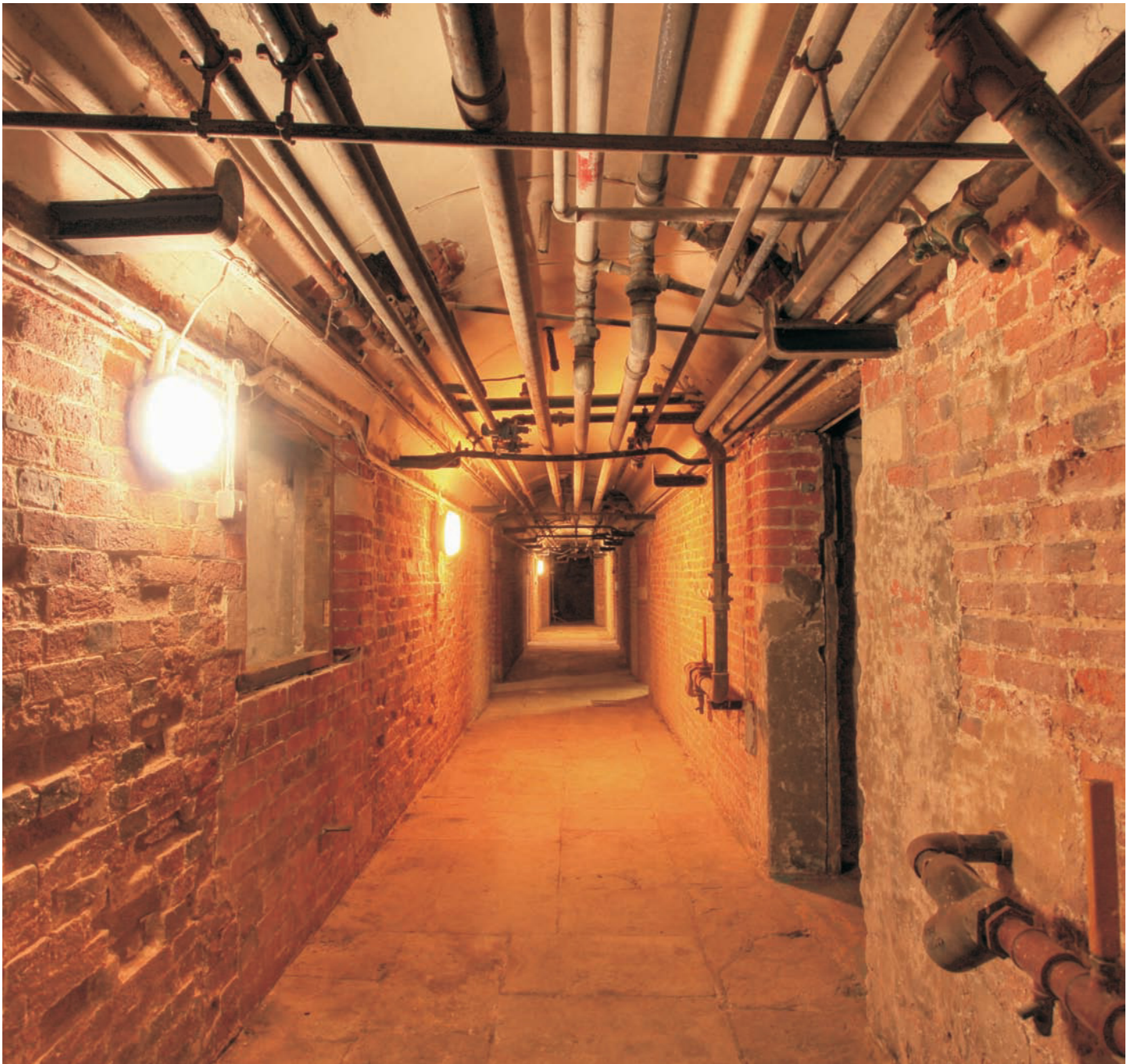


## South Stoneham House Swaythling, Southampton

Historic Building Record and  
Archaeological Record





**SOUTH STONEHAM HOUSE  
WESSEX LANE  
SWAYTHLING  
SOUTHAMPTON**

**Historic Building Record  
and  
Archaeological Record**

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**SOUTH STONEHAM HOUSE  
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SWAYTHLING  
SOUTHAMPTON****Historic Building Record  
and  
Archaeological Record****Contents**

	Summary .....	v
	Acknowledgements.....	vi
<b>1</b>	<b>INTRODUCTION .....</b>	<b>1</b>
	1.1 Project Background .....	1
	1.2 Site location.....	2
<b>2</b>	<b>METHODOLOGY .....</b>	<b>2</b>
	2.1 Introduction.....	2
	2.2 Documentary Research.....	3
	2.3 Site visit .....	3
<b>3</b>	<b>BRIEF HISTORICAL BACKGROUND.....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>BUILDING DESCRIPTION .....</b>	<b>4</b>
	4.1 Works affecting western part of the house .....	4
	4.2 Basement works.....	7
	4.3 False brick arches on second floor of north elevation .....	8
<b>5</b>	<b>ARCHAEOLOGICAL RECORDING.....</b>	<b>9</b>
	5.1 Introduction.....	9
	5.2 Methodology .....	9
	5.3 Results.....	10
	5.4 Results.....	10
	5.5 Environmental.....	10
	5.6 Conclusion.....	10
<b>6</b>	<b>DISCUSSION.....</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>ARCHIVE.....</b>	<b>11</b>
	7.1 Preparation and Deposition .....	11
<b>8</b>	<b>REFERENCES .....</b>	<b>12</b>
	8.1 Secondary sources.....	12
	8.2 Online resources .....	12
<b>9</b>	<b>APPENDIX 1 - EXISTING DRAWN RECORD .....</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>APPENDIX 2 - 1M REPRESENTATIVE SECTION OF TRENCH 1.....</b>	<b>14</b>



## LIST OF FIGURES AND PLATES

<i>Front Cover</i>	Basement - Main passageway viewed from the east
<i>Rear cover</i>	Removal of false flat brick arches on second floor windows
<i>Figure 1</i>	Site location plan
<i>Figure 2</i>	South Stoneham House: Ground floor plan
<i>Figure 3</i>	South Stoneham House: First floor plan
<i>Figure 4</i>	South Stoneham House: Second floor plan
<i>Figure 5</i>	South Stoneham House: Basement floor plan
<i>Plate 1</i>	Room RG 08 - Recessed bay viewed from the east
<i>Plate 2</i>	Room RG 08 - Blocked door viewed from the east
<i>Plate 3</i>	Room RG 04 - Fitted cupboard and panelling prior to opening up works - viewed from the west
<i>Plate 4</i>	Room RG 03 - Wainscoting and panelling prior to opening up works - viewed from the north-east
<i>Plate 5</i>	Room RG 03 - Exposed doorway viewed from the east
<i>Plate 6</i>	Room RG 04 - Exposed doorway viewed from the west
<i>Plate 7</i>	Room RG 07 - North and east walls of the Stairwell prior to remedial works
<i>Plate 8</i>	Room RG 07 - North and east walls of the Stairwell exposed following remedial works
<i>Plate 9</i>	Room RG 07 - Exposed east wall of the Stairwell showing blocked window
<i>Plate 10</i>	Room RG 07 - Small cupboard on north wall prior to remedial works
<i>Plate 11</i>	Room RG 07 - Exposed north wall showing former cupboard recess
<i>Plate 12</i>	Underside of original panelling showing construction and inverted failed panel
<i>Plate 13</i>	Room RF 07 - Base of staircase viewed from the east
<i>Plate 14</i>	Room RG 07 - Scrolled cast iron bracket viewed from the south-east
<i>Plate 15</i>	Room 108 - Exposed east wall showing rubbed brick arch
<i>Plate 16</i>	Room 108 - Exposed east wall showing large blocked window opening
<i>Plate 17</i>	Room 208 - Exposed north-west wall revealing blocked window opening
<i>Plate 18</i>	Room 108 - Niche in north-west representing the lower part of a blocked window
<i>Plate 19</i>	Room 208 - Exposed north, east and north-west walls of stairwell viewed from the south
<i>Plate 20</i>	Room 109 - Recessed bay at southern end of room viewed from the east
<i>Plate 21</i>	Room 209 - North section of wall viewed from the east
<i>Plate 22</i>	Room 209 - South section of timber studwork viewed from the east
<i>Plate 23</i>	Main basement passageway following paint removal viewed from the east
<i>Plate 24</i>	Room RB04 following paint removal viewed from the north
<i>Plate 25</i>	Room RB01 following paint removal viewed from the north-west
<i>Plate 26</i>	Basement end passageway following paint removal viewed from the south-west
<i>Plate 27</i>	Room RB01 - plain lintel viewed from the south
<i>Plate 28</i>	Room RB02 - plain stopped and chamfered timber over entrance
<i>Plate 29</i>	Room RB04 - plain stopped and chamfered timber over entrance
<i>Plate 30</i>	Room RB10 - plain stopped and chamfered timber over entrance
<i>Plate 31</i>	Room RB03 - reused moulded timber from square-headed doorway
<i>Plate 32</i>	Room RB09 - reused moulded timber from square-headed doorway
<i>Plate 33</i>	Room RB08 - lintel removed above doorway currently propped
<i>Plate 34</i>	Room RB08 - detail of lintel socket viewed from the east
<i>Plate 35</i>	Room RB05 - later inserted entrance and steps on south wall
<i>Plate 36</i>	Second floor windows - removal of false cement arch using hand tools
<i>Plate 37</i>	Second floor windows - false cement arch showing later repair
<i>Plate 38</i>	Second floor windows - exposed lintel and brickwork following removal of false cement arch

**SOUTH STONEHAM HOUSE  
WESSEX LANE  
SWAYTHLING  
SOUTHAMPTON****Historic Building Record  
and  
Archaeological Record****Summary**

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Stephens Cox Associates Ltd on behalf of the University of Southampton to carry out a programme of Historic Building Recording and an Archaeological Watching Brief at South Stoneham House, Wessex Lane, Southampton. The prominent three-storey building was originally built in 1708 for Edward Dummer and became a University Hall of Residence from 1926 - 1980 since when it has remained vacant pending a new use. The structure is statutorily Listed (Grade II\*) and situated within Swaythling Conservation Area.

The development involved a programme of refurbishment, redecoration and minor repair of parts of the property. Dry rot and damp had affected the western part of the house and this needed to be investigated by opening up works with damaged timber and plaster replaced. Other works comprised repairs to the external windows, exterior brickwork and pointing. In an attempt to minimise damp levels, "dry areas" were due to be created adjacent to parts of the building comprising small, gravel filled trenches.

Prior to the proposed development a detailed drawn and photographic record of the areas to be affected including all associated structures, fixtures and finishes was made by Stephens Cox Associates Ltd under the direction of the Southampton City Council Archaeologist (Jane Davies).

The works involved a Level 3 (analytical) building record of the areas exposed by the recent dry rot investigation and the subsequent removal of infected timbers/plaster. This included several timber lintels situated in the western part of the house which had been removed on all floors. In addition plaster removal had exposed areas of brickwork and timber studwork/laths. Within the basement, paint and/or plaster had been carefully removed from the brickwork in the central corridor and in some of the rooms. The exposed brickwork was photographed and described. In addition, some of the timber lintels situated above the basement doorways appeared to show signs of reuse and these were duly recorded.

In addition to the building recording an archaeological record of exposed "dry areas" comprising shallow trenches situated adjacent to the external walls on the north and south elevations were recorded with plans and representative sections drawn with accompanying photographs. Due to the small nature of these trenches and shallow depth no archaeological features or deposits were found.

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SOUTHAMPTON**

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**Acknowledgements**

This project was commissioned by Stephens Cox Associates Ltd on behalf of the University of Southampton and Wessex Archaeology is grateful to Simeon Cox and David Russell in this regard. Wessex Archaeology would also like to thank Stephen Appleby - Planning Archaeologist for Southampton City Council for his advice.

The building and archaeological recording was carried out by Ray Kennedy and Matt Rous. The illustrations were produced by Ken Lymer. This project was written and managed for Wessex Archaeology by Matt Rous AlFA.

**SOUTH STONEHAM HOUSE  
WESSEX LANE  
SWAYTHLING  
SOUTHAMPTON**

**Historic Building Record  
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Archaeological Record**

## **1 INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Project Background**

- 1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Stephens Cox Associates Ltd on behalf of the University of Southampton to carry out a programme of Historic Building Recording and an Archaeological Watching Brief at South Stoneham House, Wessex Lane, Southampton, SO18 2NW centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) 443871, 115433. The Grade II\* listed building was originally built in 1708 for Edward Dummer and became a University Hall of Residence from 1926 - 1980 since when it has remained vacant pending a new use.
- 1.1.2 The development involved a programme of refurbishment, redecoration and minor repair of parts of the property. Dry rot and damp had affected the western part of the property and this needed to be investigated by opening up works with damaged timber and plaster replaced. Other works comprised repairs to the external windows, exterior brickwork and pointing. In an attempt to minimise damp levels, dry areas were due to be created adjacent to parts of the building comprising small gravel filled trenches.
- 1.1.3 This report has been prepared in connection with the pending planning application (ref: 11/00780/LBC) which is being considered by Southampton City Council. In the absence of a formal brief for the works discussions with the Planning Archaeologist (Stephen Appleby) at Southampton City Council (SCC) indicated that a Level 3 (analytical) record as defined in *Understanding Historic Buildings: A guide to good recording practice* (English Heritage, 2006) was required for those areas already exposed by the opening-up works and for any groundworks.
- 1.1.4 Prior to the commencement of the remedial works and under the direction of Jane Davies (Archaeologist at SCC) an initial phase of recording was carried out by Stephens Cox Associates Ltd which comprised a measured and drawn record of the areas to be affected including associated fixtures and finishes, profiles of mouldings and panelling. This record is presented in **Appendix 1**. In addition, a thorough digital photographic survey was made of the areas due for remedial works prior to commencement of the works. A small number of the images from this phase of work have been incorporated within this report (**Plates 3-4, 7, 10, 13-14**).
- 1.1.5 The work was undertaken in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (Wessex Archaeology 2011), which was submitted to and approved by the SCC Planning Archaeologist prior to the commencement of the recording programme.



## 1.2 Site location

1.2.1 South Stoneham House is located to the immediate east of the junction between Woodmill Lane and Wessex Lane in the former parish of Swaythling, Southampton, Hampshire. The building is orientated approximately east-north-east - west-south-west along its long axis and set back a short distance from Wessex Lane some c.70m to the south of the University Halls of Residence and c.160m to the south-east of Thomas Lewis Way (A335) (**Figure 1**). The building is adjoined on the west side by 1960s buildings associated with the University of Southampton.

## 2 METHODOLOGY

### 2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 The principal aim of the historic building recording was to provide a comprehensive analytical record of those areas of the building which had been exposed due to the recent remedial works. The aim of the watching brief relating to the associated groundworks was to provide further information concerning the presence/absence, date, nature and extent of any buried archaeological remains and to investigate and record all archaeological features thus revealed.

2.1.2 A Heritage Statement (including Design & Access) was prepared by Stephens Cox Associates Ltd, which itemised the individual proposed works. A brief outline of the works which were subject to historic building recording and archaeological watching brief comprised the following:

- A detailed photographic record and description of those areas exposed by the dry rot investigation and the subsequent removal of infected timbers/plaster. This included several timber lintels situated in the western part of the house which had been removed on all floors. In addition plaster removal had exposed areas of brickwork and timber studwork/laths.
- Within the basement, paint and/or plaster had been carefully removed from the brickwork in the central corridor and in some of the rooms. The exposed brickwork was due to be photographed and described. In addition, some of the timber lintels situated above the basement doorways appeared to show signs of reuse. These were to be recorded.
- A 20<sup>th</sup> century staircase leading into the Plant room (RB04) from the ground floor was to be photographed and described prior to its removal.
- “Dry areas” comprising shallow trenches situated adjacent to the external walls on the north, south and east elevations will be recorded with plans and representative sections drawn with accompanying photographs.

2.1.3 Following these initial works a second visit was required to record the exposing of timber lintels/openings on the second floor of the north elevation. This involved the removal of false rubbed brick arches and an assessment of the timbers prior to their replacement (where necessary) and reinstatement of the false brick arches.

## 2.2 Documentary Research

- 2.2.1 A comprehensive understanding of the history and development of the house has been produced (2004) by Ingram Consultancy Ltd entitled *South Stoneham House*. It was therefore considered not necessary to carry out any further documentary research as part of the programme of recording.

## 2.3 Site visit

- 2.3.1 The site was visited on 13<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2011 by archaeologists from Wessex Archaeology during which the exposed areas were subject to investigation, analysis and photography.
- 2.3.2 The relevant parts of the building were recorded to Level 3 (analytical), as described in *Understanding Historic Buildings: a guide to good recording practice* (English Heritage 2006) and carried out in accordance with guidance given in the document by the Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for the archaeological investigation and recording of standing buildings and structures* (IFA 1996, revised 2001 and 2008).

### Photography

- 2.3.3 During the site visits, some 39 black & white photographs were taken using a Canon EOS 600 film camera. In addition 374 high quality digital images were taken using a Canon 5D digital camera (with 12 megapixel capability).
- 2.3.4 A selection of photographs from the full photographic archive has been reproduced in this report (**Plates 1 - 38**).

### Measured survey

- 2.3.5 Existing measured plans and sections of the building were supplied in advance in by the client in AutoCAD format. Hard copies of these drawings were annotated on site and then enhanced in accordance with English Heritage drawing conventions to produce the finished record drawings which, in addition, show the location and direction of view for the photographs reproduced within the report (**Figures 2 - 5**). In addition, accurate drawn elevations and details of the western service staircase and panelling which had previously been recorded prior to the opening up works was provided by Stephens Cox Associates Ltd (**Appendix 1**).
- 2.3.6 No additional measured survey of the building was carried out during the works.

## 3 BRIEF HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

- 3.1.1 A brief history of the house has been written by Jessica Vale (1980) and is reproduced here:
- 3.1.2 South Stoneham House was built by Thomas Dummer of London, uncle of Edmund Dummer of The Grange at Swaythling, to plans probably prepared by the famous architect Nicholas Hawksmoor. Dummer bought the land, amounting to about 300 acres (121.4 hectares) for £3,400 in 1705 and the house was completed in 1708. In that year Thomas entrusted the property to his son, Edmund, a commissioner for the Admiralty, who fell heavily into

debt. When he died in about 1710 his daughter Jane had to sell South Stoneham to Edward Nicholas of Newton valence near Alton.

- 3.1.3 In 1740 Nicholas sold South Stoneham to William Sloane, brother of the founder of the British Museum. After his death in 1767 the entire estate passed to his son, Hans Sloane. From 1772 to 1780 the gardens, previously rather formal in design, were landscaped by Lancelot "Capability" Brown at a cost of £1,050.
- 3.1.4 About 1810 South Stoneham House was bought by John Lane, who in 1819 sold it to John Fleming, the owner of North Stoneham House. The Flemings lived there for a while, but by 1845 they were letting the house to Mrs Beckford and Miss Lucy Middleton. In about 1854 Thomas Willis Fleming returned to South Stoneham House and lived there until about 1860; by 1863 the house was let again to W. C. Standish.
- 3.1.5 In 1875 the Willis-Flemings put the house and estate up for sale, and in 1878 it was bought by Captain Thomas Davison. Ten years later he sold South Stoneham to Sir Samuel Montagu, head of a family of London bankers, who was created Lord Swaythling in 1907. Lord Swaythling added a large porch to the front entrance and probably made other alterations. After the death of Lord Swaythling in 1921 South Stoneham House and grounds (excluding the salmon pool which remained the property of the Montagu family of Townhill Park) was acquired by the University of Southampton for use as a Hall of Residence. All the servants' quarters and stables were demolished in 1961.

## 4 BUILDING DESCRIPTION

### 4.1 Works affecting western part of the house

- 4.1.1 Where water damage had led to dry rot infestation in the western part of the property a number of original timber lintels were removed and are due to be replaced with new timber. In addition panelling, damaged plaster and studwork in the surrounding area was also removed allowing the exposed brickwork beneath to be observed and recorded prior to fresh plaster being applied. Prior to the site visit a small number of steps were replaced due to dry rot damage with the entire staircase due for eventual removal.

#### Ground floor - Bar Store (RG 08)

- 4.1.2 In the Bar Store (RG 08) the west wall was exposed by the plaster and studwork being removed revealing a recessed bay at the southern end of the wall and a blocked doorway towards the northern end of the room (**Figure 2**). The wall comprised red brick in English bond with pale lime mortar containing very few inclusions. The bricks measured 8½" (21.5cm) in length and 2½" (6.3cm) in height with occasional blue headers visible.
- 4.1.3 The recessed bay at the southern end of the wall extended from floor to ceiling containing a blocked window opening in the top right hand corner. The window was likely blocked following the later 18<sup>th</sup> century extension of the building to the west (**Plate 1**). The bay measured 1.37m in width and 0.59cm in depth. At the top of the wall are two patch repairs which appear to have occurred recently.

- 4.1.4 The removal of the timber lintel had left a large exposed slot at the top of the bay which measured approximately 2.03m in width and 0.28m in height. The weight of the wall was supported by four adjustable steel props and Strongboys® until the replacement timbers have been installed.
- 4.1.5 The removal of the plaster on the west wall revealed the existence of a blocked external doorway situated towards the northern end of the room which measured 1.9m in height and 1.28m in width and featured a cambered arch (**Plate 2**). The doorway had been blocked in two phases with the northern 0.4m section comprising red brick and pale lime mortar which likely represents an earlier narrowing of the doorway. The southern part of the doorway was blocked with a combination of red and Midhurst white bricks laid on edge with greyish-brown Portland cement. The doorway is presently obscured behind a cast iron soil and vent pipe descending from the bathrooms on the first and second floors above. This may suggest that the doorway was blocked at the same time as the bathrooms were established, which is likely to have occurred during the early-mid 20<sup>th</sup> century.

Ground floor - Admin Office (RG 04)/Television Room (RG 03)

- 4.1.6 Prior to the recent opening up works there was no connecting doorway between the two rooms with the present exposed entrance comprising a recess on the east wall of the Admin Office (RG 04) occupied by panelling and a fitted cupboard (**Figure 2, Plate 3**). On the west wall of the Television Room (RG 03) the lower section of wall formerly featured decorative hardwood wainscoting (**Plate 4**) which was recorded in detail by Stephens Cox Associates Ltd with photographs and drawings prior to its removal (**Appendix 1**).
- 4.1.7 Following the removal of the later finishes the timber lintel above the former doorway between the two rooms was removed with some of the plaster removed from the walls adjacent to the doorway on either sides of the wall. The empty lintel slot measured 1.49m in width and 0.3m in height (**Plates 5-6**). The exposed brickwork comprised red brick measuring 8½" (21.5cm) in length and 2½" (6.3cm) in height in English bond with pale lime mortar.
- 4.1.8 The weight of the wall above is presently being supported by four adjustable steel props and short sections of scaffolding poles until the replacement timber lintel has been installed.

Ground - Second floors - Stairwell 03 (RG 07, Room 108, Room 208)

- 4.1.9 At the southern end of the Stairwell on the ground and first floors the plaster and timber panelling had been removed on the east and north walls due to the dry rot and damp problems. Prior to the remedial works the stairwell was photographed and a detailed drawn record made of the entire staircase and other fixtures and fittings by Stephens Cox Associates Ltd (**Appendix 1, Plate 7**). As elsewhere in the building, the exposed brickwork comprised red brick in English bond with pale lime mortar (**Plate 8**) with the brickwork of the north wall very similar (9" (22.8cm) in length and 2½" (6.3cm) in height) to that on the east wall despite the north wall being a later phase of work. This phasing was demonstrated in the north-eastern corner where the north wall clearly butts up to the east wall.



- 4.1.10 The plaster removal had exposed fair faced brickwork in addition to a tall blocked window opening on the east wall at ground floor height (**Plate 9**) corresponding to the blocked opening observed on the other side of the wall in RG 08. In addition, following the removal of a small low cupboard on the northern wall (**Plate 10**) a recess measuring 0.99m in height, 0.58m in width and 0.55m in depth was present (**Plate 11**).
- 4.1.11 Some sections of the original panelling were found to be free of dry rot and will be reinstated along with replacement panels. A removed section present on the first floor was photographed showing the unfinished underside consisting of all softwood construction with a failed raised panel inverted for reuse (**Plate 12**).
- 4.1.12 The staircase leading to the first and second floors comprised a relatively solid and utilitarian structure as would be expected from a service stair, with square or partly chamfered newel posts, sturdy stick balusters and broad hardwood handrail possibly suggesting a late 19<sup>th</sup> century date (**Plate 13**). Despite this some attractive details were present including the decorative moulded stair brackets, simple ogee pendants and ornate cast iron support brackets (**Plate 14**). The original treads were protected by linoleum with aluminium nosings. A number of stairs leading up to the first floor had been recently repaired with original timber replaced with new in the area adjacent to the north and east walls.
- 4.1.13 Ascending from the ground to the first floors, a flat arch of gauged brickwork indicating the top a former window opening was visible on the lower part of the exposed east wall which was partially obscured by the present steps (**Figure 3, Plate 15**). The northern part of the brick arch was missing due to a recent repair to the wall in this area. Above this arch a larger blocked window opening was present situated higher up and further to the south of the east wall which closely resembled a window opening on the ground floor in this location (**Plate 16**).
- 4.1.14 Ascending from the first to the second floors, the north, east and north-west walls had been stripped of plaster and panelling revealing similar brickwork to that present on the lower floors (red brick measuring 8½" (21.5cm) in length and 2½" (6.3cm) in height in English bond with pale lime mortar). A blocked window opening measuring 1.26m in width was present on the canted north-west wall which had been infilled with 3" (7.5cm) softwood timber studs and 1" (2.5cm) chestnut laths fixed with handmade nails (**Figure 4, Plate 17**). A wide niche below the level of the stairs on this wall represents the lower parts of the window (**Figure 3, Plate 18**).
- 4.1.15 At second floor height within the stairwell the north and north-west walls are reduced in width by 0.31m. Here the exposed walls differ from the thicker walled construction below comprising red brick measuring 8½" (21.5cm) in length and 2½" (6.3cm) in height in a variation of Flemish garden wall bond and no recognisable bond with pale lime mortar binder, which was difficult to examine clearly behind the residual pale plaster (**Plate 19**). The east wall comprises timber studwork with regular applied laths fixed with nails. This is described more fully in the description for Bathroom 209. (Section 4.1.18).

#### First floor - Room 109

- 4.1.16 The partition between these two rooms had been removed prior to the site visit and the west wall had been exposed following plaster and studwork removal revealing red brick in English bond identical to that viewed on the ground floor. A large recessed bay was present at the southern end of the room on the west wall extending from floor to ceiling which measured 2.06m in width and 0.49m in depth (**Figure 3, Plate 20**). Within the bay, a large blocked window opening was present in the top right hand corner of the west wall with gauged brickwork from the rear of a flat brick arch visible at the top of the bay now that the timber lintel has been removed.
- 4.1.17 The removal of the timber lintel(s) had left a large exposed slot at the top of the bay which measured approximately 2.5m in width and 0.38m in height. The weight of the wall above was being supported by four adjustable steel props and Strongboys® until the replacement oak timbers have been installed.

#### Second floor - Bathroom 209

- 4.1.18 Similarly to the ground and first floors, the west wall (and the north wall) had been stripped of plaster and studwork. This revealed brickwork at the northern end of the wall comprising red brick measuring 9" (22.8cm) in width and 2 ¾" (7cm) in height in Flemish bond with buff coloured mortar (**Plate 21**) which differed markedly from the brickwork on the lower floors (and in the stairwell) suggesting a later phase of construction.
- 4.1.19 The southern section of wall comprised exposed timber studwork and laths, with the timbers comprising pit sawn 3" (7.5cm) softwood studs with 1" (2.5cm) chestnut laths fixed with handmade nails (**Plate 22**).

## **4.2 Basement works**

- 4.2.1 The basement comprises a series of rooms arranged either side of a central east - west orientated passage. All the rooms and passage are vaulted in red brick which has recently been exposed in the main passageway (**Figure 5, Plate 23**) and on the walls of several of the rooms (**Plates 24-26**) following the removal of cementitious plaster and masonry paint to allow the brickwork to breathe. The exposed brickwork comprises English bond with pale buff coloured lime mortar with few visible inclusions. The bricks measured 8½" (21.5cm) in length and 2½" (6.3cm) in height with occasional blue headers present.

#### Doorway lintels

- 4.2.2 The entrance doorways into each of the rooms were spanned with timber lintels with several revealing signs of reuse comprising doorheads from an earlier building(s). A number of the lintels were obscured by later fittings, electric tracking and pipework which prevented a clear view. All the lintels were made up of three separate pieces of timber which spanned the width of the wall to a width of 0.49m.
- 4.2.3 Of least interest were the lintels found above the entrances into the Storeroom RB 01, Music Room RB 14, Plant Room RB 05 and the Cellar RB 12 (**Figure 5**) which comprised plain timbers measuring approximately 1.2m in width and 0.11m in height (**Plate 27**). These lintels are likely to be original to the building.

- 4.2.4 Plain stopped and chamfered timber lintels were found above the entrances to Storeroom RB 02 (**Plate 28**), RB 04 (**Plate 29**) (although only on the inner side - the outer timber facing the passage comprising a plain unchamfered piece), and RB 10 (**Plate 30**).
- 4.2.5 The most interesting reused doorheads can be found in the lintels over the entrances into the small Storeroom RB 03 (**Plate 31**) and Oil Storage room RB 09 (**Plate 32**) which comprise square headed moulded doorways with evidence for pegged construction visible on the doorhead over the entrance into Storeroom RB 03. Such doorheads, although sometimes earlier, were prevalent from the mid 16<sup>th</sup> century onwards (Hall 2005, 23).
- 4.2.6 The lintel over the entrance into the Bar Store RB 08 had been removed during the recent renovation works due to dry rot (**Plate 33**) with some of the surrounding bricks also removed to facilitate the removal of the timbers (**Plate 34**). Here the weight of the wall was supported by eight adjustable steel props and Strongboys® until the replacement timbers were installed.

*Entrance on South wall of the Plant Room (RB 05)*

- 4.2.7 Within the Plant Room (RB 05) an inserted entrance and steps had been added on the south wall during the 20<sup>th</sup> century leading up to a former doorway on the rear (south) elevation at ground floor level (**Plate 35**). The inserted entrance measured 1.12m in width cutting through the south wall of the basement and extending a short distance before narrowing to 0.65m in width. A utilitarian straight flight of seven painted concrete steps ascended to where a former doorway previously opened out onto the rear of the property. This doorway has been subsequently infilled with concrete blockwork, most likely as a security measure following the disuse of the building in the 1980s. To the east of the steps the original entrance had been partially infilled with red brick measuring 8½" (21.5cm) in length and 2½" (6.5cm) in height, and Portland cement in stretcher bond.
- 4.2.8 Following the removal of the entrance and steps the south wall of the room is to be reinstated to its original pre-20<sup>th</sup> century arrangement. In addition, the former access to the Plant Room from ground floor level, which was via a mid-late 20<sup>th</sup> century single brick skin entrance with concrete slab roof is to be removed.

**4.3 False brick arches on second floor of north elevation**

- 4.3.1 Due to the problems with damp and dry rot within the building it was considered necessary to examine the timber lintels over the seven central windows on the second floor of the front (north) elevation to ensure that they were in sound condition.
- 4.3.2 Despite first impressions these seven garret windows did not possess genuine rubbed brick flat arches (unlike the windows on either side) and had instead facsimiles consisting of applied coloured cement. The original height of the window openings appears to have been increased by as much as six courses in comparison with the neighbouring windows either side, with the new window openings spanned by inserted timber lintels rather than a brick arch. To hide these otherwise exposed and unsightly timber lintels an attempt to simulate rubbed brick flat arches has been made using applied red coloured cement with incised lines filled with white cement to give the impression of fine pointing, which covers the top three or four courses of

brickwork above the opening. During the remedial works this cement was carefully removed with hand tools to expose the timber lintels and brickwork beneath (**Figure 4, Plate 36**).

- 4.3.3 It appears that the original window openings had proper gauged brick arches which were removed following a decision to increase the height of the windows (a late 19<sup>th</sup>/early 20<sup>th</sup> century photograph (not reproduced) confirms this). The re-instatement of these flat arches would have been a much more difficult job which was rejected in favour of the present ingenious solution which cannot be discerned from the ground.
- 4.3.4 The typical cement brick arch measured 1.28m in width at the top of the flat arch and 0.98m at the base representing the width of the window opening (**Plate 37**). As mentioned previously, the height of the arch generally covered a number of courses of brickwork above the window opening which measured approximately 0.39m.
- 4.3.5 The exposed lintels were each made up of two pieces of machine cut softwood timber with a diameter of 4" (10.2cm) x 2" (5.1cm) and small gap between the two filled with 1" (2.5cm) softwood batons (**Plate 38**). In some instances extra packing material comprising slate and tile had been inserted around the lintels to ensure a close fit into the slot which had been cut for it in the brickwork. Machine made nails were in evidence which, combined with the presence of cement and machine cut regular timbers, suggests a date from the later 19<sup>th</sup> century date onwards for the raising of the window heights.
- 4.3.6 Evidence for later patch repairs to the cement brick arches was visible above many of the windows, with colour matched (not entirely successfully) mortar applied to galvanised steel gauze which had been nailed onto the timber lintel beneath. The brickwork concealed behind the cement was mostly in fair condition, although some of the faces of the bricks had deteriorated due to contact with this harder, impermeable material. Following the replacement of the timber lintels (where necessary) the false brick arches will be re-instated using appropriate colour-matched lime mortar.

## **5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL RECORDING**

### **5.1 Introduction**

- 5.1.1 Prior to the site visit six small, narrow trenches had been excavated adjacent to the building on the north and south elevations on the western side of the building in an attempt to control damp levels by the creation of "dry areas" comprising gravel filled trenches (French drains) (**Figure 2**).
- 5.1.2 The principal aim of the archaeological recording was to provide further information concerning the presence/absence, date, nature and extent of any buried archaeological remains and to investigate and record these where possible.

### **5.2 Methodology**

- 5.2.1 The "dry areas" had been excavated by hand tools with the six small trenches exposed prior to the commencement of the site visit. None of the excavated material was available to be inspected for artefacts during the site visit.



5.2.2 The trenches were recorded using Wessex Archaeology's *pro forma* recording system. A complete drawn record of deposits was compiled. This included both plans and representative 1m sections, drawn to appropriate scales.

5.2.3 Recording of groundworks was undertaken by Wessex Archaeology on 13<sup>th</sup> June 2011.

### **5.3 Results**

5.3.1 The small trenches measured 0.55m - 0.7m in width and 0.7m - 0.9m in depth exposing the lower section of the exterior brickwork of the house which included some stepped foundations.

5.3.2 A consistent soil profile was observed within all of the trenches which comprised dark greyish-brown topsoil to a depth of c.0.24m above a mid-brown subsoil layer containing a small quantity of sub-rounded pebble inclusions. A single representative profile is included in **Appendix 2**.

### **5.4 Results**

5.4.1 No artefacts were recovered from the site.

### **5.5 Environmental**

5.5.1 The archaeological recording did not identify any archaeological features or deposits and as a consequence no environmental samples were taken.

### **5.6 Conclusion**

5.6.1 Although no archaeological features or deposits were identified within the six "dry areas" this was mainly due to the small size of the excavated area and generally shallow depth of excavations, which did not exceed the 18<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup> century overburden. In addition, due to the close proximity of the trenches adjacent to the building any archaeological features or deposits are likely to have been destroyed or severely damaged due to the creation of foundations and basement.

## **6 DISCUSSION**

6.1.1 Prior to the remedial works, the detailed photographic and measured record of the Stairwell (and its associated structures) in addition to the panelling in the former Television room (RG 03) by Stephens Cox Associates Ltd has ensured a good standard of record of these areas is documented for posterity.

6.1.2 Following the opening-up works, the recording of the exposed walls and lintel slots has enabled a unique view of the original brickwork of the house confirming that the present western stairwell was a later addition due to the presence of numerous blocked windows and fair-faced brick on the east wall of the Stairwell (RG 07) with the north wall of the stairwell clearly butting up the earlier structure. The removal of the plaster also exposed an earlier doorway situated on the west wall of the Bar Store (RG 08), which appears to have been blocked in two episodes comprising an earlier reduction in width prior to being totally blocked in the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

- 6.1.3 On the Second floor, the brickwork exposed on the north and west walls of Bathroom 209 was of different dimensions and bond to the brickwork exposed in Stairwell 208 confirming that this room was a later addition to the property.
- 6.1.4 In the Basement, several of the timber lintels above the present doorways appear to have been salvaged from a an earlier property(s) with stopped and plain chamfered timbers and moulded square-headed doorheads in evidence, indicating reuse of timbers from a 16<sup>th</sup> century (or perhaps even earlier) building during the construction of South Stoneham House.
- 6.1.5 An examination of the six small “dry area” trenches adjacent to the house on the north and south elevations identified no archaeological features or deposits. This was most likely due to the generally shallow depth of excavations and also the likelihood that the foundation/basement of the house would have severely damaged or destroyed any archaeological deposits in the immediate vicinity of the house.

## **7 ARCHIVE**

### **7.1 Preparation and Deposition**

- 7.1.1 The complete archaeological project archive was prepared in accordance with SCC Archive Deposition Standards in line with the document “Standards for the Creation, Compilation and Transfer of Archaeological Archives (SCC 2007). On completion of the project the archive will be deposited with Southampton City Museum.
- 7.1.2 The historic building archive will include:
- *hard copy of the full report*
  - *pdf copy of the report on CD*
  - *full photographic record with photographic registers*
  - *hard copies of the floor plans at 1:100*
  - *hard copies of any sections and elevations at 1:100*
  - *field notes and sketches*
- 7.1.3 Details of the historic building recording and archaeological watching brief will be entered into the online OASIS database maintained by the Archaeological Data Service (ADS).

---

**8 REFERENCES****8.1 Secondary sources**

English Heritage, 2006: *Understanding Historic Buildings, A guide to good recording practice*, English Heritage

Ingram Consultancy Limited, 2004, *South Stoneham House, Swaythling, Southampton, Record and Analysis of Historic Fabric*, Project 23017

Hall, L., 2005, *Period House Fixtures & Fittings 1300-1900*, Countryside Books

Southampton City Council, 2007, *Standards for the Creation, Compilation and Transfer of Archaeological Archives*

Stephens Cox Associates, n.d., *Heritage Statement (including Design & Access), South Stoneham House, Wessex Lane, Swaythling, Southampton*

Vale, J., 1980, *The Lost Houses of Southampton*

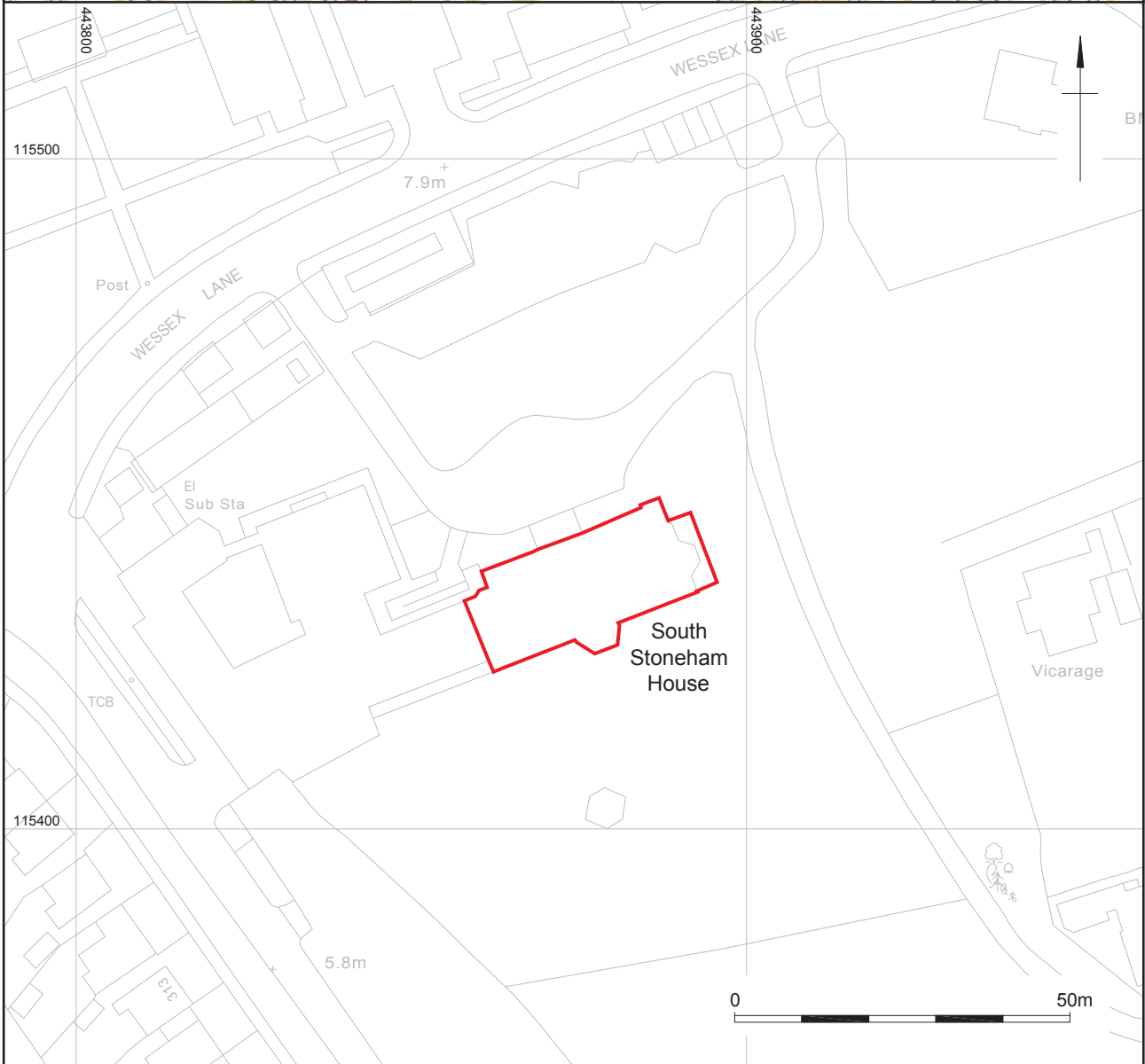
Wessex Archaeology, 2011, *South Stoneham House, Swaythling, Southampton, Written Scheme of Investigation for Historic Building Recording and Archaeological Watching Brief*, Ref: T14920.01


**8.2 Online resources**

Multi-Agency Geographic Initiative for the Countryside

<http://www.magic.gov.uk>

Date accessed: August 2011

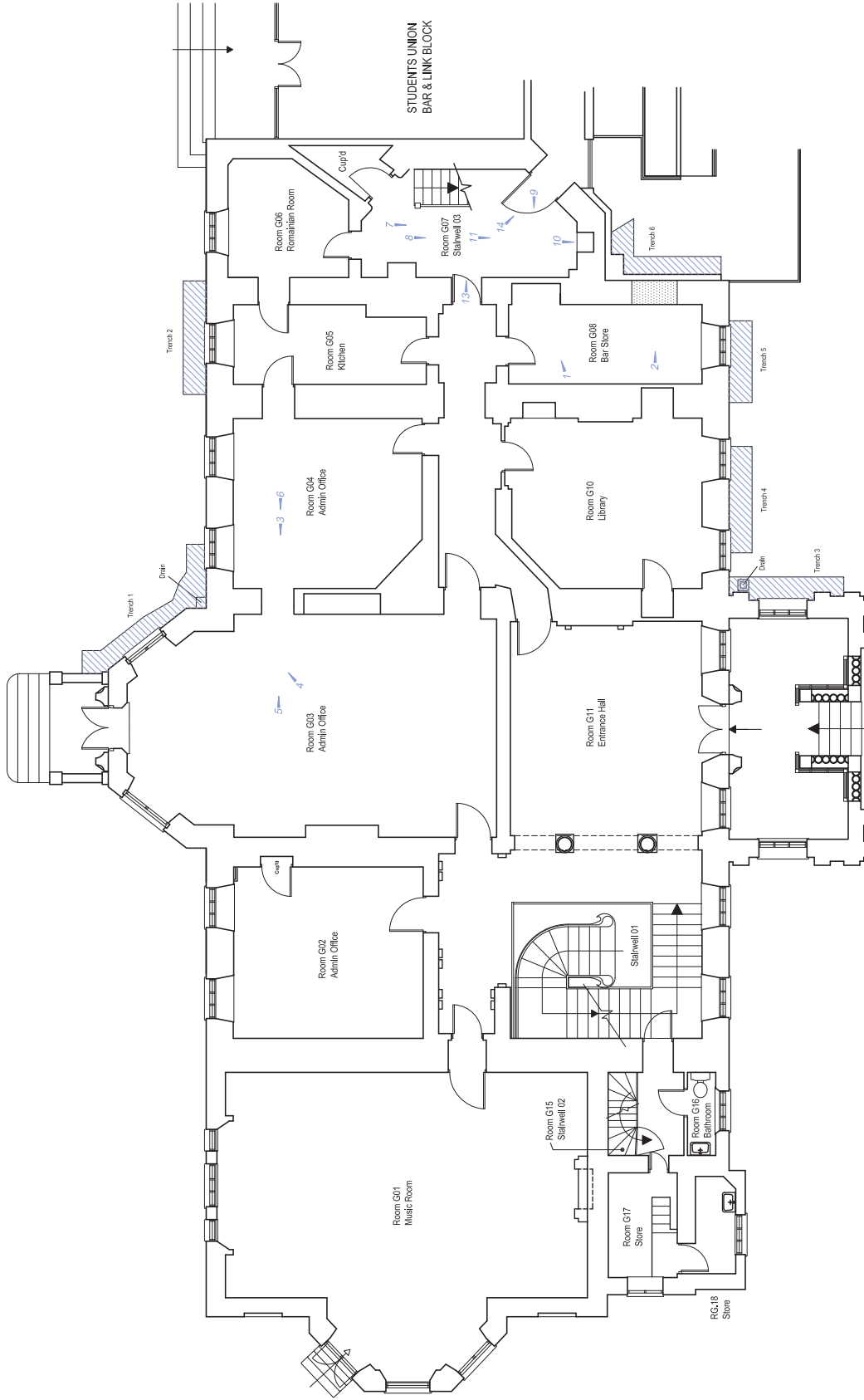


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Site location plan

Figure 1





5 — Number and direction of plate

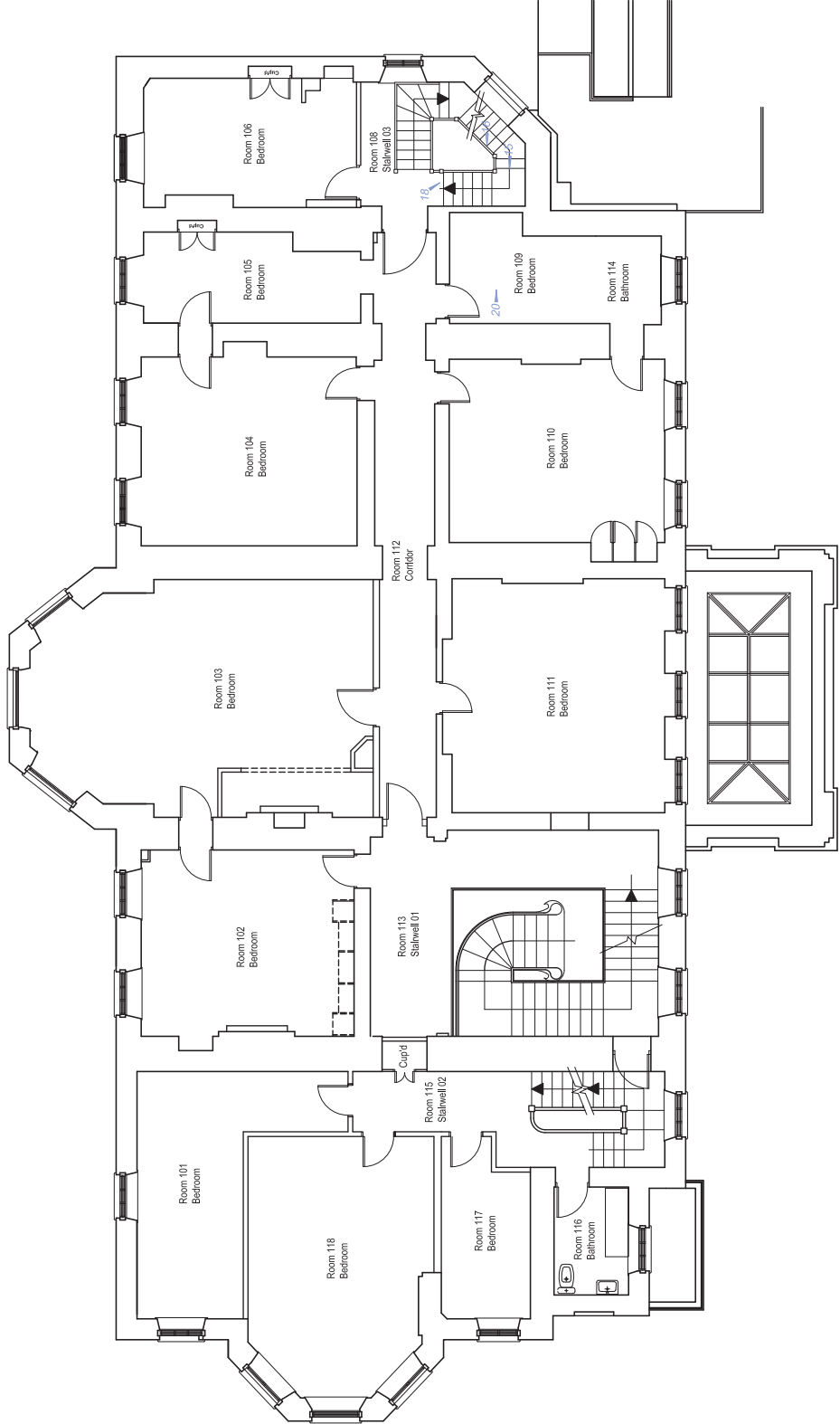


Dry area trench

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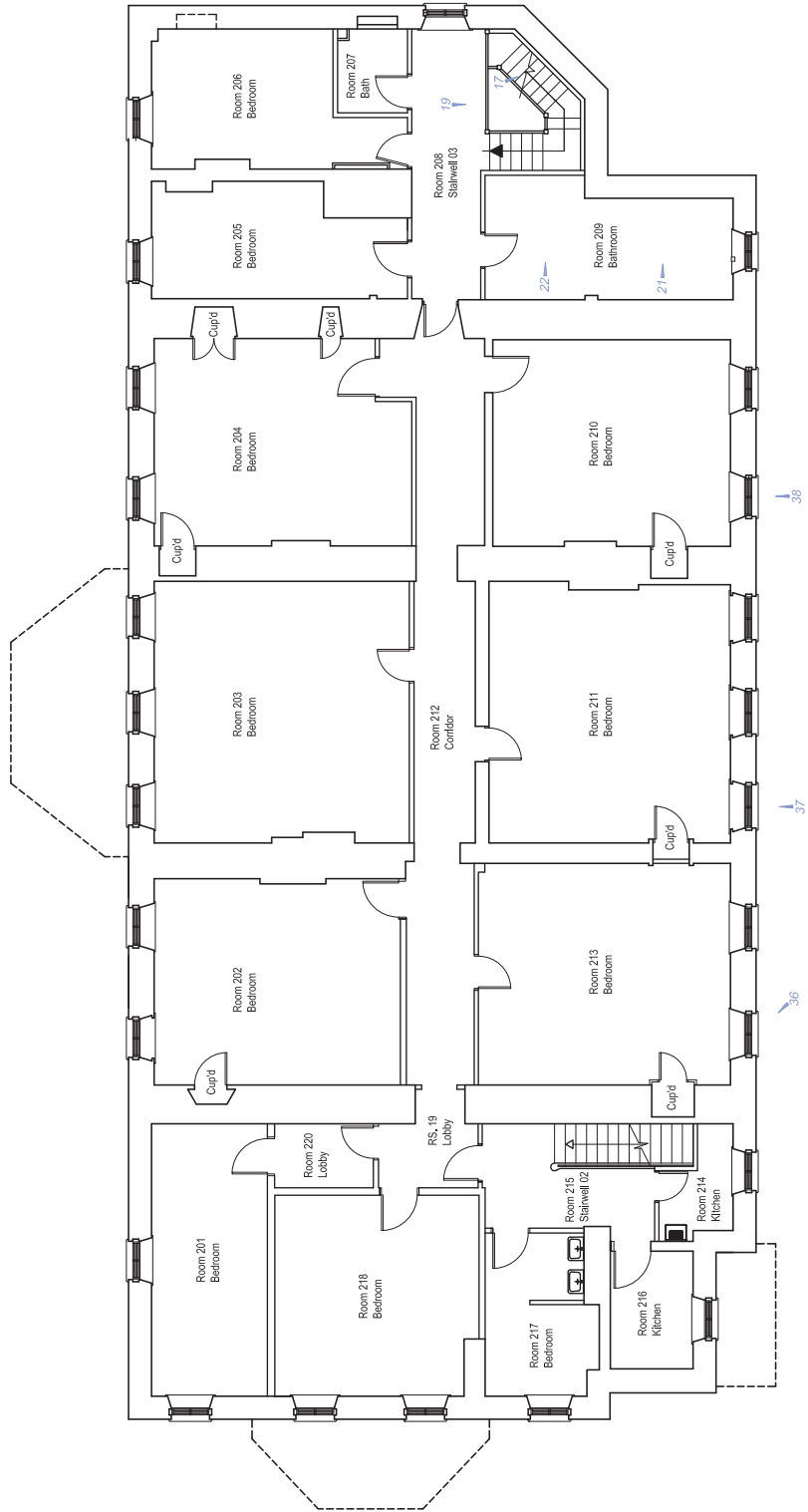
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Figure 2



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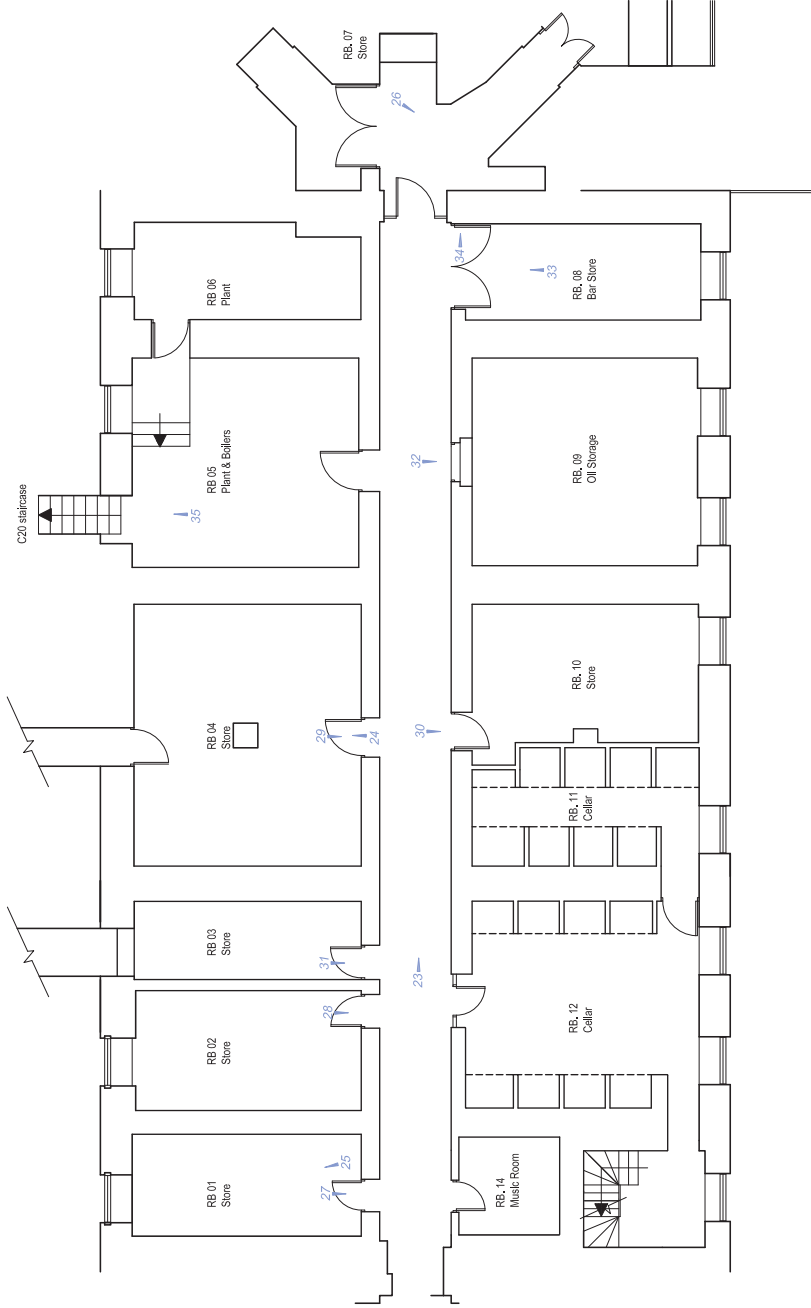


<p>5 — Number and direction of plate</p> <p>Drawing adapted from client supplied data. Do not scale from this drawing. Historical record only. Not for construction purposes. This material is for client report only © Wessex Archaeology. No unauthorised reproduction.</p>	Date: 05/06/11	Revision Number: 0
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South Stoneham House: Second floor plan

Figure 4



<p>5 — Number and direction of glazing</p> <p>Drawing adapted from client supplied data. Do not scale from this drawing. Historical record only. Not for construction purposes. This material is for client report only © Wessex Archaeology. No unauthorised reproduction.</p>	Date:	05/06/11	Revision Number:	0
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South Stoneham House: Basement floor plan

Figure 5



Plate 1: Room RG 08 – Recessed bay viewed from the east



Plate 2: Room RG 08 – Blocked door viewed from the east

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Plate 3: Room RG 04 – fitted cupboard and panelling prior to opening up works – viewed from the west



Plate 4: Room RG 03 – Wainscoting and panelling prior to opening up works – viewed from the north-east

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Plate 5: Room RG 03 – Exposed doorway viewed from the east



Plate 6: Room RG 04 – Exposed doorway viewed from the west

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Plate 7: Room RG 07 – North and east walls of the Stairwell prior to remedial works



Plate 8: Room RG 07 – North and east walls of the Stairwell exposed following remedial works

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Plate 9: Room RG 07 – Exposed east wall of the Stairwell showing blocked window



Plate 10: Room RG 07 – Small cupboard on north wall prior to remedial works

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Plate 11: Room RG 07 – Exposed north wall showing former cupboard recess



Plate 12: Underside of original panelling showing construction and inverted failed panel

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Plate 13: Room RF 07 – Base of staircase viewed from the east



Plate 14: Room RG 07 – Scrolled cast iron bracket viewed from the south-east

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Plate 15: Room 108 – Exposed east wall showing rubbed brick arch

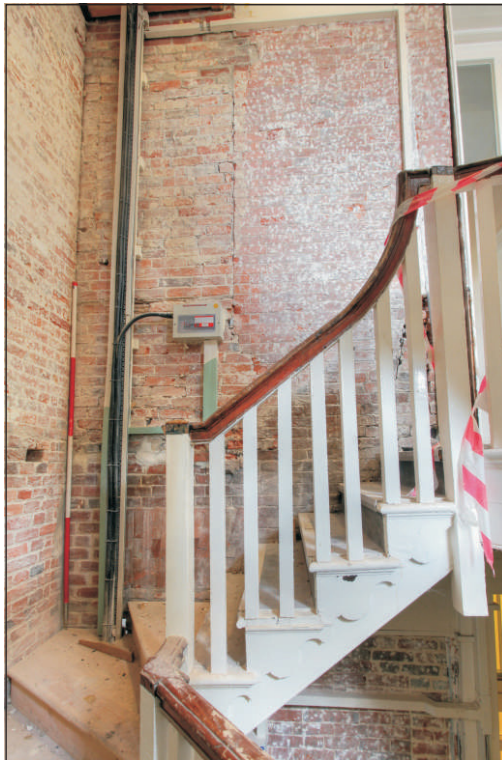


Plate 16: Room 108 – Exposed east wall showing large blocked window opening

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Plate 17: Room 208 – Exposed north-west wall revealing blocked window opening



Plate 18: Room 108 – Niche in north-west representing the lower part of a blocked window

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Plate 19: Room 208 – Exposed north, east and north-west walls of stairwell viewed from the south



Plate 20: Room 109 – Recessed bay at southern end of room viewed from the east

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Plate 21: Room 209 – North section of wall viewed from the east



Plate 22: Room 209 – South section of timber studwork viewed from the east

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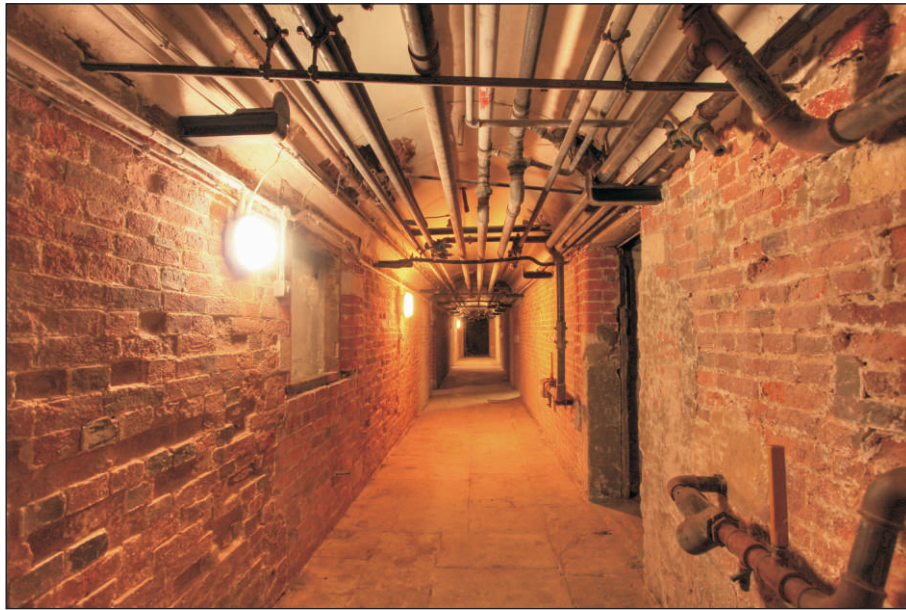


Plate 23: Main basement passageway following paint removal viewed from the east



Plate 24: Room RB04 following paint removal viewed from the north

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Plate 25: Room RB01 following paint removal viewed from the north-west



Plate 26: Basement end passageway following paint removal viewed from the south-west

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Plate 27: Room RB01 – plain lintel viewed from the south



Plate 28: Room RB02 – plain stopped and chamfered timber over entrance

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Plate 29: Room RB04 – plain stopped and chamfered timber over entrance



Plate 30: Room RB10 – plain stopped and chamfered timber over entrance

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Plate 31: Room RB03 – Reused moulded timber from square-headed doorway



Plate 32: Room RB09 – Reused moulded timber from square-headed doorway

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Plate 33: Room RB08 – lintel removed above doorway currently propped



Plate 34: Room RB08 – detail of lintel socket viewed from the east

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Plate 35: Room RB05 – later inserted entrance and steps on south wall



Plate 36: Second floor windows – removal of false cement arch using hand tools

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Plate 37: Second floor windows – false cement arch showing later repair



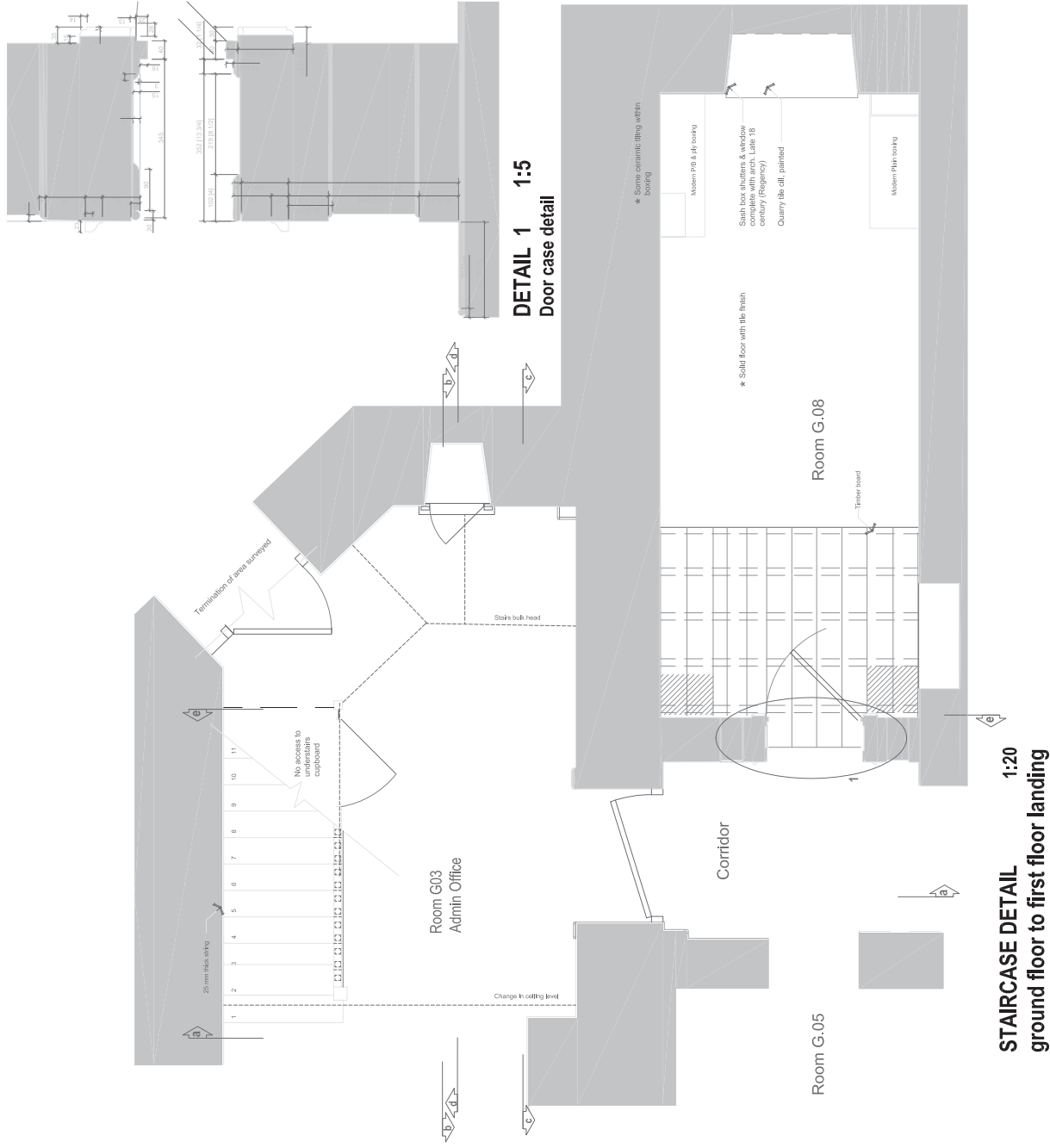
Plate 38: Second floor windows – exposed lintel and brickwork following removal of false cement arch

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## **9 APPENDIX 1 - EXISTING DRAWN RECORD**

- 9.1.1 Prior to the commencement of the remedial works a detailed drawn record of the areas to be affected including plans and elevations of all associated structures and fixtures and finishes was made by Stephens Cox Associates Ltd under the direction of the Southampton City Council archaeologist (Jane Davies). The drawings, which comprise nine A1 sheets along with the 179 digital images of the house (a small number of which are reproduced within this report) document the appearance and condition of the relevant parts of the property prior to the commencement of the remedial works.

# South Stoneham House



**STAIRCASE DETAIL**  
ground floor to first floor landing  
1:20

**STAIRCASE DETAIL**  
ground floor to first floor landing  
1:20

Quantity:  
STAIRCASE  
Sheet 1 of 9

Date:	Feb 11	Drawing Number:	3332_14
Scale:	See Drawing	Drawn:	MP
Checked:	—	Revised:	—

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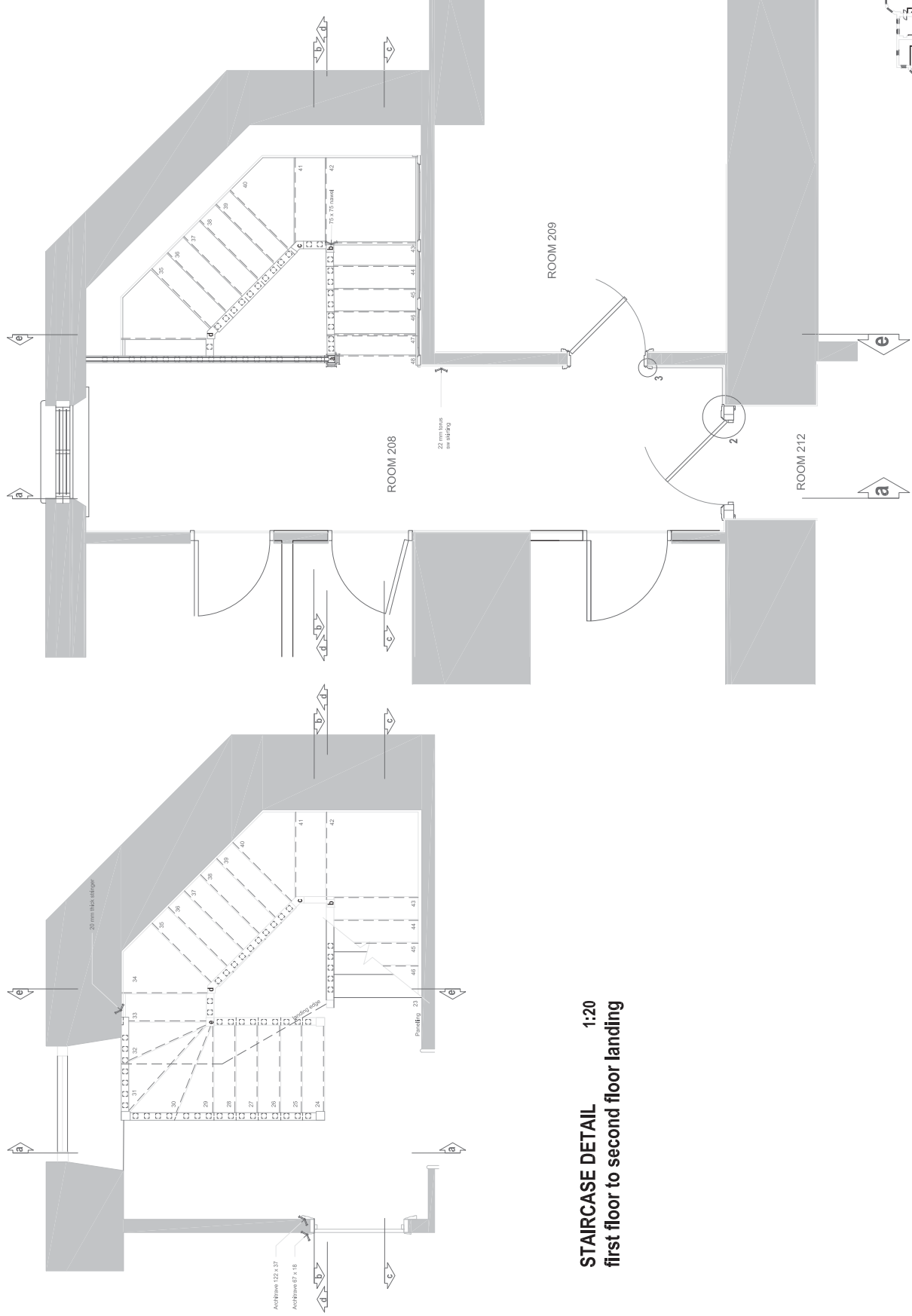
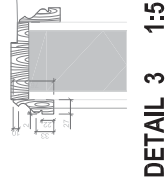
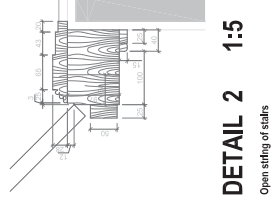
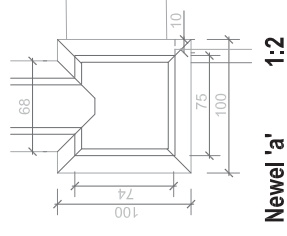


Revision  
Checked/Drawn  
**PRELIMINARY**

**SC** STEPHENS COX ASSOCIATES  
Architects, Surveyors and Conservation  
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Beverfield  
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E: info@scassociates.com

Project Title:  
**SOUTH STONEHAM HOUSE**  
ANALYTICAL REPORT

# South Stoneham House



**STAIRCASE DETAIL**  
1:20  
Second Floor

Revision: \_\_\_\_\_  
Checked/Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

**PRELIMINARY**

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Architects, Building Services and Conservation

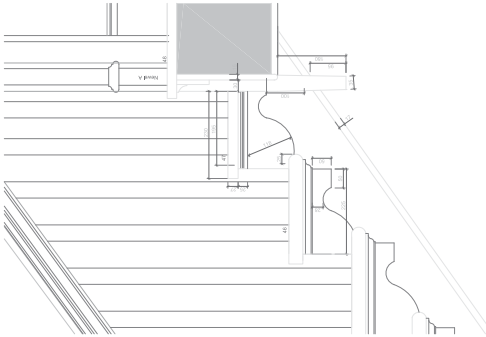
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ANALYTICAL REPORT

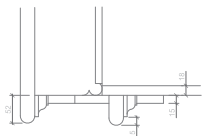
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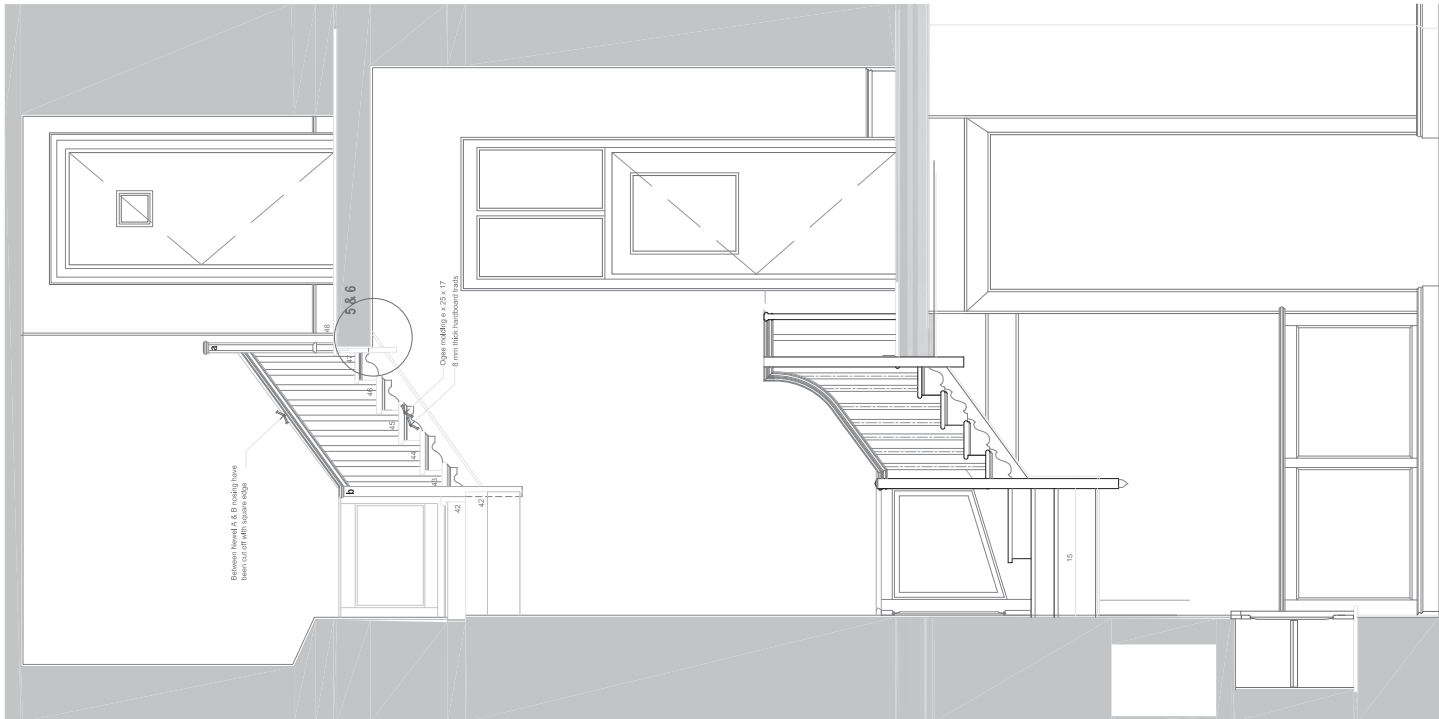




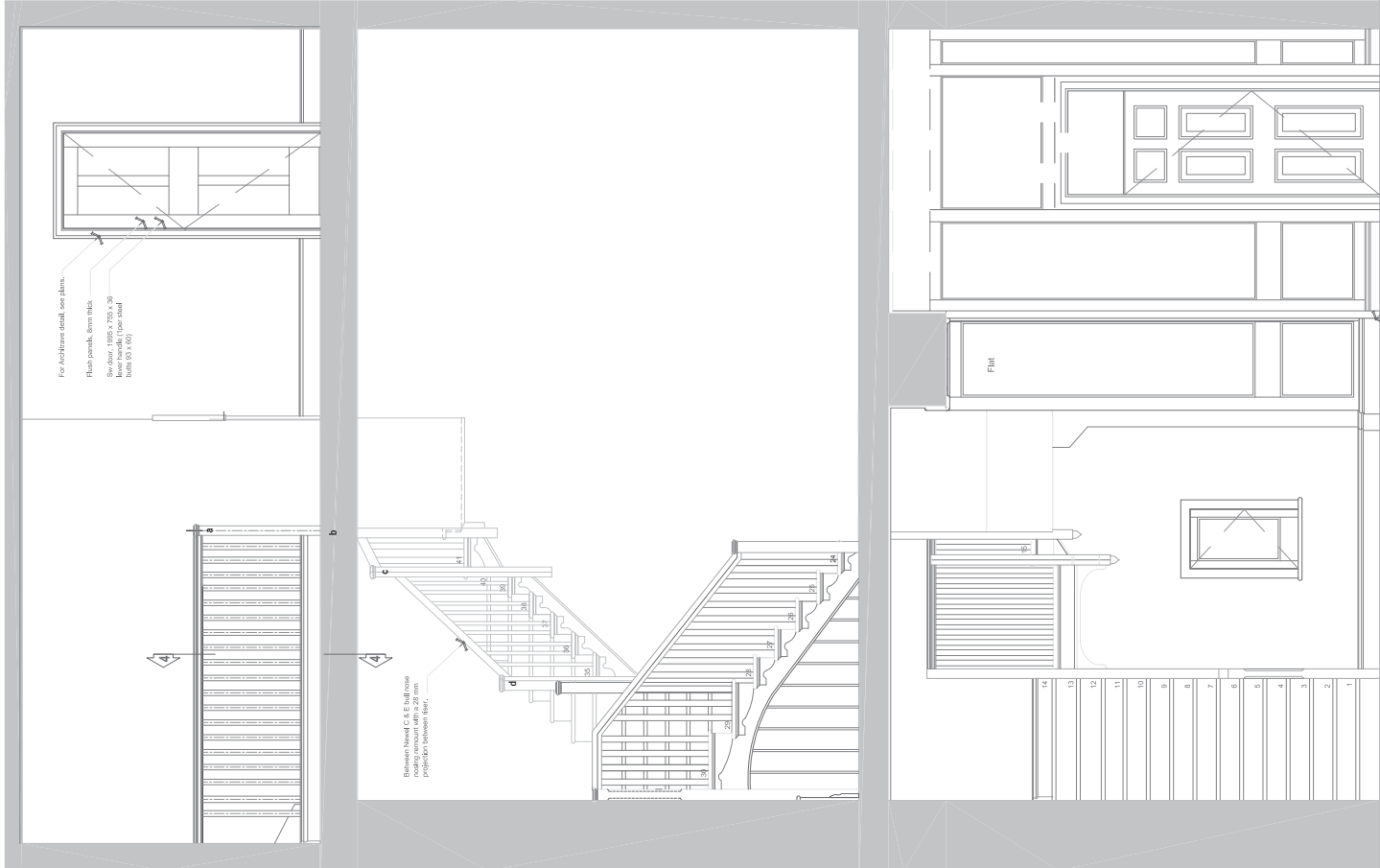
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Open string of stairs



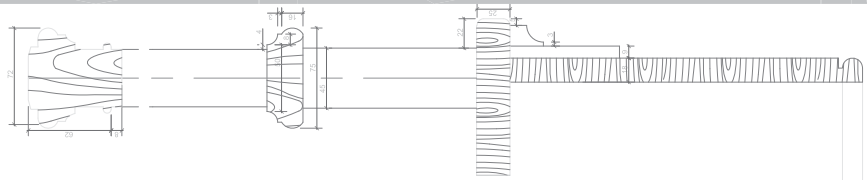
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Open string seen from behind.



**SECTION B** 1:20



**SECTION A** 1:20



**DETAIL 4** 1:2

Revision: \_\_\_\_\_ Checked/Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**PRELIMINARY**

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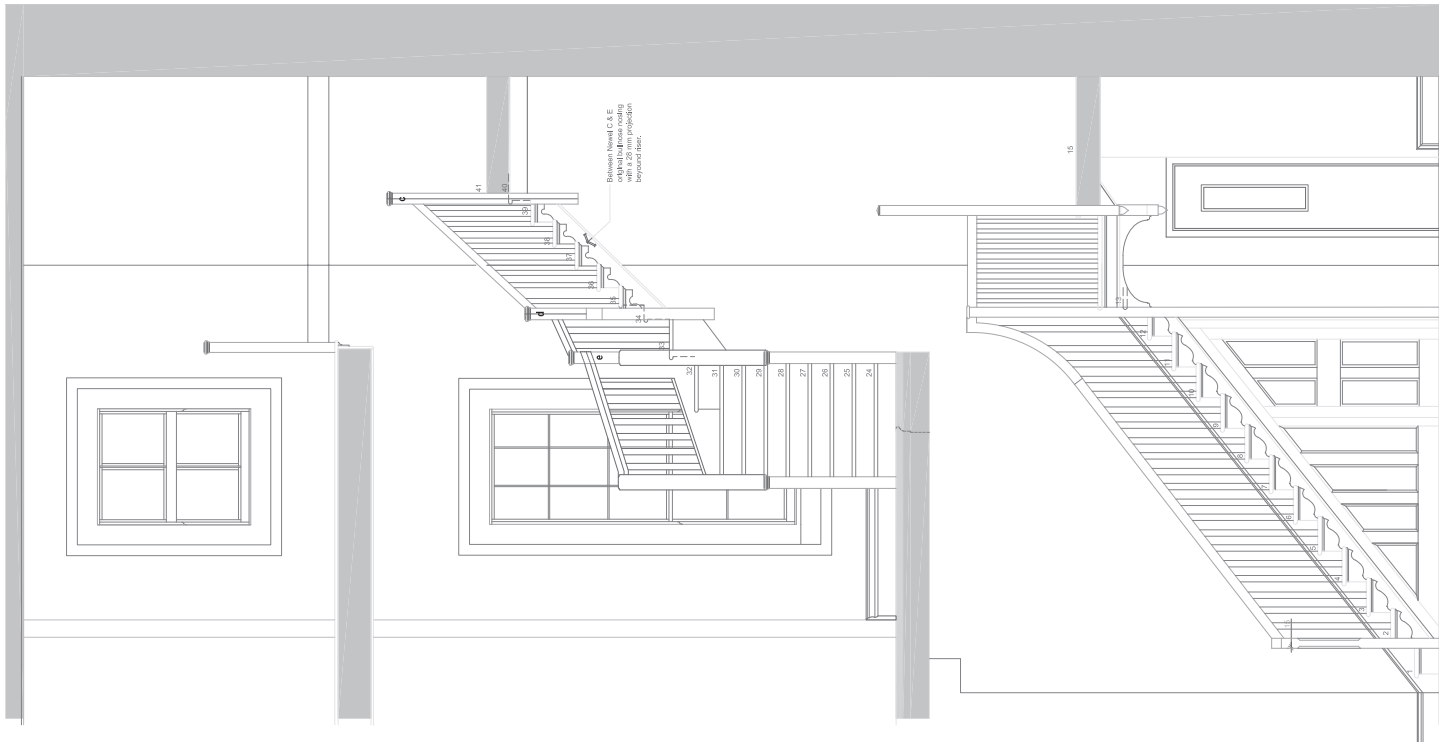
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Drawing:  
**STAIRCASE**  
**Sheet 3 of 9**

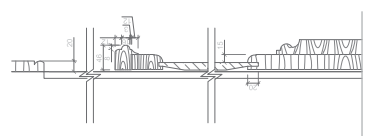
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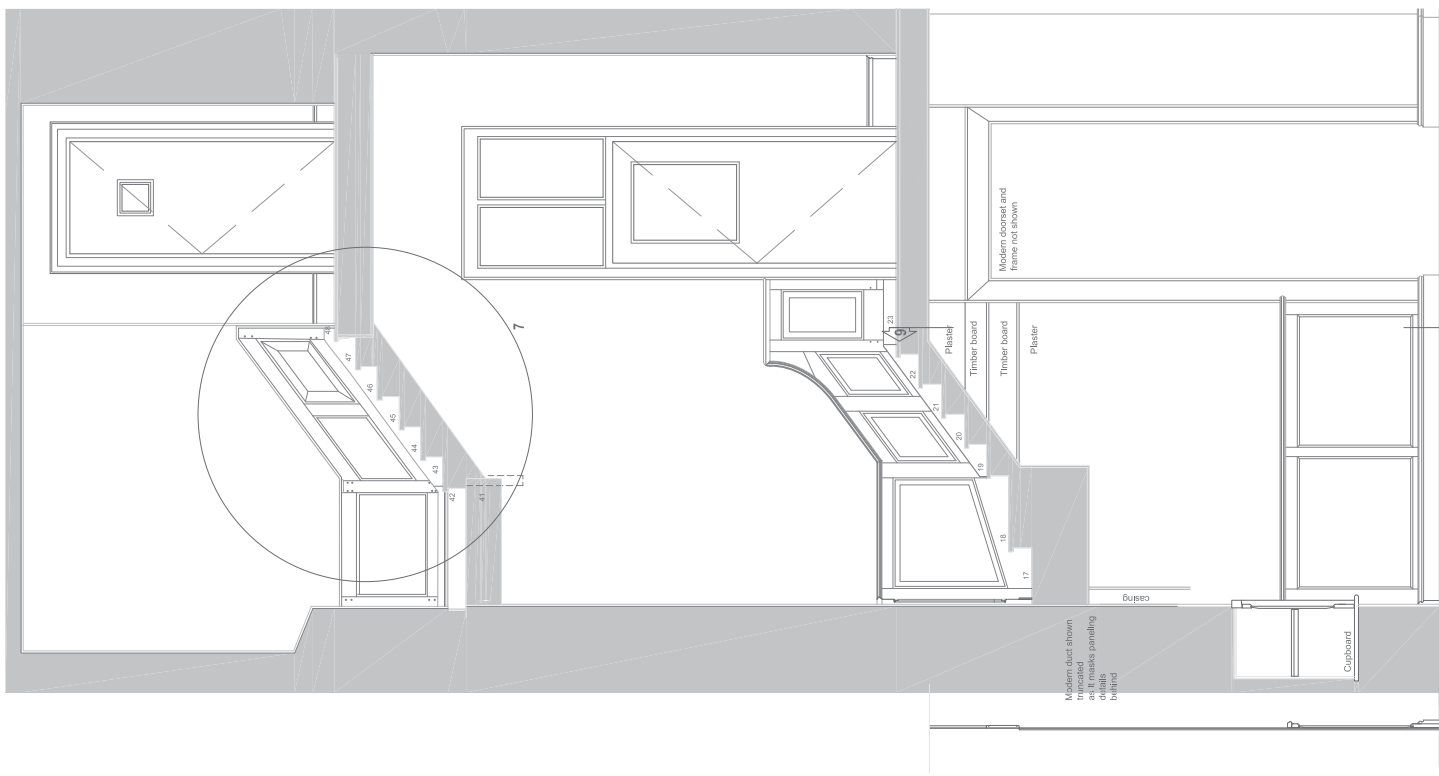
Original Drawing Size @ A1



**DETAIL 9 1:5**  
Panelling Section



**SOFFIT 1:20**  
Soffit Plan of opening



**DETAIL 9**  
Panelling section

**SECTION C 1:20**

**SECTION D 1:20**

Revision Checked/Dated

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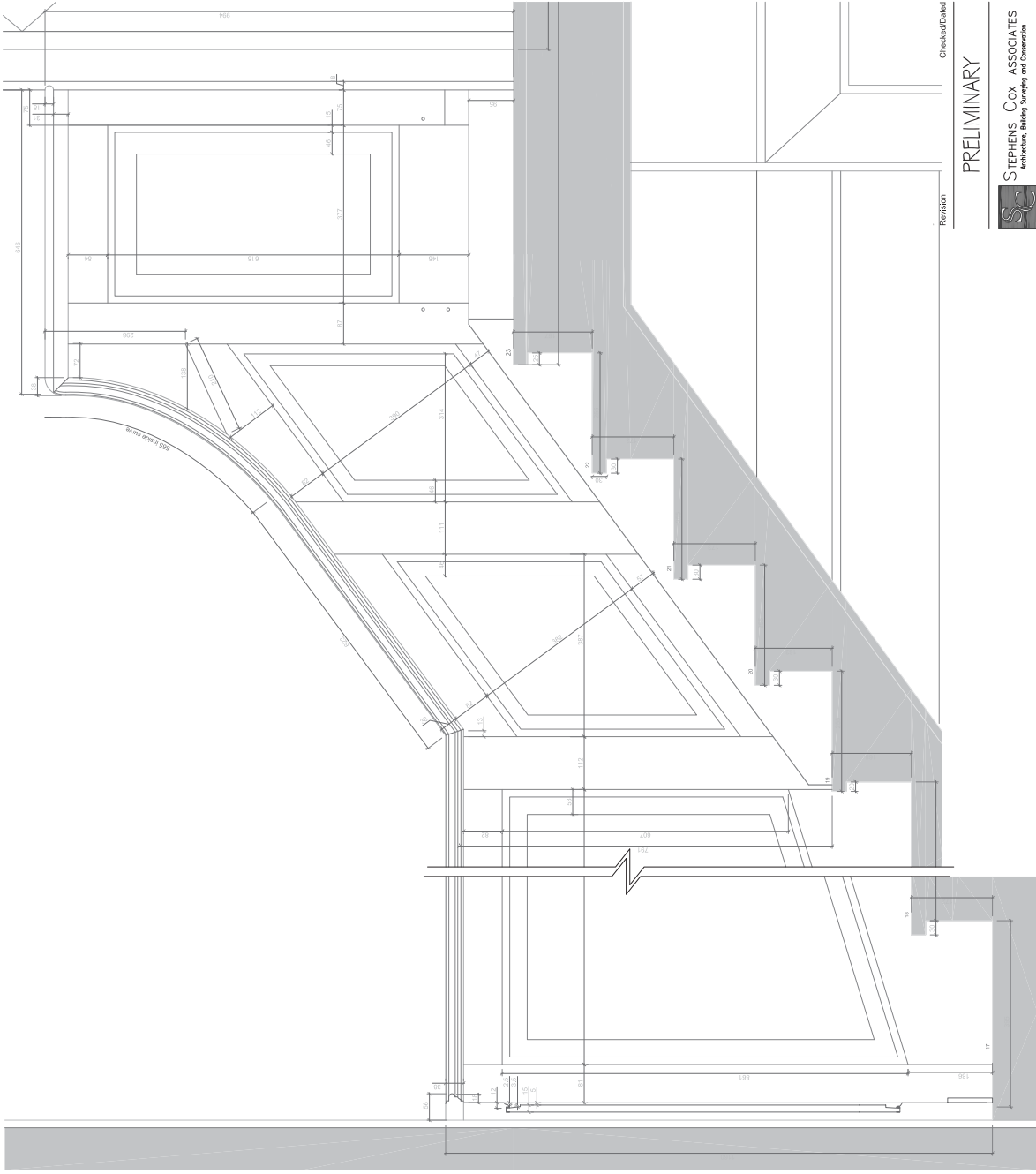
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**SOUTH STONEHAM HOUSE**  
ANALYTICAL REPORT

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Sheet 4 of 9

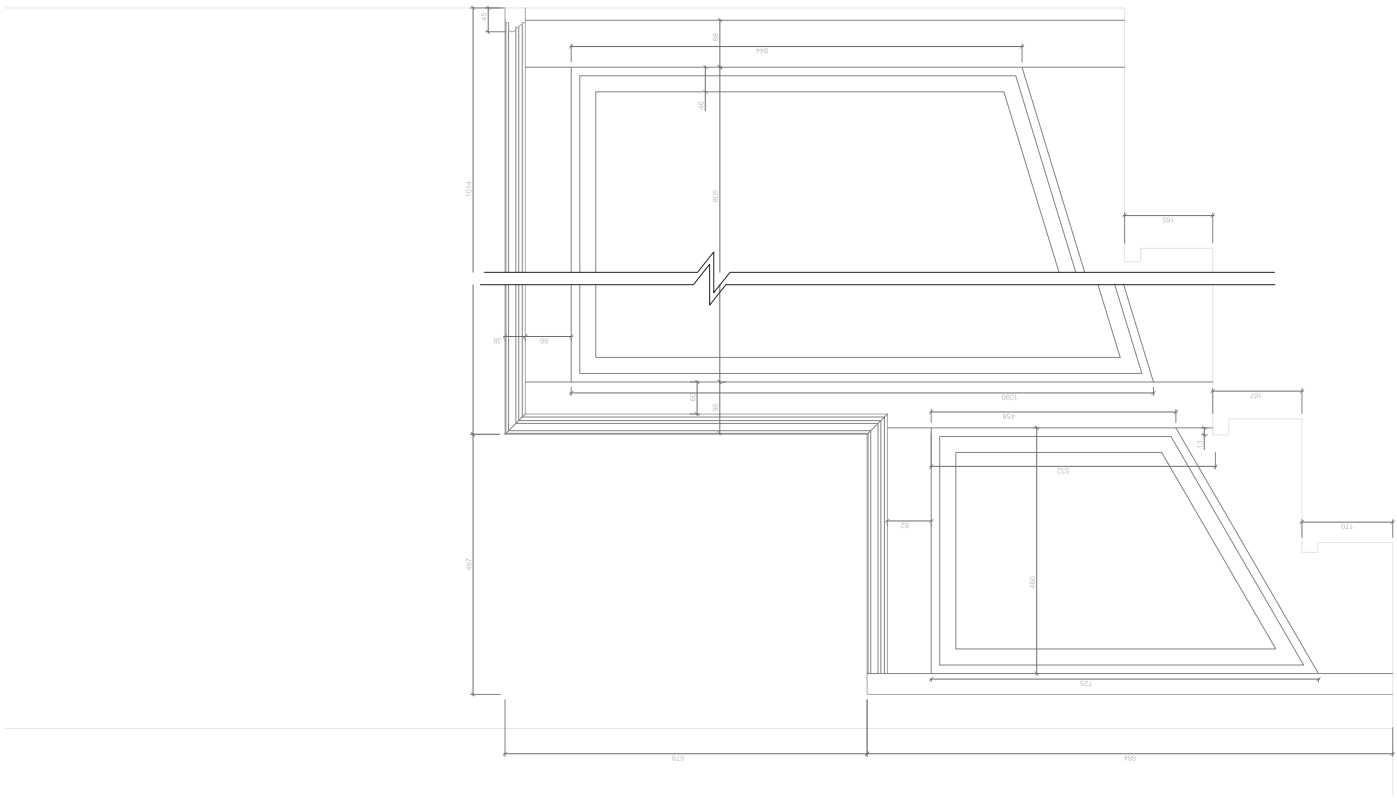
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**SECTION C 1:5**  
First Floor



**VIEW H 1:5**  
First Floor

Revision

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**PRELIMINARY**

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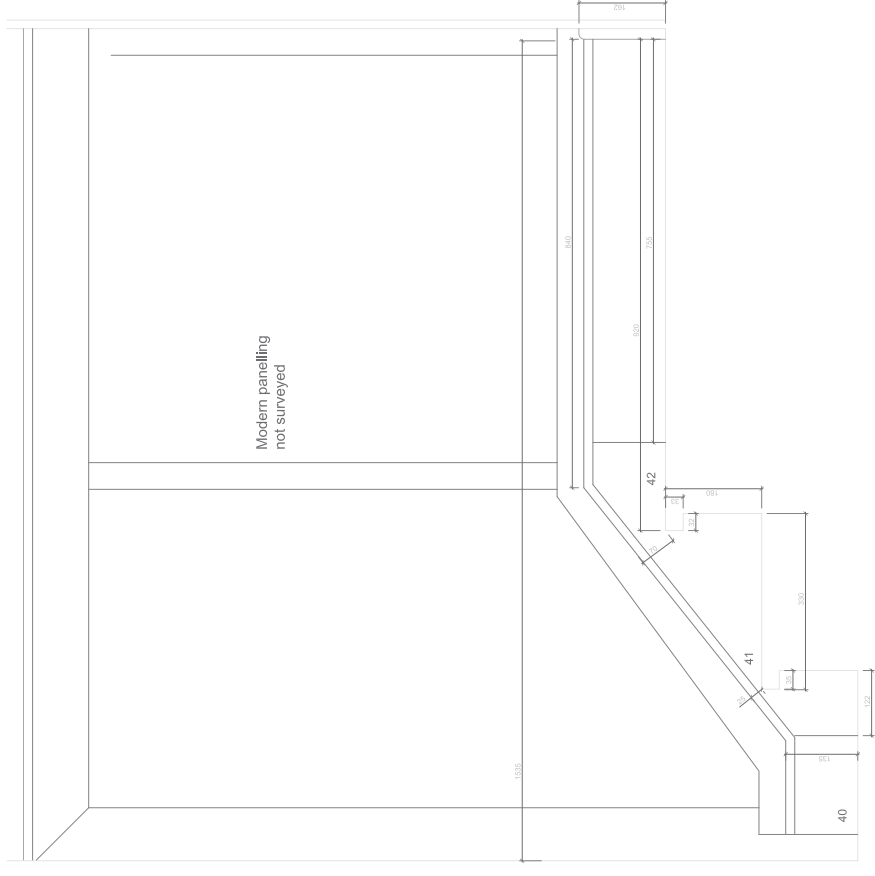
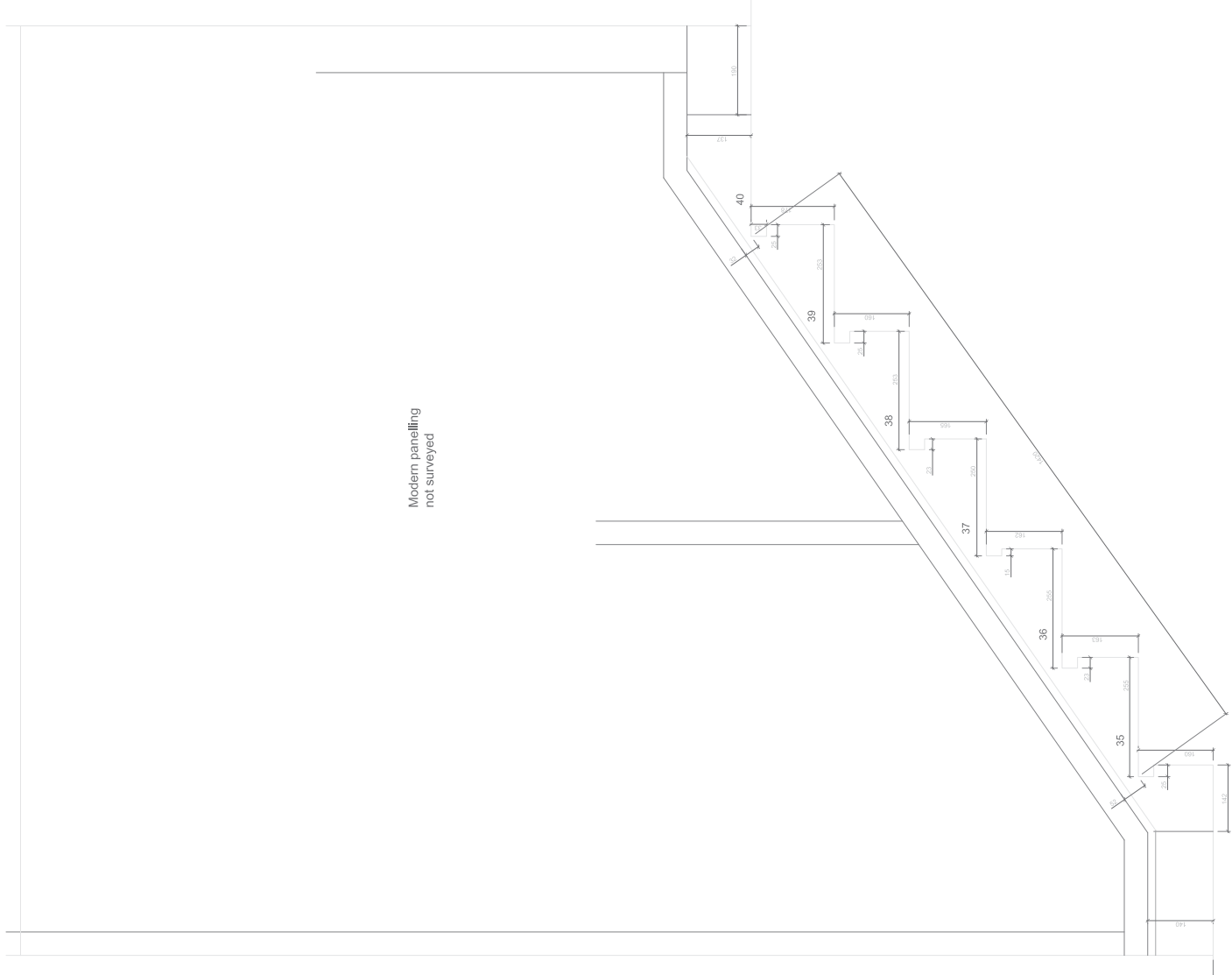
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**Sheet 5 of 9**

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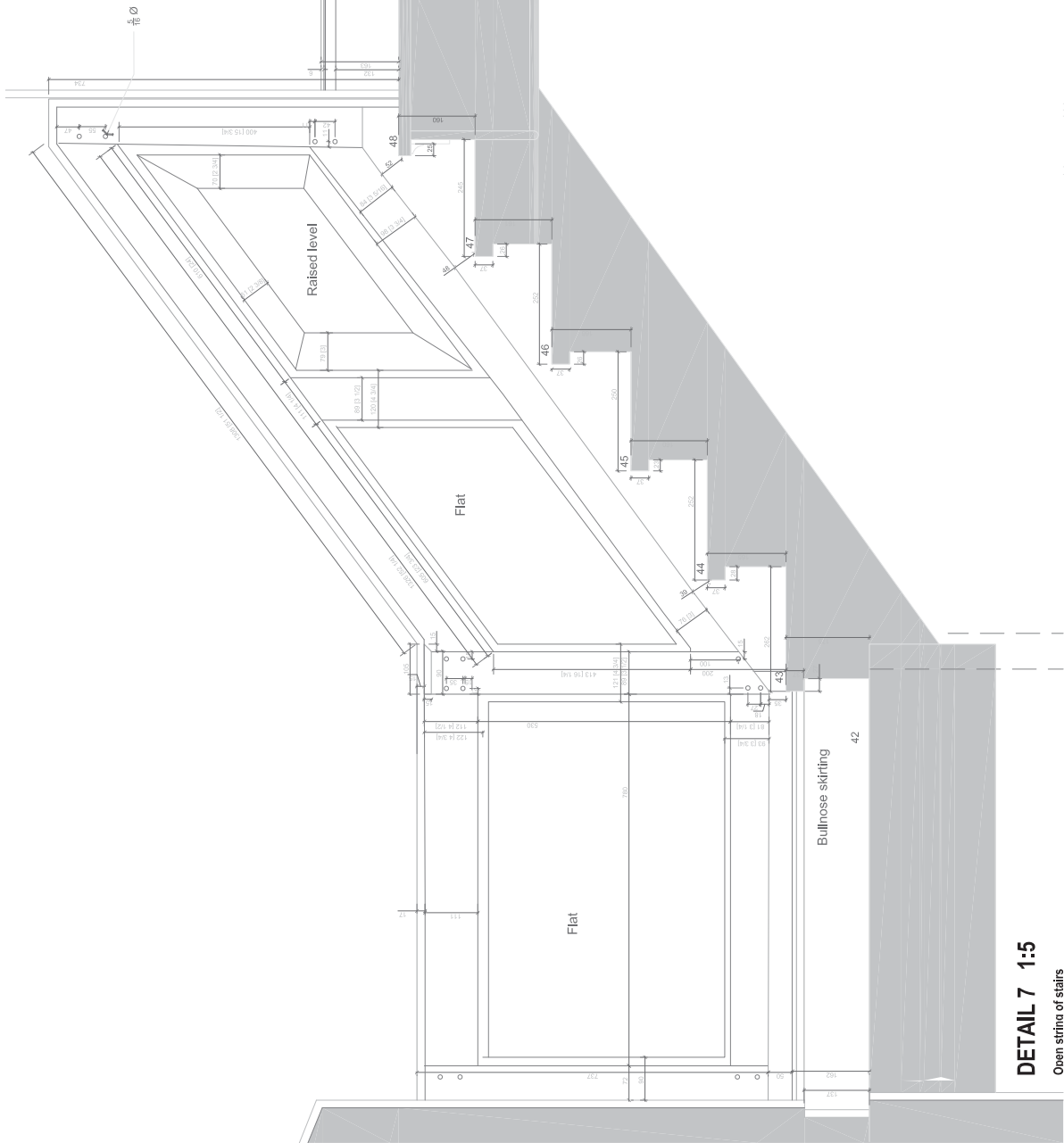
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**Sheet 6 of 9**

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Revised:	—		

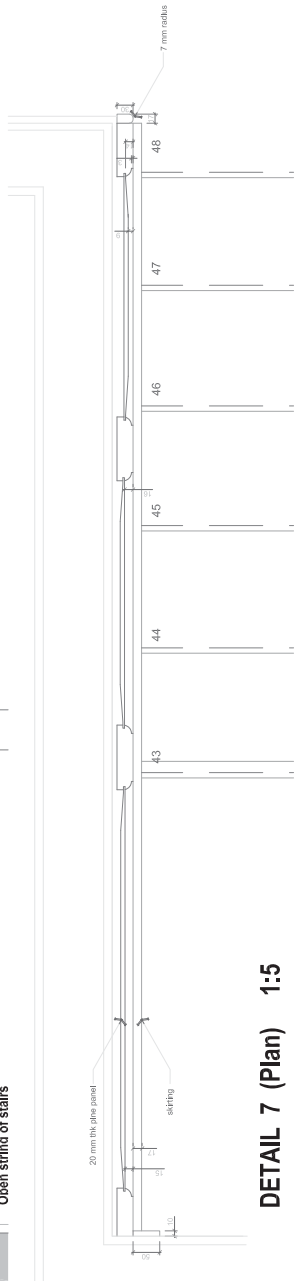
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**DETAIL 7 1:5**  
Open string of stairs



**DETAIL 7 (Plan) 1:5**

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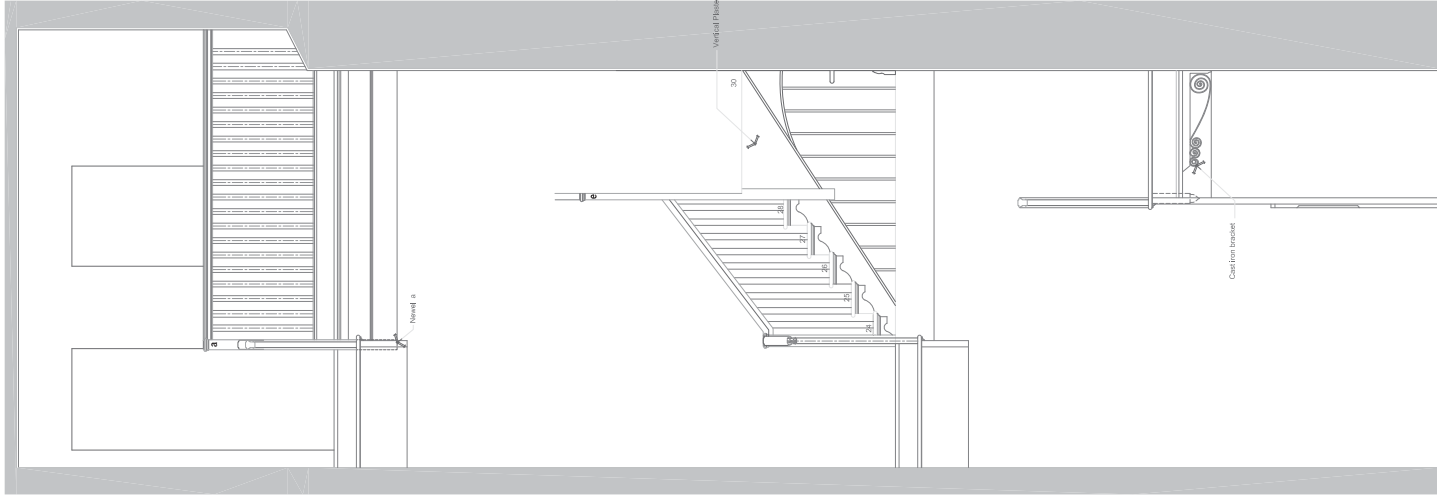
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ANALYTICAL REPORT

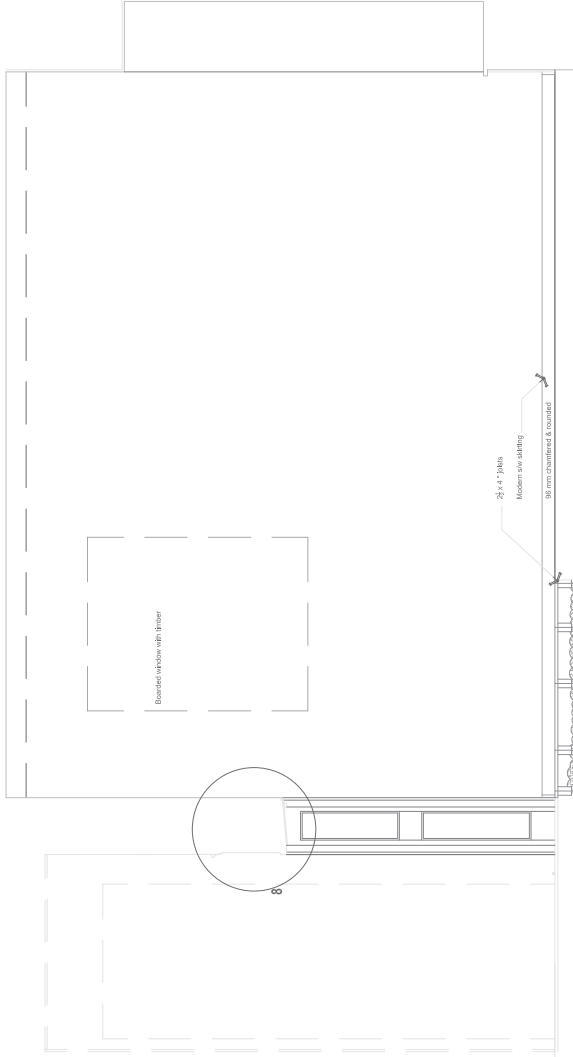
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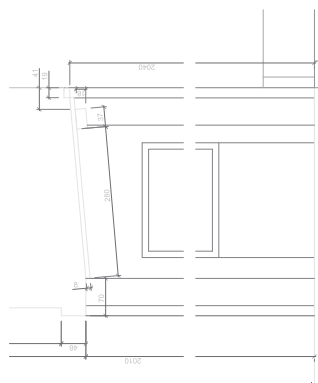


**SECTION E 1:20**

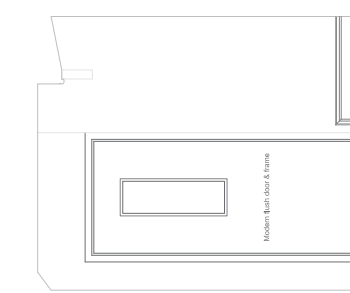


**Sectional Elevation E 1:20**

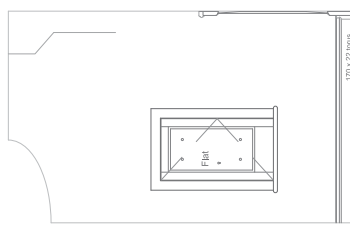
**VIEW F 1:20**



**DETAIL 8 1:5**  
Door case detail



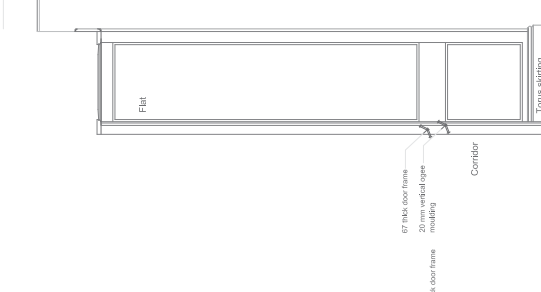
**VIEW A 1:20**



**VIEW B 1:20**



**VIEW C 1:20**



**VIEW D 1:20**



**Room G.07**

Revision: Checked/Drafted

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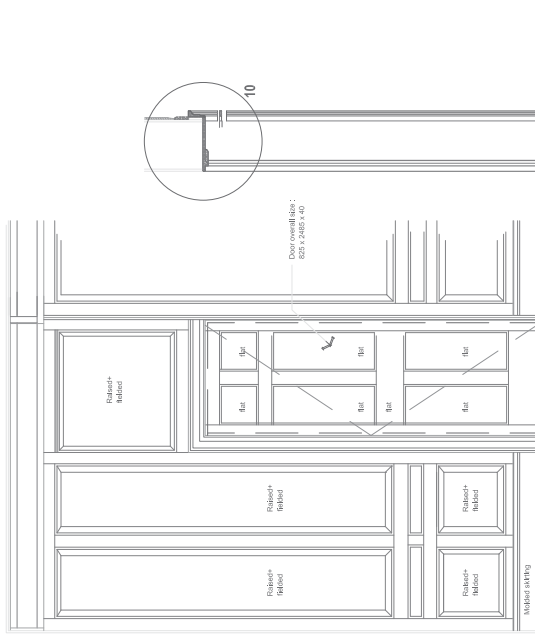
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**STAIRCASE**  
Sheet 8 of 9

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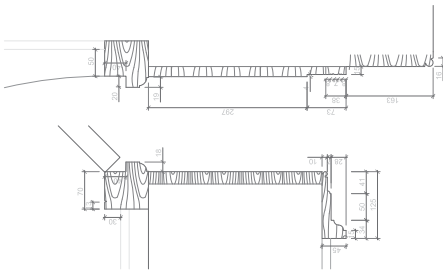
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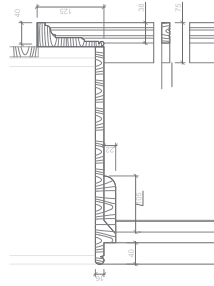
**VIEW L 1:20**

**VIEW M 1:20**  
Section through door frame

**Door frame plan 1:20**



**DETAIL 9 1:5**  
Open string of stairs



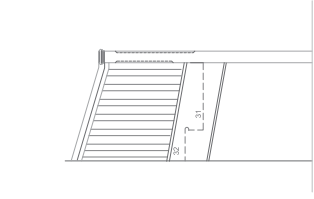
**DETAIL 10 1:5**  
Open string of stairs



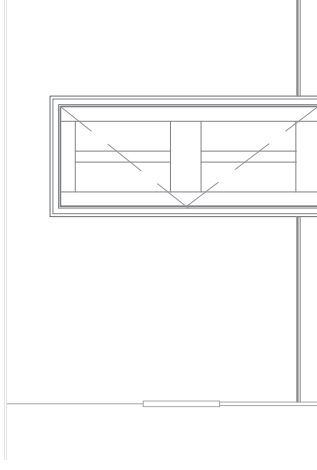
**DETAIL 11 1:5**  
Typical section through raised & fielded panels in corridor



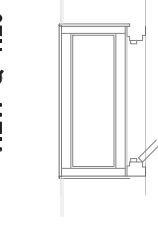
**DETAIL 12 1:5**  
Typical section through softwood skirting (glossed) in corridor 112



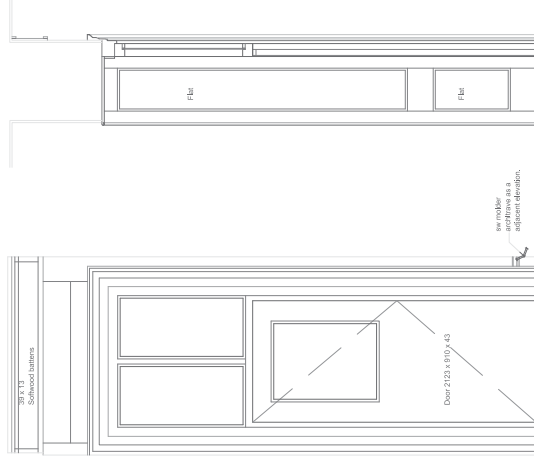
**VIEW N 1:20**



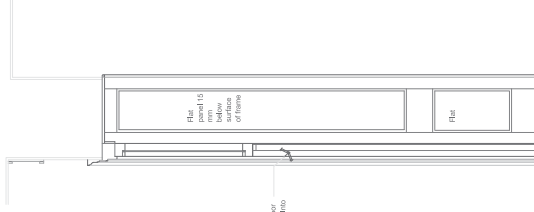
**VIEW Q 1:20**



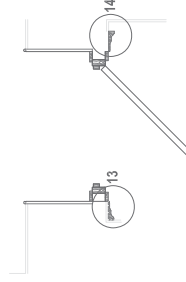
**DETAIL 13 1:5**



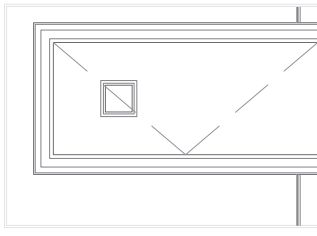
**VIEW K 1:20**



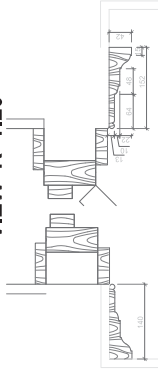
**VIEW I 1:20**



**VIEW J 1:20**



**VIEW R 1:20**



**DETAIL 14 1:5**

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**10 APPENDIX 2 - 1M REPRESENTATIVE SECTION OF TRENCH 1**

<b>Dry Area Trench 1</b>	<b>NGR (centre point)</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>443874</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>115428</b>		
<b>Length (m)</b>		<b>Width (m)</b>				<b>Max. Depth – Below Ground Level (m)</b>	
<b>c.4.70</b>		<b>c.6.50</b>				<b>c.0.80</b>	
<b>Context Number</b>	<b>Soil Description</b>					<b>Depth – Below Ground Level (m)</b>	
<b>101</b>	Topsoil. Dark greyish-brown silty loam (Munsel colour: 10YR 4/2) with occasional inclusions, <1% sub-rounded gravel <10mm in diameter, occasional charcoal <1%, some rootlets					<b>0 – 0.25</b>	
<b>102</b>	Subsoil. Mid brown silty clay loam (Munsel colour: 10YR 5/3) with gravel (sub-rounded, <5%, <14mm in diameter).					<b>0.25-0.8</b>	





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