



**Historic building recording  
at Manor House Museum  
Kettering GLaM Project  
Northamptonshire  
June 2021**

Report No. 21/073

Author: Lauren Wilson

Illustrator: Carla Ardis



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Report No. 21/073

Project Manager: Camilla Collins

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Planning reference ID	KET/2020/0696		
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Site name	Manor House Museum		
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National organisation	Historic England		
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Methodological summary	MOLA (Museum of London Archaeology) was commissioned by GSS Architecture, on behalf of North Northamptonshire Council, to undertake a programme of historic building recording (Level 3) at Manor House Museum, Kettering, Northamptonshire. This was required prior to works being undertaken on the building which will comprise alterations as part of the Kettering GLaM Project (Gallery, Library and Museum).		
Previous works?	N	Future works?	N
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Project manager	Camilla Collins		
Project officer/ supervisor	Lauren Wilson		
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Description of outcomes/ summary of research framework contribution	The house (now museum) comprises several clear phases of development that can be best understood by studying the building's historic fabric. The main range is the oldest part of the building and comprises the original manor house, now much reduced in size but once part of the Dukes of Montagu, and later the Dukes of Buccleuchs, estates in the area. The rear range is a separate phase, but only of slightly different date to the main range, perhaps by 50 years or so. Cartographic sources indicate the original building was once much larger than the current limits of these ranges, and it is likely much has been demolished. In the early 19th century a small northern extension was added which created the main entrance seen today. After its conversion to a museum in the 1980s, a large stone, cast-iron, timber and glass extension wrapped around the back of the house to create larger exhibition spaces.		
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# Historic building recording at Manor House Museum Kettering GLaM Project Northamptonshire June 2021

## ABSTRACT

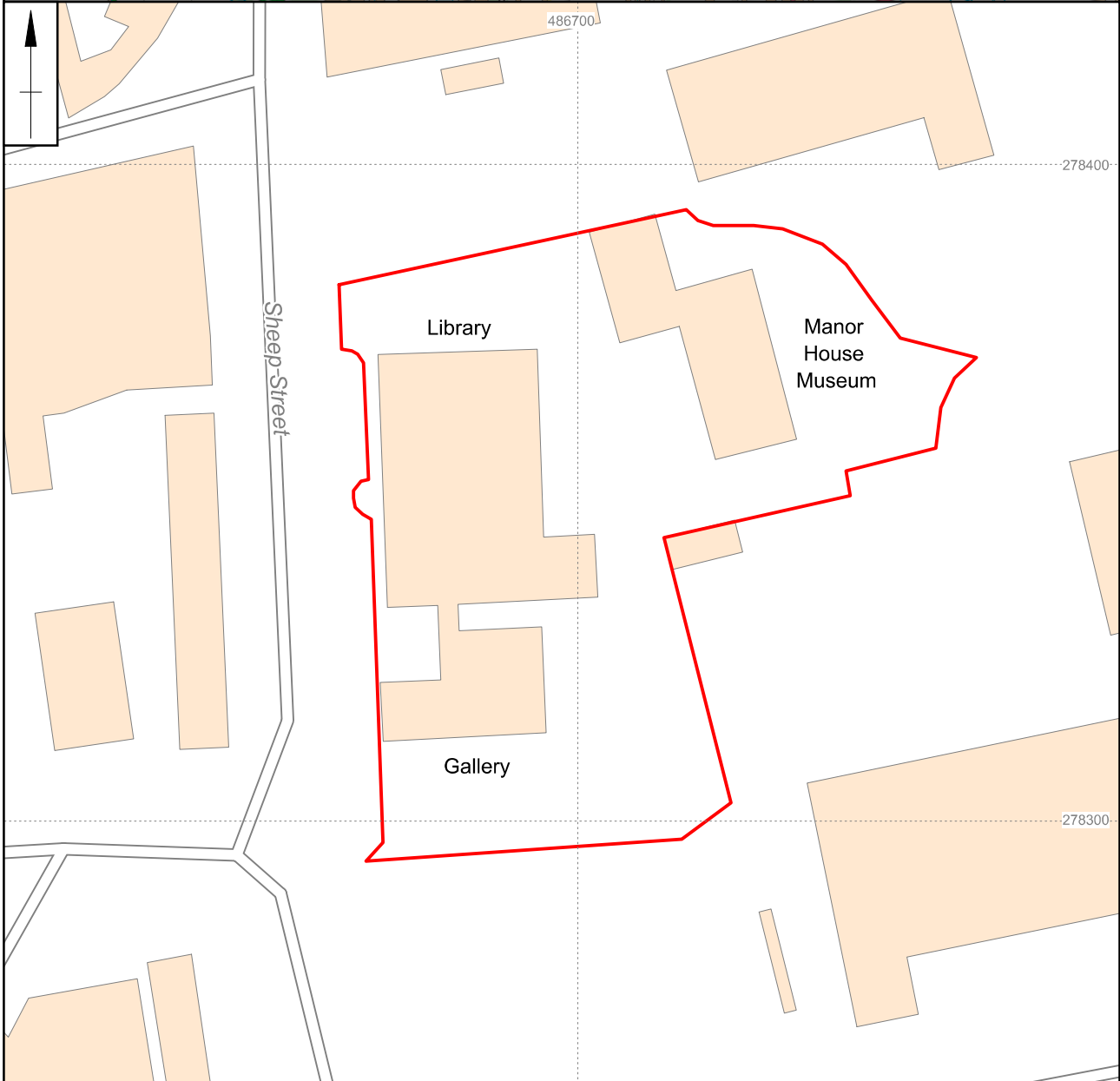
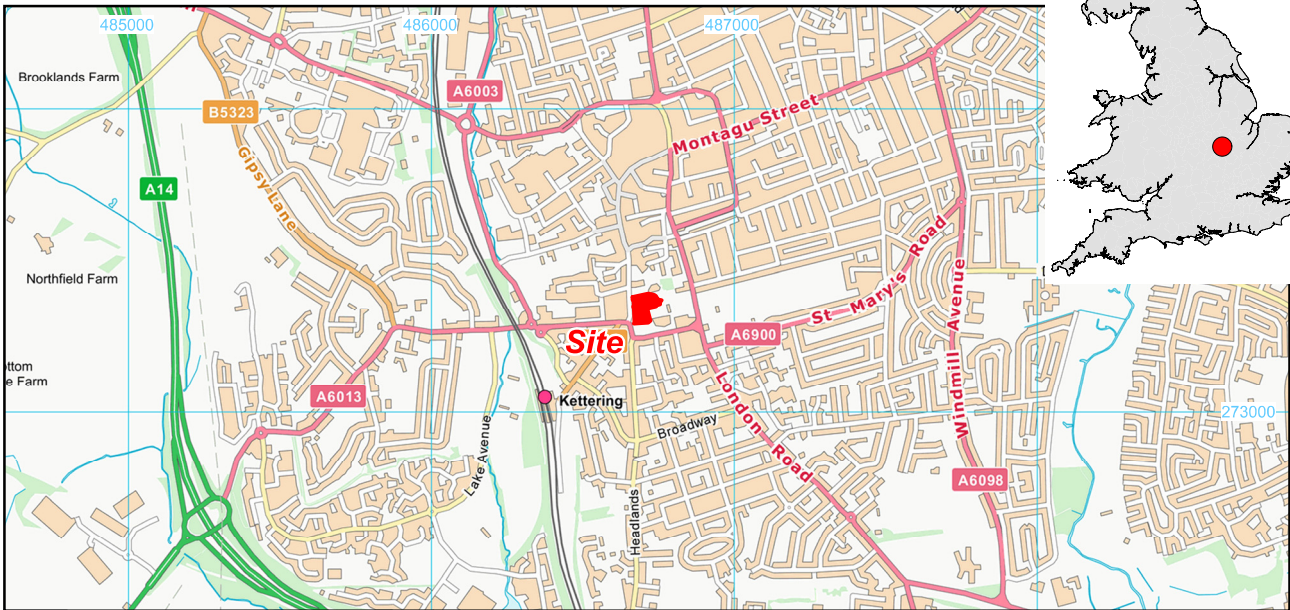
*MOLA (Museum of London Archaeology) was commissioned by Faithful + Gould, on behalf of North Northamptonshire Council, to undertake a programme of historic building recording (Level 3) at Manor House Museum, Kettering, Northamptonshire. This was required prior to works being undertaken on the building which will comprise alterations as part of the Kettering GLaM Project (Gallery, Library and Museum).*

*The house (now museum) comprises several clear phases of development that can be best understood by studying the building's historic fabric. The main range is the oldest part of the building and comprises the original manor house, now much reduced in size but once part of the Dukes of Montagu, and later the Dukes of Buccleuchs, estates in the area. Cartographic sources indicate the original building was once much larger than the current limits, and it is likely much has been demolished. The rear range is a separate phase, but only slightly different date to the main range, perhaps by 50 years or so. In the early 19th century a small northern extension was added which created the main entrance seen today. After its conversion to a museum in the 1980s, a large stone, cast-iron, timber and glass extension wrapped around the back of the house to create larger exhibition spaces.*

## 1 INTRODUCTION

MOLA (Museum of London Archaeology) was commissioned by Faithful + Gould, on behalf of North Northamptonshire Council (NCC), to undertake a programme of historic building recording (Level 3) at Manor House Museum, Kettering, Northamptonshire (NGR SP 86724 78376, Fig 1). This was required prior to works being undertaken on the building (Planning Ref. KET/2020/0696) which will comprise alterations as part of the Kettering GLaM Project (Gallery, Library and Museum). Alongside this project a programme of archaeological observation, investigation, recording, analysis and publication (OIRAP) was required to monitor groundworks in line with alterations to the Gallery and Library; these are reported separately in another report (MOLA 2021a).

The site comprises a large building, the former Manor House, now housing Kettering Museum. The building is Grade II\* Listed and lies on a site with the Public Library and Art Gallery which is Grade II Listed (UID: 1051643), and the Alfred East Art Gallery is Grade II Listed (UID: 1372593).



OS OpenData contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2021

Scale 1:1000

Site location Fig 1

## 2 BACKGROUND

### 2.1 Location, geology and topography

The former Manor House lies within the historic core of Kettering, only c30m south-west of St Peter and St Paul's Church. Much of the historical arrangement of its immediate environs has been delineated by modern development. The once formal approach to the house via Sheep Street to the west has been destroyed by the construction of the Public Library and Art Gallery in 1904, and later the Alfred East Art Gallery in 1913. The formal gardens to the east with pathways and lawned area, or bedding, have also not survived. To the south-east and south the house is surrounded by a modern car park, leaving little in the way of historic setting.

The building is Grade II\* Listed, the list description reads:

1. 5326 SHEEP SWEET (East Side) ----- Manor House SP 8678 1/18 27.2.50.

II\*

2. C17 refronted C18, perhaps incorporating earlier structure of house, known as Abbot's house, belonging to Peterborough monastery. Ironstone squared rubble and ashlar, stone slated and concrete tiled gabled roof with stone copings and front parapet. 2 storeys and attics, gabled dormer. L plan, 4 sash windows with glazing bars to front elevation, ashlar faced with flat arches. Back wing has 6 light stone mullioned ground floor casement window under drip mould. Carved shield below centre of parapet. C19 lower 2 storey 1 casement window wing on left.

Listing NGR: SP8672478376

The site lies in an area of geology known as the Northampton Sand Formation; an ironstone formed in the Jurassic period, and in an area previously dominated by shallow seas (BGS 2021). The topography of the site is sloped as it lies c460m from the Slade Brook in the west. The ground noticeably slopes towards Sheep Street.

### 3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The objective of the Historic Building Survey was to fulfil the need for a recording of the built heritage assets within the site to a Level 3 standard, as described in the Historic England guidance document *Understanding Historic Buildings* (Historic England 2016a). This was set to address the buildings' structural and architectural detail and archaeological evidence, to produce a complete record of the building before the commencement of the proposed work with the aim of elucidating its use and structural history. The specific objectives and research aims of the historic building recording were defined fully in the WSI (MOLA 2021b).

Thus the historic building recording had the following main components:

- Undertake a comprehensive photographic record of the building. The photographic record to include detailed and general shots of the interior and exterior fabric, where this could be safely done;
- Investigate, analyse and describe the fabric of the building before the commencement of the proposed work with the aim of elucidating its use and structural history, and record and analyse the resulting evidence for this history using applicable archaeological methods;
- Create a detailed record of the existing building in its present condition, by means of photography and production of measured drawings;
- Study documentary sources for the history of the building and the site. The level of historic documentary research was limited to keeping the depth of the recording as a Level 3 survey, and;
- Report the results in a suitable form, publish a summary and register the report through the Historic England OASIS form, and the Northamptonshire Historic Environment Record.

## **4 METHODOLOGY**

In addition to the Historic England and ClfA guidance referred to above, the historic building recording was carried out in accordance with the site-specific WSI (MOLA 2021b). All work was carried out in accordance with Historic England specifications in *Understanding historic buildings: a guide to good recording practice* (Historic England 2016a) and the Chartered Institutes for Archaeologist's *Standard and guidance for archaeological investigation of standing buildings or structures* (ClfA 2020).

### **4.1 Physical investigation**

The buildings were inspected on the 28th-30th June 2021. Physical investigation of the building was carried out on site before the proposed intervention to the original fabric of the building. This aspect of the investigation aimed at elucidating significant details regarding fabric, function, or the elements, methods/order of construction and development. As far as was possible all accessible areas were recorded.

### **4.2 Written records**

Handwritten descriptive notes were produced on-site to record the findings of the physical investigation. The notes recorded details such as the fabric, form and function of the structure, along with evidence of any alterations and development over time. The written account comprises the building's construction, present and former use and where appropriate, the building's past and present relationship to its setting in the wider landscape.

### **4.3 Documentary research**

Formal historical research was conducted, the main sources of information was the Northamptonshire Record Office and the Museum's own archive. Provision was made for sufficient initial documentary research in order to enable the overall research aims to be realised. These were consulted to the extent necessary to furnish information as to dates of construction and modification of the buildings, and on the social, economic and cultural context in which the buildings were constructed and used, and later modified in form and use (Figs 2-13).

### **4.4 Photographic records**

A comprehensive photographic record of the buildings was made during the investigation. Photographs were taken using a Nikon D7200 (24 megapixels) with an 18-105mm and wide angle 10-20mm lens. Weather conditions were fair at the time of the survey. This survey has generated an archive of approximately 309 digital photographs of which a selection is used in this report for illustrative purposes (Figs 14-95) and their locations recorded on sketch plans.

### **4.5 Drawn records**

MOLA was supplied with measured survey drawings of floor plans, elevations and sectional elevations of the building produced by GSS Architecture. These drawings were annotated on site with information relating to the historical significance of features and then converted to conform to the Historic England's guidance for the illustration of historic buildings (Historic England 2016b). These are reproduced as part of this report (Figs 14-16, 34, 39, 65, 82, 97-98).

## 5 HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The building now comprising part of the museum is thought to stand on the site of a hall owned by the Abbot of Peterborough Abbey, a wealthy landowner during the late medieval period. The present building is thought to have 17th century origins but was refronted in the 18th century. At this time it was described as formerly the Abbots house with stone windows (Friends of Kettering Art Gallery and Museum (FKAGM 2021)).

The earliest available cartographic source dates to 1587 (Fig 2) and depicts Kettering and its surroundings in order to illustrate the property belonging to the manor. Due to the nature of the maps' purpose the rest of Kettering is fairly standardised in the illustration. The Manor House lies to the south of the town, essentially surrounded by its lands and fields to the south and west. Some of these fields are named: *Hall meadowe*, *hall Middle feild*, *Hall feilde*, and so on.



Extract from the Treswell Map of Kettering in 1587 (Archives ref. F.H.272/2) Fig 2

The Church of St Peter and St Paul is depicted with spire and tower to the north of the area delineated in a darker yellow as belonging to the manor. It appears to be surrounded by a wall with one long range fronting the street, with a small lone building between the outbuilding and the house. The house itself appears to have two end wings, and a carriage arch, or arched opening along its western front. There are gardens set out to the east with perhaps an orchard to the rear. However, some care must be taken in relying upon the depiction of buildings on maps of this kind, as the manor house is the focus of this illustration, we can be fairly confident in its arrangement being correctly depicted.

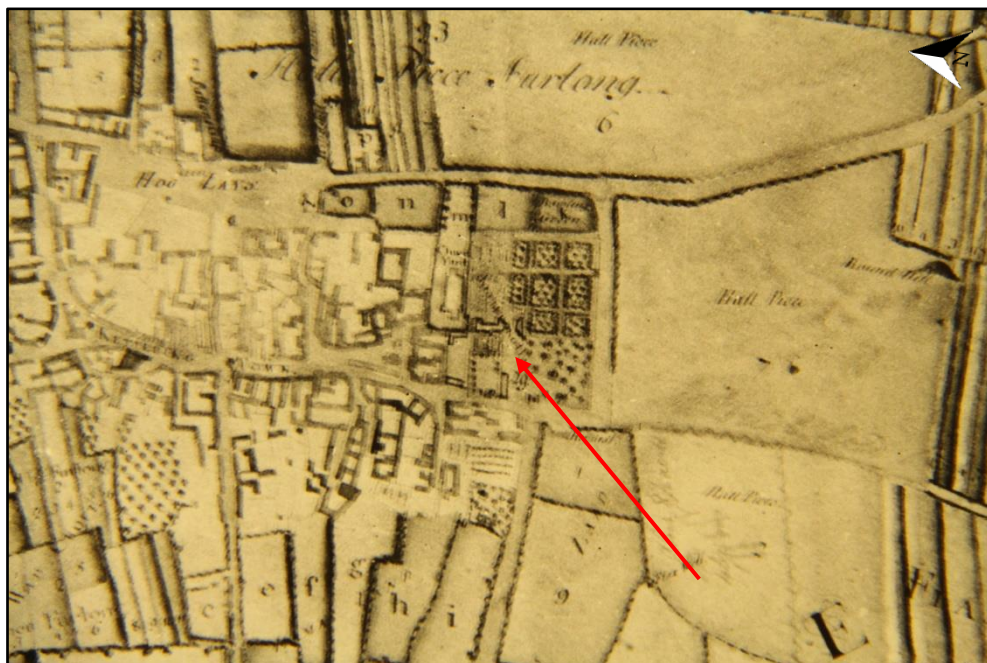


In 1624 the manor, from which the manor house had been separated, was granted to Sir Henry Hobart in trust for Charles Prince of Wales, later Charles I. After a period of argument regarding how the manor should pass it was split into ten shares and in 1634 the shareholders sold to Sir Edward Watson and Edward Watson. In 1641 the shareholders were Edward Watson, created Lord Rockingham in 1645, who held six shares, and Edmund Sawyer, William Good, William Billing and John Drury, who owned the remaining four shares (Page 1930).

In 1724 John Duke of Montagu obtained more shares, and again in 1726 and 1729. His granddaughter Elizabeth Montagu married Henry Scott, Duke of Buccleuch and so the shares descended through the Scott family (*ibid.*). The Dukes of Buccleuch are Scottish in origin and it was the marriage of Elizabeth and Henry that brought Boughton House, located to the north-east of Kettering, under their ownership. Boughton has monastic origins but now largely dates to the late 17th century, however the house was little used following its passing into Buccleuch hands. The other shares remained with the Watson family as Earls and Marquesses of Rockingham and Lords Sondes (*ibid.*).

During this period the surveyor William Brassier drew the below source. It comprises a photocopy of a 1727 map of the manor of Kettering belonging to the Duke of Montague and the Earl of Rockingham (Fig 3). The plot and surrounding lands appear similar to the previous source although the quality of this map makes direct comparison more difficult. The house lies in a series of gardens, with perhaps an orchard to the south-west, and formal gardens to the south-east. There are several outbuildings along Sheep Street which may be part of the manor house complex. The house is illustrated as a long range with two side projecting wings, and a small projection, perhaps a porch, to the west elevation. A written label has been added diagonally across the plot but is illegible.

The accompanying terrier for the map (Archive ref. Map/5730) lists the plots to the east of the manor house garden as belonging to the Earl of Rockingham and comprising a bowling green (Plots K and L). The hall itself is listed as 'Hall, gardens and yard' and comprises a total of 5a. 3r. 35p. (acres, roods, perches) which is roughly 2.4hectares.



Extract from a photograph of a map of Kettering, 1727. Surveyor: William Brassier, drawn by him 1730 (Archives ref. Map/1411) Fig 3

A town plan of Kettering in 1804 (Fig 4) also depicts the Manor House in more detail than previous sources. The town of Kettering lies to the north and has expanded further east and west than previous cartographic depictions. However, it still appears fairly small-scale. The Manor House lies within a large plot as before, and there are indications of a few outbuildings within the proximity of the house. The plots to the east appear empty but have been noted as belonging to Sondes, the Lord of the manor at the time. The Manor House is labelled as (Dukes of) Buccleuch who was one of the lords of the manor at the time, the Earl of Rockingham being the other. Elsewhere the names Henry Duke of Buccleuch and Elizabeth Duchess of Buccleuch appear on other plots around the town.

On the town plan the house itself is depicted as a rectangular central range, the north range appears present and there is also a small L-shaped range to the south-east. This does not entirely correlate to previous sources, nor the current arrangement.



Enclosure map of Kettering, surveyed by J Eagle, 1804 (Archives ref. Map/2648) Fig 4

Another 19th century source includes a town plan dated 1826 (although drawn in 1804, perhaps using the Enclosure map as a base). The surround plot of the house is depicted with walled border, and a gate to the south-east (Fig 5). The buildings depicted are very similar to the previous source with several outbuildings present and the main range sitting far back from Sheep Street. The house is depicted as an L-shaped range with small western projection. An additional range abuts its southern face and seems enclosed within its own plot here with outbuildings to the south as previously mentioned.

The inscription reads: *To the most noble Elizabeth Duchess Dowager of Buccleuch and Queensberry and the right honorable Lewis Richard, Lord Sondes, lady and lord of the manor of Kettering.*

Following her brother's death the Dukedom of Montagu passed to her children. It is not clear where the ownership of the manor continued after her death in 1827.

The Lord Sondes held the advowson to the rectory, the large house to the north of the church. A legal case in the 1820s is notable when having installed his former tutor in the rectory on the agreement that the tutors' younger brother would eventually take over. However, upon the lord asking for his resignation in 1820; the tutor refused on the basis that he expected Sondes to find him a new benefice. This was eventually settled in the House of Lords when his brother took up the benefice but it is notable in the history of law surrounding bonds of special resignation.



A plan of the Town of Kettering in the County of Northampton. First delineated by Mr Eagle 1804, corrected to the present time and published by Robert Smith 1826 (Archives ref. Map/5596) Fig 5

The late 19th-century OS map shows the Manor House to the south of the town centre, in close proximity to the Church of St Peter and St Paul (Fig 6). It sits well back from the street with a considerable rear garden, and several outbuildings. The wider arrangement of the settlement is similar to previous sources, but there has been extensive development to the south. In closer proximity of the site, the Royal Iron Works lies to the south-west but this is cleared in the early 20th century to make way for the Public Library on later sources.



Ordnance Survey map 6-inch, 1886, sheet XXV.SW Fig 6

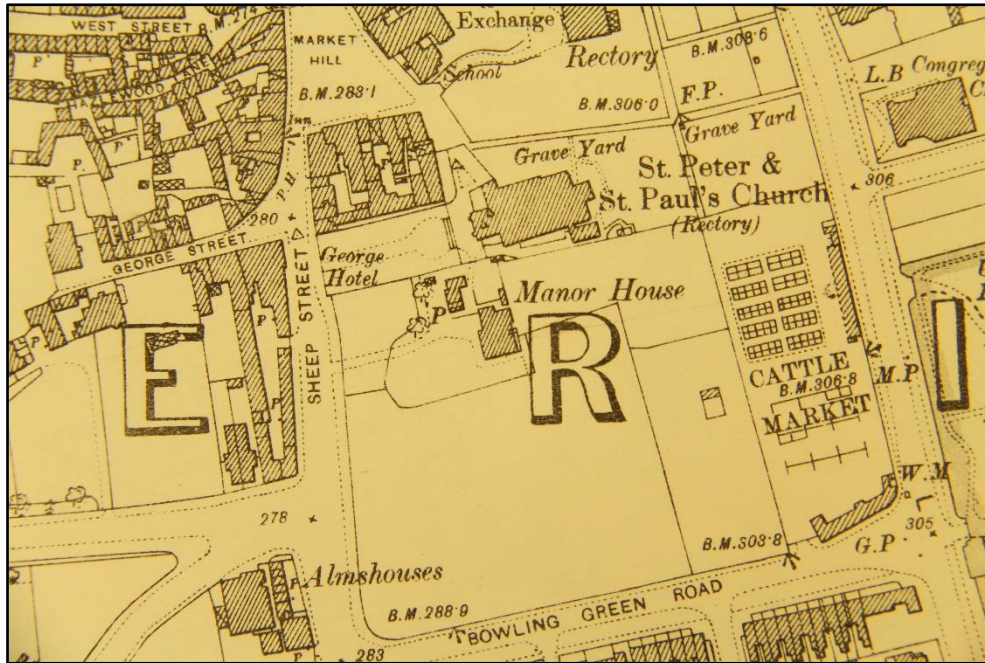
Dated to 1887 the 25-inch Ordnance Survey shows more detail to the site itself (Fig 7). The main house sits within formal gardens which are depicted with a boundary wall or similar to the west and a driveway leads to the front of the house. To the rear a formal arrangement comprises a series of paths and borders with a series of trees depicted. The main building appears as an irregular form although the northern range appears to extend with additional projection to the east. To the north-west a roughly L-shaped outbuilding is noted to have a pump. Around this time a Thomas Blackwell is listed as occupying the Manor House (1890, 407).



Ordnance Survey map 25-inch, 1887, sheet XXV.14 Fig 7

The second edition of the 25-inch Ordnance Survey map is vastly similar to the previous source (Fig 8). However, the Royal Iron Works has been demolished to the south-west. The plot is largely the same with little alteration with the exception that the gardens are not illustrated to the same level of detail.

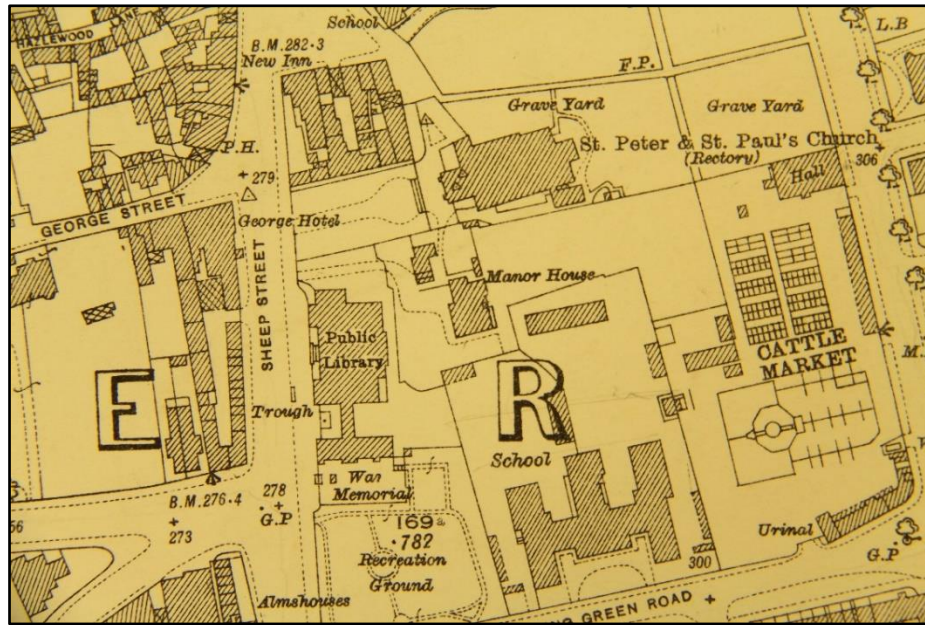
Around this time historical directories list Thomas Reader Smith A.M.I.C.E. as occupying the house (Kelly & Co. 1898, 114; 1906, 123; 1910, 124; 1914, 126). He appears to be an Associate Member of the Institution of Civil Engineers.



Ordnance Survey map 25inch, 1900, sheet XXV.14 Fig 8

Kettering Museum was established in 1904 after an excavation in Kettering uncovered a wealth of Anglo-Saxon cemetery artefacts (FKAGM 2021). A 'museum room' was housed in the new Library which appears on the 1926 OS map (Fig 9). In the 1910s the collection grew and a gallery opened on the site as well.

There are some drastic changes to the immediate environment also present on the 1926 OS map. A large school building for Kettering Grammar School (formerly elsewhere in the town) has been constructed to the south of the house and an extension of the Cattle Market to the south-east is also notable. The buildings themselves remain similar in form and appearance.



Ordnance Survey map 25inch, 1926, sheet XXV.14 Fig 9

By 1961 Westfield Museum was opened on West Street to solely house the museum collection. However, due to declining attendance it moved back to the site in 1989 and the Manor House on the site developed solely for the museum collections.

An aerial photograph from the 1960s shows a little more detail of the changes that were happening to the site's surroundings during this time (Fig 10), although the quality of the detail is limited. The gardens of the house appear to comprise lawned areas, there is a large collection of trees or a wooded area to the north and north-west, and the concrete of the cattle market and school certainly isolate the manor house within its setting. The main roof was orientated north to south with a northern extension, and three smaller roofs projecting to the east.



Aerial photograph 1960s from the Historic Environment Record, reproduced with permission Fig 10

Two photographs (Figs 11 and 12), dated 1940s and 1990s respectively, show the house in much the same arrangement as was seen during the survey (Figs 14-16). The ground floor window to the north range remains unblocked and appears to retain a three-light window. Another photograph (Fig 13) from the Historic Environment Record collection is undated but it shows the house from a differing angle. In the background the school building is evident, dating this image to post-1926 and the lawned area to the front of the house suggest it is earlier than the previous sources' 1990 date.



Photograph from Historic England's collection, taken in 1947 by G. B. Mason (ref. AA4/3005) Fig 11



Photograph taken 14th June 1990 by Neil Tingle (Archives ref. NCEP/17/920)  
12

Fig



Photograph (undated) from the Historic Environment Record, reproduced with  
permission Fig 13



Scale 1:125



0 5m

West elevation Fig 14



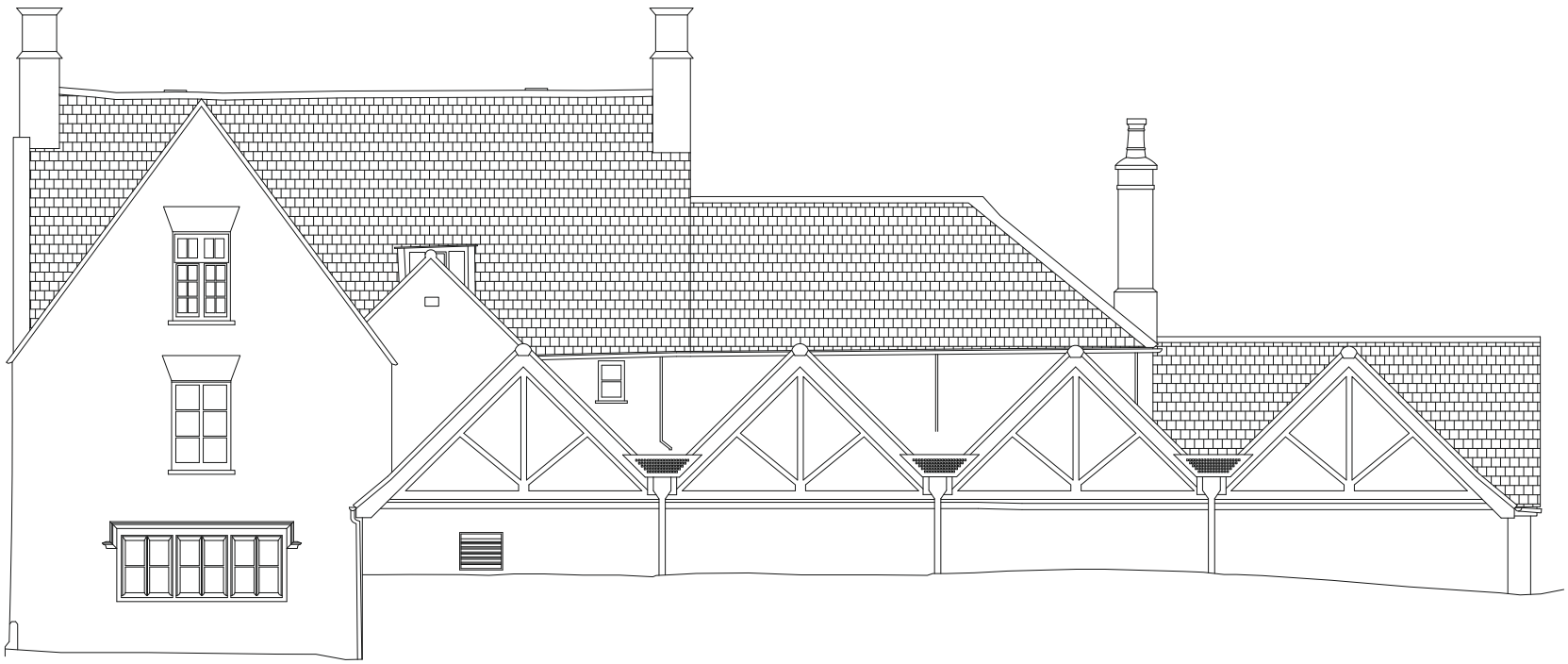
North elevation



South elevation



Scale 1:125



0 5m

East elevation Fig 16

## **6 THE BUILDING**

### **6.1 Exterior**

The Manor House, now the museum, clearly comprises several component parts including the original house, the north range, and the museum range (Figs 14-16). The original house is built of stone in an L-shaped form and has a symmetrical front to the west, with a noticeable lack of a formal entrance. Current access is through the museum range but historically during the 19th century the north range provided the formal entrance. This range is built of stone with ashlar dressings, with a hipped roof orientated north to south. The museum range extends further to the north in stone and cast-iron with some timber elements. The range encircles the original house to the north and east with a series of pitch roofs all culminating in a gable end with timber-frame style glazing. All the elements have been tiled with a Collyweston roof.

To the north-west of the building the Blitz Tea Rooms lie in close proximity to the museum range, even joined by a projecting veranda with Collyweston tiles. These buildings are constructed in red brick with rounded corners and queen closers. They are of some age but were not covered within the remit of this project.

#### **6.1.1 West elevation**

This elevation includes the formal frontage of the main house, the north range, and the main entrance into the museum range in three distinctive elements. It faces an area of lawn behind the Gallery to Sheep Street.

The main house presents its formal frontage along this elevation rising in ashlar blocks from a small plinth, to a parapet (Fig 17). The mortar joints are fine, although various repair attempts are visible and as a result some structural issues are evident. Along the façade several put-log holes are evident in rows and equally spaced. A single basement light to the north is reminiscent of a more historical arrangement and it is one of the only reminders on this face. The symmetry is present in four windows to the ground floor, mirrored above to the first floor. They all comprise six-over-six timber sashes with stone sills and splayed voussoirs; only a few examples have horns. Though very worn the remnants of a crest can be seen sitting centrally below the parapet.

Above the parapet the Collyweston roof rises with two chimney stacks in the same ashlar stone as to the frontage to each gable. A single gabled dormer sits centrally within the roof pitch. The gable is rendered and it is clad with tiles. It houses a timber casement with six panes to each light.



View of the west elevation of the main range, looking north-east Fig 17

The basement light mentioned above sits in a light well with modern grille but it is set within a stone surrounds of some age (Fig 18). The window cuts through the plinth and appears to be quite worn.



Basement light to the west elevation, looking east Fig 18

To the north, and set back from the main elevation, the north range abuts the gable end of the main house (described in more detail below). It is constructed of sandstone rubble stone with a mixture of mortar types suggesting some past repair (Fig 19). The apertures are all dressed with ashlar stone, and so are the quoins to the north-west corner of the range. There are two windows and a door to the ground floor, and two windows lighting the first floor. The entrance door, now the main door into the house, has a squared lintel comprising splayed blocks; a feature repeated to

the other apertures with the exception of one of the first-floor examples. The door has a rectangular over-light with modern glass. The door itself has six-panels but is entirely modern. Of the ground floor windows, one is blocked, the other is six-lights but is modern, with a vent to the upper left light. They both have squared lintel with splayed blocks, and stone sills. The two windows to the first floor differ from each other. That to the north has the same dressings as to the ground floor with three-lights. The central light is a casement and each has three panes. The other window has stone jambs and sill but has a slender timber lintel sitting beneath the eaves. The window is a six-over-six timber sash with no horns. The roof has a tall red brick chimney to the north end with stone pots.



View of the west elevation of the north range, looking east Fig 19

The museum range extends to the north abutting the stone quoins of the north range to the south. Here the range is constructed of coursed rubblestone. The museum entrance sits below a veranda which protrudes from the range to the nearby Blitz Tearooms to the west (Fig 20). The veranda has a pitch Collyweston roof and frames the timber and glass doors to the museum. Above the doors is a section of Fletton brickwork. Beneath the veranda roof the timber frame comprises a variant of a scissor-brace form with timber boarding to the roof pitch.

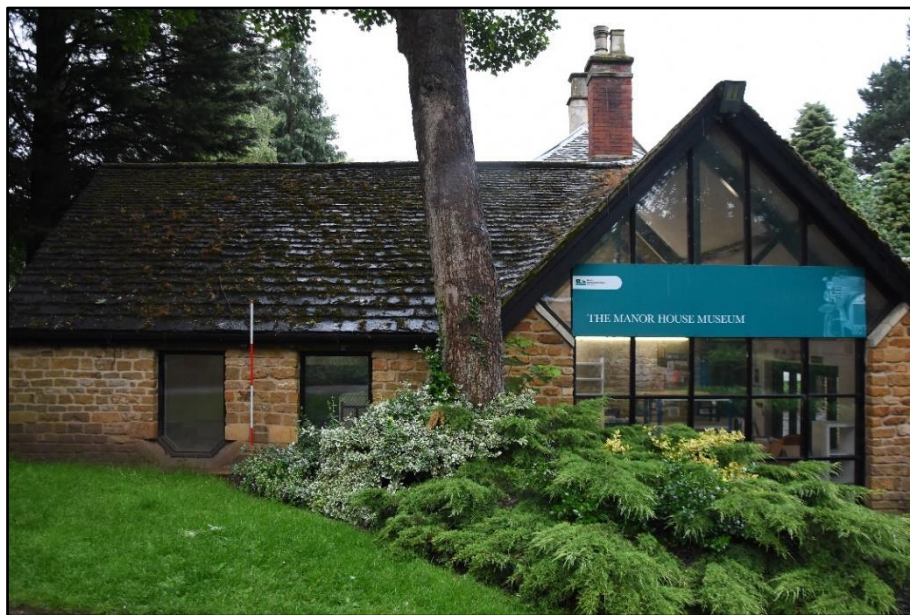


View of the museum range's west elevation, looking south-east Fig 20

### 6.1.2 North elevation

This elevation comprises the short end of the museum range with gable end and plain elevation to the east. The north range and main range are obscured largely by this extension but are partially visible to the upper level.

The museum range gable end comprises a mixture of stone and timber/glass as it is mostly glazed in a grid-pattern to timber bargeboards (Fig 21). To the east the elevation is marked by two fixed windows below the eaves of the projecting roof but is otherwise plain. The windows have canted lower corners and a chamfered stone dressing to the sill.



View of the museum range's north elevation, looking south Fig 21

The area above the northern range's north elevation is not visible above the museum range's roof line.

Beyond the north range the north elevation of the main range is visible, but largely obscured at the lower level. It is constructed of rubblestone, a mixture of Northampton Sand and other types (Fig 22). There is a single four-light casement to the attic but otherwise the elevation is plain. The window has a stone sill and lintel.

The formal frontage to the west elevation, which is described above, can be seen to be a later addition from this angle. The ashlar blocks making-up the façade retain a straight joint which has seen later render re-pointing, perhaps another indication of structural problems. A rainwater hopper and pipe carry water from behind the parapet to the ground. Stone coping tops the gable end and rises to the large chimney stack. The stack is constructed of ashlar with three large square pots, with simple shelf.

There is an interesting area to the first floor where two timber bearers top a second straight joint. This lies parallel to the straight joint for the ashlar frontage and several larger rubblestone blocks have been used to the east.



View of the main range's north elevation, looking south Fig 22

### 6.1.3 East elevation

The east elevation comprises the gable end of the rear range and the museum range which extends across the elevation in a series of gabled ends (Fig 23). These obscure the ground floor of the main range and north range, although they are partly visible above to the first floor.





View of the east elevation of the rear range and museum range, looking west Fig 23

The museum range comprises four gabled ends above a coursed rubblestone wall topped by blue brick coping. Each gable end comprises timber and glass in a glazing pattern similar to a king-post truss form. Timber bargeboards are met at the intersection between two gables with a grille and rainwater hopper and pipe. The far southern gable also houses a stone projection (Fig 24), its roof line forming a catslide roof to the northern pitch. This sits awkwardly in front of a dormer to the rear pitch of the main range. The dormer has a flat-roof and tile cladding. The window is of three-lights and the central light is a casement.



Stone extension to the east elevation, looking south-west Fig 24

Behind the museum range, the first floor of the main and north ranges is exposed. Between the far southern gable and south-central gable the rear of the main range is also exposed (Fig 25). This is constructed in stone and a single two-light timber window with timber sill lights the staircase internally. Between the south-central and north-central gable a blocked aperture is visible. The construction to the main range is roughly coursed rubblestone, there are a few courses of much more slender stone below the eaves. To the jambs of the infilled aperture several larger stones have been utilised. The infill is coursed rubblestone. There is a slender timber lintel below the eaves.



East elevation of the north range, looking west Fig 25

The east elevation of the rear range projects from the main range and is partially absorbed within the museum range to the north-east corner (Fig 26). The elevation rises in ashlar blocks, but in a less formal arrangement than that to the west elevation. Three apertures light the ground floor, first floor and attic space and all are of interest. To the ground floor a six-light stone mullion window retains a stone drip hood with label stop. It has large ovolo-mouldings and each light has two panes which are possibly fixed.



East elevation of the rear range, looking west Fig 26

Above, on the first floor a single two-light casement, each light with three panes, sits in an area of interest (Fig 27). It retains a stone sill and splayed stone voussoir. The voussoir continues to the south where an apparent straight joint suggests the aperture was once much wider. To the north an area of brick repair indicates the same.

To the attic a similar timber window with stone sill and voussoir lights the space (Fig 28). The window here is modern and of multiple lights. Two label stops are set within the stonework to the south and north, indicating a wider aperture here at some point. Just above the voussoir a shield with an unknown animal, possibly a lion or griffin, above a crown is set into the stonework.



First floor window to the east elevation of the rear range, area of interest indicated, looking west Fig 27



Second floor window to the east elevation of the rear range, label stops indicated, looking west Fig 28

#### **6.1.4 South elevation**

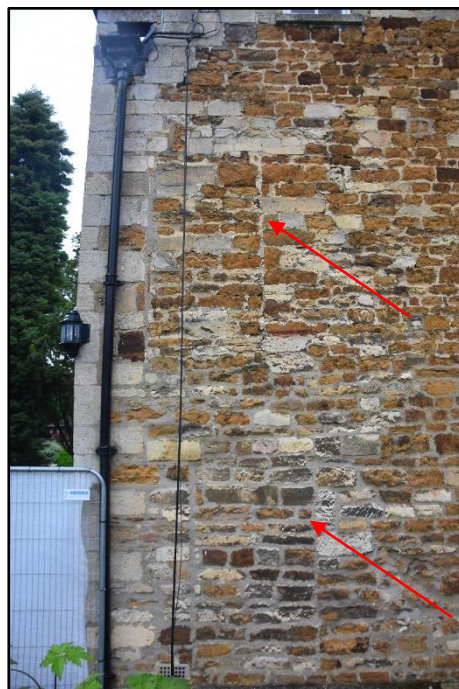
To the south the side elevation of the main and rear range is exposed (Fig 29). This faces a small area of garden and a large car park. The elevation is mainly rubblestone, rising from a small plinth, but areas of renewal are evident in the same ashlar blocks as noted in the west front; the gable end of the main range, chimney stacks and some areas to the rear range at upper level. The join between the main range and rear range appears evident in a straight joint at ground floor level.

To the main range the ashlar blocks of the formal front are visible to the west and a straight joint to indicate their insertion to this elevation is clear. They rise to the parapet with stone coping, a rainwater hopper and pipe carry water to the ground, mirroring the north elevation.



View of the south elevation of the main and rear ranges, looking north-east Fig 29

On the ground floor several blocked apertures and straight joints in the stone reveal some disturbance to this face. There appears to be a former doorway to the west with two parallel straight joints, but these do not cut the plinth below (Fig 30). To the east a window has been painted over, sitting within a moulded stone surround with chamfers to the jambs, a shouldered head and a stone sloped sill. The window itself comprises eight-lights with a four-centred arched head and hollow spandrels (Fig 31).



Straight joints to the south elevation of the main range, looking north Fig 30



Painted window on the south elevation of the main range, looking north-east Fig 31

To the ground floor of the rear range a large arched opening has been blocked (Fig 32). The head is marked by brick headers, forming a semi-circular arch. The former purpose of this opening is unknown, but it does correspond with a large chimney stack seen internally and described below. Further east a doorway creates a fire escape for the museum. This has a stone lintel with splayed stonework, in the style of a voussoir, and is similar to the apertures seen previously (Fig 33). The door itself is modern with applied mouldings and a blocked over-light.



Arched blocked opening to the south elevation of the rear range, looking north Fig 32



Fire door to the south elevation of the rear range, looking north-east Fig 33

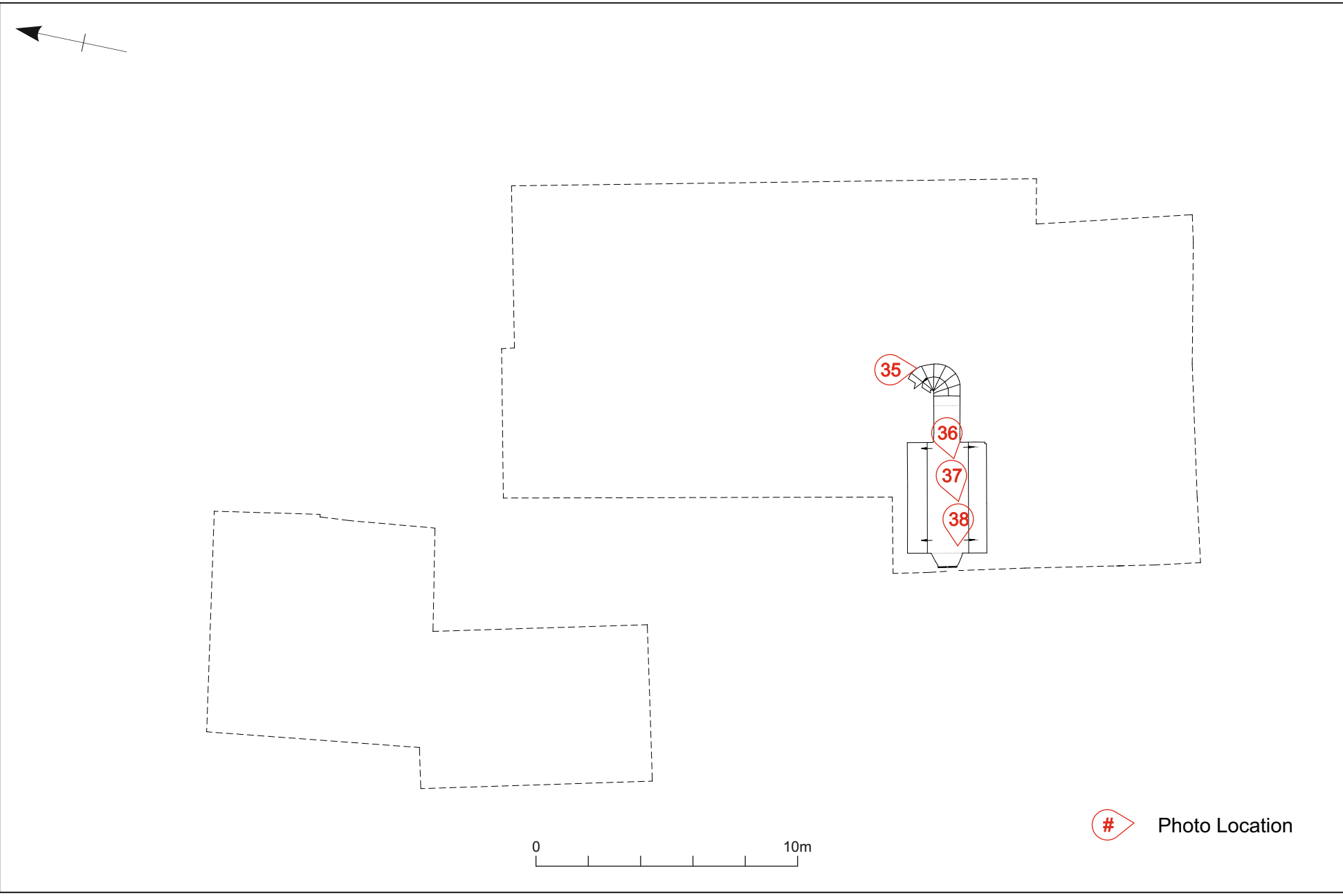
On the first floor of the main range the elevation is fairly plain with the exception of a straight joint to the west which lies parallel to the joint for the new ashlar blocks to the west front (see Fig 30). This oddly matches a straight joint in the same position on the north elevation; their purpose remains unknown. To the first floor the rear range has two windows, both multi-light casements, one set within rubblestone, the other within ashlar. The example to the west comprises four-lights, the upper lights each have two panes, the lower lights have six. It is constructed of timber with a splayed voussoir. The voussoir has been made square by modern stone insertions either side, although they could also be replacements. The other example shares the same form but with no voussoir. Between them a tall ashlar chimney stack rises flush with the elevation and through the roof pitch.

To the attics of the main range a single window with stone lintel and sill mirrors the example seen on the north elevation. It comprises four-pane casements and is set within the ashlar blocks seen elsewhere. The area above the gable end is almost entirely ashlar and rises to a chimney stack which mirrors that to the north.

Scale 1:200

Basement plan with photographic locations

Fig 34





## 6.2 Interior (Basement)

The basement extends beneath the main range (Fig 34) and is accessed beneath the staircase in the Stair Hall. The staircase (Fig 35) is a winder with stone steps which turns southwards and descends to a single chamber with barrel vault ceiling with a single window at the far western end (Fig 36).



Stairs descending into the basement, looking west Fig 35



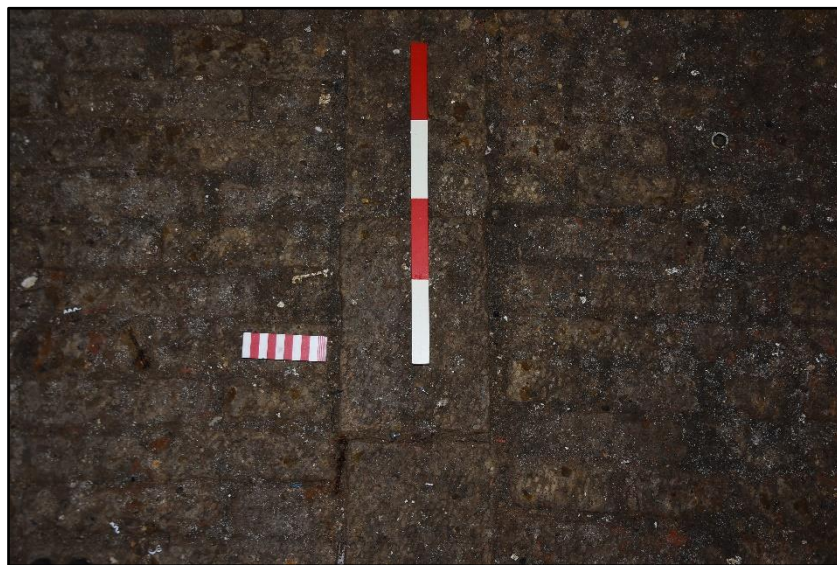
Basement below the main range, looking east Fig 36

As the staircase descends the curved north wall appears to be constructed in stone. At upper level this is obscured by render but where this has failed some bricks are visible. However, the overall construction sequence is not clear. The southern wall of

the stairs is laid in brick with some repair with cement mortar. The carcass of the staircase above is not visible and has been recently boarded and plastered.

The chamber below is a single cell with stone walls and a tile floor comprising a central run of square paments whilst the rest comprises bricks laid on their long end (Fig 37). They measured 21-22.5cm by 5-6cm ( $8\frac{1}{3}$ - $8\frac{3}{4}$ " x  $2\frac{1}{3}$ ""). Two raised brick platforms stretch either side of the central walkway. The bricks measure 22.5cm by 11cm by 7cm ( $8\frac{3}{4}$ " by  $4\frac{1}{3}$ " by  $2\frac{3}{4}$ ""). These were presumably for the cold storage of items when the building was still in use as a house.

At the far western end of the room a single two-light stone window lights the space. The aperture has a deeply sloped sill as it cuts through the external wall or foundations and sits in a light well seen above (Fig 38). The mouldings are ovolo and are of some age but the glass is modern. One light has a wrought-iron safety bar and a fan vent.



Brick floor in the basement, looking east Fig 37

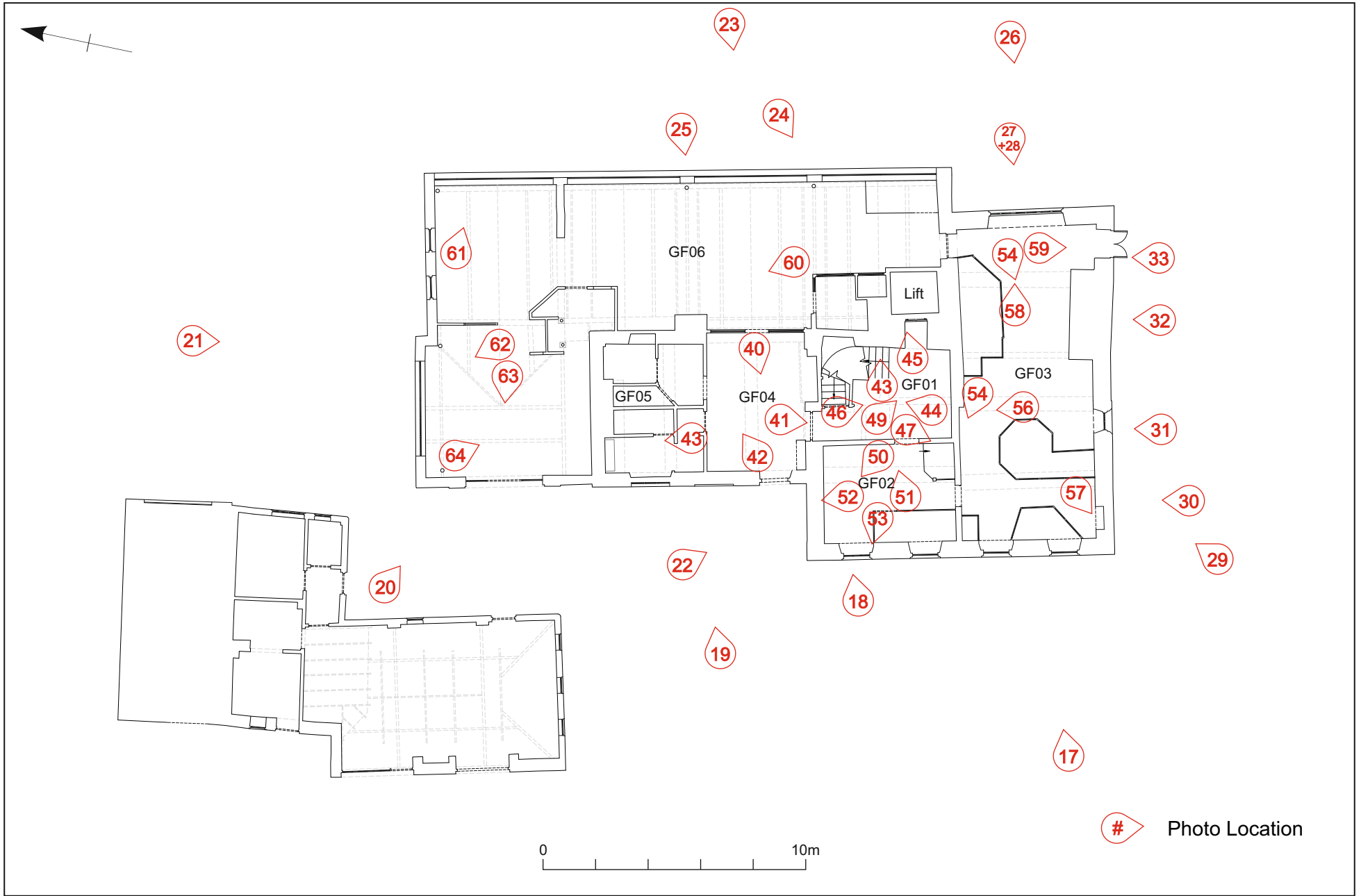


Basement window, looking east Fig 38

Scale 1:200

Ground floor plan with photographic locations

Fig 39



### 6.3 Interior (Ground floor)

On the ground floor the varying ranges of the building can also be distinctly recognised. Ground floor plans (Fig 39) mark these ranges and also note the room numbers used to describe the internal spaces below.

#### 6.3.1 Lobby (GF04)

The lobby is located within the north range of the Manor Museum and this comprised the main entrance into the house prior to the museum range extension in the 1980s. It also gives access to the stair hall (GF01) within the main range to the south and the museum range (GF06) to the east.

The door giving access to the exterior is modern and comprises six-panels with historic surround and over-light above. The room is plain with a skirting, painted walls to a modern dado rail and plain ceiling (Fig 40). A single boxed-in joist extends east to west.

A service cupboard to the south-east of the exterior door is entirely modern and reveals nothing of interest internally. A square recess lies to the south wall.

To the south the door to the stair hall (GF01) is of some age with a beaded surround and made of timber but on modern hinges (Fig 41). The door has three lower panels and six upper glazed panes with a cambered arch head.

The east wall has been almost entirely removed to provide a timber and glass partition through to the museum range (Fig 42). It is framed with a large cambered brick arch, but the thickness of this formerly external wall is notable.

To the north two doors give access to the visitor WC's (GF05), described below.



View of the lobby (GF04), looking east Fig 40



Door giving access to the stair hall from the lobby (GF03), looking south Fig 41



View of the lobby (GF03), looking east Fig 42

### 6.3.2 Visitor WC's (GF05)

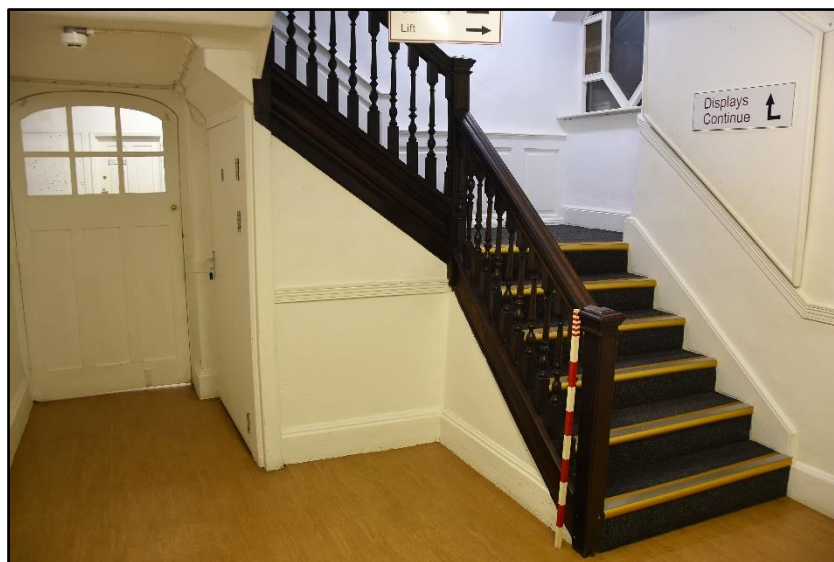
These lie to the north of the lobby (GF04) and retain nothing of historic interest although they lie within the north range. A blocked window seen externally within the men's WCs to the west is presented as a simple recess internally (Fig 43). A plain protrusion within both WC's to the north wall is presumably a former chimney stack but nothing is now visible, with the exception of the tall brick chimney seen earlier.



View of the men's WCs (GF05), showing blocked window and chimney stack, looking north Fig 43

### 6.3.3 Stair hall (GF01)

The stair hall lies within the main range, accessed from the lobby (GF04) to the north, and gives access to the museum's exhibit spaces to the west through an exhibition space GF02. The room is fairly plain in appearance with the exception of a large ornate timber staircase in the north-east corner which gives access to the first floor (Fig 44).



View of the stair hall (GF01), looking north-east Fig 44

To the east a lift has been inserted through the formerly external wall (Fig 45) and the southern wall is plain and largely obscured by a notice board (Fig 46); to the west is a

door into the museum space (GF02). This door is plain and comprises a modern fire door, but the moulded surround is historic and represents a type seen across the historic ranges (Fig 46). To the north the door from the lobby (GF01) is described above and sits beneath the underside of the stairs.



Access to the lift from the stair hall (GF01), looking east Fig 45

The floor is modern with a tall skirting which has been cut to insert the lift along the east wall. The skirting retains an ovolo moulding (Fig 47) but does not return in the south-west corner along the south wall (see Fig 46). A dado rail marks the plaster walls with little other embellishment; this stops either side of the lift aperture.



View of the stair hall (GF01) and the breaks in skirting indicated, looking south-east Fig 46

The open-well stair rises on a closed string in hardwood, likely oak, with carpet to the steps. The newel post is square in plan but plain and rising to a moulded top with flat square moulding (Fig 48). It may have never had a finial or these may have been carefully removed. The string is robustly moulded above the first flight, which is plain, and the handrail is a toads-back type in profile. The balusters are finely turned and there is evidence of nails to their bases, either suggesting replacement or repair. The robust pegging (2cm or  $\frac{3}{4}$ " wide) is visible in several places indicating its carpentry and age (Fig 49).

Towards the ceiling a north-south extending joist meets an east-west joist above the stairs and both are chamfered with no evidence of stops.



Ovolo-moulded skirting in the stair hall (GF01), looking south Fig 47



Detail of the newel post to the staircase in GF01, looking east Fig 48





Detail of the carpentry to the newel post of the staircase in GF01, looking east Fig 49

#### 6.3.4 *White museum exhibition (GF02)*

This museum room lies within one half of the main ranges' formal front. It comprises a museum exhibition space and so some markers of the historic fabric were partly obscured.

The floor is modern but historic skirting with a moulding profile can be seen to the east and north, and partly to the west, where not obscured by display cases. There is panelling all around, which has been replicated across a large display case in the south-west corner of the room (Fig 50). The panelling consists of one small and a large, fielded panel separated by a low dado rail and a simple cornice. A boxed-in joist extends north to south and the panelling has been moulded around it to the south.



View of the white exhibition room (GF02), looking north-west Fig 50

To the east a door gives access into the stair hall (GF01) and retains a historic door frame with modern fire door (Fig 51).

To the north a fireplace is partly obscured but retains a large marble chimneypiece. This comprises pilasters with scrolled brackets and anthemion motif below, supporting the shelf (Fig 52).

To the west two windows form part of the formal front that is visible externally. One lies outside of the display case and has been partially blocked (Fig 53). The shutters behind have long stay bars and H-hinges. The shutters are more visible to the south within the display case and retain an earlier muted paint scheme.

To the south a door gives access into the other half of the main range (GF03); the door surround appears modern.



Door leading into the stair hall from the white exhibition room (GF02), looking west  
Fig 51



Fireplace surround obscured by display case in GF02, looking north  
Fig 52



Shutters visible within GF02, looking west Fig 53

### 6.3.5 Green museum exhibition (GF03)

Housed within the main range and rear range this room extends from the formal front on the west elevation to the rear of the building. The room is largely occupied by museum exhibits including large glass display cases which obscure much of the original fabric (Fig 54).



View of the green museum exhibition space (GF03), looking west Fig 54

The floor is carpeted but a historic skirting with moulding profile is still visible (Fig 55). The panelling is consistent across the room and in the adjoining white museum exhibition space (GF02) described above. A moulded cornice extends around and into the various display cases. There are several boxed-in joists which extend across the room on a north to south alignment. One correlates with a step in the north wall and could represent a former dividing wall, which must pre-date the panelling (Fig 56). Where the current paint has flaked there is evidence of former colour schemes including pale blue and sage green.



Skirting profile in the green museum space (GF03), looking west Fig 55



Panelling and former dividing wall position in GF03, looking north Fig 56

There are several windows to the west and south; several are boarded and most retain evidence of shutters. All have long shutter bars, one to the south-west retains butterfly hinges.

To the south-west corner a single cupboard is set into the panelling. It has a cambered arched head with upper and lower cupboard doors; the upper examples are glazed (Fig 57).

To the east wall the large six-light window with stone mullions seen externally is present (Fig 58). It has a large sloping sill currently used as a museum display, so

could be a modern insertion. The panelling and cornice to the north and south respect this aperture. The off-centre casement window has a simple catch.



Cupboard in the green exhibition room (GF03), looking south-west

Fig 57



Stone mullion window in the green exhibition room (GF03), looking east Fig 58

To the south-east the fire door located on the south elevation is visible (Fig 59). The floor level rises here and the aperture itself is fairly plain but the cornice returns into the wall either side. The door appears modern.



Fire door visible within GF03, looking south Fig 59

### 6.3.6 *Museum range (GF06)*

The museum range extends along the north and east elevations of the historic ranges and comprises a L-shaped space housing the museum's larger exhibits. As noted externally it is created using a series of individual gabled roof pitches extending east to west (Fig 60). The floor is blue bricks throughout and various museum exhibits, including a car, some machinery and several display cases obscure the view of the structure.

The roof structure is king-post roof form. The tie-beam holds the king-post with raking struts to the shoulders (Fig 61). These are triangulated by the principal rafters which rise to a ridge beam. There are two purlins to each pitch but no common rafters and otherwise the pitches are plain. A combination of cast-iron and timber is used with cast-iron supports used in the northern pitch to support the tie-beams (Fig 62).



View of the museum range (GF06), looking north Fig 60



King-post roof structure of GF06, looking east Fig 61



King-post roof structure in cast-iron in GF06, looking north-west Fig 62

The long east wall is laid in stretcher bond with a top course of blue brick below the glazed gable ends above. The wall to the north is laid in Flemish bond, with no obvious reason for this distinction. The windows are a mixture of timber and glass and are all full height and multi-paned. The main entrance to the museum lies to the west through a set of double doors with side panels (Fig 63).

To the south-west the north wall of the northern range is visible (Fig 64). It is construction of coursed rubblestone as seen before, and there are ashlar quoins to the range's north-east corner. The east wall of the north range is also encompassed within this space but is rendered and painted.



Main entrance into the museum within GF06, looking west Fig 63



Exposed north formerly external wall of the north range within the museum range (GF06), looking south-east Fig 64



Scale 1:200

First floor plan with photographic locations

Fig 65



# Photo Location

## 6.4 Interior (First floor)

The access to the first floor is via the staircase mentioned in GF01 above. This rises to the landing (FF01) from which gives access to the other spaces on this floor. The first floor comprises rooms within all the major ranges except for the museum range (Fig 65).

### 6.4.1 Stair Landing (FF01)

The stair rises as described above with a curve to the balustrade on the landing (Fig 66). A join in the timber is visible along this curved section. The panelling continues on the opposing wall but is interrupted on the half-landing with a door providing access to room in the north range; this door retains a historic surround and two steps. The stairs continue with a short straight flight to the main landing area. To the ceiling a single north to south joist with chamfers extends between a wall-plate with chamfer set into the south wall, and an east-west joist above the stairs which also has chamfers (Fig 67).



View of the landing to the first floor (FF01), looking north Fig 66



Ceiling joists to the landing in the main range (FF01), looking north Fig 67

The floor is carpeted and there is a dado rail and panelling to the lower sections of wall. There is a skirting present to the south and west. The doors in this space are also modern but all retain the same moulded surrounds.

To the east the lift access cuts through a deep section of wall and the dado rail continues into the deep reveal (Fig 68).

On the west wall a slight adjustment to the wall line is evident to the south end (Fig 69). Here a blocked door retains the same surround as elsewhere with a panelled door.



View of the landing (FF01) in the main range, looking south

Fig 68



Door leading to FF04 (right) and a blocked door (left) on the landing (FF01), looking west Fig 69

#### 6.4.2 Blue exhibit room (FF02)

This is the largest room to the first floor within the rear range. It is accessible from the landing to the north and from another exhibition space to the west (FF03). The doorway to the west does not retain a frame; the example to the north retains a historic frame but contains a modern door.

It has a carpeted floor, a simple skirting and plaster walls which show some irregularity (Fig 70). There is no cornice and the ceiling is also plastered with noticeable areas of bowing. Several north-south extending joists of considerable robustness extend across the room. They measure 30cm deep and 20cm wide (11¾" by 7¾").



View of the blue exhibition room (FF02), looking north-west Fig 70

The eastern example extends from the large chimney stack (Fig 71) on the south wall, it is chamfered and stopped to both sides but these stops to the south are partly obscured by the stack. The western example is only chamfered and stopped to the east face (Fig 72), this corresponds to a misalignment in the north wall, perhaps suggesting a former room division here. No empty mortises on the soffit of this joist were noted. To the west of this joist two diagonal joists of slender profile extend in a south-easterly and south-westerly direction before meeting the western wall of the room (Fig 73). In addition, the ceiling to the west of the joist here steps up by an extra c10cm.

As mentioned, the south wall retains a large chimney stack with chimney piece of simple bolection moulded surround with simple shelf, below a moulded fielded panel and cornice. The grate is cast-iron and glazed blue hearth.

One of the windows is visible to the east and retains a scrolled catch to the casement (Fig 74). The obscured glass and two long stay bars suggesting both lights open.



Chimney stack in the blue exhibition room (FF02), looking south-east Fig 71



Chamfer and stop to the ceiling beams in FF02, looking south Fig 72



Diagonal beam in FF02, looking west Fig 73



Window in the blue exhibition room (FF02), looking east Fig 74

#### **6.4.3 Green exhibit room (FF03)**

This room is located within the main range to the south-west and currently comprises an exhibition space for the museum. It is given access from two other first floor rooms (FF04 and FF02), located to the north and west. Both retain modern door frames, but the western example has no surviving door.

The room is carpeted with similar panelling as is seen elsewhere, apparently extending around the room (Fig 75). There is no surviving skirting on the east wall or across the fireplace. A ceiling beam, square in profile with simple moulding, extends north to south and carries a simple moulded cornice; this measures 30cm wide and 17cm deep (11¾" by 6¾").

To the west one of the two windows seen on the formal front has been blocked internally and is not visible. The other retains a catch to the lower sash, which also retains wider glazing bars than the upper example and obscured glazing; thus, this indicates this window has likely been replaced.

A blocked fireplace sits on the south wall which the panelling seems to respect. It has a simple timber surround and is fairly plain (Fig 76). A cupboard to the west of this has a moulded surround with two-panel door. The door sits on I-hinges with a simple doorknob. Internally it is fitted with shelves and the door has a lock case to the rear (Fig 77).



View of the green exhibit room (FF03), looking west

Fig 75



Fireplace in the green exhibit room (FF03), looking south-east

Fig 76



Interior to the cupboard in FF03, looking south-west

Fig 77

#### **6.4.4 White temporary exhibit room (FF04)**

This room is housed within the main range along the formal west front. The room is used to house temporary travelling exhibitions and as a result several display cases are present within the room which partly obscures the fabric (Fig 78).



View of the white exhibition room (FF04), looking south-west

Fig 78

There is a modern floor, with a skirting that appears to extend around the room. The panelling here seems to correspond to the rooms below with a smaller lower panel, and taller upper panel with dividing dado rail. There is a distinct lack of a fireplace in



this room, despite a chimney stack seen externally, and the fireplace in the room below. A robust cornice extends around the outer walls and partly extends across two boxed-in joists which mark the ceiling.

Two windows to the west are partly obscured by modern security shutters but these have retained timber sills.

In the north-east corner the different floor levels between the main and northern range has been resolved through the installation of a modern ramp.

#### **6.4.5 Temporary exhibit space and staff kitchen (FF05 and FF06)**

These rooms occupy the first floor of the north range and are accessed from the stairs half-landing described above. The floor level differs from the main range, necessitating two steps up to the door. Internally the room has been fitted as a temporary exhibition space and consequently tall cabinets line the east and south walls.

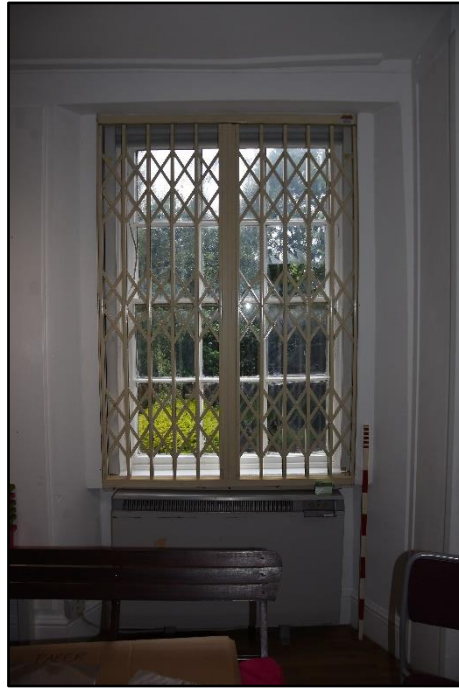
To the south wall another door provides access from the landing (Fig 79). It retains a historic frame and four-panelled door and enables access to the main range from FF04.

A single window located in the west wall lights the room (Fig 80). It sits in a canted bay but is obscured by modern security shutters.

The north wall holds a single door giving access into staff kitchen (Fig 81). This room retains nothing of interest except the loft hatch to the roof above (described below). The window to the west wall is obscured by modern security bars.



View of the temporary exhibit space (FF05), looking south-west Fig 79



Window within FF05, looking west Fig 80

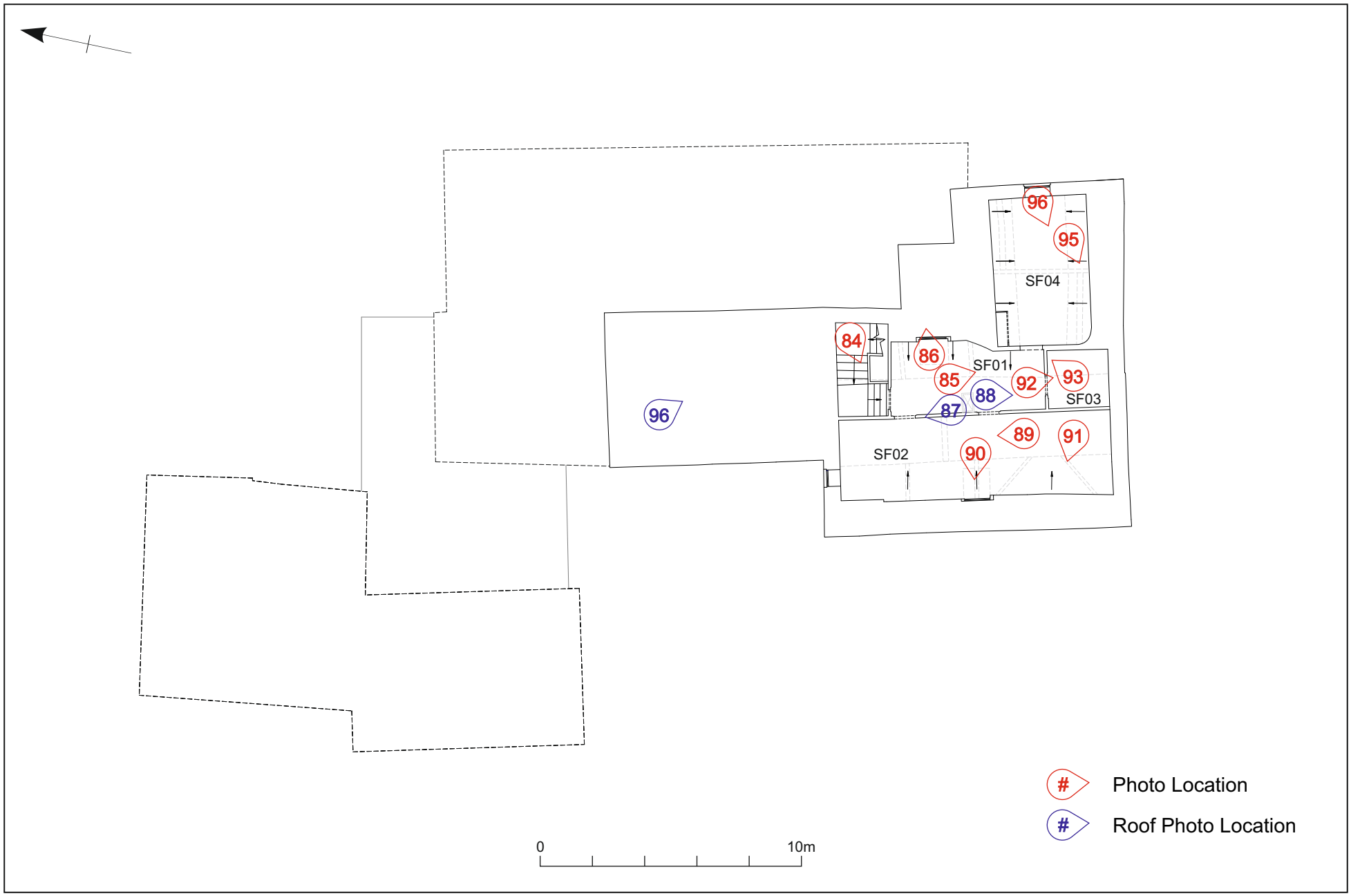


View of the staff kitchen (FF06), looking west Fig 81

Scale 1:200

Second floor plan with photographic locations

Fig 82



## 6.5 Interior (Second floor)

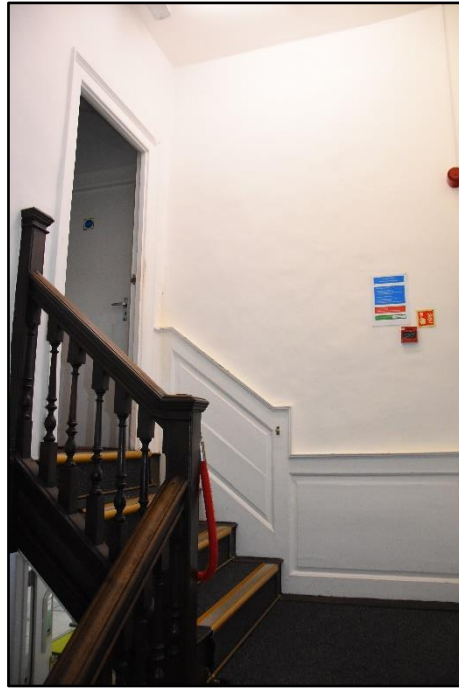
The staircase continues in the same form to the second floor where several rooms are housed within the roof space of the main and rear range (Fig 82). The roof over the north range is also described in this section.

The stairs are carpeted but floorboards are exposed in places and measure 24.5cm-27cm (9½"-10½") wide. As the stair rises the panelling on the opposing wall mirrors this, but stops to the north in an area of half-landing before continuing to the west (Fig 83). There could have been a former opening here, but this is not reflected in the existing north range, whose floor levels do not correspond to this arrangement.



Half-landing between first floor and second floor, looking north Fig 83

Above a single purlin to the east pitch of the main range is visible. Otherwise, the stairs rise to a historic door frame, which contains a modern door that provides access into an office space (SF01) (Fig 84).



Staircase rising to the second floor, looking south-west Fig 84

#### 6.5.1 Office (SF01)

This area is housed within the roof space over the main range and gives access to other storage areas to the west and south (SF02 and SF03), as well as another office space housed within the roof space over the rear range (SF04) (Fig 85). The doors to these rooms are all modern but have historic frames with the same moulding, except for the example leading to the rear range (SF04). This door also cuts through the roof pitch in this area and appears slightly awkwardly arranged.

The room is carpeted with no skirting to plaster walls. There is a dormer window to the east, and though the window is modern, the sill appears historic (Fig 86).

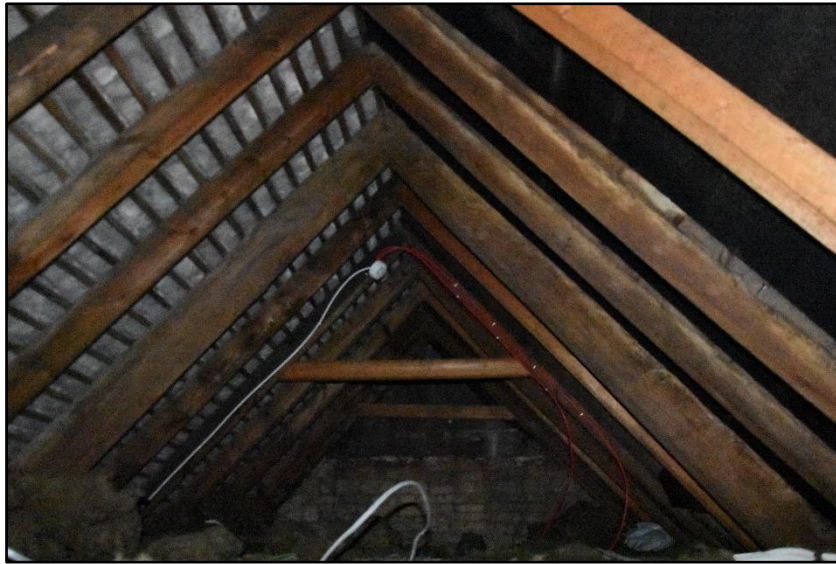
Several roof timbers are exposed in this area and comprise simple rafters with a purlin which appears to ride over the backs of the rafters. The roof is further visible through a roof hatch. From here the tops of the rafters are visible and these comprise simple coupled rafters pegged at the apex. There are some inconsistencies between the north and south ends of the roof space (Figs 87 and 88) and there appears to be more replacement timbers at the north end of the roof. However, no thorough investigation could be conducted due to access issues and thus no firm conclusions could be reached.



Office space within the second floor (SF01), looking north Fig 85



Dormer window in the office space to the second floor (SF01), looking east Fig 86



North end of the roof over the main range, looking north Fig 87



South end of the roof over the main range, looking south Fig 88

### 6.5.2 Storage room (SF02)

This room is housed in the main range to the west and is only accessed through the adjoining room (SF01). It is currently being used as a storage area for the museum and as a result very little fabric was visible (Fig 89).

There is a carpet on the floor and some evidence of a skirting. Two doors give access to the east with modern doors. A small hatch to the eaves space is noted to the south end but this was nailed shut.

At the north end two rafters rise from the wall-plate, one cuts through a dormer window which then forms part of the central mullion with boarding (Fig 90). The window is 20th century in date. Several of the timbers show evidence of carpentry markings in the form of saw marks.

To the south the rafters frame a hip with collar, but the visible wall-plate continues across (Fig 91).



View of the storeroom on the second floor (SF02), looking north Fig 89



Rafter to the roof over the main range in SF02 cutting a dormer window, looking west  
Fig 90





Hip rafters in the roof over the main range, looking west Fig 91

### 6.5.3 Cupboard (SF03)

This space is housed with the eastern pitch of the roof over the main range. It is used as an additional storage area (Fig 92) and as a result very little fabric was visible. The upper purlin and wall-plate are partially visible to the east and carry through from the main space (SF01).

A stud and rail are visible to the west of the door on the north wall (Fig 93). Some laths appear exposed suggesting this partition is of some age.



Cupboard (SF03) to the south of the main office space, looking south Fig 92



Stud and rail exposed within the cupboard (SF03), looking north-east Fig 93

#### 6.5.4 Office (SF04)

The roof over the rear range houses an additional office space which retains some evidence of the roof structure. There is a step down in the floor level from the main range, which has simple skirting and a carpeted floor. There is a window to the east wall which is 20th century in date. A cupboard in the north-west corner of the room is historic. It has simply moulded panelled doors with knobs. Internally it retains evidence of coat pegs/hooks and a simple lock case.

The exposed roof structure comprises a single truss (Fig 94). This is formed of principal rafters rising through the space and triangulated by a double-pegged collar. To the south pitch a single purlin extends westwards, but there is an empty mortice for the corresponding lost elements to the east face (Fig 95). To the north side of the roof one purlin extends eastwards, but there is no evidence of an empty mortice for the corresponding member to the west.



Office space (SF04) over the rear range with truss exposed, looking west Fig 94



Empty mortise to the east face of the truss in the roof over the rear range, looking west Fig 95

### 6.5.3 *Roof over the north range*

This roof is accessed from a small hatch in the staff kitchen (FF06) which is described below. The roof form comprises a king-post roof with two trusses of simple form constructed from robust timber, likely softwood (Fig 96).

The truss form rises from a tie-beam to support a central king-post which meets two principal rafters at the apex. This king-post has shoulders from which raking struts rise to the principal rafters and are double-pegged. The principal rafter may be reused as each retains a notch just above the raking strut.

The trusses form the roof structure with staggered purlins, which are notched over the backs of the principal rafters, two to each pitch, over which the common rafters rise to the apex. At least one empty mortise with peg hole is visible to the western lower purlin.

At the north end the hip to the roof is supported by two struts rising from two additional bridging joists which extend from the tie-beam to the wall-plate.



Roof structure over the north range, looking south-east Fig 96

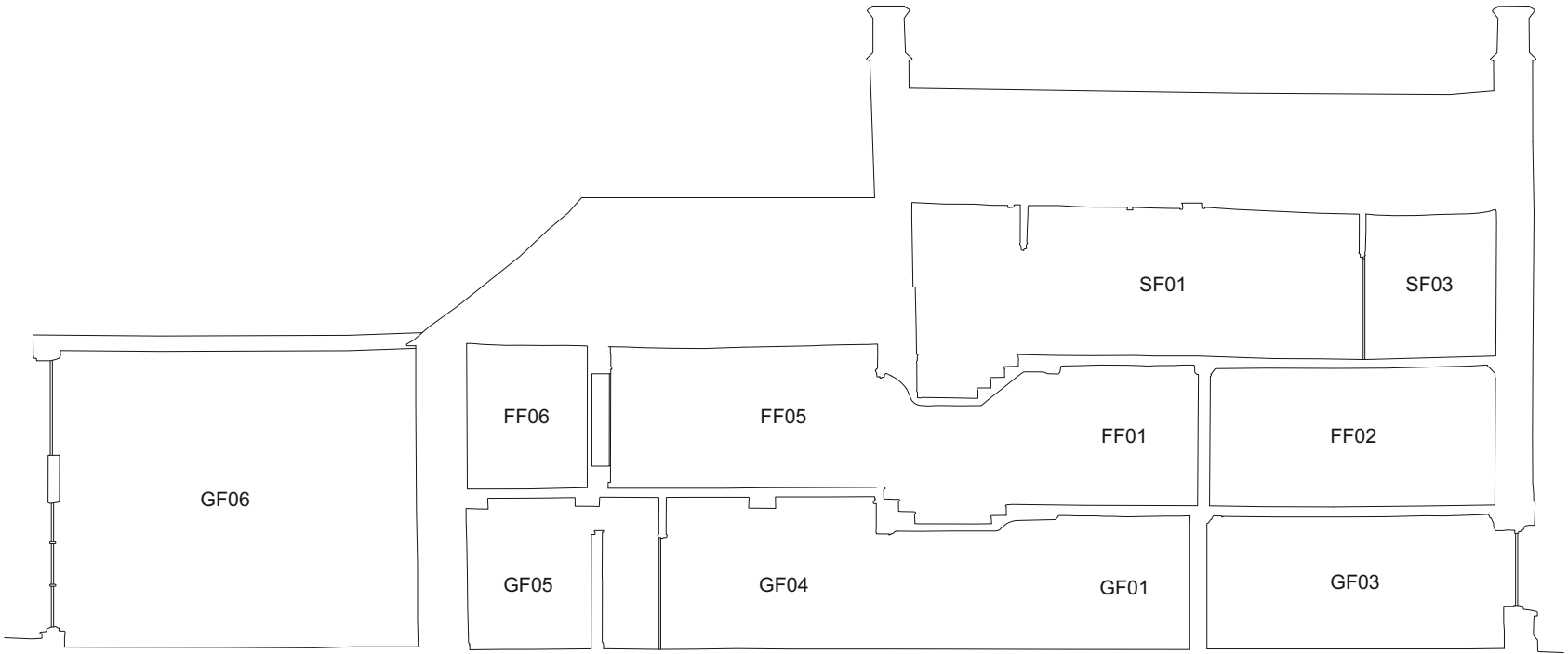
Scale 1:100



0 5m

Cross section A Fig 97

Scale 1:125



Cross section B Fig 98

## 7 DISCUSSION

The building is an interesting study in the conversion of a former manor house into a local museum but its current use has stripped much of the historic fabric, and partially obscures the buildings' significance. There is much age evident throughout the building but in particular in elements like the cellar, staircase and the roof. However, the original function of each area of the building is difficult to fully comprehend but this does not prevent the various ranges of the building being defined and perhaps put into development order.

A building has been present in this location since the late 16th century, as confirmed by a cartographic source commissioned for the owners of the manor house, and thus the accuracy can be fairly well respected. What is clear from these sources is that the house was once much larger, formerly extending to the north by twice its current footprint. Whether this current range formed part of the former extended footprint is unclear but this would explain apparent access to the north on the half-landing, and several straight joints on the main range's north gable end. However, whilst this is one strong possibility it should also be considered that the historic elements mentioned may well represent a replacement house built in the 17th century. Unfortunately, not enough historic fabric is evident under the buildings current layout to draw firm conclusions.

The main range most likely represents the earliest part of the existing building. There is some interest in the location of the main front entrance prior to the construction of the north range. Cartographic sources suggest a porch was located on this west front before the house was reduced in size or rebuilt in the 17th century. Following this, the staircase hall may have been entered directly from the north front, or through the location which now houses the modern lift. Additionally, the existing staircase is of much interest and is finely made representing the status of the house at the time of its commission which was likely in the late 17th century.

As has been previously noted the main range was re-fronted in symmetrical form with ashlar stone in the 18th century and it is likely that at this time the rooms downstairs were also given panelled decorative schemes. This obscures much of the fabric at this level and has made dating the main range difficult. There is a distinct lack of panelling to accommodate fireplaces in the main ground floor room, which is curious, despite there being chimney stacks to accommodate this.

The rear range is similar in construction to the main range and this now forms one space at ground floor level. At the first-floor level it straddles the internal division and thus it is not initially evident that these represent two separate phases. However, an off-set wall line in GF03 does suggest a former room division here and the ceiling height rises considerably between the two ranges in FF02. The robust chimney stack at first floor level suggests some age and the chamfered and stopped beams here also suggest some level of high status. In the roof the use of pegging and robust timber suggests a 17th century date.

The north range comprises an early 19th century addition to the house and this is exemplified by its regular king-post roof form. This created the entrance into the house that is commonly depicted on historic maps, however its original internal arrangement is not fully understood. It was clearly heated from the outset and may have provided more of a service range with kitchens and similar. Cartographic sources indicate it had an eastern extension which has now been demolished.

The museum range has the clearest distinction in fabric and dates to the 1980's. It wraps around the historic core to form an L-shape which houses the museum's collections. Constructed of cast-iron, stone, brick and timber some effort was made to create a sympathetic design that respected the existing materials and arrangement.

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