

Archaeological
Building
Recording
Services

**An Archaeological Standing Building Survey.
Erdeswick House
Sandon
Staffordshire.**

(NGR SJ 94844 29516)

On Behalf of Mrs E. Bayliss



An Archaeological Standing Building Survey.

Erdeswick House

Coach House

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Planning Permission No N/A

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An Archaeological Standing Building Survey of the Coach House at Erdeswick House, Sandon, Staffordshire (NGR SJ 94844 29516).

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Summary

This document is an archaeological standing building survey of the Coach House at Erdeswick's House, Sandon, Staffordshire (SJ 94844 29516), commissioned from Archaeological Building Recording Services (ABRS) by Mrs E. Bayliss in advance of the proposed conversion of the building to residential use.

The former coach house attached to Erdeswick House, formally Sandon Lodge, which itself was formally the Dog & Doublet posting inn is an interesting building consisting of at least three separate phases and may contain elements of the original 16th century building. It is likely that the earliest part of the coach house is the stone-built elements of the east – west range. In the mid 19th century it is likely that the early north – south range was re-built and the westernmost bays of the east – west bay were demolished.

During the mid 19th century the building was taken over by the Earl of Harrowby as his residence following a fire at nearby Sandon Hall. This high residential status is reflected in the coach house with well finished interior features and domestic arrangements on the first floor.

The archive will be deposited with The Potteries Museum & Art Gallery under the Accession Number 2015.LH.166.

1. Introduction

Archaeological Building Recording Services (ABRS) were commissioned by Mrs E. Bayliss to undertake an archaeological standing building survey of the Coach House at Erdeswick House, Sandon, Staffordshire (SJ 94844 29516 (*Figures 1 & 19*)). Planning permission is being sought to convert the building to residential use. The building is a traditionally built brick and stone building, believed to date from the 18th century. In accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) Mrs Bayliss has commissioned an archaeological standing building survey to English Heritage Level 2 as defined in *Understanding Historic Buildings: A guide to good recording practice* (English Heritage 2014) in advance of the planning application. This survey will describe the building as a heritage asset and the significance of the building as a heritage asset which will be affected by the proposed development works. The building is Grade II listed.

A Brief for a Programme of Archaeological Building Recording has not been issued. The project was completed in accordance with and following the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) *Code of Conduct*, and adhered to their *Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Investigation and Recording of Standing Buildings or Structures* (2008).

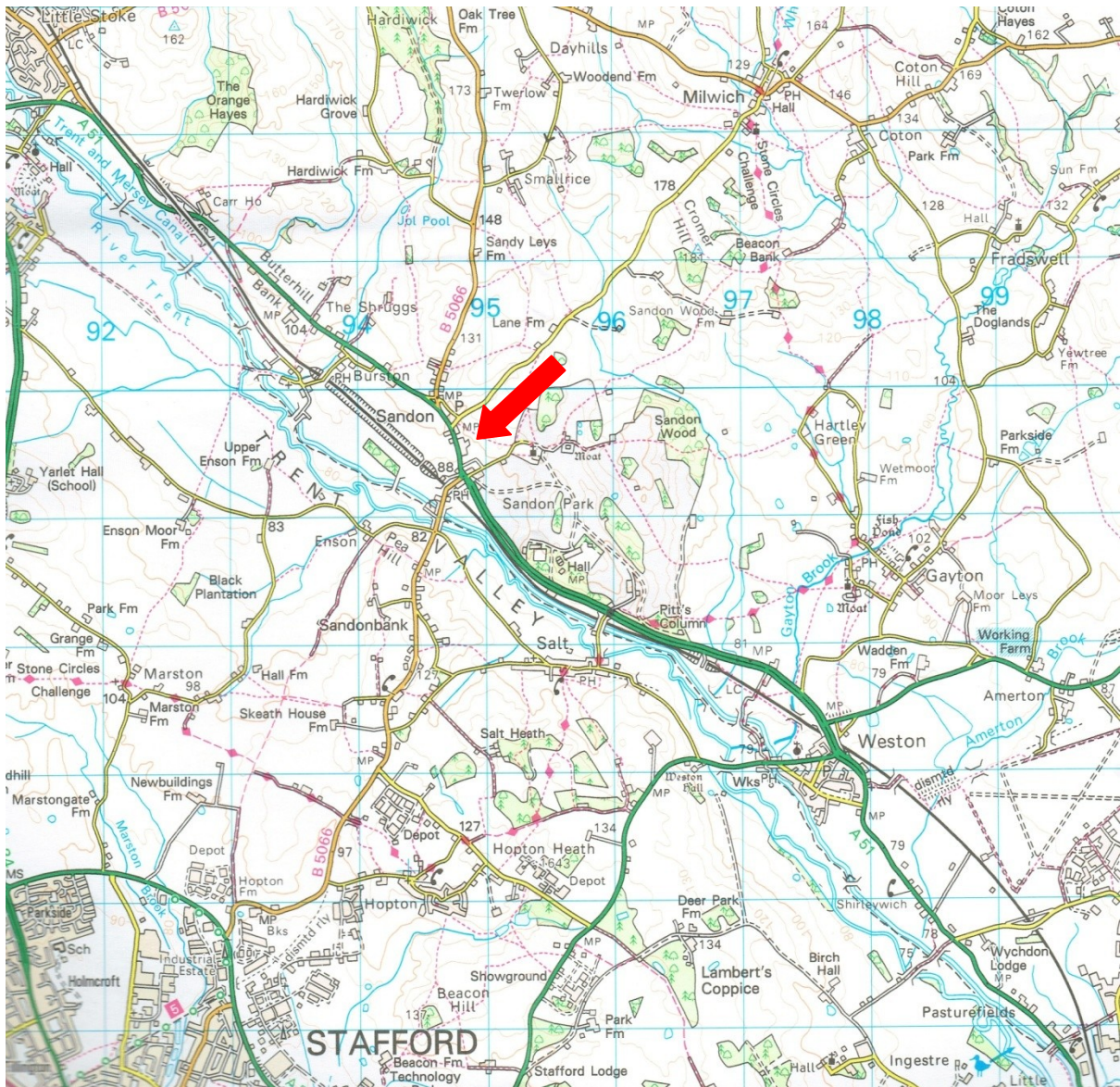


Figure 1
Site Location

Reproduced from 1:50000 map by permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationary Office.
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Sandon is likely to have Saxon origins having been recorded in the Domesday Book as *Sandone* when it was granted to the Earl of Chester, who in turn granted it to William Baron Malbank. William's granddaughter Adilla married St William Stafford and retained the Manor as her portion, it then passed to her granddaughter, who married Thomas Erdeswick. Sampson Erdeswick, the noted Antiquarian was the last of the Erdeswick line and the manor was sold to Mr George Digby, later passing through marriage to Charles, Lord Gerard of Bromley. Charles's granddaughter carried the manor through marriage to William, Duke of Hamilton whose decedents sold it to Lord Harrowby. William Pitt writing in "*A topographical history of Staffordshire; including its agriculture, mines and manufactures. Memoirs of eminent natives...*" in 1817 describes Sandon as a small village on the turnpike-road between Stone and Rugeley, consisting of a large inn, a few public houses and scattered tenements.

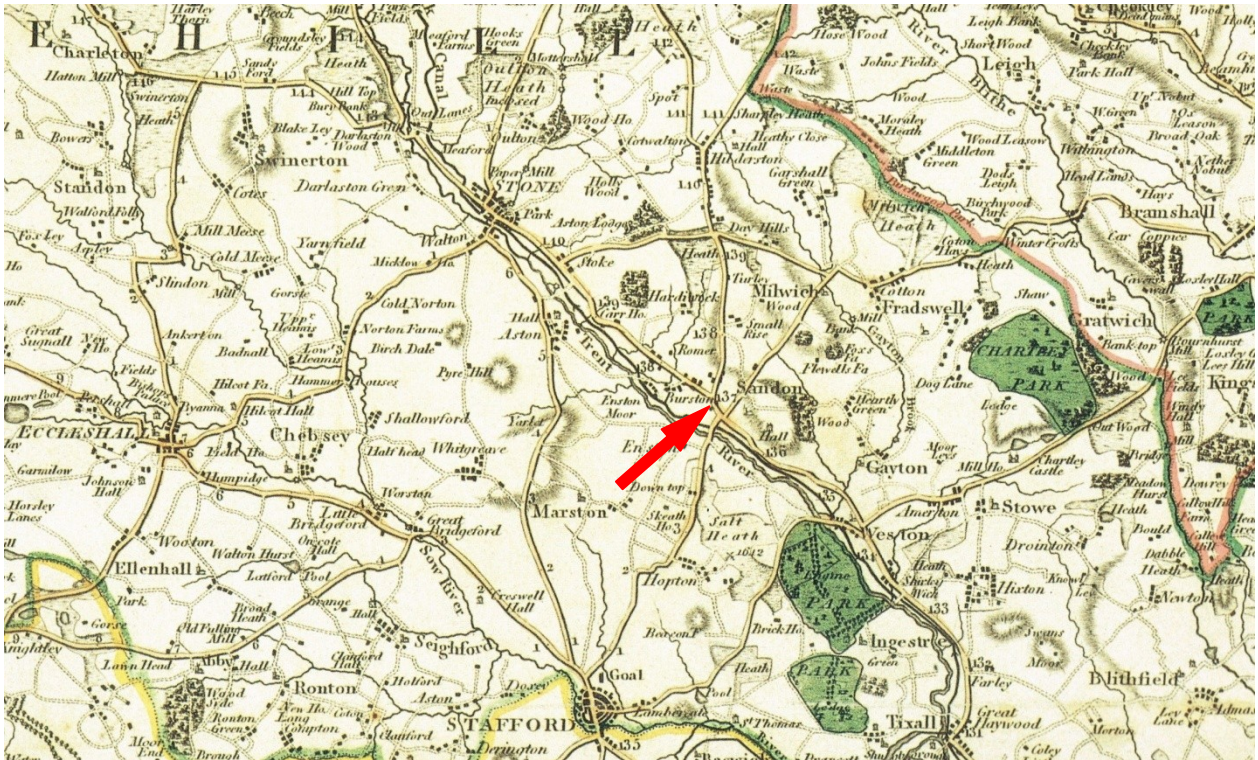


Figure 2
William Yates's County Map of Staffordshire (1798)

Yates's county map of 1798 (*Figure 2*) recorded Sandon during the early years under Harrowby ownership, the hall, is labelled and the canal and turnpike road are identifiable. There is, however no significant detail and no buildings shown.

Nathaniel Ryder, the son of Sir Dudley Ryder, Lord Chief Justice of the King's Bench was ennobled as the 1st Baron Harrowby in 1776. Ryder had been elected to the House of Commons for Tiverton in 1756, a seat he held until 1776 and later served as Deputy Lieutenant of Staffordshire and Lincolnshire. Lord Harrowby married Elizabeth Terrick, daughter of the Right Reverend Richard Terrick, Bishop of London, in 1762, their second son Richard Ryder became a successful politician and served as Home Secretary from 1809 to 1812 and their youngest son, Henry Ryder became Bishop of Gloucester and Bishop of Lichfield. Lord Harrowby died in June 1803, and was succeeded in the barony by his eldest son Dudley, who served as Foreign Secretary and was created Earl of Harrowby in 1809.

In 1776, Nathaniel Ryder bought what was at the time a country shooting lodge and commissioned the noted architect Samuel Wyatt and landscape gardener William Emes, both of whom had worked under Robert Adam at Kedleston Hall to transform the Hall and park. In June 1848 the Hall was set ablaze and virtually destroyed. During the re-building work the Family de-camped to Sandon Lodge, formally the Dog & Doublet (the current Erdeswick House), a substantial coaching inn on the turnpike, mentioned by Pitt in 1817. Local legend has it that the name 'Dog & Doublet' was adopted following the impressive performance of a dog dressed in a doublet at one of the traveller fairs, which was held in the grounds of the inn sometime in the late 18th century. To accommodate the family the building was extended to the south and the inn closed and in November 1850 the Dog & Doublet sign was taken down and hung outside the then Packhorse Inn on the opposite side of the road.

The original Dog & Doublet has late 16th century origins. The Earl of Harrowby diverted the main road away from his estate and built a coaching inn, the inn was originally known as The Crown. In the mid 18th century an additional frontage was built, bringing the house closer to the road.

White's Directory of Staffordshire published in 1818 lists a Benjamin Tomlinson as a vict & farmer at the Dog & Doublet Inn. At the time it was not un-common for innkeepers to be farmers as well, however in this case, considering the size of the inn, it can be considered a little unusual. White's Directory of 1834 again lists Benjamin Tomlinson, this time occupying the Dog & Doublet Inn and Coaching House; it appears that by 1830 Tomlinson was no longer listed as a farmer.

The 1838 Tithe Map (LRO Ref B/A/15 (*Figure 3*)) records the village of Sandon in significant detail. The building is clearly identified as the Dog and Doublet and described in the attached apportionment as an "...inn with offices, coach houses, stables and yard farm buildings with fold yard and rick yard Bowling Green and pleasure ground and garden". The adjacent field, numbered as 724 is identified as "Dog Croft"; the name suggests it has some association with the inn. The Dog & Doublet is owned by the Earl of Harrowby and occupied by John Pritchard.



Figure 3
Sandon Tithe Map 1838.
(Lichfield Record Office Ref B/A/15)

The tithe map records that the Dog & Doublet consists of a single building consisting of two principal ranges, one fronting the turnpike and a second perpendicular range, including the current coach house to the rear. The north – south aligned range of the coach house subject

to this historic building recording appears to differ in both plan form and location to the current range, extending further to the north and being apparently narrower. It is possible, therefore that this element is earlier and no longer surviving on site.

Whites Directory of Staffordshire published in 1851 records that the then new Dog & Doublet (formerly the Packhorse Inn) was kept by Charles Bream and that the Earl of Harrowby occupied Sandon Lodge, “*formally a large hotel & busy posting and coaching house until the railways absorbed the traffic*”. As a result of the continued loss of trade the Inn never re-opened. The first edition Ordnance Survey (SRO Ref XXX.12 (*Figure 4*)) recorded Sandon in 1881, the building is clearly identifiable and is labelled Sandon Lodge and the current coach house, subject to the building recording is clearly visible to the north east of the house and appears identical in both plan form and location to the current building.



Figure 4
First Edition Ordnance Survey (1881)
Sheet XXX.12

At the time of the first edition Sandon Lodge had long since ceased to be a coaching inn and this is reflected in the extensive and elaborate formal gardens laid out to the south of the house, possibly a remnant of the time the house served as the Earls’ residence. The gardens suggest a house of some status following the Earl’s departure. Interestingly, there appears to be a property boundary between the southern and northern bays of the building, suggesting the two were separate at the time. The second edition Ordnance Survey was published in 1901, the building is identical in plan form. The gardens to the south are somewhat less grand, suggesting the house had lost some of its earlier status.

By the time the third edition Ordnance Survey was published in 1924 (SRO Ref XXX.12 (*Figure 5*)) Sandon Lodge and the coach house had undergone significant alteration. The coach house is now a free standing building with the bay joining it to the house having been

demolished sometime between 1901 and 1924. Unlike the previous editions, there appears to be a small outshoot on the south facing elevation of the easternmost bay, the outshot has the appearance of pigsty, which were common throughout the era. The formal gardens are still recorded to the south of the house and there appears to be a more established property boundary between Sandon Lodge and Stonebench Farm to the north.



Figure 5
Third Edition Ordnance Survey (1924)
Sheet XXX.12

By the 1960s Sandon Lodge and the coach house had again undergone alterations. The 1960 Ordnance Survey (SRO Ref SJ9429 & SJ9529 (*Figure 6*)) records the coach house as it currently stands. The east – west aligned bay has been further reduced in size as a result of further demolition at the western end and the small outshoot seen in Fig. 5 is also no longer recorded.

More significantly the main house is now recorded as two separate dwellings, Sandon Lodge to the north and Erdeswicke's House to the south. This confirms the suggestion seen in previous maps that the Lodge was in use as two separate dwellings. However Mrs Bayliss has indicated that there is no separate staircase for Erdeswick House, therefore is unclear how the two could have functioned as separate dwellings.

The house and coach house remained the property of the Sandon Estate until its recent sale to Mrs Bayliss. The name Erdeswick House was re-instated and is now used for the whole property.

Erdeswick House was Grade II listed in 1980 under its previous name of Sandon Lodge (Listed Building ID 272291). The listed building description describes the building thus:

C18 refronting to earlier timber frame revealed at rear. Roughcast; 2 storeys plus attic; slightly projecting bay at centre with pediment; 5 sash windows overall with cambered heads; moulded wood pilaster doorcase with rectangular fanlight, cornice hood and 4-panelled door; brick-coped gable ends; plain eaves; tiles. North gabled end and 2 gables at rear are of restored C17 work with exposed timber frame and brick infill. Early C19 plain brick 3-windowed wing on right-hand side.



Figure 6
1960 Ordnance Survey
SJ 9429 & SJ 9529

2. Aims and Methodology

The specific objectives of the standing building survey were as follows:

- To provide a written, drawn and photographic record of the building prior to its conversion.
- To ensure the long term preservation of the information through deposition of the record and a summary written report with an appropriate depository.
- The site based element of the Historic Building Recording programme involved the production of measured survey drawings and the completion of photographic and written records.
- Desk-based research included the analysis of readily available documentary and cartographic sources including Staffordshire Records Office (SRO), Lichfield Record Office (LRO). It is understood that the Sandon Estate also holds historic documents relating to proposed development area; however following initial contact a meeting within the proposed project timetable could not be arranged.

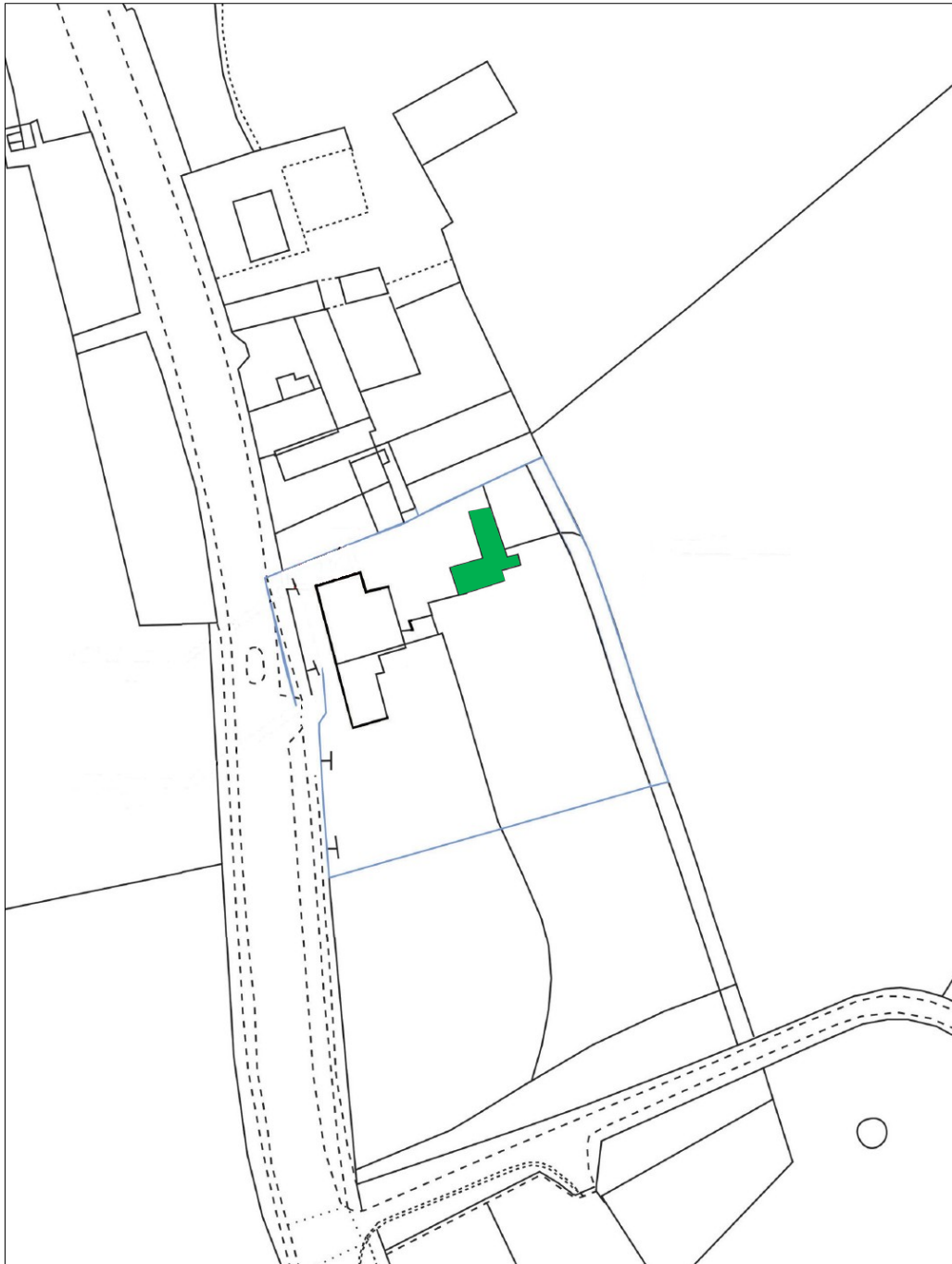


Figure 7
Plan of the proposed development area & Recorded Building in Green.
(Provided by client. Not to Scale).

Orientation: The building subject to this historic building recording is approximately “L” shape in plan, the long axis is orientated north–north west – south-south east and the shorter axis is orientated west-south west – east-north east (*Figures 7 & 22*), for ease of description this is taken hereafter to be north to south and east to west. The principal elevations are those facing the driveway/yard to the north of Erdeswick House. Where the terms ‘left’, ‘right’, ‘front’ and ‘back’ etc are used in the report, this is in relation to these principal elevation as viewed from the north west. For the purposes of this historic building recording a letter prefix is added for significant partitions where required.

All historic maps are reproduced with north to the top of the page, following Ordnance Survey standards unless indicated otherwise with appropriate north arrow and key.

As far as is known, no previous historic building recording has been undertaken of the building.

The site visit was carried out by Gerwyn Richards on August 3rd 2015.

3. Description of the Building

The coach house consists of two principal ranges and a third lesser range (*Figure 23*) east north east of Erdeswick House. There are two clearly distinct building phases visible; the east – west aligned range, D is stone-built, while the north – south aligned range, A, B and C is brick-built, as is the lesser, rear range, E. All are under a plain tile roof. There are clear straight joints visible between D and C, it is likely, therefore that D is the earliest element of the coach house.

Both the southern long elevation and eastern gable of D are built of local sandstone. The blocks are well finished, laid in courses, but not of ashlar quality and bedded in lime mortar. There are three courses of 9 x 2 ½ x 4 inch handmade red bricks immediately below the eaves on the long elevation (*Figure 10*), suggesting the roof level has been altered at some point. On the southern slope of the eastern gable there is a surviving coped abutment, the copingstones are moulded and well finished (*Figure 15*). The northern face is coped with blue bricks. Also on the eastern gable is a partially blocked doorway.

The westernmost gable presents a much more complicated elevation, hinting at the history of this part of the coach house as should on historic maps (*Figs. 3 & 4*). On the south westernmost corner a straight joint is visible in the stonework as well as quoins indicating the presence of a lost bay (*Figure 14*). The straight joint and quoins indicate the current bay (D) post dates the lost bay. The westernmost gable itself is brick-built, there are a number of different phases visible within the brickwork, including the outline of a substantial chimney (*Figure 13*). To the north is a flat arch, although there is no clear evidence for the opening below the arch.

The principal elevation, facing north is largely modern and consists of one large coach door and a smaller pedestrian door (*Figure 9*). The dimensions of the coach door suggests it may have been modified in order to accommodate a car and serve as a garage. The smaller pedestrian door shows clear evidence of in-fill (*Figures 9 & 23*), indicating it too was originally a large carriage door, further evidence of which is the pintle in C which confirms the original opening.

Internally, D consists of two equal bays. There is a brick-built wall carried by the tie beam within the attic space. There is a blocked opening in this wall (*Figure 17*) which suggests the wall may have originally been full height and divided the range in to two separate bays and that there was originally a first floor. The eastern end is rendered while the western end is exposed stone, this suggests a potentially more domestic use for the eastern end or it was used for a carriage of some status. The latter is more likely given the history of Erdeswick House as the temporary residence of the Earl.

The roof is underdrawn and carried on two plain purlins. The northernmost purlin superficially appears to be the earlier of the two, but neither are likely to be original and are likely to date to one of the re-building events.

Abutting the north easternmost corner of D is the second range, consisting of three bays, A, B, and C (*Figure 23*). The range is brick-built, the bricks themselves are 10 x 2 ½ x 5 inch handmade red bricks laid in no discernible bond. The dimensions suggest a pre 19th century date for the building. There are three partially blocked carriage arches on the principal elevation (*Figure 8*), the northernmost being nearly completely blocked with a pedestrian door and inserted window (*Figure 16*). The southernmost arch has been blocked internally in the modern era and the central arch is still open. Above each arch are louvered loft windows. There is a partially blocked loft door, now a window opening on the northern gable. The rear elevation appears to be constructed of more modern brick (brick dimensions 9 x 3 x 4 ½ inch). There is also a blocked opening visible externally on the rear wall of A. There is a loft door on the rear elevation of H which, as a result of the difference in ground level, is only some 500mm above the current ground level (*Figure 12*).

Internally, the range consists of three principal bays. The northernmost bay, A consists of a single room with ladder access to the loft above, part of the northernmost wall has tongued and grooved panelling and a saddle tree and tack hooks (*Figure 19*), confirming the coach house history of the building, the remainder of this northern wall is rendered, other walls are painted brick. There appears to be a straight joint between the rear wall and the cross wall and the rear wall appears to be more modern brick (brick dimensions 9 x 3 x 4 ¼ inch), it is likely, therefore that the rear wall has a more recent internal brick skin. Interestingly, there is a small area of parquet flooring remaining adjacent to the door (*Figure 20*), it is unclear whether this is original, and if original, it suggests a coach house of some status. The central bay, B is largely bare, again with painted brick walls, the northern cross wall is built on stone footing (*Figure 21*) and there is modern poured concrete floor. The ceiling is carried on a substantial oak bridging beam.

Dividing B and C is a brick-built cross wall, the bricks appear early and the wall is likely to be original, there is central opening in the wall with a lowered flat brick arch, above with is the original timber lintel (*Figure 18*). The final bay, C has been extensively modernised with dry lined walls and hardboard flooring, leaving little of historical significance exposed. The ceiling is carried on a substantial roughly finished oak bridging beam.

First floor access is via a ladder from A or via a loft door on the rear elevation. There are two bays on the first floor, F and G. The northernmost bay, F contains a small fireplace on the northernmost wall, which along with the rendered finish to the walls suggests it had domestic origin, probably a groom's room. The loft window on the principal elevation has been blocked internally, suggesting the domestic use was not original and possibly carried out during the Earl's stay. There is an early 19th century two panelled door between F and G (*Figure 22*). G consists of a single bay with two cross wall stubs, the loft windows on the principal elevation are still open and the bare brick finish suggests this area was for storage. There is a hanging door between G and D, there was likely to originally been a ladder access here.

The final, lesser range, E projects from the eastern gable of D. It is a single storey, brick-built lean to under a plain tile roof (*Figure 11*). There is a single door on the principal elevation and a window on the rear elevation as well as evidence of a second blocked opening

on the principal elevation. Internally there is a cross wall and door creating two un-equal bays and the roof is carried on a single purlin. It is likely that the range was originally a pigsty with the smaller bay serving as a privy, a common arrangement.

4. Conclusion

The former coach house attached to Erdeswick House is an interesting building, it consists of at least three separate phases and may contain elements of the original 16th century building. It is likely that the earliest part of the coach house is the stone-built elements of the east – west range. In the mid 19th century it is likely that the early north – south range was re-built and the westernmost bays of the east – west bay were demolished creating the current lay out.

The historical background of the building is equally interesting, originally the building was built as a coaching inn and following a fire at nearby Sandon Hall the inn was taken over as the residence of the Earl of Harrowby and re-named Sandon Lodge. This residential status is reflected in the coach house with well finished interior features and domestic arrangements on the first floor. The later change in status can be seen with the construction of a pigsty and privy abutting the rear of the coach house.

5. Archive & Publication

The site archive consists of

- 2 A3 permagraph sheet containing plan, profile & notes
- 2 A1 paper plans
- 2 DVDs containing 83 digital images
- 3 A4 contact sheets
- 83 Black & White negatives and contact prints 2 A4 photo record sheets
- 3 A4 photo index sheets
- 1 Unbound copy of this report

The accession number 2015.LH.166 has been issued by Potteries Museum & Art Gallery, Stoke on Trent. The archive will be deposited in due course.

A version of the summary (above) will be submitted to the editor of the local journal for inclusion in the next edition.

6. References & Sources

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M^cKay, W.B 1945 *Building Craft Series, Brickwork*. Longmans, Green & Co.

'Parishes: Sandon', in *A History of the County of Hertford: Volume 3*, ed. William Page (London, 1912), pp. 270-276 <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/vch/herts/vol3/pp270-276> [accessed 15 August 2015].

Staffordshire Records Office Aug 2015

Whites History and Gazetteer of Staffordshire – Staffordshire Records Office

7. Colour Plates



Figure 8
Principal Elevation A, B & C (looking West - North West).



Figure 9
Principal Elevation D (looking South - South East).



Figure 10
Rear Elevation D (looking North – North West).



Figure 11
East Facing Gable D (left) and Principal Elevation E (looking West – North West).



Figure 12
Rear Elevation A, B & C (looking West –South West).



Figure 13 Outline of In-Filled
Chimney in West Facing Gable of D.



Figure 14 Quoins & Straight Joint Visible in West Facing Gable and South Facing Long Elevation of D Indicating Location of Demolished Bay.



Figure 15 Moulded Stone Coped Abutment on East Facing Gable of D.



Figure 16 Partly Blocked Carriage Door on Principal Elevation of A.



Figure 17
Brick-Built Wall & Blocked Opening Carried on Tie Beam in D (looking South West).



Figure 18

B, Internal View Showing Partly Blocked Opening (Right) & Newer Brick-Built Rear Wall (Left) (looking South East).



Figure 19

A Showing Panelling & Tack Hooks on Northernmost Wall (looking North – North West).



Figure 20

A Limited Remains of Parquet Floor Adjacent to Doorway.

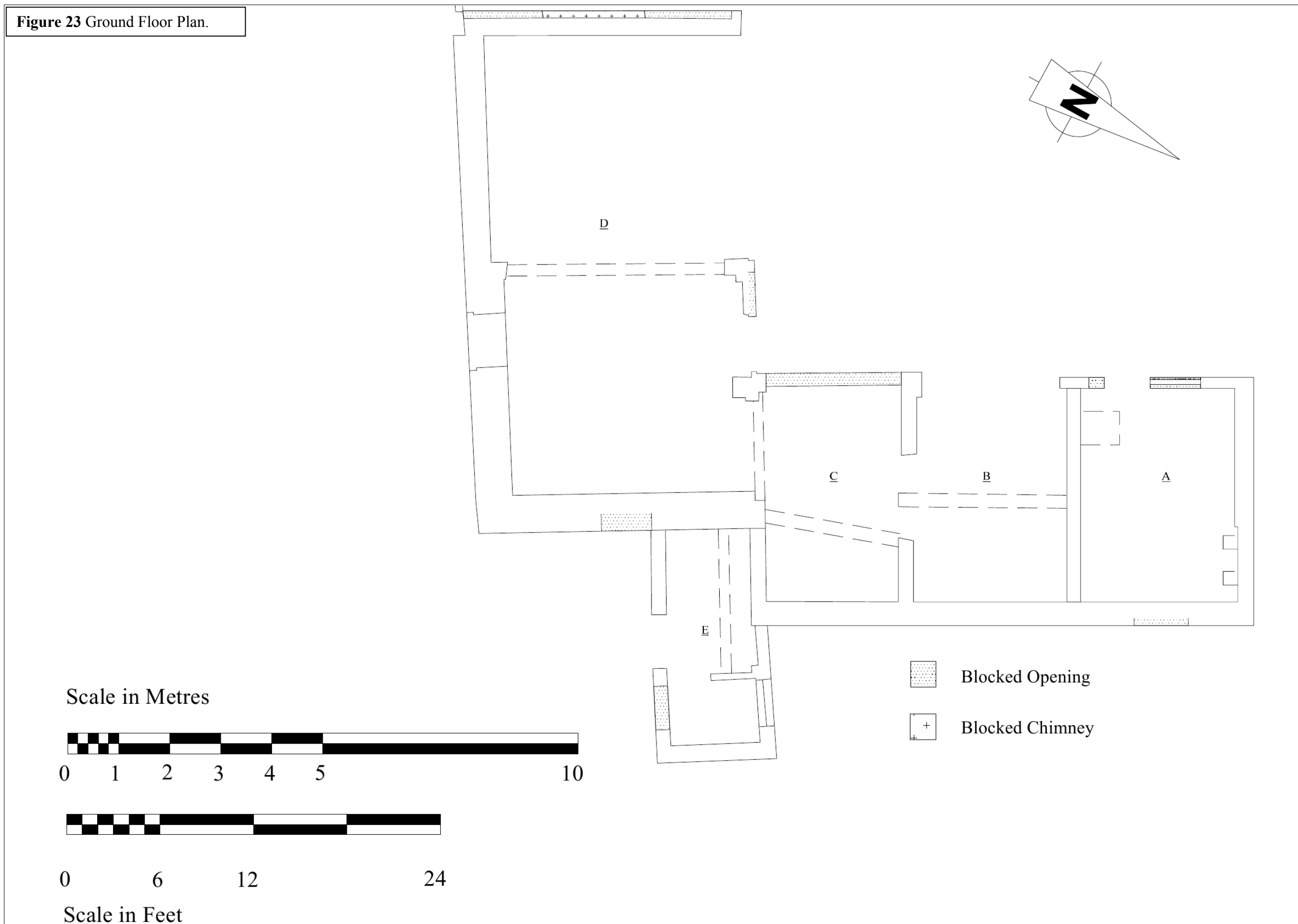


Figure 21

B Limited View of Stone-Built Footing.



Figure 22 Early 19th Century Door in
E.



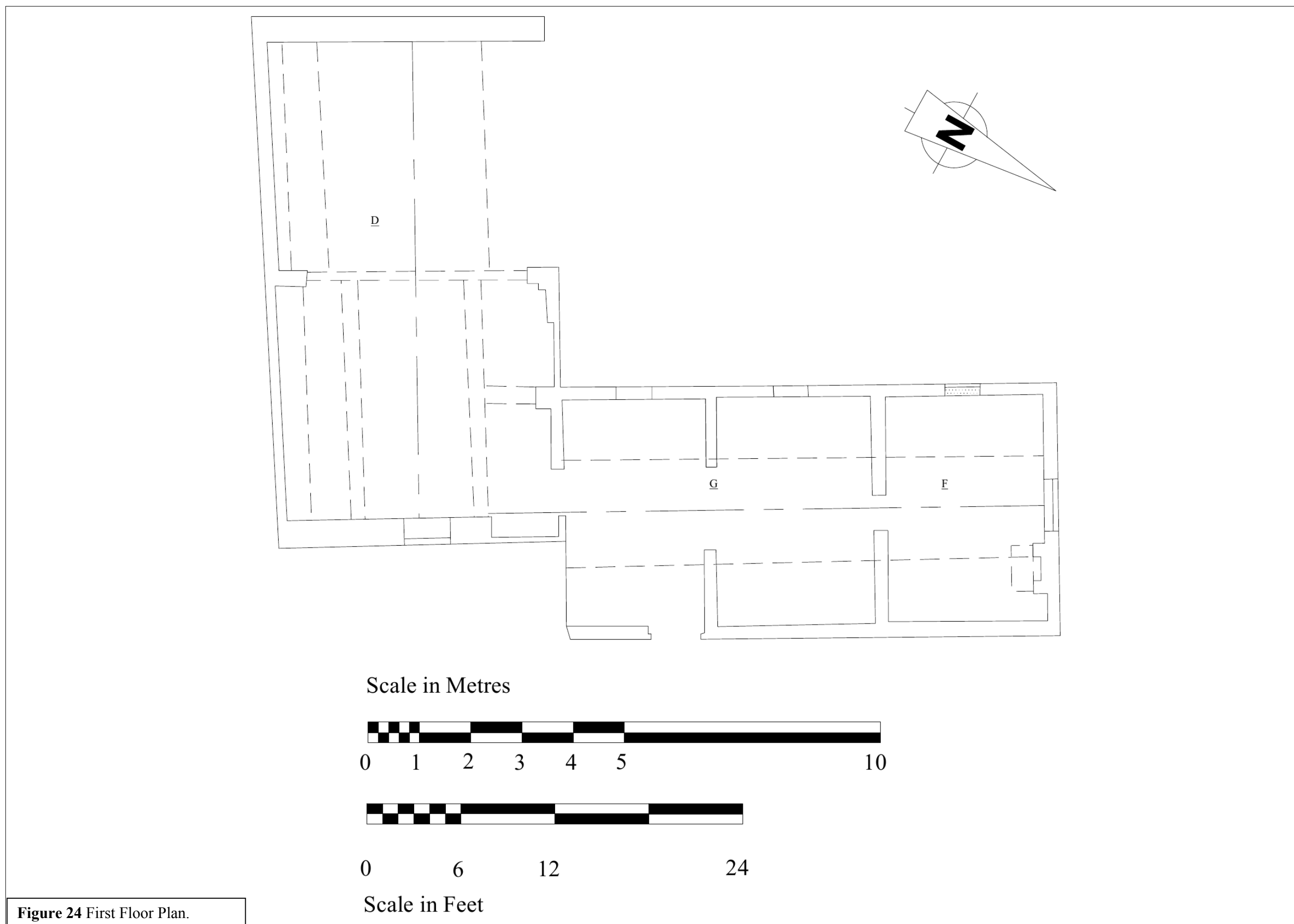


Figure 24 First Floor Plan.



Figure 25 Profiles Supplied by Client & Verified on Site (Not to Scale).

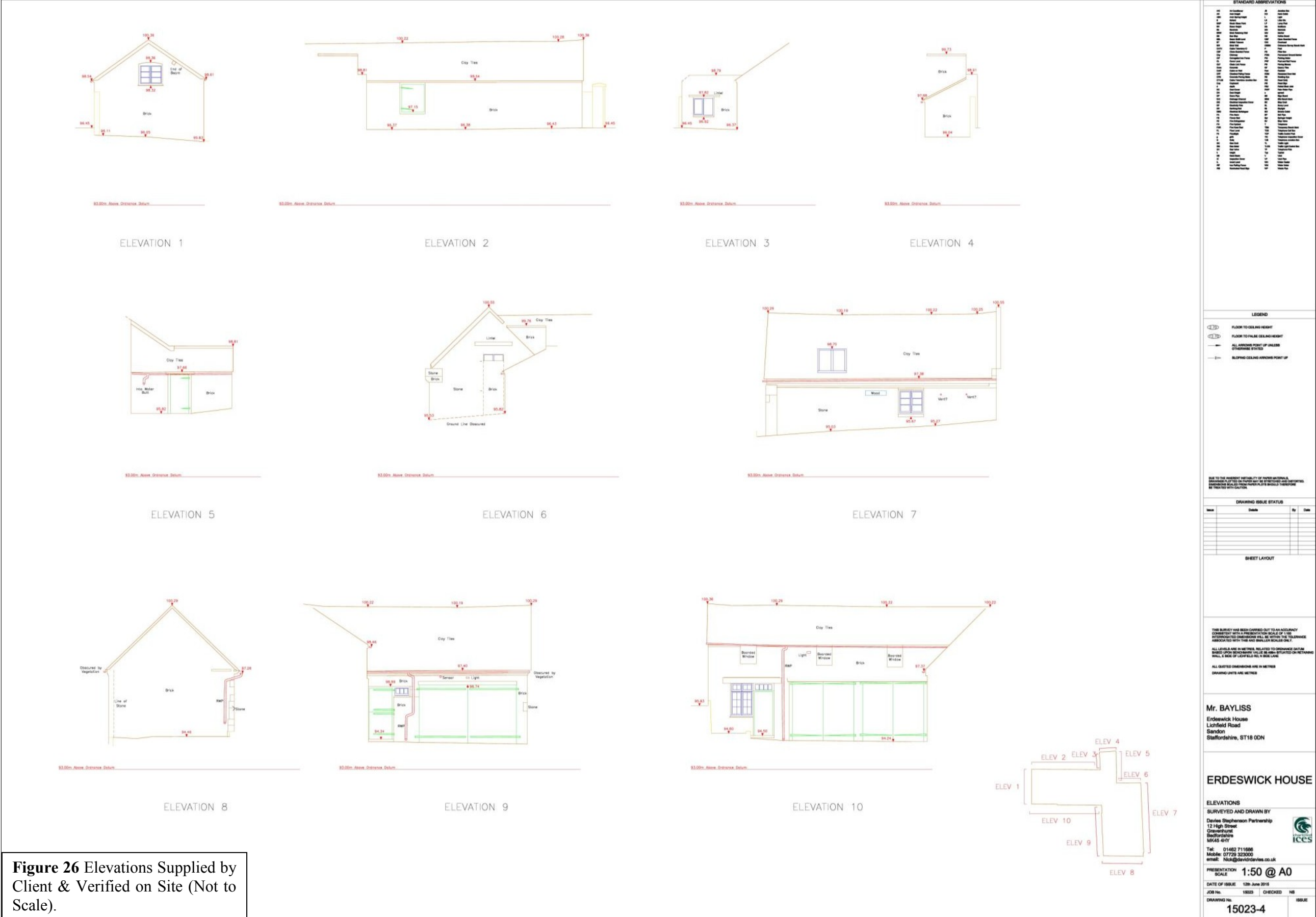
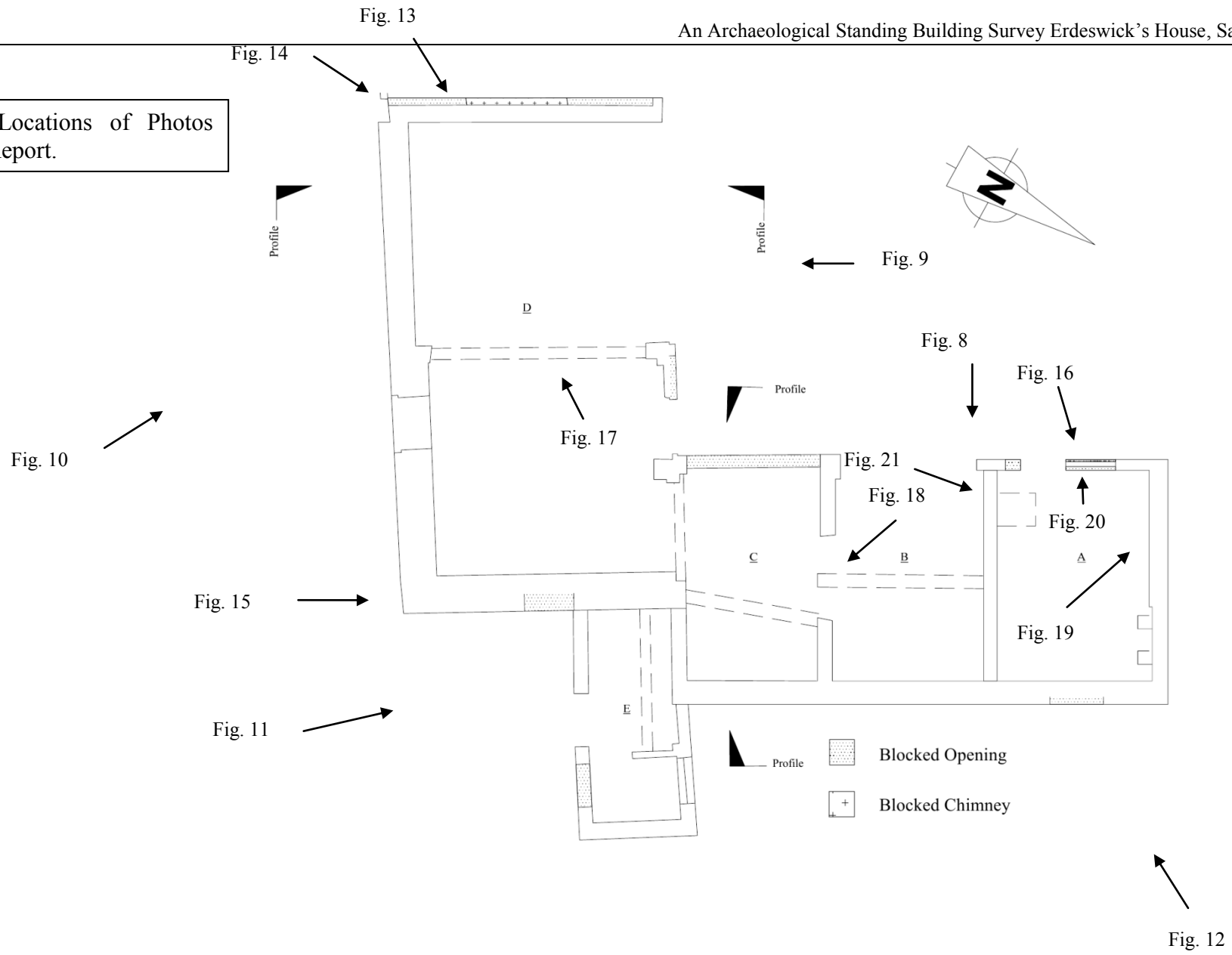


Figure 26 Elevations Supplied by Client & Verified on Site (Not to Scale).

Figure 27 Locations of Photos Included in Report.



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