

# Archaeological Building Recording Services

## **An Archaeological Standing Building Survey The Crown Inn Cheadle Staffordshire**

**(NGR SP 49911 89147)**

**On Behalf of A.J Developments**



ABRS Report No 2017-CMCS

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**The Crown Inn**

**Cheadle**

**Staffordshire.**

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**On Behalf of A.J Developments**

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**Planning Application No  
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Accession Number 2017.LH.80**

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## An Archaeological Standing Building Survey The Crown Inn (Former), Tean Road, Cheadle, Staffordshire (NGR SP 49911 89147).

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**An Archaeological Standing Building Survey The Crown Inn (Former), Tean Road, Cheadle, Staffordshire (NGR SP 49911 89147).**

**Summary**

*This document is an archaeological standing building survey of the former Crown Inn, Tean Road, Cheadle, Staffordshire (NGR SP 49911 89147), commissioned from Archaeological Building Recording Services (ABRS) by A.J Developments in advance of the consented demolition of the building and the re-development of the site to residential use.*

*The Crown Inn has an extensive history as a public house, dating from 1834 and remaining in use until 2006. The historic building recording recorded limited evidence that the building originated as a small, possibly 18th century two bay building*

*Unfortunately, extensive modern re-development and prolonged dereliction has removed nearly everything of historical or architectural significance. It was not possible to view either the first floor nor the cellarage due to safety concerns.*

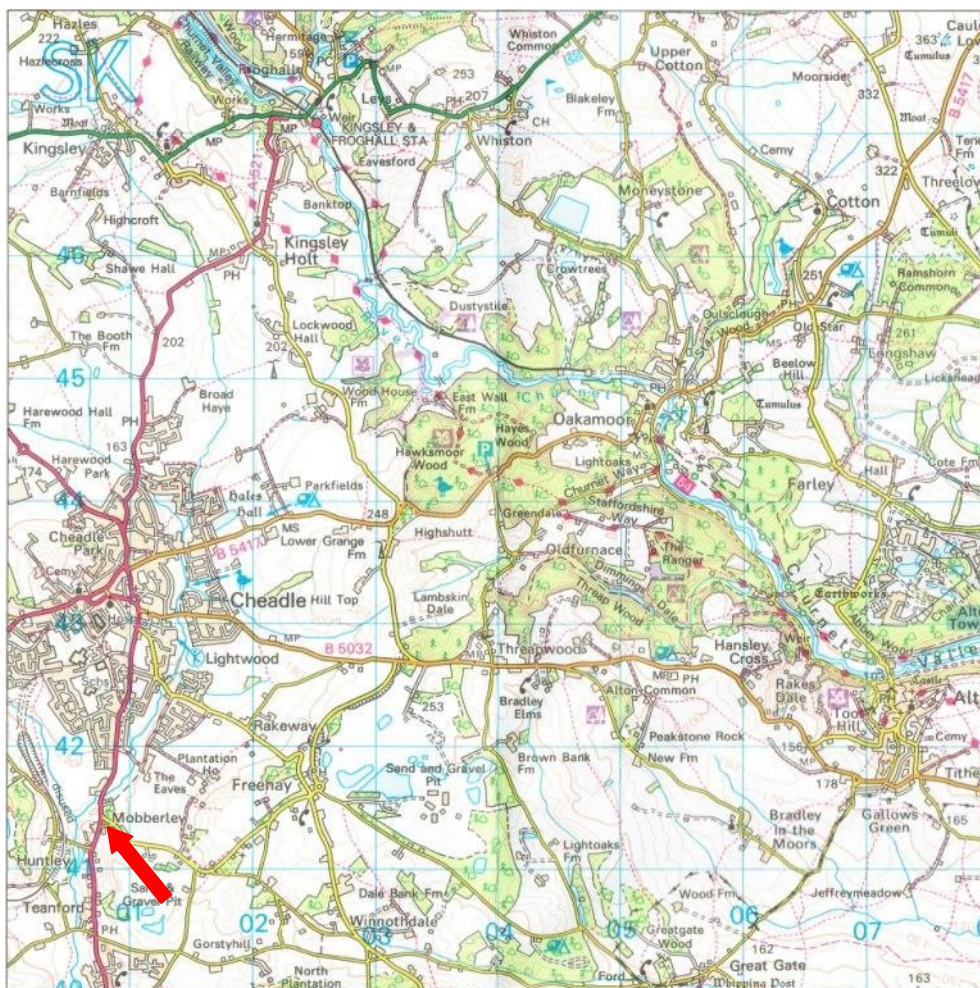
*The archive will be deposited with The Potteries Museum & Art Gallery under the Accession Number 2017.LH.80.*

**1. Introduction**

Archaeological Building Recording Services (ABRS) were commissioned by A.J Developments to undertake an archaeological standing building survey of the former Crown Inn, Tean Road, Cheadle, Staffordshire (NGR SP 49911 89147 (*Figures 1, 7 & 16*)). Planning Permission has been granted for the demolition of the building and the re-development of the site to residential use. The building is a traditionally built former public house, believed to date from the 19th century. The Historic Environment Advisor, Staffordshire County Council, as advisor to Staffordshire Moorlands District Council has recommended that an archaeological standing building survey to Historic England Level 2 as defined in *Understanding Historic Buildings: A guide to good recording practice* (Historic England 2016) be carried out prior to any works being carried out.

The project was completed in accordance with the Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for Archaeological Building Recording at the Crown Inn Tean Road, Cheadle, Staffordshire (2017-CMCS\_WSI) and followed 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* (2010).

The Crown Inn is not listed nor located within a designated Conservation Area.



**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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The hamlet of Mobberley is located within the modern parish of Cheadle, south of Cheadle, straddling the Uttoxeter road. The settlement has Saxon origins and is recorded in the Domesday Book as *Celle* and was held by Robert of Stafford. Historically, the hamlet consisted of a few scattered dwellings, farmsteads and an inn – The Crown Inn. In 1847 the hamlet became part of the ecclesiastical parish of Freehay, the earliest known documentary reference to the hamlet dates to late 16th century. Yates's Map of 1798 (*Figure 2*) records the principal thoroughfares and a number of buildings within the hamlet, Tean Road is shown as a substantial road, the present alignment of Freehay Road is only recorded as trackway, using these alignments it is possible to suggest that the building now known as the Crown Inn was recorded in 1798.

The Parish was enclosed in the early 19th century, with a map produced in 1831 (SRO Ref Q/RDC/72 (*Figure 3*)). Although not clear from the award, the parcel on which the Crown Inn stands appears to be "Old Enclosure" and therefore, there is no further information about the site. The building, now the Crown Inn is, however clearly recorded as a "T" shaped building fronting Tean Road in the south westernmost angle of the triangular plot.





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



**Figure 3**  
Plan of Allotments on the Little Common and Draycott Commons in the Parish Cheadle, 1831 (Plan II).

The earliest confirmed documentary reference to the Crown Inn occurs in Whites Directory of Staffordshire published in 1834 when a William Travis is recorded at the Crown, Mobberley [sic]. There are a number of further entries in various trade directories throughout the 19th century for the Inn, in 1870 the Crown Inn is recorded by Harrods Directory as being in Huntley and kept by Richard Kinder. Soon after the Inn was run by Mrs Jane Brice from at least the 1890s through to at least 1900.



**Figure 4**

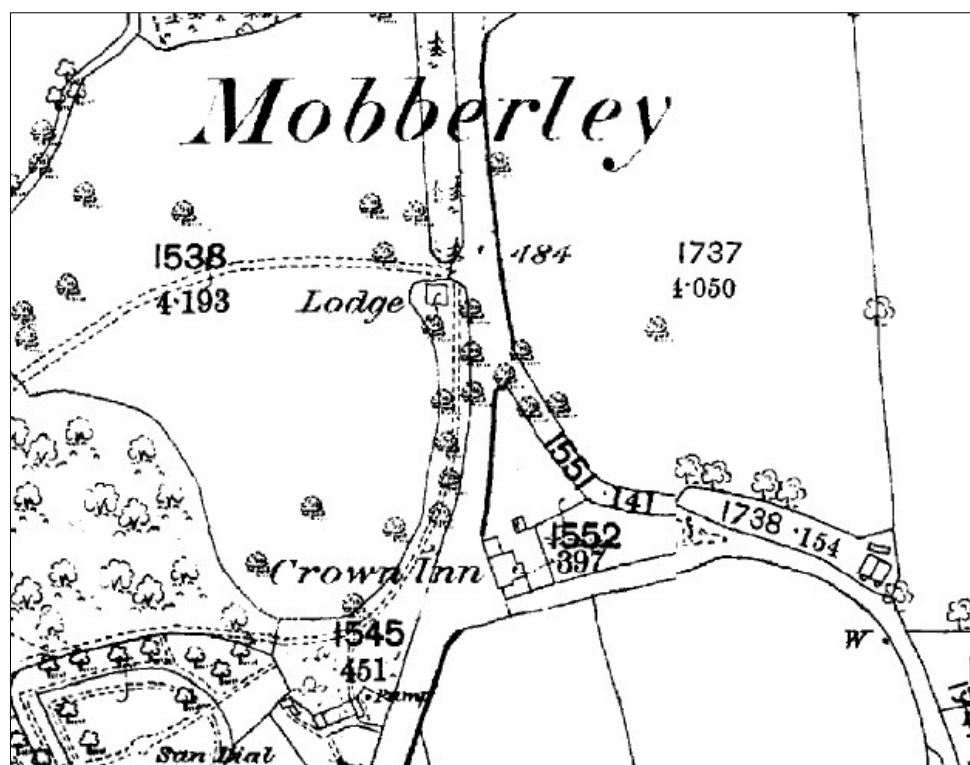
Plan of Area Showing Dairy House, Hazel Wall, Both Hall, Park Hall and Mobberley (Undated).

An undated map (SRO Ref D1176/A/3/17 (*Figure 4*)) shows the Crown Inn similar to how it is recorded by the enclosure map, the only significant difference being the alignment of Tean Road, which appears to meander more. The triangular plot is also shown as divided in two, this may suggest that the building may, at the time have been two separate dwellings, although, there is no way to confirm this.

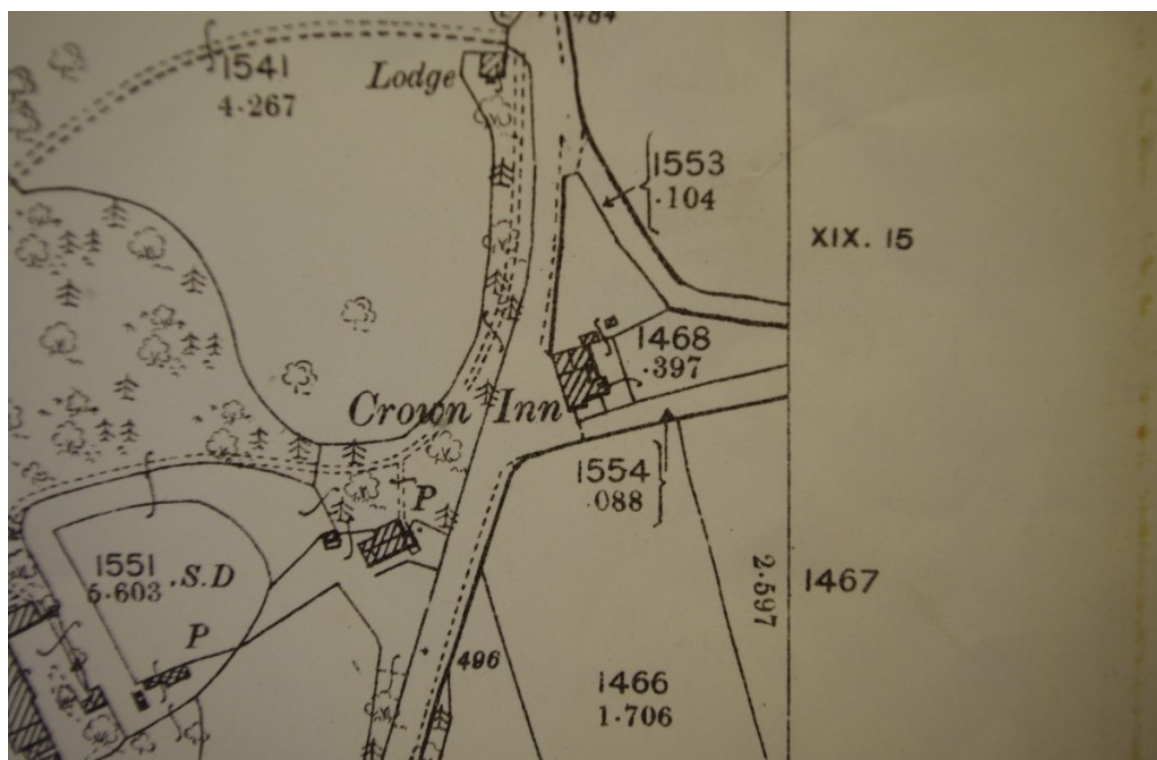
The first edition Ordnance Survey was published in 1880 (*Figure 5*). The Crown Inn is identified by name and the division of the plot seen on the earlier map is still apparent. The building itself appears to have lost its distinctive T shape seen on previous maps, suggesting potential re-building work, the building appears to consist of two distinct elements, a large central bay and a smaller bay to the north. The southern arm of the earlier T plan appears to have been demolished during the intervening years.

By 1900 and the publication of the second edition Ordnance Survey (SRO Ref XIX.14 (*Figure 6*)), the Inn has clearly undergone some significant alteration, the northern bay has been extended to the east creating a large rectangular footprint, a short projecting rear wing can still be seen toward the centre of the building.





**Figure 5**  
First Edition Ordnance Survey (1880).



**Figure 6**  
Second Edition Ordnance Survey (1900).

The Crown Inn remained in operation as a public house throughout the twentieth century. From at least 1912 until at least 1940 the Inn was kept by Joseph Stubbs and later in 1940 by Bernard Plant. 20th century mapping shows no significant alterations to the building until the 1970s and 1980s when the footprint was extended to the south and east. Post millennium the Inn belonged to Punch Taverns and was tenanted by Christine and Neville Parks when last open in 2006. The site was de-licensed in advance of an auction of the freehold in 2009.

## **2. Aims and Methodology**

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

- To provide a comprehensive written, drawn and photographic record of the building prior to the permitted demolition, as it represents upstanding archaeological/historical remains of local, regional or national importance.
- To provide a comprehensive review of the local and regional historical context of the structures recorded by the project, making reference to the appropriate regional research agendas.
- To produce a high quality, fully integrated archive suitable for long-term deposition in order to ‘preserve by record’ the buildings in their current form prior to conversion and/or demolition.

Desk-based research included the analysis of readily available documentary and cartographic sources including Staffordshire Historic Environment Record (HER) & Staffordshire Records Office (SRO).

The Historic Building Recording produced measured survey drawings of the ground floor and completed a photographic (35mm monochrome negative) and written record of the building to the equivalent of Historic England Level 2. An ordered archive has been compiled and will be deposited with the Potteries Museum & Art Gallery (Stoke-on-Trent). An Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS) record has been completed.

*Orientation:* The building subject to this historic building recording is rectangular in plan (*Figures 7 & 16*). The principal elevation is that facing west-south west, fronting Tean Road, for ease of description this is taken hereafter to be west. Where the terms ‘left’, ‘right’, ‘front’ and ‘back’ etc are used in the report, this is in relation to this principal elevation, as viewed from Tean Road. A letter suffix has been 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 buildings.

The site visit was carried out by Gerwyn Richards on November 15th 2017.



### 3. Description of the Building

The Crown Inn is rectangular in plan occupying the south westernmost corner of a triangular plot of land, fronting Tean Road (*Figures 7 & 16*). The building has a two storey principal elevation with gabled dormers (*Figure 8*) and an extensive rear range under a flat roof. The building is rough rendered in a mix of modern cement mortar and older cement mortar, the pitched roof is plain tiles (largely missing). Windows and doors are a mix of uPVC and modern timber casement windows.

There are at least four separate phases visible from the outside of the building, the principal elevation consists of two linear bays, (1) to the south and (2) to the north both fronting Tean Road, (1) being the larger of the two. The step between (1) and (2) (*Figure 9*) suggests the two are not contemporary, possibly confirmed by the off centre stack which may indicate the original gable wall. There is a parapet on the southern gable and probable evidence of corbelling on the principal elevation, now rendered. External corbels can be seen on the rear elevation (*Figure 10*).

The removal of some loose render on the principal elevation revealed that at least some of the bricks were 2 inch handmade red bricks, which along with cartographic sources suggests a tentative pre-19th century construction date for this principal elevation. Exposed bricks on the northern gable of (2) measured 9inch x 2 ½inch, which confirms that the bays are not contemporary, it again provides a tentative early 19th century construction date for (2). A standard 3inch brick only became common from the middle of the 19th century.

This northern bay is a double pile with a second range, (4) to the east of the frontage range (*Figure 11*). Again, there is a stepped joint between (2) and (4), suggesting the two are not contemporary, this is confirmed by exposed brickwork, bricks within (4) measure 9inch x 3inch, suggesting a later 19th century construction date which is confirmed by cartographic sources. There is also a straight joint visible on the rear elevation (*Figure 12*) as well as a possible cellar entrance on the northern wall.

Internally, the building is in an extremely poor condition, there was no access to either the first floor due to safety concerns nor the cellar due to flooding. The accessible areas of the ground floor were by and large of very limited historical or architectural significance, but it was possible to produce a limited phased plan of the building (*Figure 17*).

The frontage range, (1) is likely to be the earliest part of the building and consisted of two bays, elements of which can still be seen. There are original east – west joists carried on a chamfered and stopped bridging beam (*Figure 13*), the stop is missing on the southernmost beam, but the northernmost beam retains a simple run out stop (*Figure 14*), which is unfortunately difficult to date, but could potentially be as early as the early 18th century. There are further exposed joists visible in (3), in this case the joists are aligned north – south. The scattling suggests these joists are deal and therefore likely to be mid to late 19th century in date.

There are two remaining fireplaces within the building, which again give an indication of original floor plan. One is located at the northern end of (1), in what was originally the gable wall (*Figure 15*), the second at the eastern end of (3), in what was originally another gable wall. This chimney has an external breast, which suggests it may be a later addition (*Figure 12*).

The remainder of the building, mainly the rear range, (5), (6), and (7) are modern additions dating to the late 20th century and are of no historical or architectural significance. (5) apparently served as a dining area while (6) was the kitchen which reflects the increased use of public houses as restaurants. The servery towards the east of (1) is also modern, there is no indication of the original 19th century lay out of the Inn, although there is an opening in the south wall of (3) which may have originally been the serving window, a 19th century remnant suggesting that (3) may have originally served as a lounge.



#### 4. Conclusion

The Crown Inn has an extensive history as a public house, recorded as early as 1834 and remained in use until 2006. Unfortunately, this extended use as a public house has removed nearly everything of historical or architectural significance through extensive modern re-development and recent dereliction.

This historic building recording did record limited evidence that the building originated as small two bay building, possibly a domestic dwelling fronting Tean Road, possibly 18th century in date. Limited traces of this historic floor plan could still be traced on the ground floor.

At the time of the visit, neither the first floor, nor the cellar were accessible due to health and safety concerns.

#### 5. Archive & Publication

The site archive consists of

- 1 A3 permagraph sheet containing plans & notes
- DVD containing 53 digital images
- 2 A4 contact sheets
- 53 B&W negatives and contact sheets
- 2 A4 photo record sheets
- 1 Unbound copy of this report

The accession number 2017.LH.80 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.

##### 5.1 OASIS Record Summary

INFORMATION REQUIRED	UPLOADED AS
OASIS No	archaeol30-301521
Project Name	An Archaeological Standing Building Survey The Crown Inn (Former), Tean Road, Cheadle, Staffordshire.
Site Co-ordinates	SP 49911 89147
Project Type	Standing Building Recording
Project Manager	Gerwyn Richards
Previous/Future Work?	No/Unknown
Current Land Use	Commercial/Recreational
Development Type	Residential
Prompt	NPPF
Archive Recipient	Potteries Museum & Art Gallery

## 6. References & Sources

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- M<sup>c</sup>Kay, W.B. 1945 *Building Craft Series, Brickwork*. Longmans, Green & Co.
- Peters, J.E.C., 1988. 'Post-medieval Roof Trusses in some Staffordshire Farm Buildings' in *Vernacular Architecture* Vol. 19, 24-31.
- Staffordshire Historic Environment Record (HER) accessed Nov 2016
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## 7. Colour Plates



**Figure 8**  
Principal Elevation, General View (Looking East).



**Figure 9**  
Stepped Joint Between (1) (Right) &  
(2) (Left).





**Figure 10**  
Corbelling on Rear Elevation (Looking West).



**Figure 11**  
North Facing Gable (Looking South).





**Figure 12**  
Rear Elevation of (3) (Left) & (4) (Right) Showing Straight Joint & Chimney Breast.



**Figure 13**  
(1) Joists & Bridging Beam.



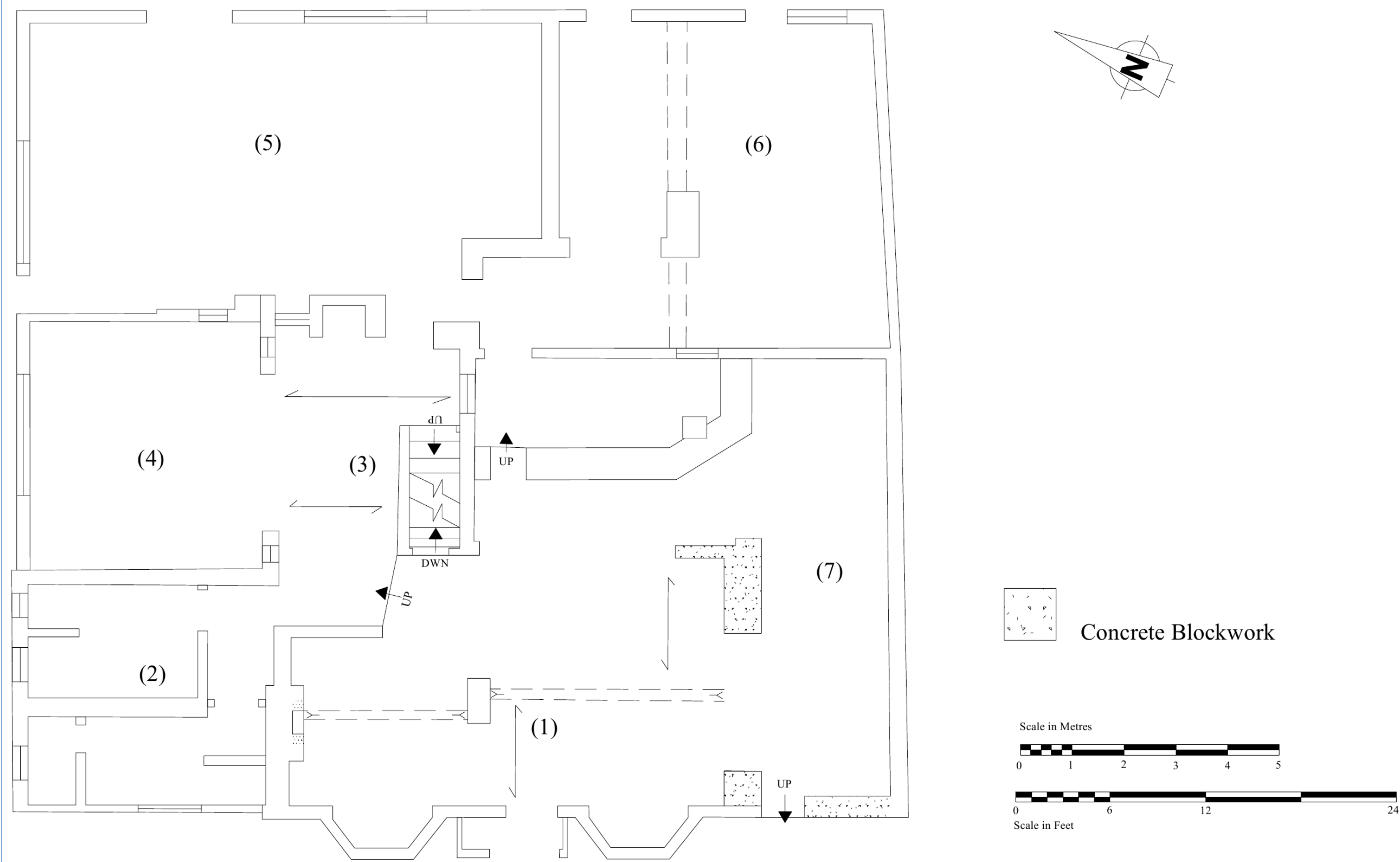
**Figure 14**  
(2) Run Out Stop on Bridging Beam (Looking North East).



**Figure 15**  
(2) Fireplace in Original Gable Wall.



Figure 16 Ground Floor Plan.



**Figure 17** Ground Floor Plan – Principal Phases.





Fig. 12

Fig. 10

**Figure 18** Locations of Photographs Included in Report.



Concrete Blockwork

Scale in Metres



Scale in Feet

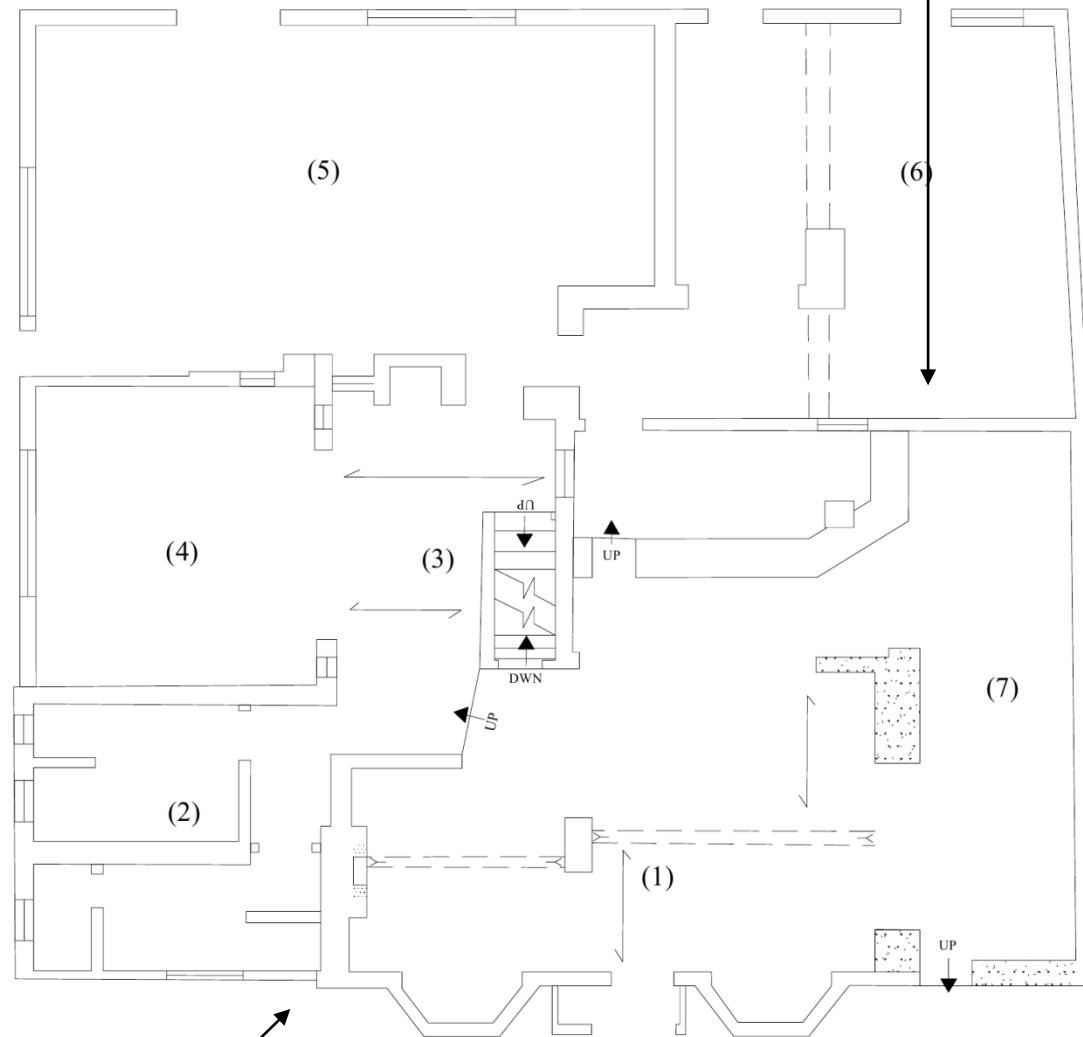


Fig. 11

Fig. 9

Fig. 8

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