ARCHAEOLOGICAL INTERPRETIVE SURVEY FOR THE DORSET ARMS, WITHYHAM, EAST SUSSEX.
ARCHAEOLOGY SERVICES LEWES
Report number: ASL24/14
2014

Lisa Jayne Fisher, BA MA
Archaeology Services Lewes
2 St.Johns Close
Mill Lane
South Chailey
Lewes
East Sussex
BN8 4AX
01273 400174 Mobile: 07570 797497
Archaeology-services-lewes@hotmail.co.uk

English Heritage Building ID: 296872

1.0 Introduction

1.1 This Archaeological Interpretive Study has been prepared for the owner, Earl De La Warr in consultation with Neil Farrance from BTF, who was instructed to prepare a scheme for renovations and alterations within the building. As a result of which in February 2014, Archaeology Services, Lewes (ASL) were commissioned to prepare an Archaeological Interpretive Survey and this has been prepared by Lisa Jayne Fisher, Principal Archaeologist at ASL.

1.2 The building covered by this report is known as The Dorset Arms, and is located at Withyham, East Sussex, TN7 4BL centred on TQ 49595 35675 (Fig.1).

1.3 It is a grade II listed building, English Heritage Building ID: 296872.

1.4 At present the building is used as a public house but was previously a farmhouse known as Somers. The East Sussex Heritage Environment Records (HER) states that the building is a grade II listed and defined as a C15 timber-framed building, altered at a later date with two storeys and attic, four windows. Now faced with brick and tile hanging, both now painted, on a stone base. Tiled roof with casement windows, some with pointed Gothic panes. Gable at north end with scalloped barge-boards, a C19 porch and ceiling beams and open fireplaces inside. and it is shown on historic maps from the 1st edition onwards. The building is aligned NNE-SSW and is assumed running N-S, with the front of the building facing west.

1.5 The aims of this Archaeological Interpretative Survey are to give a basic overview of the date, sequence of construction, and principal architectural features of the building. With this in mind, they should not be taken as a definitive, archaeological record as, by its very name, it is an *interpretive* survey. A Watching Brief has followed on from this report and it is likely that further research will add further to our understanding of the building and may give rise to refinements of the dates and interpretation.

1.6 The specific aims of this study are to inform the owners who may want to know more about the history of their property as well as aiding commissioned professionals, such as planners, surveyors and architects whose job it is to conserve and protect the building whilst enabling it to be carefully adapted for contemporary living. Finally this serves as a record for the future; to inform academics and to create a long-term, permanent record for posterity.

1.7 This assessment is my considered view based upon the recent survey and the discussions during the meeting on 5/3/14 with consultants Mr. and Mrs. Martin (who both have over 40 years of experience each in archaeological building surveys), aided by David Millum as well as the notes made at that time in discussion with all parties. This interpretive study is based upon my knowledge and experience of such buildings and is intended as advice. Many of the views which inform the conservation of historical buildings are to some extent subjective – particularly with regards to more recent extensions and alterations – therefore I would like to state that there is no guarantee that the opinions expressed within this document will be endorsed by the local planning authority.

1.8 Methodology. The methods employed to produce this study have been non-intrusive and based on a careful, measured and visual study of the interior, including roof voids and cellar as well as the exterior of the building. All depths of beams are measured to the full extent that is visible, with depth this is usually to the top of any plaster, unless otherwise specified.

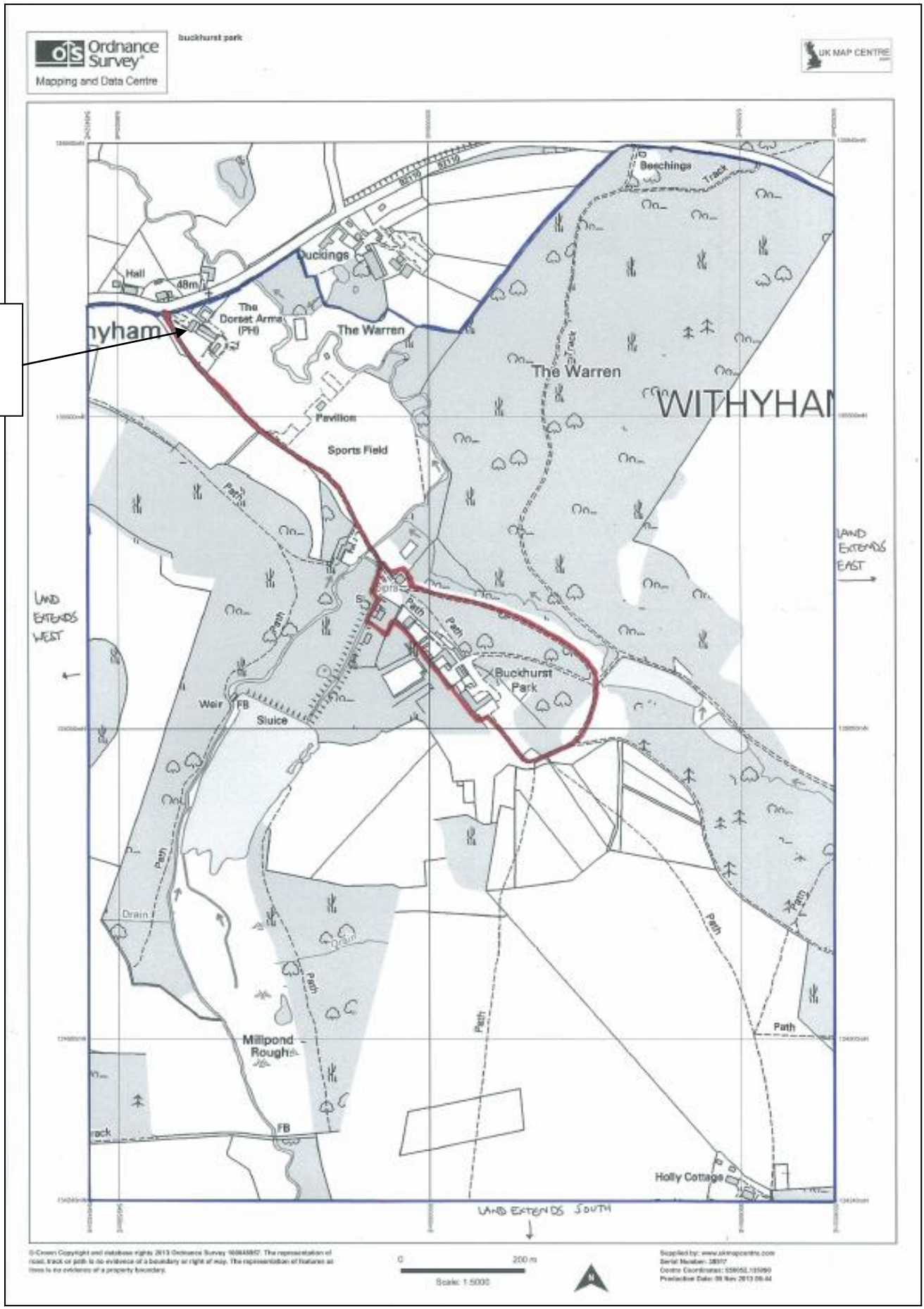
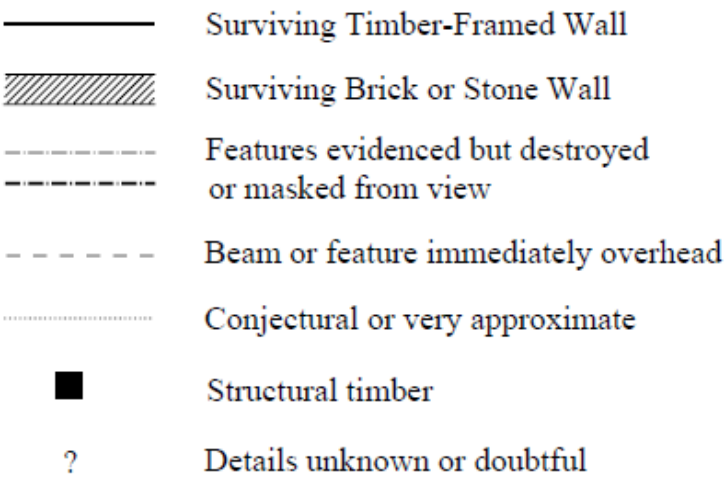


Fig.1. Site location (ASL 2014 Ordnance Survey Licence No.100055392)

1.9 Drawing conventions used:



1.10 Other conventions used include doors only shown in plan where known which explains why some rooms have no visible means of access in some plans as they are not known. Sections will show only features cut by the section line only, with the exception of wallplates, rafters, some chimneys and the roof line.

2.0 Location and historical background

2.1 Withyham lies within the valley through which the River Medway flows; with the Church and Rectory standing out conspicuously on the Knole which lies to the east of the Dorset Arms. Within the village is Buckhurst Park, the seat of the Earl De La Warr. Withyham (or Withiam) is a village and parish in the East Grinstead division of Sussex, in the hundred of Hartfield, rape of Pevensey, rural deanery of East Grinstead, archdeaconry of Lewes and diocese of Chichester. Withyham is mid-way between East Grinstead and Tunbridge Wells. Withyham includes Buckhurst which was the home of the Sackvilles for over 600 years. Withyham is derived from the Old English meaning 'Withy water-meadow' (1).

2.2 The village of Withyham is defined as, a medieval shrunken village, MES18808 (2), which contains a medieval church, MES5106 (2). Withyham – or Wideham 1095 'withy enclosure' , was close to the Church of St Michael, and was first recorded c.1095 as 'Wideham'; variations include 'Withiham' 1230; Wythyhamme' 1266; 'Wydiham' 1247; 'Wydeham' 1248; 'Wydyham' 1326. Withy-enclosure' widig hamm, or possibly the hamm may refer to the shape of the land between two streams here (3) Robert Count of Mortain some time before 1086 gave to the priory of Mortain the manor of Withyham and the nearby hamlet of Blackham. The estate was temporarily usurped by Walter de Richardeville, but was restored to the monks about 1095 and further confirmed to them by Roberts son, Count William of Mortain c. 1100. A single monk appears to have been put in charge of the estate and is dignified with the title ' Prior of Withyham' at least as early as 1249. In the 14th century the the prior of Withyham is recorded as being an Englishman, with no fellow monk. In 1325 the monks of Mortain had property in the parish worth £26 15s and in 1370 are returned as holding the manor and advowson of Withyham, the manor being farmed at £20. In 1372 Edward III granted the alien cell to John of Gaunt as part of what later became

the Duchy of Lancaster, but by 1413 it had been suppressed and first given to the New Priory of Hastings and afterwards Kings College, Cambridge (3).

2.3 The building is situated at the entrance to Buckhurst Park and mid-point between the medieval church of St.Michael, some 200m to the south, and the early post- medieval farmstead called Duckings, 200m north east. The property is situated within both a Conservation Area and an Archaeological Notification Area in the medieval and post-medieval village of Withyham. The Dorset Arms is a Grade II listed 15th century timber-framed building, altered at a later date. The property is part of the Buckhurst Park estate, owned by Earl De La Warr and is situated close to a separate Archaeological Notification Area (ANA) defining both park and gardens within Buckhurst Park which contains several listed buildings and monument sites. The Historic Landscape Characterisation (project number HES30657) defines Withyham as a Medieval and post-medieval shrunken village(c.1066 – 1499 AD, DES9540) and early post-medieval (c1500-1599AD, DES10018) with the core at Duckings farm, surrounded by designed landscapes and fieldscapes (Survey: Bannister, N. 2008. Historic Landscape Characterisation of Sussex.). The estate is marked on the 1799-1810 Ordnance Survey Surveyors Drafts and the 1869-1875 Ordnance Survey Historic Maps - Epoch 1 (Fig.2).

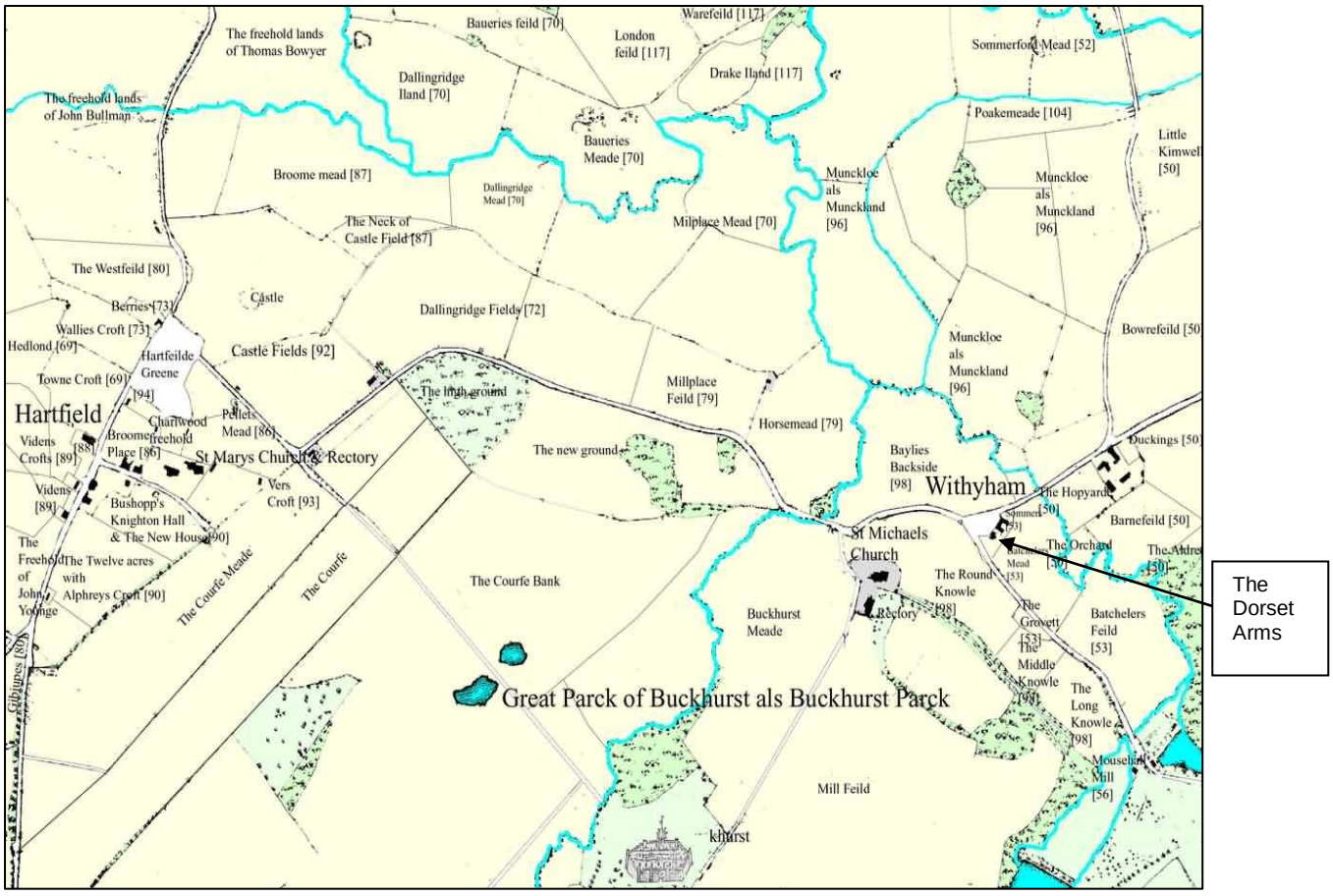


Fig.2.Buckhurst Park OS map edition 1 (ASL 2014 Ordnance Survey Licence No.100055392).

2.4 As specified by Straker (4) The Dorset Arms was originally built as a farmhouse called Sommers, with the first known tenant farmer, an Edward Burrish, in 1595 holding 59 acres, including orchards and gardens, Batchelers Mead, The Grovett and Batchelers Field for a rent of £11 (and two fat capons). He also held Bulfinches Farm, Rough Cocksutts, Cockshutts Land I, Aldrey Croft, Hukins Croft and Longe Croft for a further £8 10s. (4). A map of 1597 shows a building but it is not possible to

ascertain the formal layout of the building from this drawing. By 1636 William Piggott was tenant and the building was still known as Somers farmhouse and was not a public house until 1735.

2.5 Sutton (1) wrote in 1902 that The Dorset Arms was called Somers Farm House, and the land adjoining (Batchelor's Mead, or the Fair Field, Bachelor's Field, beyond the Park Fence, also the Round Knole, the Middle Knole, and the Knole) went with it. In one of the maps of Withyham, (probably 200 years old), it was called the "Ale House". Within the memory of many parishioners a large barn stood where the present stable is, and was used for some years by the Reverend Sackville Stephens Bale, who farmed the land near the rectory (1).

3.0 Overview of the building (Fig.3)

3.1 The original range (**Period A**) no longer exists and was subjected to a progressive rebuilding so it is difficult to give any information about this. It is likely to have been significantly smaller than the oldest upstanding part of the building that exists today. The only evidence for this earlier structure is discussed in 5.1 below.

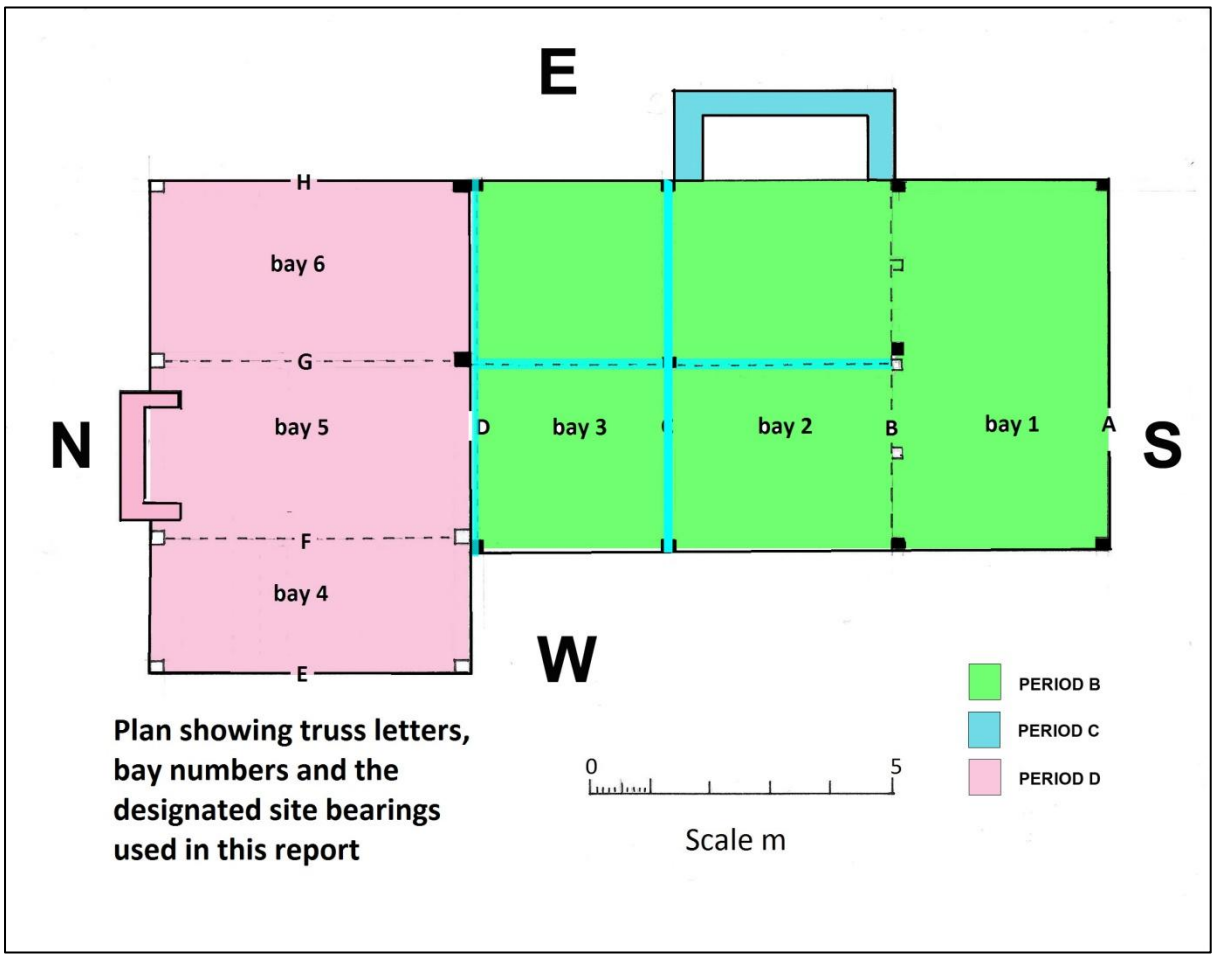


Fig.3. Phased ground floor plan with reference to truss and bay numbers

In the later part of the C15th **(Period B)** a fairly substantial three bay range was attached to the south of the retained part of the original house. This contained a two bay open hall and a parlour with floored chamber above to the southern or higher

end. The majority of the Period B structure on this site remains. The two-bay hall would have been open to the rafters as evidenced by sooted timbers within the roof.

During the Mid.C16th (**Period C**) the two bay hall was floored over; the inserted joists here are higher than the parlour floor joists with uniform scantling and stop chamfered sides. It is likely that the external inglenook was added at the same time, although it would appear that this has subsequently been remodelled but possibly using the original materials. This would have replaced the now impractical central open hearth as the source for heat and cooking.

A further major development occurred in the early part of the C17th (**Period D)**, when the original Period A part was demolished to make way for a new three-bay parlour cross-wing, creating a new high end whilst downgrading the period-B high end to service use (end reversal). This new cross-wing was also floored with two chambers above (one with original door frame) and a complimentary cellar which was partially excavated into the ground. The cellar also contains an original window frame from this period.

Further alterations occurred in the C18th, when a flush, under-plastered ceiling was inserted in the first floor area and a new staircase with balusters constructed in what was probably the original site of the stairs in the 'new' cross-wing. Finally, roof improvements in the cross-wing occurred when a late C18th forelocked king post was added to one of the queen post trusses in the clasped purlin roof for additional support.

At a later date, c1800 – 1950's (?), various extensions and outhouses were added to the back of the building and to the western end. In addition, the facade of the building was subjected to a facelift in the Victorian period by the addition of a second gable which involved dismantling part of the front facing wall of the Period B range, as well as the insertion of a porch with Victorian barge boards and finials completing the new look. These later additions have not been included on the phasing diagrams nor in detailed sections below, due to the late date of these additions.

4.0 Detailed architectural description –Period A

4.1 Period A layout. No evidence for this range now exists and so it is not possible to comment. The only evidence that a range once stood here is seen in the open truss D of the Period B range. See 5.1 below.

5.0 Detailed architectural description – Period B (mid/late C 15th)

5.1 Period B layout

The original plan of the open hall house places a parlour, measuring 3.22m with a floored chamber at the southern, high end of the range, with a two-bay hall in the middle and the likely scenario of a service end at the north end, within the retained part of the house(Period A). This is evidenced by the period-B hall having an open truss to the north end, at truss D; if the fourth bay had been built at the same time as the other three bays, truss D would have mortices in the principal posts at ground floor level to take the crossbeam to create the fourth bay. There are no mortices, therefore this truss was open with no partition walls: the partition at this end of the hall was formed by the truss of the retained period-A part. This is backed up during the recent watching brief, when it was observed that the later cross wing was built with internal partition walls; if the end of the hall was not open and had partition walls, there would be no need to infill the internal frame of the cross wing at this point.

Plate 1. No mortice joints are evident for the removal of a cross beam in principal post at truss D

The retained Period A part was demolished during period D, leaving no trace of the period B floor plan at the north end. A deep, perpendicular moulded dais beam exists (Fig.5) at truss B, positioned in the high end wall of the open hall, with the overall width of the building being 5.80m. The high-end bay of the hall measures 3.58m in length, in comparison to the second, lower end bay which measures 2.94m in length. It should be noted that this range has suffered from subsidence over the years but has been assumed square in the drawings.

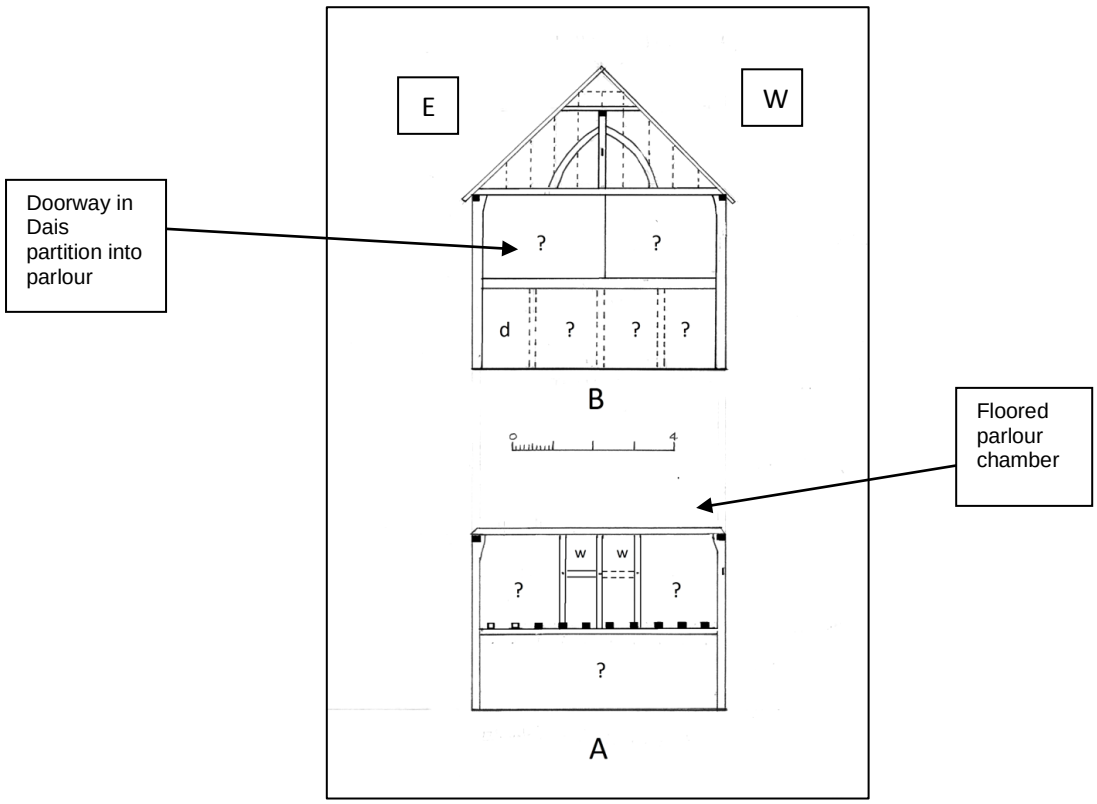


Fig.4.North facing cross sections for Period B trusses at A (south end) and B (dais truss)

During the watching brief an existing doorway was opened up which was a later addition, being inserted underneath the dais beam. Once opened, there was a visible gap underneath the dais beam which showed no stave holes but a mortice joint cut into the underside of the beam which matched other mortice joints elsewhere, in that it was created by auguring two end holes, which were then chiselled in-between the holes to create the aperture. They all measured 10cm wide. This is discussed more in the watching brief report, it is suffice to say that it is likely the dais wall was of morticed wall staves (unpegged) supporting nailed-on lath construction rather than wattle and daub. These are not the same as the sawn tenons which are visible in the soffit of dais beam which are larger to accommodate the wall studs whereas the smaller ones are for wall staves in-between.

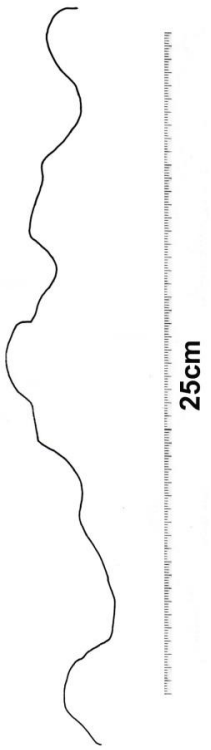


Fig.5. Cross section of the dais beam

Plate 2, Looking south towards the parlour with removed partition wall under the dais beam.

Bay 3 (i.e. the low-end bay of the hall) contains many plastered walls and ceilings and few timbers are evident, save the girder and joists from Period C and the eastern principal post of truss D. This bay has been considerably modified at a later date where an addition beam was placed above the side girt (plate 3) which is discussed in 7.5 below. The effect created by this is that the floor on the first floor on the western side runs at quite an angle towards the middle of the building, but would not have done so originally as this is a later addition.

Plate.3. The inserted beam above the side girt in bay three.

The principal post to the east side of the building at truss C is not visible except for a small section which is apparent in the ladies toilet, which does not run to the floor, neither is the full extent of the scantlings revealed. The original ground floor wall to the west of this bay has also been removed in later years to extend into a small extension which has been added to the front of the building in Victorian times, creating a small gable frontage. There is also some evidence on the eastern wall that a guarderobe may have been added externally; however, it is not immediately apparent which phase his belongs to so this is cannot be discussed further (plate 4).

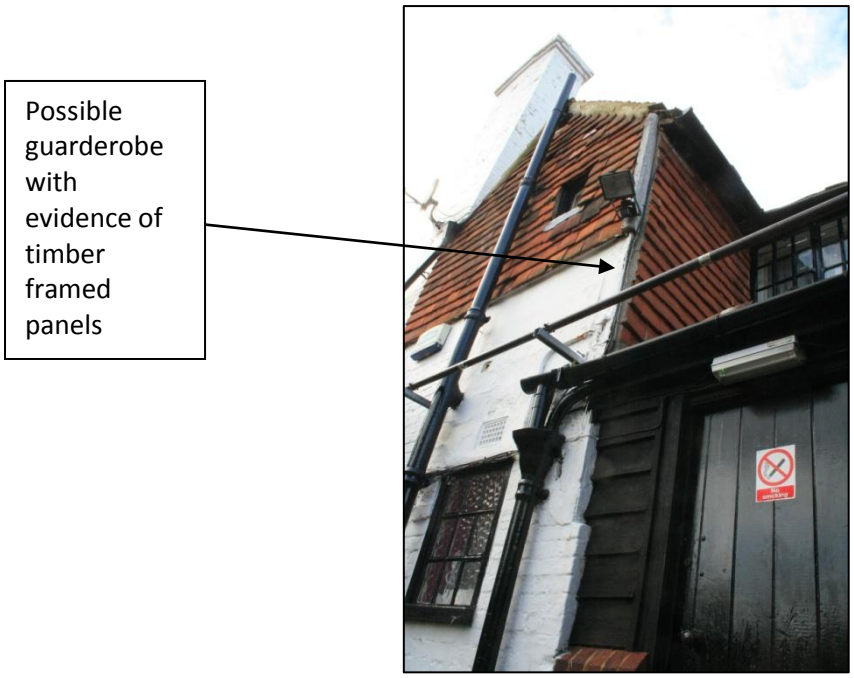


Plate 4. The rear wall (east) of the building showing a first floor extension

5.2 Wall design

The majority of principal posts remain from Period B and these measure up to 23cm in section, plus sloping jowls. The side girt, where visible, measures 25cm in depth. The sole plate appears to rest on sandstone, although this is not entirely clear from the exterior. Very few wall posts or rails remain visible on both interior partition walls and exterior walls (due to modern plastered surfaces) and only one at first floor level is visible although there is a possibility that this is a later addition. No head braces or down braces are visible and it is highly likely that the wall construction consists of large daub panels. Only one mid-rail is evident on the first floor, but this is likely to be a later addition where a window may have been added. Again, modern plastered surfaces block further interpretation. Decoration on timbers is limited to the dais beam, which is perpendicular and runs the length of the truss, at 32cm in depth (Fig.5 and plate 5).

In the roof, the infilled section in truss B (which would have been visible when the roof was open to the rafters during this early period) is of lath and daub construction but is not comb decorated and the laths are not interwoven but are nailed to the back of the staves. It is likely to be the original covering as it has a layer of sooting on the surface from when the hall was open during this period. However, it is curious that at truss D in the low end of the hall, the same infill is not mirrored (with the truss presently open to the rafters) but the lack of soot on one side of the crown post would suggest that it was infilled during Period B.

Plate 5. Sooted section of daub to the rear of truss B

Plate.6. The western principal post in truss A on the first floor.

Plate.7. Moulded dais beam

5.3 Windows

There was possibly a large window in the west wall of the hall (which would be expected in a hall house) as evidenced by the truncation of the side girt which has been replaced by brick infill at a later date, as observed from the exterior wall to the front of the building. However, it is not clear as the exterior is heavily painted and tile hung at first floor level.

There is a double window opening on the first floor, on the south wall, as evidenced by peg holes indicating hidden mortices for the sills (Fig.4). There is also the potential for another window at the south end of the west wall at first floor height (see plate 6) as already discussed above.

5.4 Doorways

The door to the parlour would have been to the left hand end of the dais wall (truss B) in bay two, where these are often positioned. This is evidenced by a significantly narrower space between the eastern principal post of truss B and the first mortice in the soffit of the dais beam than the other mortices i.e. c.1.10m compared to c.1.27m. The side of the principal post here has a slight chamfer to it, which may have been created as part of the doorframe but this is not entirely clear due to modern plaster in this area.

5.5 Ceilings

The parlour joists here are not chamfered and are laid flat, rather than on their sides, and run north-south. They are tenoned into the dais beam (truss B) but rest on the crossbeam of truss A.

5.6 Stairs

Recently a staircase existed slightly to the left of the middle of bay one, between the joists 7 and 8. There is a timbered partition to the southern side of this staircase at first floor height which is made up from re-used timbers and a wood panelled partition wall at ground floor under the stairs. This staircase has just been removed and will be turned into a cupboard upstairs thus opening up this ground floor level to the kitchen. It is not clear how old the timbered partition wall is above but the timbers are of different scantlings and do not appear to be in-situ but these will not be impacted in the renovation works. However, there is a possibility that the timbered wall partition consists of some old floorboarding which may have come from the original parlour floor (see appendix). It is possible that the site of the removed staircase was also the position of the original stairs but no evidence for jointed timbers could be seen in the side of the joists once this area had been opened up during renovations and so the original position is not clear.

5.7 Chimney

The two-bay hall would have been open to the rafters as evidenced by sooted timbers in the roof. There are also four pegs inserted into two of the rafters, adjacent to the crownpost in the third bay, which is evidence that a smoke louver once existed in this part of the roof. This aperture would let the smoke out, given that the existing gablet is very small. No other trace of the louver exists today as the roof has been re-covered in later years.

Plate 8. The heavily sooted timbers on the roof

5.8 Roof

The roof is of a crown post construction which has braces of thin scantlings, suggesting a mid C15th or slightly later date, with three crown posts existing, the middle of which is octagonal in section, being originally open to view in the central, open truss. The roof spans trusses A to D where it is then truncated and jointed into the later cross wing roof. There are no mouldings present on any of the crown posts.

At truss A, there is no crown post as this section of the roof is of hip construction with two full rafters situated beyond the last crown post in truss B which extend to the top of the hip. There are 6 rafters in total in this bay between truss A and B, with one rafter carrying the hip and four jack rafters to a high set collar.

At truss B, the crown post has down braces on either side of the tie beam which is infilled and discussed more fully above. There is a stave next to the crown post and this is nailed to the back of the collar. The rafters lie adjacent to the truss and are not in line with it.

At truss C, the crown post has header braces to either side of the collar purlin. This post, being the central post, is the only one which is octagonal in section unlike the other posts which are square in section. This reflects the fact that this truss was originally open to the hall.

At truss D, the crown post has down braces, but only one header brace up to the collar purlin between truss D and C and it is likely that this post did not have a matching pair of header braces as there is no sawn tenon on the other side of the post. This roof was built on to an earlier roof, where space may have been at a premium which may explain why there is only one header brace in this truss. There is evidence for a louvre between truss C and D, with two pegs in two of the rafters where this was once positioned. However, the roof has been completely re-covered and no other information is apparent for this opening. The principal end rafter for truss D is adjacent to the tie-beam, not on top of it and there are five rafters to this low end bay of the hall.

Even if not previously the case, the retained Period A part was likely to have been turned into the service area when the Period B range was built, although it is impossible to say for sure. The crown post construction in truss D has been sawn through at the collar purlin, which is evidence for where the Period A range was dismantled and the later cross-wing constructed. The rafters at this point continue north of truss D but have been sawn and shortened and therefore compromised when they were likely re-used when the purlin roof was patched in to the earlier crown-post roof.

Plate 9. The octagonal crown post in truss C.

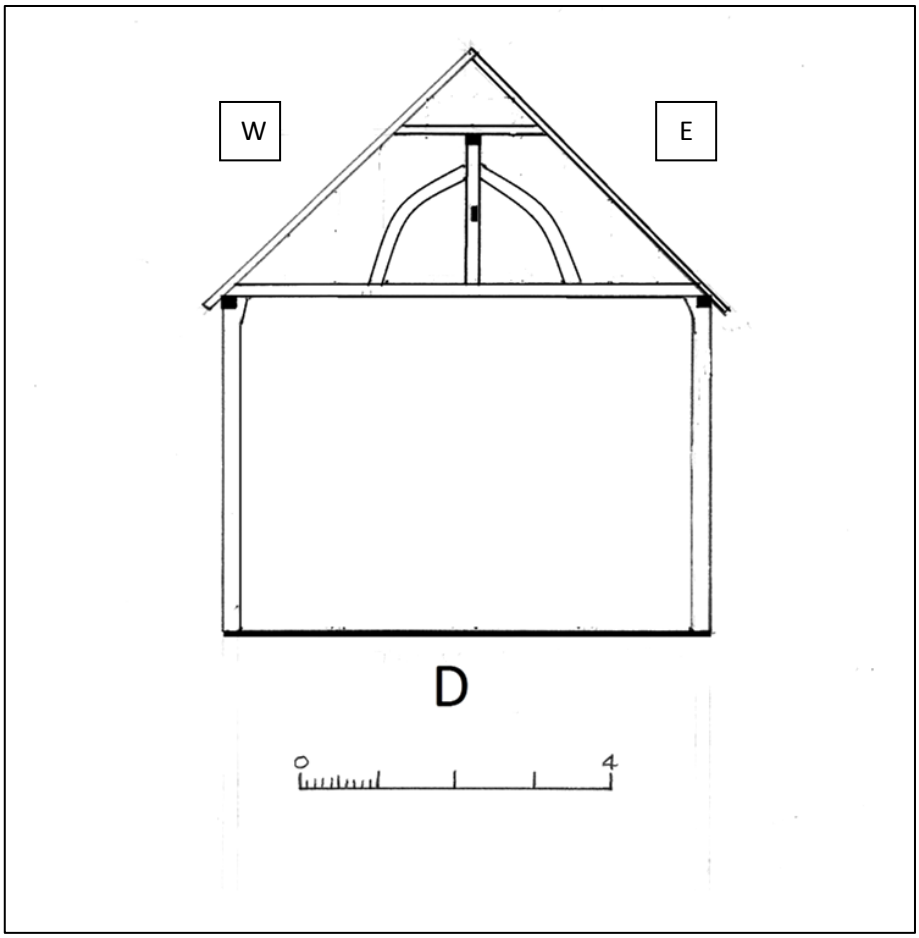


Fig.6. Cross section of the open truss D of Period B

6.0 Detailed architectural description – Period C (mid C16th)

6.1 Period C layout

The main evidence for this period comes from the insertion of the floor into the hall bays 2 and 3. The other structural element which may come from this period is the addition of the external chimney to the east elevation of Bay 2.

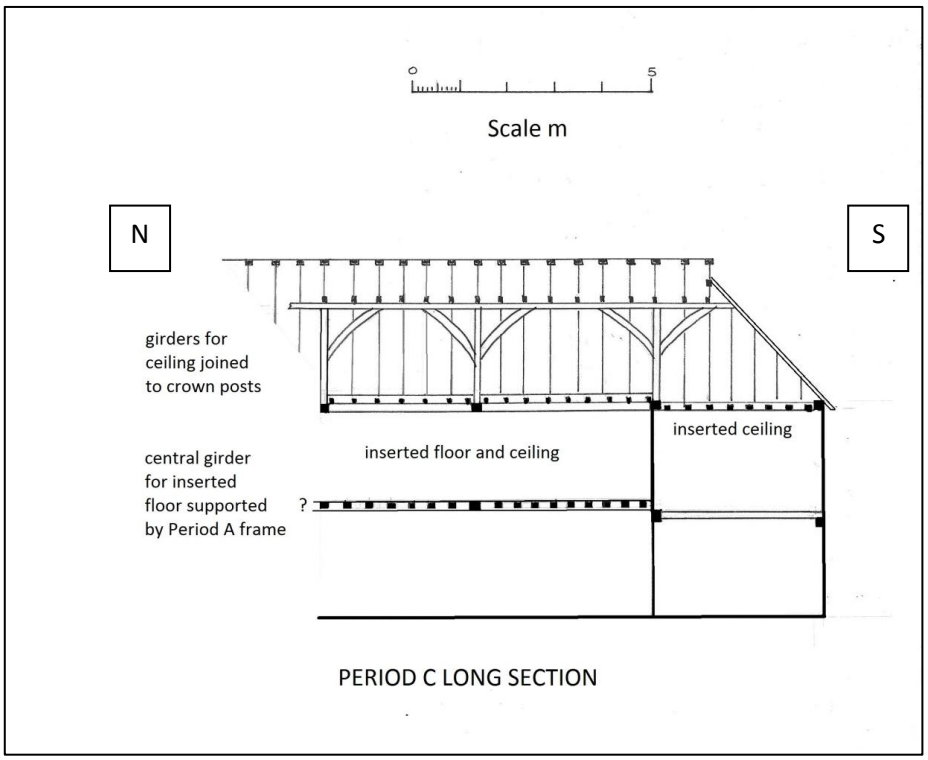


Fig.7. Long section showing inserted floor in bays two and three being higher than the parlour floor

6.2 Wall design

No walls exist for this period.

6.3 Windows

No known windows exist for this period, although it is highly probable that windows were inserted into the Period B walls when the floor was inserted. Due to high level of modern plastered coverings, it is not possible to ascertain their presence of lack of presence.

6.4 Doors and doorways

There are no known doors or doorways from this period.

6.5 Ceilings

The inserted joists here are higher than the parlour floor joists with uniform scantling and stop chamfered sides. The fact that they are close jointed dates them to around 1550, from then on the space between the joists increases (D and B martin *pers. comm*). They also run east-west whereas the parlour chamber joists run north -south, are not chamfered and are laid on their backs. The side girt in bay three also has an additional beam placed above it, into which the floor joists are morticed making the ceiling in bay 3 slightly higher than in bay 2. This is due to the insertion of a later, Victorian, gabled extension where the wall was removed. the western side girt here is at a higher level than the first two bays and the principal post in this area is a later, less substantial post residing adjacent to the principal post for the cross wing.

However, this difference in height of the ceiling is not apparent in the long section as the ceiling in the middle is at a uniform height. The effect created by this is that the floor on the first floor on the western side runs at quite an angle towards the middle of the building. There is evidence here that the ceiling central girder was jointed into the side girt or cross beam of the Period A range as it runs slightly beyond the principal post in truss D, at the end of the third bay. When the Period A range was removed and dismantled it is likely that the girder was supported until it was jointed into the newly erected side girt of the cross wing.

6.6 Stairs

No known stairs exist for this period.

6.7 Chimney

An inserted fireplace has been added to the east, most probably at the same time that the hall was floored over in Period C. The later fireplace which is brick-built (potentially with thin Tudor bricks 21 x 5cm) is external and stands proud of the rear wall with an inserted oak lintel with stopped ends. However, it does look likely that this is either a much later addition or it has been re-built; the mortar is very fresh and sandy, rather than a traditional lime mortar and the chimney is of a likely Victorian date with later chimney pots.

6.8 Roof

No known roof exist for this period.

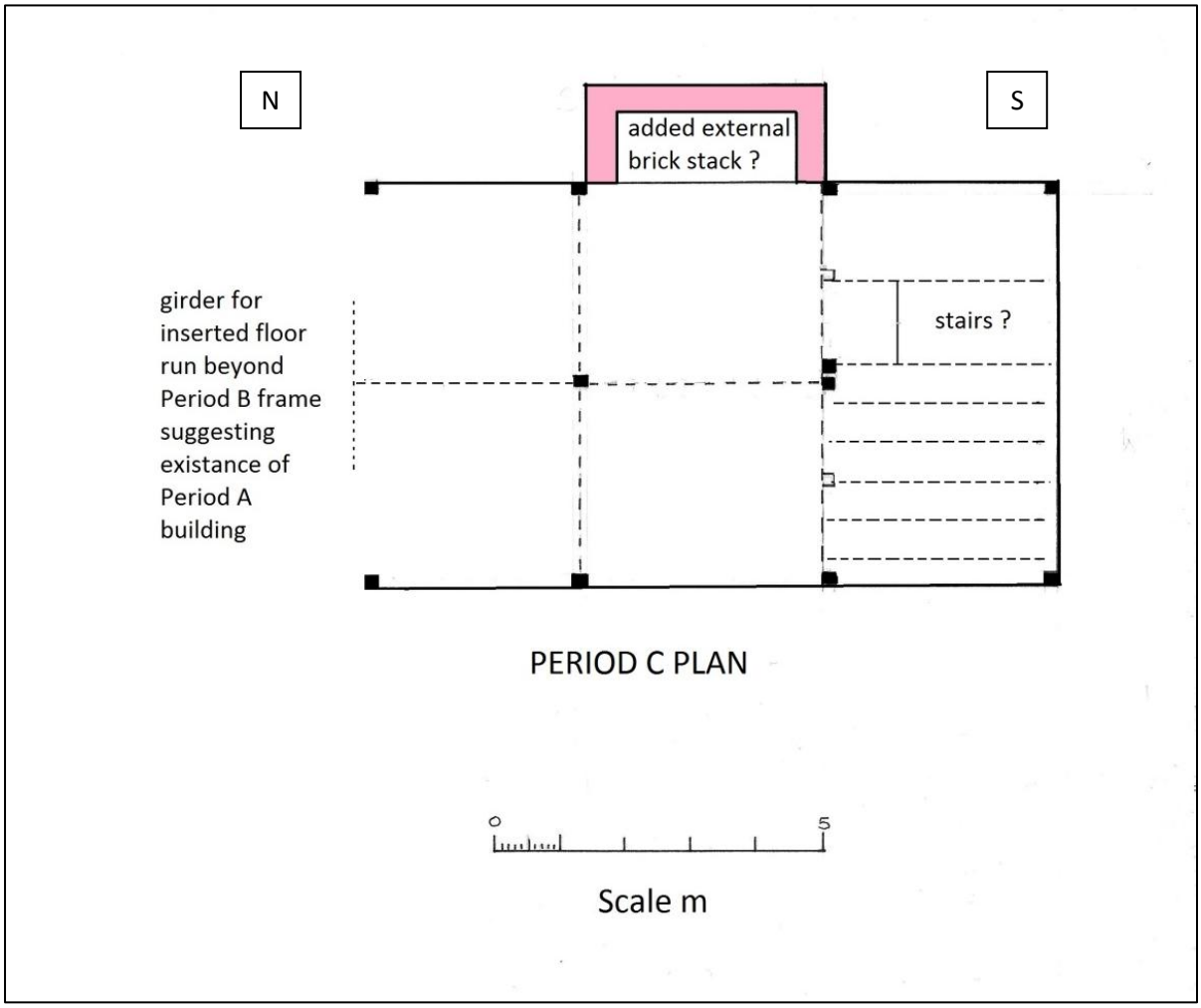


Fig.8. Period C plan showing likely insertion of fireplace and girders for the inserted floor

7.0 Detailed architectural description – Period D

7.1 Period D layout

The cross-wing was constructed onto the end of the existing hall once the previously retained Period A part had been demolished. It consisted of three bays, resulting in end reversal where the new cross-wing became the high end of the hall. A lot of the visible timbers from this period have evidence of previous use, in the form of mortices, both open and sawn, peg holes and carpenters marks with 'missing partners'. It is highly likely that these timbers came from a high status building, as evidenced by the huge scantlings of some of the beams, in particular the beams used to support the downstairs joists which measured 34cm wide. Further, the reused principal timbers contain redundant pairs of mortices which once supported deep, narrow joists designed to support an elaborated, flush, under-plastered ceiling. The likely date for the cross-wing, given the style of the roof construction and the design of the walls, would be about the turn of the C17th. This coincides with the demolition of nearby Old Buckhurst and another mansion at Bolebroke (both owned by the Sackville family) which David Martin suggests are likely source buildings for these timbers. Given that the Sackville estate effectively moved up to Knole between 1603-5, and soon afterwards the grand houses at both Buckhurst and Bolebroke was dramatically sized down, this would suggest a likely date for the re-building of the end range, just 8 years after Edward Burrish moves in as a tenant farmer. What is not entirely clear is the date of the cellar, which is situated at the base of the Period D cross-wing. This is constructed of sandstone which has been partially excavated into the ground at the rear, although a substantial portion of this structure is above ground at the front and side walls of the cross-wing. It has an C17th stone window (see 7.3) in the rear wall adjacent to the doorway although this does not necessarily date it, as it is plausible that the cross wing was built on top of a pre-existing cellar but it is not possible to establish this either way. In the unlikely event that the cellar does predate the cross-wing, it is an extremely early example and has implications regarding the footprint of the period-A house.

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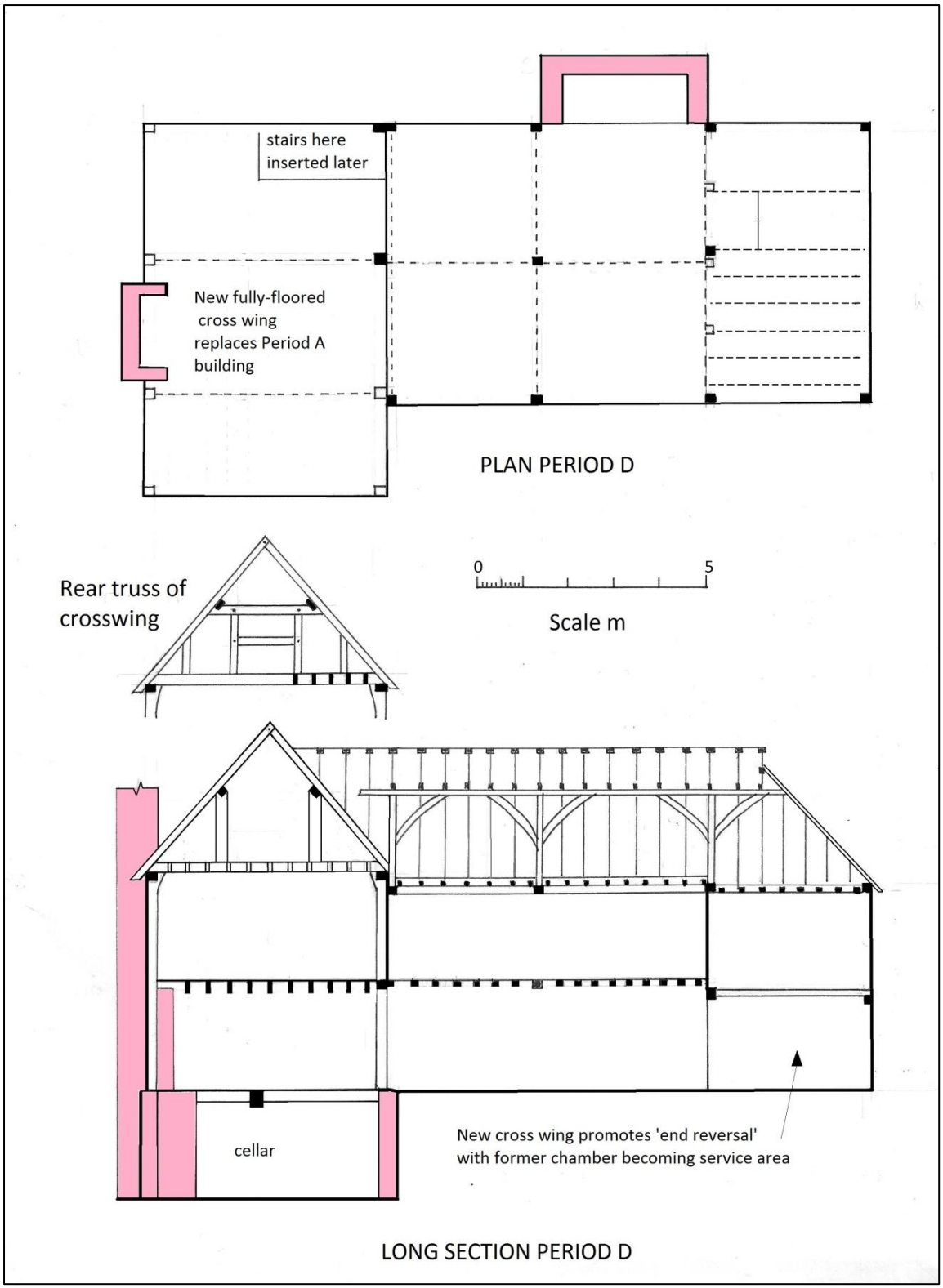

Fig.9. Long section and ground floor plan showing position of cellar and cross wing

7.2 Wall design

Most of the cross-wing walls have been plastered on the inside and tile hung outside, except the mid rail in the south wall of the second bay between truss F and G. It was not clear if this was a later addition or not as the wood in the principal post at truss G, which the mid-rail was jointed in to, differed significantly. The principal post in

question has a very noticeable texture of weathering, whereas the mid-rail did not. However, after the watching brief was conducted it was apparent that once this area was opened up, the post was yet another re-used timber which was originally external, which accounted for the weathering. Cut into both post and mid-rail was a matching carpenters mark from the construction of the cross-wing. The other interesting information which came to light was the uncovering of an original section of lath and daub wall infill within the fabric of the wall which has been fully recorded. This contained one sherd of early medieval pottery which has to be residual, from the earth used to create the daub. Luke Barber who looked at this piece of pot reports the following observations:

'The sherd (5g) is slightly abraded and is from the shoulder of an oxidised cooking pot tempered with fine/medium sand and common burnt out shell (voids). The fabric is likely to be of later 12th- to later 13th- century and is clearly residual in this context'.

See appendix for more information on the opening up of this wall. The other opportunity to see other walls during the watching brief came when a small-panelled wall in the south west corner of the cross-wing and some of the inside partition walls were uncovered. This proved the panels to be rectangular and that the mid-rail extended all along this wall to the front corner of the building. Samples of the same nailed lath-and-daub infill have been retained and analysed more fully in the Watching Brief report in the appendix.

7.3 Windows

No known original windows exist from this period above ground level, but in the cellar an original chamfered stone window frame still exists (plate 10 and 11).

Plate 10. Exterior of the chamfered stone window frame in the cellar. Note buttress to left of shot indicating past subsidence

Plate 11. Interior of the stone window frame in the cellar.

7.4 Doorways and doors

There is one original doorframe still existing on the first floor, situated to the rear bay in what is now the kitchen entrance at the top of the stairs. The frame consists of a simple beaded and chamfered profile.

Plate 12. Original Period D doorframe

7.5 Ceiling

The cross-wing was built with an integral floor, which consisted of huge scantlings, with no mouldings on either girder or joists. The exception was a joist which has a

later ‘witches mark’ carved into it which is of some interest from a social history point of view (plate 13). Unfortunately the full extent of the beams depth is not visible, due to plastered panels, but the girder is 28cm wide and is 21cm in depth up to the plaster but this extends well beyond as measurements taken for the cross sections show these ceiling beams to be deeper.

Plate 13. The later carved ‘witches mark’ near the existing front door.

7.6 Stairs

The current stairs are probably sited in the same position as the original stairs, although there is some doubt about this as evidenced by some sawn tenon joints in the back cross beam above the stairs current position (plate 14). However, it has become fairly clear that several of the timbers used in the construction of the cross - wing are re-used from elsewhere. These mortices are not relevant to this building. Further evidence for this lies on the first floor, where there is a similar story of sawn-off tenons in the crossbeam at the back of the range, in truss H.

Plate 14.The stairwell up to the first floor displays sawn tenons in the cross beam in truss H.

7.7 Chimney

The chimney breast built into the northern external wall in the middle bay is likely to date from the construction of the cross-wing. It has a Tudor style two-headed arched fire surround (plate 15), carved from sandstone (?).

Plate 15. The Tudor style stone fire surround.

7.8 Roof

The roof here is of a clasped-side-purlin construction with two queen posts supporting the collar with an additional side strut either side of the queen posts. The gable front has been rendered so the beams are not visible from the front of the building. At a later date, a forelocked King post was inserted (Plate 17 and 18). The sides of the roof are also supported by full windbracing to the rear and middle bays, with partial bracing to the front bay. These braces are relatively thin, which, like the other details of the roof construction, are features consistent with an early C17th date for the construction of the cross-wing. However, it must again be noted that the majority of the timbers used for the roof have been re-used from elsewhere.

Plate 16. The thinner wind bracing on the through purlin roof

8.0 Period E – later C18th additions

8.1. Ceilings

The ceiling in the parlour chamber has an upstanding, flush plastered central girder which is jointed into the crown post, level with the tiebeam with slightly thinner joists than those in bay two and three. The first floor ceiling in the low end bay has a central girder notched into the crown post as at the high end but with fewer joists inserted. This serves to create a flush plastered ceiling with no visible beams in the middle of the space.

8.2 Stairs

It is possible that the stairs from Period D have been replaced but as these are not visible it is not possible to say for sure. However, the balusters are of a later date, most likely from the late C18th as these are too thin for an earlier period.

8.3 Roof

As discussed above, a King post was inserted in the C18th in order to help alleviate any shift in the building which occurred as a result of the subsidence downstairs.

Plate 17 and 18. The C18th forelocked King Post inserted into the through purlin roof.

9.0 Archive

9.1 On completion of the archaeological report ASL will arrange for the paper archive to be deposited in a museum or similar repository agreed with East Sussex County Council. Lewes Museum at present is not taking further archives due to a lack of space. Until such a time as archives can be safely stored, any paper reports shall be stored at the ASL office based in South Chailey (with digital copies distributed in 9.2) and once a suitable venue to archive the finds is found they shall be approached and stored there subject to agreement.

9.2 Copies of the approved report will be provided to:

- the Owner/Developer
- the County Archaeologist
- the Local Planning Authority
- the project archive (see above).
- East Sussex Historic Buildings Record

10.0 Acknowledgments

10.1 The author wishes to thank both David and Barbara Martin for their help and guidance during the site visit and for their comments on the written report. Thanks are also due to David Millum for his knowledge and assistance on the day and for producing the drawings.Thanks are also due to the Landlord Bish for his understanding during the process and to the project Manager, Neil Farrance for his support. Thanks are also to the Conservation Officer, Rowenna Pye for her guidance and to the chef and staff for constant coffee.

11.0 References

(1) C.N.Sutton1902, Historical notes of Withyham,Hartfield and Ashdown Forest).
(2) Historic Environment Records held at County Hall Archaeological Section
(2) Article in monograph: 1969. Place names of Sussex 2.
(3) Monograph: 1905-1940. The Victoria History of the County of Sussex. vol 1, pg 376
(4) The Buckhurst Terrier 1597-1598 by Ernest Straker, F.S.A.,published by Sussex Record Society in 1933

12.0 Appendix

12.1 Watching Brief report on the Dorset Arms

In March 2014 Archaeology Services Lewes were commissioned to produce a full interpretive archaeological survey of the Grade 2 listed Dorset Arms, Withyham as a pre-development requirement. The building started out as a small, pre-C15th medieval house which was extended at a later date, into a four bay, open hall house in the late C15th. In the mid C16th, the hall was floored over. The original service end was ripped down and a new, high end, cross wing was built in the early C17th. Following on from the survey, a Watching Brief was conducted in order to watch five key areas that were being altered during renovation works at the property.

Several areas were opened up, exposing previously unseen details of the historical fabric of the building and adding to the record. In particular, previously un-recorded floorboards (which may be the original parlour floor) were found as a re-used partition wall and the wall studs and rails of the cross wing were exposed, enabling a better study of the timber panel sizes. Some early daubed walls were uncovered but a precise date is not available for this area, although it was fully recorded and a small, abraded sherd of early medieval pottery was found within the daub.

1.0 Introduction and planning background

1.1 This report is the result of an Archaeological Watching Brief which was maintained during building works associated with development at The Dorset Arms pub (DES4614), which is part of the Buckhurst Estate in Withyham, East Sussex, TN7 4BL centred on TQ 49595 35675.

1.2 This report has been produced for the developers, Complete Land Management LLP and BTF Partnership, and the owner, Earl De La Warr, by Lisa Jayne Fisher, Principal Archaeologist at Archaeology Services Lewes (ASL). The archaeological monitoring, as specified below, follows the recommendations made by the Assistant County Archaeologist at East Sussex County Council to Wealden District Council in response to Listed Building application number: WD/2014/0169/LB.

1.3 The building is grade II listed and defined as a C15 timber-framed building, altered at a later date with two storeys and attic, four windows. Now faced with brick and tile hanging, both now painted, on a stone base. Tiled roof with casement windows, some with pointed Gothic panes. Gable at north end with scalloped barge-boards, a C19 porch and ceiling beams and open fireplaces inside.

1.4 In a pre-planning approval meeting the Wealden District Conservation Officer, Rowenna Pye, had indicated that areas of historic fabric would be impacted by the proposals, in particular the removal of a section of historic sub-frame / panelling in the main bar area, the opening up of a doorway, the removal of a modern fireplace and conversion of a stairway into a cupboard. It was considered important that a record be made of these impacts and that the records are put into context through an overall archaeological survey of the building. In addition to the watching brief there was a level 3 EH full analytical Standing Buildings Survey for the building.

1.5 The watching brief was intermittent and conducted over two days, on March 10th and March 17th 2014, in accordance with the opening up of various areas as discussed above in 1.4 and outlined in the WSI which was linked directly to areas that the conservation officer required watching. This report has been sub-divided with each of the five key areas discussed in turn, which are labelled on the site plan. It should be noted for the record that a new north arrow has been added to the plan as the architects drawing had north erroneously facing west.

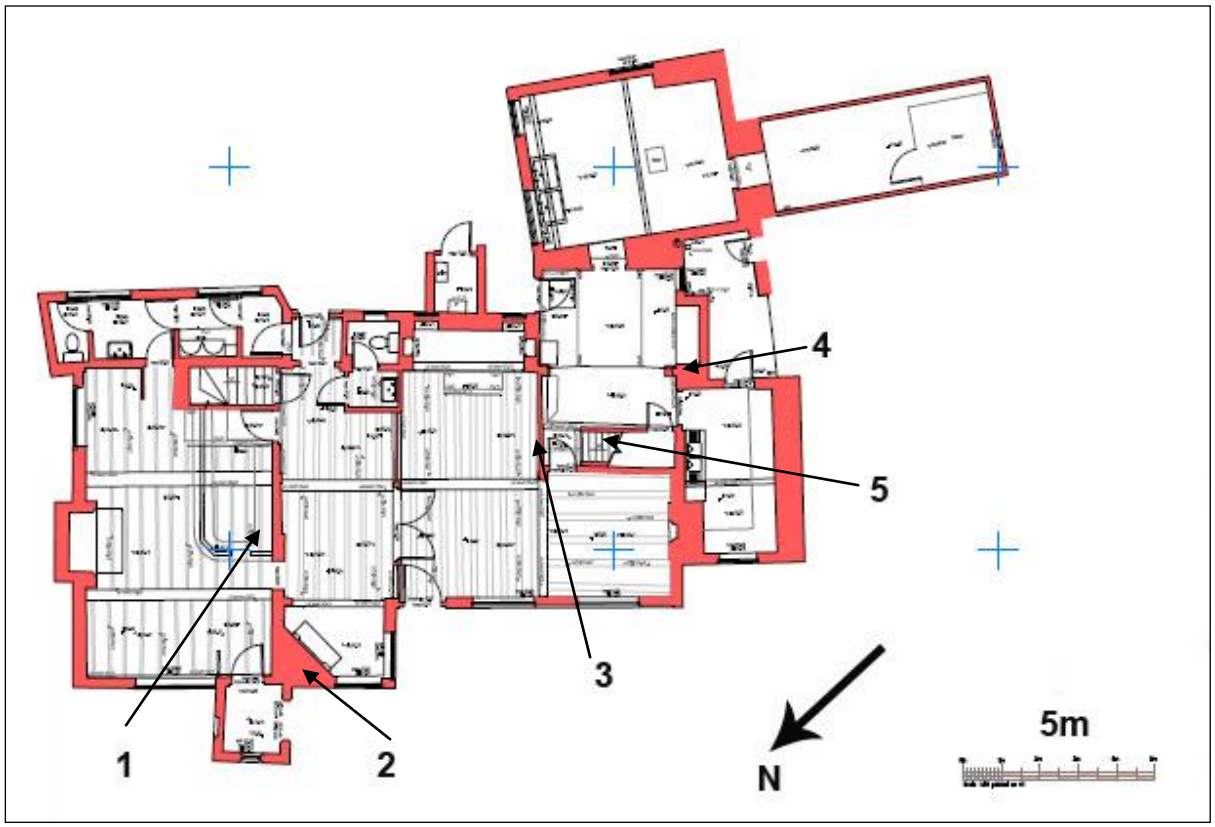

Fig.1 – Architects site plan with areas watched numbered 1-5

2. 0 The Archaeological background

2.1 The property is situated within both a Conservation Area (DES9888) and an Archaeological Notification Area the medieval and post-medieval village of

Withyham. The Dorset Arms is a Grade II listed 15th century timber-framed building, altered at a later date. See main report above for background details.

3. 0 Objectives

3.1 The Assistant County Archaeologist, Greg Chuter, requested that an English Heritage level 3 buildings survey was conducted before any building works take place. This building is of historical interest and some of the historical fabric of this building will be compromised during renovations and so the survey fully recorded and explained the sequencing of the building to form a better understanding, and to compile a lasting record. For full details on this see separate report.

3.2 Following on from the survey, the Watching Brief took place during building works in areas of historical impact, as recommended by the conservation officer. The objectives of the archaeological watching brief were to contribute to our understanding of the site through the recording of any archaeological remains exposed as a result of renovations to the interior of the building. Particular attention was made of the character, depth, condition, date and significance of any deposits, finds or features.

4.0 Specific aims

4.1 To ensure compliance with the requirements of the brief issued by Greg Chuter, ESCC and to make available the results of the work by publication of the results in accordance with the requirements of the WSI. Consideration will also be given to publication of the results in a local journal and/or presentation/s to local historical/archaeological societies.

5.0 Methodology

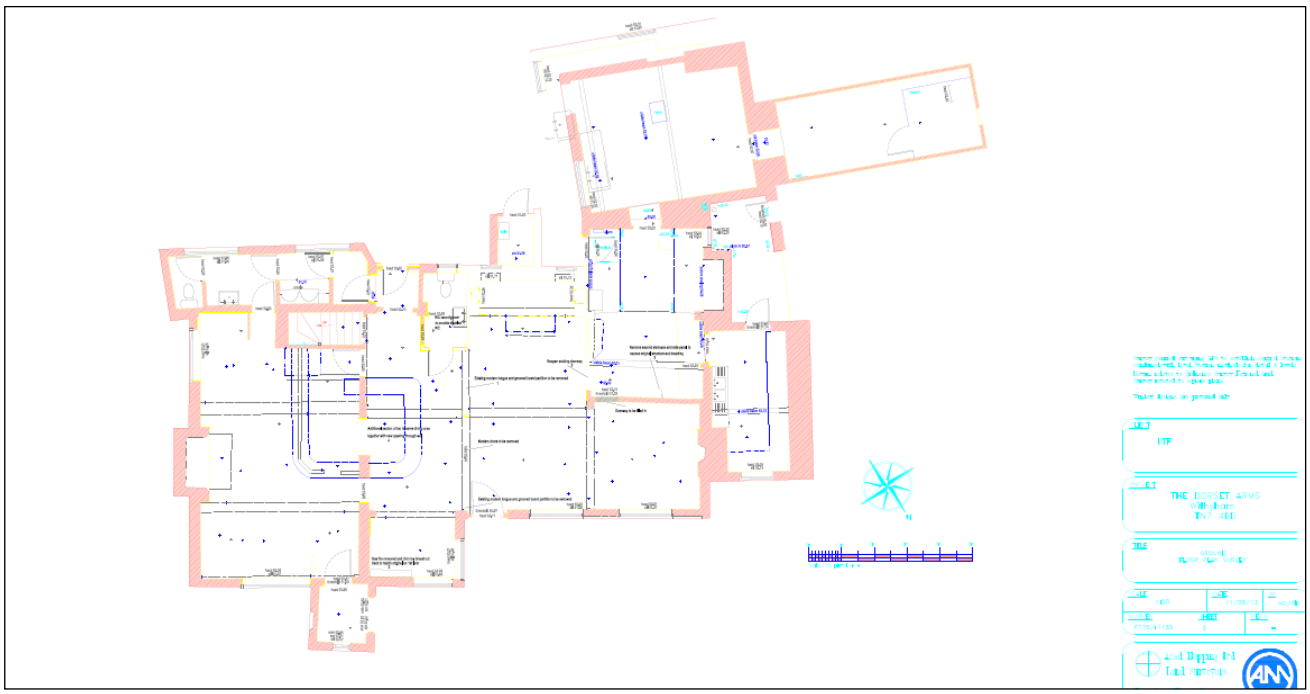

Fig.2. Architects proposed renovations plan (Scale 1:50)

5.1 The works fall into 5 distinct areas as follows:

1. Record the opening of a wall to allow for new bar area, in particular to record the removal of the mid-rail in the timber framed wall.

2. Record the removal of a recent fireplace and gas fire Record the removal of recent tongue and grooved partition.
3. Record the unblocking of a doorway into kitchen prep/overflow area.
4. Record the removal of ceramic tiles over base of principal post in kitchen.
5. Record the removal of a secondary staircase.
6. Ancillary work which was also watched but not impacting on historical fabric included the removal of a tongue and groove partition in the dining room.

5.2 Prior to the commencement of the works approval, a full level 3, EH analytical archaeological survey was carried out and a separate report has been drawn up for this.

6.0 Area 1 removal of mid-rail

Area 1 work consisted of the removal of a mid rail from the original timber-framed panelled wall of the cross-wing, which dates to around 1600 AD. Above and below this were areas of recent plasterboard infill with no original wattle and daub panelling left intact. Once the panel had been cleared of later plasterboard and associated oak shelving and hatchway the mid-rail was recorded by measured sketches and photographic recording. Previously unseen areas in particular were investigated and it became apparent that the adjacent principal post for truss G had been re-used from another building as evidenced by a succession of mortice joints (without peg-holes) that were cut into the vertical side of the beam (west face), which the mid-rail covered and so proves a previous function as it is an earlier feature than the insertion of the mid-rail.

Plate 1. Position of mid-rail wall before removal (shot facing north)

Plate 2.The newly exposed north facing side of the mid-rail before removal

In addition, this principal post is weathered with cracks up to 5cm deep and a textured finish to the surface which the mid-rail does not have. However, it was proved that the mid-rail was jointed in to the post when the cross-wing was built as two matching sets of carpenters marks were identified. It is possible that the post was a re-used side girt from another building. This has been postulated as nearby Bolebroke or Buckhurst (David Martin *pers.comm*).

Plate 3. Carpernters mark on the mid-rail

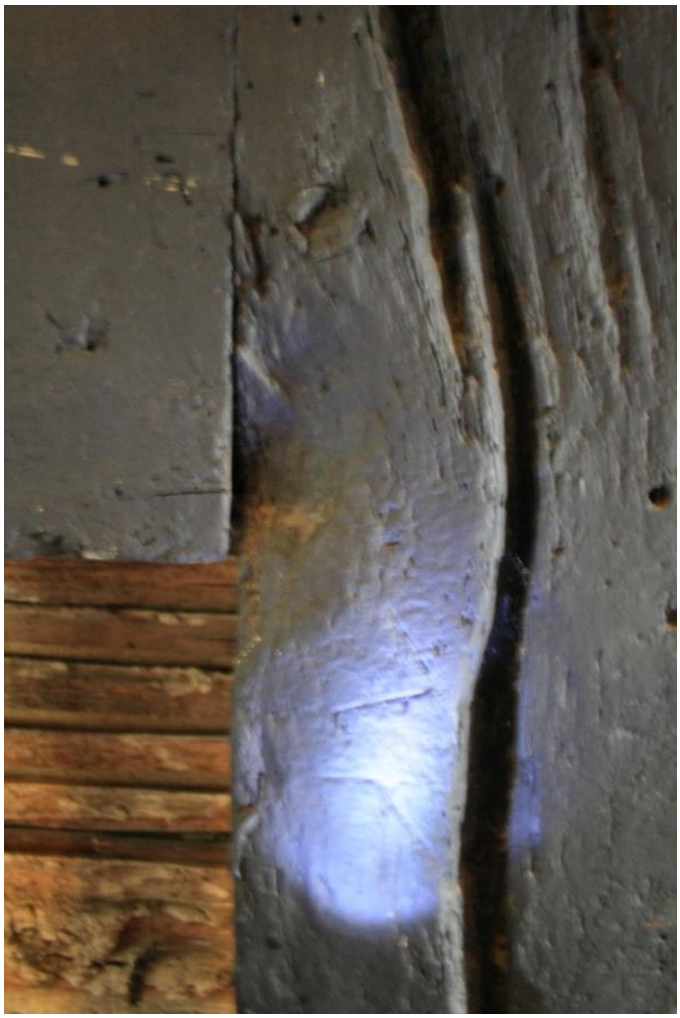

Plate 4. Corresponding carpenters mark on the principal post

The soffit of the mid-rail did not have stave holes cut into it but did have three 9cm wide drilled mortice joints, which contained two existing wall studs of unknown age. The top of the mid-rail had a groove down the centre of it, which is likely to have enabled the insertion of the later wall studs at the lower end. The mortice joints at the top of the wall studs matched those elsewhere in the soffits of the dais beam (see 4 below) and the soffits of the mid-rails in area 2. It is likely that these mortices are later additions and it became apparent throughout the Watching Brief that most of the original daubed walls have been replaced at some point in time and it is highly likely that the wall studs have also been replaced, but possibly into existing mortices. The mrtices were also uncovered in soffit of the earlier hall range dais beam and it is very unlikely that these two ranges of different date both had exactly the same methods of wall panelling. The mortices would indicate wall stud with nailed lath and plaster construction rather than stave holes indicating wattle and daub. However, it is curious that no stave holes were uncovered during the Watching Brief in any of the soffits so it is possible that wall stud construction was used in the original wall panels.

Plate 5. The soffit of the cross-wing side girt showing the drilled mortices (square ones are much later additions)

Layer number	Material	Thickness	Inclusions	Notes
A	Modern plaster	15mm	-	
B	Lathes nailed onto batton and gap	6cm		
1	Pink painted lime render	5mm	-	
2	Daub	10mm	Soil, (50%) horsehair and lumps of lime/chalk	
3	Nailed lathes			
4	Daub onto roof tile	20mm	Soil, horsehair (20%) and lumps of lime/chalk	
5	2nd coat of daub on roof tile	10mm	Soil,	

			horsehair (20%) and lumps of lime/chalk	
6	Daub	40mm		
7	White lime render	15mm		
8	Gap	40mm		
C	Battons			
D	Modern plastered wall			

Table 1. Daub sequencing west of the mid-rail section.

Adjacent to the mid-rail area (north) some plasterboard was removed when the bar fittings were being taken away and this revealed a continuation of the mid-rail into this section of the wall. A wall post was also exposed along with some intriguing lath and plaster to the north face. It was originally thought that some of the plaster may have been original daub (layer 2) as this contained a single sherd of sandy/shelly abraded medieval pottery which has been dated to the C12 – C12th by fabric alone (Luke Barber, *pers.comm*). Quite how this got into the daub is not clear but the daub contains a high percentage of soil rather than dung as there is no straw present but about 50% added hair inclusions (see table 1). It is therefore possible that this sherd is residual and came from manured soil which contained medieval pottery. The daub was investigated and drawn as a cross section (measured sketched) as it was considered unusual that the middle section contained ceramic roof tiles in order to pack out the thickness and perhaps to give it a key. The outer layer was modern plasterboard (A) on to battons (B) with a 6cm gap between this and the next layer which was numbered 1. This was a pink lime render which also coated the wall posts and rails. The layer under this was a very hairy daub (2) made of mostly soil and horsehair (?) but with no straw and so unlikely to be made from manure. This soil mixture is also discussed below. This layer (2) was applied directly onto nailed laths The laths were nailed to the wall plate with 5mm wide, round-headed iron nails. Underneath the laths was evidence that the next layer of daub (4) which was the same material as (2), was still wet when the laths were positioned on top as the wooden impression marks were visible where some of the wood had fallen away. Within the core of the wall, in cross section, layer (4) was applied to complete ceramic tiles, with another layer of the same daub (5) in between another layer of ceramic tiles. On the other side of this, more daub (6) was adhered to the other face of the ceramic tiles. On top of this, another coat of lime plaster (7) before a 4cm gap to modern battons (C) and inner skim of plaster (D). On the other (south facing) side of the wall in daub layer (7), a small piece of Victorian clay pipe stem was retrieved.

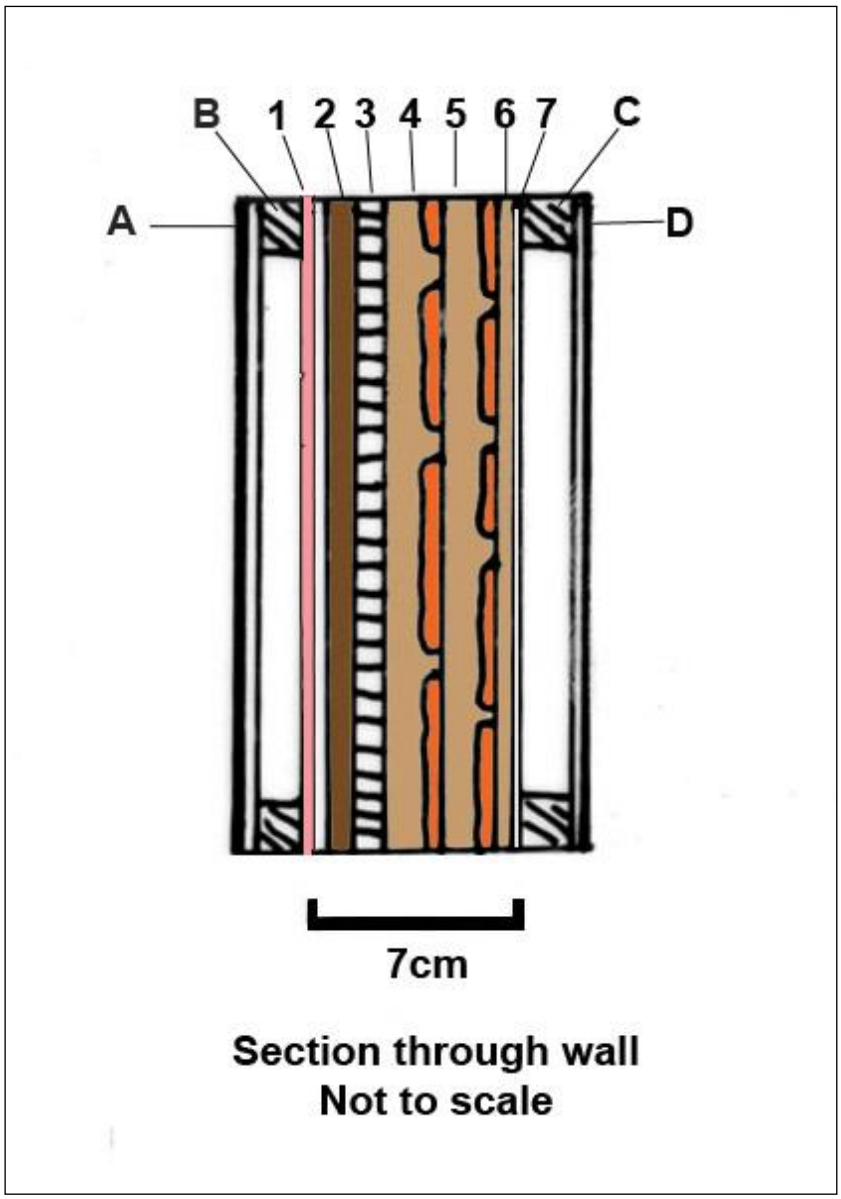

Fig.7. Cross section of plaster and daub wall adjacent to the mid-rail section (west)

Plate 6. North facing side of the plastered wall.

Plate 7. Close up detail of the plaster and daub.

It was noted that the sole plate was lower here than the other exposed part of the wall where the front corner of the cross-wing was uncovered (see Area 2 below). This is likely to be a later insertion as the plate which currently exists is much thinner and has a joist of some kind underneath it which rests on the cellar wall although it is not entirely clear as it is obscured from view. However, the principal post and wall post extend down into this beam and are jointed into it so it is more likely to be contemporary.

There was another carpenters mark at the base of the principal post (37cm up) but it is not clear where the matching scribe is, as it is likely to be on the replaced sole-plate.

Plate 8. Carpenters mark at the bottom of Principal post for truss G (south post).

The mid-rail was sawn approx. 10mm away from the side of the principal post in order to retain some of the tenon and to avoid cutting into the post. This will be secured in place and left in-situ. Once removed, the mid-rail was photographed in section and it is thought that the wood will be re-used elsewhere on site during renovations.

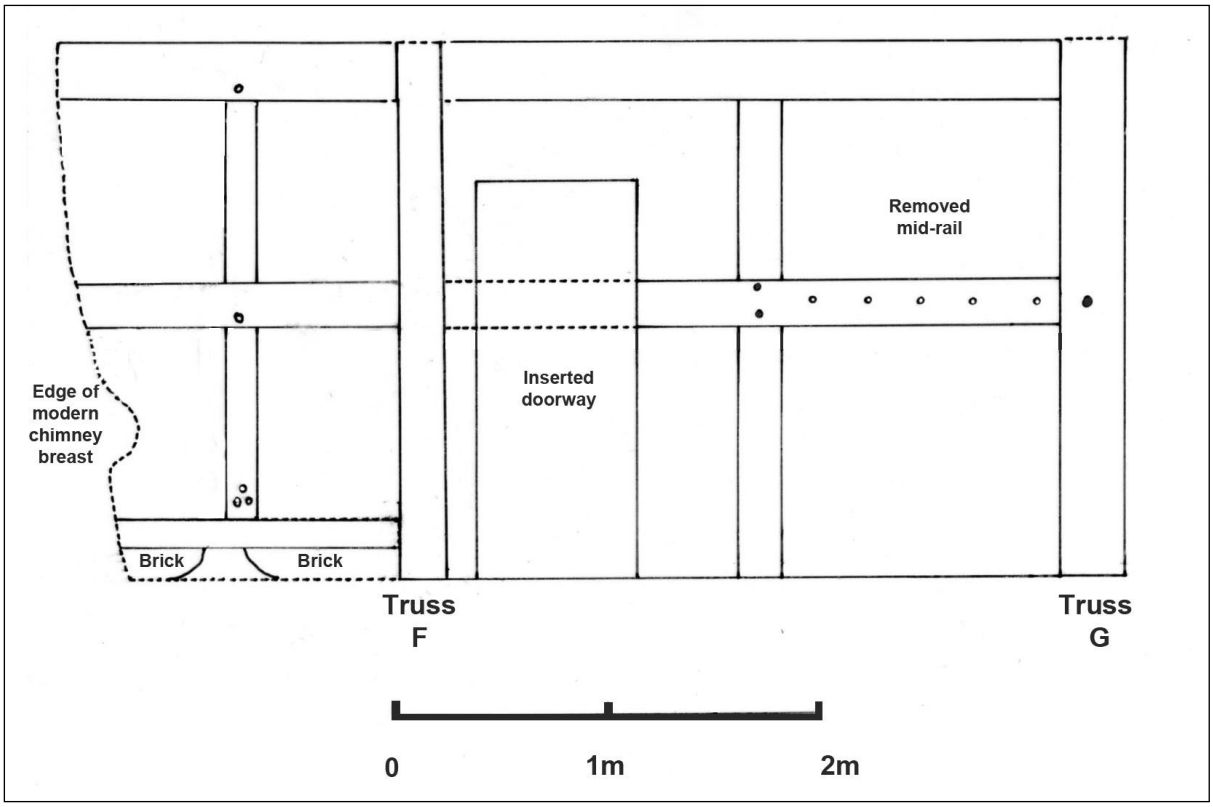

Fig.8. Scale drawing of the exposed wall posts and rails in the southern side wall of the cross wing.

7.0 Area 2 fireplace removal

The modern fireplace which was situated in this area was of little concern but needed monitoring as this area is a small, gabled Victorian extension constructed immediately adjacent to the southern corner of the later Tudor cross-wing. Therefore, there was potential for the original external wall timbers and panelling to be exposed, and it didn't disappoint. It was soon apparent that the western corner of the cross-wing was still upstanding but in a very dilapidated state, subjected to wet rot and beetle attack over the years and the fabric has been seriously compromised. However, this gave new insight into the size of the wall posts and cross-rails for the exterior of the building which was not apparent elsewhere. This area was sketch planned with a scale drawing prepared afterwards, with full photographic recording on the day. The Conservation officer was notified immediately, in order to arrange a site visit to advise on the best way to conserve and treat this area.

Plate 9. The exposed corner of the cross wing behind the modern chimney breast

The wall posts, although very rotted, were intact and measured 15cm in width but the depth was not measurable due to plaster infill. The two sections were morticed into both mid-rail, side girt and sole plate as evidenced by some remaining peg holes. The lower post had yet more evidence of re-use with three peg holes (filled in) at the base of the post. The mid-rail was the same width as the removed mid-rail at 20cm high but the full depth was not measurable. This rail also had the same drilled mortices cut into the soffit with no staves holes visible. The wall studs were jointed into the mortices, measuring 10cm in width and 4cm in depth with some evidence of adze marks on the surfaces although very degraded it is difficult to say if they were sawn as well. There were nailed laths on top of the wall studs, using the same 40mm wide, round headed nails as in the bar area. The plaster on the exterior of this wall had only two layers of daub applied to the nailed laths. The outer layer being only 5mm thick consisting of white lime and horsehair (?) render, with an inner face, 10mm thick, of dirt and horse hair (?). It was curious that this layer did not have any straw in and it did appear very much as though dirt had been utilized; when the builders were removing the adjacent brick chimney breast, a pile of dirt accumulated at floor level. The wall was carefully cleaned back and some of the dirt appeared to coat the outside of the white lime render but was of the same consistency as the dirt in the inner layer of daub. It was mid-brown and very powdery when rubbed between

the fingers. This layer was noted to have been applied over the side girt edge but respected the mid-rail and wall post.

Part of the inner face of the wall from the other side had moved considerably towards the outer face and so it was possible to conduct a small investigation of the construction of this side of the wall, although very limited. This was also constructed with nailed laths and had an outer coat of the same lime rendered pink coating that was found elsewhere on the inner wall in the bar area. This is likely to be much later in date. There was a slight difference in the top and bottom panel, in that there was a second layer of the same mud and hair daub as on the exterior of the wall but in the bottom panel only. The top panel had a considerably harder inner plaster, possibly lime, applied directly onto the nailed laths but with the same pink lime render on the outside. The dirt and hair layer was not apparent on the top panel of the interior wall.

It was noted that the soleplate was considerable higher at the corner of the cross wing (measuring 197cm from soffit of side grit to top of sole plate) than in the middle by the mid-rail between truss F and G (measuring 223cm), which has already been discussed as a possible replacement above. Underneath the higher soleplate in the corner was an uneven brick plinth which looks like it is a later insertion, due to th fact that it is not level or uniformed and has the appearance of being wedged into a tight gap. The construction of the cellar walls is of sandstone and this is visible under the sole plate of the bar area.

8.0 Area 3 opening up of doorway

This area was potentially uncontroversial as an existing doorway, not in the original position, was simply being re-opened. However, because this is situated under the dais beam of the hall house, there was the potential to glean more information about the original panelled walls in this area. As the aperture was removed of modern battons and boarding, it became apparent that an earlier, re-positioned doorframe existed behind the modern façade, made from oak and with a simple beading on the front of the face, which looks north. The head of the frame has either been removed and re-inserted lower down the jambs, or there was once a fanlight above the door head as the jambs continued above the head of the frame. The later is probably the most likely, which would put a likely C18th date on this doorframe. The doorframe is quite substantial, with two large iron door pins on the rear face, and the jambs measure 13cm wide and 8cm deep. It was advised that this frame should be left and not removed as part of the development, which is now the case.

Plate 10. Exposed timbers of the doorframe showing continuation of frame above

Once this part of the door had been opened up, it was evident that another drilled mortice was situated under the soffit of the dais beam, measuring exactly the same dimensions as the other mortices in Truss G principal post and the mid-rail of the exposed cross-wing as already discussed above. Therefore these have to be at least earlier than the date of the inserted doorframe, but of course the doorframe could have come from anywhere as it has clearly been re-used. Whilst observing this area, it was also noted that the principal post in the corner (truss B) which is adjacent to the dais beam, has the edge chamfered. This was not noticed before and this is thought to be the position of the original doorway. Therefore, there is a possibility that the post was adapted to create the doorframe itself. The other side of this wall was opened up by the removal of modern shelving. This exposed later timbers and no 'new' mortices were uncovered under the soffit of the dais beam.

Plate 11 and 12. Top (left) and bottom door pins on the rear face of the door frame

9.0 Area 4 removal of tiles from principal post in kitchen

This area was watched as it involved the removal of modern material from around the base of the principal post at truss A, in the east wall. On first inspection, it looked like the post may have rotted over time and been consolidated with concrete which was then tiled with white ceramic tiles so nothing was visible. These tiles were removed to expose a brick plinth, supporting the rotten timber base. The bricks measured 6cm in depth but the full extent of them was not revealed as this area is not being removed but the tiles simply stripped from the rendered bricks, which is now complete, the bricks that were evident show Flemish bond with some burnt headers. No further actions were necessary here.

10.0 Area 5 removal of stairway

This area was due to be watched as the modern partition walls are attached to older beams, in the cross beam of truss A as well as potentially opening up areas not visible before. This is a later staircase but may possibly be positioned in the original site of the medieval stairwell up to the first floor parlour. A few areas of note were observed, mainly that the joists which sit (not jointed into) on the cross-beam of truss A are sitting on a block of wood, 5cm deep, above the top of the beam.
No mortices were observed in the soffit of the newly exposed joists, proving that the parlour was one open room, not partitioned. A small area of early plaster was observed on the back all but so covered in electrical wires that it prevented thorough analysis. This is a shame as there is the potential for this small area to have some original daub, positioned as it is under the cross beam on the rear wall of the hall house. With the staircase removed, some floorboards (cross sawn ends) were evident as first floor level but these are unlikely to be the original parlour floor, measuring 19cm wide and 2cm deep with the majority of them being made of oak wood.

Plate 13. Sawn floorboards exposed after removal of staircase.

However, what was interesting is that once the partition wall was exposed, it contained some very rough cross cut and wide planks which could well be some of the original medieval floorboards re-used to create the partition wall. They measured 26cm wide and were 2cm deep. They have been lime washed but appear to be hardwood underneath. A few of them had holes large enough to take water pipes drilled through them, which they might have had if they were once floorboards with later water pipes fixed above running to the bathroom. There were two average lengths; 1.83m and 68cm. This is respectively the average length between four joists and two joists in the parlour floor so it may help to prove the point. The whole wall measures 2m high and 2.5m wide approx. (the combined lengths of the long and short boards). It was recommended that these be conserved in-situ if possible, which is the case.

Plate 14. Possible floorboards exposed in partition wall under removed staircase

Plate 15. Close-up details of boards above.

11.0 Ancillary areas

Plate 16. Exposted rear of inglenook.

The inglenook had a fire back and firedogs removed which made the brickwork more visible so a cursory measurement was made of the bricks as it was noted in the survey that this may be a later re-build. This proved to be the case, with the bricks potentially coming from left over stock of the Lutyens designed garden at Buckhurst from the early C20th. Lutyens was known for having thinner bricks made in order to emulate the more elegant Elizabethan bricks. It is entirely possible that the inglenook

was re-fashioned at this point in time, a fact borne out by the use of a very sandy and modern mortar used to bed the bricks in. The bricks measured 21cm x 5cm. To the side of the fireplace are two cupboards with wooden doors, inside of these there are brick 'nooks' with larger bricks measuring 23cm x 6.3cm. There is evidence of a later building date for these as well, with pieces of slate built into the wall behind the bricks.

The removal of a modern tongue and groove partition wall was also watched as this was attached to the inserted hall floor above the wall. The only thing of note here was that there were some notches cut into one of the floor joists which were not visible before. At first they look like mortice joints from a re-used timber but on closer inspection they were triangular in section and appeared more wedge shaped. The only logical explanation for this was the insertion of a panelled wall in this position at some point, with the wedges cut to enable uprights to fit into them, which were then wedged into position on the floor. They measured 10cm in width and only four, evenly spaced cuts were evident in the north facing side of the last joist before truss C.

Plate 17. Newly exposed 'wedges' in first floor joists

12.0 General discussion

This Watching Brief enabled a much expanded recording of the building which will help inform the survey better. The results from this report will be added to the survey report to create a better understanding of the different phasings and architectural details of the building. It is now possible to see the extent of the timber framed, plastered walls of the cross wing which was not evident before renovation work began, with only one mid-rail visible and no wall posts visible. The story has now changed here, with wall panelling opened up thus enabling a scale drawing to be

made of this wall. The style of panelling is of a simple box-frame construction but further evidence in this wall for the re-use of substantial timbers with heavy duty scantlings would certainly suggest that they came from a high status building. The panelled walls give further evidence for the progressive re-development of the hall house; if the low end truss D had been a closed wall and not an open truss when the new cross wing had been built, there would have been no need to create panelled walls in the southern cross wing wall.

13.0 Archive

13.1 Samples of the daub have been retained at ASL for further research and analysis. The paper archive will be deposited with East Sussex Record Office. The archive will be prepared according to the principles of *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)* (English Heritage 2006b) and the requirements of the recipient museum. Upon completion of the fieldwork an OASIS (Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations) form will be completed for the project.

13.2 A paper copy of the report will be submitted to the client and will also be passed to the local planning authority with a further copy submitted to ESCC so that the results may be added to the Historic Environment Record. A short summary of the work will be prepared for the relevant local archaeological journal.

APPENDIX 1 East Sussex County Council HER summary form

Site Name/Site Code: The Dorset Arms, Withyham. DAW14	
Site Address: The Dorset Arms, Withyham, East Sussex, TN7 4BL	
Project Summary: *In March 2014 Archaeology Services Lewes were commissioned to produce a full interpretive archaeological survey of the Grade 2 listed Dorset Arms, Withyham as a pre-development requirement. The building started out as a small, pre-C15th medieval house which was extended at a later date, into a four bay, open hall house. At a later date, the hall was floored over, the original service end was ripped down and a new, high end, cross wing was built. Following on from the survey, a Watching Brief was conducted in order to watch five key areas that were being altered during renovation works at the property.*	
District/Unitary: Wealden	**Parish:** Withyham
Period(s): pre-C15th, late C15th and early C17th	
NGR (centre of site : 8 figures): TQ 49595 35675 **(NB if large or linear site give multiple NGRs)**	
Type of archaeological work: (e.g evaluation trial trenching, Desk based assessment etc.) Watching Brief	
Date of Recording/Fieldwork: 10th March and 17th March 2014	
Geology: Tunbridge Wells sandstone beds	
Client/Sponsor: Earl De La Warr	

Unit undertaking recording: Archaeology Services Lewes **Title and author of accompanying report:** Lisa Jayne Fisher **Project Manager**: Lisa Jayne Fisher	
Summary of fieldwork results (begin with earliest period first, add NGRs where appropriate) *Several areas were opened up during renovations at this grade2 listed property, exposing previously unseen details of the historical fabric of the building and adding to the record. In particular, previously un-recorded floorboards (which may be original) were found as a re-used partition wall and wall studs and rails of the cross wing were exposed, enabling a better study of the timber panel sizes. Some early daubed walls were uncovered but a precise date is not available for this area, although it was fully recorded and a small, abraded sherd of early medieval pottery (C13th) was found within the daub.* **(cont. on attached sheet)**	
Location of archive/finds: East Sussex Records Office	
Contact: Lisa Jayne Fisher	**Date:** 21/3/14