

Colchester Archaeological Trust



**CAT Report 2267
Issued May 2026**

**Historic building recording and archaeological
excavation at Dorewards Hall, The Chase, Bocking,
Essex, CM7 5LS**

October 2025 and March 2026



**CAT project ref.: 2025/09c
ECC code: HBR – EEX62136
EXC – EEX62137**

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excavation at Dorewards Hall, The Chase, Bocking,
Essex, CM7 5LS**

October 2025 and March 2026

NGR: TL 76270 25439 (centre)

**Planning district: Braintree
Planning ref.: 23/02748/LBC**

**CAT project ref.: 2025/09c
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On behalf of Trinity College**

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1 Summary

A programme of historic building recording and archaeological excavation was carried out by Colchester Archaeological Trust at Dorewards Hall, The Chase, Bocking, Essex in October 2025 and March 2026. Dorewards Hall is Grade II listed structure (NHLE No. 1170740).*

The structure is a large L-shaped structure, constructed from both timber and brick, that has origins in the late medieval period. The earliest part of the building (range 5) is a north-west/south-east aligned range in the centre of the structure, the timber-frame of which utilises a technique called close studding. It appears as though the structure may have been jettied when originally constructed, however both the north-western and south-eastern lower registers have been rebuilt to create flush façades. A doorway was exposed during the removal of the external render, with a two-centred arch-shaped head and plain timber spandrels. The rear elevation of the range displays evidence of original window openings, which have been replaced by modern windows but retain a short length of horizontal rail. The roof structure of range 5 seems to represent the remains of a crown post roof, with some blackened timbers, although the central purlin and crown post are no longer present.

Range 3 is constructed from Tudor bricks, red in colour and laid in a rough English bond. The gable end has two octagonal buttresses, with brick mullion and transom windows and moulded brick details. The brickwork is somewhat more haphazard in the south-eastern elevation, laid mostly in header bond and with numerous areas of repair. The remains of a partial brick arch, likely representing a doorway, can be seen in the brickwork, adjacent to second doorway which has been blocked with a window.

Also timber-framed in construction are ranges 4 and 7, both of which comprise hand-sawn timbers. Similarly to range 5, range 7 utilises close studding but displays no evidence it was jettied. Range 5 is later and has some haphazard primary bracing peppered through the framing.

During renovation works, a brick-lined structure was uncovered under the floor of a small porch projecting from range 6. The structure was constructed from red brick bonded with Portland cement and had a sub-rounded opening in the centre, which was half sectioned to a depth of 1m and then augured a further 0.3m. Finds recovered from the fill mostly comprised post-medieval/modern CBM fragments. A small void was observed in the side of the brickwork, the purpose of which is unknown.

2 Introduction

This is the archive report of an historic building recording and excavation carried out at Dorewards Hall, The Chase, Bocking, Essex. The work was commissioned by Sophie (Bidwells) on behalf of Trinity College and was carried out by Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT) on 3rd October 2025 and 13th March 2026. The site is located at NGR TL 76270 25439 (Fig 1).

A planning application (23/02748/LBC) was submitted to Braintree District Council in November 2023 proposing *Conservation repairs and works to existing external walls, roofs, windows and basement, including adding vents*.

As the building proposed for conservation works is Grade II* listed, the Historic Environment Advisor to Braintree District Council recommended a Historic Building Record and a limited archaeological excavation be undertaken. This recommendation follows the guidelines given in the National Planning Policy Framework (MHCLG 2025).

All archaeological work was carried out in accordance with a *Brief for Building Recording and Archaeological Excavation at Dorewards Hall, Braintree* (ECCPS 2025), and a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared by CAT in response to the brief and agreed with ECCPS (CAT 2025a).

In addition to the project brief and WSI, all reporting was undertaken in accordance with:

- *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)* (Historic England 2015),
- Professional standards of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, including its *Code of Conduct* (CIfA 2020a-c, 2023a-b and 2025),
- East of England standards and frameworks published by East Anglian Archaeology (Brown & Glazebrook 2000, Gurney 2003, Medlycott 2011) and the recent review updates on <https://researchframeworks.org/eoe/>
- *Understanding Historic Buildings: A Guide to Good Recording Practice* (Historic England 2016)
- Relevant health and safety guidelines and requirements (CAT 2025b, 2026)

3 Aims

The aim of the building recording was to provide a detailed record and assessment of the building during the renovation. The aim of the archaeological excavation was to determine the date and character of a brick-lined structure identified during the renovation works. The building recording was carried out to Level 3 (Historic England 2016) which is defined as:

“Level 3 is an analytical record and will comprise an introductory description followed by a systematic account of the building’s origins, development and use. The record will include an account of the evidence on which the analysis has been based, allowing the validity of the record to be re-examined in detail. It will also include all drawn and photographic records that may be required to illustrate the building’s appearance and structure and to support an historical analysis.

The information contained in the record will for the most part have been obtained through an examination of the building itself. The documentary sources used are likely to be those which are most readily accessible, such as historic Ordnance Survey maps, trade directories and other published sources. The record may contain some discussion the building’s broader stylistic or historical context and importance. It may form part of a wider survey of a number of buildings which will aim at an overall synthesis, such as a thematic or regional publication, when the use of additional source material may be necessary as well as a broader historical and architectural discussion of the buildings as a group.”

In particular, the record considered:

- Plan and form of the site.
- Materials and method of construction.
- Date(s) of the structure(s).
- Original function and internal layout.
- Original fixtures and fittings.
- The significance of the site in its immediate local context.

4 Historic building recording methodology

The following are included in this report:

- A documentary, cartographic and pictorial survey of the evidence pertaining to the history and evolution of the site.
- A large-scale block plan of the site.
- Annotated and phased floorplan of the buildings at a scale of 1:100.
- A description of the buildings. The description addresses features such as materials, dimensions, method of construction and phasing.
- A photographic record comprising digital photographs of both general shots and individual features. Selected examples of the photographic record are clearly tied into the drawn record and reproduced as fully annotated photographic plates supporting the text. The photographic record is accompanied by a photographic register detailing location and direction of shot (Appendix 1).

5 Historical background

The following archaeological background includes extracts of the Essex Historic Environment Records (CHER) held at Essex County Council, County Hall, Chelmsford, Essex.

Dorewards Hall¹ is Grade II* listed structure (NHLE No. 1170740), the listing for which reads:

The house has important remains of a c16 house with C17 and C18 additions, partly brick and partly timber-framed and plastered. The house is said to have been rebuilt by Edward Thursby in 1579 and the only part remaining is the present west wing, which was probably the north wing of Thursby's house. 2 storeys and attics. Built on an L-shaped plan with wings extending south-west and south-east. The south-west front is an interesting example of C16 work (although at present dilapidated). It is of red brick with a moulded brick plinth and octagonal buttresses at the corners (originally terminated by pinnacles). The facade is divided by moulded brick string courses between the storeys. 1 window range, mullioned and transomed windows with leaded lights. The ground and attic storey windows are 3-light and the 1st storey window is 5-light. The ground and 1st storey windows have brick pediments. The windows in the remaining parts of the house are mainly double-hung sashes with vertical glazing bars. Roofs tiled. RCHM (6).



Plate 1 Illustration of Dorewards Hall, date unknown. (ERO I/Mp 41/1/6)

¹ Also recorded as Durwards Hall, Dorwards Hall, Durrant Hall and Durance Hall

In the 10th century, the manor of Bocking was in possession of two Saxons, named Æthelric and Leofwine, who, in 1006, gave the manor to the Priory of St Saviour in Canterbury (Wright 1831). By the 13th century, the Dorewards estate had become a subordinate manor of Bocking. The manor was owned by Robert de Bocking, who conveyed it to Ralph Doreward in 1316 (*ibid*).

The Doreward family were a prominent family, who had possession of considerable estates, mainly situated in eastern Essex. Some notable members of the family were William Doreward, who in 1362 created the first school in Bocking by endowing a chantry chaplain and John Doreward, a speaker of the House of Commons as well as the Sherrif of Essex and Hertfordshire in the 15th century. The same John Doreward is also said to have founded a hospital at Bocking, now called the alms houses. In a letter dated 1712, Samuel Dale, a local physician, writing to Reverend William Holman, suggests that the hospital, or 'Maison du Dieu' was located at Dorewards Hall (ERO D/Y1/1/57/2) although in a later letter rescinds this suggestion in favour of another location (ERO D/Y 1/1/57/9).

On termination of the male Doreward line, in the 16th century, the estates were divided between the families of the co-heiresses, Beaupre, Thursby and de Vere, at which point the hall passed to the Thursby family (Wright 1831). Dorewards Hall is said to have been rebuilt by Edward Thursby in 1579, but more likely is that Thursby was responsible for the south-western facing brick gable, and likely further no longer extant wings of the house. Apparently, the brick gable had an inscription of 1572 on one of the pediments although Barrett (1893) notes that it was damaged by a workman's ladder. Barrett (1893) also records that in the house was a plainly designed carved fireplace, which bore in its central panel a shield of six quarterings dated 1579². The Dorewards estate remained in the Thursby family until 1637, when it was sold, along with with the manors of Bradfords and Harries, to Richard Eden (Barrett 1893). Court rolls, dating from 1602 to 1713, detail these three manors together (ERO D/DHt M9-M16). The manors were later sold by a descent of Eden to John Lemott Honywood (Wright 1831).

The Honywood estate books, with entries from 1787 (Plate 2, ERO D/DCm E2) and 1795 (Plate 3, ERO D/DCm E2), records Derwards or Durance Hall as well as Durwards Hall. In both entries, Dorewards Hall has extensive acreage which includes fields, meadows, parks and highways. By the time the 1838 tithe apportionment map is surveyed, Dorewards Hall is in the possession of the Trustees of William Philip Honwood's estate (Plate 4) and occupied by William Hobbs.

² The fireplace is no longer extant.

Dorewards Hall
Swanance Hall A.R.D.

Harrydunces Orchard	3	3	20
Street Field	10		3/4
Cells Field	2	3	20
The meadow	2	3	3
	19	2	37

Plate 2 Extract of the Honywood family estate book showing the beginning of the entry for Dorewards Hall from 1787.

Dorewards Hall Rectory Bocking Essex Oct. 1795. A.R.D.

1. Hoshill	8	3	28	22	First Park	8		17
2. Hoshill	8	2	14	23	Second Park	3		38
3. Hoshill	11		3	24	Third Park	6	3	11
4. Hoshill	0	3	0	24	Fourth Park	2	3	38

Plate 3 Extract of the Honywood family estate book showing the beginning of the entry for Dorewards Hall from 1795.

Landowner	Compound	Endow referring to Plan	Name and Description of Land and Tenements	State of Cultivation	Quantities in Akers, Roods, Poles
Honywood William Philip the Trustees of (continued)	William Hobb (continued)	597	Null Field	Brought forward	0 0 1
		598	Little Kim Field	Grass	15 2 25
		599	Little Adams	Grass	4 3 35
		600	Little Adams	Grass	4 1 22
		601	Chase by Upper Road	Grass	1 2 22
		602	Upper Road	Grass	1 2 12
		603	Lower Garden and Orchard		1 1 15
		604	Orchard	Grass	2 3 20
		605	Lower Little Woods		3 11
		606	Field		1 20

Plate 4 Extract from the 1838 tithe apportionment, the entry for Dorewards Hall highlighted.

William Hobbs is registered as occupying Dorewards, in both electoral and census records, until 1885 after which time Alfred Hutley is recorded as in residence (Plate 5). The electoral register records Hutley as a joint occupier, suggesting that Dorewards Hall may have been divided into two dwellings by this time. Hutley is an occupant of Dorewards until the early 20th century, with the 1910 Lloyd George Domesdays Survey documenting Sir Courtney Honywood as the landowner (Plate 6).

203	Holmes, Edward	Bocking	Freehold house	Bocking end
204	Hutley, Alfred	Derwards hall, Bocking	House and land as joint occupier	Derwards hall
205	Jackson, Henry, The Rev.	Morley vicarage, near Leeds, Yorkshire	Freehold land	Panfield Lane
205	Joslin, William	Stisted, Essex	Freehold cottages	Coggeshall road

Plate 5 Extract from the 1885 electoral register for the east Essex division. The entry for Dorewards Hall highlighted.

Include 372-373 *XXV. 6* *XXV. 7.*
311 *187.* *TPFKQU* *188.* *A 6*

.....Reference No.

Situation *Derwards Hall Farm.*

Description *House, Buildings, Land* *Homestead 3 Cottages*

Extent *256 a. 2 r. 4 p.* *Land*

Gross Value { Land £ 138 — Rateable Value { Land £ 126-10-0
Buildings £ 39-10-0 Buildings £ 32 —

Gross Annual Value, Schedule A, £

Occupier *A Hutley*

Owner *Sir Courtney Honywood Bt.*

Interest of Owner *Freehold*

Superior interests

Subordinate interests

Plate 6 Extract from the Lloyd George Domesday Survey, showing the entry for Dorewards Hall.

01	Rw	Dw	Drury, Emily Agnes	Do.
02	Rw	Ow	Drury, Alice May	Do.
03	Rw	—	Dunsdon, Dorothy Victoria	Derwards Hall
04	R	O	Dyer, Frederick	Spring Farm, Fennes Road
05	Rw	Ow	Dyer, Sarah	Spring Farm, Fennes Road

Plate 7 Extract from the 1929 electoral register for the Maldon Division. The entry for Dorewards Hall highlighted.

Electoral records from 1929 now note a Dorothy Victoria Dundsun registered at Dorwards Hall (Plate 7), although the 1935 updated tithe apportionment documents that the hall is in the control of the executors of Hutley's will (Plate 8), again suggesting that the hall has been split into two residences. By the 1940's, Leslie T Good Esq. submits plans to develop on the estate associated with the hall (Plate 9, ERO D/UBb Pb1/1046), although this never came to fruition.

		A	B	P	F	A	A	E	A	A	E	A	A
Hutley, Alfred Esq., of (contd.)	496	68	2	4									
	497A	22	2	-									
	500	1	2	28									
	501	1	2	28									
	502	1	2	12									
	503	1	1	18									
	504	2	2	10									
	505	-	2	11									
	506	-	1	20									
	507	2	-	17									
	508A	2	-	2									
	508B	12	2	24									

Plate 8 Extract of the updated tithe apportionment record from 1935, the entry for Dorewards Hall highlighted.

H. Cook Esq.,
Town Hall,
Braintree.

Dear Sir,

Dorewards Hall Estate, Bocking.
Leslie T. Good Esq.

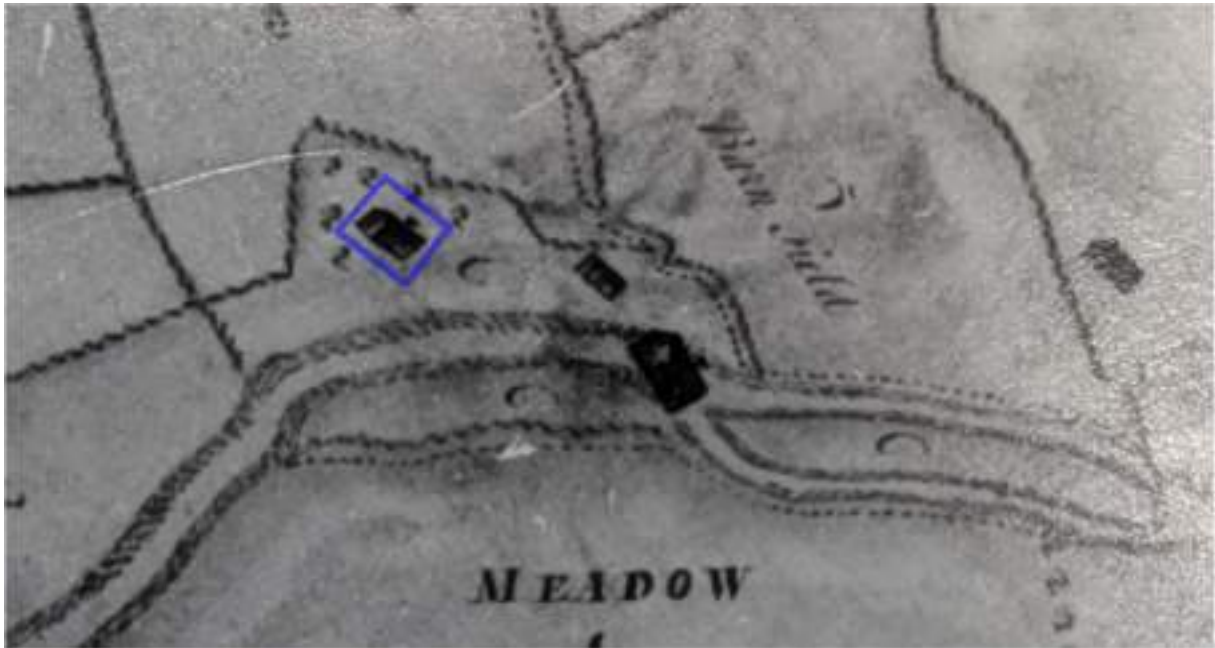
The lay-out of the above which was approved under Town Planning by the Braintree & Bocking U.D.C. on 2nd March 1943 has, due to war conditions, not been proceeded with. I understand that the permit expires at the beginning of next month and I therefore enclose two copies of the drawing as application for renewal of the permit.

Yours faithfully,
D. T. Good

Plate 9 A letter accompanying plans to develop the Dorewards Hall estate (ERO Pb 1/1046).

Cartographic history

The earliest cartographic evidence of Dorewards Hall is an estate plan from 1736, which records the hall as being part of the Honeywood family estate (Map 1, ERO D/DHh P3). The estate map, which records the hall as Durance Hall, shows three structures, although it is lacking in detail, which presumably represent the hall alongside the barn and another agricultural building. Also providing very little detail of the area is the Chapman and André map from 1777 (Map 2), which shows that four buildings are now present in the Dorewards Hall estate.

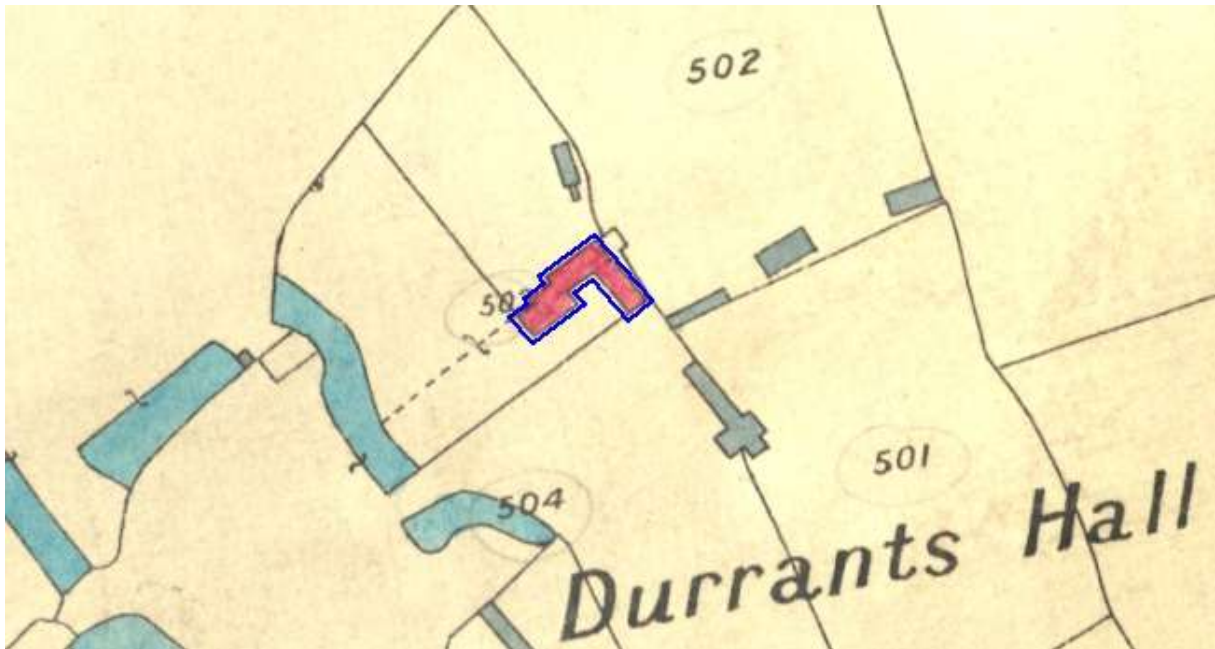


Map 1 Extract from the 1736 Honeywood estate plan, showing the buildings at Dorewards Hall. Dorewards Hall outlined in blue. (ERO D/DHh P3).



Map 2 Extract of the 1777 Chapman and André map of Essex. Dorewards Hall highlighted in blue.

The map that accompanies the 1838 tithe apportionment (Map 3) is the first map to show the hall in detail, on which it is shown with a sprawling L-shaped footprint, similar to its modern-day layout, and labels it as Durrants Hall. By the time the 1st edition 6-inch OS map is published (1875, Map 4), the northern corner of Dorewards Hall has been extended and a small extension added to north-western elevation.

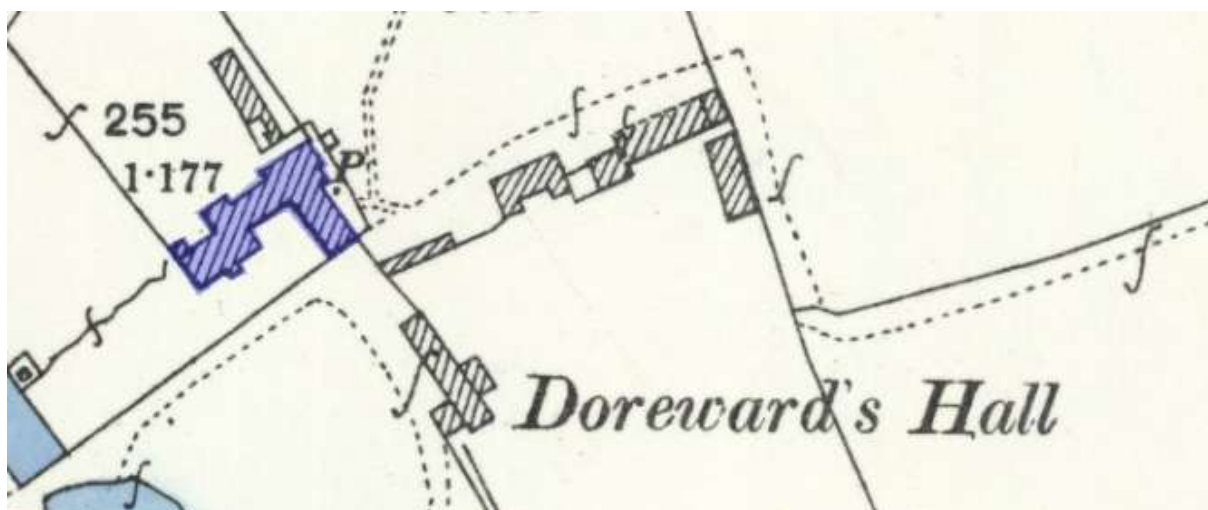


Map 3 Extract from the 1838 tithe apportionment map. Dorewards Hall outlined in blue.

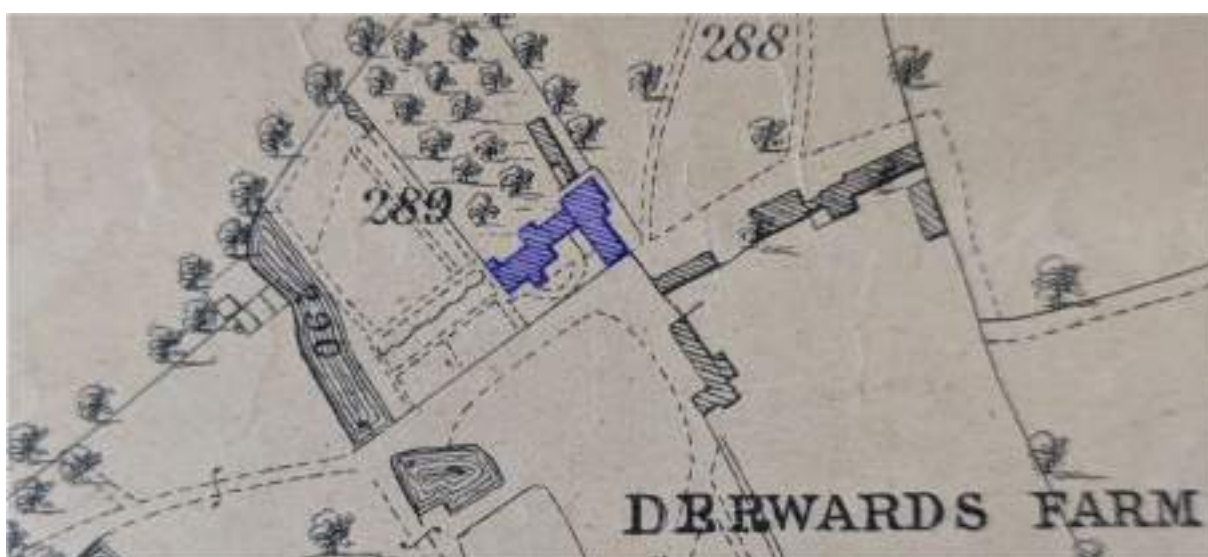


Map 4 Extract of the 1875 6-inch OS map. Dorewards Hall highlighted in blue.

When the 1895 25-inch OS map was surveyed (Map 5), Dorewards Hall is in largely the same configuration as previously depicted in 1875, bar another small extension on the north-western elevation and another on the south-eastern elevation. A plan associated with an 1897 sales catalogue (Map 6) shows the building with a division between the two ranges of the L-shape, suggesting that at this time the hall had been split into two residences, but with an unchanged footprint.



Map 5 Extract of the 1895 25-inch OS map. Dorewards Hall highlighted in blue.

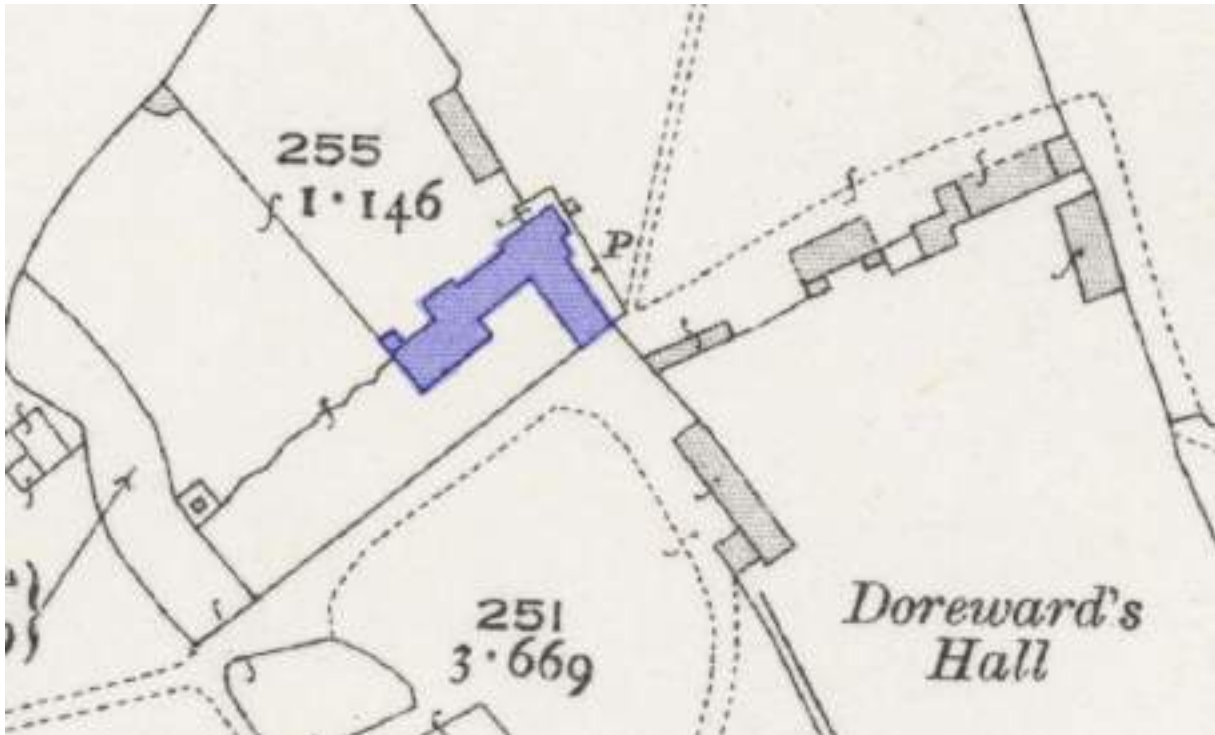


Map 6 Extract from a sales catalogue plan from 1897. Dorewards Hall highlighted in blue (ERO SALE/B279).

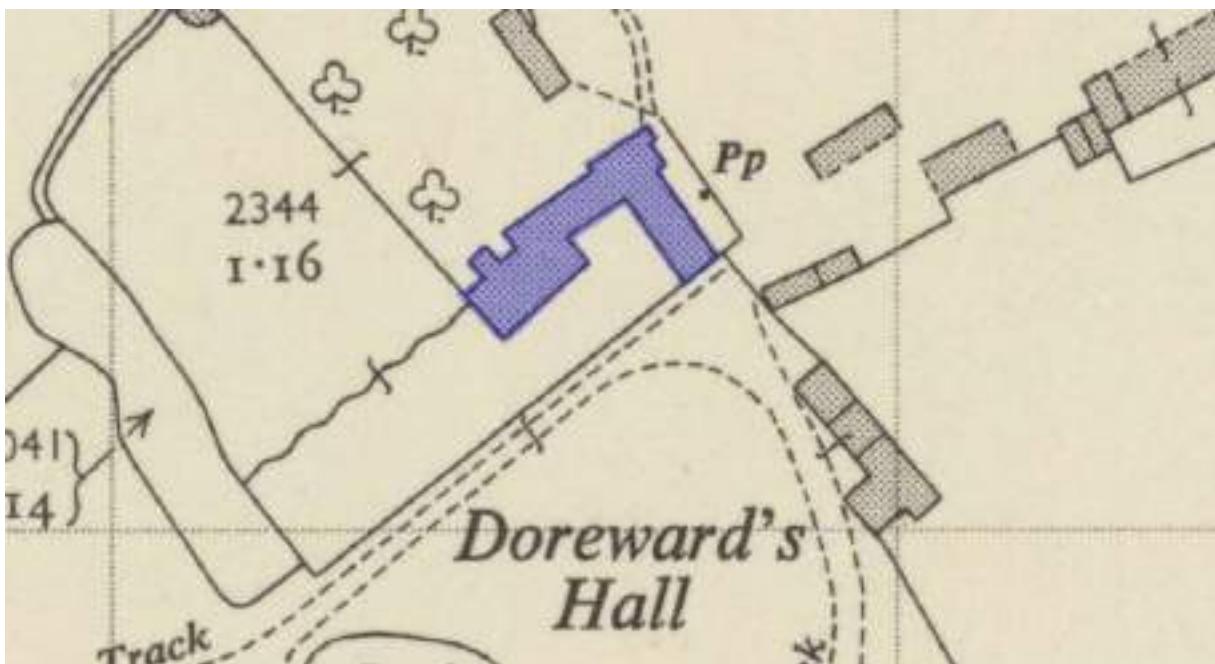


Map 7 Extract from the map accompanying the 1910 George Lloyd Domesday survey. Dorewards Hall highlighted blue.

The layout of Dorewards remains unchanged on the plan that accompanies the 1910 George Lloyd Domesday survey (Map 7) while the small south-eastern extension is no longer present when the 1919 25-inch OS map is surveyed (Map 8). Dorewards Hall remains unchanged on maps until the publication of the 1953 OS map (Map 9), on which the building is shown with roughly the same L-shaped arrangement, but the north-western extension previously seen is no longer extant and a different extension adjacent to its location now shown.



Map 8 Extract of the 1919 25-inch OS map. Dorewards Hall highlighted blue.



Map 9 Extract of the 1953 OS map, Dorewards Hall highlighted blue.

6 Building recording descriptive record (Figs 2-6)

Dorewards Hall is a large L-shaped structure, with the ground floor footprint covering 293m². It is two-storey with a basement. For ease of description, the building has been divided into ranges (see Fig 1 below). Range 7 was not accessible at the time of recording as it is a private dwelling.

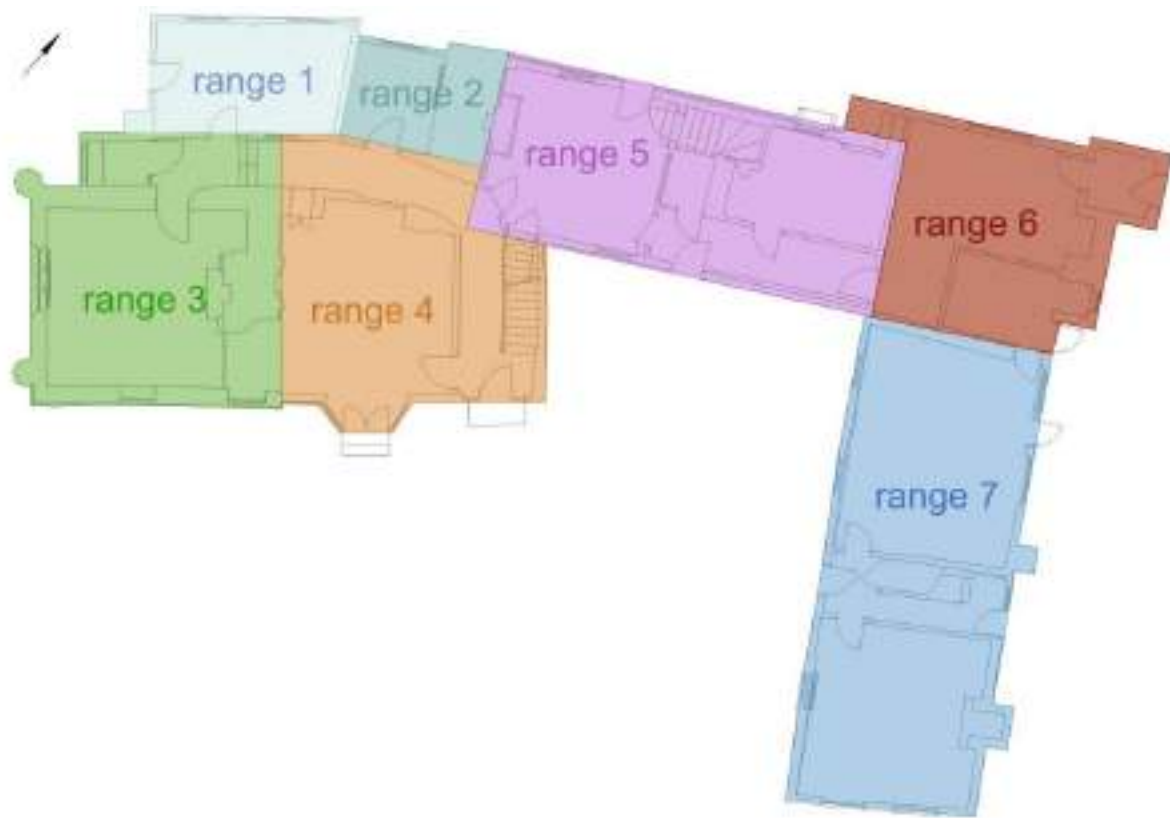


Fig 1 Range plan.

Exterior

The recording was performed during renovation groundworks, at which time the external render had been removed exposing the timber-framing and brickwork beneath. Scaffolding had also been erected around the building making some areas difficult to record.

Multiple roof pitches cover Dorewards Hall, each of which is clad in peg-tiles. Ranges 3 and 4 share a roof, which is hipped at the north-eastern end and gabled, with a short triangular parapet, at the south-western. The north-western pitch of the roof extends into short catslide roof. A gabled roof covers ranges 5 and 6, with a cross-gable projecting over range 7. Range 1 has gabled roof adjacent to flat roof while the roof of range 2 is mono-pitched. Several chimneys project from the roof lines of Dorewards Hall, all of which are built from red brick.



Photograph 1 South-eastern elevation (ranges 3, 4 and 5). Photograph taken facing west north-west.



Photograph 2 South-eastern elevation (range 3 and 4). Photograph taken facing north-west.

South-eastern elevation

The south-eastern elevation of Dorewards Hall comprises ranges 3, 4, 5 and 7. This elevation of range 3 is constructed from red bricks (brick dimensions: 240-255 x 115-120 x 50-65mm), laid in a somewhat haphazard Header bond (Photograph 2). The lower nine courses of brickwork protrude from the brickwork, suggestive of a brick plinth (Photograph 3). Three courses of brick, in a limited area above the plinth, comprise bricks laid on edge with at least one peg-tile incorporated into the wall (Photograph 3). The remains of a probable brick arch are evident in the brickwork (Photograph 4), while the ends of the two internal timbers are exposed among the bricks. Three sash windows are present in this elevation of range 3, which are all later insertions. Both ground floor windows are four-light sash windows, one of which seems have blocked a doorway, as evidenced by the regimented English bond brickwork beneath it (Photograph 4). The first floor window is a horned-sash window, which has four lead-lights with rectangular quarries.



Photograph 3 Detail of bricks laid on-edge in brickwork and plinth of south-eastern elevation (range 3). Photograph taken facing north.



Photograph 4 Detail of blocked, partially surviving brick arch (green) and break in brickwork evidencing blocked doorway (pink) in south-eastern elevation (range 3). Photograph taken facing north-west.



Photograph 5 Detail of exposed timber-framing, with reused timbers highlighted by green arrows, of south-eastern elevation (range 4). Photograph taken facing north-west.

Ranges 4 and 5 are both timber-framed on the south-eastern elevation, comprising hand-sawn hard wood. The timber-framing of range 4, which has a number of timbers which display evidence of reuse (Photograph 5), appears to utilise primary bracing. A large girding beam interrupts the only intermediate post in the framing and numerous repairs are evident throughout. Some red brick nogging is present at ground floor level. The framing is supported on a red brick plinth (brick dimensions: 215-220 x 105-110 x 60-65mm) laid in English bond. A canted bay window has been inserted into the elevation adjacent to a modern entrance. On the first floor are two inserted timber-framed sash-windows, one six-light and one four-light.



Photograph 6 South-eastern elevation (range 5). Photograph taken facing north-west.

The upper register of range 5 comprises a series of closely situated studs (Photograph 6), between the studs some plaster survives from which some broken staves project. Incised carpenter's marks are visible on some of the studwork (Photograph 8 & 9). Two girding beams are visible on this elevation, suggesting that the building may have originally been jettied and the lower register has been rebuilt. The upper of the girding beams has a scarf-joint, the diagonal break in which suggests that it is a squint-butted scarf with a secret bridle (Photograph 8). The framing of the lower register also comprises stud work, along with a single primary-brace. Later brick nogging is present between a number of the studs. Towards the north-eastern end of the elevation is a short horizontal rail, possibly suggesting an original window location. Adjacent to this are the remains of a two-centred arched doorway (Photograph 7). The doorway has timber spandrels, one of which is no longer present, and has been blocked by a central post. A modern doorway has been inserted into the frame adjacent to this.



Photograph 7 Detail of doorway in south-eastern elevation (range 5). Photograph taken facing north-west.



Photograph 8 Detail of scarf-joint in girding beam (pink arrow) and possible carpenter's marks (outlined in yellow, details shown in Photograph 9) on studs in south-eastern elevation (range 5). Note the double girding beam. Photograph taken facing north-west.



Photograph 9 Close up detail of carpenter's marks on range 5.

The south-eastern elevation of range 7 is rendered, with three horned sash windows set over two floors.



Photograph 10 South-western elevation (range 3). Photograph taken facing north-east.



Photograph 11 Detail of window in south-western elevation (range 3). Photograph taken facing north-east.

South-western elevation

The south-western elevation of range 3 is red brick (Photograph 10) (brick dimensions: 240-255 x 115-120 x 50-65mm) laid in rough English bond. On both corners of the elevation is an octagonal red brick buttress (Photograph 12), which projects above the eaves of the roofline. A brick pendant is present at the apex of the gable. Moulded brick strings project between each building storey, a detail which carries across onto the buttresses. Three brick mullion and transom windows are set into the elevation, one at ground floor level, one on the first floor and the final one in the gable. The lower two windows have leaded lights, with square quarries, and are topped with triangular pediments formed from moulded bricks (Photograph 11). The attic window has been blocked with brickwork and is topped with moulded bricks set into a rectangular pattern.



Photograph 12 Detail of octagonal corner buttress on south-western elevation (range 3). Photograph taken facing south-east.

Along the south-western elevation of range 7 (Photograph 13) are a number of studs, which are interrupted by a central girding beam. A series of intermediate posts set along the elevation interrupt the girding beam, which have added iron straps (Photograph 14). The framing has been constructed from hand-sawn timbers, with areas of modern repair. Several sash windows are present in both registers, although it is not immediately evident if they represent insertions or larger replacements.



Photograph 13 South-western elevation (range 7). Photograph taken facing north.



Photograph 14 Detail of intermediate post interrupting girding beam with an iron strap in south-western elevation (range 7). Photograph taken facing north-east.



Photograph 15 North-western elevation (ranges 1, 2, 5 and 6). Photograph taken facing south-east.

North-western elevation

Ranges 5 and 6 dominate the north-western elevation (Photograph 15). On this elevation, range 6 comprises brick (brick dimensions: 200-220 x 100 x 65-70mm) laid in Flemish bond and painted white. A window is central to the range, which has a flat arched lintel and concrete sill. No lights survive in the window frame.

Range 5 is timber-framed (Photograph 16), constructed from hand-sawn timbers some of which have been reused. Similarly to the south-eastern elevation, the upper register of range 5 comprises close studding, while the lower register appears to have been rebuilt, evidenced by the presence of two girding beams. In the upper register of the framing are two short horizontal rails, adjacent to two later windows, which likely represent the remains of the original window openings. A third inserted window is present between these. The framing of the lower registers is less regular, with a truncated primary brace, some horizontal rails and numerous areas of repair. The sill-beam and the lower girding beam both have an edge-halved scarf-joint. Two windows and a door have been inserted into the lower register of range 5. Later brick nogging is present in areas along the ground floor, which also utilises peg-tiles in some areas (Photograph 17).



Photograph 16 Detail of exposed timber-framing of north-western elevation (range 5). Note the double girding beam. Photograph taken facing south-east.



Photograph 17 Detail of peg-tiles used for noggin in north-western elevation (range 5). Photograph taken facing south-east.

Largely obscured by scaffolding, ranges 1 and 2 were timber-framed, comprising machine-cut timbers. A window has been inserted in range 2, while range 1 had been completely stripped back.

Interior

For locations of rooms, see Figs 2 and 3. Unless stated otherwise, the walls and ceilings of Dorewards Hall are plastered and painted and the floors are exposed floorboards.

The roof structure covering range 3 (Photograph 18) comprises hand-sawn timbers arranged in pairs of rafters, which rise and meet one another at the apex of the roof. Tenoned into each pair of rafters is a collar. Above range 4 (Photograph 4) the roof is also constructed from hand-sawn timbers, the framing, however, comprises pairs of principal rafters which meet at the apex of the roof. Each roof

pitch, including the hip, has a butt purlin which interrupts a series of common rafters. A collar is present with each set of principal rafters. At least one timber in the roof of range 4 has evidence of reuse.



Photograph 18 Detail of roof construction above range 3. Photograph taken facing west.



Photograph 19 Detail of roof construction above range 4. Photograph taken facing north.

Immediately adjacent to one another are the roofs of ranges 5 and 6. Only partially visible, the roof structure that covers range 5 (Photograph 20) appears to comprise pairs of rafters, which meet at the roof's apex, each of which have a collar. An upward brace projects from each rafter to meet the underside of its associated collar. The last truss in the series appears to have been blackened by smoke, a void in which implies a central collar purlin has been removed suggesting that this represents the remains of a crown post roof. The roof associated with range 6 (Photograph 21), however, is formed from pairs of rafters which rise to meet an inserted ridge-board. A series of collars are present along the length of the roof, which are secured into the rafters with lap-dovetail joints. Each roof pitch has a single purlin, which are clasped by the collars. Both roof structures comprised hand-sawn timbers, some which are quite crudely processed.

The roof structures of ranges 1 and 3 were not accessible at the time of recording.



Photograph 20 Detail of roof construction above range 5. Green arrow highlighting blackened timbers and yellow arrow highlighting the void in the blackening, likely caused by a central purlin. Photograph taken facing south south-east.



Photograph 21 Roof timbers covering range 6. Pink arrows pointing to lap-dovetail joints securing the collars. Photograph taken facing south.

Basement

The basement of Dorewards Hall (Photograph 22) has a footprint covering almost 60m² and is accessed via timber steps from the office on the ground floor. It occupies the space below ranges 3 and 4. The walls are largely brick (brick dimensions: 220-245 x 100-115 x 50-55mm), presumably red in colour but painted white at the time of recording, laid in English bond. Numerous exposed timbers are present in the ceiling of the basement, comprising large binding beams and joists. Largely hand-sawn, some of the timbers display evidence of reuse. A large, brick arched-structure, likely to support the fireplaces above, is present in the centre of the basement (Photograph 22). It is constructed from red bricks (brick dimensions: 220-230 x 105-115 x 55-60mm) without a regular bonding pattern.

Two doors are present in the basement. One represents the remains of a plank and batten door, secured with iron strap hinges (Photograph 23). The door appears to have originally comprised at least three panels of irregular widths, secured with three battens. The hinges have tapered straps that extend into spearhead-shaped ends with a flared base plate. The second door comprises a series of thin slats flanked by two wider planks, secured with two battens (Photograph 24). A large, iron lock case is present above the second batten.

At the south-western end of the basement, the floor is brick (brick dimensions: 210-230 x 100-110 x ?mm) while the rest of the floor is compacted soil.



Photograph 22 Interior of basement. Photograph taken facing east.



Photograph 23 Detail of strap hinge on door in basement. Photograph taken facing north.



Photograph 24 Detail of door in basement. Photograph taken facing south-east.



Photograph 25 Interior of dining room. Photograph taken facing north.

Ground floor

The dining room is located on the ground floor of range 3 (Photograph 25). A window is set into both the south-western and south-eastern walls. The south-western window is a brick mullion and transom window, with cavetto shaped mullions and transoms, dividing six-lights comprising leaded windows with rectangular quarries (Photograph 26). One light has a casement opening with a spiral handle. The south-eastern is a four-light horned sash window with a timber sill. A six-panel door is present in the north-western wall, with a decorative architrave and a round brass knob. In the corner of the room is an in-built display cupboard, with numerous moulded decorative elements. A later brick fireplace is present in the north-eastern wall, with quarry tiles along the mantel and on the hearth. A moulded picture rail is present along each wall of the dining room with a plain skirting board along the base.



Photograph 26 Detail of window in south-western wall of dining room. Photograph taken facing south-west.

Situated in range 4, a large binding-beam is present in the ceiling of the living room. The beam is chamfered with curved step stops and is painted black (Photograph 27). An archway is present in the north-western and south-western walls of the living room (Photograph 28). Both are a three-centred arch with a moulded surround. There is a fireplace in the south-western wall, with a timber surround and a brick firebox. The surround has a central plaque flanked by intricate carvings. An iron fire grate is present in the firebox. A canted bay window, with double doors, and a horned sash window are both located in the south-eastern wall. A six-panel door is located in the north-eastern wall, with a decorative architrave, while a small serving hatch is present in the north-western wall. A moulded skirting board and picture rail are also present.



Photograph 27 Detail of curved stepped stop on chamfered binding beam in ceiling of living room. Photograph taken facing south.



Photograph 28 Detail of arch in north-western wall in living room. Photograph taken facing north-west.

Adjacent to the living room is the entrance hall. There are timber panels cladding two walls and an archway leading to corridor 1. A set of closed-string stairs occupies the north-eastern wall of the entrance hall, which are a straight slight with a winder (Photograph 29). The balustrade has gun-barrel balusters, with minimal turned decoration and tall, rectangular blocks, a round-topped handrail and three newel posts. The posts are plain, with a square profile, topped with a flat cap finial. Each step had a moulded nosing while a plain, rounded handrail is present on the wall side of the staircase. A door is present in the south-eastern and south-western walls of the entrance hall. The south-eastern is a modern six-panel external door, flanked by fixed windows, while the south-western door is a six-panel door with a decorative architrave.



Photograph 29 Detail of staircase in entrance hall. Photograph taken facing north.



Photograph 30 Detail of blocked doorway in south-eastern wall of corridor 1. Photograph taken facing east south-east.

Corridor 1 runs along the north-western side of the dining and living rooms. The south-eastern wall is curved at the northern end, within which appears to be a blocked door opening (Photograph 30). There are multiple doorways along the corridor, containing a combination of four and six-panel doors, each with a decorative surround. A timber-lined serving hatch is present in the south-eastern wall while a window, with timber shutters, is located in the north-western wall. The shutters are panelled timber, with a plain security bar, and have a sliding mechanism (Photograph 31). Three steps are present towards the south-western end of the corridor, which are timber with plain rounded nosings. At the end of the corridor is the pantry, which was inaccessible at the time of recording.



Photograph 31 Detail of window shutters in north-western wall of corridor 1. Photograph taken facing west.

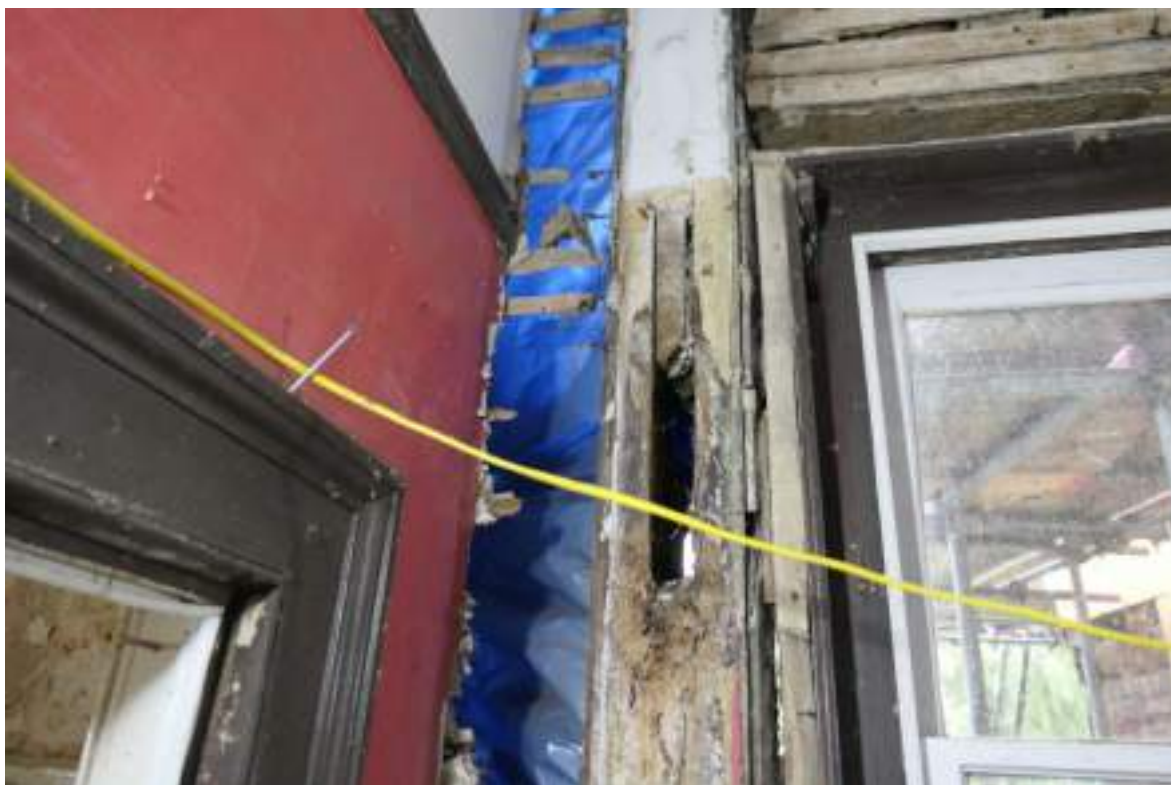
At the time of recording, the kitchen, which is situated in range 1, had undergone a soft strip demolition. A sash window, with twenty lights, and a four-panel door are present in the south-eastern walls.

The bathroom, located in range 2, has a twelve-light modern window in the north-western wall and a four-panel door in the south-eastern wall. The door has a four-light transom window and a plain surround.

The office occupies the south-western end of range 5 (Photograph 32). The plaster has been removed from the north-western wall of the office, exposing the laths and some of the timber-framing beneath. The timbers are mostly hand-sawn, except for in areas of modern repair, some of which are reused (Photograph 33). A primary brace is visible in the framing, along with brick nogging. Windows are present in three walls, two of which are four-light sash windows and the third a ten-light horizontal sash window. Six doors are also set across the room, which are largely either two, four and six-panel, with one vertically planked door. Each door has a timber surround, with differing levels of decoration. A large brick fireplace dominates the south-western wall; it has two carved timber panels embedded into the brickwork and dentil detailing along the mantle. The opening has a curved arch and a brick-lined hearth.



Photograph 32 Interior of office. Photograph taken facing south-east.



Photograph 33 Detail of empty mortice on post in south-eastern wall of office. Photograph taken facing south south-west.

A number of doors lead off corridor 2, each of which are either four or six-panel with a decorative architrave. The doors in the north-western wall have stable door openings. A red brick plinth is exposed at the base of the south-eastern wall, comprising red bricks (230-240 x 110-120 x 75-75mm) laid without a regular bonding pattern (Photograph 34).



Photograph 34 Detail of brick plinth visible in south-eastern wall of corridor 2. Photograph taken facing east south-east.

Adjacent to corridor 2 is a small storeroom, which has a horizontal sash window in the south-western wall and a small opening in the north-western wall, which leads to the area under the rear stairs. A four-panel stable door is located in the south-eastern wall.

Spare room 2 inhabits the northern corner of range 5 (Photograph 35). A shuttered window is present in the north-western wall while a four-panel door is in the south-eastern wall. The window shutters are panelled with a plain security bar and open via a sliding mechanism. A fireplace is situated adjacent to the shuttered window. It has a timber surround, with bullseye corners and a fluted design, and an iron firebox with blue tiles. An iron fire grate is also present. An in-built cupboard occupies the space next to the fireplace, which has panelled doors. In-built cupboards/drawers are also present in the south-western wall, in an area with a sloped ceiling. A relatively plain dado rail and skirting board exist along each wall.



Photograph 35 Interior of spare room 2. Photograph taken facing north.

Spare room 1 is the north-eastern most room, occupying the ground floor of range 6. A window is present in the north-western wall while a small serving hatch in the wall opposite. Two doors are extant in spare room 1, a six-panel door and a four-panel door, both of which have a plain architrave. The four-panel door leads to a small porch area, within which a brick-lined well structure was identified (discussed below). A large brick fireplace is present in the north-eastern wall.

First floor

Bedroom 1 is located in range 3 (Photograph 36). It has an eight-light window, with brick cavetto-shaped mullions and transoms in the south-western (Photograph 37). Each light is leaded, comprising square quarries, two of which have casement openings with monkey tail handles and handles with a rounded knob. In the south-eastern wall is a leaded sash window, also with square quarries. Doors are located in the north-western and north-eastern walls, both of which have four panels and decorative architraves. There is a fireplace in the north-eastern wall, with a lightly decorative timber surround. A plain skirting board and a moulded picture rail line the walls.



Photograph 36 Interior of bedroom 1. Photograph taken facing west.



Photograph 37 Detail of brick mullions in window in south-western wall of bedroom 1. Photograph taken facing west.

Situated in range 4, bedroom 2 has two partially exposed beams in the ceiling. Both are layered with black paint and have chamfered edges. The north-east/south-west aligned beam has curved step stops visible at one end (Photograph 38). A six-light sash window is present in the south-eastern wall, while a two panel-door is located in the north-eastern and south-western walls. All have moulded architraves. A plain skirting board lines the base of the walls.



Photograph 38 Detail of chamfered bridging joist, with curved stepped stops (blue arrow).
Photograph taken facing west.

A number of exposed hand-sawn timbers are present in the walls and ceiling of bedroom 3, which is located in the eastern corner of range 4. The timbers comprise two tie-beams and a corner-post. Two newel posts and lengths of handrail, the same style as the stairs in the entrance hall, are visible in the north-western and south-western walls, suggesting that bedroom 3 was originally part of the landing (Photograph 40). A four-light sash window is present in the south-eastern wall.



Photograph 39 Detail of stair balustrade incorporated into wall in bedroom 3. Photograph taken facing north-west.

As seen on the ground floor in corridor 1, corridor 3 has a curved wall. Two four-panel doors are present at the south-western end of the corridor, while two plain and two two-panels doors set into the walls at the other end. A simple arched opening is also present in the north-east of corridor 3 (Photograph 41), along with three plain timber steps. In the north-western wall is a ten-light sash window, as well as a single-light casement window. Along the top of the wall is an exposed hand-sawn wall-plate.



Photograph 40 Detail of arched doorway in corridor 3. Photograph taken facing south-east.

Exposed timber-framing is present along the south-eastern wall of corridor 4, for almost the entire length of the room (Photograph 42). The framing is built using a style called close studding and utilises concealed curved tension braces. Constructed from hand-sawn timbers, the frame is held together with timber pegs. A single intermediate post is visible, which has a jowled head (Photograph 44), as well as a lengthy wall-plate and a large tie-beam. An edge-halved scarf-joint is visible in the wall-plate, although its specific typology was not discernible (Photograph 43). The timber-framing has been repaired and altered in places. Two windows are present in the south-eastern wall, a four-light sash window and a three-light leaded casement window, although it is not obvious whether these represent later replacements or insertions. A number of doors are located in the north-western wall of corridor 4, which are mostly four-panel, but also include a plank and batten door. A single step is present at the north-eastern end of the corridor.



Photograph 41 Detail of exposed timber-framing in south-eastern wall of corridor 4. Photograph taken facing south.



Photograph 42 Detail of scarf-joint in wall-plate in south-eastern wall of corridor 4. Photograph taken facing south-east.



Photograph 43 Detail of jowled post in south-eastern wall of corridor 4.
Photograph taken facing south.

The north-western wall of bedroom 4, located in range 5, has exposed timber-framing (Photograph 45). The framing is constructed from hand-sawn timbers and comprises a number of studs with concealed curved tension bracing. Adjacent to a six-light sash window, a central rail interrupts one of the studs, suggesting that the window is a replacement for an original mullion window (Photograph 45). A scarf-joint, in the wall-plate, has been reinforced with a metal plate, obscuring the typology of the joint (Photograph 46). A large tie-beam is present in the centre of the ceiling, which displays evidence it has been reused and has a metal strap added. A small cupboard space in the north-western wall of bedroom 4 was uncovered during the renovation works, adjacent to a fireplace opening which had also been sealed.



Photograph 44 Detail of exposed timber-framing in north-western wall of bedroom 4. Pink arrow highlighting a horizontal rail likely associated with an original window. Photograph taken facing north.



Photograph 45 Detail of plated scarf-joint in north-western wall-plate in bedroom 4. Photograph taken facing north-west.

The rear stairs occupy the space between bedrooms 4 and 5, leading down to the office on the ground floor. Two walls of the stairwell have exposed timber-framing, which, similarly to the previously discussed framing, uses hand-sawn timbers with close studding and tension bracing (Photograph 47).



Photograph 46 Interior of rear stairs. Photograph taken facing west north-west.

Bedroom 5 has a large tie-beam in the ceiling, on the underside of which are a series of shallow mortices, which has been reinforced with an iron strap (Photograph 48). The wall-plate in the north-western wall is also exposed, within which is a possible scarf-joint (Photograph 49). A four-panel door is present in the south-eastern wall, while a plank and batten cupboard door is in the north-western. Adjacent to the cupboard door is a four-light sash window.



Photograph 47 Detail of reused tie-beam in ceiling of bedroom 5, yellow arrows highlight shallow mortices. Photograph taken facing south.



Photograph 48 Detail of exposed wall-plate in north-western wall of bedroom 5. Probable scarf-joint highlighted in green. Photograph taken facing west north-west.

Bedroom 6 dominated the first floor of range 6 (Photograph 50). A wall-plate is visible in the north-western wall, the striations on the face of the timber are suggestive of mill-sawn lumber. A fireplace is located in the north-eastern wall, with a timber surround and an iron firebox, both of which have decorative detailing.



Photograph 49 Interior of bedroom 6. Photograph taken facing east.

7 Excavation results

During renovation works at Dorewards Hall, a brick-lined structure, F1, was uncovered in the northern corner of the building. The structure was not fully exposed as the outer brickwork was sealed by the walls of the surrounding room. In the centre of the structure was a sub-rounded shaft that measured 1.44m by 1.37m. The shaft was hand-excavated, in 0.1m thick spits, to a depth of 1m then augured a further 0.3m.

Three fills were encountered during the excavation: the upper fill was a dry, compacted light grey silt, with frequent stones and deposits of ash and coal, the middle fill was dry, compacted medium grey silt while the lowest fill encountered was a wet, compacted light grey clayey sandy silt. It was unclear if this lowest fill represented the natural geology, some tiny flecks of CBM were observed but these could be attributed to water movement.

The brick structure of F1 comprised red bricks with a dimension of 220 x 115 x 60mm bonded with Portland cement. It seems likely that F1 represents a brick-lined well. A small void, approximately 025m in diameter located 0.50m from the top of the brickwork, was observed in the side of the brickwork, the purpose of which is unknown.



Photograph 50 Well F1. Photograph taken facing east south-east.



Photograph 51 Well F1. Photograph taken facing east south-east.

8 Finds

8.1 Ceramic and Pottery finds

by Dr. Matthew Loughton

The excavation produced a small-sized assemblage of pottery and ceramic building material (henceforth CBM) comprising seventy-five sherds with a weight of 11.727kg and mean sherd weight of 156.4g. All of this material came from the structure F1.

Pottery consists of one sherd (35g) of post-medieval red earthenware (fabric F40) from a small-medium bowl (EVE:0.11). The assemblage of CBM (no.74/11,692g) consists of fifty-nine peg-tile fragments (4,694g) and fifteen (6,998g) un-frogged brick fragments, dating to the 18th and early 19th century. None of this material was retained.

8.2 Animal bone

by Alec Wade

A small assemblage of five animal bone fragments, with a total weight of 84g, was recovered from post-medieval structure F1. The material derived from multiple spits within the same feature and represented domestic livestock species, predominantly sheep/goat and large ungulates of cow or horse size. Identified elements included fragments of limb bones, pelvis, rib, and scapula, all of which were heavily fragmented and non-diagnostic beyond broad taxonomic categories. Bone condition ranged from fair to poor, with several specimens showing varied surface discolouration suggestive of mixed residual material. Evidence for human and animal modification is present, including a possible chopped rib, deliberate breakage, and dog gnawing on two large mammal fragments.

Overall, the assemblage was typical of low-level domestic refuse, likely representing secondary disposal of food waste.

Cont ext	Finds no.	Bone condition	Taxon	No. of pieces	Weight (g)	Comments
F1 spit 1	1	Surface condition good with irregular dark orangish brown patches	Sheep or goat	1	18g	Fragment of a left radius diaphysis with a small part of proximal joint present (fused).
		Fair condition with natural colour	Cow or horse size	1	12g	Rib fragment with possible chopped edge (diagonal across blade).
F1 spit 2	2	Fair to poor condition with natural colour	Sheep or goat	1	16g	Right pelvis fragment (acetabulum).
		Poor condition with darker discolouration	Cow or horse sized	1	26g	Radius diaphysis fragment? Deliberate breakage and dog gnawed.
F1 spit 4	4	Fair condition with uniform orangish brown discolouration	Cow or horse sized	1	12g	Scapula fragment which has been dog gnawed.
			Total	5	84g	

Table 1 Animal bone from the excavation.

8.3 Shell and an iron nail

by Laura Pooley

Pieces of oyster shell (43.9g) were recovered from F1 spits 2, 3 and 4 along with an iron nail from spit 2. These finds have been recorded in Table 2 below and discarded.

Context	Finds no.	Description
F1 spit 2	2	Iron nail: Largely obscured within corrosion, 16.2g. Oyster shell: fragment, 3.2g.
F1 spit 3	3	Oyster shell: incomplete left valve, 15.6g.
F1 spit 4	4	Oyster shell: three fragments of left valve and two small right valves, 25.1g.

Table 2 Oyster shell and an iron nail recorded by context.

9 Discussion

At its core, Dorewards Hall seems to have evolved from a medieval building. The oldest part of the structure is represented by range 5, which can be dated by the carpentry techniques used. Close studding, where a wall frame is formed using a series of closely placed studs, has been utilised for the upper registers of the framing. This method of walling was first used during the 13th century but really gained popularity during the 15th century. Its use declined by the 17th century, with the advent of primary bracing. It was used in high class buildings, when constructing the street-facing façade carpenters would use as many studs as feasibly possible to showcase the wealth of the owner with wider spaced studs used on less visible elevations (Harris 1979).

Timber-framed walling requires some kind of bracing for strength, to stop the framing racking. Tension bracing, as seen in the framing of range 5, is a type of secondary bracing wherein the braces are only half-width and therefore do not interrupt the studs. As the 15th century progressed, the final development of secondary bracing occurred when braces began to be fixed inside buildings so as not to interfere with the visual effect created by close studding (Walker 2002). A jowled post is visible as part of the timber-framing, in the first-floor corridor. Jowls, carved at the top of the corner and intermediate-posts, were widely used by carpenters from the 14th until the middle of the 16th century after which time the use of this feature declined (Walker 2002).

The scarf joint visible in the upper girding beam in the south-eastern elevation appears to be of a squint-butted type, likely with a secret bridle, a type of joint that has been identified in buildings from the 13th to the 15th century.

A crown post roof is one which has a central purlin which is supported by a series of central posts projecting from the tie-beams. Typical of medieval construction, the use of crown post roofs fell out of popularity in the 16th century with the increased use of side purlin roofing (Harris 1979). The blackening of the timbers at the northern end of the roof are suggestive of exposure to smoke from an open hearth. Interestingly, the blackening only appears to be present on the most extreme rafters and collar, allowing us to postulate that the hall had a segregated smoke bay at this end.

When collated, all of these differing carpentry techniques suggest that Dorewards Hall was conceived in the early 15th century.

The ground floor of both long elevations of range 5 appears to have been rebuilt. Two girding beams are present in each elevation, suggesting that the building may have had two long-wall jetties when it originally constructed. The two-centred arched doorway uncovered in the south-eastern elevation is interesting. This shape of doorways is generally attributed to the 14th and 15th centuries, with the introduction of the four-centred arch in the early 15th century responsible for its decline. It seems to suggest that the ground floor of the south-eastern elevation was likely rebuilt in the 15th century. At the rear, the lower register has two edge-halved scarf joints, one the lower girding beam and the other in

the wall plate. The joints were not fully observable at the time of recording to ascertain the exact type of scarf used, but edge-halved scarf joints are generally the monopolising choice from the 14th to the 16th century (Hewett 1869). It seems sensible to suggest that the lower registers of both elevations were rebuilt at the same time.

Close studding is also utilised for the wall framing of range 7, although as the interior was not accessible it wasn't clear if tension bracing was also present. It seems reasonable to propose that range 7 was added to the hall when the lower registers of range 5 were rebuilt, allowing us to suggest a construction date in the 15th century for range 7.

Range 3 is constructed from thin red bricks (50-55mm thick), laid in English bond. By the late 15th century, bricks had an average dimension of 242 x 115 x 51mm, which increased to 230 x 112 x 57mm after the Brickmaker's Charter was introduced in 1571 establishing the Statute brick (Brunskill 1990), suggesting the bricks used for range 3 are 15th or 16th century in date. Prior to the 16th century, there was little clear pattern in brick bonding, after which English bond was developed and became the prevailing bond type. The size and bonding pattern of range 3's brickwork is suggestive of a 16th-century construction date, which is unsurprising as Dorewards Hall is proposed to have been rebuilt in either 1572 or 1579. The mullioned and transomed windows in the south-western elevation further evidence this construction date. With the advent of affordable glazing in the 16th century, windows of two to five lights became common place. Larger windows, of six to twelve lights, as seen at Dorewards, were especially popular during the Elizabethan period (Hall 2005). The roof of range 3 comprises hand-sawn timbers, arranged into rafters, each pair of which has an associated high collar. The lack of side purlins in the structure suggests the trusses dated from the 16th century or earlier. Side purlin roofs were introduced to East Anglia in the mid-16th century and soon became the prevailing choice (Walker 2002).

The framing of range 4 is interesting. It utilises primary bracing, a technique where diagonal braces interrupt the studs, which wasn't in wide-spread use until the 17th century suggesting range 4 must have been constructed later than this. The roof structure of range 4 comprises butt purlins, a type of purlin roof construction typical in the 16th and 17th centuries (Stenning 2011). These two methods of construction suggest a 17th century date for range 4. The wall separating the rear corridors (both ground floor and first floor) from the front-facing rooms in ranges 3 and 4 has a thickness of roughly 600mm, a good indication that is probably a continuation of the brickwork seen on the elevations of range 3, allow the inference that range 4 probably represents a replacement of an earlier part of Dorewards Hall. We can also propose that corridors 1 and 3, which straddle range 3 and 4, are of a later date.

Mapping suggests a construction date of between 1838 and 1875 for the construction of range 6. The maps also provide evidence that range 6 replaced the northern corner of the hall, which was likely a continuation of range 7. As the well feature that was excavated as part of the project is sealed by part

of range 6, the well must predate this construction. The brickwork of the well's structure is bonded with Portland cement, which wasn't patented until 1824. It seems reasonable, then, to posit that the well was lined after 1824 and that range 6 was likely constructed towards the end of the proposed construction window. It also seems reasonable to propose that at the time of the construction of the well, a kitchen or scullery would have been located nearby.

Range 1 and 2 are 19th and 20th century in date, respectively.

The interior of Dorewards Hall has undergone numerous renovations works since its construction, with some original Georgian and Victorian features still surviving, mostly comprising items such as door architraves and picture rails. In two rooms in range 4 are large, exposed binding beams, both of which have curved stepped stops. These types of stops typically date to the 16th and 17th centuries, indicating they are likely associated with the rebuilding of Dorewards Hall undertaken by the Thursby family in the late 16th century. The binding beam identified in the living room, on the ground floor of range 4, may be in its original location; it is in the right orientation, spanning the shortest length of the building, while the beam exposed in bedroom 2 is orientated longitudinally to the building, implying it has been repositioned.

Dorewards Hall has a long and somewhat complicated architectural history. Clearly having evolved from a 15th century building, built by the Doreward family, the hall has been repeatedly extended and renovated over the last 600 years. Recording the structure during modern renovation works has allowed a deeper delve into the construction materials and techniques used, which would usually have been hidden by render, to build a picture of how Dorewards Hall came to be in its current state.

10 Acknowledgements

Colchester Archaeological Trust would like to thank Sophie Tofts of Bidwells and Trinity College for commissioning and funding the historic building recording. The building recording was carried out by S Veasey. The excavation fieldwork was undertaken by S Veasey with T Lawrence. Figures are by S Veasey, based on architect's drawings by Bidwells. The project was monitored by Teresa O'Connor for Essex County Council.

11 References

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12 Abbreviations and glossary

beam	horizontal members in timber-frames
buttress	a structure built against a wall to provide lateral support, stability and reinforcement.
carpenter's marks	symbols scratched, incised or chiselled into timbers to assist in assembly
catslide roof	a roof continuing down beyond the main wall-plate to cover and outshot or extension
collar	a horizontal timber in a roof structure spanning between a pair of inclined timbers (such as rafters)
CAT	Colchester Archaeological Trust
ClfA	Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
crown post	a vertical timber member projecting from a tie-beam carrying a longitudinal purlin
EHF	Essex Historic Environment Record, held by the ECC
Elizabethan	period from 1558 to 1603
English bond	a brickwork bond created from alternate courses of headers and stretchers
ERO	Essex Records Office
Flemish bond	a brickwork bond created from alternating headers and stretchers within a single course
HE	Historic Environment
header	a brick laid at right-angles to the face of a wall, i.e. widthways
gable	the triangular shaped, upper part of wall at the end of a building
girding beam	a horizontal structural member in traditional timber-framed construction, located within a wall frame at the level of an upper floor
jetty	where the upper storey of a building projects over the floor below
joist	a horizontal timber that supports floorboards above. Will sometimes carry boarded or plastered ceilings
modern	period from 1901 to current
NGR	National Grid Reference
OASIS	O nline A ccess to the I ndex of A rchaeological I nvestigations, http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main
post	vertical members in timber-frames
post-medieval	period from 1540 to 1901
purlin	a longitudinal timber giving support to the common rafters of a roof and normally set at right-angles to the slope of the rafters
rafter	an inclined timber following the slope of the roof
ridge-board	a plank-like timber running below the apex of the roof and receiving the ends of the rafters
stretcher	a brick laid parallel to the face of the wall, i.e. lengthways
stud	in wall frames the upright smaller section timbers between the main posts of the frame
Tudor	period from 1485 to 1603
wall-plate	a timber running horizontally along the top of a wall to receive the ends of common rafters
wind-brace	diagonal roof braces designed to connect the rafters together and prevent racking
Victorian	period from 1837 to 1901
vernacular	a style of architecture used in the construction of domestic and functional buildings for ordinary people, as opposed to public or monumental buildings

13 Archive deposition

The archive is currently held by the Colchester Archaeological Trust at Roman Circus House, Roman Circus Walk, Colchester, Essex CO2 7GZ, but will be permanently deposited with the Archaeology Data Service.

14 Contents of digital archive

The CAT WSI

The report (CAT Report 2267)

Digital plans

Site digital photos and log

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Distribution list

Bidwells

Trinity College

ECC Place Services Historic Environment Advisor

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EEX62136_Photograph_001
South-western elevation (range 3). Photograph taken facing north-east.



EEX62136_Photograph_002
Detail of window in south-western elevation (range 3). Photograph taken facing north-east.



EEX62136_Photograph_003
Detail of window in south-western elevation (range 3). Photograph taken facing north-east.



EEX62136_Photograph_004
Detail of blocked window in south-western gable (range 3). Photograph taken facing north-east.



EEX62136_Photograph_005

Detail of oversailing brickwork on south-western elevation (range 3). Photograph taken facing north-east.



EEX62136_Photograph_006

Detail of decorative brickwork surrounding window in south-western elevation (range 3). Photograph taken facing north.



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Detail of oversailing brickwork in south-western elevation (range 3). Photograph taken facing north north-east.



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Detail of oversailing brickwork of octagonal buttress on south-western elevation (range 3). Photograph taken facing north-east.



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Detail of tiles in the brickwork of the south-eastern elevation (range 3). Photograph taken facing north-west.



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Detail of brickwork in south-eastern elevation (range 3). Photograph taken facing north-west.



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Detail of brickwork in south-eastern elevation (range 3). Photograph taken facing north-west.



EEX62136_PhotoGraph_012
Detail of exposed binding beam visible in south-eastern elevation (range 3). Photograph taken facing north north-west.



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Detail of blocked, partially surviving brick arch in south-eastern elevation (range 3). Photograph taken facing north-west.



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Detail of brickwork and window in south-eastern elevation (range 3). Photograph taken facing north-west.



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Detail of exposed timber in brickwork of south-eastern elevation (range 3). Photograph taken facing north-west.



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Detail of exposed binding beam in brickwork of south-eastern elevation (range 3). Photograph taken facing north.



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Detail of bricks laid on-edge in brickwork and plinth of south-eastern elevation (range 3). Photograph taken facing north.



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Detail of octagonal corner buttress on south-western elevation (range 3). Photograph taken facing south-east.



EEX62136_Photograph_019
South-eastern and south-western elevations (ranges 5 and 7). Photograph taken facing north.



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South-eastern and south-western elevation (ranges 4, 5 and 7). Photograph taken facing north.



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South-eastern elevation (range 5). Photograph taken facing north-west.



EEX62136_PhotoGraph_022
South-eastern elevation (range 5). Photograph taken facing north-west.



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Detail of timber-framing of south-eastern elevation (range 5). Photograph taken facing north-west.



EEX62136_PhotoGraph_024
Detail of exposed timber-framing on upper register of south-eastern elevation (range 5). Photograph taken facing north north-west.



EEX62136_Photograph_025
Detail of upper register timber-framing of south-eastern elevation (range 5). Photograph taken facing north-west.



EEX62136_Photograph_026
Detail of scarf-joint in girding beam and possible carpenters marks on studs in south-eastern elevation (range 5). Photograph taken facing north-west.



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North-western elevation (range 5). Photograph taken facing south-east.



EEX62136_Photograph_028
Detail of exposed timber-framing of north-western elevation (range 5). Photograph taken facing south-east.



EEX62136_PhotoGraph_029

Detail of pegtiles used for noggin in north-western elevation (range 5). Photograph taken facing south-east.



EEX62136_PhotoGraph_030

Detail of exposed timber-framing and brick noggin in south-eastern elevation (range 5). Photograph taken facing north-west.



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Detail of door in south-eastern elevation (range 5). Photograph taken facing north-west.



EEX62136_PhotoGraph_032

Detail of medieval doorway in south-eastern elevation (range 5). Photograph taken facing north-west.



EEX62136_PhotoGraph_033
Detail of exposed timber-framing in south-eastern elevation (range 5). Photograph taken facing north.



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South-western elevation (range 7). Photograph taken facing east.



EEX62136_PhotoGraph_035
Detail of exposed timber-framing in south-western elevation (range 7). Photograph taken facing east.



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Detail of exposed timber-framing of south-western elevation (range 7). Photograph taken facing north.



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Detail of intermediate post interrupting girding beam with an iron strap in south-western elevation (range 7). Photograph taken facing north-east.



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South-western elevation (range 7). Photograph taken facing north.



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Detail of exposed timber-framing of upper register of north-eastern elevation (range 4). Photograph taken facing west south-west.



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Detail of exposed timber-framing, with reused timbers, of south-eastern elevation (range 4). Photograph taken facing north-west.



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North-western elevation (ranges 1, 2, 5 and 6). Photograph taken facing south-east.



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Detail of brickwork of chimney in north-western elevation (range 2). Photograph taken facing south-east.



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Detail of chimneys visible from the north-western elevation (range 6). Photograph taken facing east.



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South-eastern elevation (range 3 and 4). Photograph taken facing north-west.



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Detail of exposed timber-framing in south-eastern elevation (range 4). Photograph taken facing north-west.



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Detail of timber-framing in south-eastern elevation (range 4). Photograph taken facing north-west.



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Detail of door in south-eastern elevation (range 4). Photograph taken facing north-west.



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Detail of reused post visible on south-eastern elevation (range 4). Photograph taken facing north-west.



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Detail of exposed timber-framing, with reused stud, in north-eastern elevation (range 4). Photograph taken facing west.



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South-eastern elevation (ranges 3, 4 and 5). Photograph taken facing west north-west.



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South-western elevation (range 7). Photograph taken facing north-east.



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Detail of roof construction above range 3. Photograph taken facing west.



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Detail of roof construction above bedroom 1. Photograph taken facing west.



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Detail of roof timbers in basement. Photograph taken facing south-west.



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Detail of roof construction above range 4. Photograph taken facing north.



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Detail of roof above ranges 6 and 7. Photograph taken facing west.



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Detail of roof structure above range 6. Photograph taken facing south.



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Detail of lap-dovetail joints securing collars in roof of range 6. Photograph taken facing south.



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Detail of roof construction above range 5. Photograph taken facing south south-east.



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Detail of roof construction above range 5. Photograph taken facing south south-east.



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Interior of spare room 1. Photograph taken facing east.



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Interior of spare room 1. Photograph taken facing south.



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Interior of spare room 1. Photograph taken facing north.



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Detail of window in north-western wall of spare room 1. Photograph taken facing north-west.



EEX62136_PhotoGraph_068
Detail of serving hatch in south-eastern wall of spare room 1. Photograph taken facing south-east.



EEX62136_Photograph_069
Detail of fireplace in north-eastern wall of spare room 1. Photograph taken facing north-east.



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Detail of door in south-western wall of spare room 1. Photograph taken facing south-west.



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Interior of corridor 2. Photograph taken facing south-west.



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Interior of corridor 2. Photograph taken facing north-east.



EEX62136_Photograph_073
South-western elevation. Photograph taken facing north-east.



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Detail of brick plinth visible in south-eastern wall of corridor 2. Photograph taken facing east south-east.



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Detail of door in north-western wall of corridor 2. Photograph taken facing west north-west.



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Detail of door in north-western wall of corridor 2. Photograph taken facing west north-west.



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Interior of spare room 2. Photograph taken facing north.



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EEX62136_Photograph_082
Detail of in-built storage in spare room 2. Photograph taken facing south-west.



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Detail of fireplace in north-western wall of spare room 2. Photograph taken facing north-west.



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Detail of fire grate in fireplace in north-western wall of spare room 2. Photograph taken facing west north-west.



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Detail of in-built cupboards in north-western wall of spare room 2. Photograph taken facing north-west.



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Detail of window shutters and exposed wall-plate in north-western wall of spare room 2. Photograph taken facing north-west.



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Detail of door in south-eastern wall of spare room 2. Photograph taken facing south-east.



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Interior of store. Photograph taken facing north-west.



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Detail of rear stairs from beneath. Photograph taken facing north-west.



EEX62136_Photograph_090
Detail of brickwork beneath rear stairs. Photograph taken facing north.



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Detail of rear stairs from beneath. Photograph taken facing west north-west.



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Interior of office. Photograph taken facing north-west.



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Interior of office. Photograph taken facing north-east.



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Interior of office. Photograph taken facing south-east.



EEX62136_Photograph_095
Interior of office. Photograph taken facing north-east.



EEX62136_Photograph_096
Detail of interior window between store and office. Photograph taken facing north-east.



EEX62136_Photograph_097
Detail of door in north-eastern wall of office. Photograph taken facing north-east.



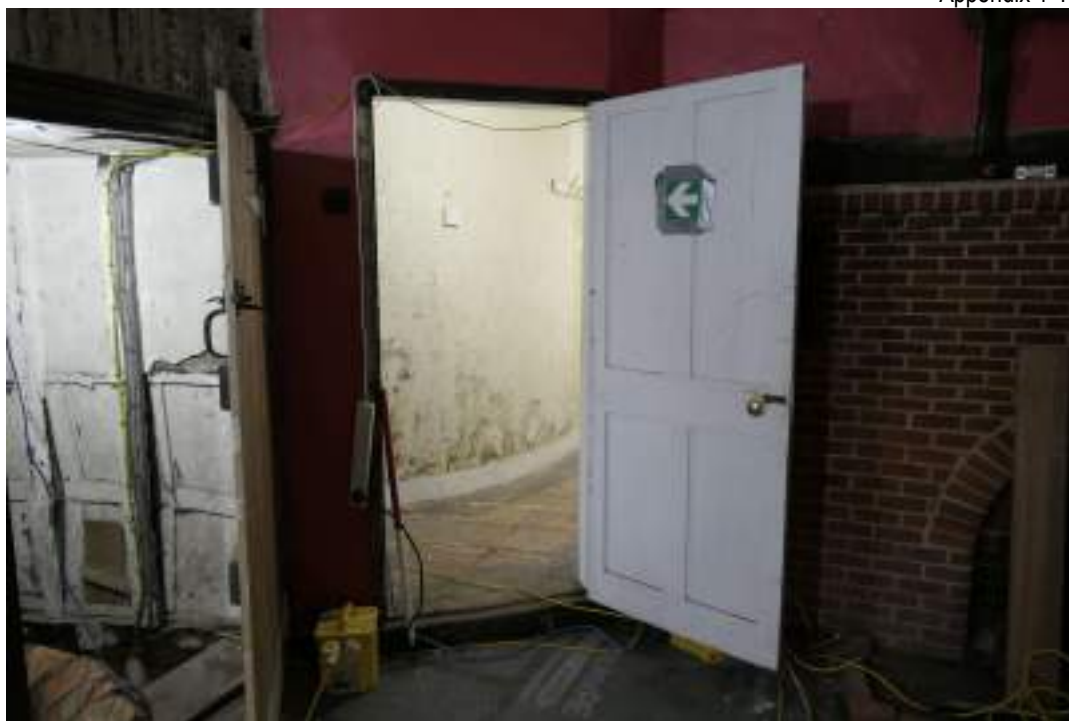
EEX62136_Photograph_098
Detail of window and exposed timber-framing in south-eastern wall of office. Photograph taken facing south-east.



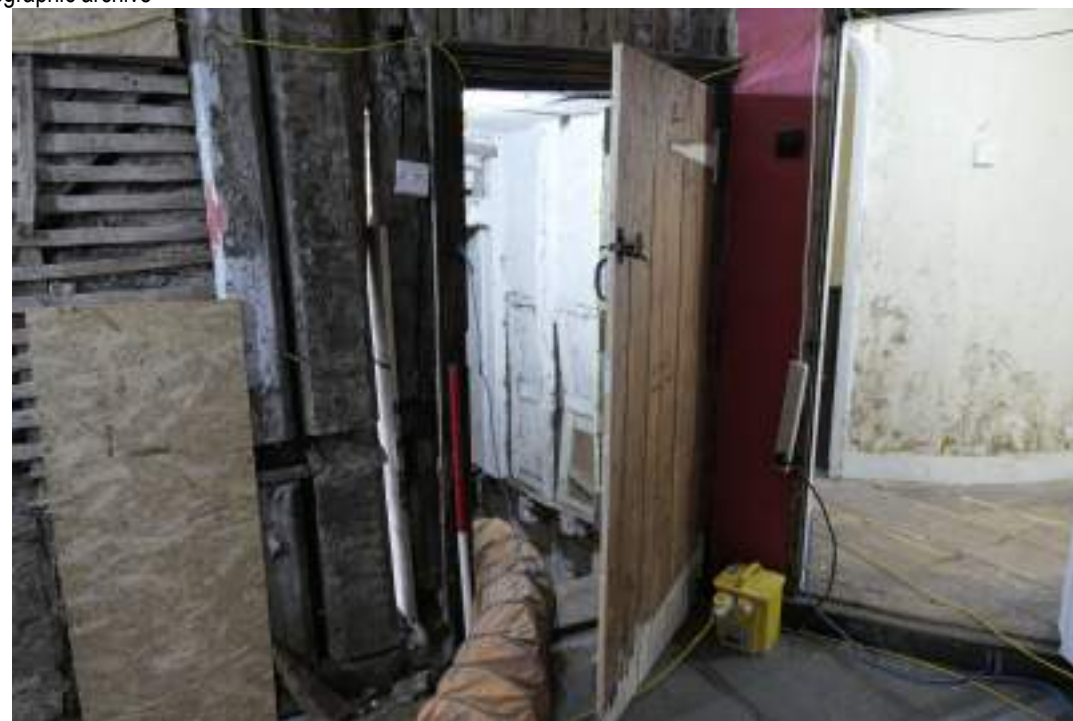
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Detail of door in north-western wall of office. Photograph taken facing north-west.



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Detail of door in north-eastern wall of office. Photograph taken facing north-east.



EEX62136_Photograph_101
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EEX62136_Photograph_105
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Detail of exposed timber mantle in south-western wall of office. Photograph taken facing west.



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Detail of empty mortice on post in south-eastern wall of office. Photograph taken facing south south-west.



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Detail of empty mortice on post in south-eastern wall of office. Photograph taken facing south-east.



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Interior of corridor 1. Photograph taken facing south-west.



EEX62136_Photograph_111
Interior of corridor 1. Photograph taken facing north-east.



EEX62136_Photograph_112
Interior of entrance hall. Photograph taken facing north-west.



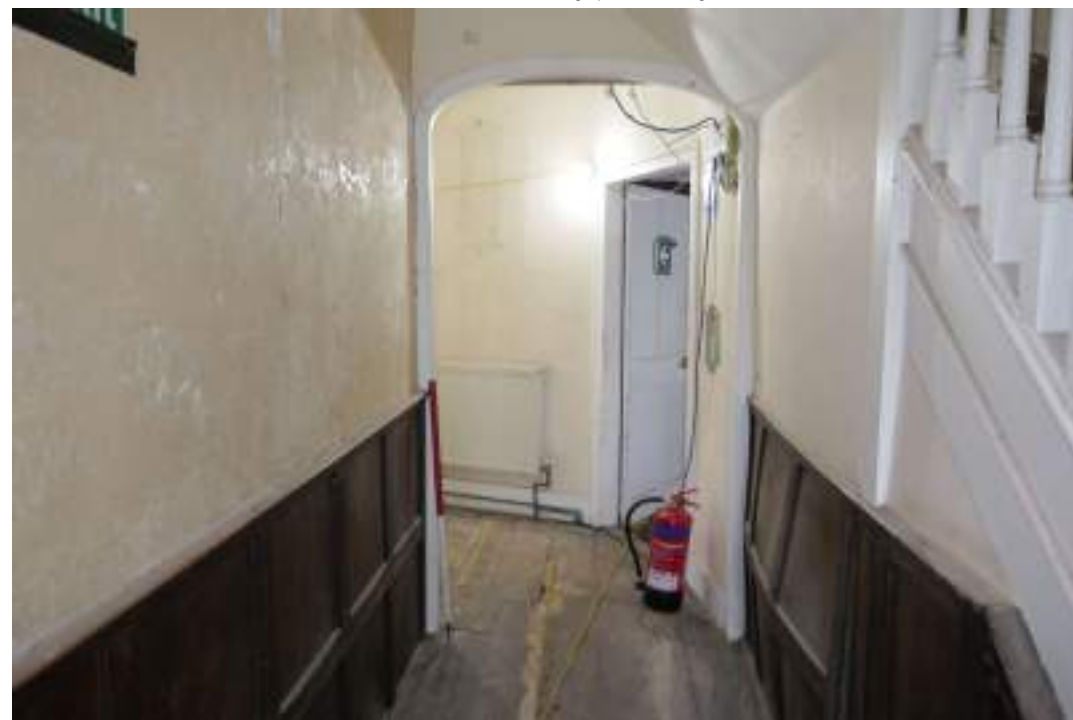
EEX62136_PhotoGraph_113
Detail of staircase in entrance hall. Photograph taken facing north.



EEX62136_PhotoGraph_114
Detail of stairs in entrance hall. Photograph taken facing north-west.



EEX62136_PhotoGraph_115
Detail of paneling on south-western wall of entrance hall. Photograph taken facing north-west.



EEX62136_PhotoGraph_116
Detail of arched doorway between entrance hall and corridor 1. Photograph taken facing north-west.



EEX62136_Photograph_117
Detail of curved wall in corridor 1. Photograph taken facing east.



EEX62136_Photograph_118
Detail of doorway in northern wall of corridor 1. Photograph taken facing north-east.



EEX62136_Photograph_119
Detail of blocked doorway in south-eastern wall of corridor 1. Photograph taken facing east south-east.



EEX62136_Photograph_120
Detail of hatch in south-eastern wall of corridor 1. Photograph taken facing south-east.



EEX62136_Photograph_121
Detail of stairs in corridor 1. Photograph taken facing north-east.



EEX62136_Photograph_122
Detail of doorway in north-western wall of corridor 1. Photograph taken facing north.



EEX62136_Photograph_123
Detail of window shutters in north-western wall of corridor 1. Photograph taken facing west.



EEX62136_Photograph_124
Detail of door in north-western wall of corridor 1. Photograph taken facing north.



EEX62136_Photograph_125
Detail of door to pantry (inaccessible). Photograph taken facing south-west.



EEX62136_Photograph_126
Detail of door in south-western wall of entrance hall. Photograph taken facing south-west.



EEX62136_Photograph_127
Detail of door in south-eastern wall of entrance hall. Photograph taken facing south south-east.



EEX62136_Photograph_128
Interior of living room. Photograph taken facing west.



EEX62136_Photograph_129
Interior of living room. Photograph taken facing north.



EEX62136_Photograph_130
Interior of living room. Photograph taken facing east.



EEX62136_Photograph_131
Interior of living room. Photograph taken facing west.



EEX62136_Photograph_132
Detail of fireplace in south-western wall of living room. Photograph taken facing south-west.



EEX62136_Photograph_133
Detail of serving hatch in north-western wall of living room. Photograph taken facing north-west.



EEX62136_Photograph_134
Detail of window in south-eastern wall of living room. Photograph taken facing south-east.



EEX62136_Photograph_135
Detail of arch in south-western wall of living room. Photograph taken facing south-west.



EEX62136_Photograph_136
Detail of canted bay window in south-eastern wall of living room. Photograph taken facing south-east.



EEX62136_Photograph_137
Detail of arch in north-western wall in living room. Photograph taken facing north-west.



EEX62136_Photograph_138
Detail of curved stepped stop on chamfered binding beam in ceiling of living room. Photograph taken facing south.



EEX62136_Photograph_139
Detail of skirting board in south-eastern wall of living room. Photograph taken facing east.



EEX62136_Photograph_140
Interior of bathroom. Photograph taken facing north.



EEX62136_Photograph_141
Interior of bathroom. Photograph taken facing east.



EEX62136_Photograph_142
Detail of window in north-western wall of bathroom. Photograph taken facing north-west.



EEX62136_Photograph_143
Detail of door in south-eastern wall of bathroom. Photograph taken facing south-east.



EEX62136_Photograph_144
Interior of dining room. Photograph taken facing east.



EEX62136_Photograph_145
Interior of dining room. Photograph taken facing north.



EEX62136_Photograph_146
Interior of dining room. Photograph taken facing west.



EEX62136_Photograph_147
Interior of dining room. Photograph taken facing south.



EEX62136_Photograph_148
Detail of fireplace in south-eastern wall of dining room. Photograph taken facing south-east.



EEX62136_Photograph_149
Detail of in-built cuboard in dining room. Photograph taken facing north.



EEX62136_Photograph_150
Detail of doorway in north-western wall of dining room. Photograph taken facing north-west.



EEX62136_Photograph_151
Detail of window in south-eastern wall of dining room. Photograph taken facing south-east.



EEX62136_Photograph_152
Detail of window in south-western wall of dining room. Photograph taken facing south-west.



EEX62136_PhotoGraph_153
Detail of brick mullion in window in south-western wall of dining room. Photograph taken facing west.



EEX62136_PhotoGraph_154
Detail of brick mullions and transoms in window in south-western wall of dining room. Photograph taken facing west.



EEX62136_PhotoGraph_155
Interior of kitchen. Photograph taken facing north.



EEX62136_PhotoGraph_156
Interior of kitchen. Photograph taken facing south-east.



EEX62136_Photograph_157
Detail of window in south-eastern wall of kitchen. Photograph taken facing south-east.



EEX62136_Photograph_158
Interior of corridor 3. Photograph taken facing north-west.



EEX62136_Photograph_159
Interior of corridor 3. Photograph taken facing south-east.



EEX62136_Photograph_160
Detail of door in south-eastern wall of corridor 3. Photograph taken facing south-east.



EEX62136_Photograph_161
Detail of doorway in south-western wall of corridor 3. Photograph taken facing south.



EEX62136_Photograph_162
Detail of stairs in corridor 3. Photograph taken facing north-east.



EEX62136_Photograph_163
Detail of cupboard door in north-western wall of corridor 3. Photograph taken facing north-west.



EEX62136_Photograph_164
Detail of arched doorway in corridor 3. Photograph taken facing south-east.



EEX62136_Photograph_165
Detail of window in north-western wall of corridor 3. Photograph taken facing west.



EEX62136_Photograph_166
Detail of door to cupboard in north-western wall of corridor 3. Photograph taken facing north-west.



EEX62136_Photograph_167
Detail of window in north-western wall of cupboard in corridor 3. Photograph taken facing west north-west.



EEX62136_Photograph_168
Detail of exposed wall-plate in cupboard in corridor 3. Photograph taken facing west north-west.



EEX62136_Photograph_169
Detail of exposed wall-plate in corridor 3. Photograph taken facing north.



EEX62136_Photograph_170
Detail of doorway in south-eastern wall of corridor 3. Photograph taken facing east.



EEX62136_Photograph_171
Interior of bedroom 1. Photograph taken facing south.



EEX62136_Photograph_172
Interior of bedroom 1. Photograph taken facing west.



EEX62136_Photograph_173
Interior of bedroom 1. Photograph taken facing north.



EEX62136_Photograph_174
Interior of bedroom 1. Photograph taken facing east.



EEX62136_Photograph_175
Detail of fireplace in north-eastern wall of bedroom 1. Photograph taken facing north-east.



EEX62136_Photograph_176
Detail of window in the south-western wall of bedroom 1. Photograph taken facing south-west.



EEX62136_Photograph_177

Detail of brick mullions in window in south-western wall of bedroom 1. Photograph taken facing west.



EEX62136_Photograph_178

Detail of brick mullions and transom in window in south-western wall of bedroom 1. Photograph taken facing west.



EEX62136_Photograph_179

Detail of cupboard door in north-eastern wall of bedroom 1. Photograph taken facing north north-east.



EEX62136_Photograph_180

Detail of door in north-western wall of bedroom 1. Photograph taken facing north-west.



EEX62136_Photograph_181
Detail of window in south-eastern wall of bedroom 1. Photograph taken facing south-east.



EEX62136_Photograph_182
Interior of bedroom 2. Photograph taken facing south.



EEX62136_Photograph_183
Interior of bedroom 2. Photograph taken facing east.



EEX62136_Photograph_184
Interior of bedroom 2. Photograph taken facing north.



EEX62136_Photograph_185
Interior of bedroom 2. Photograph taken facing west.



EEX62136_Photograph_186
Detail of chamfered bridging joist, with curved stepped stops. Photograph taken facing west.



EEX62136_Photograph_187
Detail of exposed chamfered binding in ceiling of bedroom 2. Photograph taken facing south-east.



EEX62136_Photograph_188
Detail of door in north-eastern wall of bedroom 2. Photograph taken facing north-east.



EEX62136_Photograph_189
Detail of door to loft access in bedroom 2. Photograph taken facing south-west.



EEX62136_Photograph_190
Detail of window in south-eastern wall of bedroom 2. Photograph taken facing south-east.



EEX62136_Photograph_191
Interior of bedroom 3. Photograph taken facing east.



EEX62136_Photograph_192
Interior of bedroom 3. Photograph taken facing north.



EEX62136_Photograph_193
Detail of stair baultrade incorporated in to wall in bedroom 3. Photograph taken facing north-west.



EEX62136_Photograph_194
Detail of stair balustrade incorporated in to wall in bedroom 3. Photograph taken facing north-east.



EEX62136_Photograph_195
Detail of exposed square beam in ceiling of bedroom 3. Photograph taken facing south.



EEX62136_Photograph_196
Detail of window in south-eastern wall of bedroom 3. Photograph taken facing east south-east.



EEX62136_PhotoGraph_197
Interior of corridor 4. Photograph taken facing north-east.



EEX62136_PhotoGraph_198
Interior of corridor 4. Photograph taken facing south-west.



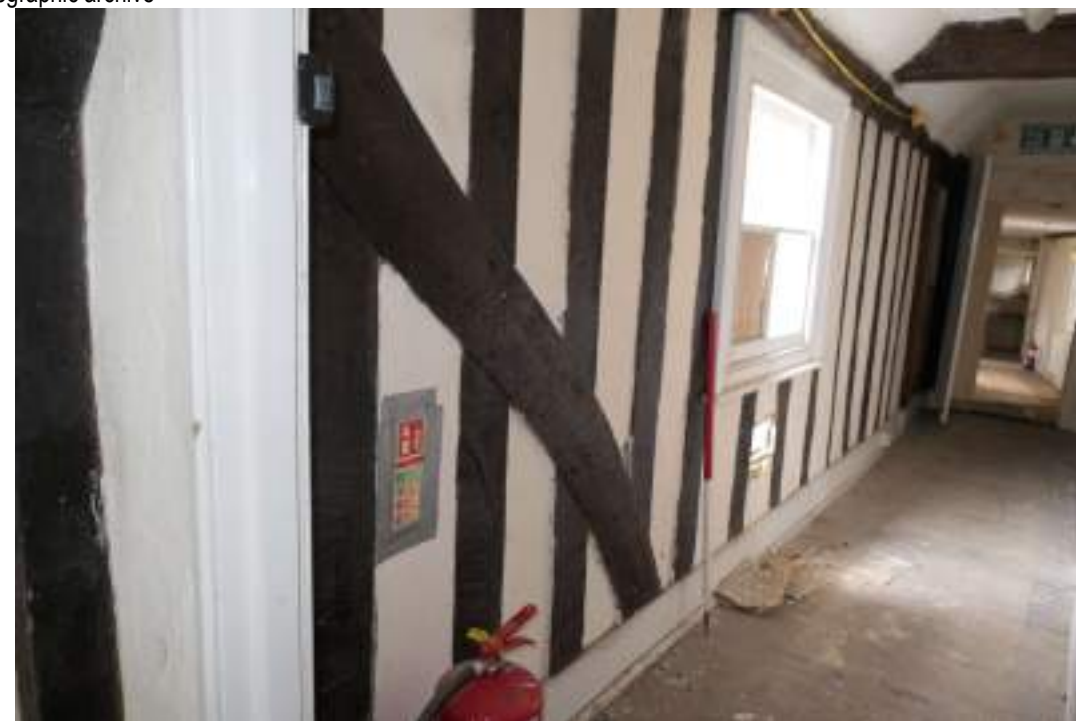
EEX62136_PhotoGraph_199
Detail of exposed timber-framing in south-eastern wall of corridor 4. Photograph taken facing east.



EEX62136_PhotoGraph_200
Detail of exposed timber-framing in south-eastern wall of corridor 4. Photograph taken facing east.



EEX62136_Photograph_201
Detail of the exposed timber-framing in south-eastern wall of corridor 4. Photograph taken facing south.



EEX62136_Photograph_202
Detail of concealed tension brace in exposed timber-framing in south-eastern wall of corridor 4. Photograph taken facing south.



EEX62136_Photograph_203
Detail of exposed timber-framing in south-eastern wall of corridor 4. Photograph taken facing east south-east.



EEX62136_Photograph_204
Detail of scarf-joint in wall-plate in south-eastern wall of corridor 4. Photograph taken facing south-east.



EEX62136_Photograph_205
Detail of window in south-eastern wall of corridor 4. Photograph taken facing south.



EEX62136_Photograph_206
Detail of door to cupboard in north-eastern wall of corridor 4. Photograph taken facing north-east.



EEX62136_Photograph_207
Detail of step in corridor 4. Photograph taken facing south-west.



EEX62136_Photograph_208
Detail of blocked doorway in south-eastern wall of corridor 4. Photograph taken facing east south-east.



EEX62136_Photograph_209
Detail of doorway in north-western wall of corridor 4. Photograph taken facing north.



EEX62136_Photograph_210
Interior of bedroom 6. Photograph taken facing north.



EEX62136_Photograph_211
Interior of bedroom 6. Photograph taken facing east.



EEX62136_Photograph_212
Interior of bedroom 6. Photograph taken facing south.



EEX62136_Photograph_213
Interior of bedroom 6. Photograph taken facing west.



EEX62136_Photograph_214
Detail of window in north-eastern wall of bedroom 6. Photograph taken facing north-east.



EEX62136_Photograph_215
Detail of cupboard door in south-eastern wall of bedroom 6. Photograph taken facing south-east.



EEX62136_Photograph_216
Detail of fireplace in north-eastern wall of bedroom 6. Photograph taken facing north-east.



EEX62136_Photograph_217
Detail of door in south-eastern wall of bedroom 6. Photograph taken facing south-east.



EEX62136_Photograph_218
Detail of exposed beam in north-western wall of bedroom 6. Photograph taken facing north.



EEX62136_Photograph_219
Interior of bedroom 5. Photograph taken facing north.



EEX62136_Photograph_220
Interior of bedroom 5. Photograph taken facing south.



EEX62136_Photograph_221
Interior of bedroom 5. Photograph taken facing west.



EEX62136_Photograph_222
Detail of window in north-western wall of bedroom 5. Photograph taken facing north-west.



EEX62136_Photograph_223
Detail of door in south-eastern wall of bedroom 5. Photograph taken facing south-east.



EEX62136_Photograph_224
Detail of reused tie-beam in ceiling of bedroom 5. Photograph taken facing south.



EEX62136_Photograph_225
Detail of exposed wall-plate in north-western wall of bedroom 5. Photograph taken facing west north-west.



EEX62136_Photograph_226
Interior of bedroom 4. Photograph taken facing west.



EEX62136_Photograph_227
Interior of bedroom 4. Photograph taken facing south.



EEX62136_Photograph_228
Interior of bedroom 4. Photograph taken facing north.



EEX62136_Photograph_229
Interior of bedroom 4. Photograph taken facing east.



EEX62136_Photograph_230
Detail of window in north-western wall of bedroom 4. Photograph taken facing north-west.



EEX62136_Photograph_231
Detail of exposed timber-framing in north-western wall of bedroom 4. Photograph taken facing north.



EEX62136_Photograph_232
Detail of exposed tie-beam in ceiling of bedroom 4. Photograph taken facing east.



EEX62136_Photograph_233

Detail of plated scarf-joint in north-western wall-plate in bedroom 4. Photograph taken facing north-west.



EEX62136_Photograph_234

Detail of window in north-western wall of bedroom 4. Photograph taken facing west.



EEX62136_Photograph_235

Interior of rear stairs. Photograph taken facing west north-west.



EEX62136_Photograph_236

Interior of rear stairs. Photograph taken facing west north-west.



EEX62136_PhotoGraph_237
Interior of rear stairs. Photograph taken facing west north-west.



EEX62136_PhotoGraph_238
Detail of jowled post in south-eastern wall of corridor 4. Photograph taken facing south.



EEX62136_PhotoGraph_239
Detail of entrance to basement. Photograph taken facing south.



EEX62136_PhotoGraph_240
Interior of basement. Photograph taken facing south.



EEX62136_PhotoGraph_241
Interior of basement. Photograph taken facing east.



EEX62136_PhotoGraph_242
Interior of basement. Photograph taken facing west.



EEX62136_PhotoGraph_243
Detail of reused sill-beam in basement. Photograph taken facing south.



EEX62136_PhotoGraph_244
Detail of delapidated planked door in basement. Photograph taken facing north.



EEX62136_Photograph_245
Detail of strap hinge on door in basement. Photograph taken facing north.



EEX62136_Photograph_246
Detail of binding-beams and joists in ceiling in basement. Photograph taken facing west.



EEX62136_Photograph_247
Detail of alcoves in basement wall. Photograph taken facing west.



EEX62136_Photograph_248
Detail of off-hinged door in basement. Photograph taken facing south-east.



EEX62136_Photograph_249
Detail of empty mortice in ceiling beam in basement. Photograph taken facing south.



EEX62136_Photograph_250
Interior of basement. Photograph taken facing west.



EEX62136_Photograph_251
Interior of basement. Photograph taken facing north.



EEX62136_Photograph_252
Interior of basement. Photograph taken facing east.



EEX62136_Photograph_253
Detail of brick arch in basement. Photograph taken facing north-east.



EEX62136_Photograph_254
Interior of cupboard in corridor 3. Photograph taken facing north north-west.



EEX62136_Photograph_255
Detail of hidden alcove in south-eastern wall of corridor 4. Photograph taken facing south-east.



EEX62136_Photograph_256
Detail of hidden alcove in bedroom 4. Photograph taken facing south-west.



EEX62136_Photograph_257
Detail of hidden alcove in bedroom 4. Photograph taken facing south-west.



EEX62136_Photograph_258
Detail of fireplace in spare room 1 during reinforcement works. Photograph taken facing north-east.



EEX62137_Photograph_001
Well F1 pre-excitation. Photograph taken facing east.



EEX62137_Photograph_002
Well F1. Photograph taken facing east south-east.



EEX62137_Photograph_003
Well F1. Photograph taken facing east south-east.



EEX62137_Photograph_004
Well F1. Photograph taken facing east.



EEX62137_Photograph_005
Well F1. Photograph taken facing north-east.



EEX62137_Photograph_006
Detail of hole in brickwork of well F1. Photograph taken facing south-east.

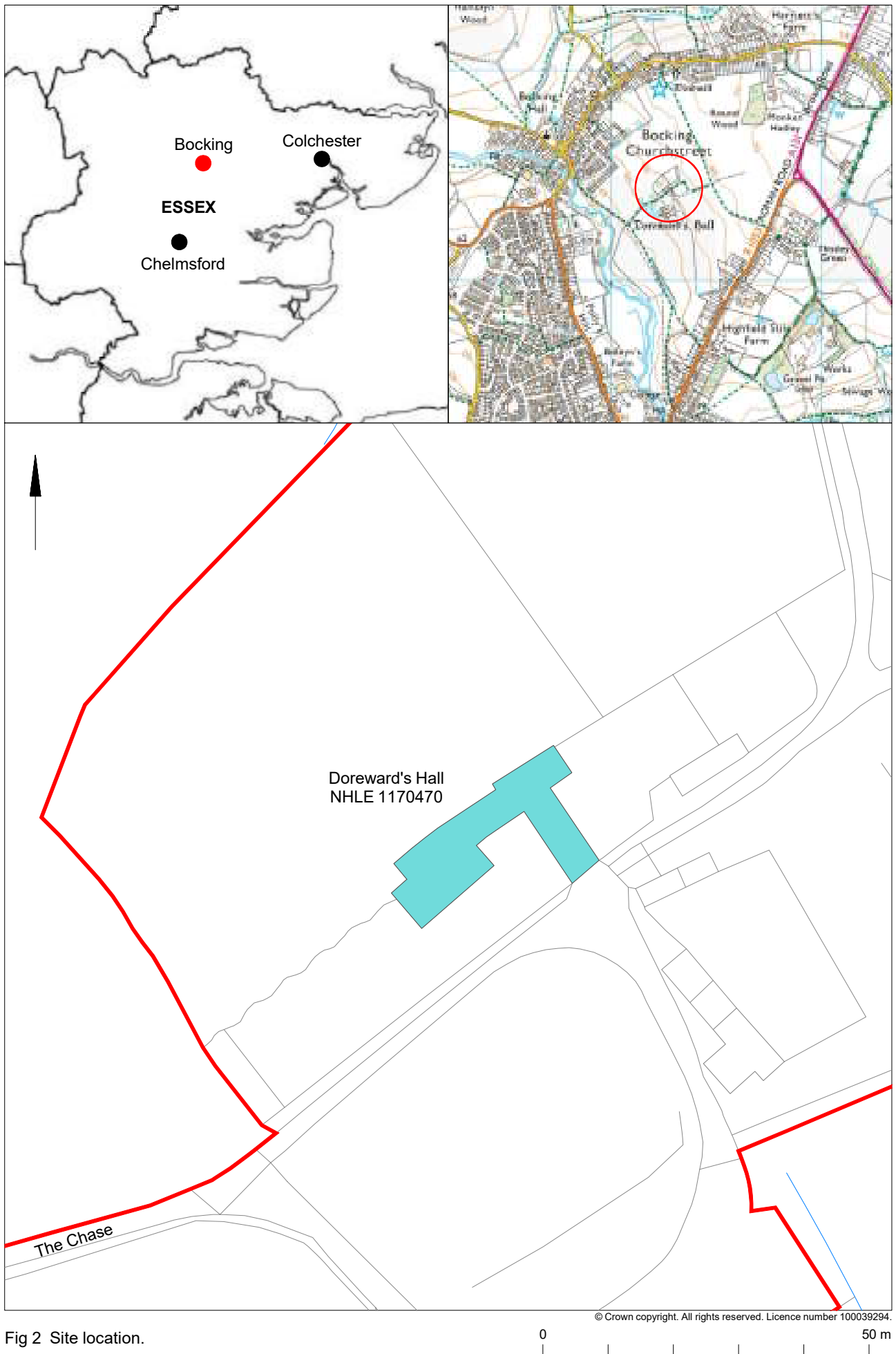


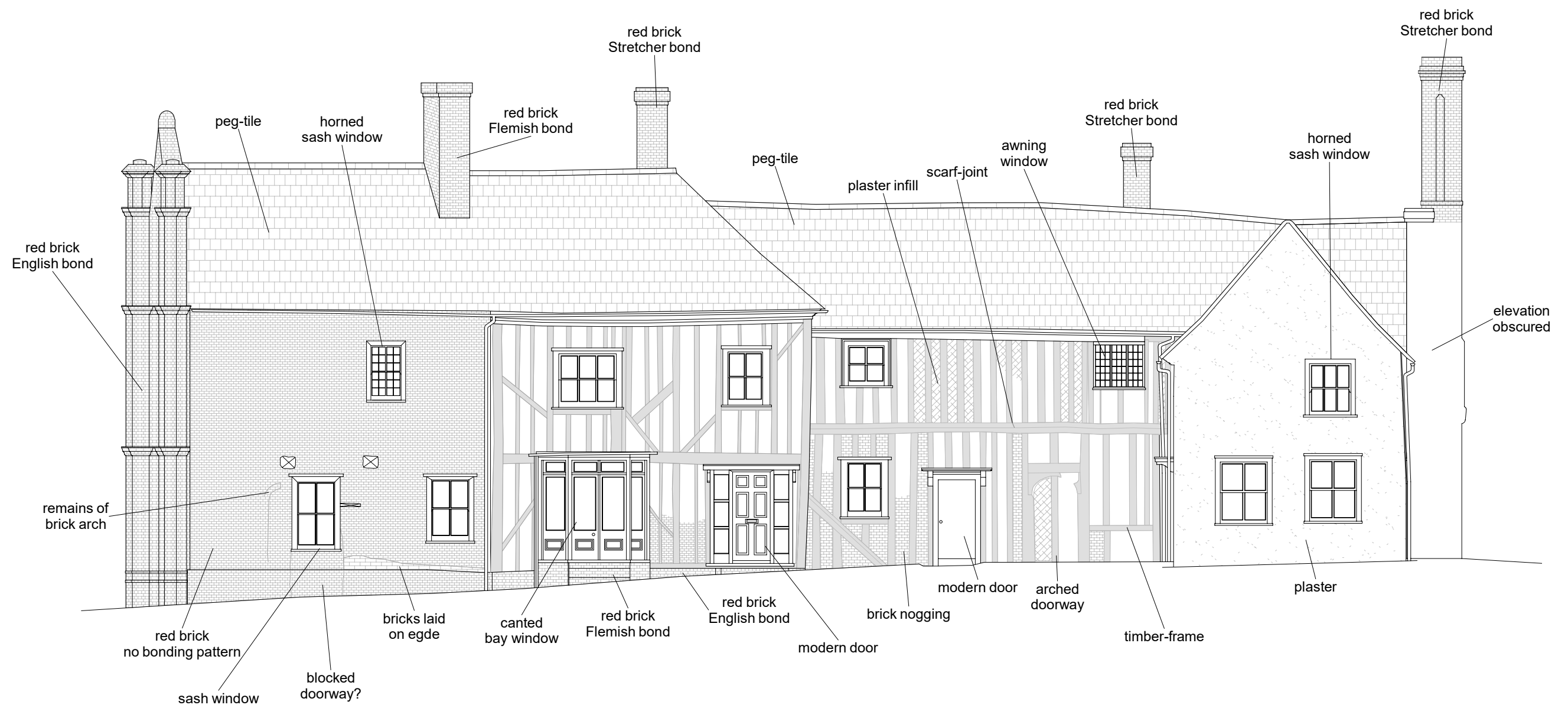
Fig 2 Site location.



Fig 3 Ground floor and basement floor plans. Room names in orange. Location and direction of photographs reproduced in the text shown.



Fig 4 First floor plans. Room names in orange. Location and direction of photographs reproduced in the text shown.



0 5 m

Fig 5 South-eastern elevation.

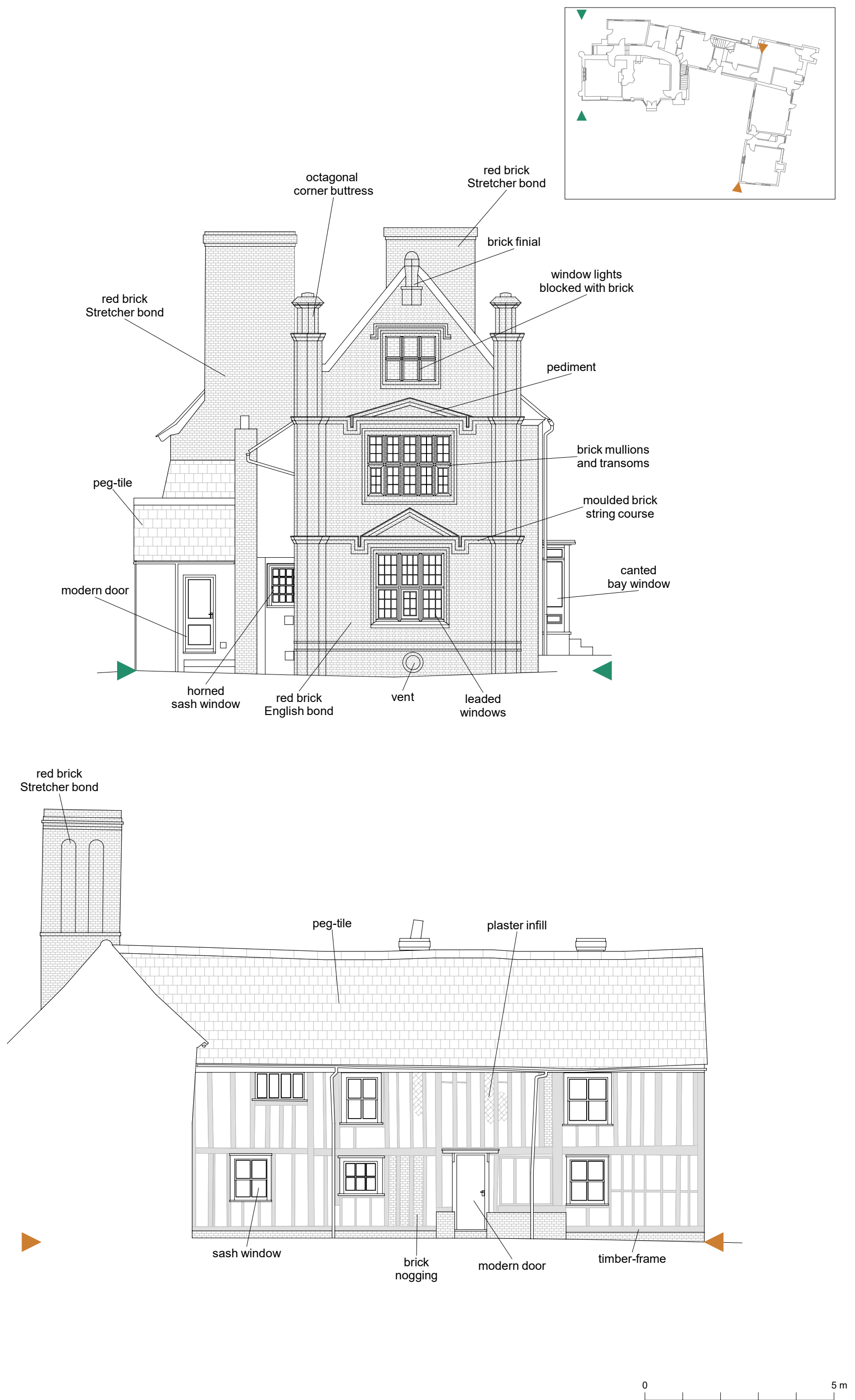
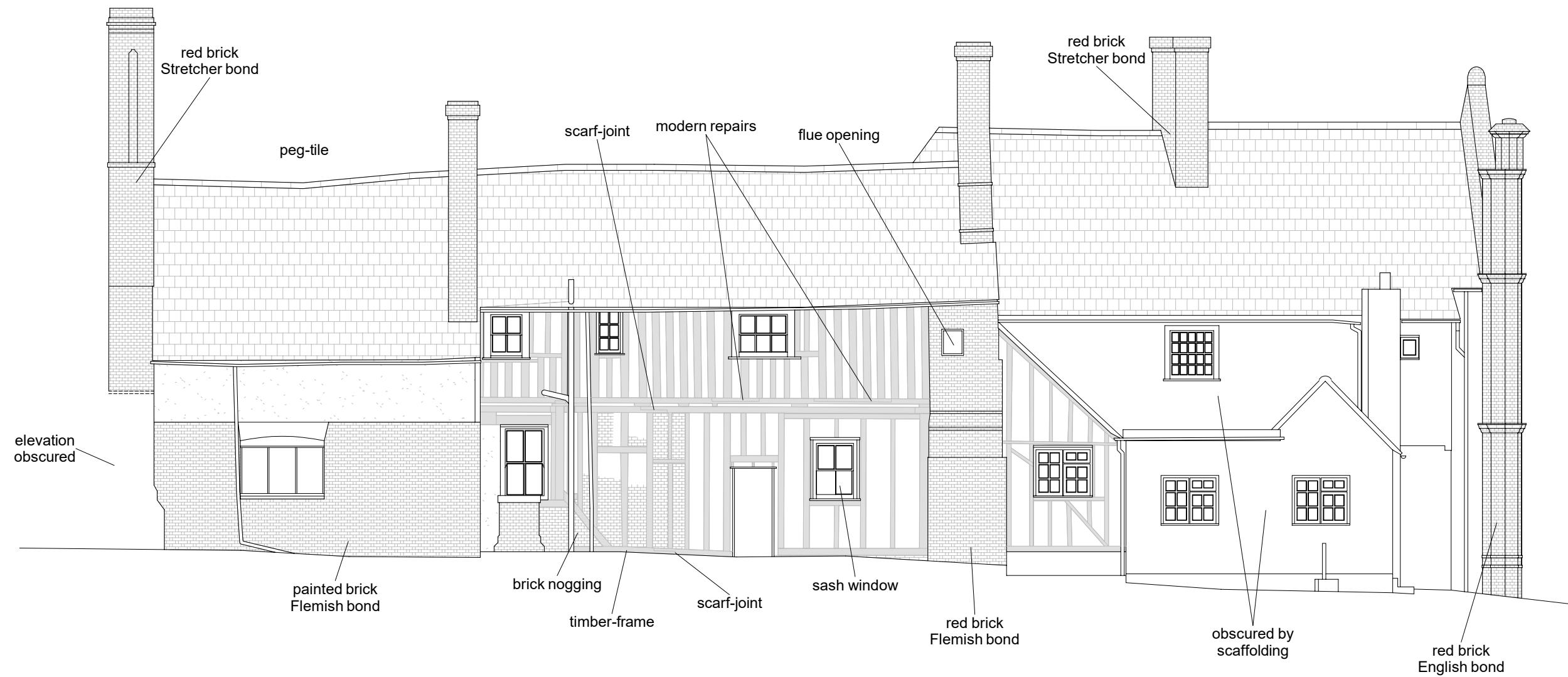


Fig 6 South-western elevations.



0 5 m

Fig 7 North-western elevation.

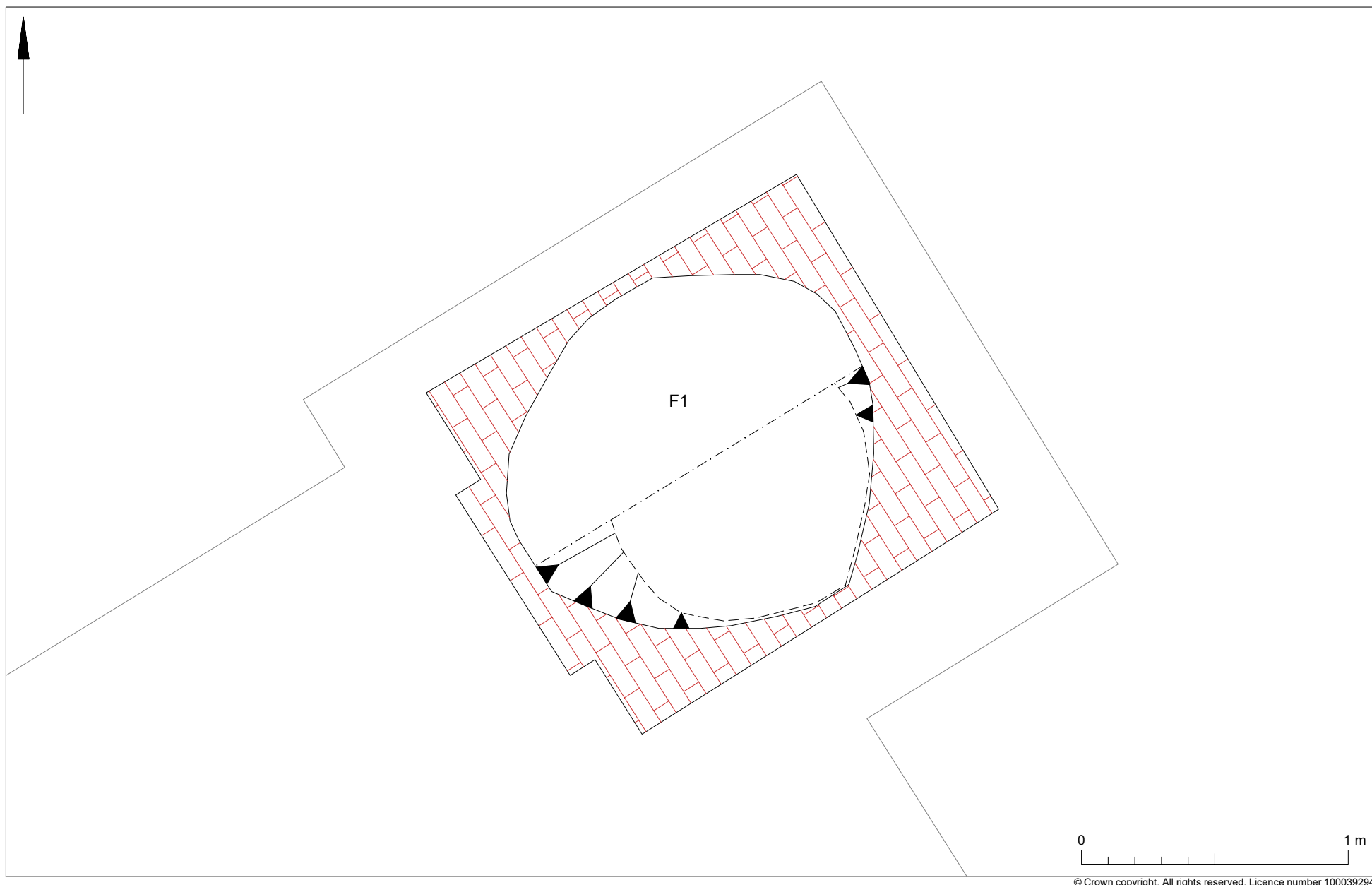


Fig 8 Excavation results.

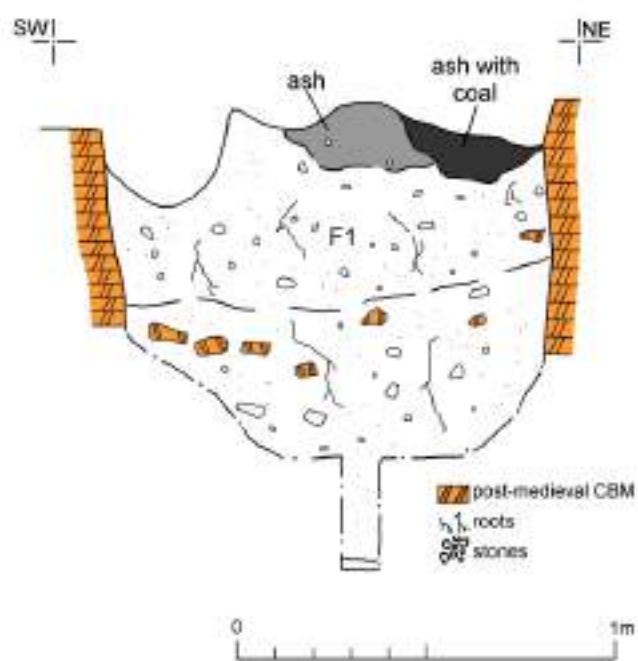


Fig 9 F1 section.

OASIS Summary for colchest3-537034

OASIS ID (UID)	colchest3-537034
Project Name	Analytical Buildings Record (Level 3) at Dorewards Hall, The Chase, Bocking, Essex, CM7 5LS
Sitename	Dorewards Hall, The Chase, Bocking, Essex, CM7 5LS
Sitecode	
Project Identifier(s)	2025/09c
Activity type	Analytical Buildings Record (Level 3)
Planning Id	23/02748/LBC
Reason For Investigation	Planning: Listed Building Consent
Organisation Responsible for work	Colchester Archaeological Trust
Project Dates	03-Oct-2025 - 13-Mar-2026
Location	Dorewards Hall, The Chase, Bocking, Essex, CM7 5LS NGR : TL 76270 25439 LL : 51.89961216140471, 0.560635558155096 12 Fig : 576270,225439
Administrative Areas	Country : England County/Local Authority : Essex Local Authority District : Braintree Parish : Braintree, unparished area
Project Methodology	The building recording was carried out to an Historic England Level 3.

Project Results	A programme of historic building recording and archaeological excavation was carried out by Colchester Archaeological Trust at Dorewards Hall, The Chase, Bocking, Essex in October 2025 and March 2026. Dorewards Hall is Grade II* listed structure (NHLE No. 1170740). The structure is a large L-shaped structure, constructed from both timber and brick, that has origins in the late medieval period. The earliest part of the building (range 5) is a north-west/south-east aligned range in the centre of the structure, the timber-frame of which utilises a technique called close studding. It appears as though the structure may have been jettied when originally constructed, however both the north-western and south-eastern lower registers have been rebuilt to create flush façades. A doorway was exposed during the removal of the external render, with a two-centred arch- shaped head and plain timber spandrels. The rear elevation of the range displays evidence of original window openings, which have been replaced by modern windows but retain a short length of horizontal rail. The roof structure of range 5 seems to represent the remains of a crown post roof, with some blackened timbers, although the central purlin and crown post are no longer present. Range 3 is constructed from Tudor bricks, red in colour and laid in a rough English bond. The gable end has two octagonal buttresses, with brick mullion and transom windows and moulded brick details. The brickwork is somewhat more haphazard in the south-eastern elevation, laid mostly in header bond and with numerous areas of repair. The remains of a partial brick arch, likely representing a doorway, can be seen in the brickwork, adjacent to second doorway which has been blocked with a window. Also timber-framed in construction are ranges 4 and 7, both of which comprise hand-sawn timbers. Similarly to range 5, range 7 utilises close studding but displays no evidence it was jettied. Range 5 is later and has some haphazard primary bracing peppered through the framing. During renovation works, a brick-lined structure was uncovered under the floor of a small porch projecting from range 6. The structure was constructed from red brick bonded with Portland cement and had a sub-rounded opening in the centre, which was half sectioned to a depth of 1m and then augured a further 0.3m. Finds recovered from the fill mostly comprised post-medieval/modern CBM fragments. A small void was observed in the side of the brickwork, the purpose of which is unknown.
Keywords	House - Tudor - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types House - Post Medieval - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types House - Elizabethan - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types House - Victorian - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types House - 20th Century - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types
Funder	University Trinity College
HER	Essex HER - unRev - STANDARD
Person Responsible for work	
HER Identifiers	HER Event No - EEX62136

OASIS Summary for colchest3-537035

OASIS ID (UID)	colchest3-537035
Project Name	Excavation at Dorewards Hall, The Chase, Bocking, Essex, CM7 5LS
Sitename	Dorewards Hall, The Chase, Bocking, Essex, CM7 5LS
Sitecode	
Project Identifier(s)	2025/09c
Activity type	Excavation
Planning Id	23/02748/LBC
Reason For Investigation	Planning: Listed Building Consent
Organisation Responsible for work	Colchester Archaeological Trust
Project Dates	03-Oct-2025 - 03-Oct-2025
Location	Dorewards Hall, The Chase, Bocking, Essex, CM7 5LS NGR : TL 76270 25439 LL : 51.89961216140471, 0.560635558155096 12 Fig : 576270,225439
Administrative Areas	Country : England County/Local Authority : Essex Local Authority District : Braintree Parish : Braintree, unparished area
Project Methodology	During renovation works, a brick-lined structure was uncovered under the floor of a small porch projecting from range 6. The structure was constructed from red brick bonded with Portland cement and had a sub-rounded opening in the centre, which was half sectioned to a depth of 1m and then augured a further 0.3m.
Project Results	The structure was constructed from red brick bonded with Portland cement and had a sub-rounded opening in the centre, which was half sectioned to a depth of 1m and then augured a further 0.3m. Finds recovered from the fill mostly comprised post-medieval/modern CBM fragments. A small void was observed in the side of the brickwork, the purpose of which is unknown.
Keywords	Well - Victorian - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types
Funder	University Trinity College
HER	Essex HER - unRev - STANDARD
Person Responsible for work	A Wightman, C Lister
HER Identifiers	HER Event No - EEX62137
Archives	Digital Archive - to be deposited with Archaeology Data Service Archive;