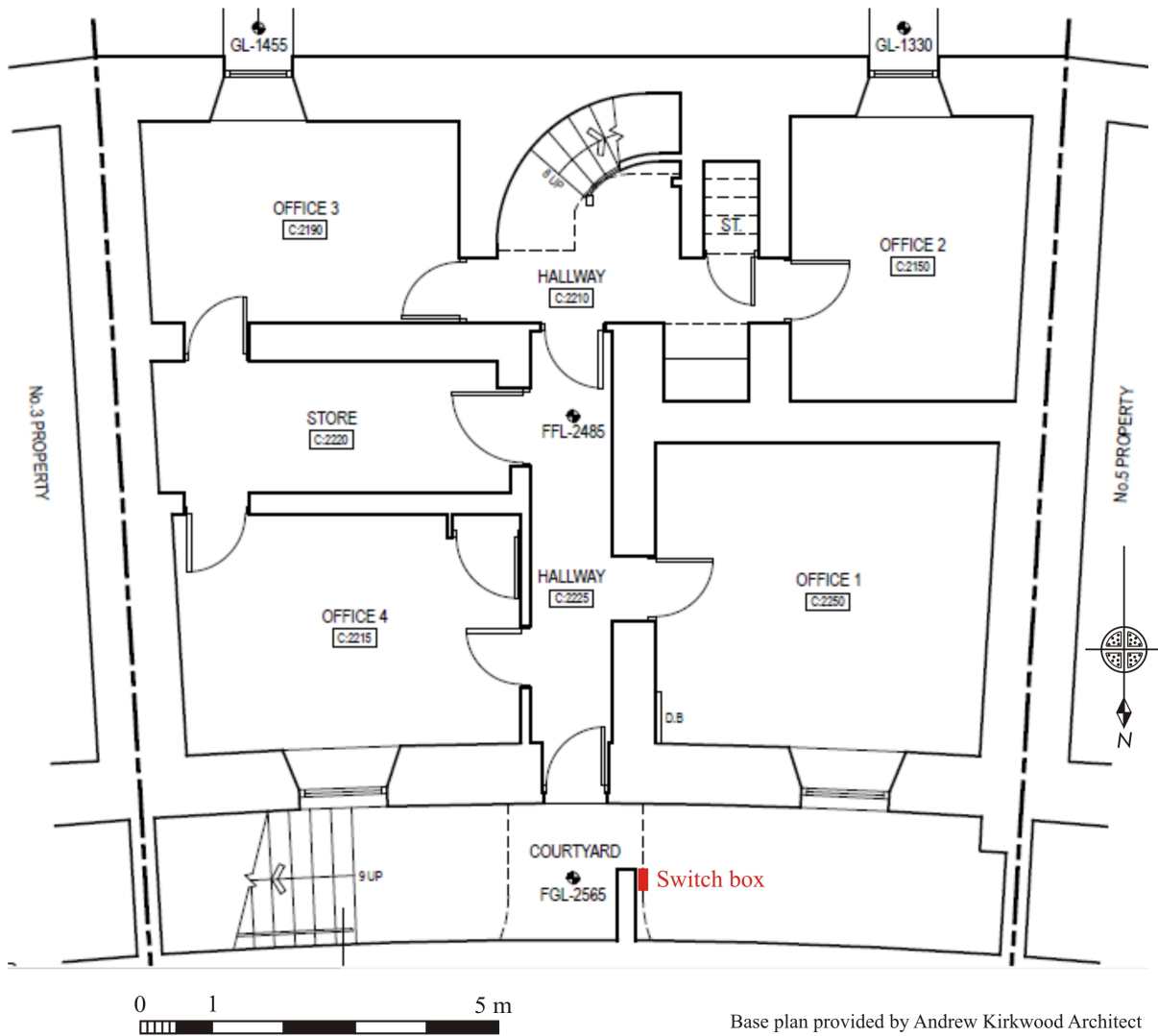
Base plan provided by Andrew Kirkwood Architect

© Crown copyright. All rights reserved.  
Licence number AL 100049514

Illus 3

4 Atholl Crescent, Perth: Basement

PE68

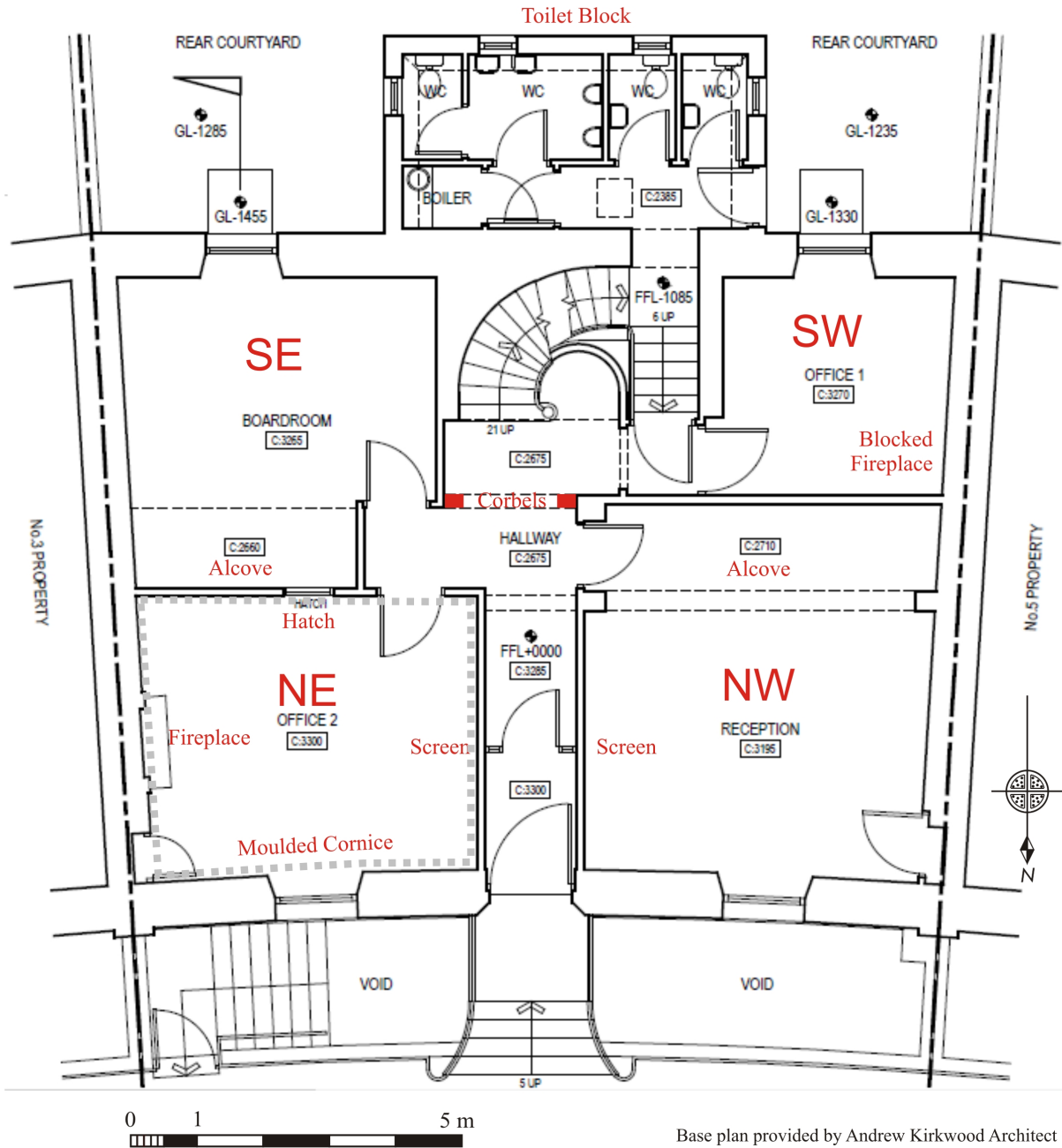


Base plan provided by Andrew Kirkwood Architect

Illus 4

4 Atholl Crescent, Perth: Ground Floor

PE68

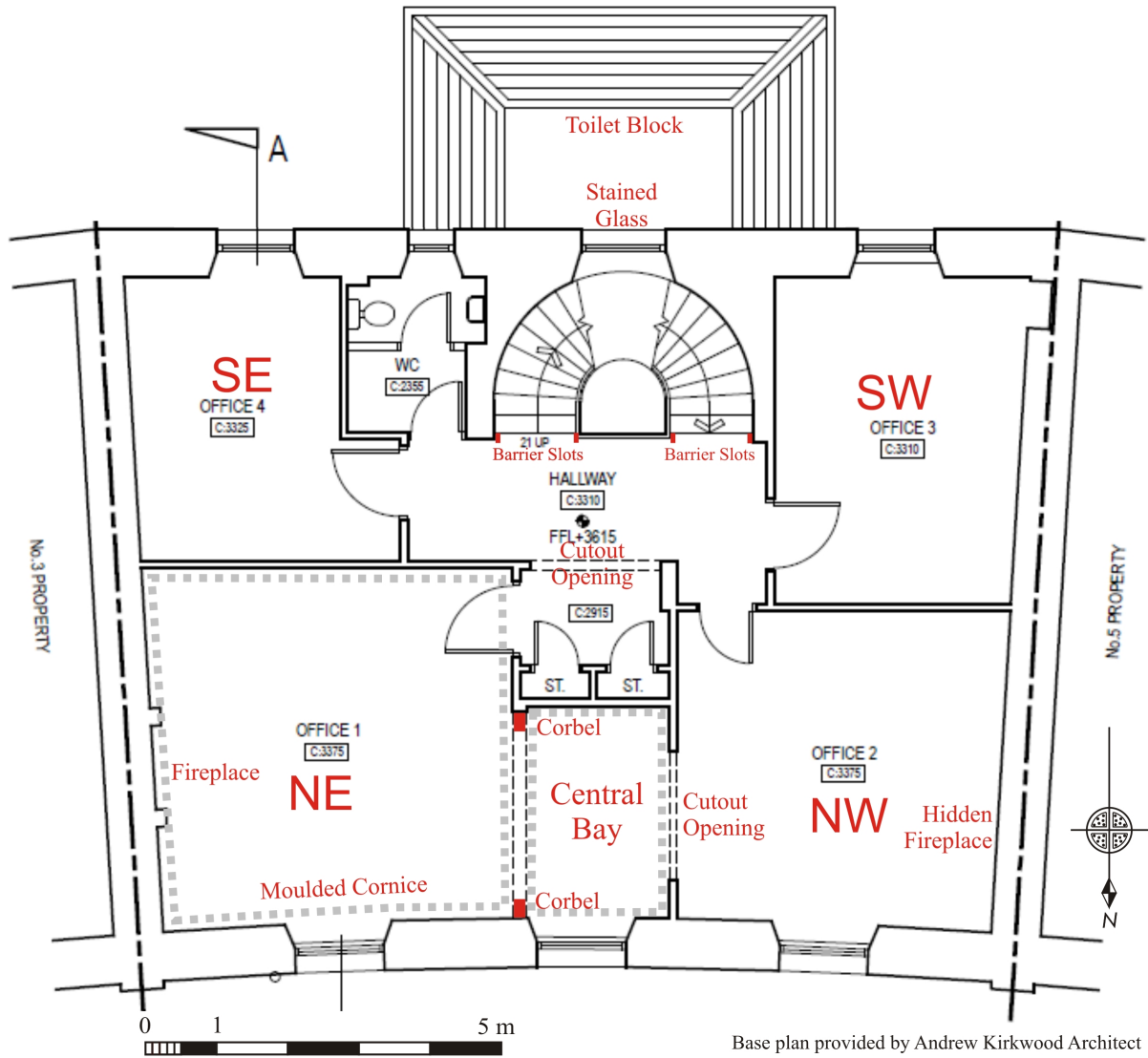


Base plan provided by Andrew Kirkwood Architect

Illus 5

4 Atholl Crescent, Perth: First Floor

PE68

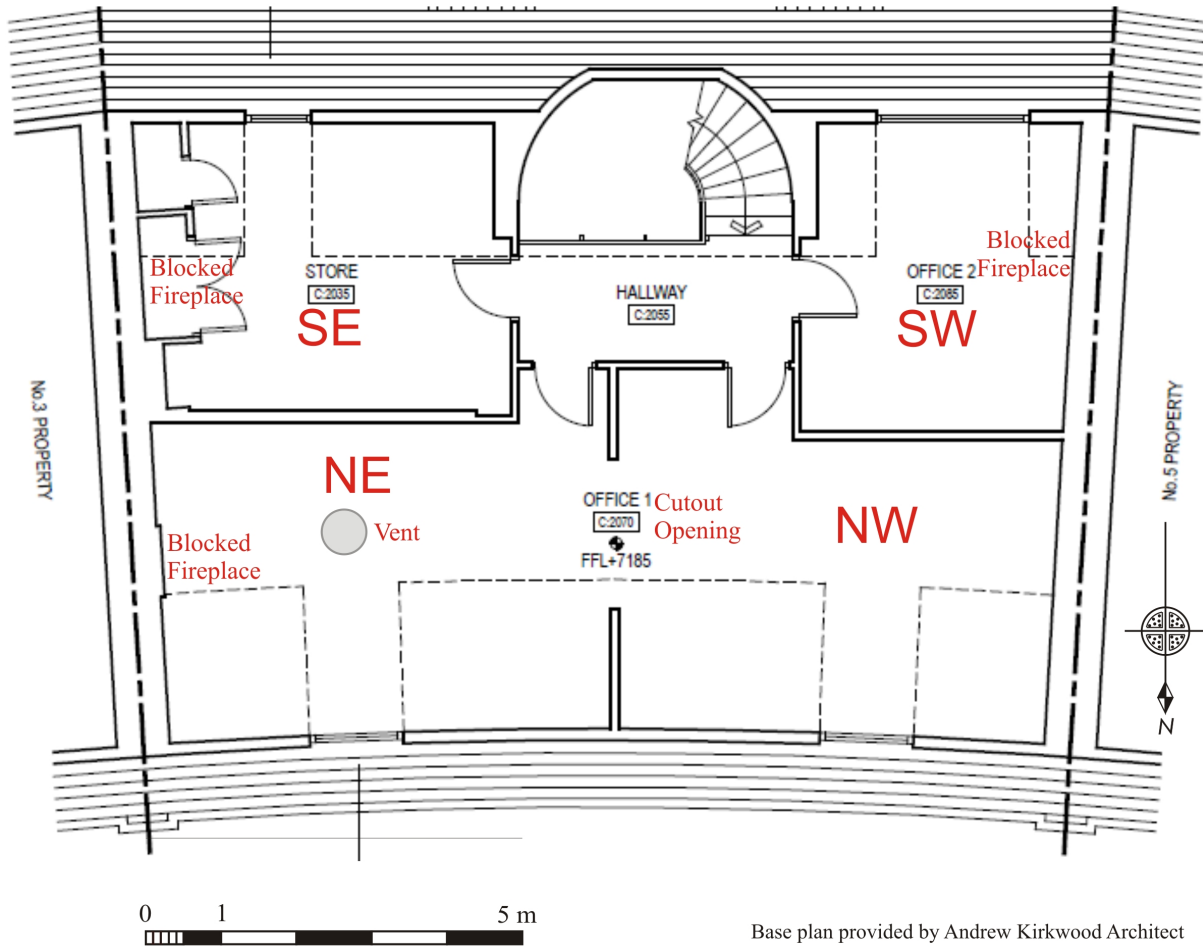




Illus 6

4 Atholl Crescent, Perth: Attic

PE68



Base plan provided by Andrew Kirkwood Architect

Illus 7

4 Atholl Crescent, Perth: North Elevation

PE68



Illus 8

4 Atholl Crescent, Perth: South Elevation

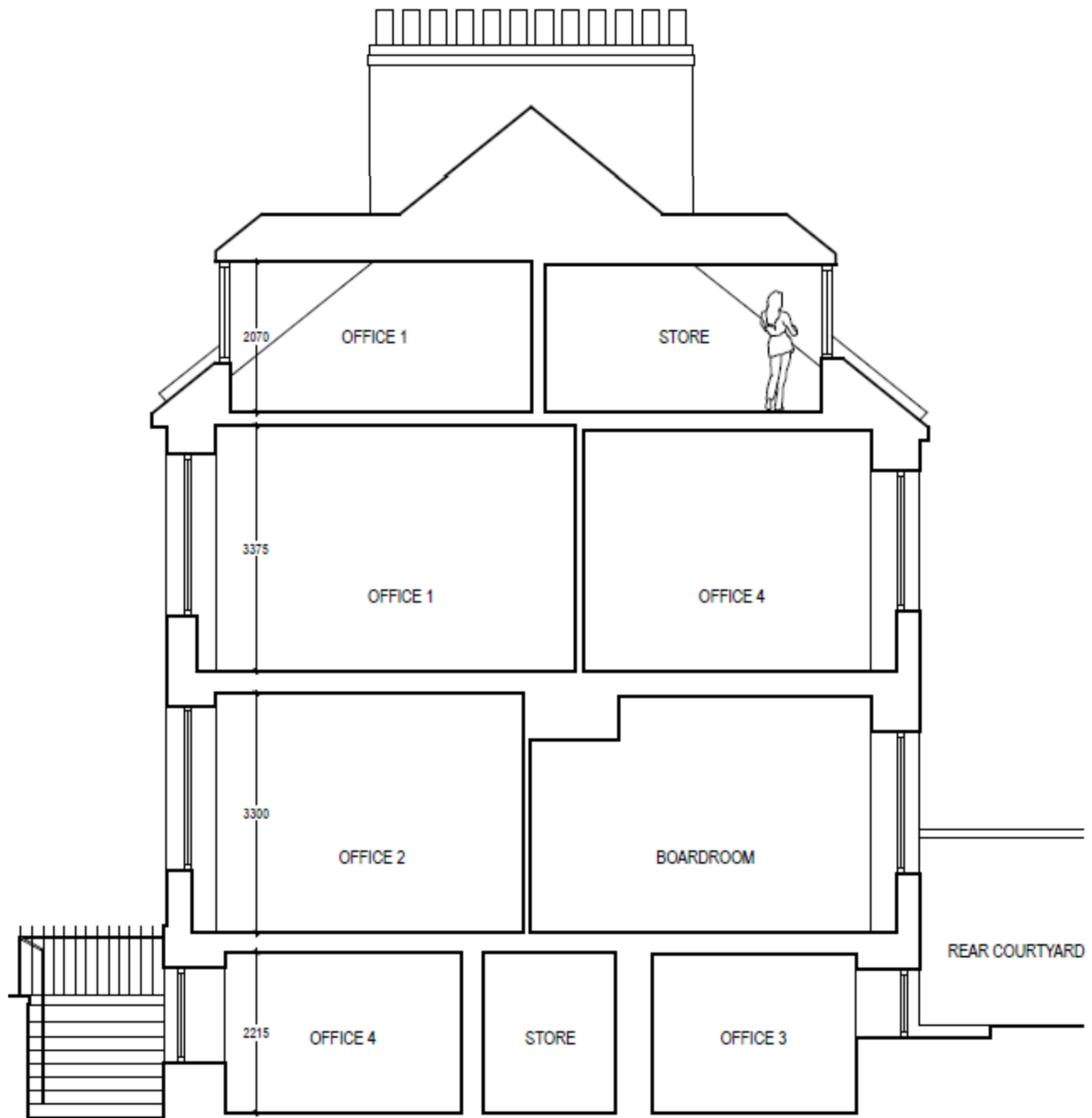
PE68



Illus 9

4 Atholl Crescent, Perth: Section

PE68



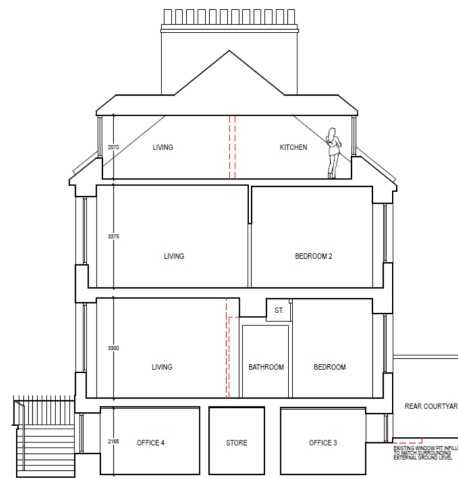
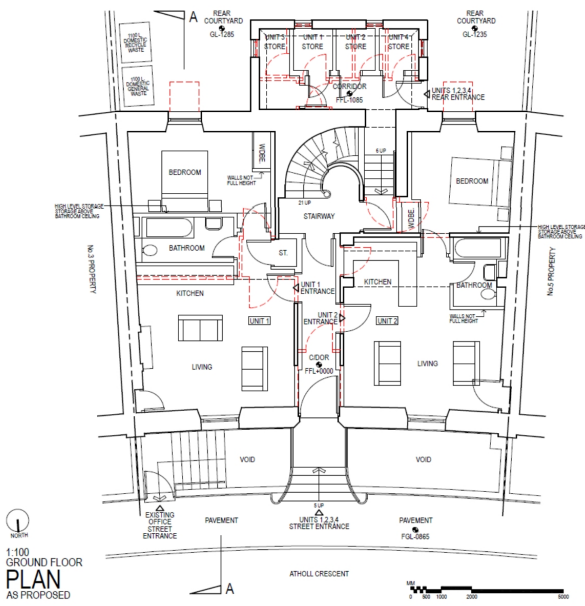
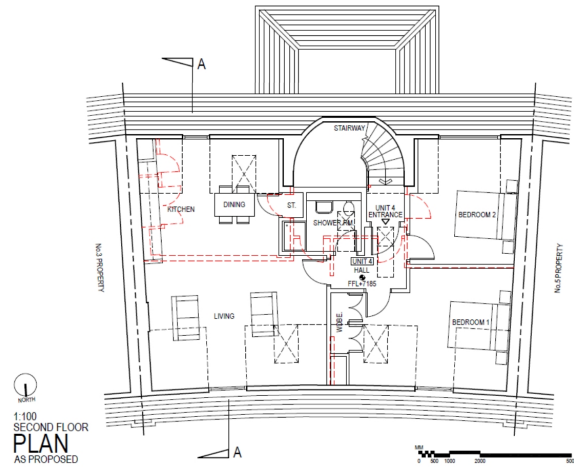
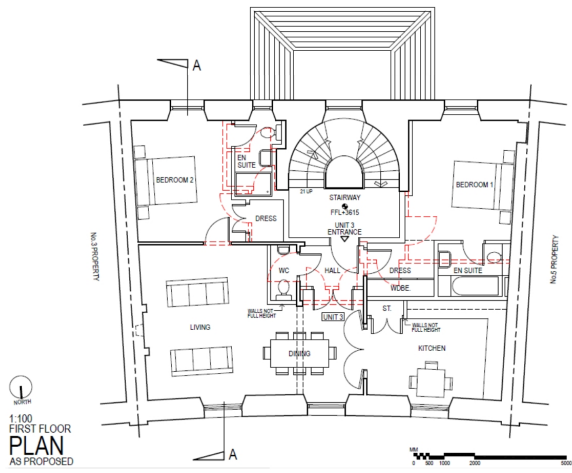
0 1 5 m

Provided by Andrew Kirkwood Architect

Illus 10

4 Atholl Crescent, Perth: Alterations

PE68



Red indicates existing features to be removed

Provided by Andrew Kirkwood Architect



Illustration 11: Atholl Crescent facade. Lamp post to L of entrance.



Illustration 14: Ground Floor, NE Room. Moulded plaster cornice.



Illustration 12: Ground Floor, NE Room. Window shutters. Oak finish fire surround. Moulded plaster cornice.



Illustration 15: Ground Floor, NW Room. Modern glazed entrance door. Long alcove in S wall. Deep beam overhead, reduced ceiling. Cornice and picture rail follow main high ceiling. Simpler cornice in alcove.



Illustration 13: Ground Floor, NE Room. Serving hatch and wide door.



Illustration 16: Ground Floor, NW Room. Shutter with oak woodgrain effect.

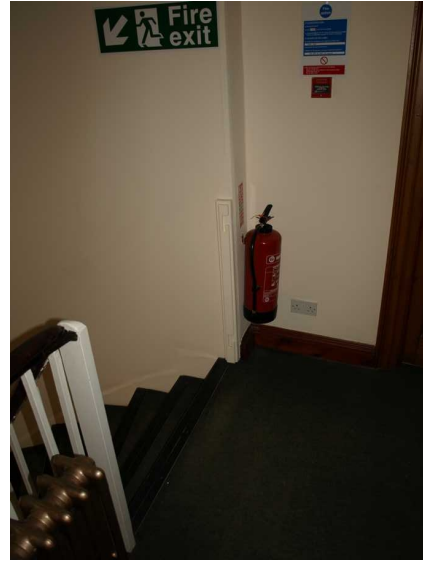


Illustration 18: Sockets for safety barrier at stair head.



Illustration 17: Spiral stair. Cantilever stone treads. Wrought iron banister with mahogany handrail. Stained glass window.



Illustration 19: First Floor, N Rooms. Moulded plaster cornice and corbels. Arched partition leads to NW room.



Illustration 20: Central bay, with moulded plaster cornice and corbels. Arched partition overhead.



Illustration 21: Ornate fireplace in E party wall.



Illustration 24: NE dormer. View to North Inch. Vent overhead.



Illustration 22: Spiral stair to attic. Stained glass window in S wall.



Illustration 25: Rafters and sarking boards. Double thickness rafter overhead, with interrupted ridge beam.

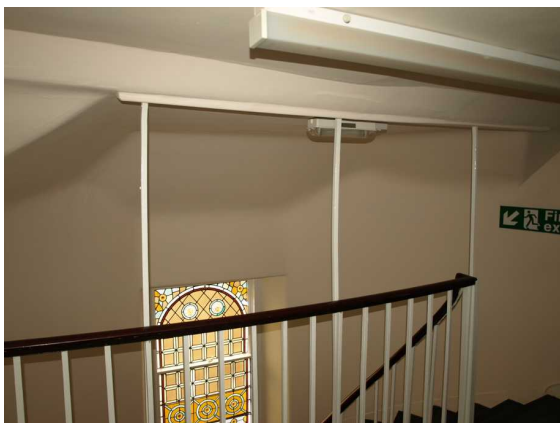


Illustration 23: Attic stair head and ceiling



Illustration 26: Rafters, sarking boards and E party wall.





Illustration 27: Window roundels. Flowers and strawberries.



Illustration 29: Window roundels. Bullfinch and Robin?

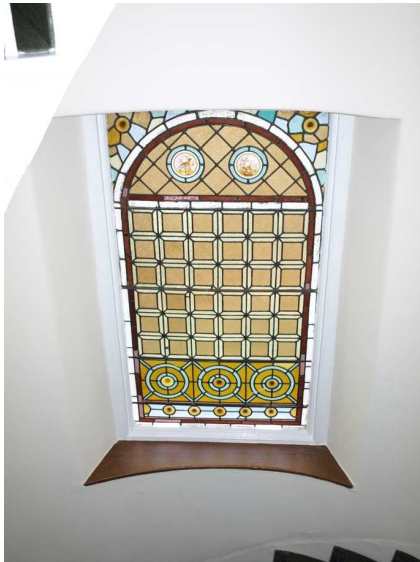


Illustration 28: Lower stained glass window. Single fixed pane. Repairs in red border?



Illustration 30: Front Area. Steel sub-frame and cast iron switch box.



Illustration 31: Atholl Crescent with pediment at No 5. Lamp post only at No 4.



Illustration 32: Rear elevation



Illustration 33: Rear elevation with drooped mansard over main stair.