

BUILDING RECORDING OF
1-3 COURT STREET,
UPTON UPON SEVERN,
WORCESTERSHIRE

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Contents

Part 1 Project summary

1

Part 2 Detailed report

1. Background	2
1.1 Reasons for the project	2
1.2 Project parameters	2
1.3 Aims	2
2. Methods	2
2.1 Documentary research	2
2.2 Fieldwork methodology.....	3
2.2.1 Fieldwork strategy	3
2.2.2 Building analysis	3
2.3 Building recording methodology.....	3
2.4 The methods in retrospect.....	3
3. Topographical, historical and archaeological context	4
3.1 Topography	4
3.2 Historical and archaeological context.....	4
3.2.1 Court Street (Darren Miller and Shona Robson-Glyde)	5
3.2.2 1-3 Court Street	6
4. Survey results	7
4.1 Building description	7
4.2 Structural analysis	7
4.2.1 Phase 1 sixteenth century	7
4.2.2 Phase 2 seventeenth century	8
4.2.3 Phase 3 Late seventeenth century	8
4.2.4 Phase 4 eighteenth century	8
4.2.5 Phase 4 nineteenth century	9
4.2.6 Phase 5 Modern	10
5. Synthesis	10
5.1 Research frameworks	11
6. Publication summary	12
7. Acknowledgements	12
8. Personnel	12
9. Bibliography	12

Building recording of 1-3 Court Street, Upton upon Severn, Worcestershire

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Part 1: Summary

Building recording was undertaken at 1-3 Court Street, Upton upon Severn (NGR SO 8521 4055). It was undertaken on behalf of Mrs V A Tepper, via the agent Keith Day (Western) Ltd. Mrs Tepper intends to carry out alterations to the building to convert it from the existing two studio apartments to four studio apartments by reuse of vacant attic space and a minor, rear extension including various repairs and restoration to the timber framing. A planning and listed building application was submitted. The project aimed to identify the age and development of the building.

1-3 Court Street, Upton-upon-Severn is part of the grade II listed building of 1-11 Court Street that is described as being of seventeenth century date. The recording of Nos 1-3 showed that architecturally the building dated back into the sixteenth century and a late sixteenth century wall-painting still survived on the east wall of the original, although almost completely protected by a later stud wall. The building was extended in the seventeenth century to include a stable as part of its layout. The eighteenth century saw its conversion by the opening of the attic spaces and the stable hayloft into domestic accommodation. A large bread oven was also constructed. The interpretation of this evidence is that the building may have been used as a parish poorhouse. In the nineteenth century No 1 was converted for use as a shop including a large shop window, possibly with an awning.

Part 2: Detailed report

1. Background

1.1 Reasons for the project

Building recording was undertaken at 1-3 Court Street (NGR SO 8521 4055), Upton upon Severn, Worcestershire (Fig 1). It was undertaken on behalf of Mrs V A Tepper, via the agent Keith Day (Western) Ltd. Mrs Tepper intends to carry out alterations to the building to convert it from the existing two studio apartments to four studio apartments by reuse of vacant attic space and a minor, rear extension including various repairs and restoration to the timber framing. A planning and listed building application has been approved (07/07752-3) by Malvern Hills District Council. It was considered that a site of archaeological interest may be affected by the development (WSM 12362) and therefore a condition to secure the implementation of a programme of archaeological work was imposed on the planning consent.

1.2 Project parameters

The project conforms to the *Standard and guidance for the archaeological investigation and recording of standing buildings or structures* (IFA 2008).

The project also conforms to a brief prepared by the Planning Advisory Section of Worcestershire County Council Historic Environment and Archaeology Service (HEAS 2008a) and for which a project proposal (including detailed specification) was produced (HEAS 2008b).

1.3 Aims

The Institute for Archaeologists defines building investigation and recording as 'a programme of work intended to establish the character, history, dating, form and archaeological development of a specified building' (IFA 2008). The Brief also identified the following aims:

- Record the structure prior to and during development work
- Provide a comprehensive, illustrative, and descriptive account and interpretation of the building, including discussion of its local, regional and national significance.

2. Methods

2.1 Documentary research

Prior to fieldwork commencing information relating to the site and its environs was collected and assessed. A search was made of the Historic Environment Record (HER) and all records within 100m of the site were extracted and a series of maps was created. The main source of reference was an archaeological assessment of Upton upon Severn, undertaken in 1993-95 as part of the Central Marches Historic Towns Survey (Dalwood 1996). A search was made for relevant documents in Worcestershire Record Office and a number of documents were accessed but proved to be of little use to the analysis of the buildings.

In addition the following sources were also consulted:

Cartographic sources

- Tithe map of 1841 (WRO ref s760/572 BA 1572)
- Ordnance Survey maps of 1886, 1904 and 1928.

Documentary sources

- County Records Office – (Tithe map of 1841 WRO ref s760/572 BA 1572)
- Local histories (Lawson 1884 and Hurle 1988).

- County history (VCH Spilman 1971).

2.2 **Fieldwork methodology**

A detailed specification has been prepared by the Service (HEAS 2008b).

Fieldwork was undertaken between 21st April and 18th August 2008. The site reference number and site code is WSM 38567.

2.2.1 **Fieldwork strategy**

Building recording consisted of a photographic survey of the interior and exterior of the buildings, analysis of their development, annotation of existing survey drawings and measured survey. All photographs were taken with photographic scales visible in each shot. The photographic survey was carried out with a Nikon D70 camera. All photographs were recorded on a pro-forma Photographic Record Sheet. Annotation of existing ground plans and elevations, and completion of pro-forma Building Record and Building Phase sheets, complemented the photographic record along with measured drawings completed to scale on permatrace drafting film at 1:20 scale.

2.2.2 **Building analysis**

Analysis of the building was based on the study of the photographic record, building recording forms, annotated drawings and measured drawings. It was also informed by the documentary sources listed above. This allowed plans to be drawn up showing the structural development of the building.

2.3 **Building recording methodology**

The project conformed to the specification for a level 3 survey as defined in the English Heritage document *Understanding historic buildings: a guide to good recording practice* (EH 2006). This level of survey is described as ‘an analytical record’ comprising of ‘an introductory description followed by a systematic account of the buildings origins, development and use’ (EH 2006). This required the following elements of survey:

Survey and drawings

- Plans of all main floors and elevations as existing (provided by client).
- Measured drawings showing the form of any architectural or functional detail not more readily captured by photography.

Photography

- Overall appearance of rooms and circulation areas.
- Detailed coverage of the building’s external appearance.
- Any detail, structural or decorative, relevant to the building’s design, development and use, which does not show on general photographs.

2.4 **The methods in retrospect**

Recording of 1-3 Court Street was carried out whilst the building was occupied by builders restoring the structure and demolishing later outbuildings. The 20th century partitions within the building had been demolished prior to arrival on site but allowed impeded access to record the earlier structure.

The project aimed to produce a record and analysis of Nos 1-3 Court Street. However this building was only part of the whole structure of 1-11 Court Street with Nos 5-11 being in separate ownership. The understanding and analysis of the structure was therefore limited and possibly flawed due to the inaccessibility of the whole structure. A more complete analysis would have been achieved by the recording of the whole structure.

3. **Topographical, historical and archaeological context**

3.1 **Topography**

Upton is a large parish that lies on the west bank of the river Severn. The town itself, around 10 miles downstream of Worcester, is a compact settlement which lies at a height of *c*15m AOD. The underlying topography consists of the flood plain of the river Severn which flows approximately east to west. The town however, is located on a limited area of gravel stretching roughly north to south. The soils are typical argillic brown earths and the underlying geology consists of Downtonian Raglan Mudstone Formation and riverine alluvium (British Geological Survey 1:125,000, sheet 52°N - 0.4°W; Dalwood 1996, 2).

3.2 **Historical and archaeological context**

The earliest recorded form of the Upton placename is *Uptun* meaning 'farmstead or estate up the Severn' (Hooke 1990, 247) and is referring to the settlement in relation to Ripple. The town has been known as *Uptune* in the ninth century, (VCH 1971, 212) *Uptun* in the tenth to twelfth centuries and *Upton super Sabrinam* from the fourteenth century (Mawer and Stenton 1927, 174).

The early settlement of Upton was most likely dispersed, although a settlement around the bridge area is probably that mentioned in the Domesday Book. The focus of settlement around the church, by the bridging point, further developed in the early medieval period, with the church dating at least from the fourteenth century. However it is not well-documented before the 15th century. Lay subsidy rolls of the late thirteenth century show that Upton had a large tax-paying population and records occupational and place-name surveys that indicate Upton was an established settlement by this time. This suggests that the borough was founded in the early thirteenth century. The settlement at this time would have been focused on the High Street leading to the bridge and the Church, with an extension of the High Street, Old Street, to the south. New Street was laid out a little later, probably in the fourteenth century (Dalwood 1996, 2).

The town prospered because of its association with the river and its function as a port on the Severn. There were two medieval quays, to either side of the bridge at the bottom of High Street that continued in use throughout the post-medieval period (Dalwood 1996, 2-3). The prosperity of the town in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries is testified by the number of buildings of this date in the town. It still has two large hotels that were constructed in the seventeenth century and remodelled in the eighteenth century (The Talbot and the White Lion). This indicates the continued importance of the town as a staging post throughout this period. The nineteenth century saw expansion in the number of trades in the town, although the population stayed relatively consistent throughout the century (census information).

There are many entries on the Worcestershire Historic Environment Record (HER) relating to the history and archaeology of Upton-upon-Severn. A search around the area of nos. 1-3 Court Street returned very little information on archaeological records and a large number of historic buildings. These records have been detailed below in Table 1. There have been no activities in the area around the site and over all in Upton very little archaeological activity has taken place. The core of Upton is dominated by historic buildings, with nearly every structure on High Street and Old Street recorded on the HER. In the area of the site the buildings date mainly from the eighteenth century although there are some earlier survivals. A large number of the monuments on the HER relate to urban components, such as tenement plots.

Table 1: HER records around the site, those in italics relate specifically to the site

HER No	Location	Description	Date	NGR
Buildings				
<i>WSM 12362</i>	<i>1-3, 5 & 11 Court Street</i>	<i>Timber frame house. Poor house. Shops.</i>	<i>17th C 18th C 19th & 20th C</i>	<i>SO 85215 40550</i>
WSM 12365	Talbot Hotel, 27 High Street	Brick built inn with earlier core	Mid 18 th C Mid 17 th C	SO 85198 40567
WSM 12367	White Lion Hotel, 17 High Street	Brick frontage. Timber frame building.	Mid 18 th C 17 th C	SO 85212 40592

		Inn and hotel		
WSM 16782	2 Brown Square	Brick dwelling Stuccoed house	17 th /18 th C 1830-1840	SO 85251 40508
WSM 16785	13 & 15 Court Street	Cottage Shop	Late 18 th C 19 th & 20 th C	SO 85221 40535
WSM 16786	2A & 2B Court Street	Cottage Shop	Late 18 th C 19 th & 20 th C	SO 85203 40547
WSM 16787	4 Court Street	Cottage Shop	Late 18 th C 19 th & 20 th C	SO 85206 40537
WSM 16798	19 High Street	Timber frame house Brick extension Shop	17 th C 1850-160 19 th & 20 th C	SO 85204 40605
WSM 16799	23 High Street	House Refronting of house Shop	17 th century Late 18 th C 19 th & 20 th C	SO 85200 40583
WSM 16800	25 High Street	House Rebuilding of house Shop	18 th C c1800 19 th & 20 th C	SO 85200 40576
WSM 16816	Royal Oak Inn, Oak Row	House Tavern	18 th C 19 th C	SO 85207 40469
WSM 16817	1 Old Street	Brick house Cross Keys Public House Stuccoed frontage	Mid-late 17 th C Mid 17 th – 20 th C 19 th C	SO 85189 40555
WSM 16818	5 Old Street	Red brick house Shop	Late 18 th C 19 th C	SO 85188 40540
WSM 16819	Public Library, 7 Old Street	Red brick house Shop	Late 18 th C 19 th C	SO 85178 40535
WSM 16820	9 Old Street	Timber frame house Refacing of house Shop	17 th C Early 19 th C Mid 19 th C – 20 th C	SO 85179 40530
WSM 16821	11 & 13 Old Street	Red brick house Shop	Late 18 th C 19 th C	SO 85171 40523
WSM 16822	15 Old Street	House Matching range Shop	c1800 Late 19 th c 19 th & 20 th C	SO 85172 40509
WSM 16856	Willow Bank, 6 School Lane	House	Lid-late 19 th C	SO 85238 40481
WSM 27493	Off London Lane	Brick and timber warehouse Drill hall	16 th – 19 th C 20 th C	SO 85240 40600
Urban components				
WSM 12310	High Street	Planned town Described as borough in 15 th C	Medieval	SO 85203 40601
WSM 1320	High Street	Occupation Manorial history	Saxon	SO 85200 40603
WSM 16801	High Street	Site of market cross. Moved in 20 th C now War Memorial	Medieval	SO 85175 40572
WSM 16808	High Street	Poss. Site of market house.	17 th C	SO 85175 40572
WSM 19753	W of High Street & S of Church Street	Tenement plots	Medieval	-
WSM 19754	E of High Street & S of Dunn's Lane	Tenement plots	Medieval	-
WSM 19758	N of New Street	Tenement plots	Medieval	-
WSM 19759	S of New Street	Tenement plots	Medieval	-
WSM 19761	Upton	Street system	Medieval	-

3.2.1 Court Street (Darren Miller and Shona Robson-Glyde)

Court Street forms an interesting element in the historic town plan of Upton upon Severn (Fig 1). As discussed above, the urban assessment (Dalwood 1996) suggests that the town developed in several stages, beginning with a pre-Conquest nucleus around the bridge. The next stage, probably dating to the 12th or 13th century, saw the creation of the High Street and the tenements along it. At a later stage, but still in the medieval period, it seems that the High Street was extended to the south (Old Street) and a new street was laid out to the west (New Street).

Court Street begins at the south-east end of High Street, at its junction with Old Street. It has a dog-leg shape and continues eastwards from High Street, then turns sharply to the south and

turns again to the east (Fig 1). With regard to tenement plots along Court Street, the east-west length is flanked by tenements fronting onto High Street, while the dog-leg is flanked by tenements laid out at right angles to its axis. Judging by historic maps, the tenements on the east side, including 1-3 Court Street, seem always to have been long and narrow. In contrast, the tenements on the west side of Court Street seem always to have been short and wide.

Court Street, or Pig Market as it was originally known, possibly pre-dates the creation of Old Street (the High Street extension). The street was probably a back lane for access to fields or back plots. The dog-leg shape of the street is typical of a lane that became an occupied street after being in existence for some time. Therefore it was not planned as Old Street and New Street were. The narrow tenements on Court Street would have been occupied by cottages housing the poorer occupants of the town away from the core of the settlement.

Turning to the buildings of Court Street, the main information available at the start of the project was the listed buildings descriptions made by the Department of the Environment in the 1950s (DoE 1983), and updated since by English Heritage (Listed Buildings Online). 1-3 Court Street is a grade II listed building. Three other buildings in Court Street are listed, one on the east side and two on the west. These are all eighteenth century cottage ranges with nineteenth century additions and comprise nos. 13 and 15 (WSM 16785), nos. 2A and 2B (WSM 16786), and no. 4 (WSM 16787). Taken together, these descriptions suggest that the street was wholly residential by the eighteenth century, and at least partly so in the seventeenth century. As such, it may have contrasted with other streets where houses stood alongside shops, warehouses, and other buildings.

By the early nineteenth century, the street had developed to include businesses. A large number of trade directories contain information relating to Court Street and its previous incarnation as Pig Market, they are listed below in Appendix 2. An 1828-29 trade directory (Pigot 1828-29, 881-883) records that one member of the clergy, Rev James Green, lived on the street along with two blacksmiths, Benjamin Allen and Thomas Giles, and one painter or plumber, James Morris. By 1850 a trade directory shows that there was one blacksmith, three shoemakers, one shopkeeper, one straw bonnet maker, one tailor and one tavern (Kelly 1850, 480-482). This change in the street character reflects the prosperity of Upton, which was growing due to its links with the river trade despite the advent of the railways. The 1879 Littlebury directory shows a huge variety of occupations trading from Court Street; there was one baker, one beer retailer and dairy keeper, one boot and shoemaker, one builder, one fishing tackle maker, one market gardener, two greengrocers, one grocer and tea dealer, one tavern and painter, plumber and glazier, one rick-cloth maker and one shop keeper (Littlebury 1879, 512-527). However the prosperity of the town seems to have declined by the end of the nineteenth century and into the twentieth century. This is seen in the 1914 directory that lists only a solicitor, a confectioner and the Royal Oak Inn (Bennet 1914, 66-67). This decline appears to have been a result of the railways taking away the river traffic and by the beginning of the twentieth century the market attendance had also declined (Kelly 1912, 276).

3.2.2 1-3 Court Street

The building recorded on Court Street is part of a longer range that also incorporates nos. 5 and 11 (Plate 1). The building was constructed on the corner of Court Street just before it joins High Street and is a grade II listed structure. The listed building description of 1-3 Court Street, which is listed in a group with nos. 5 and 11 (WSM 12362) is as follows:

Early 17th century timber-framed and whitened brick range. Two-storey. Plain tile roofs with brick stack on slope. Gable ended. Tension braces to corners of box frame. Three window range above, casements. Mixed fenestration below, one C19 4-light shop window. Through passage. Two gabled timber framed wings behind. The parish Poor House 1763-1836 (DoE 1983, SO8540 2/54).

The whole building, 1-11 Court Street, has been identified as a poor house occupied between 1763 and 1863 (Hurle 1988, 62). This information is also repeated in the HER information, the listed building description and the latest Pevsner (Brooks and Pevsner 2007, 646). However the source for this information is not cited.

4. Survey results

4.1 Building description

1-3 Court Street is part of the listed range of 1-11 Court Street. The building lies on the street frontage and provides a striking aspect viewed down Court Street from High Street (Plate 1). It is a two-storey timber-frame structure of elm with large square panels each divided into four smaller panels and there are end tension braces. The ground floor has mostly been replaced with brick and no. 1 has a large nineteenth century shop window with pilasters and decorative brackets. It is gable ended onto which a large stack has been added. There is a brick stack on the frontage roof slope which has plain tiles. There are two gabled timber-framed wings to the rear. The rear elevation also has brick extensions (Plate 2).

4.2 Structural analysis

The building as recorded is depicted in Plates 1-50. Ground plans, phase plans, elevations and sections have been reproduced as Figures 2-7.

4.2.1 Phase 1 Sixteenth century (Fig 2)

In the later part of the sixteenth century, a large house (Plate 3) was constructed on the street frontage of Pig Market, what was at the time a back lane in Upton upon Severn. This location was probably chosen because of its lack of earlier buildings, other than small cottages, and therefore a large amount of land was available for a wealthy person to build a substantial property.

The building was constructed in timber-frame, of elm, an example of this framing can be seen in Figures 4 and 5. The building had a jettied first floor on its street frontage and on its north elevation. Evidence of this jetty can still be seen on the interior of no. 3, Old Sweet Shop (Plate 4). A number of wattle and daub infill panels still exist (Plate 5) and it is probable that the entire building had similar infill panels. The use of a continuous jetty along the frontage of the building shows that the building was constructed as a two-storey house from its inception, rather than the open-hall house whose usage was waning at this time. It is possible that the ground and first floors were separated into individual spaces although some of the current dividing framing is more likely to be of a later date.

A number of panels in the roof space were also filled with what appears to be an early form of weatherboarding. This consists of grooves cut in the inner faces of the posts and horizontal timbers slotted into the grooves (Plate 6). This form of infill was a type of weatherboard that was used in the medieval and early post-medieval periods before overlapping external weatherboarding became popular in the eighteenth century.

Against the east elevation of the building, visible from attic 2, was a red-ochre wall-painting (Fig 2). The style of the painting suggests that it is contemporary with the structure. The painting had been created on at least two of the narrow infill panels (Plate 7) that were formed of wattle and daub, rendered with lime plaster and then coated with white lime paint. The style of the painting is rather crude but seems to consist of intersecting horizontal, vertical, diagonal and curved red lines (Plate 8). The design was most likely part of a large border for a cartouche or central image (pers comm. Mark Perry).

The painting was located immediately beneath an overhanging wall plate and was mainly hidden behind a modern stud wall. This position is on the rear elevation of the building, on its exterior. It is very unusual for such a painting to have been on the exterior of a building and therefore it is likely that the painting was within an extension to the building. Evidence of this extension has been lost due to later changes to the building.

The framing of the north wall of attic 1b (Fig 3) shows a number of unusual marks on the lower timbers of the elevation. The marks occur on two of the upright posts rising from the wall plate, just above the modern floor level. These marks consist of burns on the timbers (Plate 9). The angle of the marks shows that they could not have been made by accidental burning from tallow candles too close to the timbers as the flame had been held at an angle to that of the timber. They were purposely placed on the timber, during the construction phase of

the building, by the carpenter and were intended to protect the building from fire. They are ritual marks of protection that are often found in timber frame buildings of the sixteenth and seventeenth century.

4.2.2 **Phase 2 Seventeenth century** (Fig 2)

The late sixteenth century building was extended in this period (Fig 2). The extension consisted of a very small two-storey block against the rear (east) elevation of the building (Plate 10). The construction of this extension caused the partial rebuilding of the ground floor north elevation timber frame (Plate 11) so that it partly undercut the first floor wall plate. A construction notch on the post of the extension and a scarf joint in the wall plate show that it was constructed independently of the rest of the rear range (Plate 12).

The extension was a replacement for a previous structure and would have ensured that the sixteenth century wall-painting remained undercover. Its small size could mean that it was used as a staircase extension.

4.2.3 **Phase 3 Late seventeenth century** (Fig 2)

The late part of the seventeenth century saw the earlier rear extension being extended itself to create a rear range (Plate 13). The range consisted of timber frame with infill panels and its construction caused the removal of the east wall of the earlier extension (Fig 2). These may have been filled with wattle and daub or lath and plaster but are currently filled with brick. The south elevation has been almost completely replaced in later phases and the north elevation shows no signs of contemporary door openings and therefore any entrances must have been on the south elevation.

Later alterations have removed any evidence that may have existed to give an idea of the function of the structure. Its position at the rear of the property, and facing onto the courtyard behind the street frontage, suggests that the range may have been used as a stable and carriage house probably with a hayloft above. Recording of the entire structure would help with identifying the locations of such important structures and in working out the function of this range.

4.2.4 **Phase 4 Eighteenth century** (Fig 2)

A large number of changes were carried out on 1-3 Court Street in the eighteenth century. The order these changes occurred is unknown but some obviously follow on from others.

A bakehouse was constructed at the rear of the late seventeenth century range. This brick built structure was roughly square in plan, measuring 1.4m by 1.5m, with a single pitch roof (Plate 14). Internally it consisted of a bake area with an arched roof (Plate 15) and had an ash box beneath the bake area (Plate 16). Surviving etchings of a similar date show the same arrangement bake houses as was seen here (Plate 17). The size of this oven suggests that it was for commercial rather than domestic use.

The construction of the oven caused the removal of the east and south walls on the ground floor of the late seventeenth century range. These were rebuilt in brick with the oven openings in the east wall and a new entrance way was added into the southern elevation (Plate 18). This entrance way, now a window, still has its internal curved wall (Plate 19) and moulded woodwork (Plate 20). The quality of this entrance way suggests that it was a high status entrance and may have been the entrance to a shop rather than to a house. The location of the adjacent oven of the same date suggests that this was the entrance to a bakery.

Also in the eighteenth century, a fireplace and stack were added against the north gable of the building (Fig 11), the lower part of which is still surviving (Plate 21). This addition again caused rebuilding of the north gable on the ground floor, and the construction of a large brick stack. Internally the brick fireplace was constructed with rounded corners at the back (Plate 22) and incorporated a small hole on its left (west) side within the brickwork (Plate 23). This small hole was a 'salt niche' and was used to store lump salt to keep it dry and ready for use. Salt was a very important and valuable commodity in the past. Not only was it used as a flavouring for food but it was also crucially important for food preservation, especially when animals were slaughtered at the beginning of winter and had to be kept as a food supply

through until the following spring. It was also used in the production of leather and, from the seventeenth century, in producing pottery.

The eighteenth century saw a need for more of 1-3 Court Street to be used for accommodation. This caused the attics to be converted and a partition to be created between the attics of 1-3 and No 5 Court Street to the south. This partition in attic 1a (Fig 6, Plate 24) was formed by infilling the area beneath the roof truss and plastering over the top of it. The plaster had a number of incised marks on it. The first of these marks was obviously made when the drawing with fingers when the plaster was still wet. It consisted of a **W** mark, formed of intersecting **Vs** (Plate 25). Adjacent to this **W** mark are two 'house shaped' marks that were incised into the dry plaster. These were formed by two butterfly marks, a saltire cross between two upright lines, with a curved 'roof' over the top (Plate 26). Both of these forms of mark are examples of 'apotropaic' marks ('evil-averting').

The phase 3 late seventeenth century range was converted for domestic use at this time, on the first and attic floors, from its possible previous use as a stable. The conversion required the roof line of the seventeenth century timber frame range to be raised and a floor added in attic 2. The raising of the roof can be seen by the small posts above the wall plate (Plate 27) that do not correspond with any of the framing below the wall plate. It is likely that the original roof (Fig 7, Plate 28) was merely moved into its current position and not replaced at this time. It is probable that the stair access into the attics was from the first floor of the range.

In order for attics 1a and 1a to be accessed from attic 2, a new opening and steps had to be created (Plate 29). This involved cutting through the east wall of the original building to create a doorway and adding a step up into attic 1b. A similar problem was encountered on the first floor of the seventeenth century range as it was also converted to domestic use. A set of steps (Plate 30) was introduced and a doorway cut through the east wall of the sixteenth century building providing access from room F1 to room F3. Evidence of the eighteenth century domestic use of this floor of the range, rather than as a stable or outhouse, can be seen from the high quality window furniture, consisting of turnbuckle catches (Plate 31) with spiral (Plate 32) and tulip (Plate 33) handles. Both of these handles also have holes that would have held the hook of a stay. Despite the high quality of this ironwork there is no matching set. Each of the windows appears to have used just what ironwork was available rather than spending a large amount of money to have identical catches, stays and handles.

Also in the eighteenth century, a small extension was added to the rear elevation of the building (Plate 34). This allowed a new room to be added to the ground and first floors of 3 Court Street, now a bedroom on the first floor (Plate 35). Adjacent to the new rooms the extension was smaller allowing for a winder staircase to be added to the first floor (Plate 36). The ground floor of the passageway was also rebuilt in brick at this time (Plate 37), although the first floor partition remained timber framed.

4.2.5 **Phase 4 Nineteenth century** (Fig 2)

The most apparent change to the building in this period is the blocking of the ground floor jetty. This was achieved by removing the ground floor wall and rebuilding the ground floor in brick flush with the first floor (Plate 38). For 1 Court Street this involved the insertion of a large 4-light shop window (Plate 39) with pilasters (Plate 40) and decorative brackets (Plate 41). Fixing eyes (Plate 42) attached to the pilasters show the position of an awning or hanging bars to show the shop's wares. The interior of the shop also retains the possible evidence of internal shuttering of the window (Plate 43).

Also constructed in the nineteenth century was a small structure was attached to the rear (east) of the oven. This building was constructed of brick (Plate 44) and contained a small hearth and chimney (Plate 45). The structure seems to be too small to be of much practical use. It is certainly too small to be used for a blacksmith, of which there were a number recorded on the street in the early to mid nineteenth century. It is possible that the building was used for another purpose that required a hearth, such as a stay maker or confectioner (both trades that existed on Court Street), or even as a wash room.

In the nineteenth century a fireplace was created on the inside of the brick passageway wall in room G6 of 3 Court Street (Plate 46). The change of brickwork is clearly discernible and shows much larger bricks for the sides of the fireplace than for the rear. In order to add this

fireplace the south wall of the room was moved to the north by the building of thick brick walls, to the left and right of the hearth, containing the chimney flue of the fire (Fig 2).

At some point in the nineteenth century, most probably in the later part of the century, a small cat slide roofed extension was added to the east of the eighteenth century stair extension of 3 Court Street (Plate 47). This currently has a sink in it but may have been used as a water closet originally.

4.2.6 Phase 5 Modern

Modern alterations of the building mainly seemed to consist of internal partitions, the majority of which were removed prior to the recording started, and the obvious decoration changes that occur over time to a building.

5. Synthesis

1-3 Court Street, Upton-upon-Severn has a history dating back to the sixteenth century. The listing description states that it constructed in the early seventeenth century (DoE 1983, SO8540 2/54), the architectural evidence shows that the building has an earlier date. The sixteenth century roof trusses in attics 1A and 1B have tie beams with the principal rafters jointed at their ends (Plate 48, Figs 3 and 6) unlike the roof trusses of the seventeenth century range adjoining the main building that have the principal rafters jointed to the tie beam inset from the ends (Plate 49, Fig 7). The wall painting on the outside face of the east wall of the building (Plates 7 and 8) has a date, stylistically, of the late sixteenth century. The building must therefore date to no later than this. The survival of this painting is remarkable, due to the major changes that have occurred to that area of the building.

The layout of the building is unusual in that it consisted of one long jettied-range on the street frontage that appears not to have been divided into a hall and serving bay. Instead it had individual rooms on the ground and first floors but with a fully open attic. The building was not divided for the purpose of being individual shops, however, as there were connecting doors between the rooms (Plate 50). Therefore the use must have been purely domestic with a distinct function for each space.

Three different types of ritual marks occur in the building dating from the sixteenth and eighteenth centuries. Ritual marks in buildings occur as a number of forms. Those most commonly recognised are religious marks, intended to invoke the protection of Christ or the Virgin Mary. Butterfly marks have a practical importance with a strong evil-averting association. Burn marks have a protective association. In the seventeenth century the fear of witches was its height, as described in 1604 by King James I in his 'Daemonologie': *'for some of them sayeth that being transformed in the likeness of a little beast or fowl they will come and pierce through whatsoever house or church, though all ordinary passages be closed, by whatsoever open[ing] the air may enter in at'* (Easton 1999, 22 and Hall 2005, 151). This fear and want of protection carried through into the seventeenth century but seems to have followed on from an already existing form of ritual need to protect buildings, or their contents. At Upton we can see the ritual marking of timbers by burning them to protect the building from burning down, 'marked by fire protects from fire', occurring in the sixteenth century. The Vs are a religious form of evil-averting mark and are meant to signify the Virgin Mary, Virgo Virginum (Virgin of Virgins). They are invoking Her protection for the property (Easton 1999, 24-25). These marks can be found mainly on seventeenth century structures but also continued into the eighteenth century as can be seen the marking of the plaster at Upton. The butterfly marks are similar to ones found in Suffolk but this type of mark, without the 'roof' we have in Upton, can also be seen all over the country. They are used to fend off evil from entering spaces and are normally found associated with openings. The two uprights represent the door or window jambs and the cross is to bar entry (Easton 1999, 26). It is interesting that these marks have been made on the partition wall of a formerly open attic and may suggest some want of protection from the adjoining attic space.

The eighteenth century saw the conversion of the attics and the stable range for domestic accommodation and the addition of the oven on the ground floor. All of this seems to indicate that, either other parts of the building were being used for a different purpose, or there was an increased need for such accommodation. Pamela Hurle makes a statement regarding the

property: *'In 1763 the parish purchased from the Martin family a house in the pig market and modified it to become a new workhouse. It was probably the old building which stands in Court Street (as it is now known) and lies next to the yard behind the Talbot Head'* (Hurle 1988, 62). This is so precise that it implies the information has been gained from contemporary documents. A number of these are listed in the bibliography of the book but are not specifically tied to any part of the text. The most likely source listed in the bibliography is the parish papers and books said to be held in the Record Office (WRO) as these include 'overseers' accounts', although these were not found when research on the site was carried out at the Record Office. However Emily M Lawson, an early historian of Upton, seems to dispute this idea of the building being the workhouse as she states in her 1884 book *'In 1763 a new state of things began with the erection of a workhouse on the spot still known as Old Workhouse Yard'* (Lawson 1884, 101). This seems to imply that the 1763 building was a new construction on the site of the long demolished earlier workhouse. Despite these conflicting statements, it still possible that 1-11 Court Street was used a form of workhouse. A poor house was a parish owned property to house those who found themselves in difficulty for a short period and who the parish was obligated to provide and care for.

What is obvious from the recording of the building is that all the important elements expected to be included in an eighteenth century urban house are not present in this building. Even though the structure dates from the sixteenth century, necessary alterations would need to have been made to the building for eighteenth century living. There is no stable to house a horse and carriage, no large kitchen area for cooking and no real distinction between private and public areas, as all the rooms were interconnected. All of the evidence points to the possible use of the building as an eighteenth century poor house for the parish. This would require it to have extra accommodation; a bread oven to provide for the large numbers of people housed in the building; no private rooms would be necessary and the partitioning of the attics could be seen as the segregating of male and female inhabitants. Even the route of access through the building was limited to the one staircase by which every room on the first floor was reached by first walking through every room on the ground floor.

The later use of the building in the nineteenth century is obvious by the addition of the shop window on the ground floor of 1 Court Street. As this part of the building was a shop the internal interconnecting doors were probably blocked at this time and the building became divided into separate properties. The large window implies that the shop wares would be displayed in the window. Add to this the presence of the large bread oven and it is possible to suggest that the building was a bakery. The trade directories (Appendix 2) show that there was a baker on the street from around 1855 through to the end of the nineteenth century.

5.1 Research frameworks

1-3 Court Street is a surviving example of a sixteenth century town within Upton-upon-Severn. The understanding of this building would have greatly benefited from being able to record the whole of the original structure, rather than just the northern part. The survey has presented questions that it may have been possible to find answers for, if the whole had been recorded. This includes the functional layout of the building and any subsequent alterations; the access to the attics and the later functions of the building.

The study of apotropaic marks in historic buildings is gathering momentum within the small circle of buildings archaeology. The leading expert on the subject, Timothy Easton, has been recording these marks for over 30 years (Easton 1999, 22) and originally believed that they were a phenomenon particular to the area around Suffolk. However marks are being discovered and recorded throughout the country, including in Evesham (Robson-Glyde 2008) and Bayton (Robson-Glyde 2009) in Worcestershire and in Warwickshire (Meeson 2005).

The Post-Medieval Research Agenda for the West Midlands Regional Research Framework for Archaeology (<http://www.iaa.bham.ac.uk/research/projects/wmrrfa>) has yet to be published and cannot therefore be referred to here. Atkin, in 'Archaeology in Worcestershire 1500-1750', states that *'the surviving sample of buildings of the period [are] a diminishing resource'* (Atkin 2003, 2) and stresses the need for more recording and synthesis to be undertaken (Atkin 2003, 5). The seminars for the post-medieval period consistently do not

refer to the standing archaeology of the area and so it is difficult to this building in a local context.

6. **Publication summary**

The Service has a professional obligation to publish the results of archaeological projects within a reasonable period of time. To this end, the Service intends to use this summary as the basis for publication through local or regional journals. The client is requested to consider the content of this section as being acceptable for such publication.

Recording of an historic building was undertaken on behalf of Mrs V A Tepper at 1-3 Court Street, Upton-upon-Severn, Worcestershire (NGR ref SO 8521 4055; HER ref WSM 38567). 1-3 Court Street, Upton-upon-Severn is part of the grade II listed building of 1-11 Court Street that is described as being of seventeenth century date. The recording of Nos 1-3 showed that architecturally the building dated back into the sixteenth century. A late sixteenth century wall-painting still survived on the east wall of the original, although almost completely protected by a later stud wall. The building was extended in the seventeenth century to include a stable as part of its layout. The eighteenth century saw its conversion by the opening of the attic spaces and the stable hayloft into domestic accommodation. A large bread oven was also constructed. The interpretation of this evidence is that the building may have been used a parish poorhouse. In the nineteenth century No 1 was converted for use as a shop including a large shop window possibly with an awning.

7. **Acknowledgements**

The Service would like to thank the following for their kind assistance in the successful conclusion of this project: Mrs V A Tepper, the client; Keith Day (Western) Ltd, the agent; Mike Glyde, the curator; Mark Perry (Perry Lithgow Partnership) and Andrea Kirkham for comments regarding the wall painting and Timothy Easton for his comments on ritual marks.

8. **Personnel**

The fieldwork and report preparation was led by Shona Robson-Glyde. The project manager responsible for the quality of the project was Hal Dalwood. Fieldwork was undertaken by Shona Robson-Glyde and illustration by Shona Robson-Glyde.

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Figures



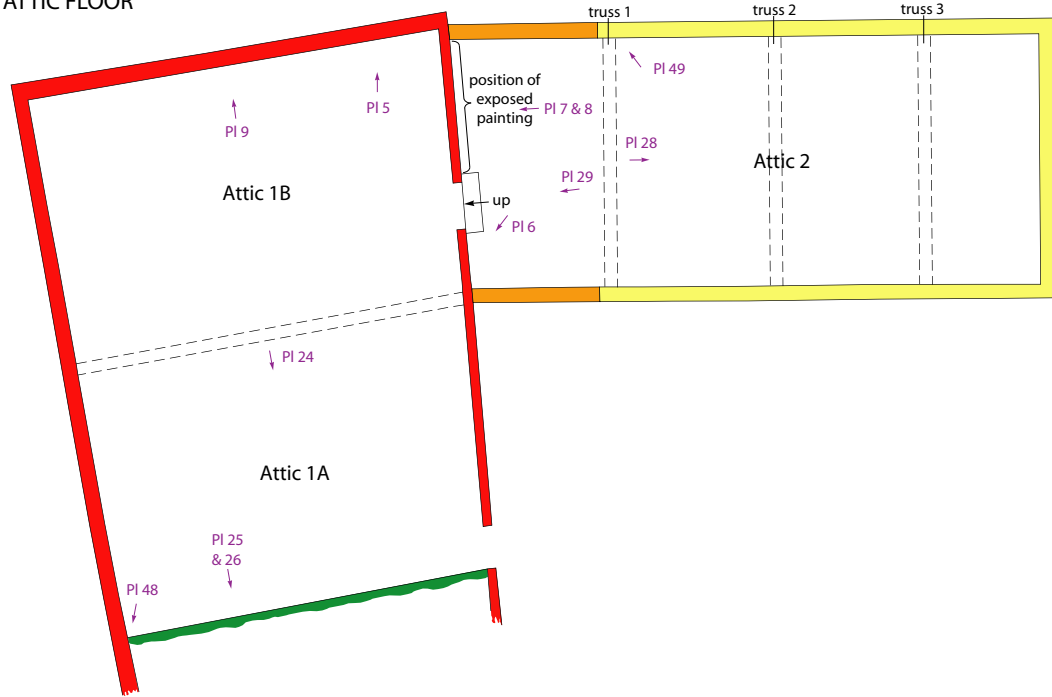
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Location of the site

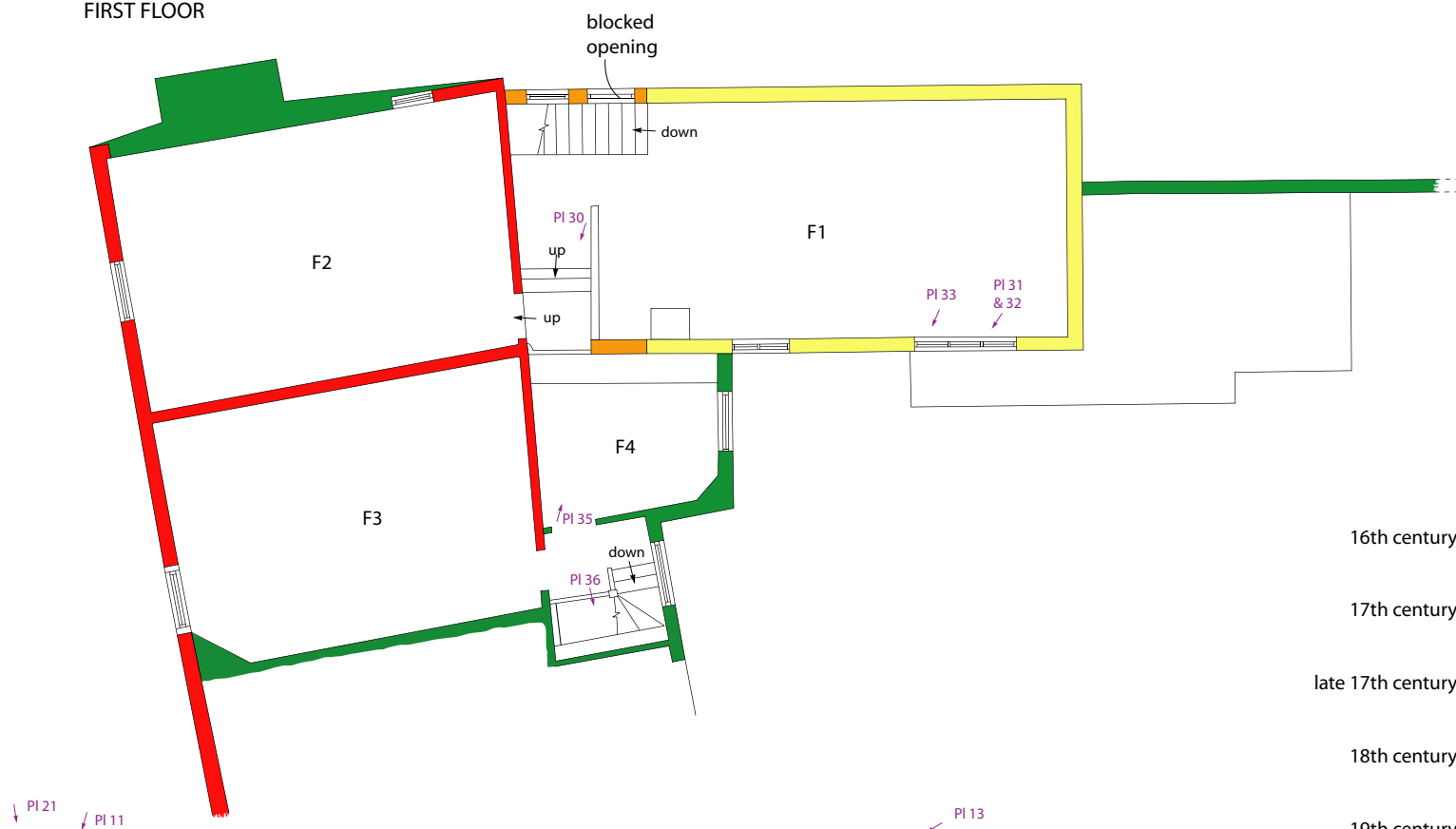
Figure 1



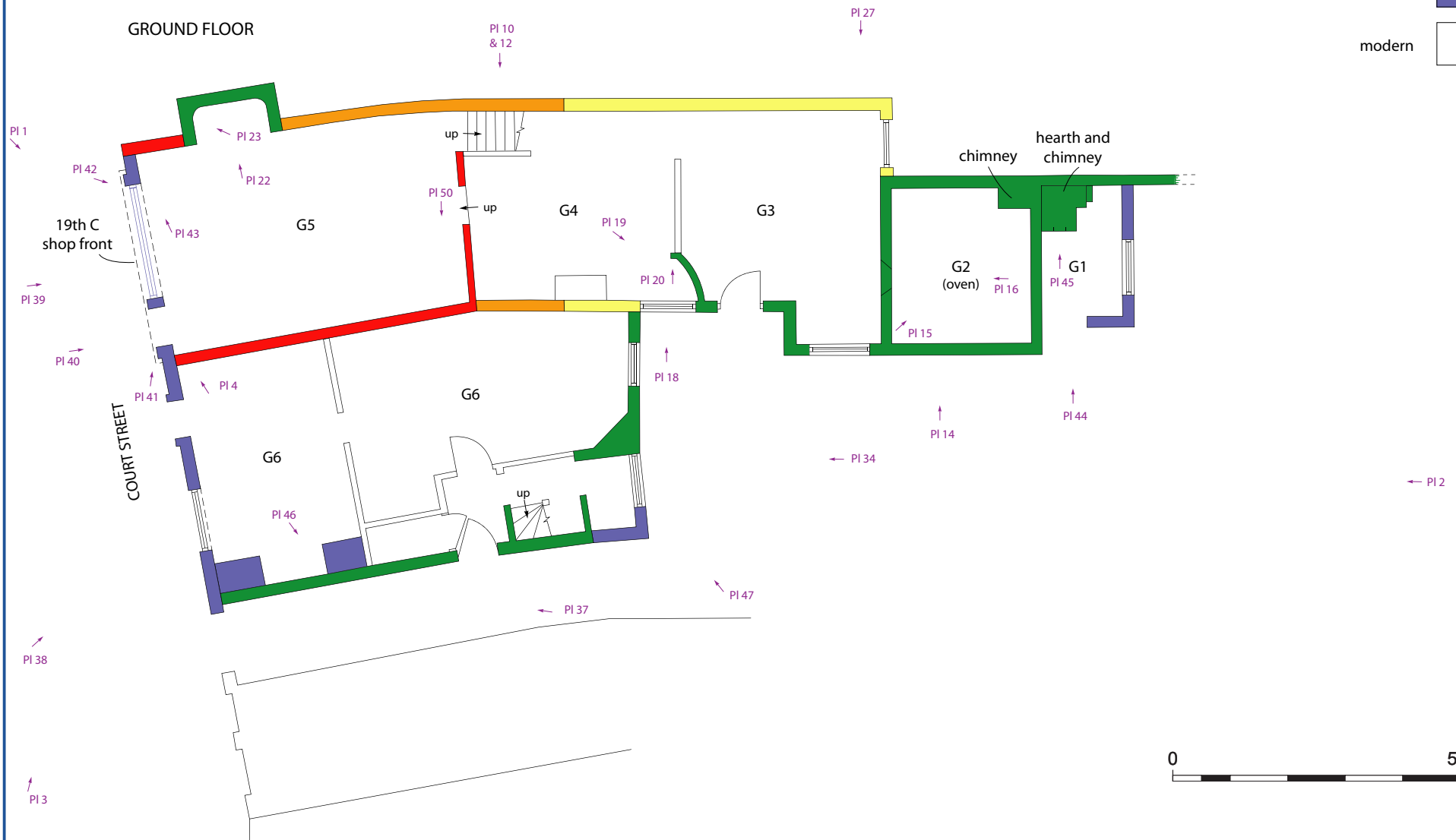
ATTIC FLOOR



FIRST FLOOR



GROUND FLOOR

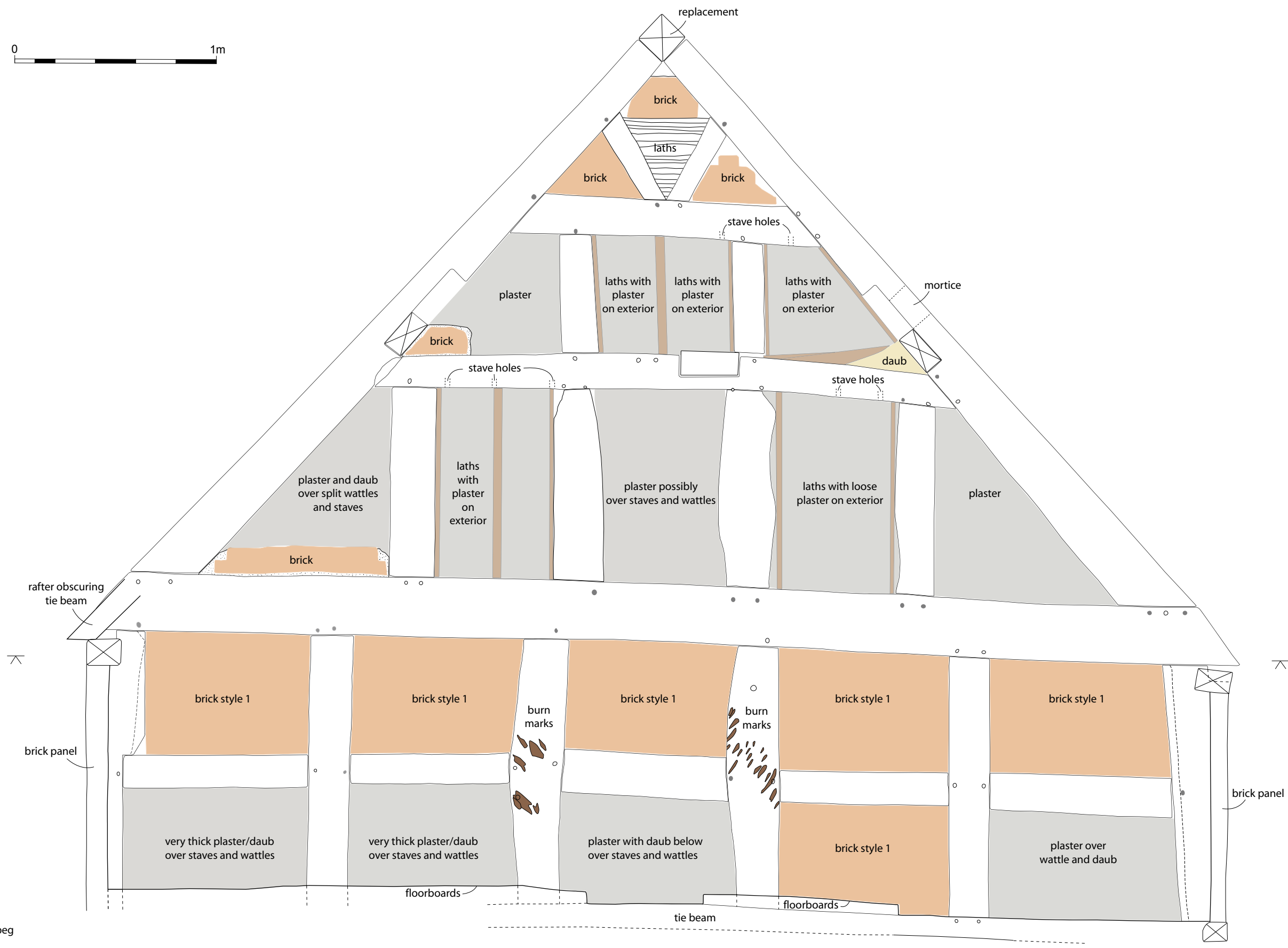


- 16th century
- 17th century
- late 17th century
- 18th century
- 19th century
- modern



Phased ground plan with plate locations

Figure 2



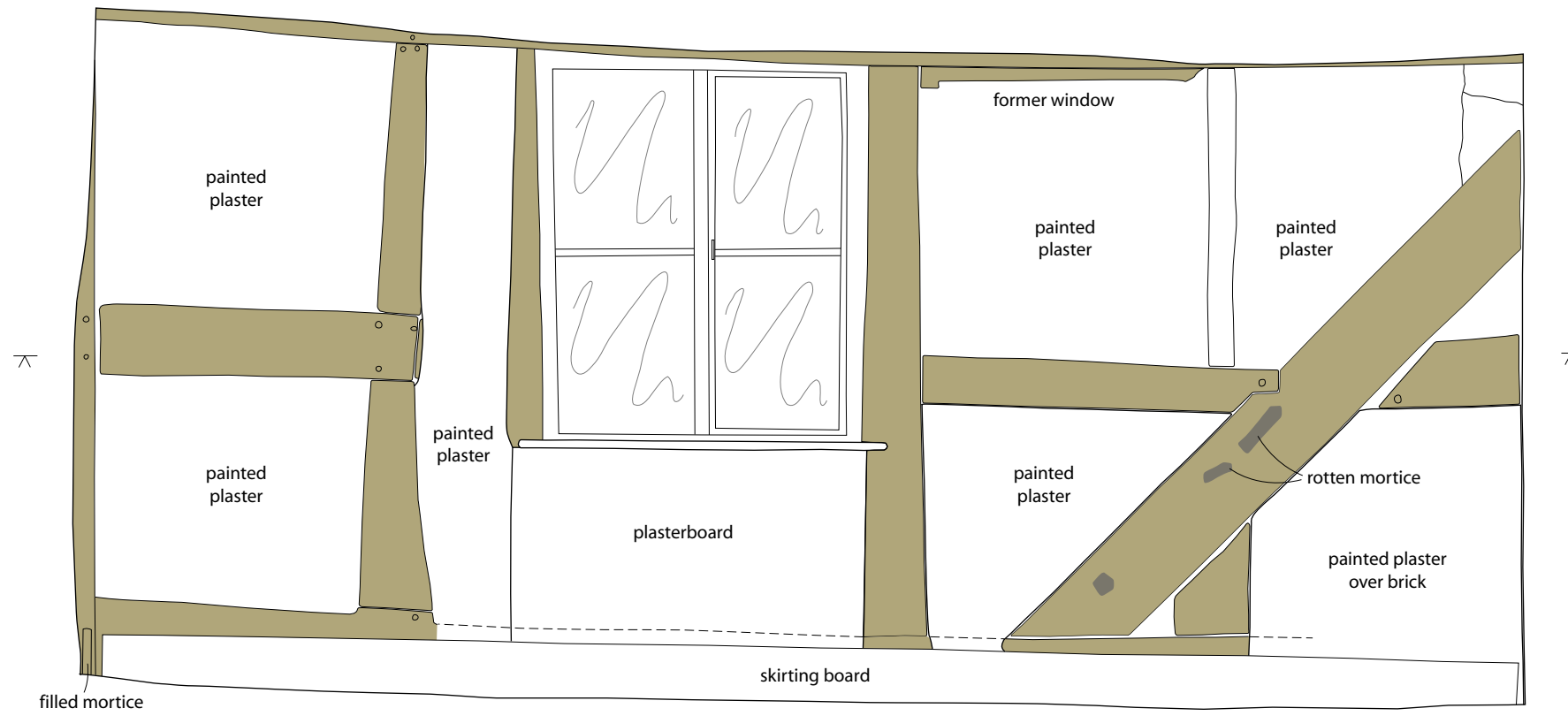
- mortar
- burn marks
- pegholes with peg
- pegholes without peg
- modern timber

Brick style 1: orange-brown, narrow handmade brick, uncoursed, very friable white mortar with many inclusions, size 9-9 1/4" x 2 1/4-2 1/2" x 4 1/4"

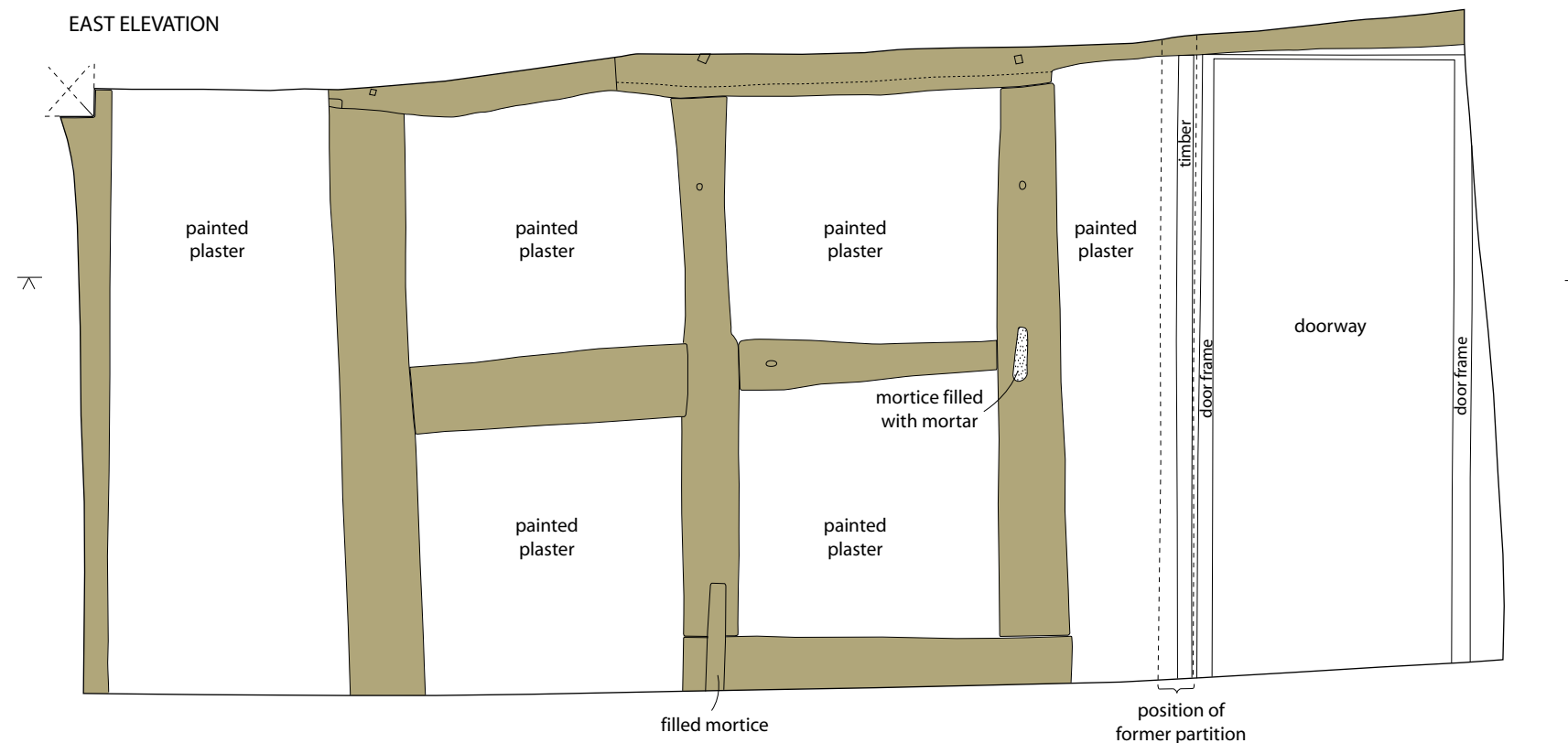
North interior wall of Attic 1b

Figure 3

WEST ELEVATION



EAST ELEVATION

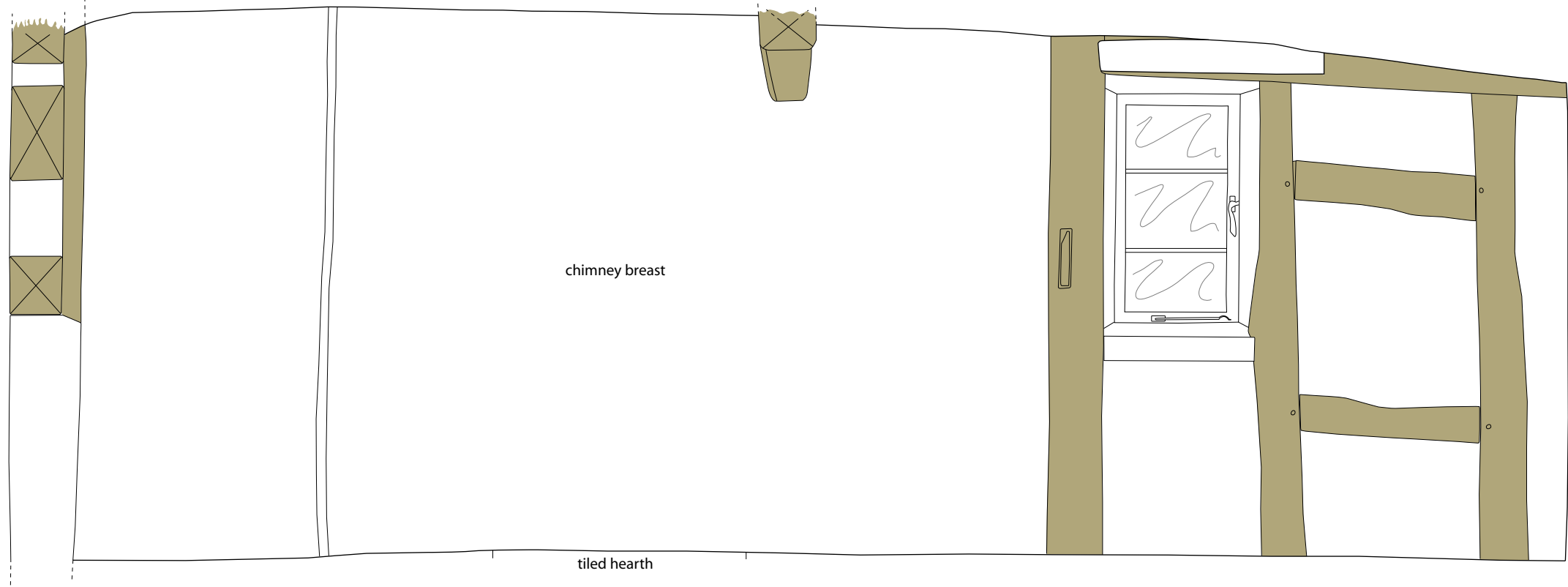


Internal elevations of room F2, west and east

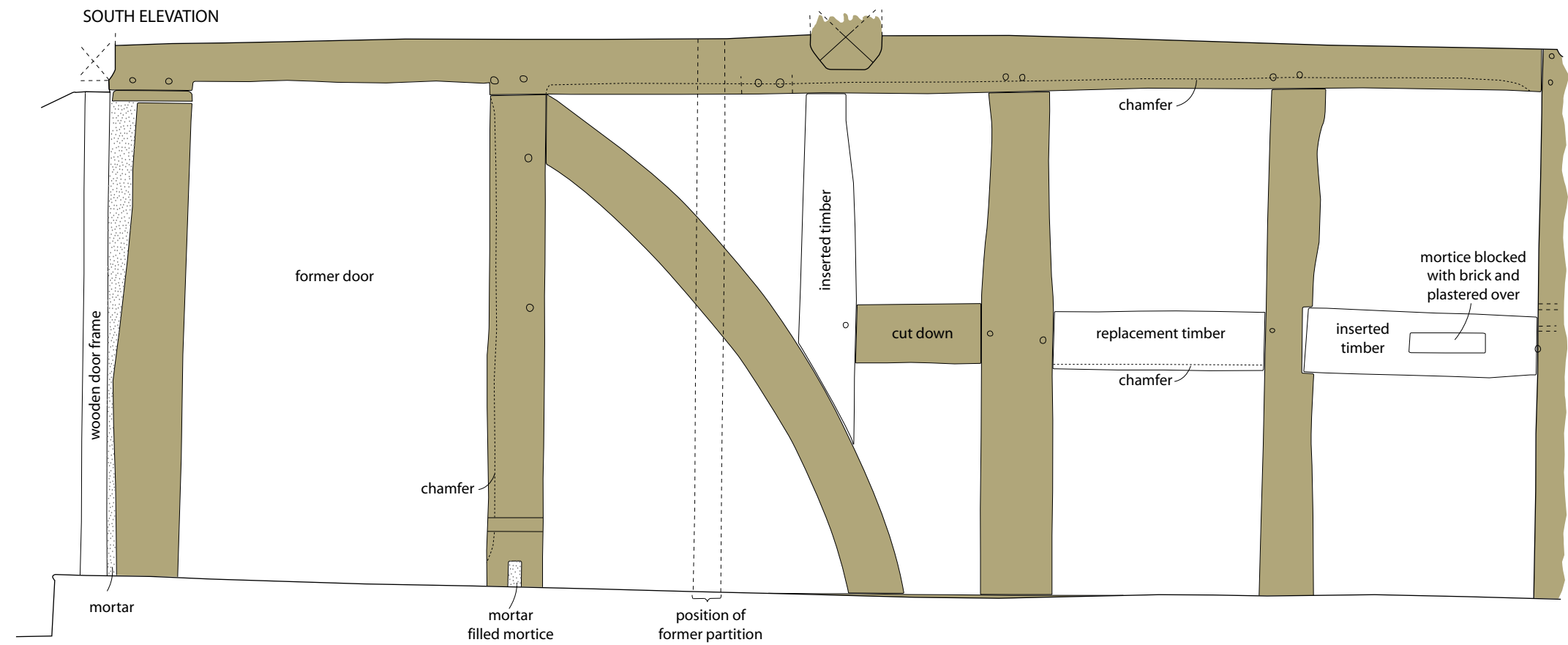
Figure 4

NORTH ELEVATION

1:20 @ A3



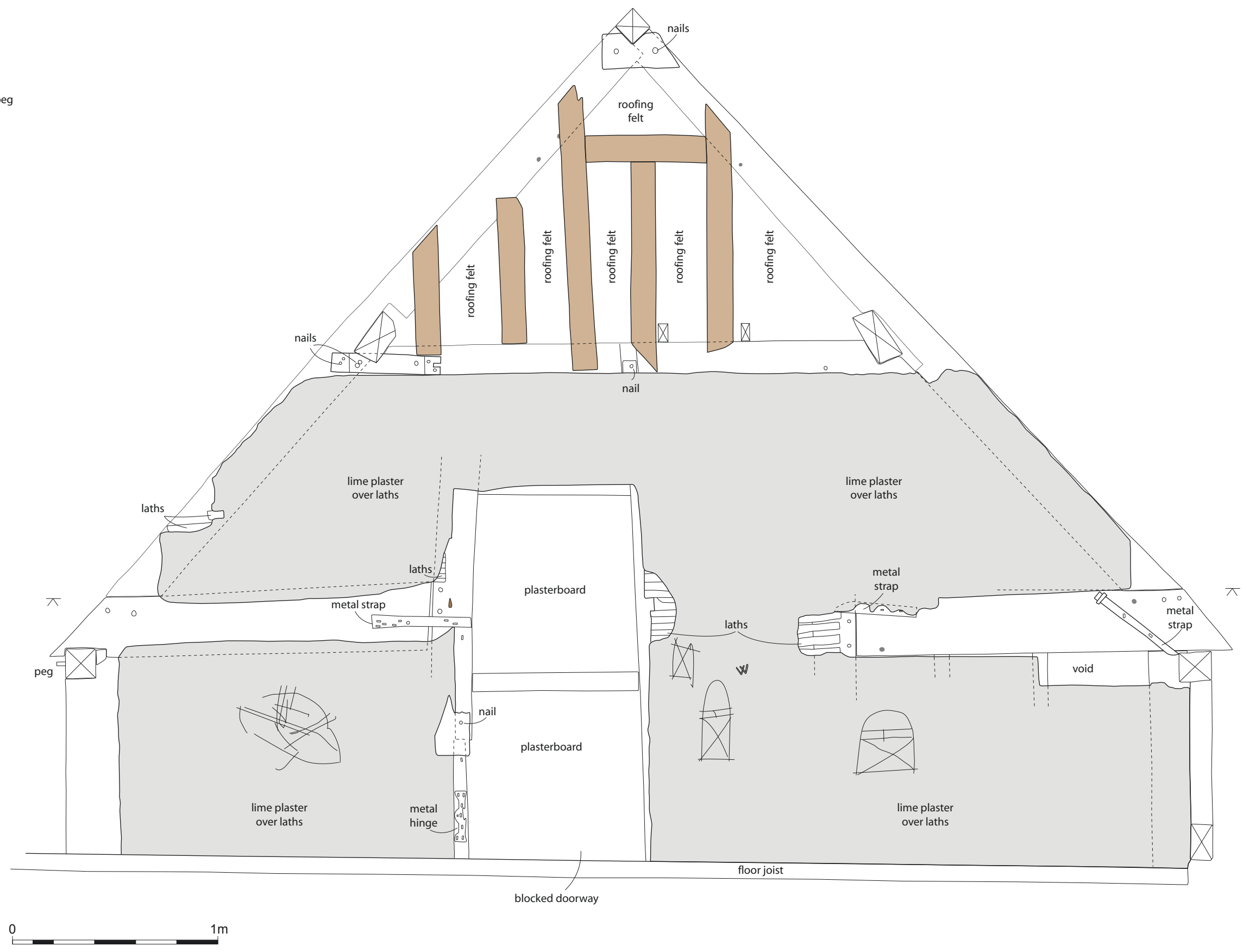
SOUTH ELEVATION



Internal elevations of room F2, north and south

Figure 5

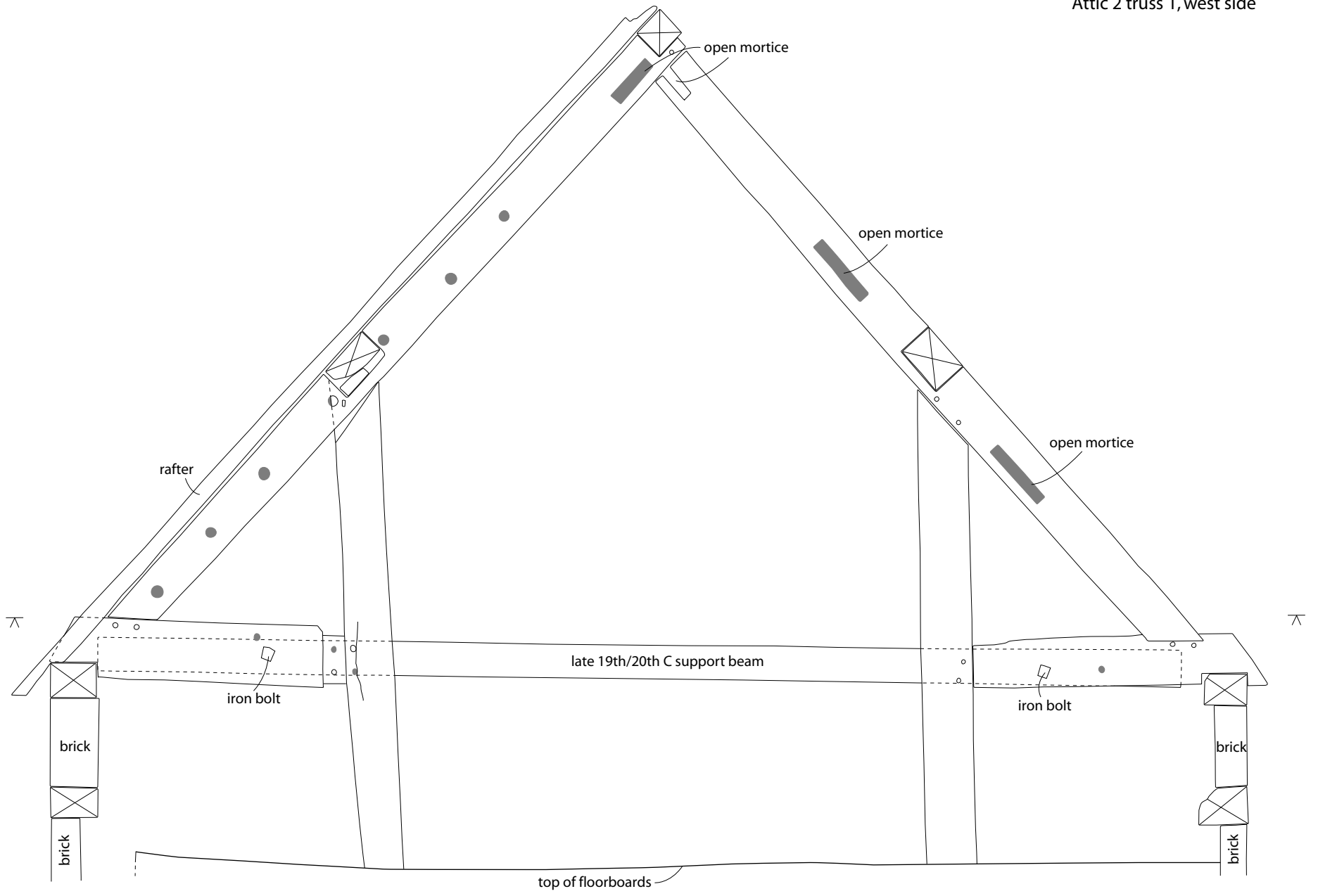
- burn marks
- pegholes with peg
- pegholes without peg
- modern timber



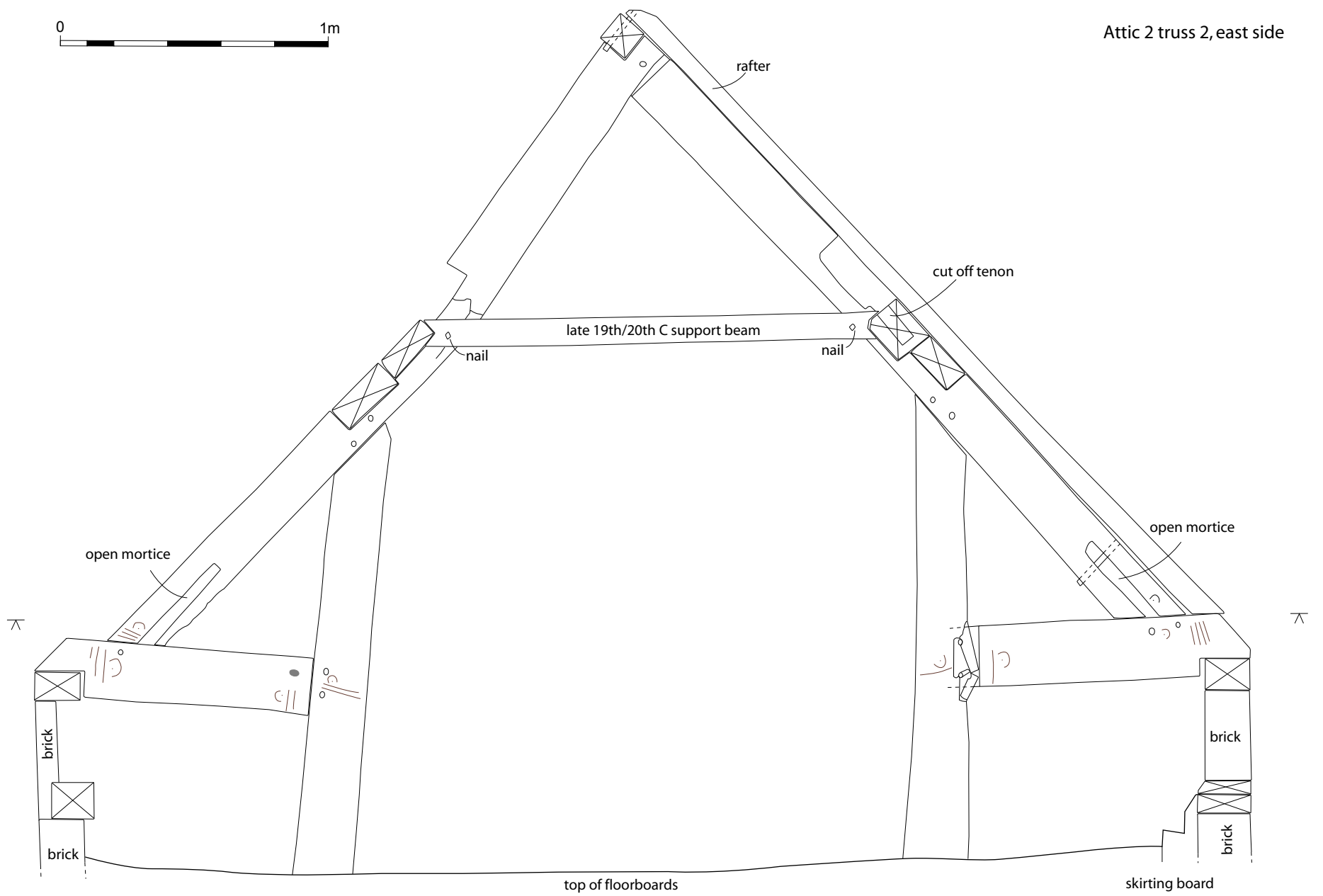
South interior wall of Attic 1a

Figure 6

Attic 2 truss 1, west side



Attic 2 truss 2, east side



Plates



Plate 1: 1-11 Court Street from the north west, aspect from High Street



Plate 2: 1-3 Court Street from the east, rear elevation



Plate 3: 1-11 Court Street from the south



Plate 4: Interior of Old Sweet Shop showing former jetty post



Plate 5: Wattle and daub panel in Attic 1b



Plate 6: Early weatherboard infill, east wall of attic 1b



Plate 7: Wall painting, below wall beam, across two infill panels



Plate 8: Close up of wall painting showing part of design



Plate 9: Deliberate burn marks on timbers of Attic 1B gable wall



Plate 10: Small extension to rear, east, of main structure



Plate 11: Partly rebuilt north gable



Plate 12: Scarf joint and construction notches



Plate 13: Late 17th century range from the north east



Plate 14: External, south, elevation of bakehouse



Plate 15: Internal structure of the oven, from south west



Plate 16: Internal elevation of ash box from the east



Plate 17: Etching of English Bakery (clipping in scrapbook at the Museum of English Rural Life, University of Reading)



Plate 18: Former 18th century entrance



Plate 19: Curved wall for 18th century entrance way



Plate 20: Moulded wood in 18th century entrance way



Plate 21: Chimney stack against north gable



Plate 22: 18th century fireplace in room G5



Plate 23: Salt niche built into 18th century fireplace



Plate 24: Partition in attic 1A



Plate 25: Intersected Vs on attic 1A partition



Plate 26: Butterfly marks on attic 1A partition



Plate 27: Raised roof line on 17th century extension



Plate 28: Central roof truss in attic 2



Plate 29: Inserted doorway and step from attic 2 to attic 1B



Plate 30: Step from 1st floor F1 to room F3



Plate 31: 18th century turnbuckle catch



Plate 32: 18th century spiral handle



Plate 33: 18th century tulip handle



Plate 34 18th century extension to rear of 3 Court Street on ground and first floors



Plate 35: 3 Court Street, 18th century extension interior



Plate 36: 3 Court Street, 18th century winder staircase



Plate 37: 18th century rebuilt passageway wall



Plate 38: West elevation of 3 Court Street showing brick of infilled jetty



Plate 39: 19th century shop window of 1 Court Street



Plate 40: Pilasters on 1 Court Street shop front

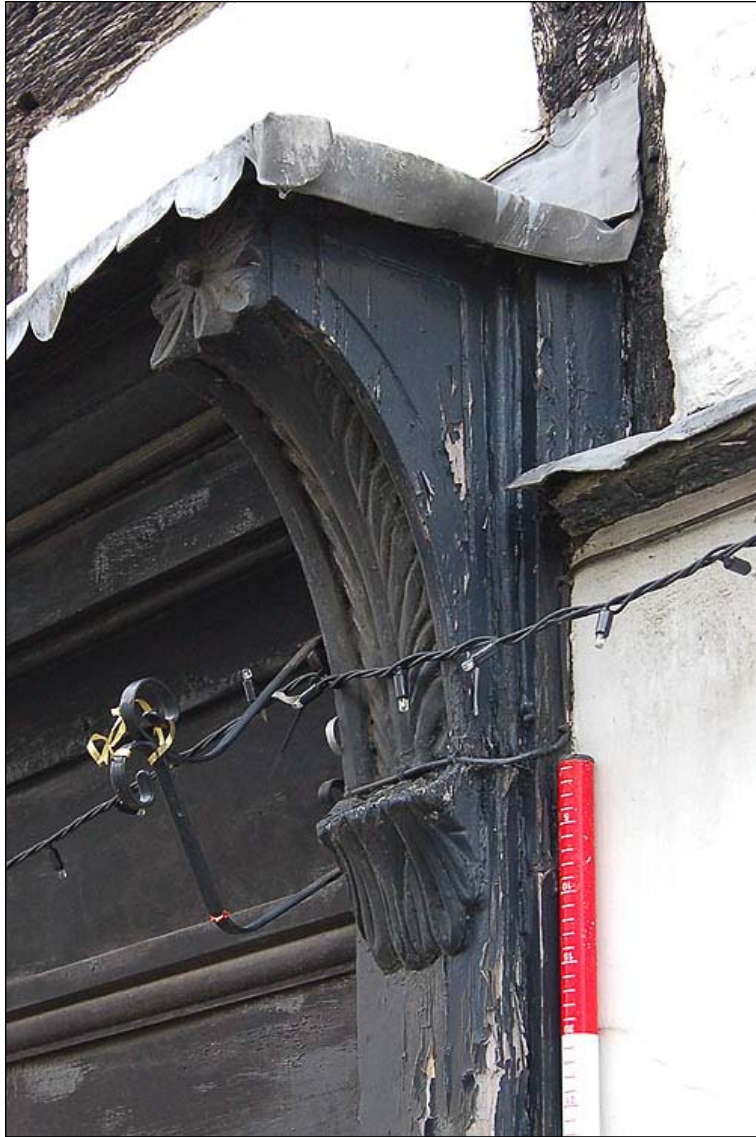


Plate 41: Decorative brackets



Plate 42: Fixing eyes for awning or bars



Plate 43: Possible shutter position



Plate 44: 19th century building to rear of oven



Plate 45: 19th century hearth and chimney



Plate 46: 19th century fireplace in 3 Court Street (orange bricks)



Plate 47: Possible water closet extension to rear of 3 Court Street

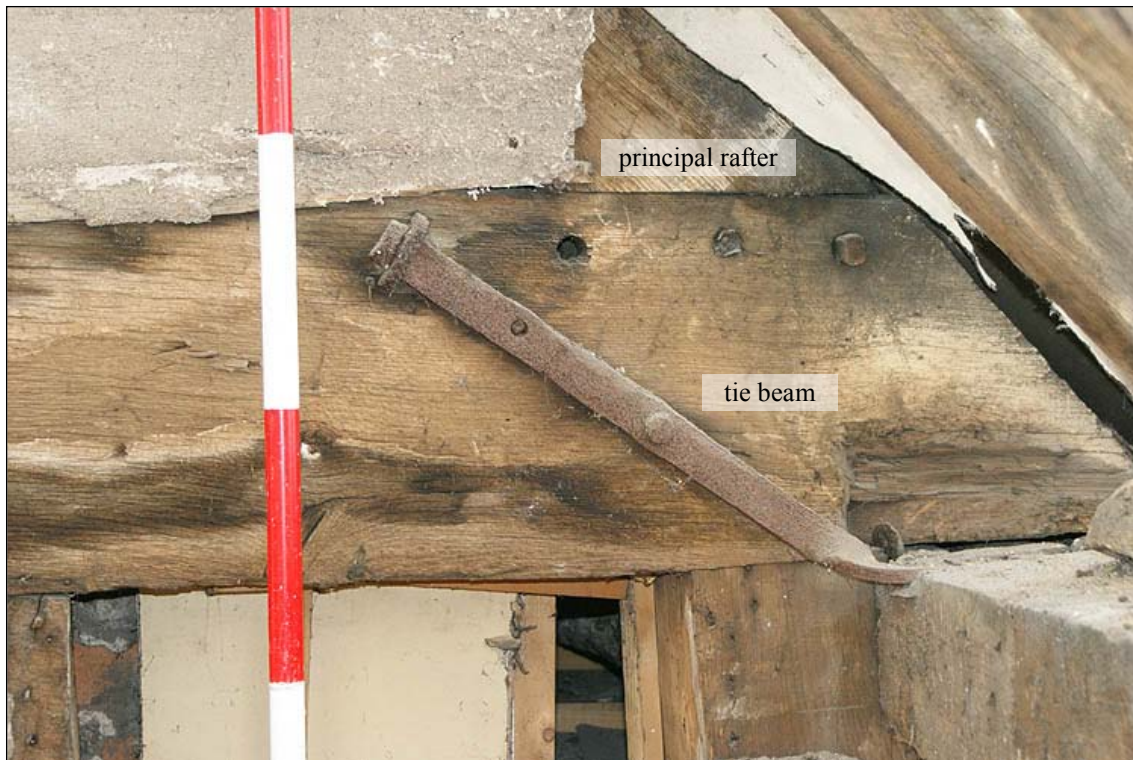


Plate 48: 16th century roof truss showing tie beam and principal rafter



Plate 49: 17th century roof truss showing tie beam and principal rafter



Plate 50: Blocked door on ground floor of 1 Court Street

Appendix 1 Technical information

The archive

The archive consists of:

- 9 Fieldwork progress records AS2
- 14 Photographic records AS3
- 399 Digital photographs
- 14 Scale drawings
- 1 Computer disk

The project archive is intended to be placed at:

Worcestershire County Museum
Hartlebury Castle
Hartlebury
Near Kidderminster
Worcestershire DY11 7XZ
Tel Hartlebury (01299) 250416

Appendix 2 Trade directories

Directory	Title	Year	Page No.	Address	Occupation	Person
Pigot	National and Commercial Directory	1828-29	881-883	Pig Market	Clergy	Rev. James Green
					Blacksmith	Benjamin Allen
						Thomas Giles
	National Commercial Directory	1835	665-666	Pig Market	Blacksmith	Benjamin Allen
					Tavern	Oak, James Cook
	Royal National and Commercial Directory	1842	43-44	Pig Market	Blacksmith	Thomas Giles
Tavern					James Woodward	
Kelly	Post Office Directory of Birmingham with Staffordshire and Worcestershire	1850	480-482	Court Street	Blacksmith	James Woodward
					Shoemaker	Edmund Baker
						William Griffiths
						Charles Jackman
					Shopkeeper	Henry Causon
					Straw bonnet maker	Mrs Jane Griffiths
					Tailor	George Clay
Tavern	Royal Oak, Mrs Sarah Cook					
Lascelle's	Directory and Gazetteer of the City of Worcester and Neighbourhood	1851	118-122	Court Street	Blacksmith	James Woodward
					Boot and shoemaker	Joseph Drinkwater
					Police Officer	William Probert
					Shopkeeper	Harriet Thomas
					Solicitor	Thomas W H Holland
					Tailor	James Barnes
						George Clay
Wheelwright	William Oakley					
Billing	Directory and Gazetteer of the County of Worcester	1855	337-340	Court Street	Baker	Thomas Bates
					Blacksmith	James Woodward
					Boot and shoemaker	James Morris
					Hay, Straw and Coal dealer	William Bridgman
					Shopkeeper	Thomas Bates
						Joseph Day
						Jane Hall
					Straw bonnet maker	Jane Griffiths
Victualler	Royal Oak, George Cook					
Littlebury	Directory and Gazetteer of Worcester and District	1879	512-527	Court Street	Baker	William Hall
					Beer Retailer	Spotted Cow, John Siers
					Boot and shoemaker	William Drinkwater
					Builder	George Parsons
					Dairy keeper	Spotted Cow, John Siers
					Fishing tackle maker	William Alfred Griffin
					Green grocer	Frederick Giffin
						William Farley
					Grocer and Tea dealer	William Hall
					Inn and Tavern	Royal Oak, Herbert Price
					Painter, Plumber and Glazier	Royal Oak, Herbert Price
					Market gardener	John Jinks
					Rick cloth maker	George Griffin
					Seedsman	John Jinks
Shopkeeper	Richard White					
Kelly	Post Office Directory of	1876	1064-66	Court Street	Private resident	William Hancock

	Worcestershire				Baker	William Hall
					Beer retailer	John Siers
					Boot and shoemaker	Samuel Drinkwater
					Carpenter and joiner	George Parsons
					Dairyman	John Siers
					Greengrocer	William Farley
					Grocer	William Hall
					Hay, Straw and coal dealer	John Smith
					Market gardener	John Jinks
					Rick cloth maker	George Griffin
					Shopkeeper	Frederick Griffin
						Richard White
						Richard Wright
	Tavern	Royal Oak, Herbert Price				
	Well-sinker	Sampson Crump				
	Directory of Worcestershire	1892	217-219	Court Street	Auctioneer and valuer	Moore and Sons (of Tewkesbury)
					Baker	Henry Jeynes
					Carpenter and joiner	George Parsons
					Greengrocer	William Farley
Richard White						
Painter					Royal Oak, Herbert Price	
Public House					Royal Oak, Herbert Price	
Shopkeeper					Frederick Griffin	
Directory of Worcestershire	1896	246-249	Court Street	Auctioneer and valuer	Moore and Sons (of Tewkesbury)	
				Baker	Henry Jeynes	
				Carpenter	George Parsons	
				Coal dealer	Charles Morse	
				Painter	Royal Oak, Herbert Price	
				Public House	Royal Oak, Herbert Price	
				Shopkeeper	Joseph Daniels	
Richard White						
Directory of Worcestershire	1912	275-277	Court Street	Coal dealer	Charles Morse	
				Dress-maker	Mrs William White	
				Market gardener	Fountain Bull	
				Public House	Royal Oak, George Weston	
				Shopkeeper	George Churchill	
					Joseph Daniels	
Mrs Sophia Smith						
Wardrobe dealer	Mrs Ellen Long					
Bennett	Business Directory of Worcestershire	1914	66-67	Court Street	Confectioner	Joseph Daniels
					Public House	Royal Oak Inn
					Solicitor	Mr Coventry