

WHITEHALL, 1 MALDEN ROAD, CHEAM

LONDON BOROUGH OF SUTTON, SM3 8QD

**AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF AND
HISTORIC BUILDING RECORDING**



September 2018

COMPASS



ARCHAEOLOGY

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Abstract

An archaeological watching brief and historic building recording took place in 2017 during a major programme of extension and refurbishment at Whitehall, 1 Malden Road, Cheam, in the London Borough of Sutton. The building itself is Grade II Listed, and lies within an Archaeological Priority Area as designated by the Borough.*

Whitehall dates from around the first quarter of the 16th century, and was built as a three-bay timber-framed structure, fully jettied to front and rear. The structure measured some 15m by 5m to 6m in plan, with a large brick-built chimney near the northern end and a probable smoke-bay (subsequently replaced) at the southern end. Early additions included a front porch and rear stair turret: it has also been suggested that the building formed a lodging house or inn, as its form is somewhat unusual for a domestic property. Subsequent development saw the creation of attic rooms – probably in the early 1600s – and later in the century a 3-storey rear extension with cellar.

The monitoring and recording programme has produced some valuable insights into the history of Whitehall – relating both to the original construction and subsequent history. Features of particular interest included the floor timbers in the first floor southernmost room, which provided further evidence for the original arrangements here – both the staircase opening and the probable smoke-bay. At the other end of the building stripping of plaster from the chimneystack exposed a series of blocked niches in the brickwork, perhaps for storing items such as salt or spices.

It was confirmed that the front porch and overlying chamber formed an addition, built out from the originally continuous jetty. The exact date of this is unknown but it clearly represents an early development, its design and substantial construction both reflecting the status of the contemporary building. Elsewhere there was evidence for major repair or rebuilding – for example the wholesale reconstruction of the southern wall of the property at first floor level and above. This may even be related to the smoke-bay, as a result of possible fire damage to the higher timbers.

There was a wealth of evidence relating to the 17th century rear extension. This included features such as the doorframe (apparently original but reused) on the north wall and a rebuild of the chimneystack to the south. At first floor level it was possible to establish a picture of the original room: quite plain, with timber framing fully exposed and limewashed (or at one point painted grey-green). The structure had also undergone substantial if rather ad hoc repair: thus the entire girding beam on the west wall had been replaced, but other rotted timbers had been left in situ, and corners secured with new iron straps.

The external groundworks did not reveal any significant evidence for previous construction, to complement that from previous investigations in 1978-80. However, the thick deposits of made ground that were exposed in some areas may well be associated with the early landscaping/ terracing of the site, as part of this development. Other areas exposed deposits that clearly reflect the previous archaeological investigation and backfilling of the site.

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1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1** This report details the results of an archaeological watching brief and historic building record at Whitehall, 1 Malden Road, Cheam, SM3 8QD (Fig.1). The on-site work took place between February and November 2017, during an extensive programme of extension and refurbishment to this 16th century and later timber-framed structure.
- 1.2** Whitehall itself is a Grade II* Listed Building (List Entry No: 1357580) and also lies within an Archaeological Priority Area as designated by the London Borough of Sutton. The project was carried out as part of the planning process, further to grants of Listed Building and Planning consent (Refs: A2015/71491/LBC; 2016/1037/CLC & A2016/74348/LBC).
- 1.3** As part of the process a preliminary *Written Scheme of Investigation* was prepared (Compass Archaeology February 2017), setting out the procedures and methodologies to be adopted. This was approved on the advice of by Historic England GLAAS, the London Borough of Sutton's nominated Archaeological Advisor.
- 1.4** The archaeological and historic building recording project, including off-site work and this report, was commissioned by Curl la Tourelle Head Architecture on behalf of the London Borough of Sutton.
- 1.5** Compass Archaeology would like to express thanks to these organisations, and in particular to Dan Wallis (LB Sutton) and to Andrew Lloyd and Elena Licci (CLTH). Further valuable assistance was given during the site works by Alf Greenaway and his team from Durnell & Sons Ltd. Information during the course of project was also provided by Elliott Wood Partnership Ltd.

2. SITE LOCATION & TOPOGRAPHY

- 2.1** The site is located on the western side of Malden Road in Cheam, in the London Borough of Sutton. It is bounded to the south by Park Lane, to the north by No. 2 Malden Road, and to the west by the gardens of properties fronting onto Cheam Parkway (Fig. 2).
- 2.2** The property itself is aligned parallel to, and set back from, Malden Road behind a narrow front garden. The frontage of Whitehall faces approximately east, the house being roughly rectangular in plan with its long axis north-south. A more or less central front porch projects to the east, and the northwest corner of the property also projects further to the west at the rear of the building. To the rear of the property is a lawned and paved garden with a well (believed to be of medieval date) in the southwest corner.

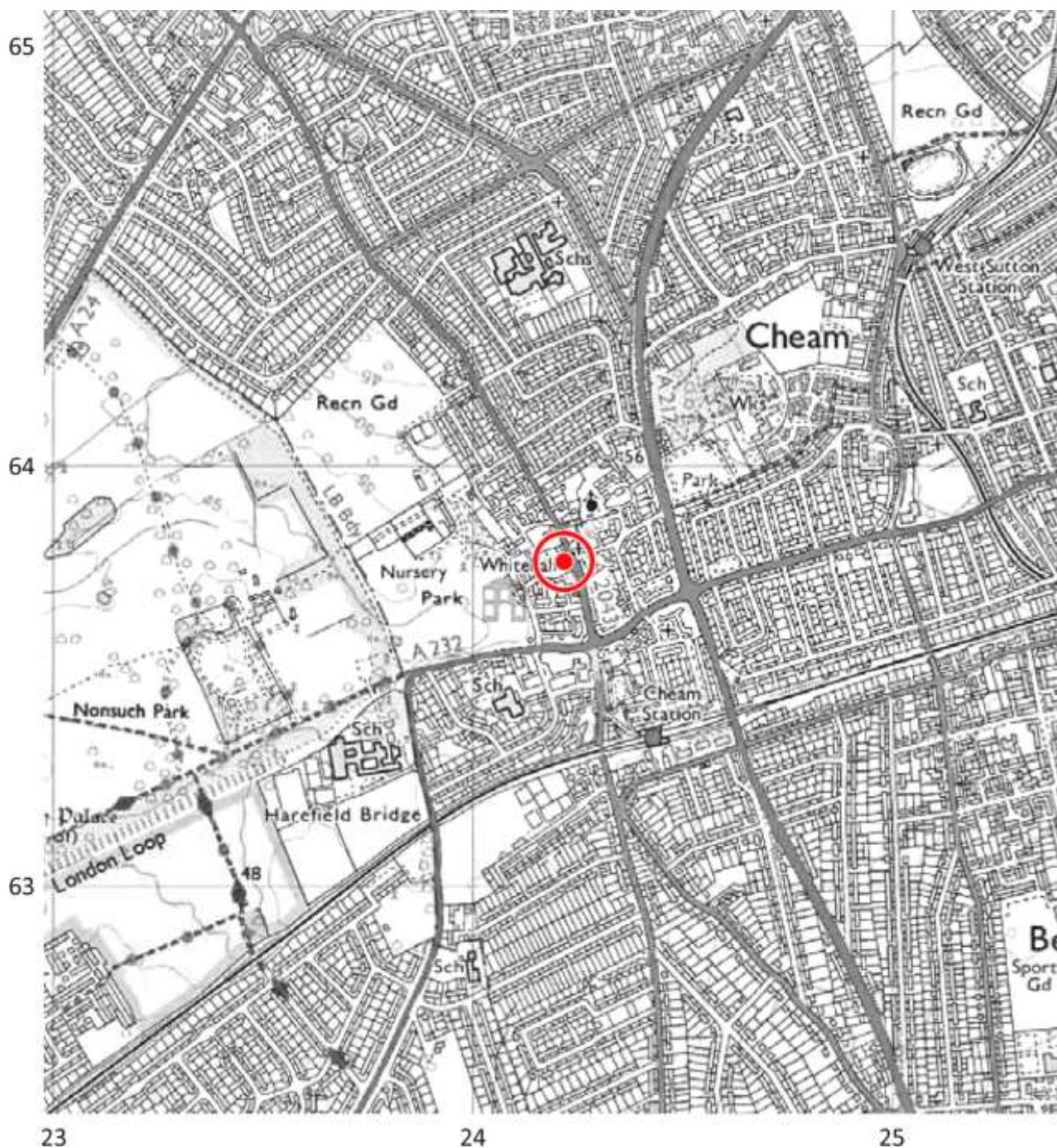


Fig.1: General site location in relation to the 1:10 000 Ordnance Survey map

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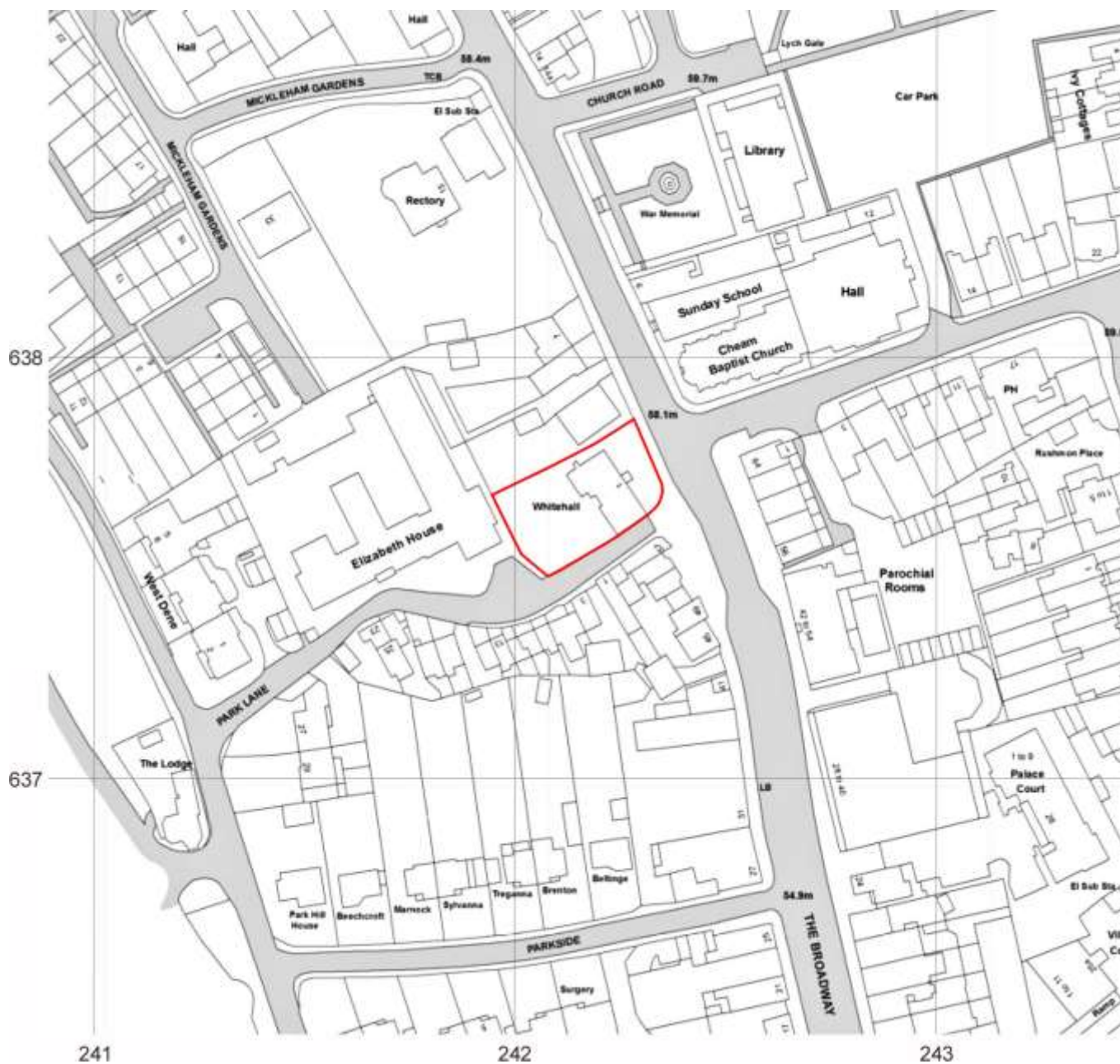


Fig.2: Detailed site location plan

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3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

3.1 The archaeological and historical background to the property, and the development of Whitehall, has been discussed at some length in previous documents and so will not be repeated at length here. What follows is a summary of the main facts and framework, based on that given in the Written Scheme of Investigation (Compass Archaeology 2017).

3.2 Prehistoric

Limited prehistoric archaeology has been recorded in the area, mainly in the form of flint scatters and residual material found in later ploughsoil and cut features. Finds include Mesolithic flint in a boundary ditch at Nonsuch Park, a Bronze Age barbed-and-tanged arrowhead from Cheam Park and Neolithic flintwork at 19 Park Road within post-medieval quarry pits (Thames Valley Archaeological Services 2009). However, none of this implies significant settlement activity, and occasional or seasonal exploitation of the area seems more likely..

3.3 Roman

The Roman Road linking London and Chichester, known as Stane Street, passes approximately 1.3km to the northwest of Whitehall, but little evidence for Roman occupation has been recorded in the immediate area. Residual sherds of Roman pottery were recovered from excavations at Whitehall in the late 1970s, and were interpreted as redeposited material from possible agricultural activities (Orton 2012).

3.4 Saxon

The earliest reference to Cheam is in 1018, during the late Saxon period, when King Athelstan granted it to Chertsey Abbey. Soon after this date St Dunstan's Church was established, and remains the oldest standing building in the London Borough of Sutton. Whitehall is located just over 150m southwest of the Church, so quite close to the centre of the early settlement.

3.5 Medieval

In Domesday Cheam is listed as '*Ceiham*', and was held by Archbishop Lanfranc of Canterbury. It included a church, 14 ploughlands, 1 acre of meadow and woods for 25 hogs, with a population of 25 villagers, 5 slaves and 12 cottagers. The settlement rendered £14, a considerable sum, and at this time was larger than Sutton, Ewell, Cuddington, Carshalton or Malden. It stood close to a crossroads linking it with the larger settlements of Croydon (to the east), Epsom,(west), Merton (north) and Banstead (south) ¹. The manor would remain in the hands of the Archbishopric of Canterbury until 1540.

¹ <http://opendomesday.org/place/TQ2463/cheam/>

The site of Whitehall lies on one side of the historic settlement of Cheam, which is focused around several roads forming a roughly rectangular grid system. Malden Road, onto which Whitehall faces, forms the western side of this grid.

During excavations by Norman Nail in 1978-80 evidence of an earlier, medieval, structure was found to the rear of the house in the form of post-holes forming a rectangular footprint, and there was also a small section of stone wall footing to the southwest. The well that is still present within the garden is believed to have been constructed around 1400, with a large well-pit construction cut being excavated during the process. This cut was backfilled with large quantities of kiln waste, including some 9,400 sherds of Cheam Whiteware dated to c 1350-1500 (Orton 2012).

The presence of quantities of Cheam Whiteware is not uncommon in the area, and kiln sites at Parkside, to the rear of St Dunstan's Church and on the High Street have all demonstrated a thriving pottery industry during this period.

3.6 Post-medieval

Whitehall itself was built probably in the first quarter of the 16th century, as a three-bay double-storeyed structure fully jettied to the front and rear. In plan the building measured just under 15m in length by c 5m to 6m front-to-back, with a large brick-built chimney near the northern and apparently a smoke-bay (subsequently replaced) at the southern end (*cf.* Fig 4 below). A front porch and rear stair turret are thought to have been added in the later 16th century: it has also been suggested that this early building was used as a lodging house or inn, as its' form and layout is somewhat unusual for a domestic property.

A substantial rear extension and cellar were added to the building in the mid to later 17th century, in what is now the northwest corner of the building. The cellar appears to have been accessed by an external staircase, with the present internal stairs being a later addition. Six scaffolding holes assumed to be associated with this phase of works were recorded to the rear of the property during the excavations in the late-1970s.

It is likely that some time prior to this, in the earlier 17th century, attic rooms had been created by inserting a floor between the first floor and the roof space. Accordingly the rear turret staircase was also raised a storey, and dormers were built into the slope of the roof. In 1646 the building was leased to the Reverend George Aldrich, who founded Cheam School, and it appears that Whitehall was used as the original school building until 1719 when it moved to a purpose-built site at Tabor Court.

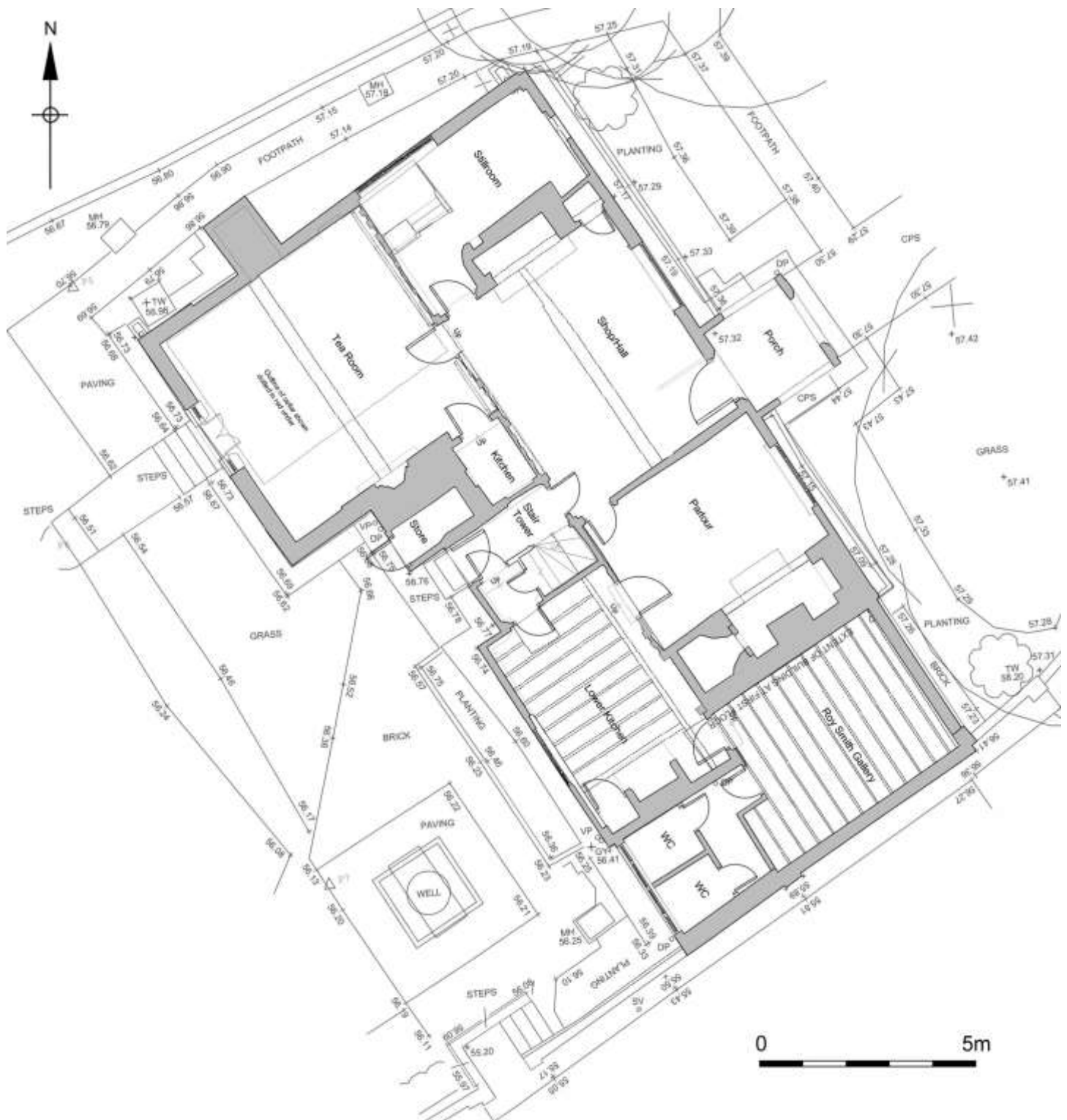


Fig.3: *Ground floor plan prior to the commencement of the present works*

From an original drawing by Curl la Tourelle Head Architecture. Drg. No. 957 200

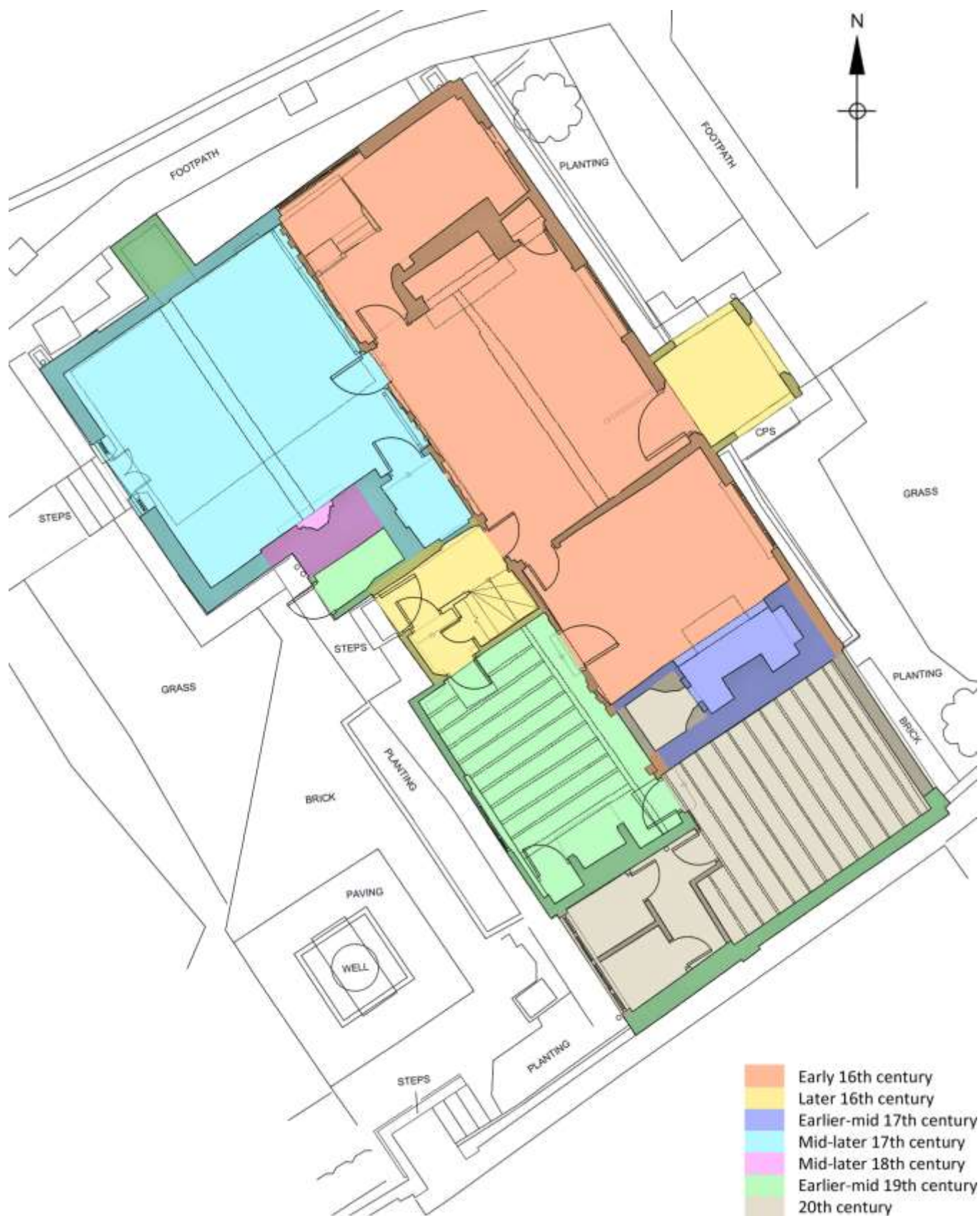


Fig.4: Ground floor phase plan of Whitehall with approximate dates, based on previous and current investigations

The property was subject to numerous alterations in the 18th century, including the internal cellar stairs and the addition (or rebuilding) of present chimneystack on the south side of the earlier rear extension. It was apparently also during the 18th century that the exterior of the property was weatherboarded, giving it its' present appearance. Many of these alterations may have taken place between the building's disuse as a school in 1719 and the conveyance of the property to James Killick in 1785. In the earlier to mid 19th century a kitchen range was added to the southern end of the main range, with a single chamber at first floor level, and also a small 2-storey addition on the northwest side of the stair turret. By 1863 the property was known as Whitehall.

The southernmost single-storey rooms, most recently used as a gallery and toilets and replaced under the current scheme, were added in the 20th century. By 1963 the house passed from the direct descendants of the Killick family to a niece of the family, who then sold it to the Borough of Sutton and Cheam. The property was converted into a gallery, and between 1966 and 1975 various remedial works were carried out to prevent further deterioration. Part of the first floor was converted into a flat for a live-in warden, and from 1978 the building was opened to the public as a museum and art gallery.



Fig.5: The eastern elevation of Whitehall prior to commencement of the present works.

Based on an original drawing by Curl la Tourelle Head Architecture. Drg. No. 957 PL 400 Rev. A



Fig.6: *View of the building frontage in November 2012 (Archaeology South-East 2012, cover)*



Fig.7: *The same view from a postcard sent in October 1920*



Fig.8: *The western elevation of Whitehall prior to commencement of the present works.*
 Based on an original drawing by Curl la Tourelle Head Architecture. Drg. No. 957 PL 401 Rev. A



Fig.9: *View of the western elevation during the present works, June 2017*



Fig.10: *The northern elevation of Whitehall prior to commencement of the present works, and including a section through the cellar and access.*

Based on original drawings by Curl la Tourelle Head Architecture. Nos. 957 PL 401 Rev. A & 957 PL 502 Rev. B

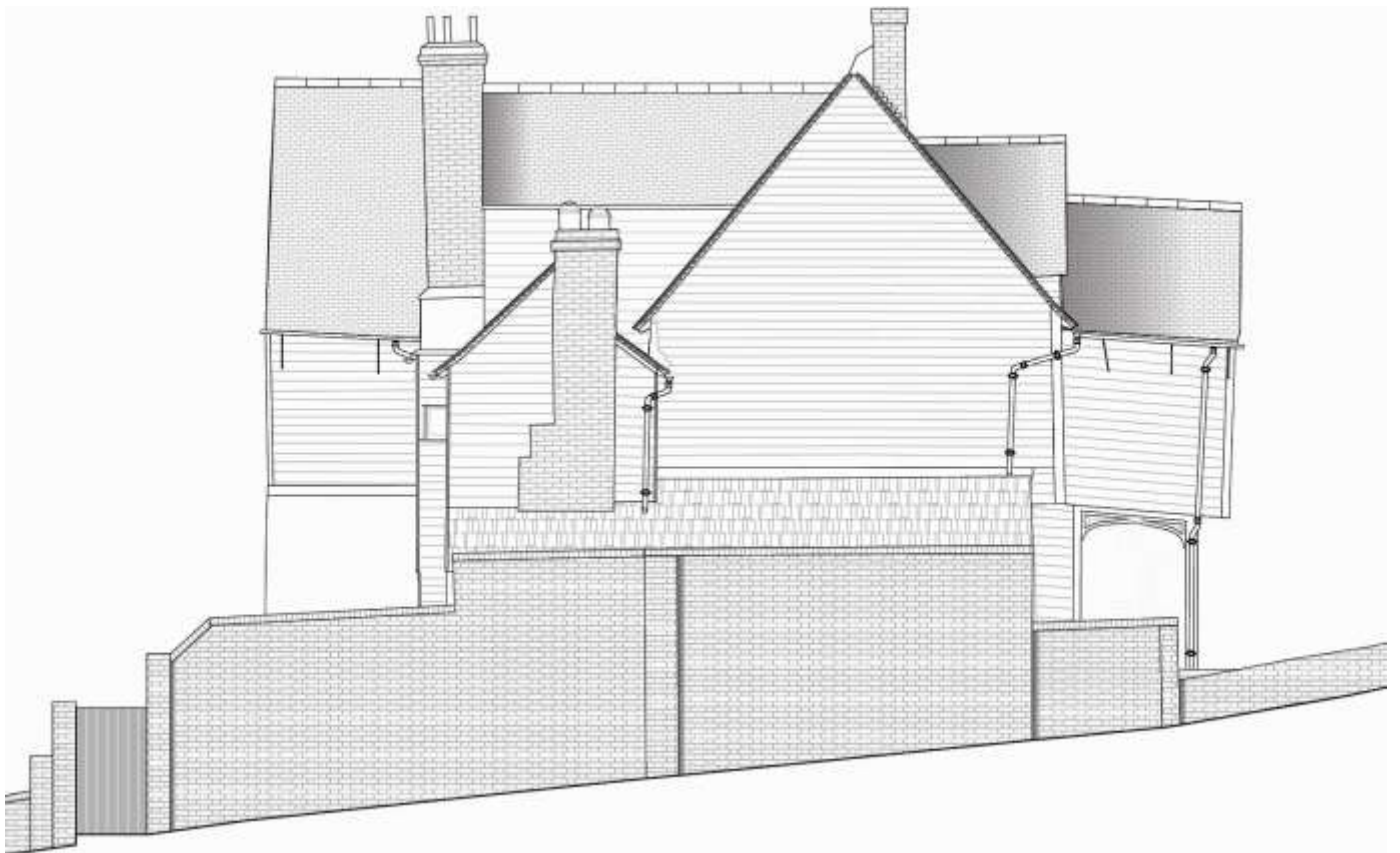


Fig.11: *The southern elevation prior to the commencement of the present works.*

Based on an original drawing by Curl la Tourelle Head Architecture. Drg. No. 957 PL 400 Rev. A



Fig.12: Part of the original (16th century) external western wall between Room G-03 and the 19th century extension G-04, looking upwards towards the jettied first floor



Fig.13: Detail of the above, showing the 3-light mullioned ground floor window

4. THE DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS AND PLANNING PROCESS

4.1 The archaeological programme was commissioned by Curl la Tourelle Architects following recommendations from the Greater London Archaeological Advisory Service (GLAAS) at Historic England. Due to the historic significance of the building and its attached grounds there was clear potential to uncover buried archaeological remains and previously hidden architectural elements pertaining to the historic development of the site.

4.2 The Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) was written in accordance with planning conditions attached to application A2016/1037/CLC as advised by GLAAS. It was also subsequently reissued in line with the consent A2016/74348/LBC. The conditions are reproduced below:

(3) The Written Scheme of Investigation approved under re: A2016/1037/CLC in accordance with part A and B of condition 3 of listed building consent ref: A2015/71491/LBC, shall be reviewed and updated, where necessary, to cover any additional intrusive below ground works associated with the revised scheme as hereby approved.

Reason: To ensure that the amendment proposed to the approved listed building consent ref: A2015/71491/LBC has been adequately covered. The planning authority wishes to secure building recording in line with NPPF, the publication of results, in accordance with Section 12 of the NPPF.

(4) Evidence to show that the applicant (or their heirs and successors in title) have secured the implementation of a programme of building recording and reporting in accordance with the updated Written Scheme of Investigation (in line with condition 3) shall be provided to the Local Planning Authority on the completion of the updated WSI. The development shall be completed in accordance with the updated Written Scheme of Investigation.

Reason: Built heritage assets on this site will be affected by the development. The planning authority wishes to secure building recording in line with NPPF, and publication of results, in accordance with Section 12 of the NPPF.

(5) Detailed drawings at a scale of 1:10, 1:5 or 1:20 (as appropriate), in respect of the following shall be submitted to, and approved by, the Local Planning Authority prior to the relevant part of the works commencing on site.

(a) Elevations, Sections, plans and details of the treatment of the internal wall and opening to the north elevation of the building to link the staircase extension. The detailed drawings shall also include (but not be limited to) its treatment. The development shall be carried out strictly in accordance with the approved details and maintained as such thereafter.

Reason: In order to safeguard the special architectural or historic interest of the heritage asset and to ensure a high standard of design in accordance with Policies 7

and 12 of the National Planning Policy Framework 2012, Sections 66 and 72 of the Planning (Listed Buildings & Conservation Areas) Act 1990, and Policy 7.8 of the London Plan, 2015.

Informatives

1. The update to the written scheme of investigation, in respect of condition 3, will need to be prepared and implemented by a suitably qualified heritage practice in accordance with English Heritage Greater London Archaeology guidelines. It must be approved by the Local Planning Authority before any on-site development related activity occurs.

The WSI written to accompany the initial application A2015/71491/LBC was produced in accordance with the following condition:

(3) a. No development shall take place until the applicant has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological investigation in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation which has been submitted by the applicant and approved by the local planning authority in writing.

b. No development or demolition shall take place other than that in accordance with the Written Scheme of Investigation approved under Part (a)

c. The development shall not be occupied until the site investigation and post investigation assessment has been completed in accordance with the programme set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation under Part (a), and the provision made for analysis, publication and dissemination of the results and archive disposition has been secured.

The following additional guidance from GLAAS was also received:

“As part of the archaeological watching brief it would be good to include some scope for monitoring during the alterations to the building itself in order to record any hidden features or material evidence which come to light and adds to our understanding of the building”

4.3 Whitehall is a Grade II* Listed building (see Appemdix VII) and lies within the Cheam Village Conservation Area, (designated 1970), and the Cheam Archaeological Priority Area as designated by Sutton Borough Council². These factors were also taken into consideration with regards to the proposals and the nature of the archaeological work.

4.4 The proposed works at Whitehall fell into two main categories, internal and external works. The main elements of these are outlined below and illustrated on Figures 14 and 16.

² London Borough of Sutton, (2009)

4.5 *Internal works* (Application refs. A2015/71491/LBC and A2016/74348/LBC)

- 4.5.1** On the ground floor four doorways were redesigned for ease of accessibility, removing stepped thresholds, and a further two new doors opened (both within previously existing openings).
- 4.5.2** The Roy Smith Gallery space and toilets in the southern portion of the property were demolished and rebuilt on a slightly larger footprint, and with an additional storey (Application ref. A2016/74349/3FR). A new infill wall was constructed across the southeastern corner of the frontage between the existing southern boundary wall and eastern frontage of the main building, and a new accessible toilet installed in the southwestern corner of the building within the small extension. Both these elements required new strip footings and thus were archaeologically potentially quite intrusive.
- 4.5.3** A new ventilation hole was created in the southern wall of the northwestern tea room, plus a ventilation duct in the northeastern room of the property passing through the ceiling of this room and the floor in the room above.
- 4.5.4** Seven doorways on the first floor of the property were altered, either by widening and removing thresholds for accessibility or in two cases as entirely new openings.
- 4.5.5** Throughout the property remedial works and replacement were undertaken on damaged or failing brickwork and timbers to ensure the longevity of the property. Floors were also be re-laid or partially re-laid in the northern ancillary room and permanent exhibition room in the south to remove undulations. The same is true of the southern wall face in the permanent exhibition room, with several courses of stone / flintwork being removed to straighten the face and facilitate casting of the concrete floor slab.

4.6 *External works* (Application ref. A2016/74349/3FR and A2015/71491/LBC).

- 4.6.1** On the northern side of the building at ground floor level the existing enclosure over the external cellar access was demolished, the stairs removed and the access blocked and infilled.
- 4.6.2** In association with this demolition a new external flight of stairs and lift access was constructed to first floor level on the northwestern corner of the property. The foundations were to be stepped to meet the footings of the existing structure, with a minimum depth of 1.0m to 1.5m.
- 4.6.3** To inform the final foundation depth / design a series of geotechnical pits were dug in March 2016 to ascertain the nature and depth of the existing foundations. These were also of archaeological interest, and provided an opportunity to examine the construction of the historic core of the house.

- 4.6.4** At the rear of the property a new switchback ramped entrance was constructed, to provide wheelchair access to the gardens and extending from the extant rear door in the centre of the property south along the back of the present kitchen.
- 4.6.5** A series of new paths were laid out in the front garden of the property, extending from the northeastern corner of the boundary wall to the new stairs and lift; with another path branching off to the south and linking to a new fire exit door in the southeast corner of the frontage. The central path linking the front porch and central opening in the existing boundary wall was also be re-laid and made more level for freer access. In the event these works were quite shallow, and although providing an opportunity to examine the underlying ground had no real impact on underlying deposits.
- 4.6.6** Several new drainage runs were excavated along the northern side of the site (under the new stair and lift footings and to the east), in the southwestern corner of the site to serve the new toilets, and also to the rear of the property to a new soakaway located in the western part of the garden.

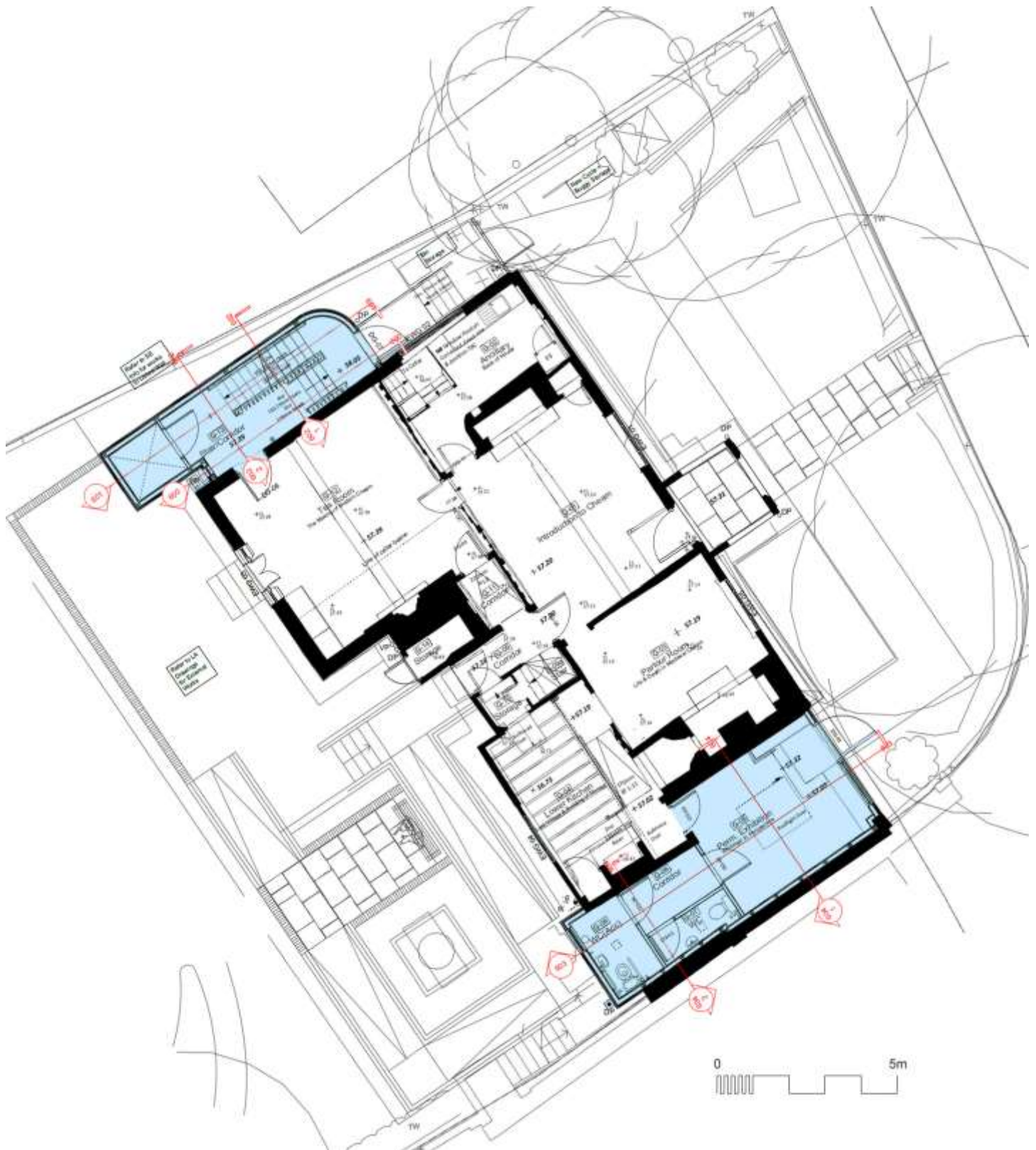


Fig.14: *The proposed ground floor development (GA) plan; the principal additions at each end of the building shaded*

From an original drawing by Curl la Tourelle Head Architecture. Drg. No. 957 205 Rev. K



Fig.15: *Further views of the western elevation towards the end of the works and showing the new extensions, late September to November 2017*



Fig.16: *The proposed first and second floor development plans, the principal additions shaded*
 From an original drawing by Curl la Tourelle Head Architecture. Drg. No. 957 206 Rev. L

5. METHODOLOGY

5.1 Standards

5.1.1 The fieldwork was carried out in accordance with current Historic England guidelines (in particular *Historic England, 2015* and *Historic England, 2016*), and to the standards of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (*CIfA, 2014a and 2014b*). Overall management of the project was undertaken by a full member of the Chartered Institute.

5.1.2 Fieldwork was also carried out in accordance with the Construction (Health, Safety & Welfare) Regulations. All members of the fieldwork team will hold valid CSCS Cards (Construction Skills Certificate Scheme), and wear high visibility jackets, hard hats and steel-toe-capped boots (& any other PPE as required).

5.2 Fieldwork

5.2.1 The groundworks and alterations are outlined in section 4 above, and included the construction of new extensions (including a stair and lift access) on the northern and southern ends of the property, a new ramped access at the rear, plus the excavation of drainage runs and other works. Internal works included the alteration of and creation of doorways to enable better accessibility for users, other significant remedial works as proved necessary, plus a variety access works lifting floor boards, *etc.*.

5.2.2 During the groundworks archaeological deposits and features were investigated and recorded in stratigraphic sequence, and where appropriate, finds dating and environmental evidence recovered.

5.2.3 Archaeological and architectural features were recorded as appropriate on *pro-forma* sheets by written and measured description, and where necessary drawn in plan and/or section, generally at scales of 1:10 or 1:20. The investigations were also recorded on general site plans, and for external works related to the Ordnance Survey grid. The fieldwork record was supplemented as appropriate by photography in digital format (24.7 Mp), producing both NEF (RAW) and JPEG images.

5.2.4 All finds and samples were treated in accordance with the appropriate guidelines, including the Museum of London's 'Standards for the Preparation of Finds'. Identified finds and artefacts were be retained and bagged with unique numbers related to the context record, and an assessment obtained from appropriately qualified staff.

5.3 Post-excavation work and archiving

5.3.1 The fieldwork was followed by a programme of off-site processing and assessment; by compilation of a post-excavation report; and by ordering and deposition of the site archive.

5.3.2 The report provides details of methodology and of archaeological remains and finds, plus a full historic building record including interpretation of the various elements and features investigated, and a series of scale drawings, photographs and context descriptions. A short summary of the fieldwork is appended using the OASIS Report Form.

5.3.3 Following the issue of the report and any further work that may be agreed, an ordered, indexed and internally consistent site archive will be compiled in line with MoL *Guidelines for the Preparation of Archaeological Archives*. It is proposed that the archive will be deposited under the unique site code WHY17 in the Museum of London Archaeological Archive.

6. ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH QUESTIONS

6.1 The following general and more specific research questions were outlined in the preliminary *Written Scheme of Investigation* (Compass Archaeology, Rev^d. Jan. 2017), and are reviewed following the detailed descriptions of fieldwork in Section 12 of this document:

- Is there any evidence of Prehistoric, Roman or Saxon occupation of the site? If so what is its nature, (domestic / industrial / administrative, *etc.*), and what form does it take?
- Is there any more evidence for medieval occupation of the site in the form of an earlier building as suggested by the well and stone / timber footings recorded in the late-1970s?
- Is there any evidence associated with the original construction of the extant property in the form of working surfaces, scaffolding pits, or construction cuts for foundations / footings?
- Is there any evidence of former garden schemes / access routes within the eastern garden?
- Is there any evidence associated with the construction of the cellar and cellar access in the form of construction cuts, scaffolding pits or work surfaces similar to those found in the late-1970s?
- Is there any new evidence for earlier layouts / décor / configurations of the internal structure?
- Is there any new evidence for construction methods employed or materials used within the structure of the property?

7. THE HISTORICAL BUILDING RECORD – THE GROUND FLOOR

The following observations and descriptions – for the ground floor and upper floors of the building – follow the notation for individual rooms and other areas established within the development drawings. Hence for the ground floor the descriptions will be related to specific areas as illustrated on Fig.17 below, viz. Rooms/ Areas G-02 to G-12, and so on.

In line with these arrangements this section is thus divided into five principal parts, as follows:

- Room G-02, with observations and evidence relating to features within the oldest part of the building (primarily the brick chimney stack).
- Room G-03, also within the original footprint of the building but concerned with later developments, associated with and following the addition of the southern chimneystack and fireplace.
- Room G-12, discussing this probable later 17th century addition and its subsequent development.
- Areas G-09, G-11 and G-09a, with evidence for the original rear wall/ stone plinth and subsequent additions.
- A final note on the probable mid 19th century southwestern addition represented by Room G-04.

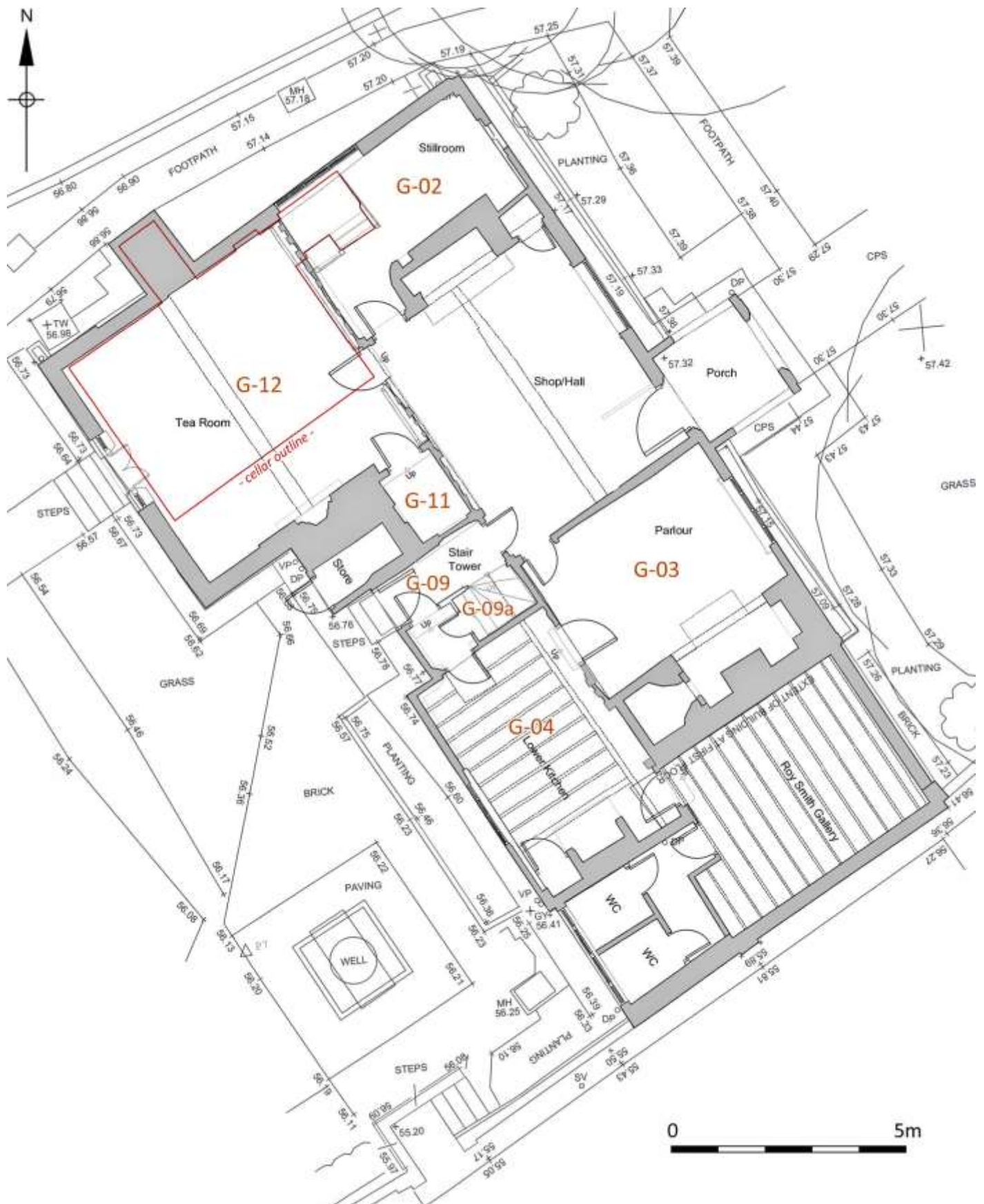


Fig.17: Ground floor plan prior to the start of works

Based on an original drawing by Curl la Tourelle Head Architecture. Drg. No. 957 200

7.1 Room G-02

This area – sometimes referred to the stillroom (or dairy/ kitchen) – lies at the northern end of original building, and to the rear of the main chimneystack / fireplace that opens into the central chamber or hall. The room forms the smallest of the three bays of the original building, although it has been significantly further reduced in size by subdivision and (in the northwest corner) by imposition of the later cellar steps. The actual original use of this space is unknown, but a food storage/preparation area has been suggested (Quiney 1983,137).

7.1.1 The chimneystack

Works in this area included stripping (& subsequent re-rendering) of the plastered chimneystack and adjacent internal wall to the east. Prior to this the rear of the stack displayed two niches, located towards its northwestern corner and at two different levels. The niches themselves were of similar depth front to back (*c* 210mm to 280mm) but otherwise differing dimensions, the lower niche being narrower and taller. The interiors comprised plain and fairly rough brickwork, neither rendered nor otherwise marked by previous use (for example, sooting from lamps).

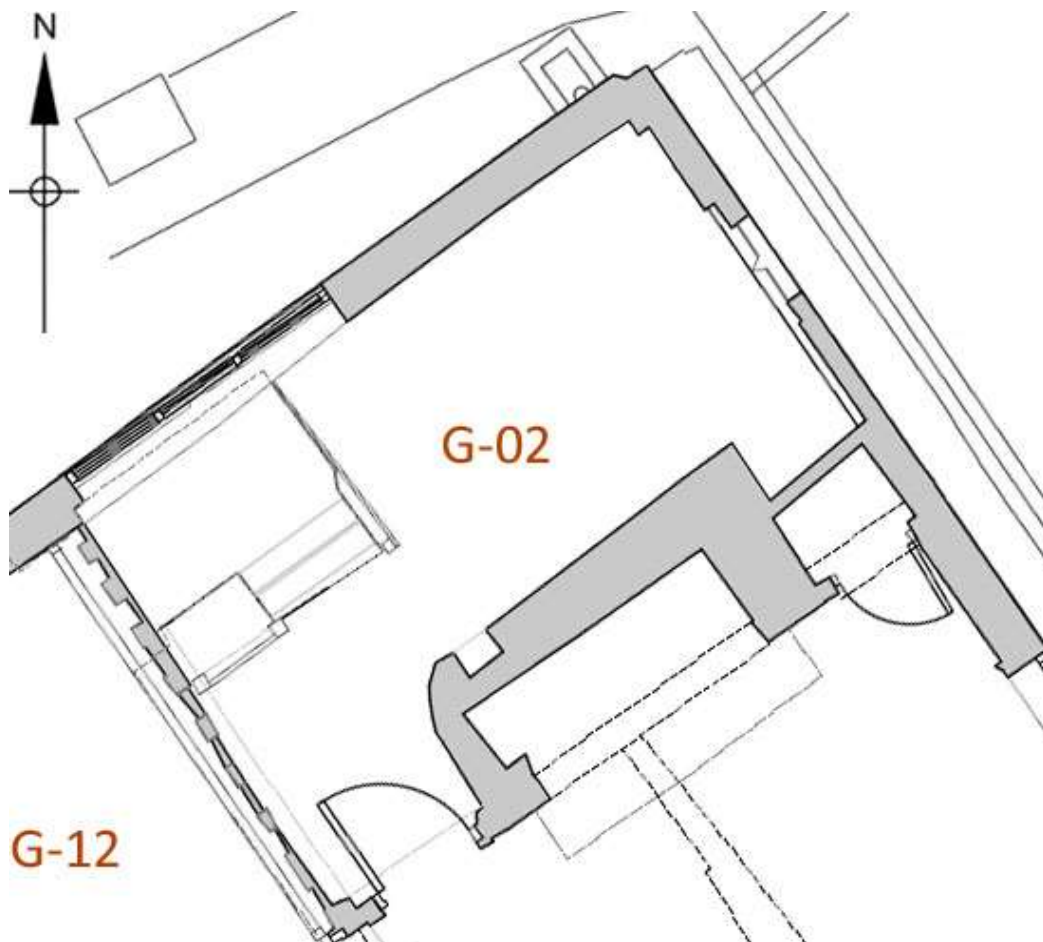


Fig.18: *Plan showing the location of Room G-02*

The plaster stripping revealed three further blocked niches within the brickwork, in a line to the east of the lower niche that was already visible (Figs.19-21). These were all of similar height – *c* 460mm – although those now exposed were slightly wider than the first (approx. 275mm as against 225mm). For reference the upper (westernmost) open niche is also about 275mm wide, but only *c* 325mm high.

A number of interpretations for the niches have been previously been offered, including oven openings, aumbries and lamp receptacles. There is no compelling evidence for any of these, although the new findings do at least suggest that the interior faces may originally have been rendered (*cf.* Fig.25). Possibly the niches were used for storing certain foodstuffs/ additives in reliably dry conditions: for example spices, or as salt boxes (Nail *nd.*) – which would also fit with the suggested original use as noted above.

The blocked and extant niches can be seen in Fig.25 overleaf, with a solid earth floor in the foreground. The brickwork on the lower left forming the northeast corner of the chimney is a modern repair, probably dating from the refurbishment works of the mid 1970s. However, careful examination of the surviving fabric at the top of this section confirmed that there had not been a further niche here in line with those to the west.



Fig.19: *Oblique view of the rear (northern side) of the chimneystack (1.0m scale)*



Fig.20: The northern side of the chimneystack, showing existing and blocked niches (1.0m scale)



Fig.21: Simplified elevation of the above



Fig.22: *The western end of the stack viewed from the top of the cellar steps, and showing the two previously open niches*

Fig.23 (below): *The upper & smaller niche, partially blocked by the later doorframe*



Fig.24: *The lower open niche (0.2m scale)*



Fig.25: *Detail of first & second blocked niches from the east. The surviving light-coloured plaster on the right hand side of the first suggests that the interiors may originally have been rendered (0.5m scale)*

Fig.26: *Detail of third and fourth niches (0.2m scale)*



7.1.2 The wall to the east of the chimneystack



Fig.27: *The blocking wall between the external east wall and chimney (1.0m scale)*

The short section of wall between the chimneystack and main east wall of the building comprised brickwork with horizontal bond timbers every five to six courses (Fig.27 above). This wall seems to have been an alteration, blocking off a previously open area: thus the plaster that was removed was observed to abut existing finished surfaces on both adjacent walls. Moreover, whilst to the east the brickwork adjoined

a timber stud in the main wall, on the western side it had been constructed directly against the plastered face of the chimneystack (cf. Figs.28 & 29). However, it is not certain that the wall blocked a previously open area: it may simply be that there was a recess here, with a solid back where there is now a cupboard door opening to the south.



Fig.28: The junction between the blocking wall and main eastern wall of the building. Plasterwork on the first of these abutted an existing surface on the main wall, seen here as the darker grey strip to the right of the timber stud (0.2m scale)

Fig.29: The junction between the blocking wall and – on the right – the chimneystack. The plastered surface of the latter continues behind the later brickwork (most clearly seen towards the top right hand corner)



7.2 Room G-03

Works in this area – sometimes referred to the Parlour – were quite limited, although several features of interest were noted and recorded. These all appear to be related to the large inglenook fireplace and chimneystack that was added to the southern end of the original building. This probably replaced an earlier smoke-bay and may have occurred in the earlier to mid 17th century, although an earlier date has been suggested.

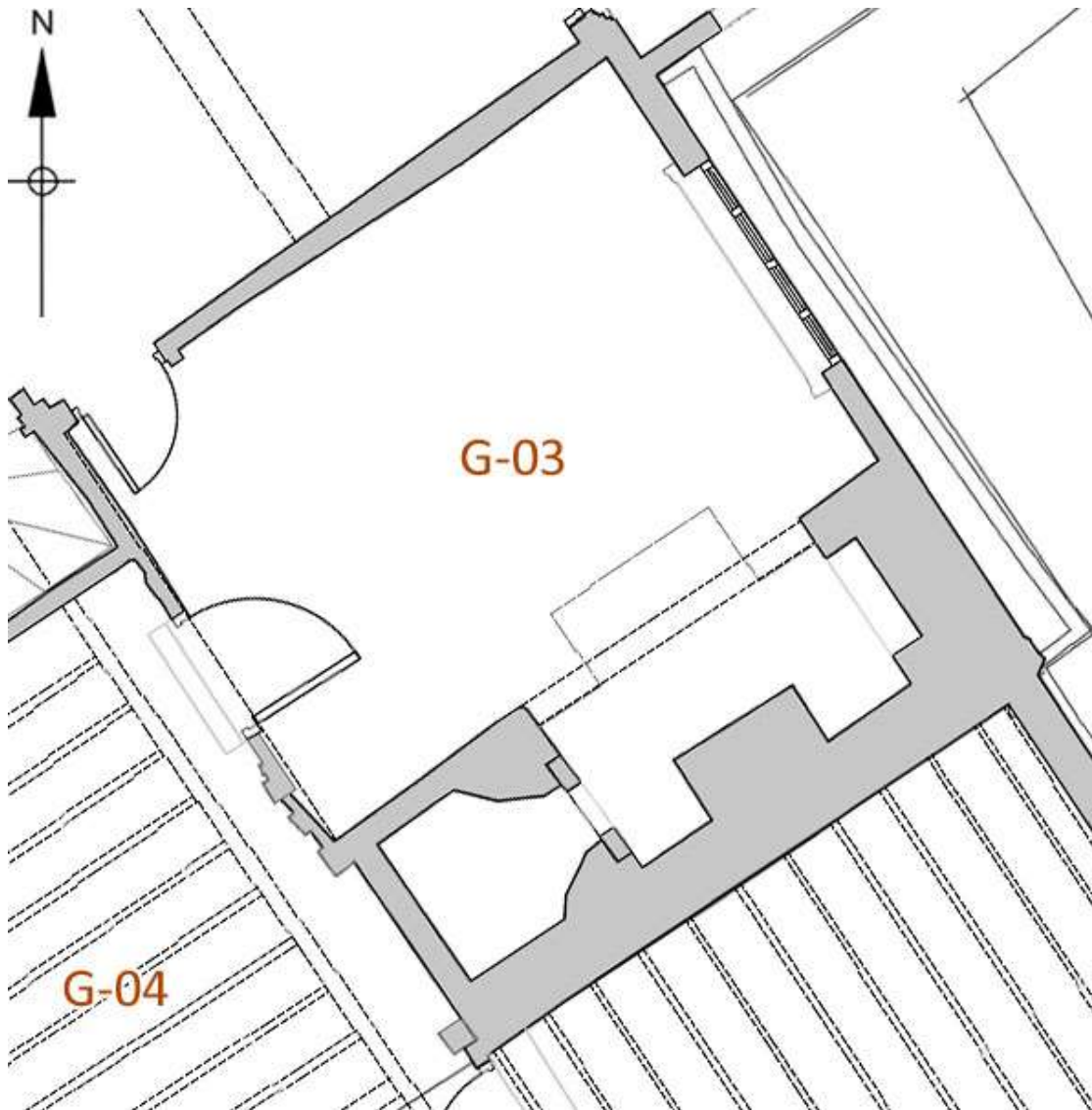


Fig.30: Plan showing the location of G-03 and adjacent rooms

7.2.1 The external (southern) wall

The wall at the southern end of the main structure was constructed at ground floor level mainly of stone (of which flint is now the most visible), with some brick. It is assumed that this was erected at the same event as the internal fireplace and overlying chimney, c mid 17th century or slightly earlier. It is also likely that this was an entirely external wall – the earliest record of an extension here being the Enclosure map of 1808 (and presumably, as later, single storey).

The external wall includes two blocks bearing a fleur-de-lys design in relief, as illustrated below A & B and in Figs.32-33 overleaf. Block ‘A’ is located very close to the southwest corner of the building, adjacent to the point at which the stone walling is replaced by (possibly later) brickwork. Block ‘B’ is positioned approximately a metre lower, and almost centrally along the line of the wall.

The two blocks are essentially the same, each measuring approximately 160mm by 300mm, although there appear to be slight variations that indicate that they are of stone (as previously suggested) rather than ceramic (& therefore formed in a mould). It is also likely that they are reused – the presence of raised bars either side of and below the central design but nothing above hinting at an originally more extensive design. It is tempting to associate this with the demise of Nonsuch Palace, although being early 1680s somewhat later than the suggested construction date here.



Fig.31: View of the south-facing external wall after removal of the Roy Smith Gallery, and showing the location of the decorative two fleur-de-lys blocks (1.0m scale)



Fig.32: *Decorative block with fleur-de-lys design built into the external southern wall. Located at 'A' on Fig.31*



Fig.33: *The second example as above: located at 'B' on Fig.31*

7.2.2 The fireplace & associated features



Fig.34: A general view of the inglenook fireplace, on the southern wall of Room G-03 (1.0m scale)

The above figure includes a number of features that are also described in more detail below:

- In the central area a projecting block of brickwork, with one central vent (& originally two further on either side), which has been identified as a probable ‘nostril’ chimney (Archaeology South-East 2012, 17). The structure also incorporates a large overhead flue leading into the main chimney, the iron supports for which are just visible here at the top of the brickwork.
- A large lintel timber supporting the wall above the fireplace: this also has several slots and cut-outs, at least some of which may have supported a spit-machine (or jack) for turning the roasting spit itself over the fire (Gravett 1966, 149).
- A rectangular brick-lined pit near the front of the hearth, presumably to accommodate a lift-out ash box. The feature measures 170mm by 590mm in plan at the top and is *c* 670mm deep, coming down onto apparently natural sand. It also has two phases of construction – apparently original and a modern rebuild: the latter is stepped in at one end and may be part of the 1970s refurbishment.
- Two openings in the flank wall to the right of the fireplace, assumed to be for a former bread oven.



Fig.35: *The eastern side of the central brick pier within the fireplace. This appears to incorporate several phases of construction, all subsequent to the original structure (0.5m scale)*



Fig.36: *The western side of the central brick pier*



Fig.37: The central flue, with brickwork supported on iron bands that span the area from the central pier to the lintel. The bands themselves are punctuated by a series of bolt or nail holes, and presumably reused



Fig.38: The brick-lined ash pit near the front of the hearth (0.2m scale). The upper 2-3 courses of brick & cement are quite modern, but below this are 5-6 courses of older mortared brick that are also stepped back some 130mm further to the west (right of photo)

7.2.3 The bread oven



Fig.39: *View of the west side of the fireplace showing openings for a presumed bread oven – the upper to the oven itself, and the lower probably for fuel such as fast-burning timber (1m scale)*

Fig.40: *An oblique view of the above, looking towards the rear of the fireplace (0.5m scale)*





Fig.41: Detail of the mouth of the oven, with stone lining and overlying brickwork supported on an iron lintel (0.5m scale)



Fig.42: Opening to the lower (storage?) chamber, here with a slightly concave iron lintel over. Note also the contrast in brickwork, with a modern reconstruction to the rear (0.2m scale)



Fig.43: A view of the extant structure of the oven from the adjacent Room G-04 (1.0m scale)

The surviving oven structure as seen in the above picture is however almost entirely a modern reconstruction, tied in with the surviving evidence in the western wall of the fireplace and presumably dating to the refurbishment of the mid-1970s. The subsequent history is unclear, but it appears that what was reconstructed (probably essentially correctly) as a beehive oven has since been partially demolished. Almost all of the stone floor, walls and dome of the oven have disappeared, at the rear breaking through the concrete sub-base into the lower chamber.



Fig.44: View from the rear of the oven mouth, with original stone lining to sides and base plus iron lintel over, but everything else quite modern (0.5m scale.)



Fig.45: View from the rear of the lower chamber, all of recent construction



Fig.46: *On its northern side the reconstructed oven abuts an earlier limewashed brick wall – indicating that the area was previously open, the original oven having already been removed*



Fig.47: *Detail of the earlier wall on the south side of the oven – in this instance the face has been broken away, perhaps during the modern reconstruction (0.5m scale)*

7.3 Room G-12 (northwest extension)

This forms the ground floor of a substantial extension, to the northwest of the original range and probably dating to the mid to later 17th century. The extension also included two upper storeys, a cellar and apparently a short connecting passageway to the stair turret at ground and first floor levels.



Fig.48: The western face of the extension that includes Room G-12, after stripping of most of the ground floor external render

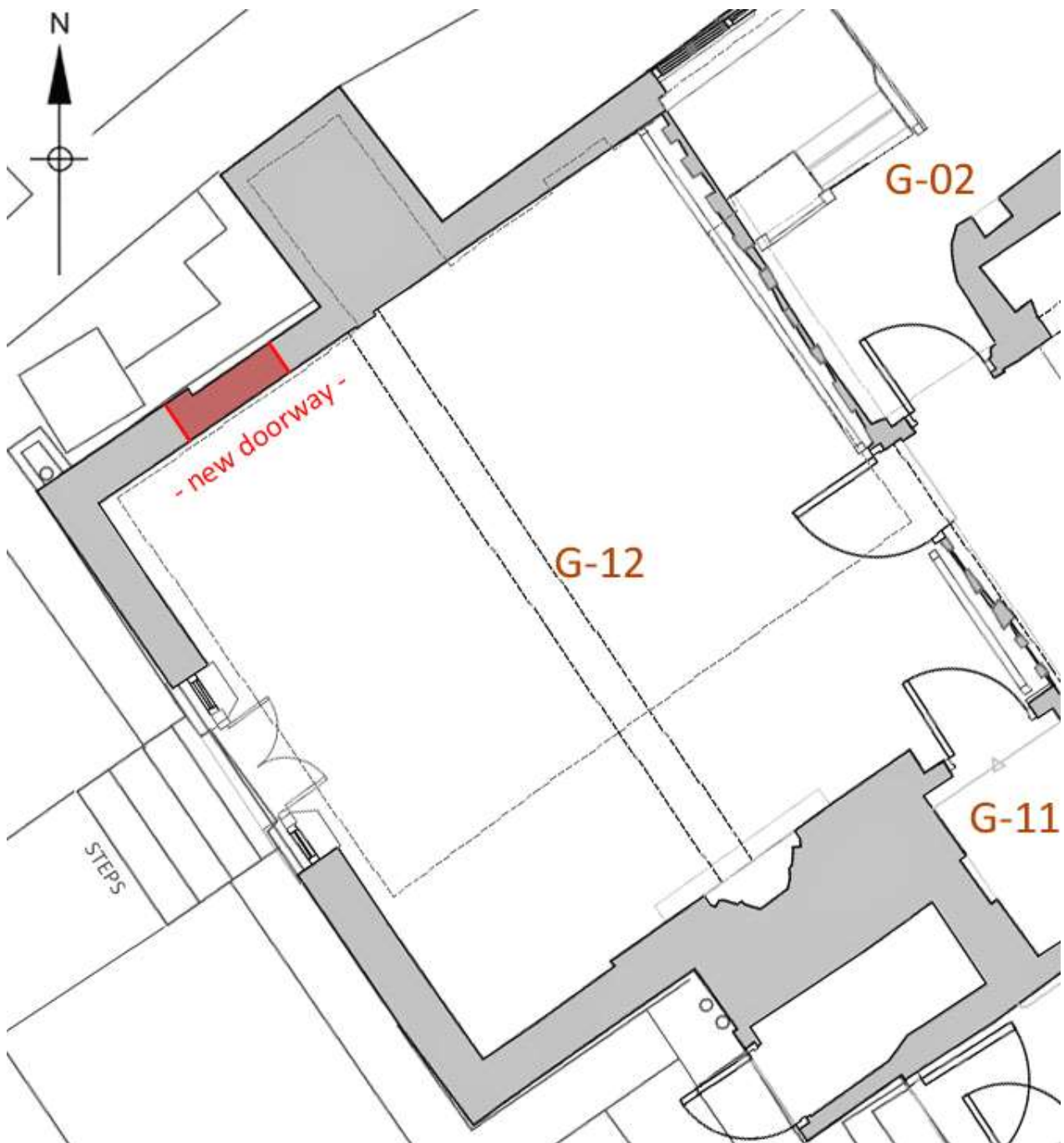


Fig.49: *Plan of Room G-12*

7.3.1 External works at ground floor level

The record of the external works around Room G-12 covered two principal tasks – the stripping of the rendered facing on all three walls to expose (& where necessary repair or replace) the underlying brickwork, and the insertion of a new doorway on the northern wall. The doorway was to be located more or less in the location of a previous entrance, which appears in earlier photographs (*cf.* Fig.63) but was blocked by the time of Gravett’s 1964 survey (Gravett 1966, Fig.1). A further significant impact on the exterior was the removal of the external cellar entrance and projecting canopy, which is described in detail elsewhere (Section 8.2).

7.3.1.1 The wall & chimney construction

Prior to the commencement of works the ground floor wall around Room G-12 was fully rendered, with the exception of the chimneystack on the southern wall. Preliminary investigations revealed that the underlying brickwork at the northwest corner was in poor condition, which led to the stripping of all three walls. On the northern wall this only went as far as (& above) the former doorway. The wall beyond this and above the external cellar entrance was entirely timber framed, but brickwork then reappeared as a plinth for timber frame construction.

This change from brick to primarily timber frame construction is described and illustrated below, although the reasons for it are not understood, or whether it is related to the position of the former doorway. It is possible that it simply reflects a change in construction, but without any further evidence it is not really helpful to speculate further.

It is not known when the walls were originally rendered, although it is possible that this was prompted by deterioration in the brick facing. Photographs at the beginning of the 20th century show the building in this form, although it is likely that the walls were stripped and re-rendered during the mid-1970s refurbishment: the extant material was a modern cement, plus the earlier pictures suggest a rougher, apparently pebbledash or roughcast, finish.

It is assumed that the brick walls as a whole are original to the extension, although it has been suggested that brick infilling of the north wall took place in the 18th century (Gravett 1966, 148). However there was no evidence for this, and the majority of brick samples from the removed portion of wall at the northwest corner were dated to c 1650 or earlier (see Appendix II, contexts 20 & 21).

The one obvious exception to this dating of the walls was found on the southern side, where stripping revealed a roughly vertical change in the brickwork, between the main wall and that just to the west of the projecting chimney (Figs.56-58). To the west the wall was built in a more or less regular English bond, the bricks having an orange-red hue set in a buff-coloured mortar. To the east of this line the exposed brickwork was almost entirely composed of headers, whilst the bricks themselves had a slightly brighter red colour in an off-white mortar. Close inspection also indicates that – although there are part-bricks on both sides of the dividing line – it is those to the west (& particularly in the stretcher courses) that have been broken *in situ*. That is to say, it appears that the western part of the wall is earlier, and that it has been cut back (or partially collapsed) before construction of the brickwork to the east.

This break in the brickwork is clearly related to the construction (or rebuild?) of the chimneystack within Room G-12, which also appears to have taken place in the 18th century. It is recorded elsewhere that the chimney had been relocated from a position on the western wall (Nail nd.), but no evidence was found for this during the present works (*cf.* Section 9.5.2). It is possible that the chimney was simply rebuilt in its present location.



Fig.50: *View towards the southwestern corner of the extension after stripping of render*

Fig.51: *The northwestern corner, on the left-hand side stripped back to the line of the blocked doorway (1m scale)*





Fig.52: *The northern end of the west wall*

Fig.53 (below): *The area adjacent to the lower corner of the window (0.2m scale)*





Fig.54: *The southern part of the west wall*

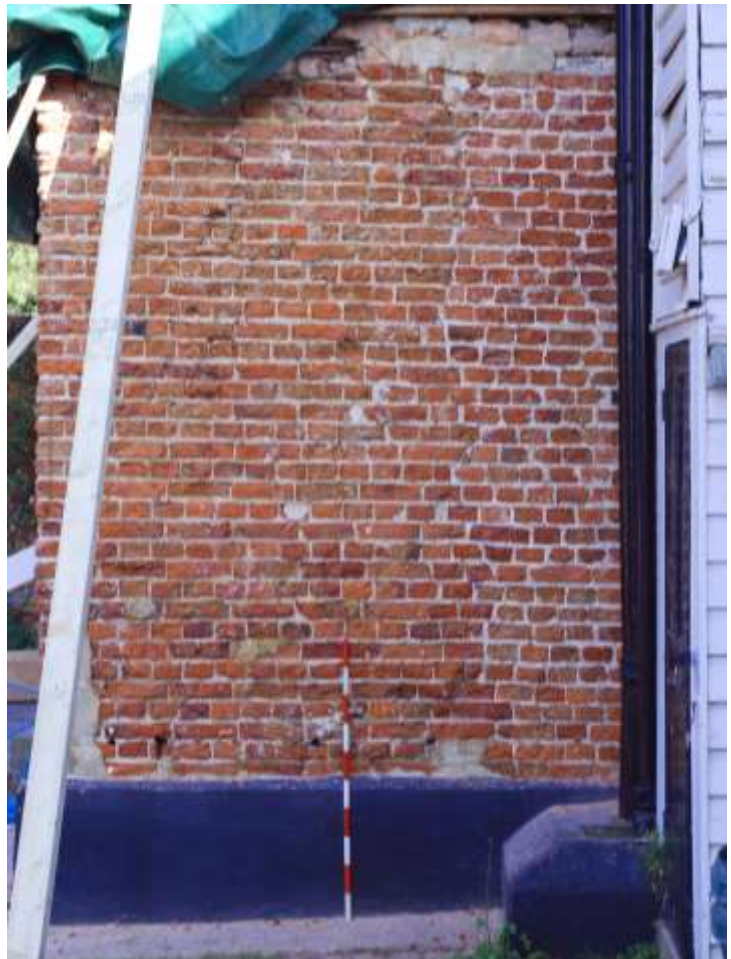
Fig.55: *The southwestern corner of the extension (1m scale)*





Fig.56: View looking north along the rear of the building and showing three areas of extension – Room G-12, etc. to the left, and probable mid 19th century additions in the centre & right

Fig.57: The southern wall of Room G-12, showing a change in brick construction to the right of the 1m scale that is clearly related to the adjacent chimney (1m scale)



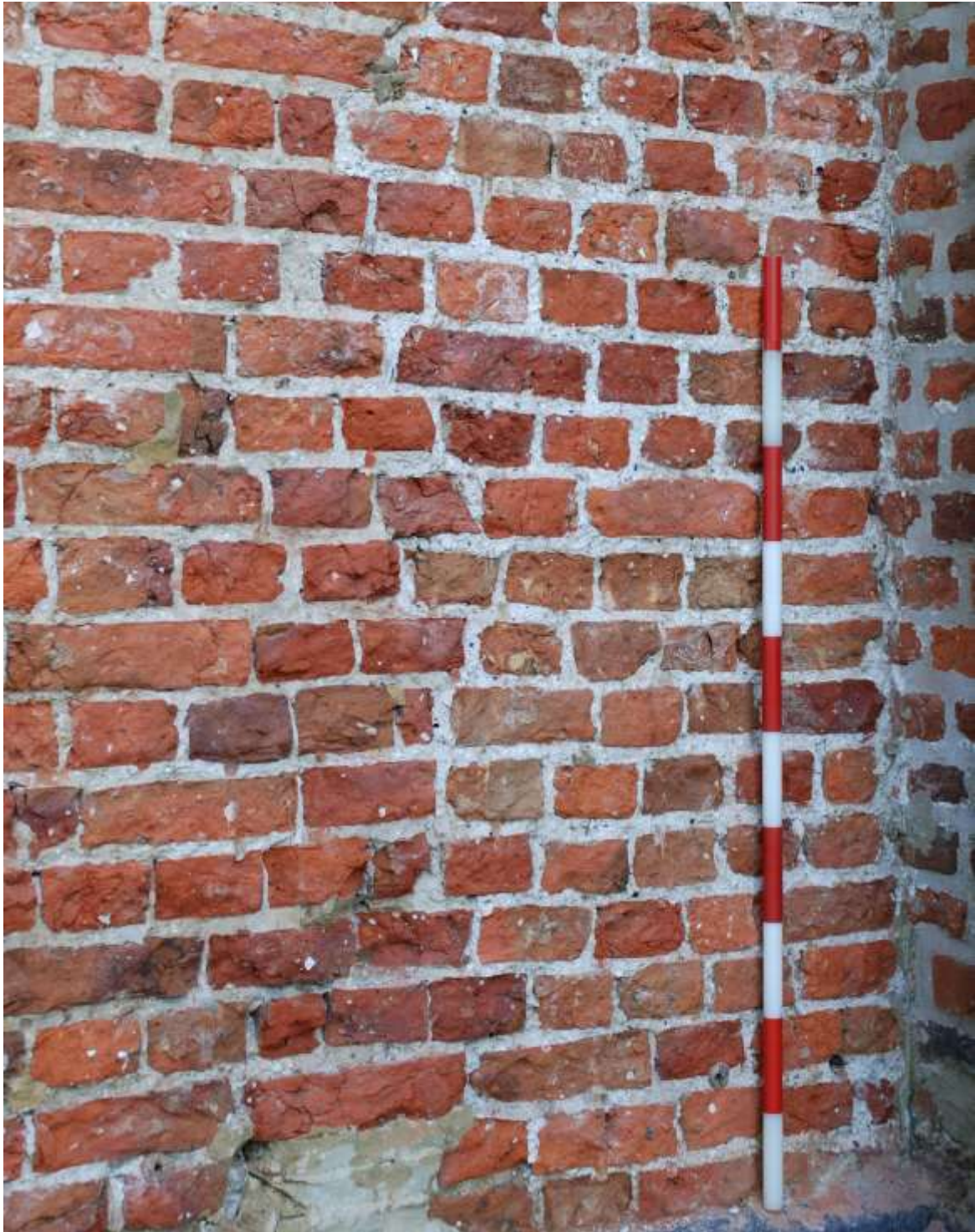


Fig.58: Close-up view of brickwork in the lower left-hand corner of Fig.57, showing the change in brickwork associated with the chimney that is just visible on the right-hand side of the frame (1m scale)

7.3.1.2 The *in situ* northern doorway

As noted above a blocked doorway was known to exist within the northern wall – it is noted in Gravett’s survey (Gravett 1966, Fig. 1), and part of the outline was still visible. Preliminary investigation of this area was also undertaken works in 2016, and revealed some of the modern breeze block infilling (*cf.* Section 8.2).



Fig.59: The blocked doorway in the northern wall of Room G-12 exposed (1m scale)



Fig.60: *An oblique view of the above, looking east*

Fig.61 (below): *General view of the doorway and adjacent walls. This also shows the dramatic change in construction from brickwork to timber frame with lath & plaster*





Fig.62: View of the northwest corner and northern wall of the building at the start of the present works



Fig.63: An historic photograph taken from the same perspective as the preceding figure, and showing the doorway in the north wall of the rear range. However, it is not certain that this was still in use – there is a considerable difference in level between the threshold and external surface, with almost no step (Sutton Local History Centre).

The above picture is not dated, but may date to the 1970s. The weatherboarding appears to be white-painted, which is not the case in the picture of the frontage and part of the north wall included in Gravett's paper (Gravett 1966, Plate VIII (a)) – which was probably taken at the time of the 1964 survey.

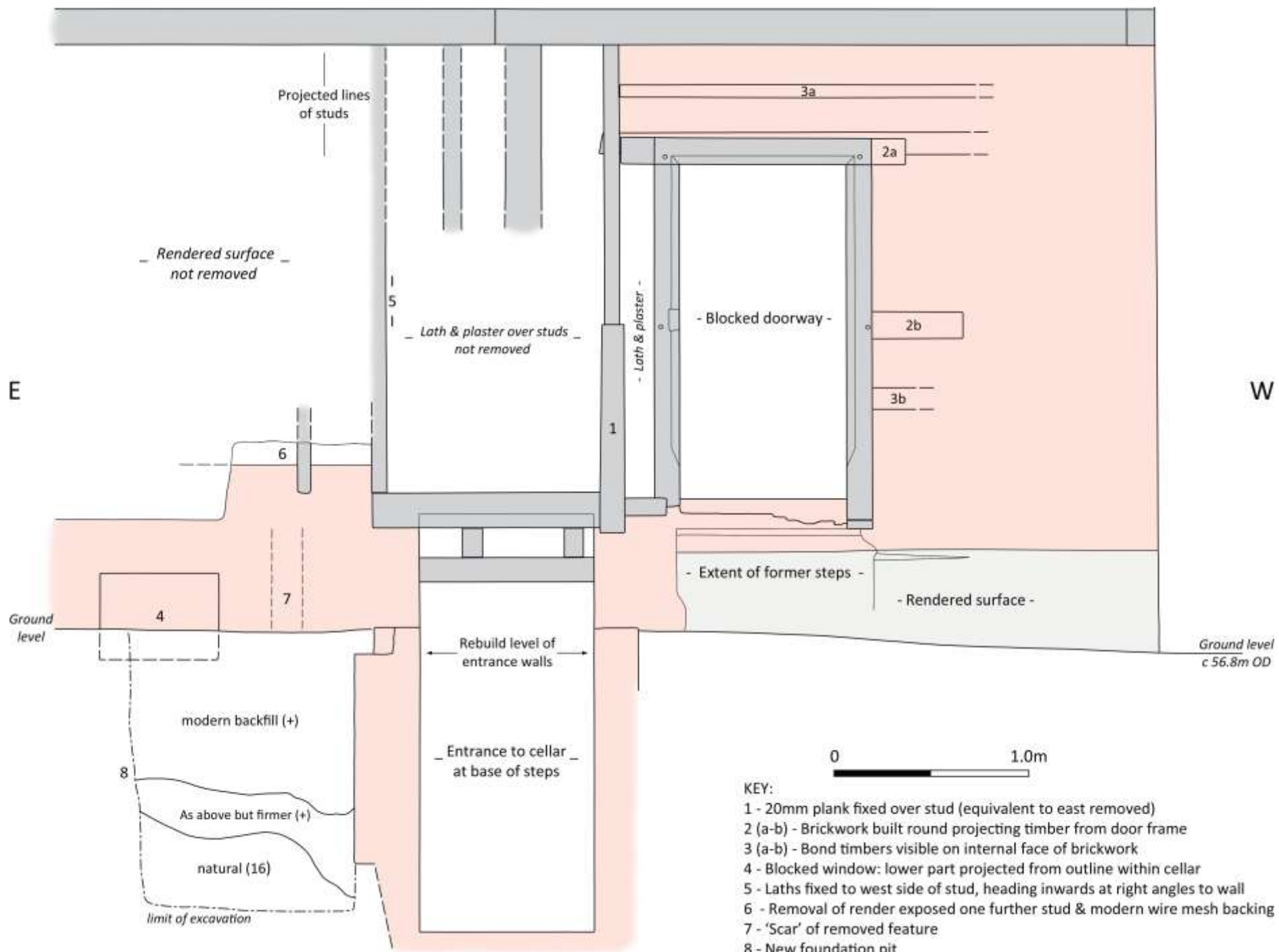


Fig.64:
Elevation of the
western part of
the north wall



Fig.65 (above): *External view of the chamfered doorhead*



Fig.66: *Detail of the eastern side of the doorhead and adjoining jamb*

Fig.67: *The western side of the doorhead and adjoining jamb*





Fig.68: *Interior view showing part of the rebated western door jamb and head, with a reused timber forming a further lintel flush with the wall face*

Fig.69 (below): *As above but looking towards the eastern jamb, and in the foreground the reused timber abutting the doorhead. See also Figs.78 & 79*





Fig.70: *Surviving brickwork of the door threshold, with a chamfered lower course but the upper course almost entirely lost (0.2m scale)*



Fig.71: *The eastward continuation of brickwork beyond the cellar entrance, but here only forming a plinth for the overlying timber frame*

Reproduced from Elliot Wood Partnership Ltd. Site Visit Record 16.05.17. Ref: 2140959/SVR 04 (Picture 7)

7.3.1.3 Detail of the removed doorframe

The doorframe was subsequently removed and examined in more detail, as illustrated below. The whole structure was of oak, with pegged mortice and tenon joints at either end of the doorhead joints. Cross-sectional dimensions were fairly constant throughout, *c* 160mm to 182mm front to back by 125mm to 132mm wide. The external edges were chamfered, terminating in a simple triangular stop just over 200mm above the base of the jambs. The internal edges had a continuous right-angled rebate for the door, *c* 47mm front to back by 28mm wide. No evidence for the door-fixing itself could be identified (& was presumably into the adjacent wall), although on the outer side of the eastern jamb there was a shallow slot cut into the chamfered edge and splayed outwards that may relate to some kind of latch (*cf.* Fig.76).

The doorframe and its setting also had three particular features of interest, as follows:

- The construction included three outward-projecting timbers, whose primary purpose was evidently to secure the frame within the surrounding wall. At the upper corners the doorhead projected beyond the line of the jambs by 167mm to 180mm, also being cut back from the outer face by some 52mm to 61mm (Figs.74 & 75). In addition to this a horizontal ‘spur’ of timber 460mm in length was fixed by a pegged mortice and tenon joint into the outer side of the western jamb, midway between the top and bottom of the doorframe.
- At the mid-point on the eastern side of the doorframe there was no corresponding timber projection, but the jamb did have a mortice in a corresponding position to that described above. Moreover, this still contained a pegged tenon that had been sawn-off flush with the outer face of the jamb.
- As already discussed and illustrated, the ground floor brick wall of Room G-12 only continued just beyond the eastern line of the doorframe (Section 7.3.1 & Fig. 64). In fact the final section of brickwork rested partially on the projecting eastern side of the doorhead, rather than the latter being set into it.

Together the above points indicate that the doorframe was reused – its design was clearly intended for insertion within a continuous brick wall, and the fact that the eastern ‘spur’ has been sawn off emphasises the point that it was probably not original to this location.

However, the brickwork to the west of and above the doorway was clearly constructed onto and around the timbers – the two undoubtedly forming part of a single build rather than the doorframe being a later insertion. There is nothing to suggest that the brickwork itself is not original to the extension, so this would simply mean that the doorframe was second-hand at the time of the main construction.



Fig.72: The oak doorframe from the north wall, exterior face. Note the 'spur' located midway up the right hand and previously set into adjacent brickwork (0.5m scale)



Fig.73: As above, but showing the interior face of the doorframe



Fig.74: *The pegged & morticed joint at the top left of the doorframe, exterior view (0.2m scale)*



Fig.75: *As above, interior view*



Fig.76: *Detail of the shallow slot cut into the chamfered face of the eastern jamb, which may relate to some kind of latch (0.2m scale)*



Fig.77 (below): *Detail of the western door jamb (left of frame) plus morticed & pegged 'spur' that was set into adjacent brickwork*



Fig.78: *Reused timber located behind the doorhead and forming a lintel to support part of the overlying brickwork, this face as seen in situ – cf. Fig.68 (0.2m scale)*



Fig.79: *The rear of the above*



Fig.80: *The brick wall to the west after removal of the doorframe. There are two holes where timbers have been removed, at the upper level the end of the doorhead and below this the projecting 'spur' from the western jamb (by the top of the 1m scale)*

The photo also shows two bond timbers built into the wall, set three courses below the top & seven above the base – a traditional feature to tie or reinforce the structure (respectively 220mm x approx. 65mm and 160mm by 110mm)

Fig.81: *View of the hole left by removal of the projecting doorhead. The reused timber to the left also formed part of the lintel, plus a bond timber partly visible at the top of the frame (0.2m scale)*



7.3.2 Wall construction to the east of the doorway



Fig.82: A further view of the area after the removal of the doorframe, showing timber framing to the east

As described previously the brick wall was carried over the doorframe, but did not go any further than the adjacent stud – seen in the above photo immediately behind the 1.0m scale. This area was only partially exposed (and internally not at all beyond

this line), but there are couple of points that suggest that the interior has undergone some substantial change:

- The stud noted above and seen in Fig.82 had evidence for lath and plastering down the full length of its internal face – including fragments of *in situ* lath near the top. The same thing was also observed towards the top of the next stud, some 315mm further to the east.

Clearly there must have been a finished wall face in this area. However, just to the west it would apparently have been stepped out – the internal face of the brick wall above the doorframe was not in line with the stud, but approximately 80mm to the south.



Fig.83: *Detail of timbers at the top right hand corner of Fig.82. Two separate elements are represented: on the left an original stud and overlying beam, and to the right the northern end of the secondary ceiling beam and supporting post*

- Some 50-60mm in front of the stud and presumed original wall face was a further post, with a cross-section *c* 105mm north-south by 205mm east west (shown in Fig. 82 with black-painted front & adjoining the modern green-painted wall to the east). This supports the very substantial (*c* 263mm high x 340mm wide) beam that spans the north-south centre line of Room G-12, and forms part of a wall face *c* 140mm south of the original.

These latter beams must represent an addition to the room, presumably introduced to give extra support to the overlying ceiling and first floor level. This may also be associated with the structural failure and repairs seen on the first floor, in particular the replacement of the girding beam at the base of the western wall (*cf.* Section 9.5.2).

7.4 Areas G-09, G11 & G-09a

Work in these areas produced evidence for the original rear wall of the building, the associated stone plinth or footing and for subsequent additions and alteration to the structure.

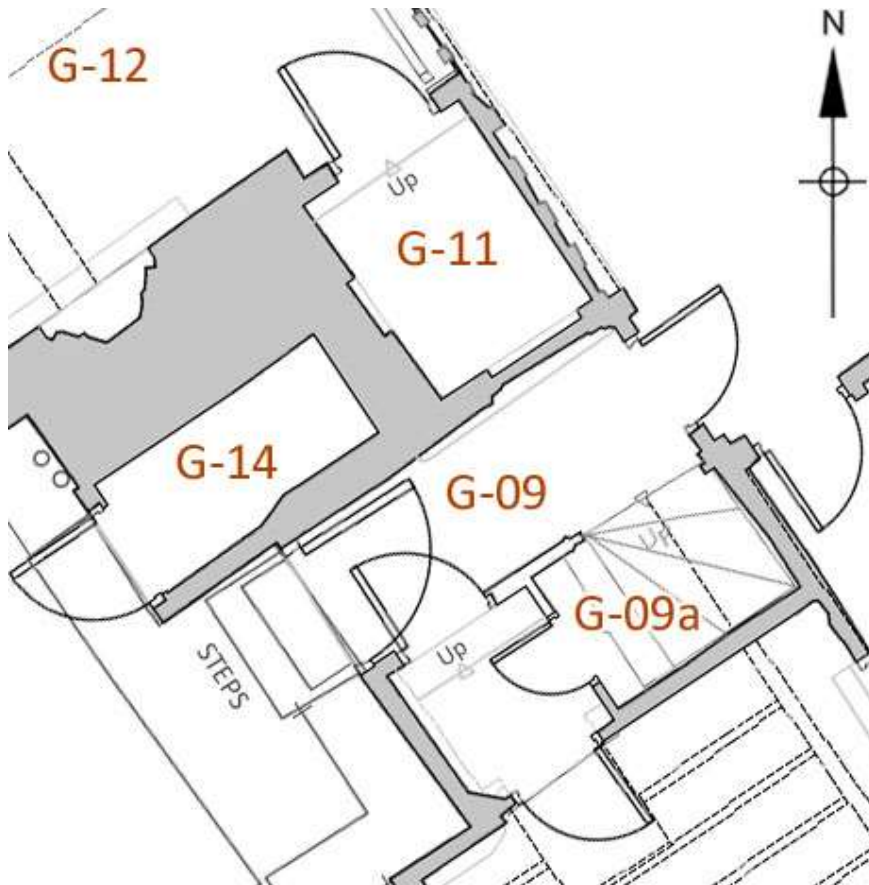


Fig.84: Location of areas G-09, G11 & G-09a

7.4.1 Corridor G-09

Corridor G-09 was recorded in two areas, both on the line of the northern wall – during initial investigation works approximately midway along this line in March 2016, and subsequently during the main programme when a blocked doorway towards the eastern end of the wall was opened up. The first of these records is described below, and the second overleaf as part of the works relating to the small room/corridor G-11.

In 2016 a small test hole (c 700mm x 450mm) was cut into the upper part of the wall (Figs.85-86). This revealed several phases of wall covering – the modern plasterboard overlying lath & plaster, and this in turn over several pieces of painted board which appeared to have been fitted between two pre-existing studs c 430mm apart.

Behind this was further lath and plaster and then brickwork, then opening into a void between brickwork at the rear of area G-14 and the western wall of G-11 (possibly timber panelling). The space was not further opened up or investigated, although it is at least established that it is not the solid wall nearly 0.5m thick depicted on Fig.84.



Fig.85: *Exploratory hole cut in the northern wall of the corridor G-09 (0.2m scale)*



Fig.86: *As above, oblique view with the blocked doorway visible to the left*

7.4.2 Corridor G-11

This area is assumed to form part of the probable mid-later 17th century northwestern extension, otherwise represented by Room G-12, the cellar and the overlying first floor and attic rooms. Prior to the current refurbishment G-09 was only open to the north (that is, to Room G-12), but it is clear that originally the space formed a direct link between this room and the stair turret/central passageway. It is not known when the northern doorway was blocked, but certainly at some point before 1964 (*cf.* Gravett 1966, Fig. 1).

The preliminary refurbishment works and recording here fell into three specific areas – the stripping of later material from the northern doorframe to expose the original timber frame, the opening up and similar exposure of the blocked southern doorframe, and the removal of the floor and exposure of underlying deposits and features (including to the east the original external wall plinth and overlying cill beam).

7.4.2.1 The southern and northern doorframes

Both frames had been cut back to increase the size of the opening – in the case of the southern doorway only the doorhead, but in the case of the northern doorframe both the head and the jambs. Approximately 40mm to 70mm was removed in each area, leaving a crudely worked and unpainted surface.



Fig.87: *The upper part of the southern doorframe, viewed from the main corridor and showing the bare and roughly finished lower surface of the doorhead (0.2m scale)*



Fig.88: Detail of the western corner of the southern doorframe. About half the thickness of the doorhead has been removed, as indicated by the 90° turn on the chamfered jamb and by the truncated tenon just behind this



Fig.89: The top eastern corner of the southern doorframe. A similar view to the above, except that here the jamb is tenoned into the doorhead

Given that the reduced surfaces were left unfinished it is assumed that the purpose was not really to enlarge the doorways, but rather to facilitate a remodelling of the frame without decreasing the overall size – perhaps to replace what seems to have been a fairly plain oak surface with more decorative moulded timber.



Fig.90: *The exposed northern doorframe viewed from Room G-12 (1.0m scale)*



Fig.91: *The upper part of the northern doorframe, viewed from the adjacent room*

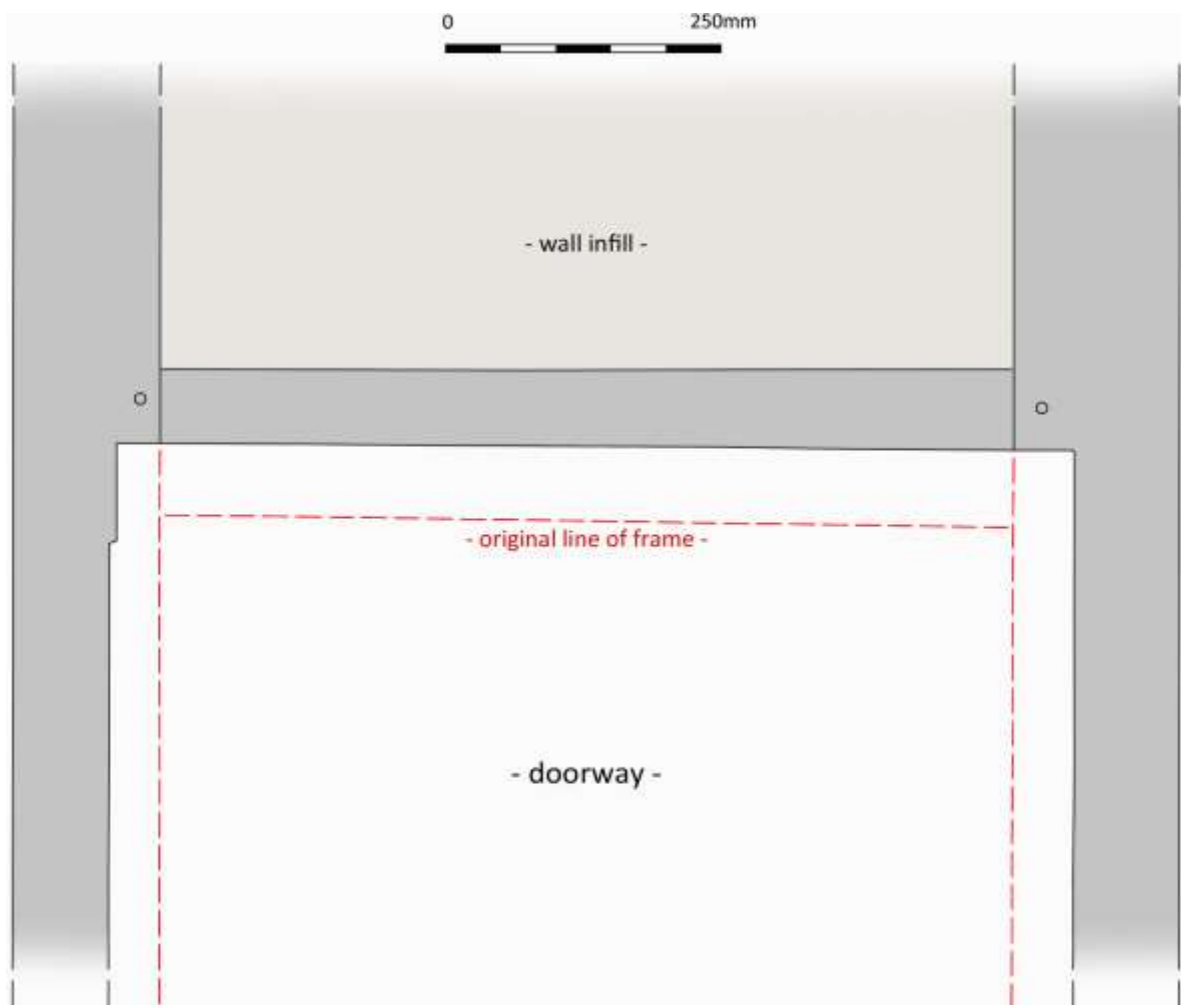


Fig.92: *Elevation of the upper part of the doorframe, including a projection of the original line*



Fig.93: *Detail of the top eastern corner of the northern doorframe*



Fig.94: *Detail of the top western corner – unlike the southern frame the doorhead here is tenoned into the jambs at both ends, as the latter continue to ceiling level*



Fig.95: *The northern doorframe – base of the eastern jamb (0.2m scale)*

7.4.2.2 Deposits and features below the floor

The removal of the floor and adjacent skirting to the east exposed a small section of the original rear wall of the property. This was close-studded, the lower part of four studs being visible over a distance of *c* 1.3m. Below this were two adjoining oak cill beams 170mm to 180mm in height: that to the north continued beyond the northern threshold of G-11, whilst the other (*c* 1.2m in length) terminated below the southern doorframe.

Below the cill beam and stepped out by *c* 50mm to 70mm to the west was a mortared and roughly coursed chalk and Reigate stone plinth. Limited excavation was undertaken along the eastern side of the corridor to expose this more fully, and also to investigate several adjoining and later constructions. The results of this are illustrated below, and the continuation of the plinth to the south of the central corridor G-09 is also described in Section 7.4.3 below.

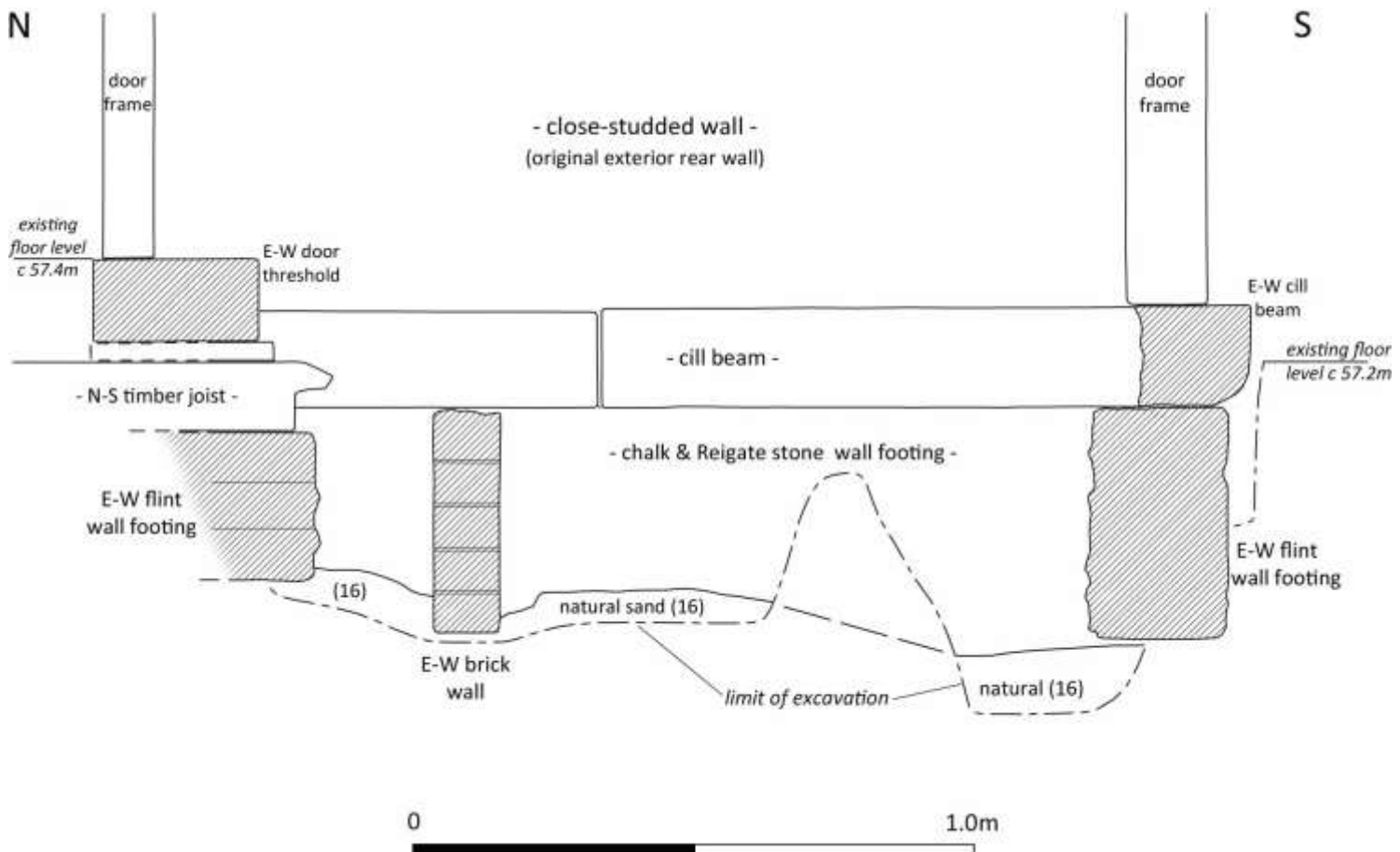


Fig.96: Combined section and elevation, showing the various elements of Corridor G-09 and to the rear the original external western wall plinth and cill beams

The depth of the main wall plinth was between *c* 320mm 460mm, and it appeared to come down onto quite soft natural ground. Abutting it at right angles at either end of this area were further stone bases, primarily if not wholly constructed of flint. That to

the south (Figs.97 & 98) is presumably part of the staircase turret extension, and is believed to date to the later 16th century: the stonework was about 220mm to 240mm wide, and 410mm deep. It too was overlain by an oak cill beam (partially removed).

The east-west wall base to the north was of slightly different construction, the flintwork having a more regular or knapped face in three courses. The width of the plinth was not established, but its depth on the south side was about 260mm. This must form part of the northwestern extension represented by Room G-12, *etc.*: in fact it was directly overlain by the ends of three north-south joists that continued into the room. Above these was the substantial (c 285mm by 145mm) timber that formed the threshold to the northern doorway.

The above arrangement would seem to confirm that the corridor G-11 and the extension to the north are parts of the same build. If the corridor had formed an addition to this room then presumably a cill beam or similar would have been placed directly over the plinth, and certainly not open joists.

Also abutting the original rear wall plinth towards the northern end of the corridor was a single-header thickness mortared brick wall. The depth of this from the extant top was about 380mm (five courses), and the wall continued across the corridor to abut further brickwork at the base of the western wall – a distance of c 1.41m to 1.45m. The function of this is unknown: if it was more centrally located, or if there were corresponding structures to the south one would assume a floor support, but this does not fit the specific evidence.

Excavation within the area of G-11s also produced some finds, from what was a fairly uniform loose sandy fill (contexts 14 & 15). The finds – pottery, clay tobacco pipe, building material, animal bone and glass – are described in the relevant Appendix, and collectively indicate an earlier 18th century date.



Fig.97: The southeast corner of area G-11, with the original wall plinth and cill beam to the left of the 0.4m scale. The mortared flint base to the right & timber immediately above the scale presumably form part of the staircase turret addition



Fig.98: As above, looking directly at the original external wall plinth & cill beam



Fig.99: The northeast corner of G-11, with the original wall plinth and cill beam to the right of the frame: two studs are also just visible above the new timber. In the top left-hand corner is the timber door threshold to Room G-12, with two joists below resting on a flint base



Fig.100: As above, viewed from the northern doorway. The 0.2m scale is resting on the narrow brick wall that spans the corridor



Fig.101: View looking north with the brick wall in the foreground, the threshold and joists of Room G-12 to the rear, and the original external stone wall plinth at lower right

7.4.3 Area G-09a

This formed a small enclosed space under the staircase and to the south of the central corridor G-09. Investigation here revealed the continuation of the plinth (and probably also the cill beam) of the original western (rear) wall of the building. The plinth was similar in construction and dimensions to that described in Section 7.4.2.2 above: the overlying beam appears to be shallower but is probably overlapped at the top by the staircase construction.

The southern side of this area was bordered by the later mortared stone and flint plinth for the stair turret wall, also with an overlying cill beam and abutting the original construction to the east.

The ground level within this area has evidently been reduced – as the figures overleaf show it is actually about 100mm below the base of the original wall plinth. Cleaning up of the surface (context 17) for photography produced a complete miniature tin-glazed ware “ointment pot of 17th century date (cf. Appendix III).



Fig.102: View below the staircase, with the 0.5m scale standing against the stone plinth of the original west (external) wall. To the right is the stone and flint plinth for the stair turret



Fig.103: Detail of the above, showing the original stone plinth and overlying cill beam

7.5 Room G-04

Room G-04 was part of a two-storey extension, fitted into the angle between the original rear wall at the southern end of the property and the stair turret to the north. From map evidence this appears to date to the mid 19th century – between drafting of the Cheam Tithe map of 1840 and the 1st Edition 25-inch Ordnance Survey of 1867.

At ground floor level the southern wall is constructed of brick on both sides of the chimneystack (Fig.105). However, at the southwest corner the brickwork steps down to the level of the window sill on the west face; just to the north of the window it then appears to step down again, to a simple plinth that continues to adjoin the earlier stair turret below the timber weatherboarding. Some details of the western wall and foundation were observed during external excavations (*cf.* Section 11.3): however, the more general reasons for this apparently stepped construction are unclear.

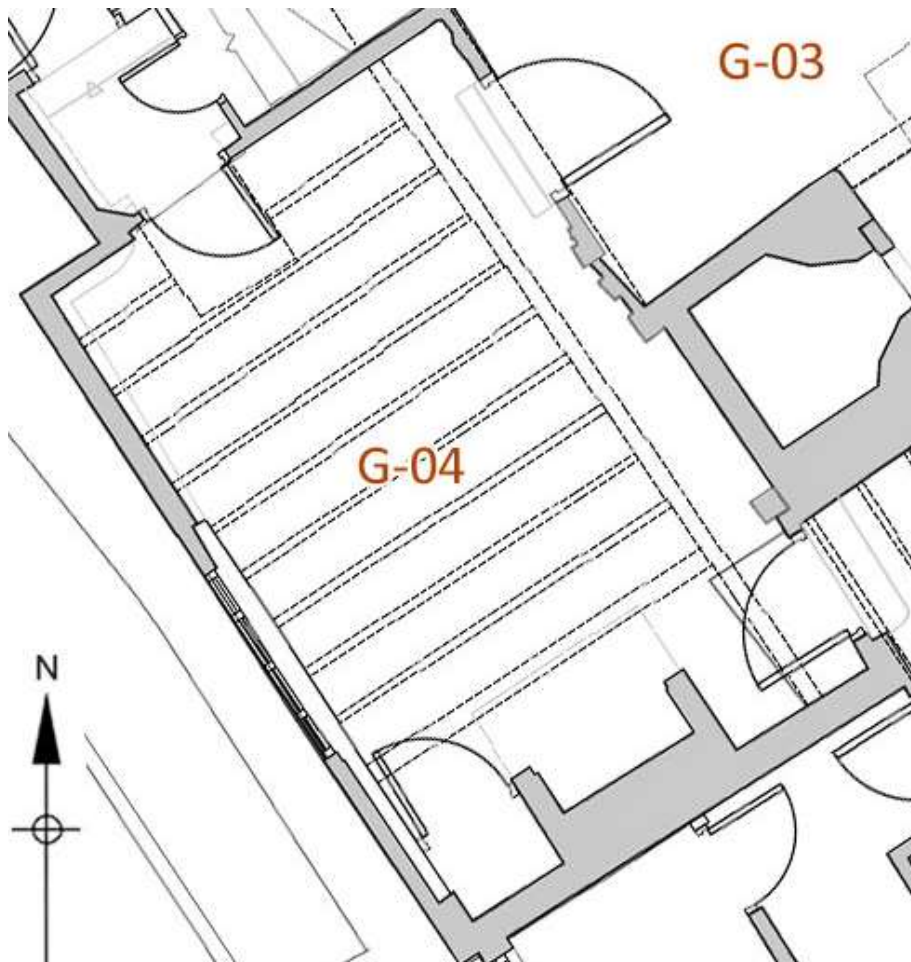


Fig.104: Plan showing the location of Room G-04

The footprint of the room overshoots the line of the original southern wall and contains an east-facing doorway that would presumably have led into the southern extension (seen on both the 1808 Enclosure and 1840 Tithe maps and briefly noted in Section 7.2.1). This area had undergone some alteration, which appeared to include the raising of the southern brick wall by about six courses (in yellow stock) and some quite recent timberwork above this to form a small sloping roof (Figs.108 & 109).



Fig.105: General view of the southern end of Room G-04 plus overlying structure (Room F-05 & roof), looking towards the rear

Fig.106: *The southern end of Room G-04, looking approximately north*



Fig.107 (below): *Detail of the above, showing timber framing and repointed chimney*





Fig.108: *The southeast corner of the room, with the original southwest building corner and jetty at top right*



Fig.109: *Detail of roof construction and reused timbers at the southeast corner, looking west towards the chimneystack*

8. THE CELLAR – Overview

The cellar forms part of the overlying northwestern extension represented by Rooms G-12, F-07, *etc.* (Sections 7.3 & 9.5), and is of probable mid-later 17th century date – although it is likely that it has undergone some subsequent alteration, including the provision of internal steps.

The structure was not greatly affected by the present works, save for the blocking of the existing external entrance and removal of the associated steps and projecting brick canopy – a necessary precursor to the construction of the new northern staircase and lift access. An external and presumably enclosed entrance is first indicated here on the 1st Edition 25-inch Ordnance Survey map of 1867, although not on subsequent maps until the 1950s

The changes to the cellar are described below, with the external entrance and lower flanking walls also shown in elevation on Fig.64.

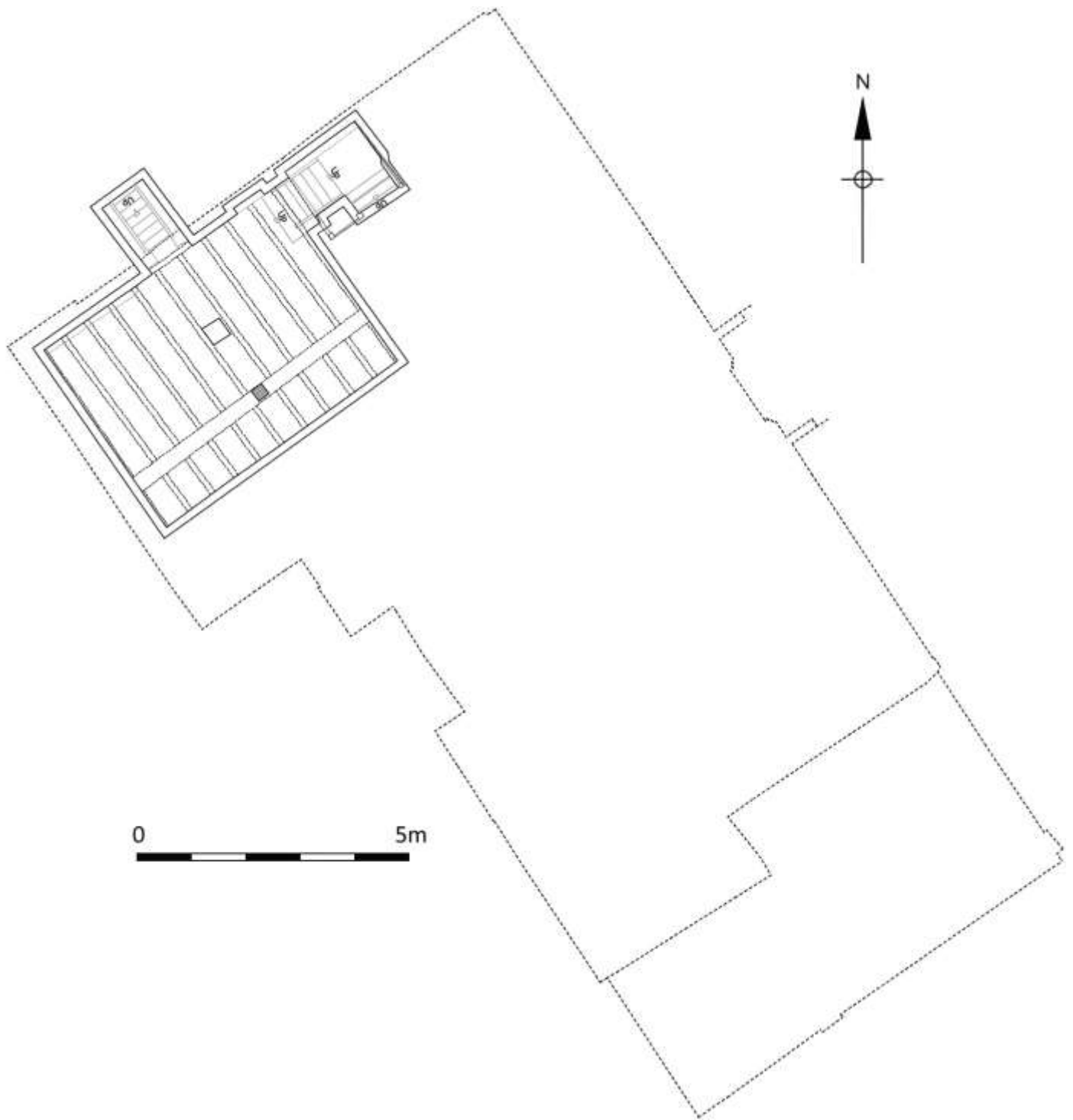


Fig.110: *Plan showing the location of the cellar within the overall building footprint*

Based on an original drawing by Curl la Tourelle Head Architecture. Drg. No. 957 PL 203



Fig.111: *General view of the cellar, looking approximately south. Internal steps on left*



Fig.112: *General view looking approximately south*

Both the above figures show the varied construction of the cellar in both brick and stone, and though not investigated further certainly indicate more than one phase of development: it has been suggested (for example) that the structure originally extended further to the south, below Room G-12 (Archaeology South-East 2012, 17).

8.1 Preliminary works (March 2016)

A single preliminary test pit some 350mm deep was excavated through the dry-laid brick floor, close to the western side of the external entrance (Figs.113 & 114).



Fig.113: *General view of the test pit*
(bottom left; 0.2m scale)

Fig.114 (below): *Detailed view showing*
Reigate stone block immediately to the
left of & below the 0.2m scale



The cellar wall immediately above the test pit stepped back some 350mm before the corner to the entrance, and the pit revealed a squared-off Reigate stone block roughly on this same line. It is possible that this represents one side of an original entrance, subsequently rebuilt and perhaps narrowed. Elsewhere removal of the brick floor exposed *c* 150mm of mixed sandy/chalky bedding, and thence truncated natural sand.

8.2 The main works – removal of the external entrance & steps



Fig.115: General view of the northern end and northwest corner of Whitehall in February 2017, showing the brick-built canopy over the external cellar access

This picture also shows investigation of the wall just to the west of the cellar entrance (the cruciform area of stripped render). This corresponds to a blocked doorway, briefly referred to in Figs.123-24 and described in detail elsewhere (Section 7.3.1.2). Also just visible above this is a slight vertical step back in the wall itself: this was later shown to coincide with a change in construction from brick to lath & plaster.



Figs.116 & 117 (above): *Views of the cellar entrance canopy, looking southwest and east*



Fig.118 (opposite): *Oblique view looking down the steps into the cellar entrance (1m scale)*

Fig.119: *Upper section of the enclosed cellar entrance*



Fig.120: *Lower section of the entrance and wooden steps*



Fig.121: *The north wall and cellar entrance after removal of the entrance canopy*

Fig.122: *Oblique view of the above, looking approx. south (1m scale)*





Fig.123: *Detail of the north wall after removal of the canopy, showing lath & plaster construction, a supporting stud and at top right the edge of a blocked doorway (0.2m scale)*



Fig.124: *Detail of brickwork adjacent to the cellar entrance. The projecting section to the right of the 0.5m scale is a remnant of steps below the blocked doorway*



Fig.125: *The external face of the eastern flank wall to the cellar steps, exposed by a later foundation pit after blocking & infilling of the entrance itself (1m scale)*



Fig.126: *Detail of the above looking SW. The upper two courses form a rebuild over the main body of the wall, context (18) (1.0m scale)*



Fig.127: *The upper part of a previously blocked cellar window, to the east of the entrance (0.5m scale)*



Fig.128: *The completed works from within the cellar, showing the bricked-up external entrance. The previously blocked window (Fig.127) is visible to the right*