



Hare & Hounds P.H. St Albans, Hertfordshire

Historic Building Record



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County Hertfordshire
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Summary

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Republica Ltd, on behalf of EI Group, to produce a historic building record of the roof at The Hare and Hounds, 104 Sopwell Lane, St. Albans, AL1 1RL. Conditional listed building consent (ref: 5/16/3786) was granted for the repair and replacement of roof timbers and provision of additional purlins to roof to support the rafters. The property is centred on National Grid Reference 514916 206768.

The Hare & Hounds comprises a Grade II listed public house, situated on the south side of Sopwell Lane in central St Albans. It is a two-storey building, aligned approximately east-west along the street front and has a gabled roof, with an extension to the east end, an extension returning to the south and a further single-storey extension on the eastern end. The National Heritage List for England description suggests a date of 17th century and available historic mapping confirms that it existed by 1721.

The roof above the main part of the property comprises a typical queen strut arrangement of 17th - early 18th century date which has had two phases of expansion. It has a large brick chimney within the centre of the west three bays, which are likely to have formed the earliest part of the building. Laths and plasterwork were added to the roofspace, probably during the 18th century, to form a garret. Two bays were then added to the east during the late 18th-early 19th century and repairs made using sawn softwood timber. An extension to the south was added in the late 19th century and a single storey extension was added between 1924-37, although this roof was not inspected as part of the works.

A record equivalent to Level 3-4 (Historic England 2016) of the roofspace was required by the St Albans City and District Council's Conservation Officer, in order to satisfy Condition 3 of the Listed Building Consent. The building recording took place on 12th September 2017 and comprised metric survey, a photographic record and a written account.

This report has ensured that a lasting record has been captured of the existing roof arrangement prior to the repair works.

Acknowledgements

The project was commissioned by Republica Ltd, on behalf of EI Group, and Wessex Archaeology is grateful to Ian Fake in this regard. The advice and assistance of Laura Levitt, Conservation Officer at St Albans City and District Council is acknowledged.

The fieldwork was conducted by Rosemary Thornber and Bob Davis, the report and drawings were completed by Rosemary Thornber with other graphics completed by Nancy Dixon. The project was managed on behalf of Wessex Archaeology by Matt Rous.



The Hare and Hounds P.H. 104 Sopwell Lane St Albans, Hertfordshire

Historic Building Record

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project background

1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Republica Ltd, on behalf of EI Group (hereafter 'the Client'), to produce a historic building record of the roof of the Hare and Hounds P.H., 104 Sopwell Lane, St Albans, Hertfordshire, AL1 1RL, centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) 514916 206768 (**Figure 1**). The property is a Grade II listed building situated within the St Albans Conservation Area, Character Area 4d.

1.1.2 Listed building consent (ref: 5/16/3786) was granted by St Albans City and District Council (SACDC) for the repair and replacement of roof timbers and provision of additional purlins to roof to support the rafters. This was subject to discharge of the following condition:

Condition 3: No works shall take place on site until the applicant, or their agent or successors in title, has secured the making of a detailed record/implementation of a scheme of recording of the building(s) concerned. This must be carried out by an archaeological/building recording consultant or organisation in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which shall first have been submitted to and agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: To safeguard the identification and recording of features of historic and/or archaeological interest associated with the fabric of the building to comply with Policy 111 of the St. Albans District Local Plan Review 1994.

1.1.3 Following correspondence with Laura Levitt, Conservation Officer (CO) at SACDC Council, the scope of the building recording was confirmed as a Level 3-4 (analytical-comprehensive analytical) record of the main roof of the property in order to satisfy the condition. Levels of record are set out in the Historic England (HE) document: *Understanding Historic Buildings: A Guide to Good Recording Practice* (Historic England 2016).

1.1.4 The historic building recording was carried out in September 2017 accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) (Wessex Archaeology 2017), which was submitted to and approved by the CO of SACDC in advance of the work.

1.2 Site location and description

1.2.1 The Hare & Hounds public house is located in central St Albans, situated approximately 410 m to the east of the Abbey in a residential area on the south side of Sopwell Lane between Thorpe Road and Cottonmill Crescent. The city of St Albans is situated between Hatfield (approximately 6.7 km to the east) and Hemel Hempstead (approximately 8 km to the west) in central Hertfordshire (**Figure 1**).

1.2.2 The property is a Grade II listed public house (List entry Number: 1103059) comprising an earlier two-storey property which is L-shape in plan with modern single-story extensions of 20th century date to the south and east elevations. The listing description is as follows:

C17-or earlier building with modern extensions to right and rear. High pitched roof renewed with machine tiles, and renewed thick chimney stack to right of centre. 2 storeys, 5 windows. timber framed building with plastered exterior. Old casements on 1st floor, renewed sashes on ground floor. 2 steps down to modern door inserted at left. Inside a small room with inglenook fireplace and heavy beams, close studded staircase well, thick plank floors upstairs.

- 1.2.3 The east-west aligned building has two storeys and six bays with a rear, late 19th century extension of the east side. The bays are labelled in this report from west to east, commencing at Bay 1 to the west (**Figure 2**, Plan of building). The trusses are numbered with Truss 1 at the west end of the building (see **Figures 3, 4 and 5**). The proposed phasing of the building is shown as coloured images of the trusses and the roof plan (**Figure 6**).

2 METHODOLOGY

2.1 Aims and objectives

- 2.1.1 The aims of the historic building recording exercise were to record the roof structure of the two-storeyed section of the building and to identify phases of development, prior to the commencement of repair works. This was requested in order to satisfy Condition 3 of the Listed Building Consent, as noted in Section 1.1.2 above.

2.2 Methodology

- 2.2.1 The programme of building recording involved a combination of documentary research and metric and photographic surveys in order to produce the drawn, photographic and written record compiled in this report. The methodology was outlined in the approved WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2017) and is summarised below for reference.
- 2.2.2 Documentary research was undertaken to inform the recording comprising a brief online search for historic mapping in relation to the development of the building.
- 2.2.3 High quality digital images were taken with a Canon EOS 5D Mark III full frame digital camera (with 21 megapixel capability). A photographic scale of appropriate size was included in all general and specific detailed views, except where considered inappropriate or prevented by on-site conditions or health and safety concerns.
- 2.2.4 A selection of the photographs is included in this report as illustrative plates.
- 2.2.5 The drawn record involved the use of client supplied existing plans and sections which were taken onto site and augmented with additional measured survey and annotations. Three representative trusses were drawn at 1:20 scale. The existing roof plan was augmented with the added location of principal and common rafters, purlins and a phase plan produced showing the development of the building.
- 2.2.6 The drawings produced on site have been enhanced to HE standards and drawing conventions (HE 2016). The drawings were imported into AutoCAD and digitised to produce a roof plan at 1:50 scale, three truss elevations at 1:25 scale and a phased roof plan showing the development of the roof.

2.3 Site visit

The site visit was carried out on 12th September 2017 by two buildings archaeologists from Wessex Archaeology. The floor within the roof was largely boarded out across the main section, although access to certain parts of the roof (e.g. the late 19th century rear

extension) was severely restricted due to lack of crawl boards, accumulated debris or other health and safety considerations.

3 HISTORIC DEVELOPMENT

3.1 Introduction

3.1.1 The St Albans Conservation Character Area 4d Holywell Hill/Sopwell Lane document describes the area adjacent to the Site as the southern end of the medieval town to the east of the extensive walled Abbey grounds. The main historic roads form part of the very earliest routes into the town established by the end of the 10th century. The oldest buildings, located on Sopwell Lane and Holywell Hill, date from the late medieval period and are situated in good groups of buildings from all subsequent historic periods, especially the Georgian and Victorian, and form part of the setting of the Abbey.

3.2 16th-18th centuries

3.2.1 The listing description suggests that the core of the property appears to be of 17th century or earlier date. This date would have been decided upon during the listing process following an examination of the building's substantial timber frame, fixtures and fittings, and characteristic post-medieval layout.

3.2.2 The Hare & Hounds pub website states that records of the property start in the mid-1600s when Sopwell Lane comprised the busy main road into St Albans and welcomed horses and coaches from all over the country, as well as leading 200,000 cattle to London a year. The Hare & Hounds was known as 'The Falcon' at that time and was situated beside wasteland adjoining Bing's Orchard (Hare & Hounds website). A map by Benjamin Hare dating from 1634 shows where Sopwell Lane ends in a route that heads to the south-east, labelled as 'The Old Road to London'. Where the Lane returns to the north-east, towards 'London Road', there appears to be no building on the site of the public house (www.stalbanshistory.org).

3.2.3 A map from Chauncy's History of Hertfordshire, A.D. 1700 also shows no building on the site of the present property, although this map may date to before 1700 (*ibid.*). The map shows a watercourse running along the south side of what became Sopwell Lane. Stukeley's map of 1721 shows three small buildings in the location of the public house, on the branch of the road that became Sopwell Lane, adjacent to the water course.

3.2.4 In 1748 the pub was acquired by Thomas Kinder, a St Albans brewer who owned several ale houses in the town at that time. The name 'Hare & Hounds formerly The Falcon' is first mentioned in 1774 (Hare & Hounds website). A 'Plan of the Town' by M. Wren from 1766 shows two buildings present on the right section of road, the east of which may represent the public house, with gardens laid to the rear and fields beyond (www.stalbanshistory.org).

3.3 19th century

3.3.1 The 1810 map by Roper and Cole shows a cotton mill had been built by this time, to the south-west of the site, possibly resulting in the diversion or canalisation of the watercourse that was adjacent to the south side of Sopwell Lane, as it is no longer shown on this map. The map shows the configuration of the two buildings as seen on the earlier mapping, however Godman's map published in Clutterbuck's volume from 1822, shows the west building as reduced in size and the east building was extended to form a rectangle (www.parksandgardens.org). This may have been when bays 4 and 5 were added to the east end of the building.



- 3.3.2 In 1872 the pub was owned by the Luton brewers Adey and White. Over this time the land the pub stands on was owned by The Earl of Verulam and up until 1926 the garden was still owned by the Earl (Hare & Hounds website).
- 3.3.3 The 1879 Ordnance Survey 1:500 map of St Albans shows that the property was approximately rectangular in plan at this time, with two separate outbuildings depicted to the south-west. The property was functioning as a public house as it is denoted 'Hare & Hounds P.H.'. This part of St Albans appears to have been relatively undeveloped during this time, with the area to the west and south of the pub shown as open land leading down to the River Ver.
- 3.3.4 The second edition 1:2,500 Ordnance Survey map of 1898 shows the spread of residential development in the area with the creation of Thorpe Road and other terraces to the immediate west of the site. The Hare & Hounds appears as an L-shape in plan, with the east end of the building expanded to the rear by this date. This may represent an expansion of the building to cope with the increased demand following the increase of housing in the vicinity.
- 3.3.5 The trade directories and census returns of the late 19th century reveal that a Charles May of Glamorgan was the licenced Victualler in 1882 – 1891. The 1891 census reveals that he lived there with his wife, two nieces and two boarders, with two lodgers and a potman also listed as present on the night of the census (Pub History website).

3.4 20th century - present

- 3.4.1 The 1924 Ordnance Survey 1:2,500 map shows a slight increase in the size of the eastern, rear range of the building with the pub being further expanded to the east by the time of the 1937 Ordnance Survey map, assuming its present dimensions. The 1937 map shows the further residential development to the south and east of the site with the creation of Cottonmill Crescent on land that was formerly allotments.
- 3.4.2 The 1963 and 1972 Ordnance Survey 1:2500 maps show no discernible change to the footprint of the building during this period.
- 3.4.3 The accessible planning history of the site shows a number of repairs and interventions over the last 40 years, including the removal of some internal partitions in 1979 (planning ref: 5/1979/1302), construction of rear extension and formation of new toilet accommodation, demolition of a rear lean-to and erection of a replacement single-storey rear extension beer store in 1986 (ref: 5/1986/0206 and 5/1986/0207), the demolition of timber store and lean-to in 1988 (ref: 5/1988/2014), works to an external rear chimney stack and internal alterations to floorboarding and removal of seat and brickwork to fireplace in 1993 (ref: 5/1993/1750) and the removal of floor timbers and support posts and installation of new street beams in 2011 (ref: 5/2010/3097).
- 3.4.4 The planning history reveals that the pub was briefly called the 'Hogshead Alehouse' in the early 1990s, as can be seen in applications submitted in 1993 (it was the 'Hare & Hounds' in 1989), although this name change was short-lived and had reverted to the 'Hare & Hounds' by 1996.

4 BUILDING DESCRIPTION

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 The purpose of this report is to document the existing roof structure primarily, with relevant details of the building that assist in understanding the development of the roof.

4.2 Exterior

4.2.1 The Hare & Hounds P.H. comprises a two-storey property which is orientated east-west along its main axis. A late Victorian two-storey rear extension is situated towards the eastern end of the principal range with a single-storey extension constructed to the east in the 20th century (**Plate 1**). The exterior elevations are all rendered (**Front cover**). Chimneystacks are visible in the 19th century south extension, close to the eaves of Bay 5, while a further, tall chimney has been located on the west side of the single-storey 20th century extension.

4.2.2 The front elevation (**Plate 2**) shows a series of different window types and an off-centre doorway over five bays. A close examination reveals how the property likely developed, with the western three bays representing the earliest part of the building with a large central brick chimneystack, occupying much of what would have been the central bay of a three-bay house. It is likely that there would have been a front door in place of the central ground floor window leading into a lobby entrance, however the present ground floor windows comprise four-paned sashes and are likely to be later 19th century. The original windows might have been 17th or early 18th century casements, or very early sash windows with smaller panes, that would not have had sills so close to the ground. The first floor windows on the front elevation are mild steel casements, with eight panes to each leaf which are likely to have been inserted during the mid-20th century. The roof is covered in old red tile. The undulating apex of the roofline is a result of sagging of the internal roof structure in places.

4.2.3 The rear of the building has been further extended with a single-storey lean-to to the south face. A variety of window types and ages are present with most dating to the 19th – 20th centuries.

4.3 Interior

4.3.1 The ground floor arrangement has been considerably altered over the years with the removal of internal walls to create more space. Several large timbers of different ages and sizes appear out of position with modern timber posts introduced to support the floor above. Of note is a large brick fireplace that is present within Bay 2. It is likely that there was a lobby or baffle entry into the property on the north side of the fireplace where a window is currently situated. The door was probably moved to its present location following the extension of the building to the east in the 19th century. A niche in the south wall of the corridor by the chimney and the west end wall of the first floor corridor is set at an angle suggesting that would have been a winder staircase between the two floors adjacent to the south side of the chimneystack.

4.3.2 On the first floor, a corridor runs along the length of the principal range with rooms situated on the north side and at either end. The chimneystack is visible as a large feature within Bay 2, with its walls flaring out from below the top stack.

4.4 Roofspace

4.4.1 **Bay 2:** Access to the roofspace is on the south side of the first floor corridor constructed of plank risers and treaders.

- 4.4.2 The roof is divided into five uneven bays at the front with a rear bay returning to the south at the eastern end. Still present on the soffits of many of the common rafters in Bays 1-3 are the remains of lath and plaster work that was introduced into the roofspace to create a garret, possibly in the 18th or early 19th centuries (**Plate 3**). These rooms would likely have been for servants of the Hare and Hounds rather than for guests. The laths were nailed onto the common rafters and wall studs with hand-made nails. The plaster contains horsehair and is limewashed, although this has become soot-blackened in places, due to smoke leaking out of the chimneystack. The lath and plasterwork has been lost or removed in places revealing the roof timbers above, throughout Bays 1-3.
- 4.4.3 The staircase is situated at the south side of Bay 2 (**Figure 2**) to the south of the chimneystack, which can be seen flaring out just by the loft floor, down into the first floor (**Plate 4**). The bricks here typically measure 9" x 2³/₄" (22.9cm x 5.7cm) in length and height and are bedded into a pale brown coloured mortar, although the mortar, along with the surfaces of the bricks, has been stained by years of exposure to smoke leaking from the chimneystack.
- 4.4.4 A void exists on the east side of the chimney (right side of **Plate 4**), where a fireplace was situated in the first floor room to the east, but later bricked up with later engineering bricks and hidden by a lath and plaster wall (**Plate 5**)
- 4.4.5 The tie beam of Truss 2 to the west of the chimney can be seen with studding beneath it. This shows that Bay 2 had a slightly lower floor set below tie beam level, to allow more head height while ascending the stairs from the first floor (left-hand side of **Plate 4**). The tie beam of Bay 3 to the east (right side of plate) can also be seen with exposed studs beneath. Trusses 2 and 3, to either side of the chimney in Bay 2, consisted of raking queen struts, the north strut surviving in Truss 3 (**Plate 6**).
- 4.4.6 **Bay 1:** Bay 1 represents the western end of the original three-bay building with the end truss (**Figure 3**). Access to Bay 1, which once comprised an attic bedroom, is through a doorway on the south side of the chimney, consisting of a plank lintel and two narrow wooden door jambs formed of softwood (**Figure 4**). The doorway involved cutting through the queen strut of Truss 2, which has weakened it and later bracing has been inserted, including one piece that may have been a re-used jowl post with flared head. The south purlin is braced at the west end in Bay 1, with a wind brace set between it and the principal rafter in Truss 1 in the west gable end (**Plate 7**).
- 4.4.7 The north purlin along the north side of Bay 1 has failed, which may have resulted in the displacement of its wind brace. The empty mortice is visible in the north principal rafter of Truss 1, although the brace remains morticed into the purlin (**Plate 8, Figure 2**). Studs in Truss 1 have nails and remnants of laths attached. Evidence for a repair of the truss is visible which was completed using inserted studwork over which new laths and plaster were laid. The newer studs are visible as dark wood members beside the earlier studs with internal laths nailed on, and there are also original studs of thicker more irregular pieces of wood, dating from the original construction of the gable end (**Figure 2**).
- 4.4.8 **Bay 3:** Bay 3 is the eastern side of the original three-bay building (**Figure 2**). Truss 3 contains a surviving queen strut but also a large modern piece of softwood in place of an original collar beam which has been removed (**Plate 6**). This repair may indicate that a similar problem occurred to that of Truss 2, where one queen strut was cut or removed, weakening the truss. One of the studs used in the truss is a pole or branch, indicating the irregular nature of the studwork here and perhaps a lack of suitable timber during construction. Evidence for lath and plasterwork exists up to upper collar beam level, with

the apex area of the roof above remaining outside. One rafter on the north side of the bay has been cut, with a later trimmer set across it, possibly indicating the location of a small dormer window that may have previously existed here. Such a feature would have been inserted at the time of the lath and plasterwork to light the new attic room (**Plate 9**).

- 4.4.9 Truss 4 forms the eastern end of the bay and what would have been the east gable end of the original three-bay building (**Plate 10, Figure 5**). There are two raking struts one to each purlin from the principal rafters and there is studding to support the interior and exterior plasterwork, as in Truss 1 of Bay 1. The collar beam appears to have been re-used as it contains empty mortices which do not appear to correspond to the present studwork below. Access to the later added Bays 4-5 has been made through the centre of the truss through the removal of lath and plasterwork. The east face of the truss (once the exterior gable end of the building) has plasterwork with paler borders, indicating the former gable end might have had barge boards over these areas (**Figure 5**). It is possible to see the ends of the south purlin emerging through the east gable end, appearing smoothed by weathering when it was exposed to the elements (**Plate 11**). There is an intriguing triangular scar on the external plasterwork by the purlin end, possibly representing evidence for a former adjoining roof of a building that existed on the east end prior to the addition of Bays 4 and 5.
- 4.4.10 Along the central axis of Bay 3 is a beam, which is bolted in place to the underside of the tie beam in Truss 4, with a forelock bolt (**Plate 12, Figure 5**). It was not possible to see if joists were suspended from the beam to the north and south walls at either side, but this axial beam allowed the ceiling of the room below to be higher than the adjacent room of Bay 3. The east end of the beam was not observed.
- 4.4.11 **Bays 4 and 5:** From historic mapping it seems that Bays 4 and 5 were completed by 1822 with the roof structure matching the established style of construction of Bays 1-3. However, these bays have no evidence lath and plasterwork indicating that they were not used for accommodation purposes. A chock, supporting a chamfered axial beam, is set to the east side of Truss 4, to support a higher floor within Bays 4 and 5 to the east and therefore higher ceilings in the rooms below (**Figure 5**). The chamfers of the beam would usually have been visible within the ceiling of a room, so this beam appears to be re-used from elsewhere. The purlins in Bay 4 are reused from elsewhere as they have notches on their upper faces, cut to accommodate wind braces and showing that they have been rotated (**Plate 13**). The north purlin is a pole, rather than a heartwood cut member and its west end rests on top of the collar beam of Truss 4. The common rafters of this bay are machine-cut softwood, of 70 mm thickness as opposed to the common rafters of Bays 1-3, of 110 mm thickness.
- 4.4.12 Bay 5 is visible through the studding of Truss 5, the studs of which are pegged to the collar beam (**Plate 14**). The common rafters appear similar to those of Bay 4, with modern roof felting visible above. The chimney of the south extension (Bay 6) is visible to the south side of Truss 5 and the purlins of Bays 4 and 5 are scarfed together at the collar beam (**Plate 15**). The east end gable is visible in Bay 5, complete with studding, laths and plaster, similar to the repair work of the west gable end (**Plate 16**).
- 4.4.13 Bay 6 was visible from Bays 4-5, although not accessible due to a lack of floor support in this part of the roof. The roof here comprises a late 19th century arrangement of regular common rafters and purlins assembled from pre-cut machine sawn softwood. The rafters meet a ridge plate at the roof apex (**Plate 17**). The chimneystack is visible, adjacent to the valley between the east-west roof and the north-south roof of Bay 6 and comprises regular brickwork of typical late 19th century appearance.

4.5 Notes on roof defects

- 4.5.1 Trusses 2 and 3, within Bay 2 have been weakened by the interruption of their south queen struts (**Figures 3 and 4**). Truss 1 at the west gable end of the building has been weakened by the splitting of the north purlin, causing a partial collapse to the roof in this bay. The split is likely to have resulted in the displacement of the wind brace from the principal rafter, but may have been caused by pressure applied by the loading of the roof tiles over time and possibly prevailing winds blowing in this direction.
- 4.5.2 Due to the failure of the purlins and weakening of the trusses, many of the laths have come away from their fixings and the plaster has crumbled off (**Plates 7 and 10**).
- 4.5.3 Infestation by wood-boring beetles has fragmented certain elements of the timber framing within Bays 1-3, such as the south principal rafter and purlin of Truss 2 (**Figure 4, Plate 8**) and this has added to the weakened state of parts of the roof.
- 4.5.4 It is possible that rainwater has been able to penetrate Bay 1, prior to the repairs completed on the west gable end during Phase 3 and this water ingress could have added to the weakening of the timbers in this bay. The timber preservation report mentioned the presence of wet rot around part of the chimney ('rear left hand wing' – possibly the south side of Bay 1, Republica 2017, 2) and the affected timbers will be removed and replaced.

5 DISCUSSION

5.1 Phasing

- 5.1.1 The suggested / proposed phasing of the development of the building is as follows:
- **Phase 1** (late 17th – early 18th century): The building first appears on mapping, dating from 1721, as a small rectangular building. It consisted of Bays 1, 2 and 3, from the west end. It had a large central chimneystack with a front door set as a lobby or baffle entry in the north face of the building, facing onto Sopwell Lane and a winder stair to the rear of the chimneystack. It had rendered gable ends, supported in the end trusses by close studding.
 - **Phase 2** (18th - early 19th century): The roofspace was exploited for servant accommodation with laths and plasterwork added to create three rooms in Bays 1-3. Dormer windows were inserted to provide light for Bays 1 and 3. At this time the Queen struts of trusses 2 and 3 are cut / removed, weakening the roof structure.
 - **Phase 3** (early 19th century, possibly by 1822): The building is shown on historic mapping as a long rectangle, indicating the addition of Bays 4 and 5 to the east end by 1822. Repairs are likely made at this time including supports added to trusses 2 and 3 and new studs and laths in the west gable end.
 - **Phase 4** (late 19th century, between 1880-1898): Bay 6 is added to the rear of Bay 5, making the plan form of the building into an L-shape, returning to the south. A chimney is set to the south of the valley between the two bays.
 - **Phase 5** (early 20th century, between 1925-1937): a single-storey bay is added to the east face of Bays 5 and 6, with a chimney set on its west side.

5.2 Function

- 5.2.1 The Hare and Hounds website states that the building was built as a public house, during the 17th century. Mapping evidence indicates a possible date from the early 18th century, however, the website mentions records date from the mid-1600s. A brewer was recorded as the owner in 1748, proving that the building was a documented public house from this time, if not before.
- 5.2.2 The function of the building has continued as a public house to the present day. The attic rooms created in the roof space during Phase 2 were likely to have been accommodation for servants as they were modest in size and created without ornament, compromising two of the trusses and accessed via the insertion of a rudimentary staircase. It is unknown when these rooms went out of use, although the considerable degradation of the lath and plasterwork within the roof suggests that it has not been used for accommodation for many years. It is possible that the late 19th century rear extension removed the need for a garret above the main part of the building.

5.3 Summary and conclusions

- 5.3.1 The property has existed since at least the late 17th – early 18th century, as a public house close to the turnpike on the main road to London, serving the needs of passing travellers and local residents. Following the growth of St Albans, the building steadily expanded during the 18th – 20th centuries.
- 5.3.2 The Phase 2 modifications carried out to create attic accommodation have weakened the roof structure, which has survived with rudimentary repairs made during Phase 3. In addition, Bays 1-3 have undergone damage from infestation by wood-boring beetles, weakening the timbers further in places. In general terms, the loading of the roof tiles, particularly when they have absorbed rainwater, may have contributed to the weakening of the roof over time and any defects in the wooden members not spotted at the time of construction, may have formed weak spots, causing certain members to fail.
- 5.3.3 The wood infestation will be treated throughout the roof. The remnant laths and plasterwork will be removed. The proposed repair scheme will strengthen the roof throughout by the addition of secondary purlins and the replacement of defective timbers. This will allow the roof to function, providing protection to the building, which will continue to survive for future appreciation.
- 5.3.4 This report has ensured that a lasting record of the existing roof arrangement has been captured prior to the repair works.

6 ARCHIVE STORAGE AND CURATION

6.1 Archive

- 6.1.1 The resulting archive from the building recording work will consist of digital images of records produced on site, a selection of the relevant digital photographs taken on site, photography registers and a digital copy of this report.
- 6.1.2 An OASIS form will be completed at <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/projects/oasis> for inclusion in the ADS database. This will include an electronic copy of this report in PDF format which will be accessible six months after deposition.
- 6.1.3 A copy of the final report will be supplied to the CO at SACDC and the Hertfordshire Historic Environment Record (HHER) within six weeks of the approval of the draft report by SACDC.



On completion of the project, the archive will be deposited with Verulamium Museum, under the museum identifier **HHS17**.

6.2 Publication

- 6.2.1 Following approval of the report by SACDC, publication of the results of the building recording (to summary level in the round up of archaeology in Hertfordshire Archaeology and History journal) will be undertaken in 2018.

6.3 Copyright

- 6.3.1 The full copyright of the written/illustrative archive relating to the site will be retained by Wessex Archaeology under the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988* with all rights reserved. The Client will be licenced to use each report for the purposes that it was produced in relation to the project as described in the specification. The Verulamium Museum, however, will be granted an exclusive licence for the use of the archive for educational purposes, including academic research, providing that such use shall be non-profitmaking, and conforms to the *Copyright and Related Rights Regulations 2003*.
- 6.3.2 Information relating to the project will be deposited with the Hertfordshire Historic Environment Record (HHER) where it can be freely copied without reference to WA for the purposes of archaeological research or Development Control within the planning process.
- 6.3.3 This document, the report and the project archive may contain material that is non-Wessex Archaeology copyright (e.g. Ordnance Survey, British Geological Survey, Crown Copyright), or the intellectual property of third parties, which Wessex Archaeology are able to provide for limited reproduction under the terms of our own copyright licences, but for which copyright itself is non-transferable by Wessex Archaeology. Users remain bound by the conditions of the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 with regard to multiple copying and electronic dissemination of such material.

6.4 Security copy

- 6.4.1 In line with current best practice (e.g. Brown 2011), on completion of the project a security copy of the written records will be prepared, in the form of a digital PDF/A file. PDF/A is an ISO-standardised version of the Portable Document Format (PDF) designed for the digital preservation of electronic documents through omission of features ill-suited to long-term archiving.



7 REFERENCES

7.1 Bibliography

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Wessex Archaeology 2017 *Hare and Hounds P.H. St Albans Hertfordshire Written Scheme of Investigation for Historic Building Recording* WA ref: 118250.01, September 2017

7.2 Internet sources

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<http://www.parksandgardens.org/places-and-people/image?id=279> - accessed 18/09/2017


<https://hareandhoundsstalbens.com/history/> Hare & Hounds pub website - accessed 05/09/17

<https://pubshistory.com/HertsPubs/StAlbens/HareHounds.shtml> Pub History website - accessed 05/09/17

https://www.stalbans.gov.uk/Images/16.03.03%20Area%204d%20-%20Holywell%20Hill%20and%20Sopwell%20Lane%20FINAL%20JD_tcm15-53961.pdf St Albans City & District Council Conservation Character Area 4d - accessed 05/09/17

<http://www.stalbanshistory.org> - accessed 18/09/2017



 Site boundary

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Coordinate system:
 OSGB36
 (OSTN15/OSGM15)

Date: 21/09/2017

Revision Number: 0

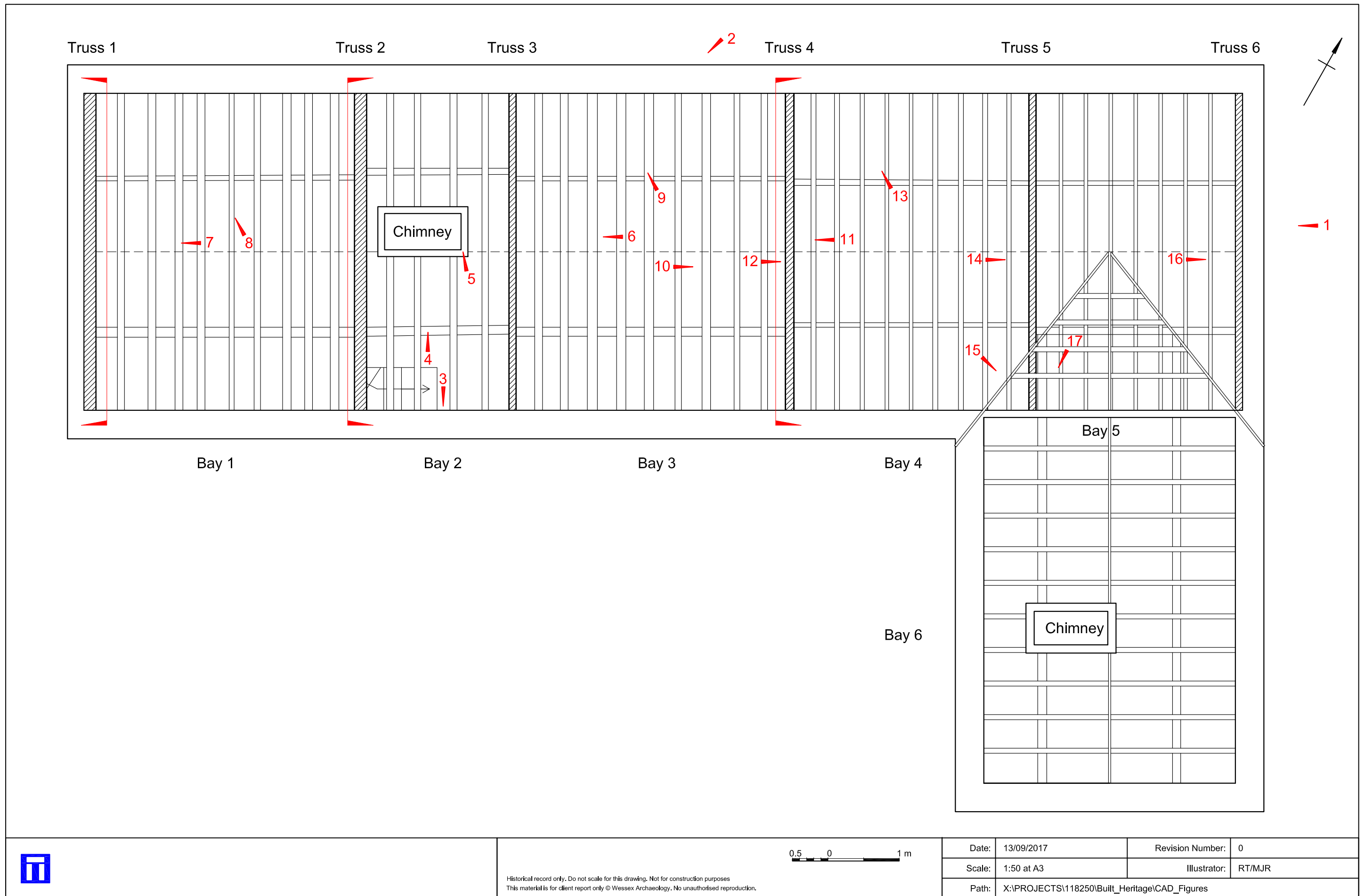
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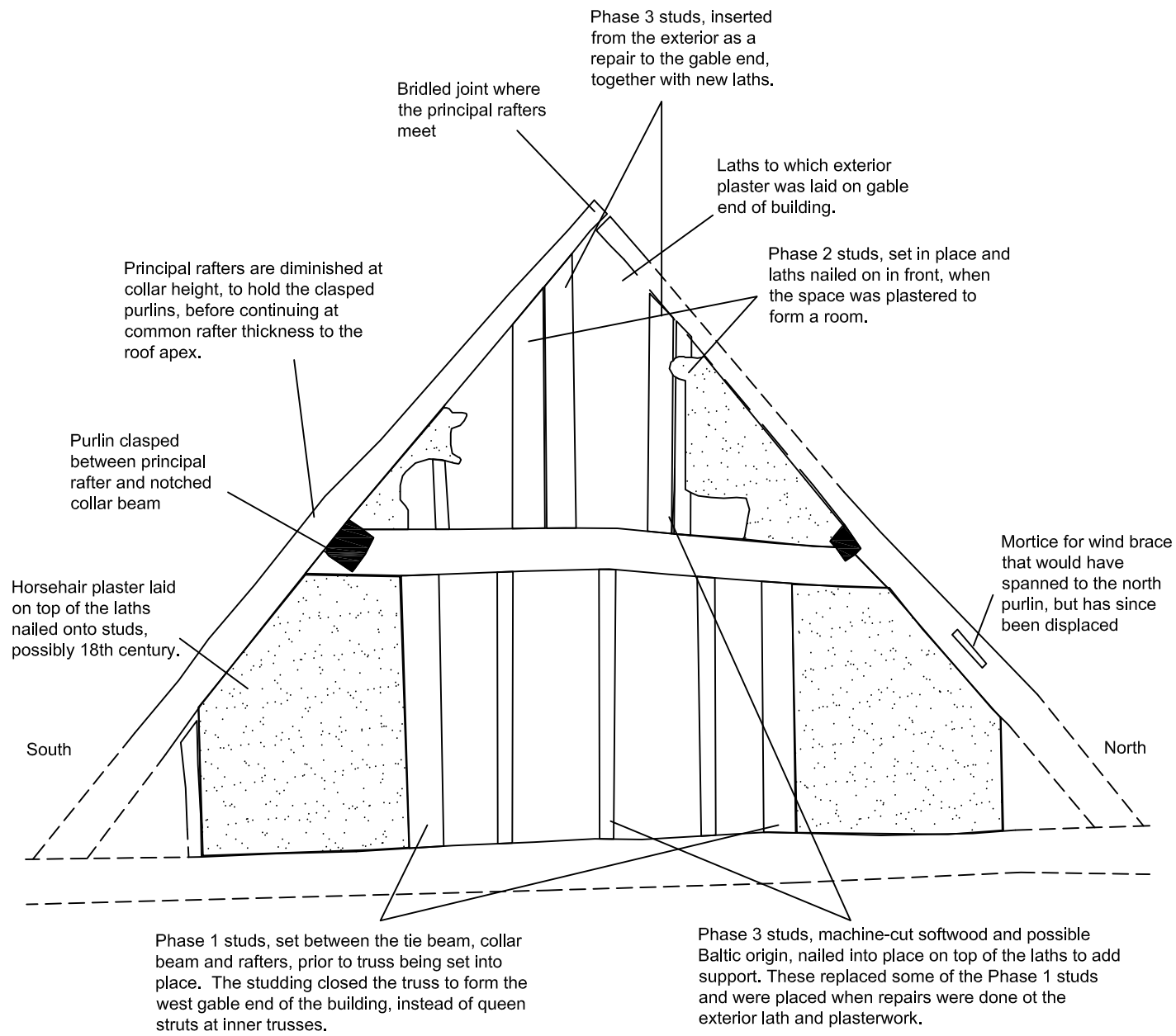
Site location

Figure 1




Roof plan of the Hare & Hounds showing the location of truss drawings and plates

Figure 2



Photograph of Truss 1, viewed from the east



 Phase 2 Plaster

0.5 0 1 m

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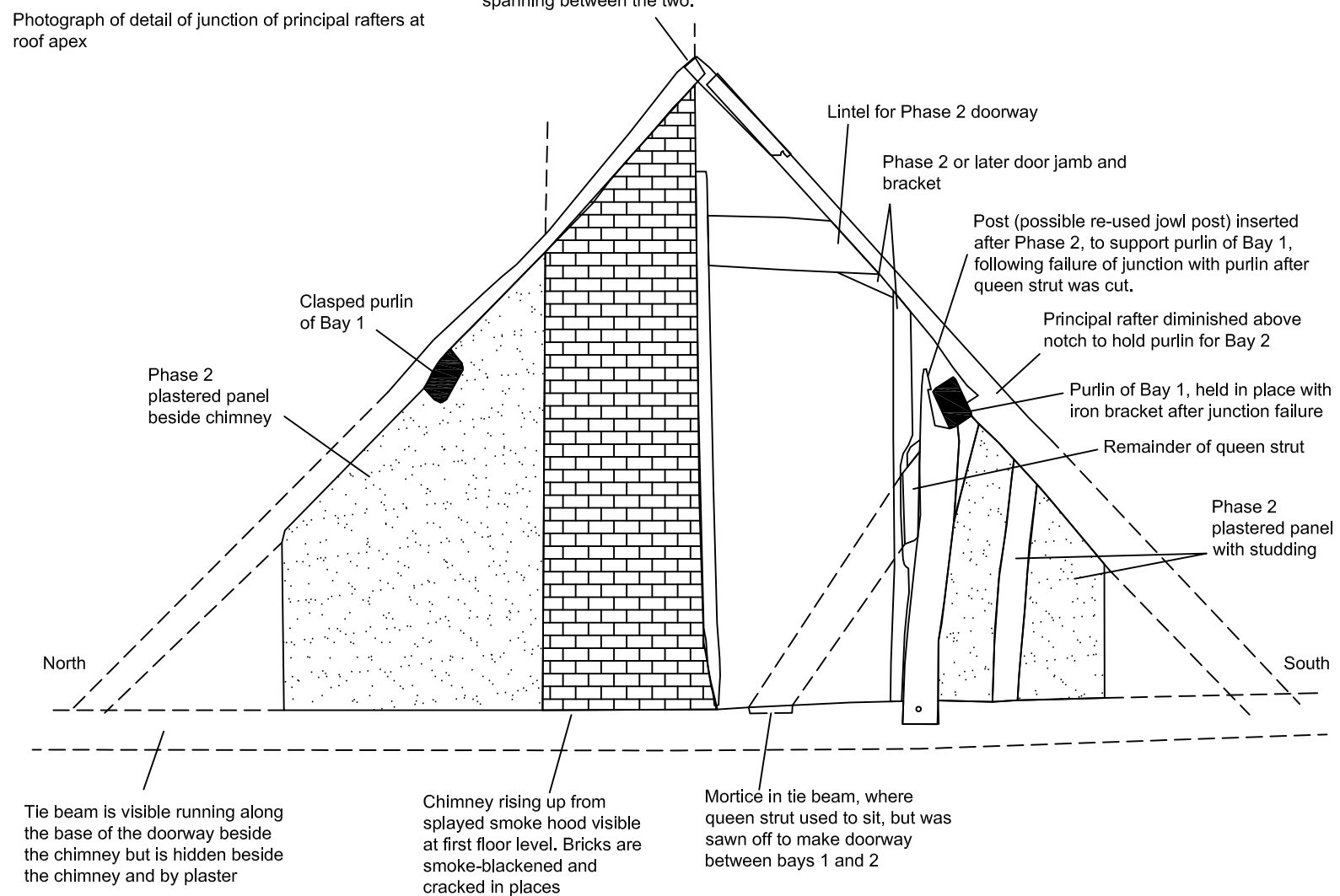
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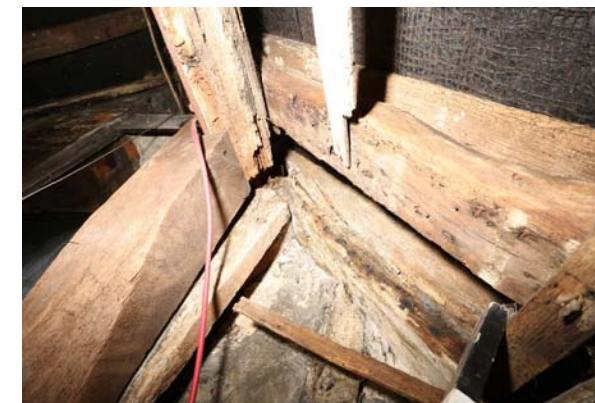


Photograph of detail of junction of principal rafters at roof apex

North principal rafter appears to be separated from south principal rafter, with a brace spanning between the two.





Photograph of Truss 2, viewed from the west, showing iron bracket on purlin and inserted post.



Photograph of detail of diminished principal rafter and junction with post and failing purlin

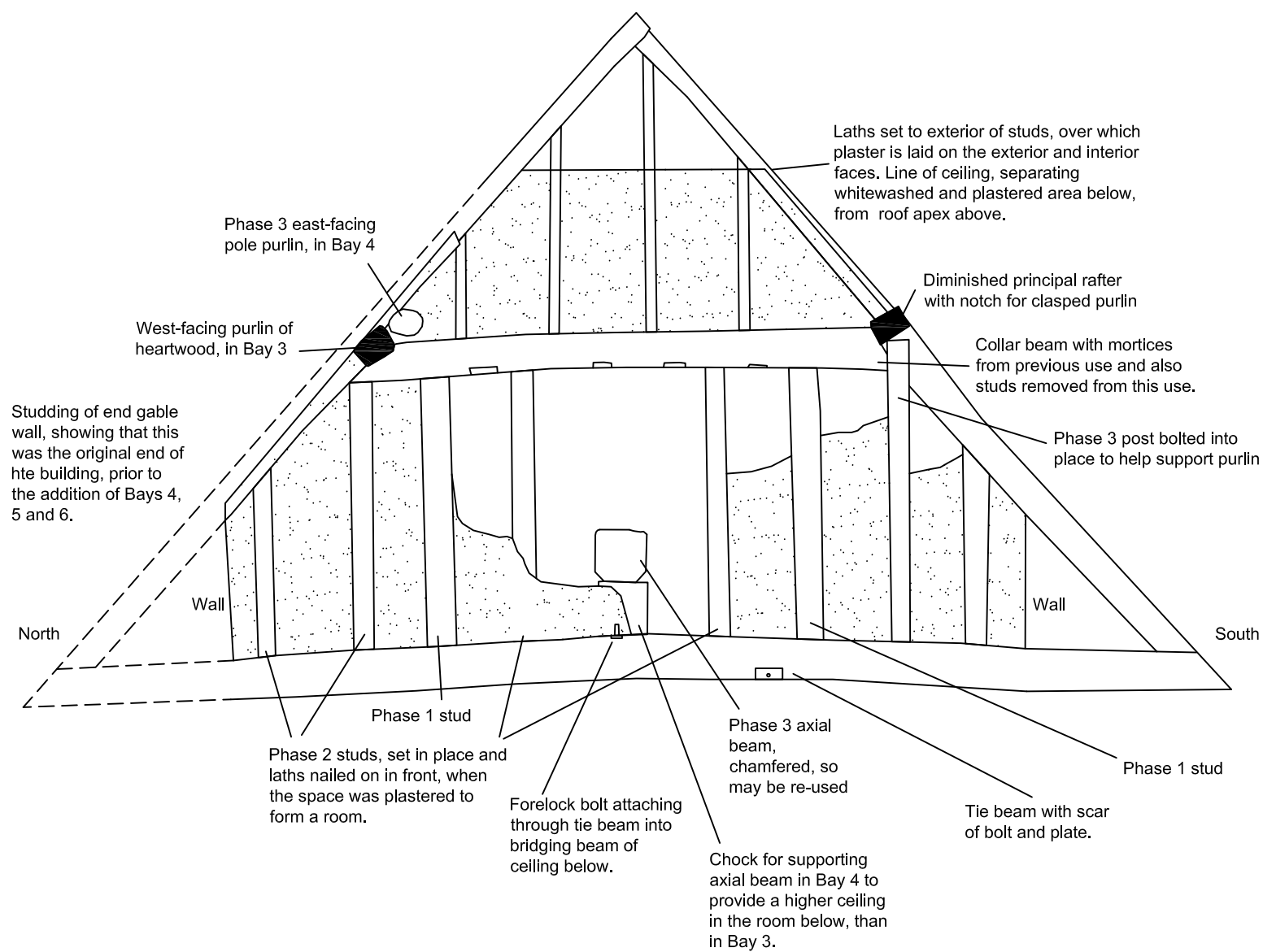


-  Phase 1 Chimney
-  Phase 2 Plaster

0.5 0 1 m

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Photograph of Truss 4, viewed from the west.



Photograph of Truss 4, viewed from the east, showing rendered gable end covering studwork.



 Phase 2 Plaster

0.5 0 1 m

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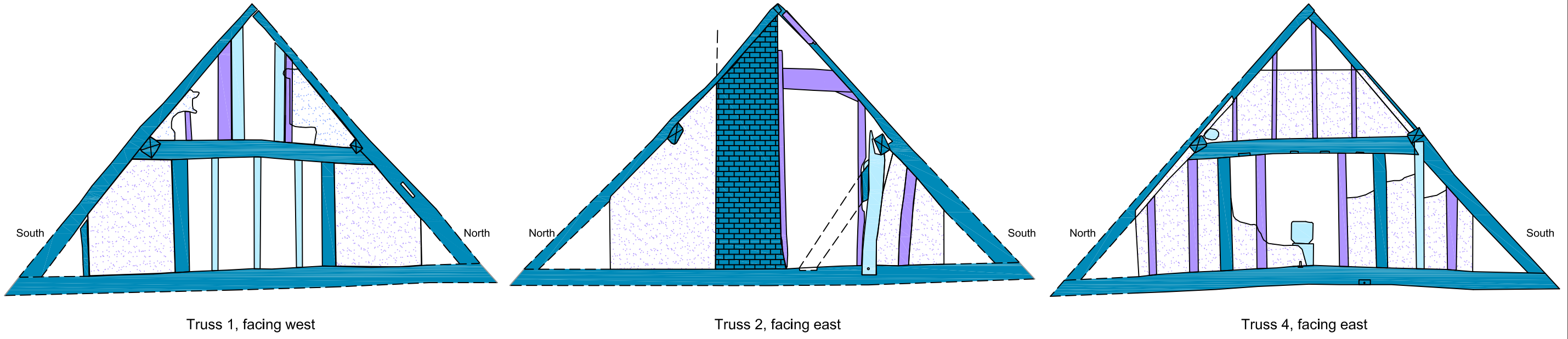
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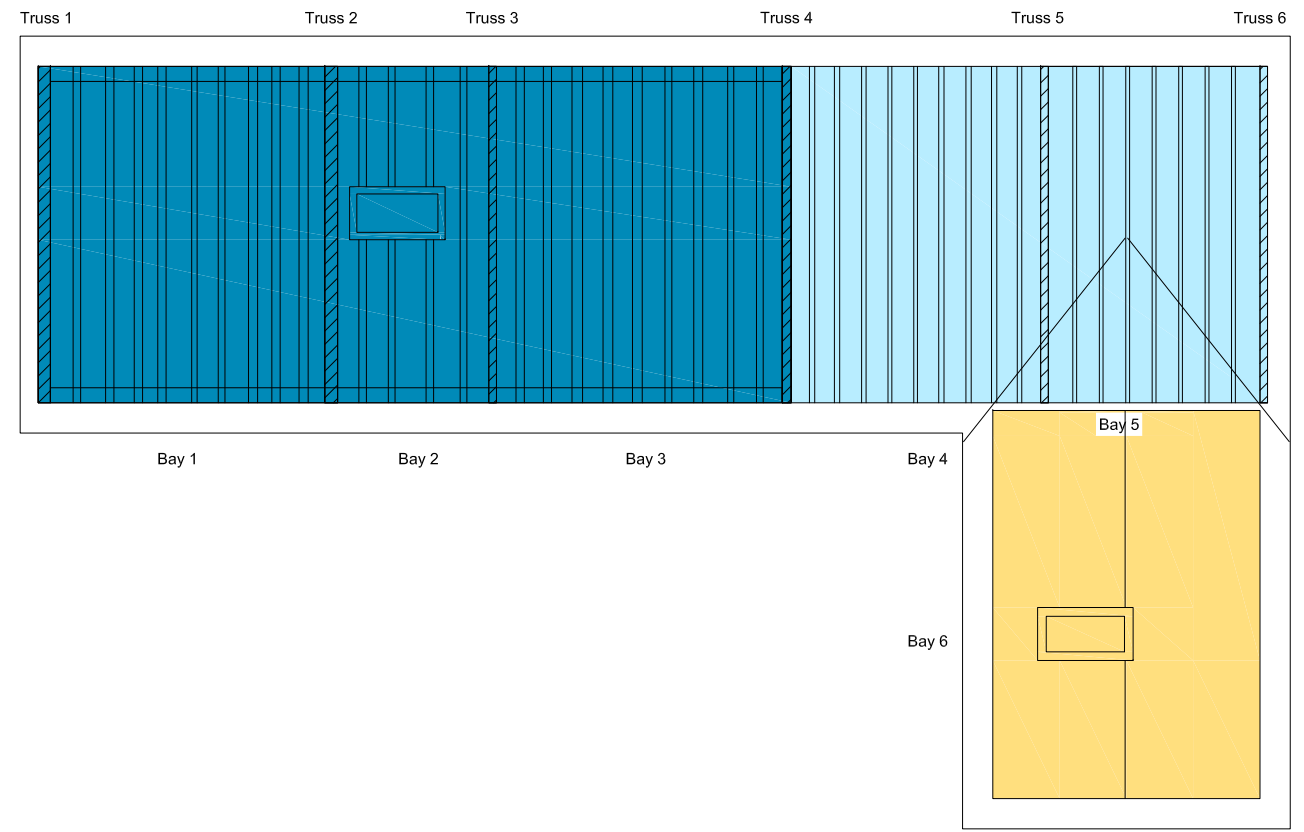
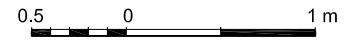


Truss 1, facing west

Truss 2, facing east

Truss 4, facing east

A: Proposed phases of the roof trusses



B: Proposed phases of the roof plan



- Phase 1
- Phase 2
- Phase 2 Plaster
- Phase 3
- Phase 4

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Plate 1: East face of the building, looking west



Plate 2: North face of the building, looking south-east


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Plate 3: Staircase and south wall of Bay 2, looking south



Plate 4: Chimney and void to the east side in Bay 2, looking north


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Plate 5: View looking down void beside east of chimney, showing fireplace on first floor blocked with bricks, looking north-west



Plate 6: Truss 3 in Bay 3 containing north queen strut, looking west


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Plate 7: Truss 1 in Bay 1, looking west



Plate 8: North side of Bay 1 roof, looking north-west


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Plate 9: North side of roof in Bay 3, with cut rafter and possible trimmer for a window, looking north-west



Plate 10: West face of Truss 4 in Bay 3, looking east


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Plate 11: East face of Truss 4 with exterior plasterwork and protruding purlin end, looking south



Plate 12: Forelock bolt in tie beam of Truss 4, with chock and chamfered beam of Bay 4, looking east


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Plate 13: Purlin on north side of Bay 4, with a notch for a wind brace showing its earlier use, looking north-west



Plate 14: Truss 5 between bays 4 and 5, looking east


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Plate 15: Cut away purlin on the south side of Bay 4 and its scarfed joint to the purlin of Bay 5, looking south-east



Plate 16: East gable end of building in Bay 5, looking east



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Plate 17: 19th century chimney between bays 5 and 6, looking south-west

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