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**Houses and Households in County Durham and Newcastle
c.1570-1730**

Two volumes, Volume II

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PhD

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Departments of History & Archaeology

2000

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17 SEP 2001

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APPENDIX: House Surveys & Photographs

The houses surveyed are arranged by name, with a summary of my interpretation of the structural evidence accompanied by plans and photographs.¹

- 1 Abbey House, Palace Green, Durham
- 2 Auckland Castle Lodge, Bishop Auckland
- 3 Byers Green Hall, Byers Green
- 4 East Oakley House, West Auckland
- 5 Gainford Hall, Gainford
- 6 Great Chilton Farm, Great Chilton
- 7 The Hermitage, Sunderland Bridge
- 8 Holywell Hall, Brancepeth
- 9 Horden Hall, Horden
- 10 Houghton Hall, Houghton-le-Spring
- 11 Littleburn Farmhouse, Meadowfield
- 12 Low Harperley Hall, Weardale
- 13 Newfield Farmhouse, Newfield
- 14 New House, Ireshopeburn
- 15 Old Bank House, Wolsingham
- 16 Quarry Hill House, Brancepeth
- 17 Ramshaw Hall, Evenwood
- 18 Slashpool Farm, Hett
- 19 Stanhope Old Hall, Stanhope
- 20 Thornley Hall, Thornley
- 21 Tudhoe Hall, Tudhoe

¹All photographs and drawings are my own (unless otherwise acknowledged). The drawings follow RCHME conventions: 0.5 mm. for 'cutting line' (1m. above ground), 0.1 mm. for detail above or below the cutting line. Dashed lines indicate beams, or wall above an opening. Chamfered and stopped beams are indicated by a dash with angles (respectively). Dashed and dotted lines indicate features (such as walls or beams) removed or presumed. Hatching represents an inserted feature. Stippling represents a blocked feature. Black areas indicate vertical timber. Direction of stair (or step) arrows always point upwards.

- 22 West Auckland Old Hall, West Auckland
- 23 West Auckland Manor House, West Auckland
- 24 Whitfield House, Wolsingham
- 25 Whitfield Cottages, Wolsingham

In addition, the following houses were inspected but not surveyed.

- 40 The Bank, Barnard Castle (Plate 2 & 3)
- Castle Hills Farmhouse, Weardale
- Croxdale Hall, Croxdale
- New Nafferton Farmhouse, Brancepeth
- Greystone Hall, Greystone (Plate 1)
- Hallgarth Farmhouse, Kirk Merrington
- Helmington Hall, Helmington (Plate 4)
- Houghton Rectory, Houghton-le-Spring
- High Woodfield Farmhouse, Crook (Plate 1)
- Hunwick Hall, Hunwick
- Low Woodfield Farmhouse, Crook
- Sedgefield Manor House, Sedgefield
- St. Helen Hall, St. Helen Auckland
- Washington Old Hall, Washington
- Westernhopeburn Farmhouse, Weardale

Houses inspected in Durham City are too numerous to list; see instead the DoE List of Buildings of Special Architectural or Historic Interest (DCRO). Surveyed plans and descriptions of houses along North and South Bailey are presented in Green nd.

Existing surveys for houses in Newcastle, County Durham and North Yorkshire, are listed below by place and historic county. RCHME & NYCVBBSG reports are lodged with RCHME (now English Heritage), at York; NEVAG reports are held privately.

Newcastle upon Tyne

28-30 The Close	<i>PSAN</i> 1939
The Cooperage; 32-34 The Close	Heslop & Truman 1993
35 The Close (now Beefeater pub)	RCHME
Bessie Surtees House; 41-44 Sandhill	Heslop et. al. 1994
Alderman Fenwick's House, 98 Pilgrim Street	Heslop & McCombie 1996
16 Leazes Park Road	TAG, Maddison & Stewart 1993

County Durham

Blagroves House, The Bank, Barnard Castle	RCHME
4 Market Place, Barnard Castle	NYCVBSG 846
10 & 12 Market Place, Barnard Castle	NYCVBSG 971
44 Tile Bank, Barnard Castle	NYCVBSG 1098
38 & 40 The Bank, Barnard Castle	NYCVBSG 1162
Woodbine Cottage, Barnard Castle	NYCVBSG 1307
51 Galgate, Barnard Castle	NYCVBSG 1303
The Grove, 55 Galgate Barnard Castle	NYCVBSG 1293
26 Newgate, Barnard Castle	NYCVBSG 1336
Brafferton	NEVAG
Bridge End (bastle)	NEVAG
Cleatlam Grange, Cleatlam	NYCVBSG 1023
East Cleatlam Farm, Cleatlam	NYCVBSG 1107
Cleatlam Hall, Cleatlam	NYCVBSG 1007
36-38 Wharton Street, Coundon	NEVAG 013
Gatehouse, Low Butterby Farm, Croxdale	RCHME
Hallgarth House, Hallgarth Street, Durham	RCHME
Seaton Holme, Easington	RCHME
Ludwell Farmhouse, Eastgate, Stanhope	RCHME
High Staindrop Field House, Etherley	NYCVBSG

Ferryhill Manor House, Ferryhill	NEVAG
Hilton Hall	NEVAG
Thornlea Farm, Hunderthwaite	NYCVBSG 1088
Linnew	NEVAG
High Shipley House, Marwood	NYCVBSG 948
High Shipley Cottage, Marwood	NYCVBSG
Wool House, Marwood	NYCVBSG 989
Stotley Hall, Middlestone in Teesdale	NYCVBSG 680
Middridge Grange	NEVAG
6 Neasham Hill, Neasham	NYCVBSG 276
Peakefield	NEVAG
Pinfield House	NEVAG
The Old Lodge, Raby with Keverstone	RCHME & NYCVBSG 1212
51 Front Street, Staindrop	NYCVBSG 1163
Stanhope Old Hall, Stanhope	NEVAG
St. Helen's Old Hall, St. Helen Auckland	NEVAG
Thornton Hall	NEVAG
Unthank Hall	NEVAG
Bramble Cottage, Little Newsham, Winston	NYCVBSG 665
Wiserley Hall	NEVAG
<u>Yorkshire, North Riding</u>	
derelict house, Hurry, Baldersdale	NYCVBSG 205
Elin Cottage, Barningham	NYCVBSG 1205
The Hollies, Barningham	NYCVBSG 915
Manor House Farm, Barningham	NYCVBSG 1243
Barningham Park View, Barningham	NYCVBSG 1240
Prospect House, Barningham	NYCVBSG 841
Virginia Cottage, Barningham	NYCVBSG 1158

Newby House, Barningham	NYCVBSG 1069
Church View, Barningham	NYCVBSG 1404
Heath House, Barningham	NYCVBSG 1412
Hillside, Barningham	NYCVBSG 751
Cowclose House, Barningham	NYCVBSG 259
Garnathwaite Farm, Barningham	NYCVBSG 535
Kilmond View, Boldron	NYCVBSG 435
Boldron House, Boldron	NYCVBSG 1278
West Hall, Boldron	NYCVBSG 1012
The Cottage, Boldron	NYCVBSG 927
Smart Gill Farm, Boldron	NYCVBSG 293
Green Cottage, Boldron	NYCVBSG 1311
Newton Cottage, Boldron	NYCVBSG 1399
Arch House, Bowes	NYCVBSG 1064
High Broates, Bowes	NYCVBSG 519
Hulands, Bowes	NYCVBSG 518
Kilmond Wood, Bowes	NYCVBSG 586
Kirby House and cottage, Bowes	NYCVBSG 1159
Birk Hall, Brignall	NYCVBSG 1186
Corn Park, Cotherstone	NYCVBSG 727
Cotherstone Manor, Cotherstone	NYCVBSG 836
Doe Park, Cotherstone	NYCVBSG 736
Fox Hall, Cotherstone	NYCVBSG 981
Gilmour House, Cotherstone	NYCVBSG 835
Hallgarth House, Cotherstone	NYCVBSG 240
Hillfield House, Cotherstone	NYCVBSG 1101
Romney Cottage, Cotherstone	NYCVBSG 508
Northern Corn Park, Cotherstone	NYCVBSG 723
Pitcher House, Cotherstone	NYCVBSG 950

West Briscoe, Cotherstone	NYCVBSG 774
Cross Lanes Farm, Egglestone	NYCVBSG 754
Stobgreen House, Egglestone	NYCVBSG 479
derelict house, Egglestone Abbey	NYCVBSG 1255
Lackenby Old Hall, Eston (Middlesborough)	RCHME
Pinchinthorpe Hall, Guisborough	RCHME, NBR No. 86677
Hutton Hall, Hutton Magna	NYCVBSG 1282
Sober Hall Farm, Ingleby Barwick	RCHME
West Wood Byre House, Lunedale	NYCVBSG 575
West Wood Farm House, Lunedale	NYCVBSG 527
East Nettlepot 1685, Lunedale	NYCVBSG 764
High Green, Mickleton	NYCVBSG 753; NEVAG 1997: 008
High Cross Farm, Mickleton	NYCVBSG 985
Rose Cottage, Romaldkirk	NYCVBSG 614
Kirkstyle, Romaldkirk	NYCVBSG 600
Jesmond Cottage, Romaldkirk	NYCVBSG 1287
Rutherford Farm, Scargill	NYCVBSG 998
Castle Farm, Scargill	NYCVBSG 392
Stone Close House, Scargill	NYCVBSG 425
The White Cottage, Startforth	NYCVBSG 1300
7 Low Startforth Road, Startforth	NYCVBSG 1284
Startforth Vicarage, Startforth	NYCVBSG 1167
Startforth House, Startforth	NYCVBSG 384
Startforth Hall, Startforth	NYCVBSG 720
Melrose Cottage, Startforth	NYCVBSG 1031
Spring Gardens, Startforth	NYCVBSG 391
Thorpe House Farm, Wycliffe with Thorpe	NYCVBSG 977
Girlington Hall, Wycliffe	NYCVBSG 743

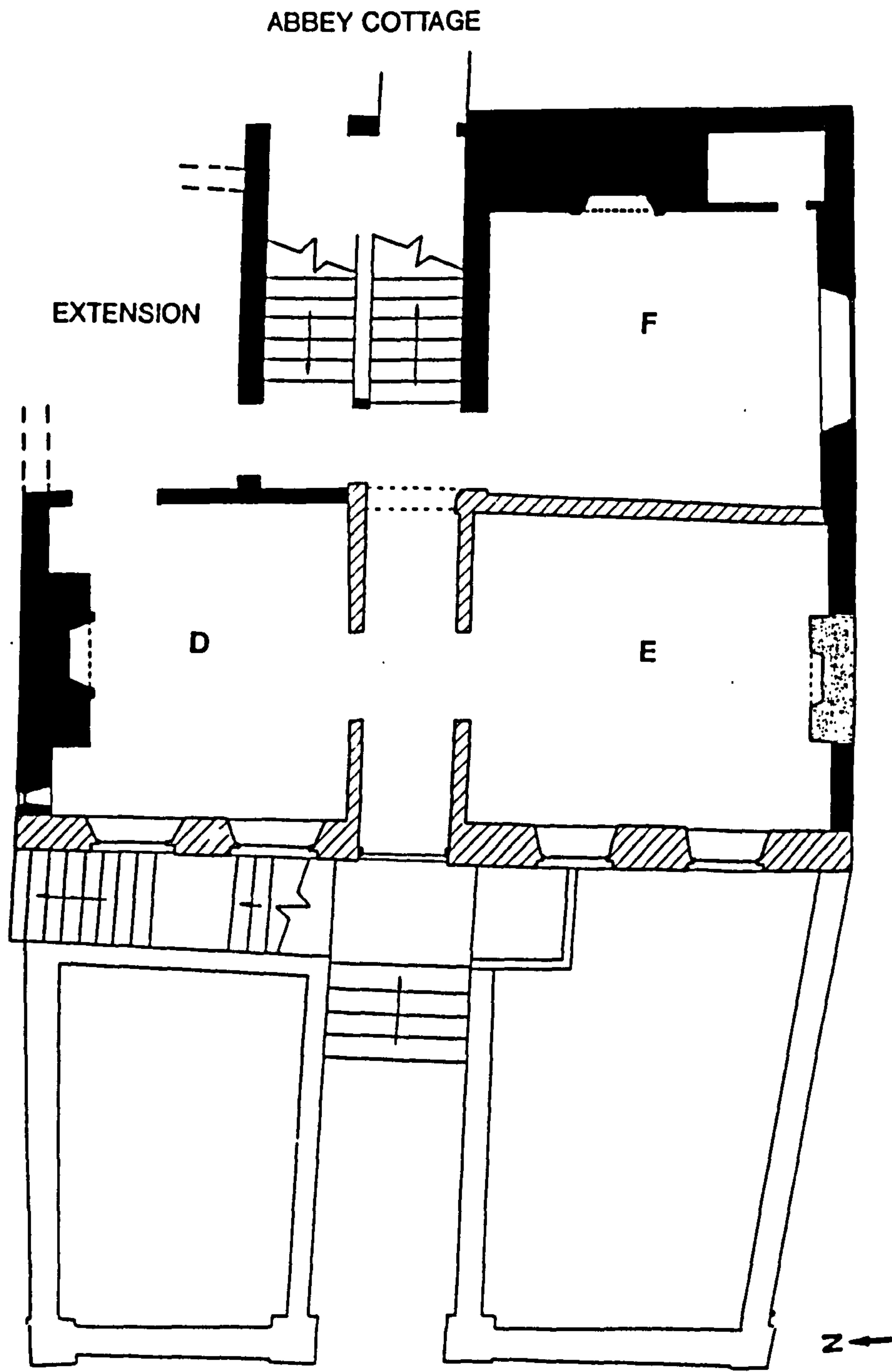
1 Abbey House, Palace Green, Durham²

At corner of Palace Green and Dun Cow Lane (alias Lygate), close by the Cathedral. Significant survival of 12C fabric, including stone segmental arched door surround to Dun Cow Lane, representing high status housing against original Bailey wall. 14C and 15C leases record lawyers and clerks resident in this area. From late 17C set back from Palace Green; earlier fabric extended to street frontage (surviving walling with blocked apertures to Dun Cow Lane). Late 17C rebuilding in brick: shaped gables to three sides of L-plan (two surviving); decorative brick on north gable-end elevation. Main facade refaced early-mid 18C in ashlar with acanthus bracket door surround and sash windows. Internal plan, central entrance passage through to stair, with reception rooms to either side and chambers over and service in east wing. Early 18C ramped handrail stair, incorporating late 17C newel posts with carved decoration.

²I am extremely grateful to Durham University Department of Archaeology MA students (J. Robinson, A. Biggins & K. Strutt, 1997) for allowing me to reproduce drawings from their survey reports on Abbey House.

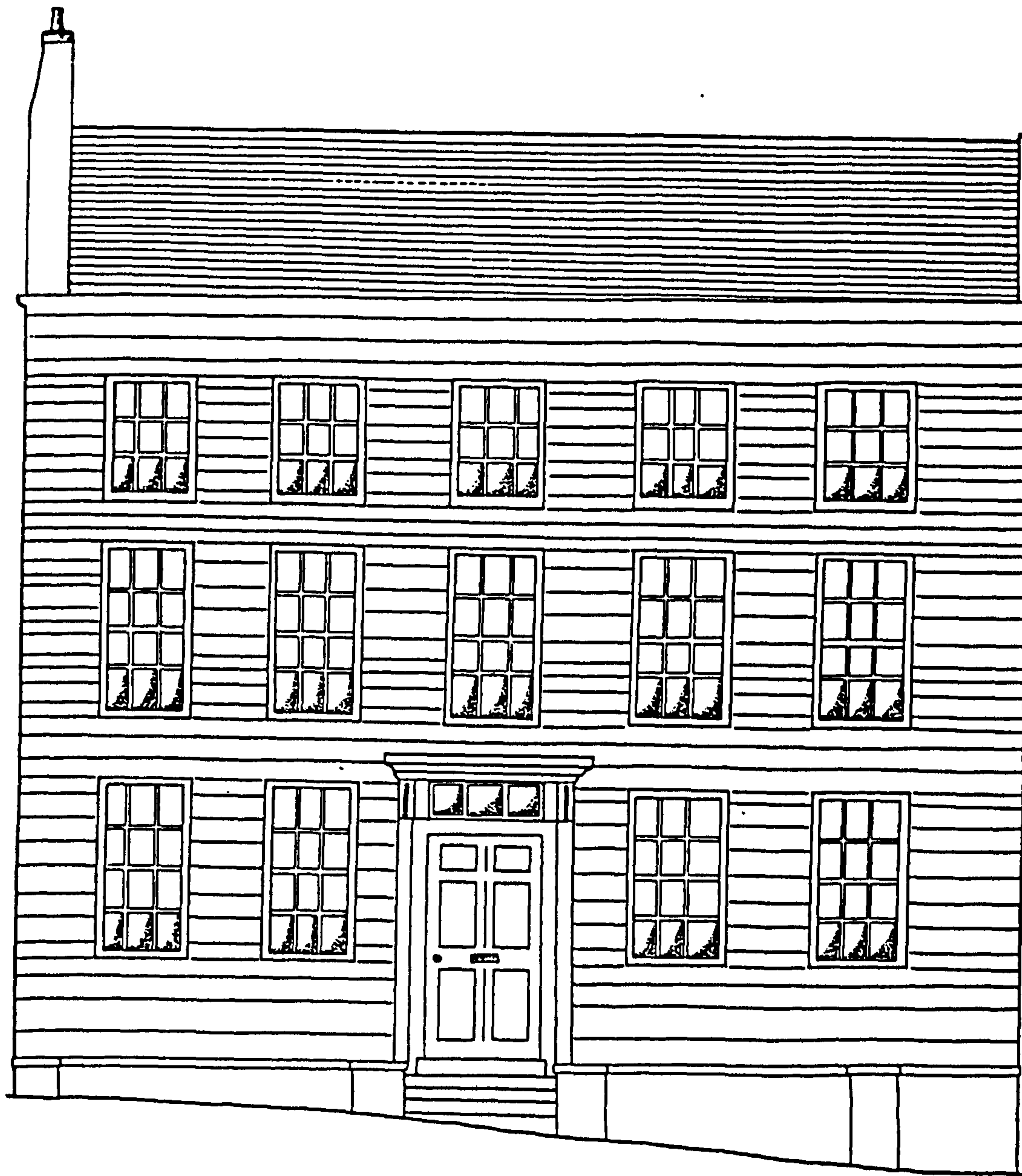
1.1 Abbey House

Ground Plan



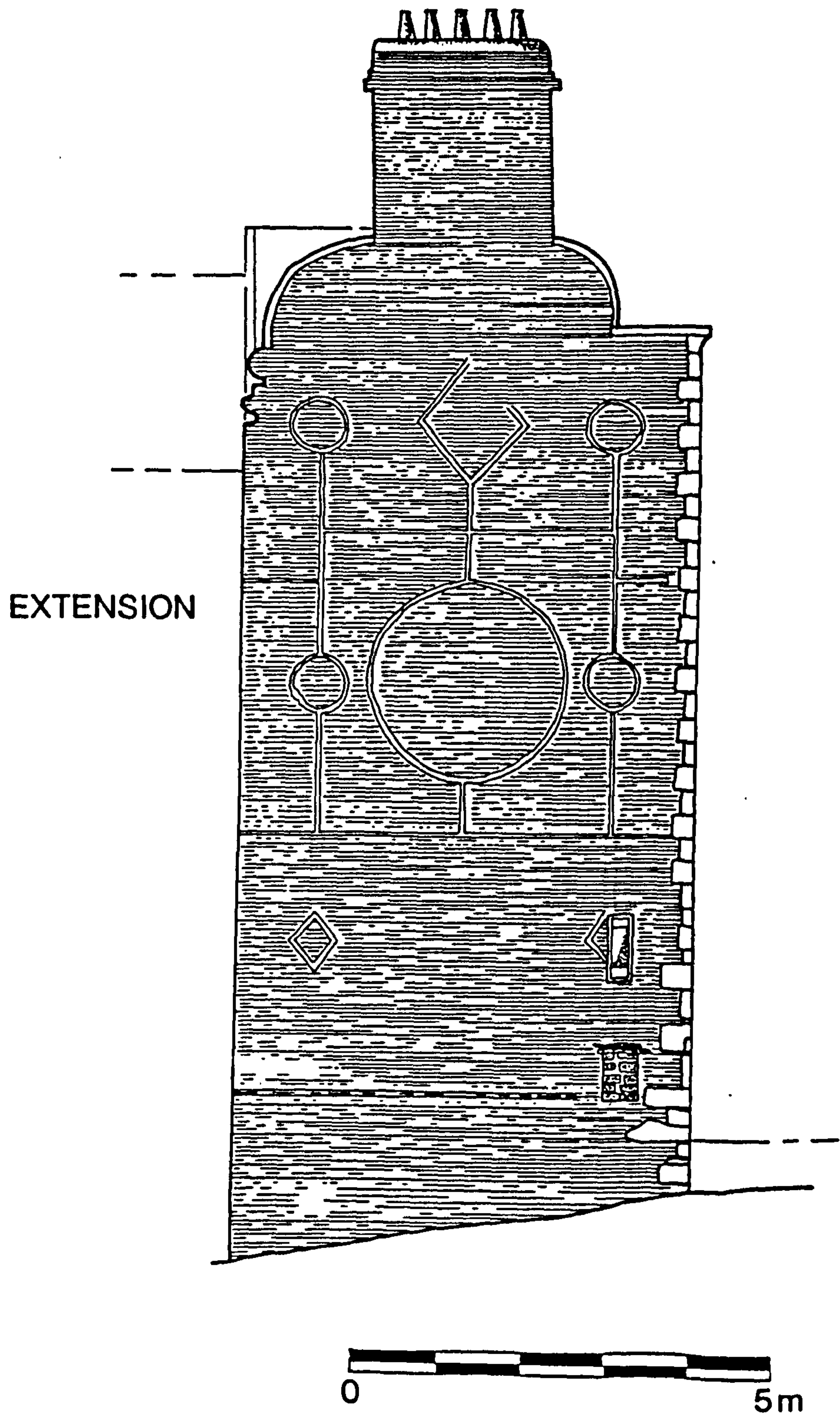
1.2 Abbey House

West Elevation (18C facade)



1.3 Abbey House

North Elevation (17C decorative brickwork & shaped gable)



2 Auckland Castle Lodge, Bishop Auckland

Castle Lodge, square in plan and elevation, three storeys (late 18C made two storeys internally with lower roof behind crenellated parapet), facing approach to Bishop's Palace (next to Gothick Gatehouse c.1760). Ashlar front elevation, coarsed rubble to rest. Built early 17C (compare Byers Green Hall c.1630 & Houghton Hall). Central entrance hall and stair with early 17C oak turned balusters and plain square newels (upper flight to original second floor removed) and 18C ramped handrail. Broad pedimented doorway with lugged architrave, flanked by three-storey window bays (canted, mullion and transom with pulvinated friezes) from Sir Arthur Haselrigg's 1650s house at Auckland Castle: removed here by John Langstaffe for Bishop Cosin mid-1660s. Mid-late 17C lugged two-panel door (similar to 17 North Bailey, Durham) and fireplace, scrolled brackets with acanthus leaf drops identical to consoles supporting pediment on front door surround, hence perhaps from Haselrigg's house.

2.1 Auckland Castle Lodge

showing windows from Sir Arthur Haselrigg's 1650s house and Langstaffe's pedimented doorway



3 Byers Green Hall, Byers Green³

Situated slightly away from Byers Green village. 12 meter square house rebuilt c.1630 by George Trotter, yeoman. Heightened and remodelled early-mid 18C, with central stair: internal features (arched cupboard in ground floor parlour, two panel doors and ramped handrail stair) imply 1720s. Pyramid roof, with adzed timbers and bone pegged stone slates, also appears early 18C. Four-square room plan created in 19C: rear passage inserted and first floor reception room sub-divided. Ground floor early 17C (hood moulded stone mullioned windows, contemporary external north door surround and blocked west door; inside, deep chamfered beams and rafters, and four-centred arch cooking fireplace), with wider external walls than two stories added above. No breaks in stone work externally but broad central stone wall and stone arch (facing staircase) retained from documented mid-16C house. Fragments of first floor stone mullion uprights confirm house of two stories before early-mid 18C remodelling.

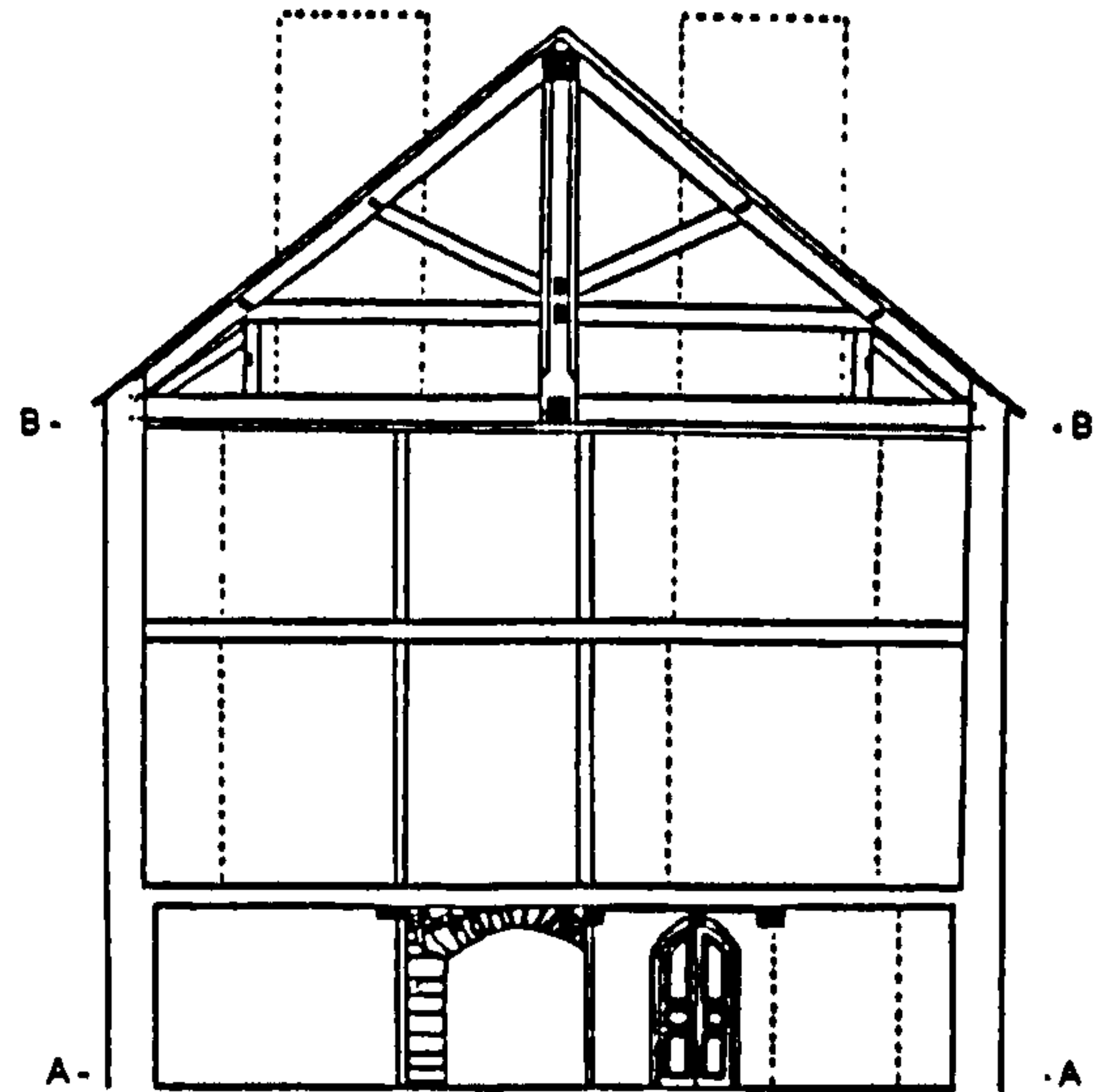
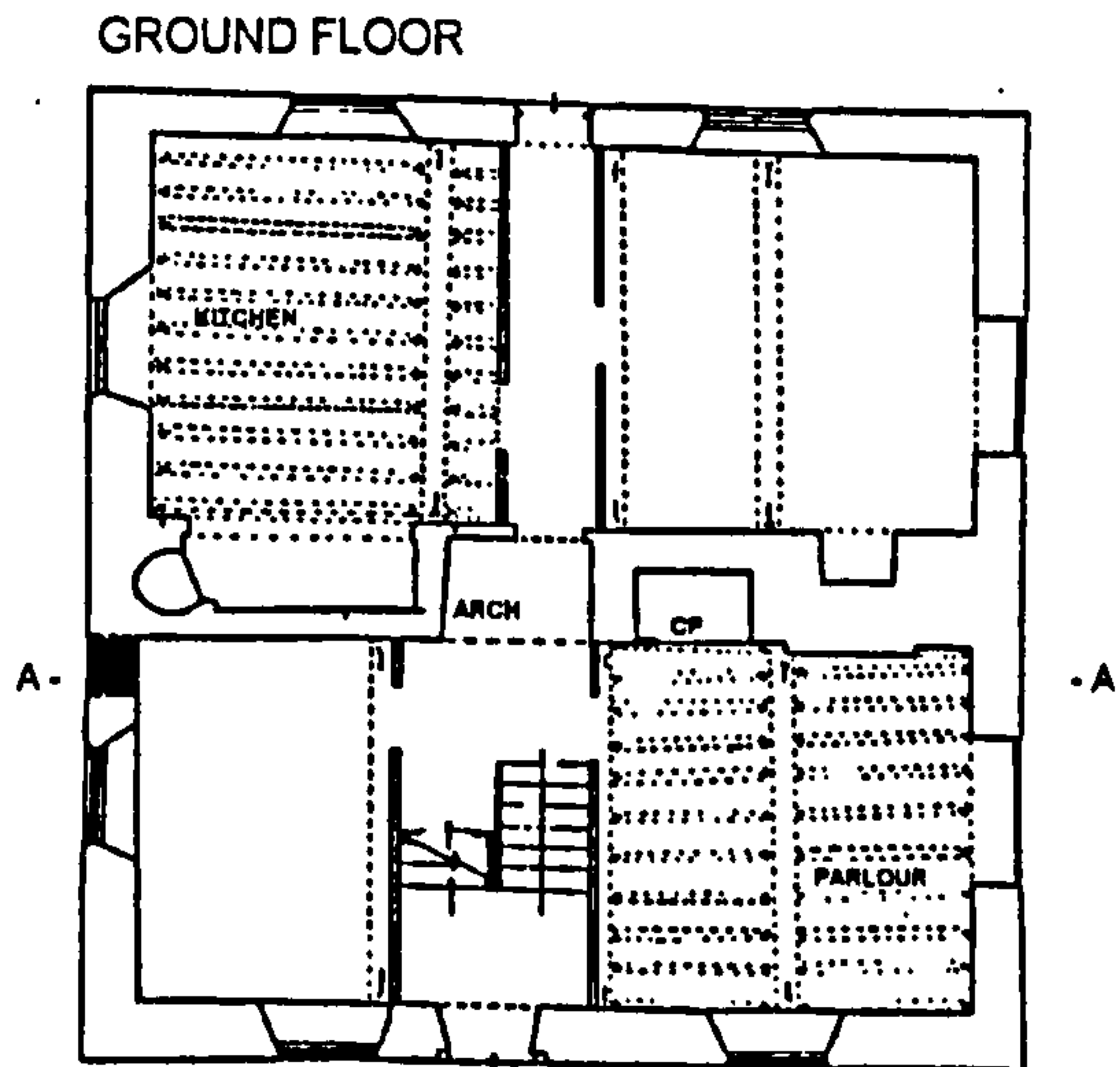
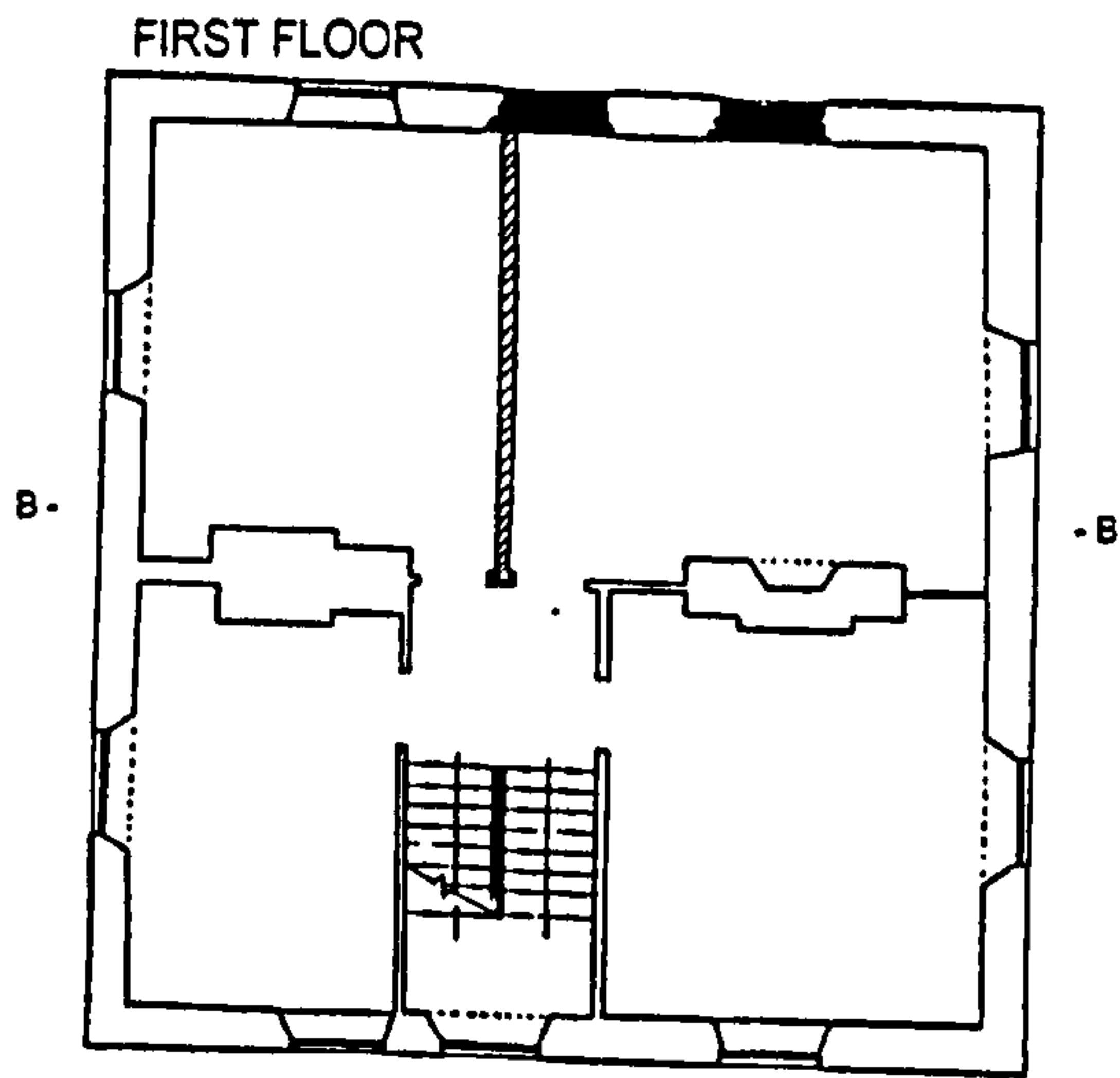
3.1 Byers Green Hall, from the west



³full documentary & built evidence in Green 1998: 33-42.

3.2 Byers Green Hall

Ground & First Floor Plan & Section



SECTION
ROOF AT B-B BELOW AT A-A
scale 1:50

BYERS GREEN HALL

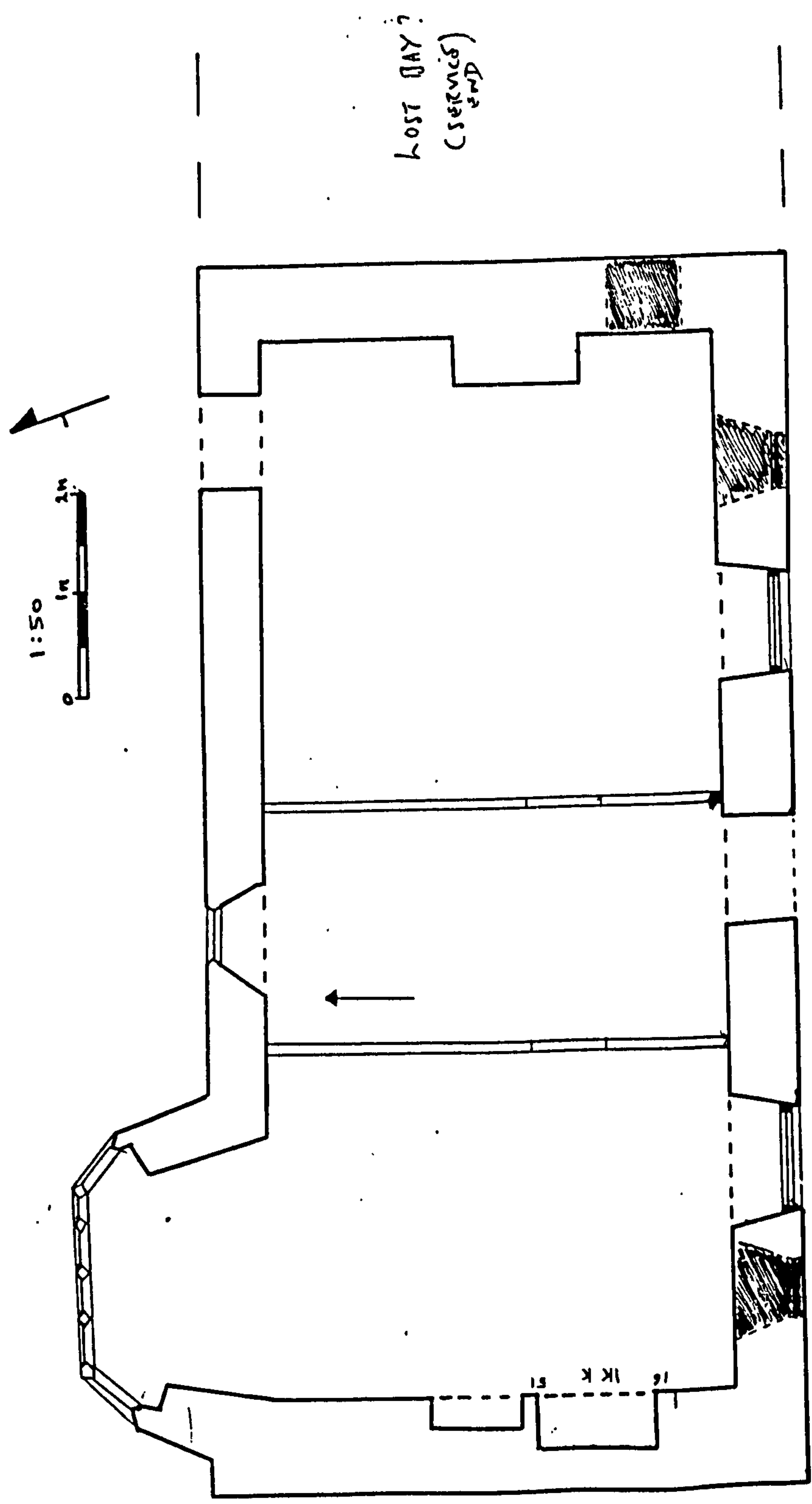


4 East Oakley House, West Auckland

Early 17C stone-rubble farmhouse, probably with cross-passage originally, standing at end of East Green. Altered 19C (present roof, south windows and eastern end rebuilt) West gable retains 17C moulded coping and kneelers. Two-storey gabled canted mullioned bay window with one-four-one lights on each floor. Two small blocked 17C? apertures on south elevation. Floor level of house raised; cobbled floor (probably from use as a stable) extant about 0.5m. below present boarded floor. Four-centred arch parlour fireplace inscribed 16 IKK 3(?)1, in ground floor room lit by bay window. The fireplace and bay window indicate this was the higher status end of the house, presumably the parlour. Bay window comparable to High Shipley House (NYCVBSG 948) and Whitfield Place, Wolsingham. Opposite, across East Green, stood another early 17C farmhouse (demolished) with three storey porch (like West Auckland Old Hall, but sharing angled windows of East Oakley House bay window).

4.1 East Oakley House

Ground Plan



4.2 East Oakley House

Parlour-end window

Inscribed parlour fireplace



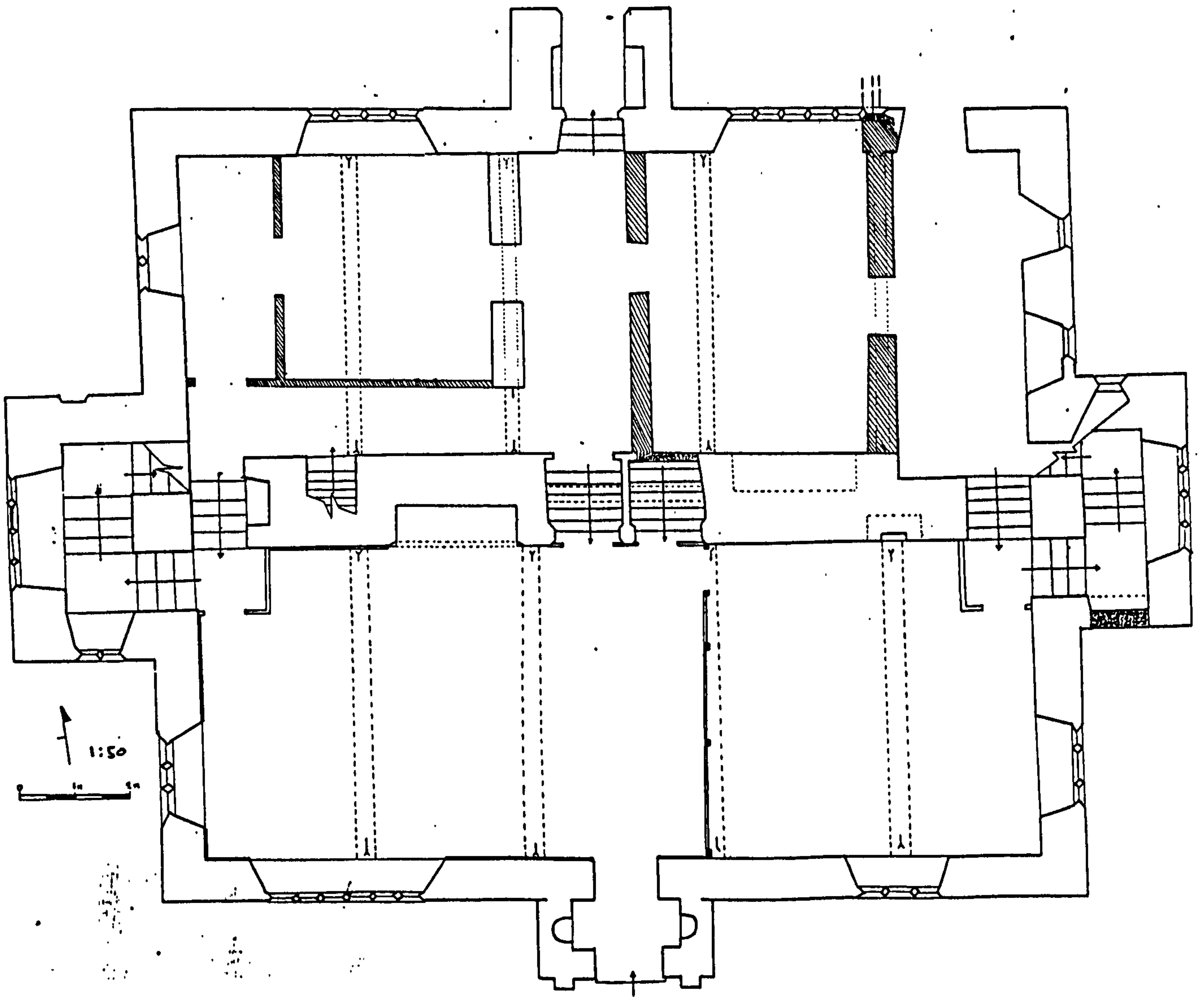
5 Gainford Hall, Gainford

Gainford Hall built *c.*1600 on a cleared site, by Rev. John Cradock (Vicar of Gainford 1594; d.1627) on western edge of Gainford but facing away from village (towards Darlington to Barnard Castle road, north, and visible from churchyard). Coarsed rubble with dressed quions to all corners. Compact double-pile plan, with projecting stair and porch turrets forming a cross. Both ranges and all projections, coped gables with finials. Hall and parlour to south, with lower level kitchen and offices to north (reflecting status division) with chimneys all within central wall. Cellars below hall and parlour, accessed from offices. Great chamber over hall; bed chambers over parlour and service. Third floor, with access to leads, intended as a gallery, glazed but never completed internally. Arms, 'John Cradock 1600' on shield (flanked by pilasters) above first floor window, north porch.⁴ Larger south porch (to hall) with 'Renaissance' surround: semi-circular arch, fluted pilasters and triglyph frieze (thrice intialled JC) with carved geometric decoration. Early 17C panelling to hall and parlour; plaster frieze of foliage above around hall. Four-centred arch hall fireplace. Minor 19C alterations: fireplaces replaced, walls inserted in service range and sub-dividing first floor great chamber. Roof of stone-slates and pantile.

⁴Whittaker 1975: 21 claims initials 'IC MC BC' also present on north porch; 'JC JC JC' shown on Billings 1845 engraving of south porch.

5.1 Gainford Hall

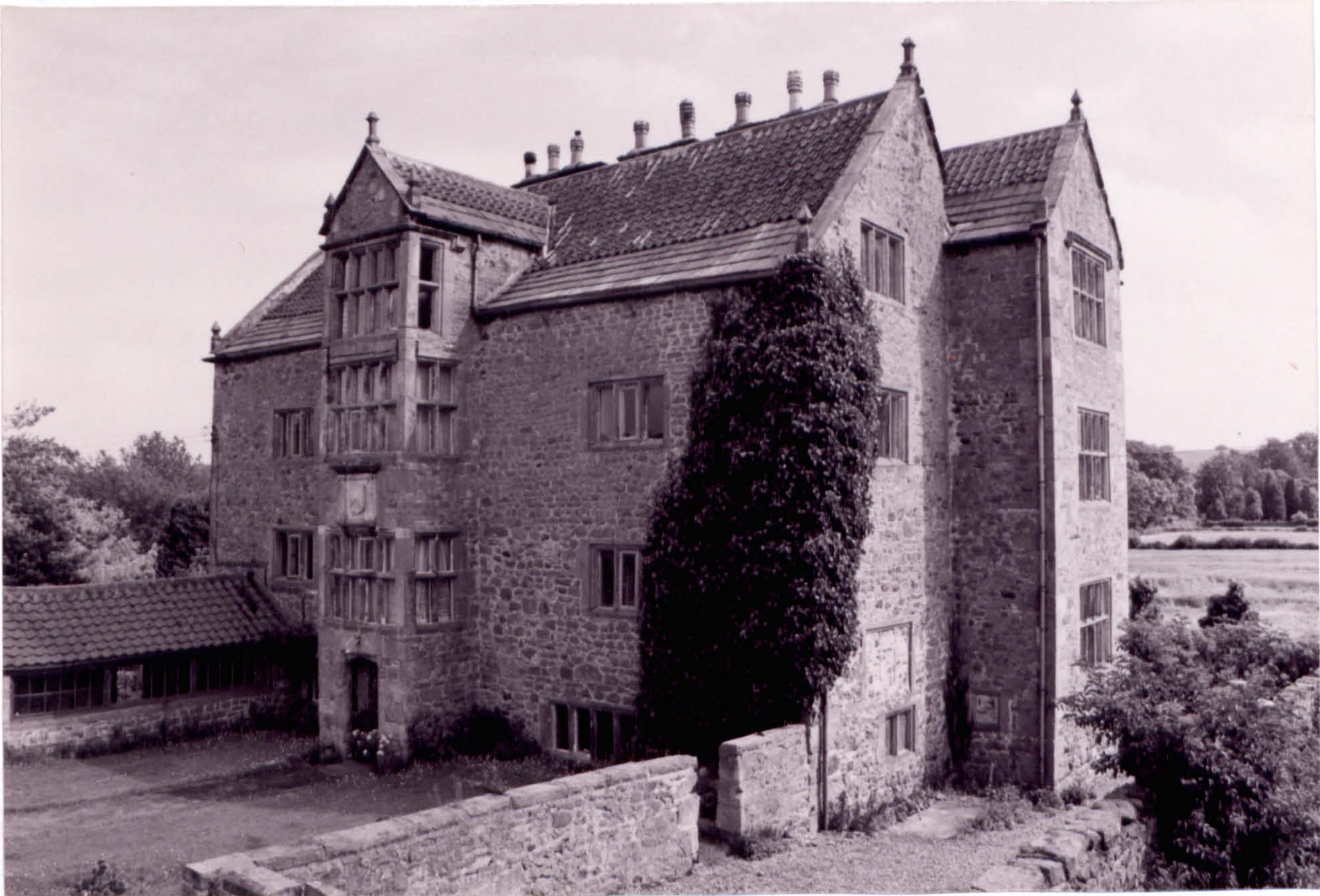
Ground plan



5.2 Gainford Hall

from the north (service side)

from the south (hall side)

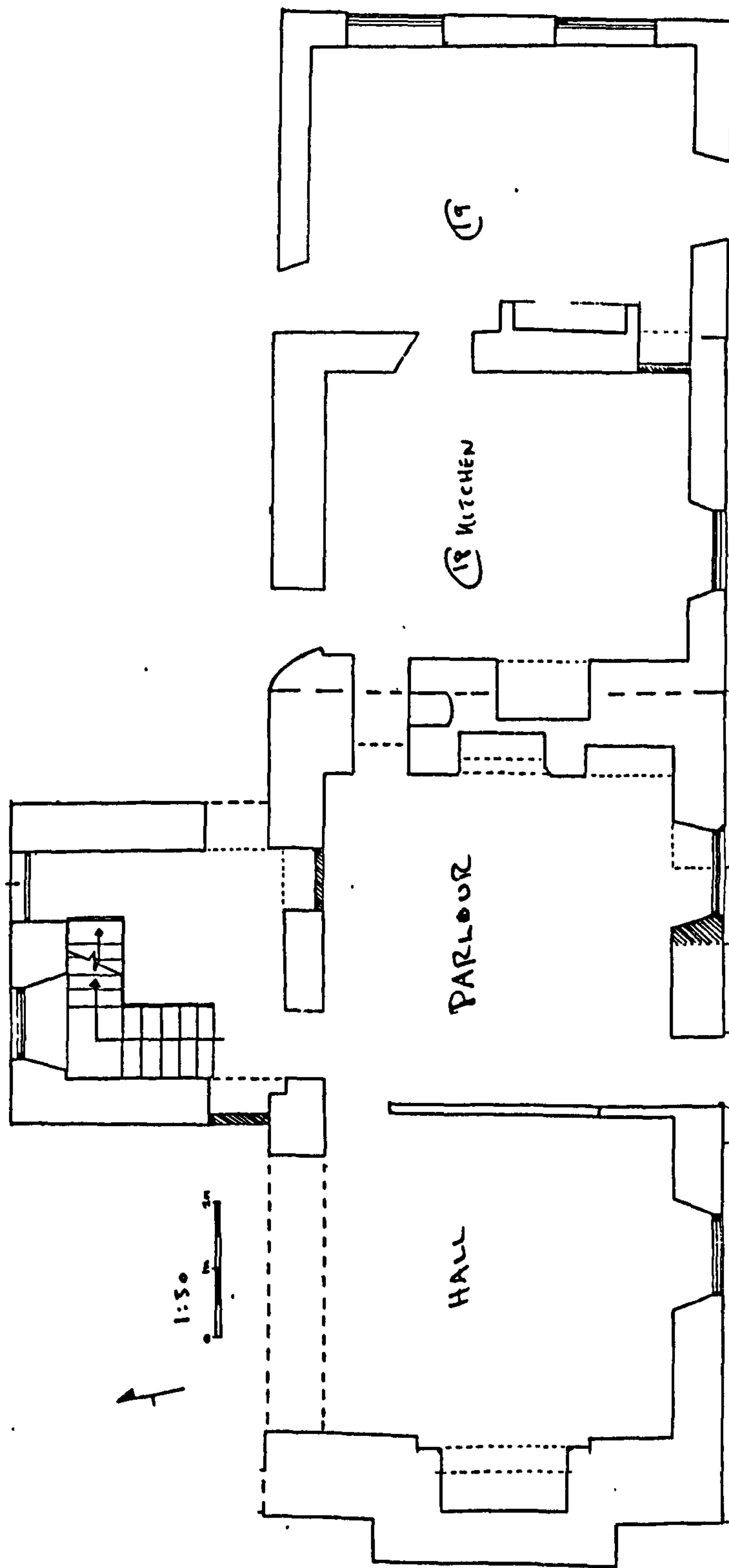


6 Great Chilton Farm, Great Chilton

Located behind Great Chilton Hall (now 18C & 19C); together, the only remainders of depopulated village. Perhaps occupied by a steward of Great Chilton Hall; in any case, an example of a larger mid-late 17C farmhouse. 17C hall and parlour house of two and a half storeys, with projecting stair turret (stair now 19C). 18C kitchen to east rebuild of 17C kitchen/services. 19C additions to either side of stair turret. Coped gables with kneelers. External stepped stack to hall (west). Inside, mid-late 17C hall and parlour four-centred arched fireplaces. Mid-late 17C upper cruck roof. In 1674 Hearth Tax, Great and Little Chilton, 24 exempt and 18 charged households: 1666 Hearth Tax, only Lodowick Hall (Great Chilton Hall) with 8 hearths and Lawrence Bracke (Great Chilton Farm?) with 7, had over 3 hearths. Maximum of six hearths accounted for in existing 17C house plus another in rebuilt kitchen range.

6.1 Great Chilton Farm

Ground plan (20C additions not shown)



6.2 Great Chilton Farm

from the south (note stepped stacks)

from the north (note stair turret)



6.3 Great Chilton Farm

Hall fireplace

Parlour fireplace

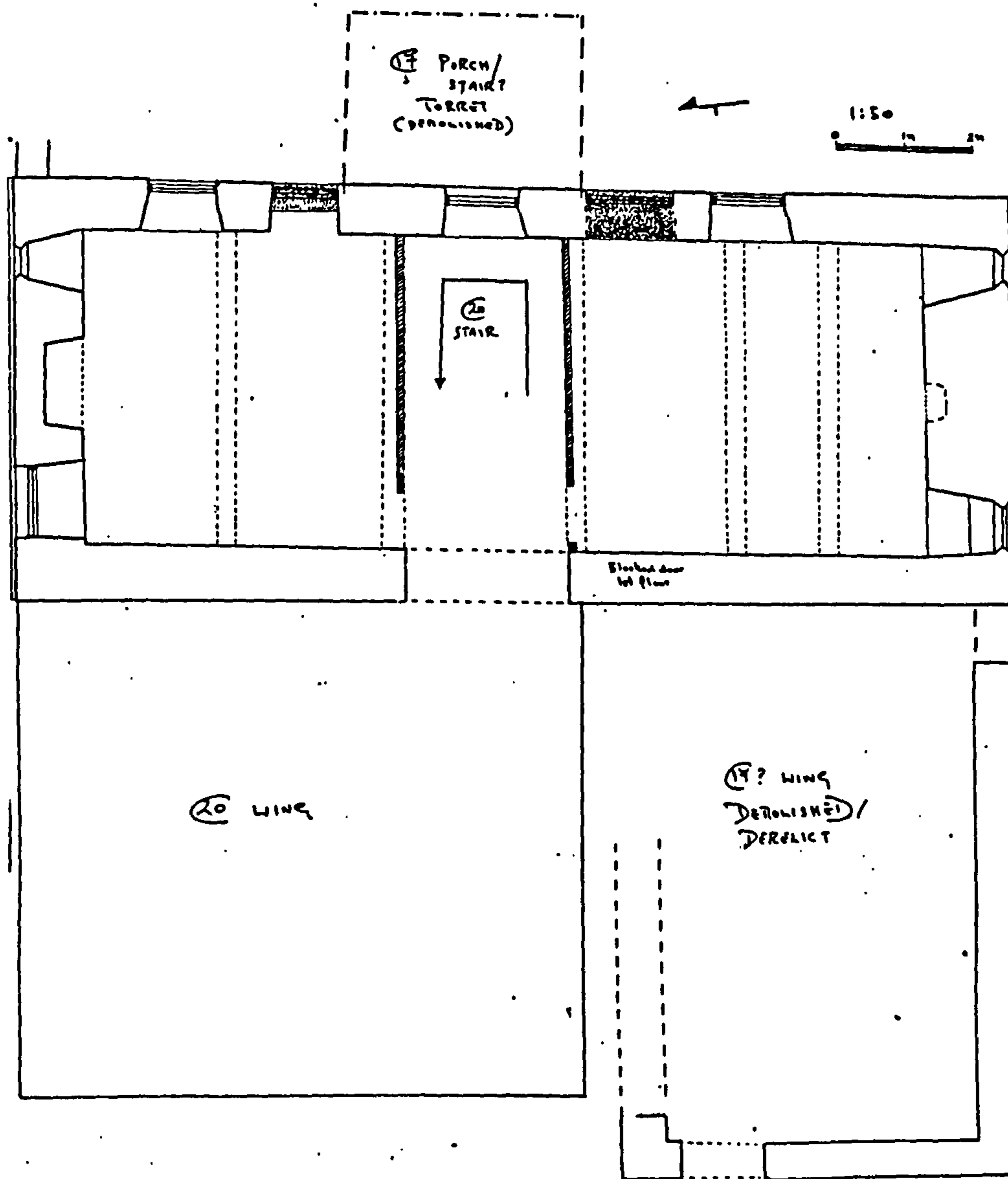


7 The Hermitage, Sunderland Bridge

Standing at the eastern edge of the settlement, with views of Croxdale park and Durham Cathedral tower, to north. Only a part of mid-late 17C house survived 20C alteration. Two rooms (hall and parlour?), two and a half storeys (chambers and garrets), with evidence of demolished projecting porch/stair turret. Remnants of rear wing survive as garden walls; 20C rear range (reusing 18C door surround) may or may not be a rebuilding of earlier structure. Mid-late 17C roof; five adzed upper crucks of heavy scantling (compare Slashpool Farm, Hett; Tudhoe Hall; Great Chilton Hall). Windows to front replaced with sashes; 17C windows survive to sides. Late 17C or 18C gazebo situated diagonally away from house, against road (compare Ramshaw Hall).

7.1 The Hermitage

Ground plan

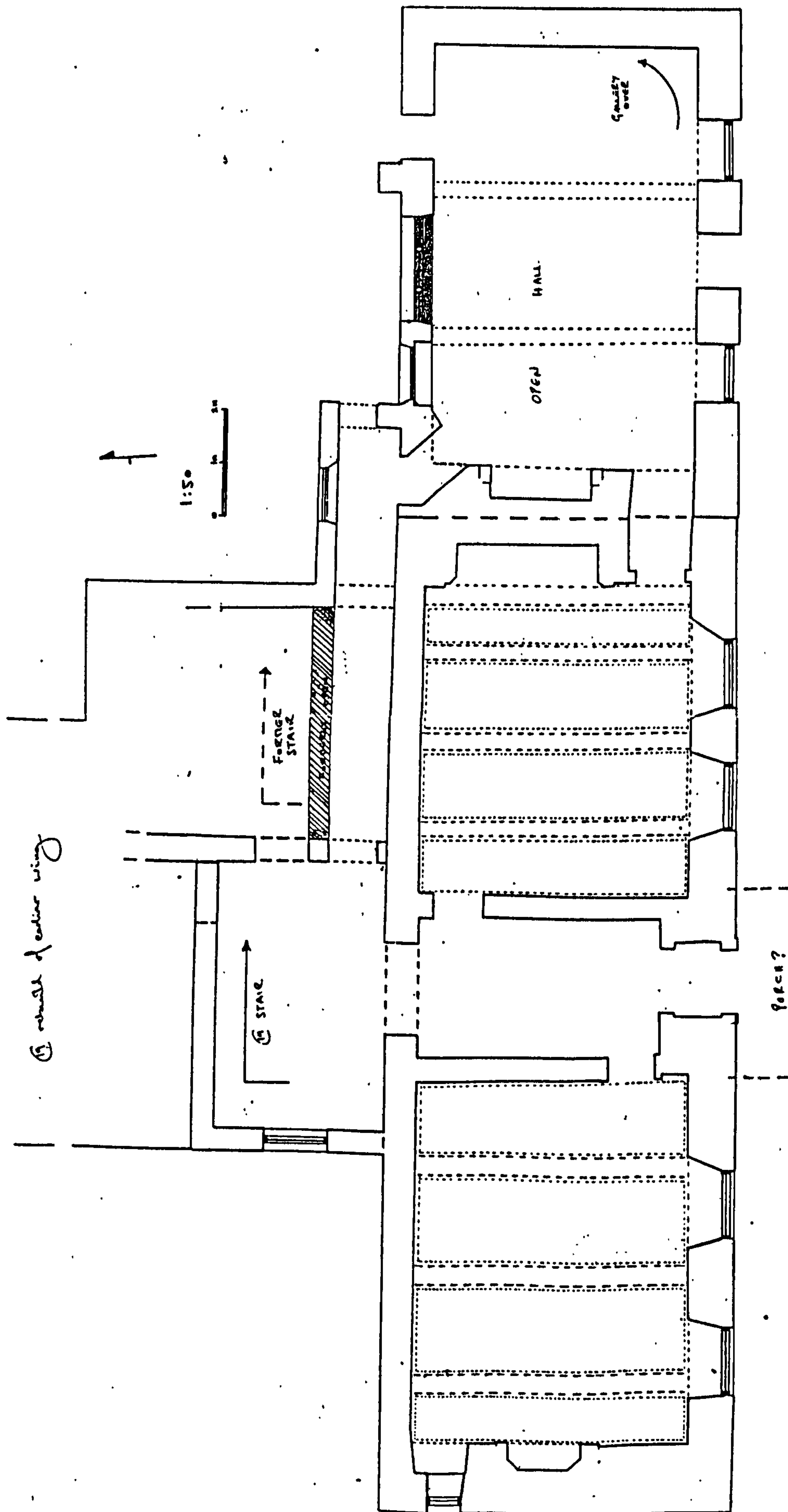


8 Holywell Hall, Brancepeth

Part of a small group of houses, away from nucleated settlement, in Brancepeth parish. Surviving fifteenth century open hall with remains of raised upper cruck roof; unclear whether ceiling inserted; large full height window on east wall (blocked 1920s) suggests not, but evidence for a gallery at north end. Abutted by 17C range to south, heightened to three storeys early 18C (later 18C sash windows, doorcase and fireplace). Wing to west, rebuilt 19C. Large 17C kitchen fireplace in room next to hall, suggests hall used for dining. Late 17C four centred arched fireplace in hall (ex situ?). Mid-late 17C stables to north, doorways with four-centred heads and oiel-de-beouf windows over (compare Crook Hall, Durham, and Houghton Hall).

8.1 Holywell Hall

Ground plan



8.2 Holywell Hall

from the south (note Georgianisation of seventeenth century facade)

west gable-end (a typical two-and-a-half storey single-pile silhouette)



9 Horden Hall, Horden⁵

Stands alone, between Easington and the North Sea. Rebuilt c.1600, incorporating earlier fabric, for Christopher Conyers d.1608. Usually compared to Gainford Hall, but porch parallels Gibside Hall (c.1603-20)⁶ and plan closer to Quarry Hill House, Brancepeth. Symmetrical facade with mullion and transom windows, continuous strings instead of individual hood moulds. Projecting two storey porch, with seven light window to first floor. Classical decoration to porch. Projecting stair tower to rear, also incorporating service room on ground floor. Inside, hall to west and parlour to east,⁷ with service in wing to north. Second floor chambers, with large window bay over porch. Elaborate 1660s? staircase (upper flight only in situ), with pierced carved panels depicting foliage and allegorical figures, connected the house at three levels: hall, first floor chambers, and second floor gallery (occupying whole of main range, with large windows at gable ends looking east to North Sea and west to Easington village and church). Stair comparable to West Auckland Manor House and The Castle, Durham. c.1600 oak panelling and elaborate chimneypiece in parlour removed to Castle Eden after mid 19C.

Evidence for earlier 15C? structure includes large fireplace in cellar with stack extending to three stories (with blocked fireplace opening visible externally (to north) at what was first floor level). Quioned straight joints also indicate earlier building of three stories, (perhaps with kitchen fireplace remaining in cellar, and first floor hall and chambers on second floor) in a block extending to north demolished in c.1600 or before. Current cellar contemporary with c.1600 house, constructed around the earlier stack (still retaining flue). Curved passage between kitchen and screens-passage of hall, likely the space of stair in previous house.

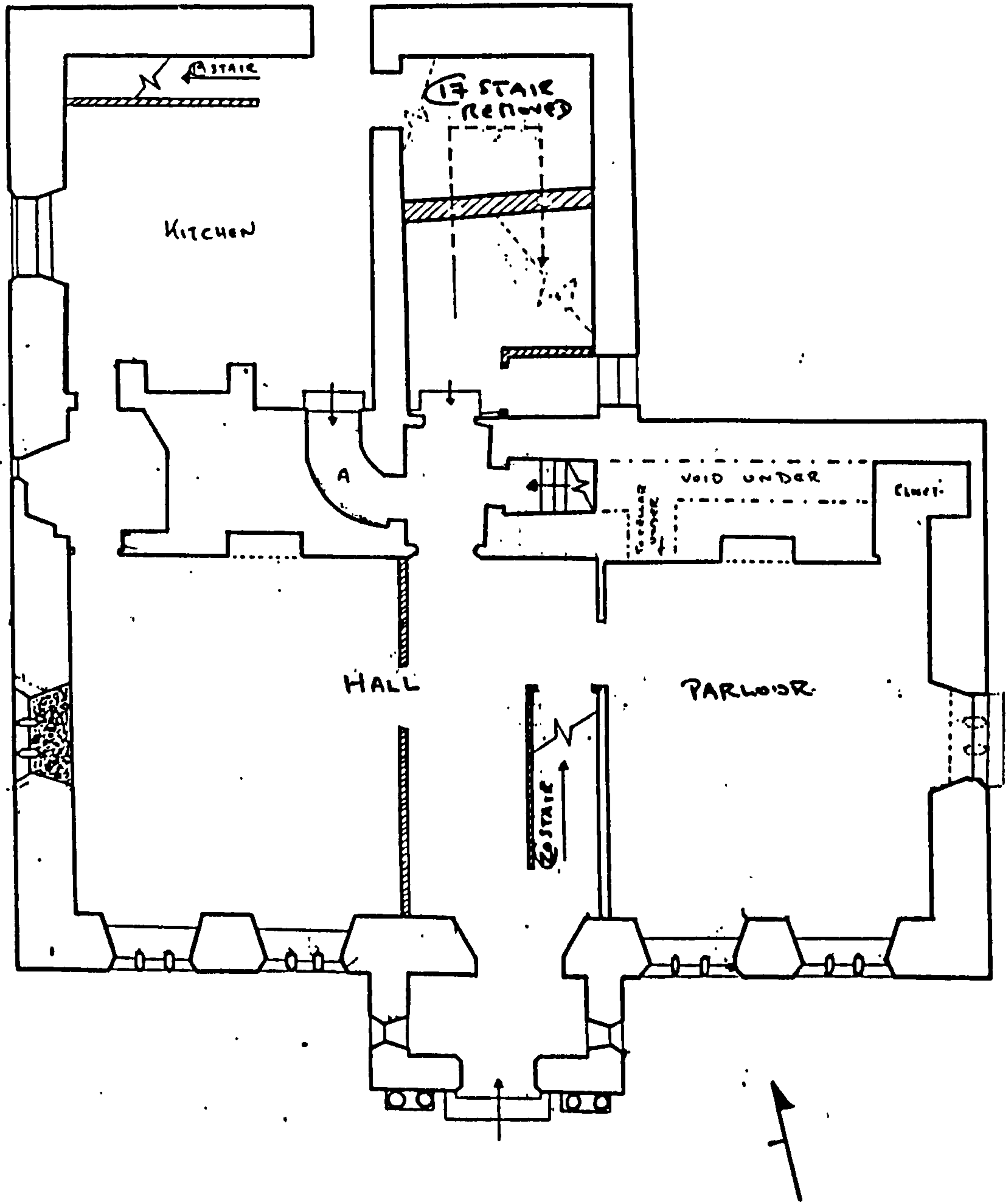
⁵plan adapted from Robson 1974-6: 1-27, xii.

⁶also Anderson Place, Newcastle (c.1600? infilling 1580 H-plan; demolished), see 1702 engraving in Ayris 1997: 30.

⁷This is indicated by proximity of hall (the larger room, with larger fireplace) to services; the known overmantel and closet are also more fitting for a parlour than hall. Robson 1974-6, thought the hall and parlour were in the reverse location.

9.1 Horden Hall

Ground plan (not to scale)



9.2 Horden Hall

from the south (note classical porch with generously windowed room over)

from the north (showing irregularities from earlier house on main range)

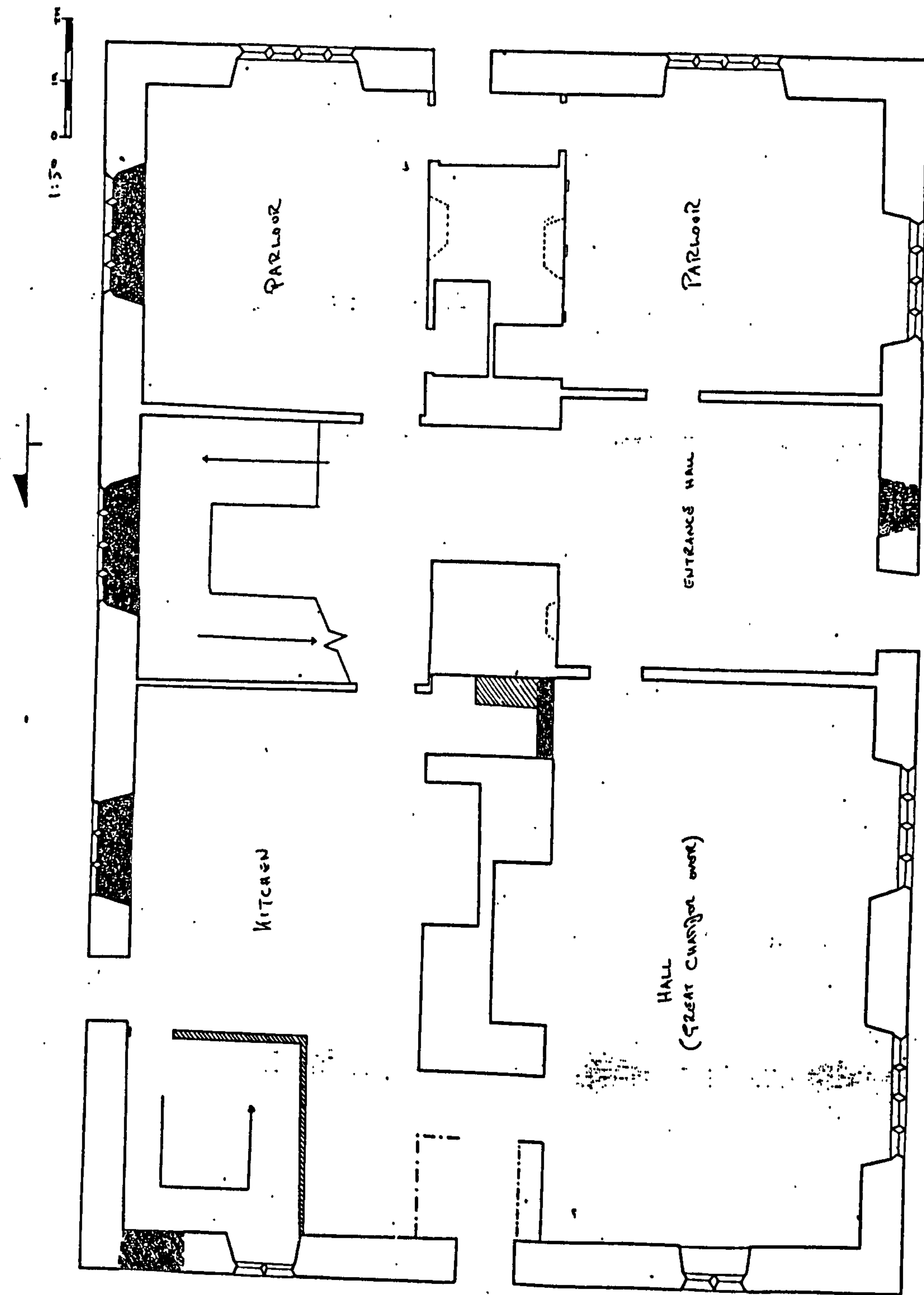


10 Houghton Hall, Houghton-le-Spring

Standing close to the centre of Houghton-le-Spring, built by Rev. Robert Hutton, Rector 1589-1623. A rectangular stone house (double-pile; compact plan) with large four (ground floor) or three-light (upper floors) mullioned windows, regularly placed. Doorways with steep pedimental hood moulds enclosing elliptical 'bulls eye' windows over. (Compare later 17C oiel-de-beouf windows on Holywell Hall stables and Crook Hall near Durham). Little altered externally, although parapet may be later/replaced. Very shallow-pitched roof, with generous leads. Inside, large hall and parlour in west range, either side of entrance vestibule. Stair beyond entrance, with further parlour in south west corner (inter-communicating to front parlour, with external access between). Kitchen and services to rear of hall, with external entrances (to north, an insertion now blocked, and east) and secondary 19C well stair in north east corner, originally no second stair (unless current 19C stair a replacement of 17C) - compact plan affords access from kitchen/service to main stair. First floor great chamber over hall and gallery running entire length of west range on second floor. Bedchambers otherwise; servant accommodation unclear. No cellars known.

10.1 Houghton Hall

Ground plan



10.2 Houghton Hall

from the west, main entrance front

triangular pedimented doorcase on south front, with access to parlours



11 Littleburn Farmhouse, Meadowfield⁸

Away from nucleated settlement, possibly on a moated site. An idiosyncratic L-shape plan, clearly a product of successive rebuilding. Fabric (especially heavily chamfered door surrounds) from a 16C house survives recycled in outbuildings adjacent to the present 17C and 18C house. Main 17C range has hall and parlour, divided by an early 18C stair. Upstairs, early 18C panelling contiguous with stair, replacing earlier 17C small-field panelling. In the main chambers 17C and early 18C panelling co-exist in the same room. Main range refaced and refenestrated in late 18C, replacing 17C mullions (one survives). Service range to rear, includes kitchen, but much rebuilt. Some evidence to suggest the western part of the main range and service wing are later (no plinth west of front entrance and ground floor walls narrower); but probably represents a more thoroughgoing 17C rebuild replacing an earlier structure and presumably perpetuating the angled west gable-end wall corresponding to the alignment of the service wing. The parallelogram in plan is not so readily apparent internally, and may be a product of a property boundary. 17C/18C farmbuildings extend away from north service range, with triangular vents and threshing doors to barn, with horse-powered 'GinGang' beyond.

⁸plans and photographs not reproduced at owners request.

12 Low Harperley Hall, Weardale

Isolated position at eastern limit of Weardale; settled during 12C improvements to land cleared from forest of Weardale.⁹ Late 16C U-plan. Late 16C windows (centre and east wing), of two or four lights. Four light to first floor great chamber on north side; two light to hall below; representing the status of these rooms to the outside. Other windows, larger lights, plain-mullioned without hoodmoulds, probably renewed in mid 19C. Hall (now sub-divided by inserted wall) occupied whole of east cross-wing (with very large 14C? fireplace implying a large household of considerable status). Shouldered arch doorways diagonally opposed in corners of hall, also 13C/early14C. Great Chamber over hall, 16C small field oak panelling inside with pedimented door with wooden latch mechanism and elaborate hinges; now erected as partitions in this chamber (clearly moved and crudely cut to meet ceiling). Parlour fireplace later (17C or 18C). Original main stair removed and current 20C stair rises in reverse direction to predecessor (creating bathroom out of the landing space).

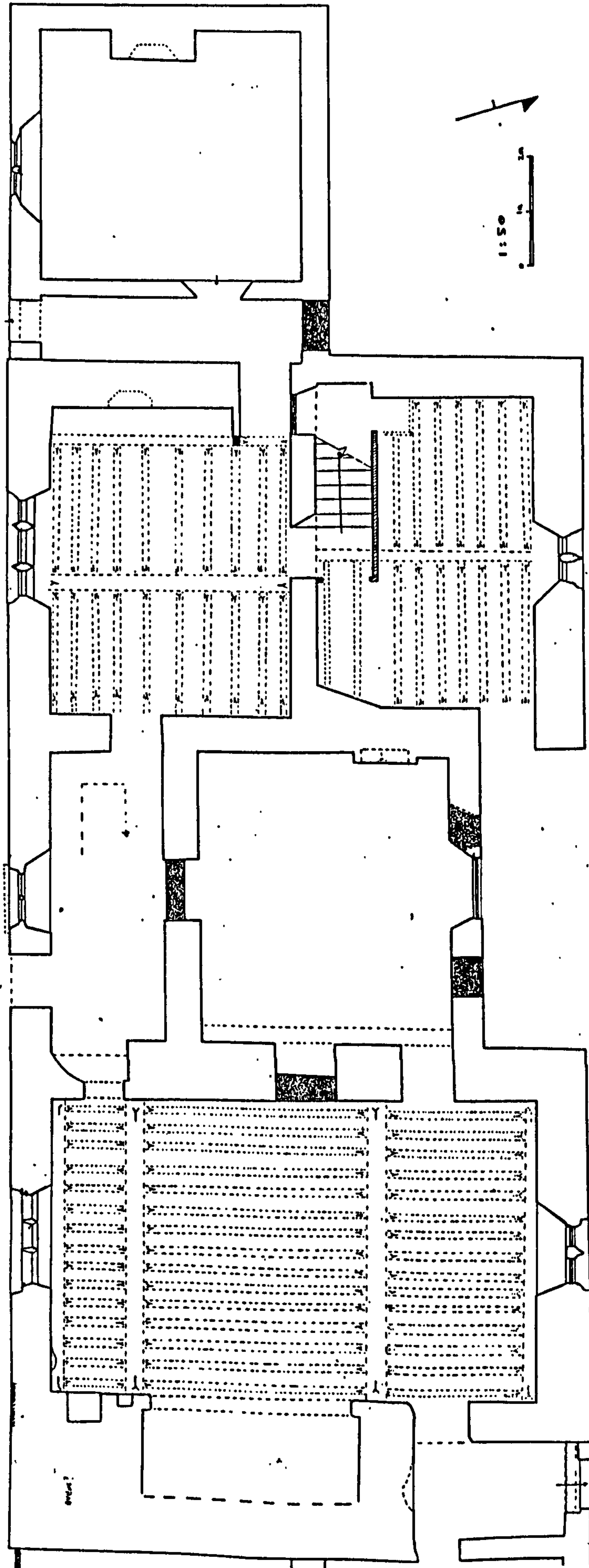
Additional 18C? projecting wings to east and west. West wing lacks any early windows, floor level higher, and door to parlour off stair appears inserted; has a different roof construction, and the roof is slightly raised externally to the rear, on line of interior gable wall to west wing. Above parlour window (south front) are 18C? arms of Earls of Chester; stone plaque with shield in relief. To the far east a lower wing with an (early 18C?) four-centred doorway, inscribed 1765. Wall construction here has 'projecting throughs'.¹⁰ Rebuilding of eastern outshuts involves no straight joint on north front to large medieval hall chimney stack. On far west wing a second 1760s date stone. The separate entrance and cross passage of this addition, and its relationship to the parlour and stair off, suggests already a farmhouse, occupied by two households or provision for elderly relatives. Certainly a farmhouse by 1790s when New Harperley Hall built 1790s uphill.

⁹Bowes 1990: 16.

¹⁰stones projecting irregularly from face of wall; a feature present in County Durham and Yorkshire.

12.1 Low Harperley Hall

Ground plan



12.2 Low Harperley Hall

from the north

from the south



13 Newfield Farmhouse, Newfield

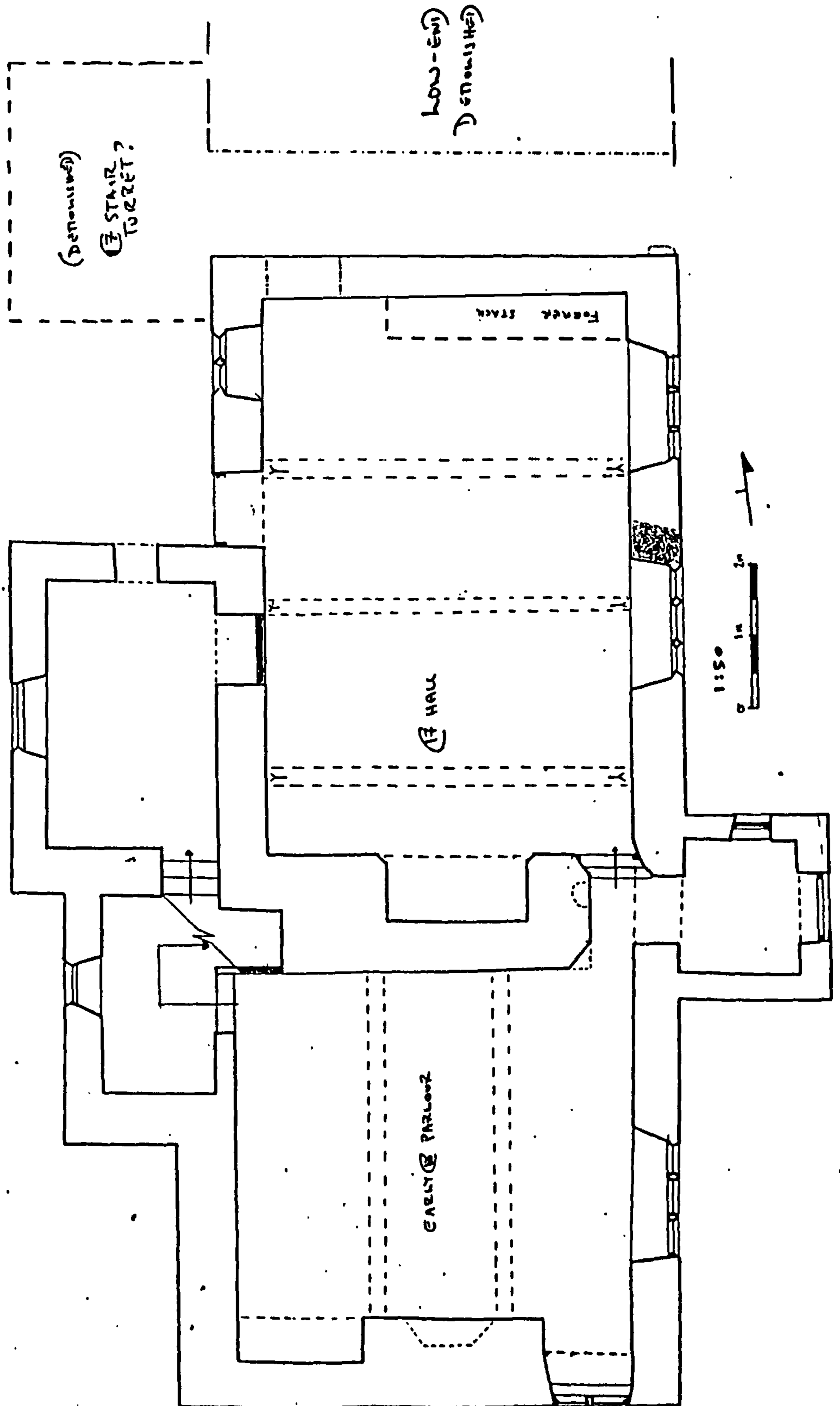
Newfield farmhouse, two miles north of Bishop Auckland. Now in the centre of Newfield village. 'Manor house' status ascribed to size rather than documentation; probably always a farmhouse. Early 17C house, eastern part, (beyond cross-passage?), demolished 20C; spring of door arch (to cross-passage?) remains on south-east corner. Early 17C large arched hall fireplace. House raised later 17C. Extended to west early 18C, with addition of parlour, stair turret and porch (sundial on porch has weathered date in Roman numerals). Three-light mullioned windows throughout, except for one four light mullion lighting chimney end of hall (fourth light now blocked by a later wall insertion). Early 18C west wing mullioned windows taller and symmetrically placed (but no casements or sash windows in early 18C or later). Function of long narrow opening into edge of stack unclear (also present at West Auckland Old Hall, West Auckland Manor House and Great Chilton Hall). Hall stack stepped externally, incorporated into early 18C extension.

13.1 Newfield Farm from the south



13.2 Newfield Farm

Ground plan



14 New House, Ireshopeburn¹¹

New House, Ireshopeburn, on hill-side overlooking river and main road, rebuilding of originally dispersed farmstead settlement (previously called Shorthorns), on bishop's estate. Rebuilt late 17C, two and a half storeys, with late 17C well stair (often compared to Bessie Surtees House, Newcastle). Mullion and transom windows survive, forming symmetrical facade to south front. Two projecting stair turrets; of differing size reflecting status of principal and service stair. Quality of late 17C stylistic detail, thought to be surprising in an upland location, but difficult to interpret all this detail as very far beyond 1700. Emmersons documented bishops tenants in late 17C, transferring to Blacketts before 1729. Internal alterations in early 18C for Blacketts, lead mine owners; panelling and corner cupboard survive in parlour at west end. Service to east end.

¹¹I am grateful to John Backhouse for showing me details of New House's documentation; illustrated in Featherstone 1840: facing 26; NEVAG plans in preparation.

14.1 New House**from the south, entrance front****from the north, showing stair turrets to rear**

15 Old Bank House, Wolsingham

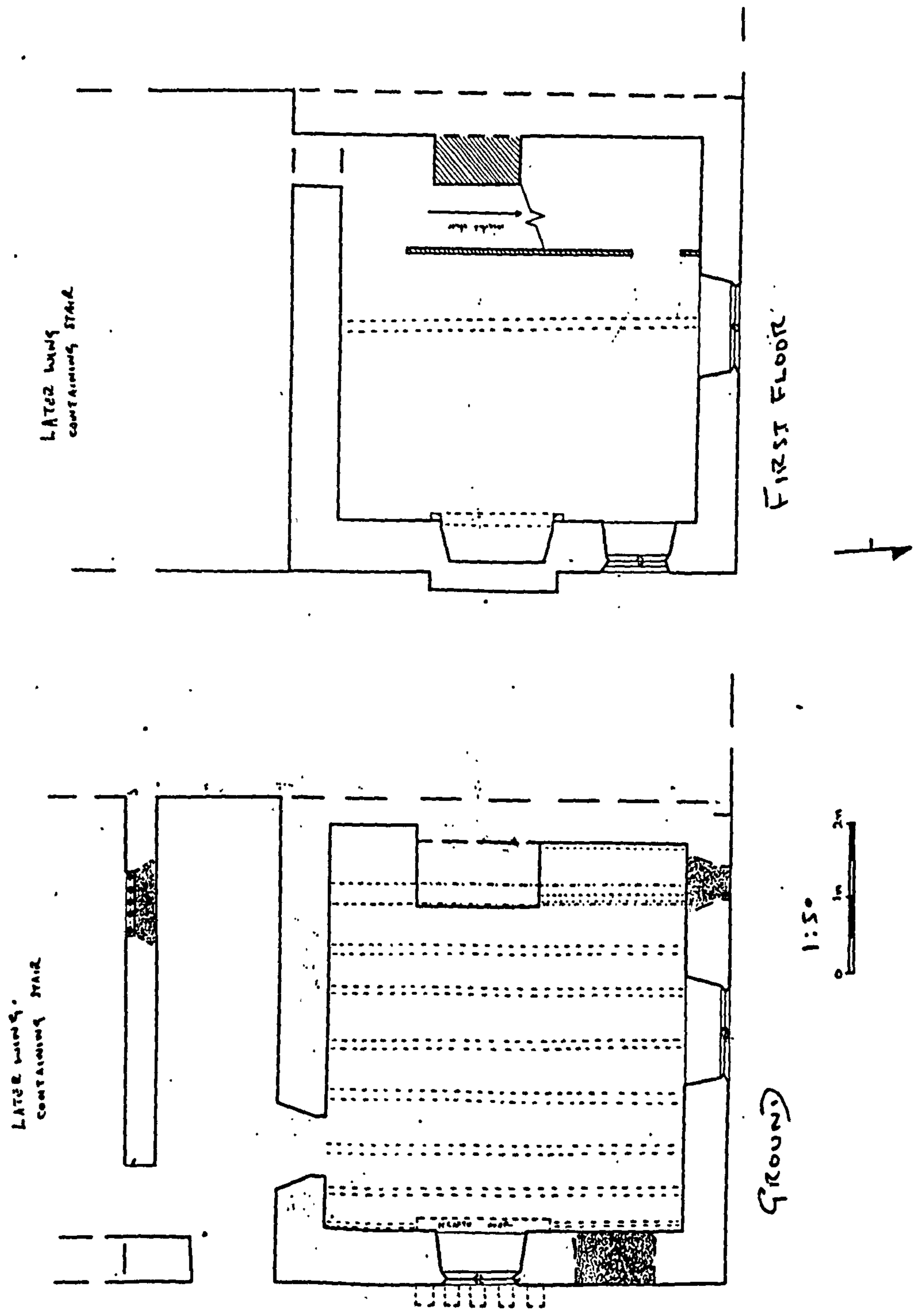
Located at western end of Wolsingham Market Place, against main road towards Stanhope. Small early 17C (or 16C?) house, one and a half bays survive intact, with ground floor room presumably for commercial use (19C chimney stack inserted), plus narrower room to south, possibly service. First floor living room over, with early 17C (or 16C?) corbelled projecting chimney stack, and late 17C slender four-centred arched (ex situ?) fireplace inside. Off-set external straight joint to property to west, representing separate (later) rebuilding of neighbouring house. Later range to south, perhaps replacing earlier services. However, 16C/17C wooden mullion window survives in situ between these ranges. Possibly, if adjoining property ever held together with this house, blocked doors next to 19C stack in south west corner of ground floor room and at end of outshut.

15.1 Old Bank House from the market place



15.2 Old Bank House

Ground & First Floor plan



16 Quarry Hill House, Brancepeth¹²

Quarry Hill House, situated alone, facing south down the (Roman?) road to Brancepeth village. Closely related stylistically to Gainford and Horden Hall. Originally a cruciform plan, with projecting three storey porch turret to the front, and stair wing to the rear. Porch similar to secondary porch at Gainford, and a precedent for later porch at West Auckland Old Hall. Stair wing arrangement similar to Horden Hall. Appears to be of a single build, although an earlier house on the site is recorded in Homberstone's Survey 1570. As stands, '1590s' but perhaps slightly later. Hall and parlour in main range (as at Horden) between stair and porch projections, with service presumably in wing to north, successively rebuilt and extended in 18C and 19C. Also 19C additions to main range.

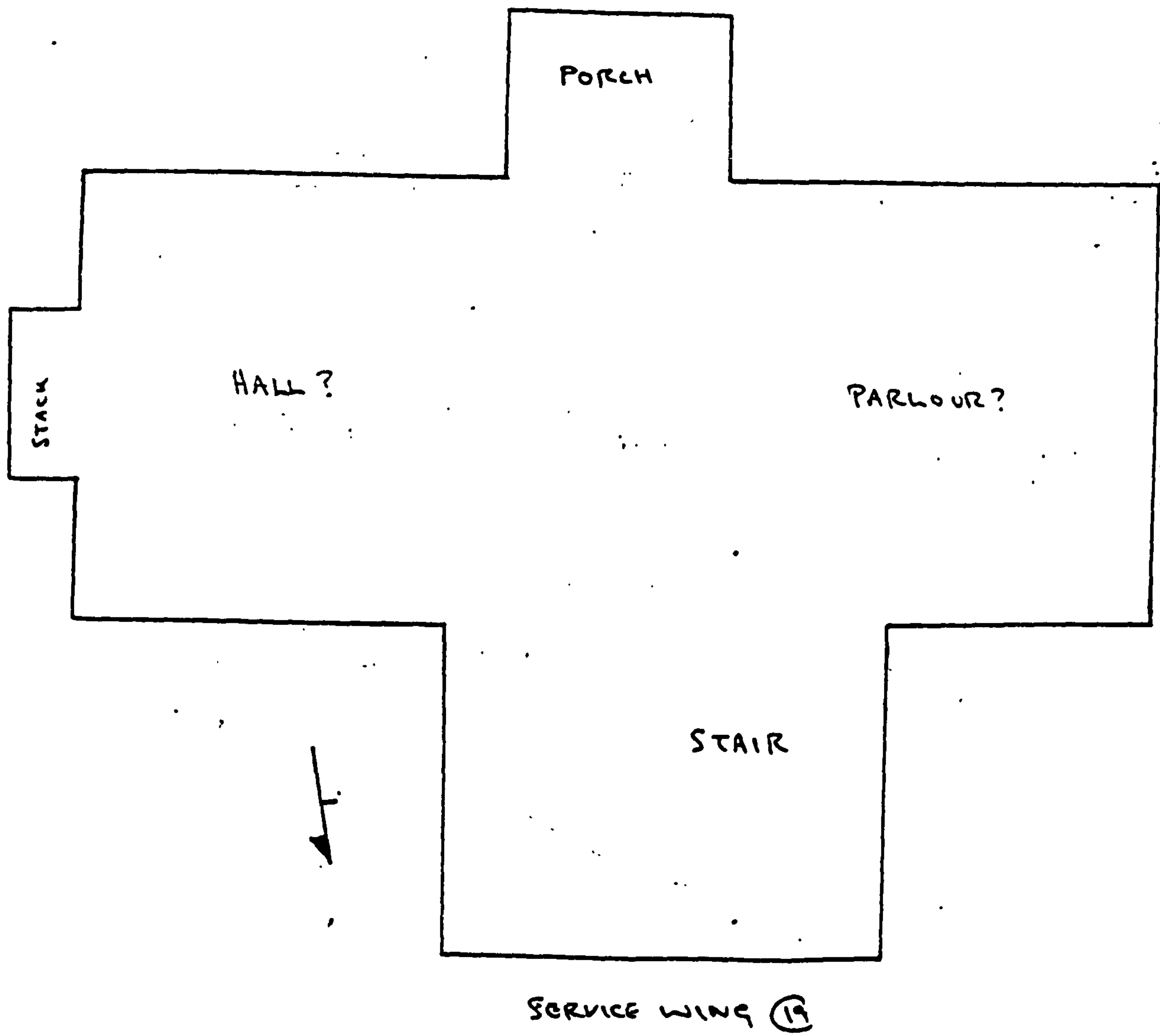
16.1 Quarry Hill House from the south



¹²Access denied to interior; inspected externally and sketch plan deduced accordingly.

16.2 Quarry Hill House

Sketch plan (not to scale)

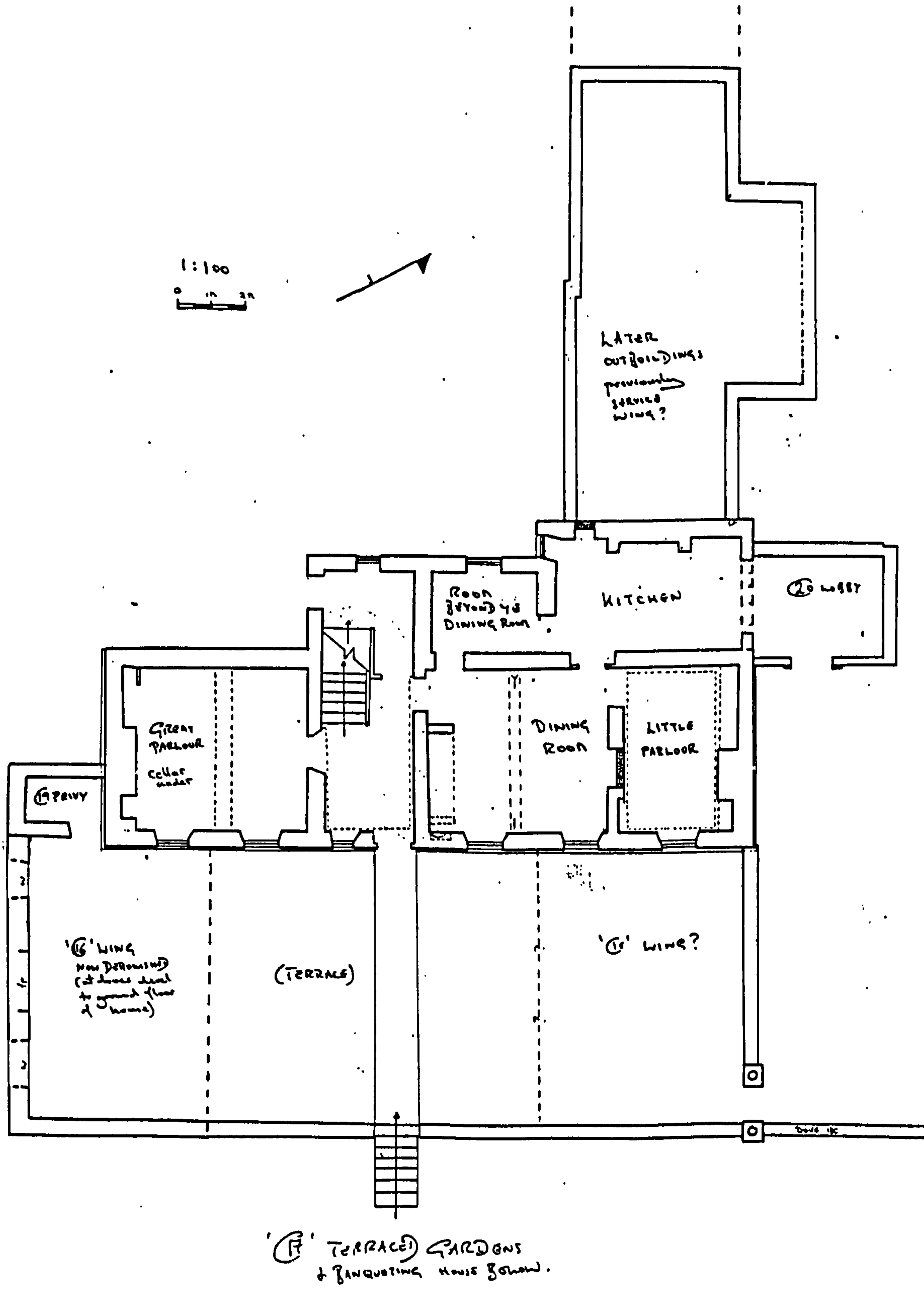


17 Ramshaw Hall, Evenwood

In an isolated location, rebuilt c.1650 by Anthony Pearson. The previous house was larger: George Dixon's inventory 1630/1 records Hall, Parlour, Buttery, Kitchen, Milk House, Barn and about the house, Wool? Chamber, Kitchen Chamber, Great Chamber over the Hall, Chamber over the Parlour, Buttery Chamber, the Highest Chamber over the Parlour, the Highest Chamber over the Butterie, the Gallery over the Great Chamber, the Highest Chamber over the Kitchen, and the Highest Chamber over the Milk House. In 1630 clearly of 3-floors, perhaps late 16C H or U-plan given evidence in terrace for two projecting wings from existing linear range. Fire may have necessitated mid 17C rebuilding. Main facade now seven slightly irregular bays with rusticated quions and bracketed doorhood. Gatepiers with ball finials contemporary with facade, and garden walls (with inscribed dove), originally with wooden palisades above. Parlour (cellar under), 17C small-field panelling (18C? shell niche inside cupboards). Lost wing to south east of front; owner found fireplace and windows either side with '16C' mouldings, at lower level than ground floor of current house. Dog-leg stair, oak handrail, balusters and newels (turned, larger versions of balustrades not square), not in original arrangement and may be 16C relocated. May have continued higher, but no evidence in present house for a second/attic storey. Pyramid and oblong finials from roof of earlier house now reused in 'reconstructed' garden walls (compare Gainford Hall roof finials c.1600). Rear wing presumably site of service wing but successively rebuilt. 17C terraced gardens reinstated, with square two storey banqueting house, to one corner. Hearth Tax 1666, Mrs Grace Pearson of Ramshaw with 8 hearths; in 1674 the 8 hearth house is the largest in Evenwood. 1688 inventory room names: little parlour; great parlour; roome beyond ye dining room; dineing room; kitchin Chamber; Clossett above ye little parlour; Chamber garrett & Closett; kitchin; Milkhouse; work tools in ye work house

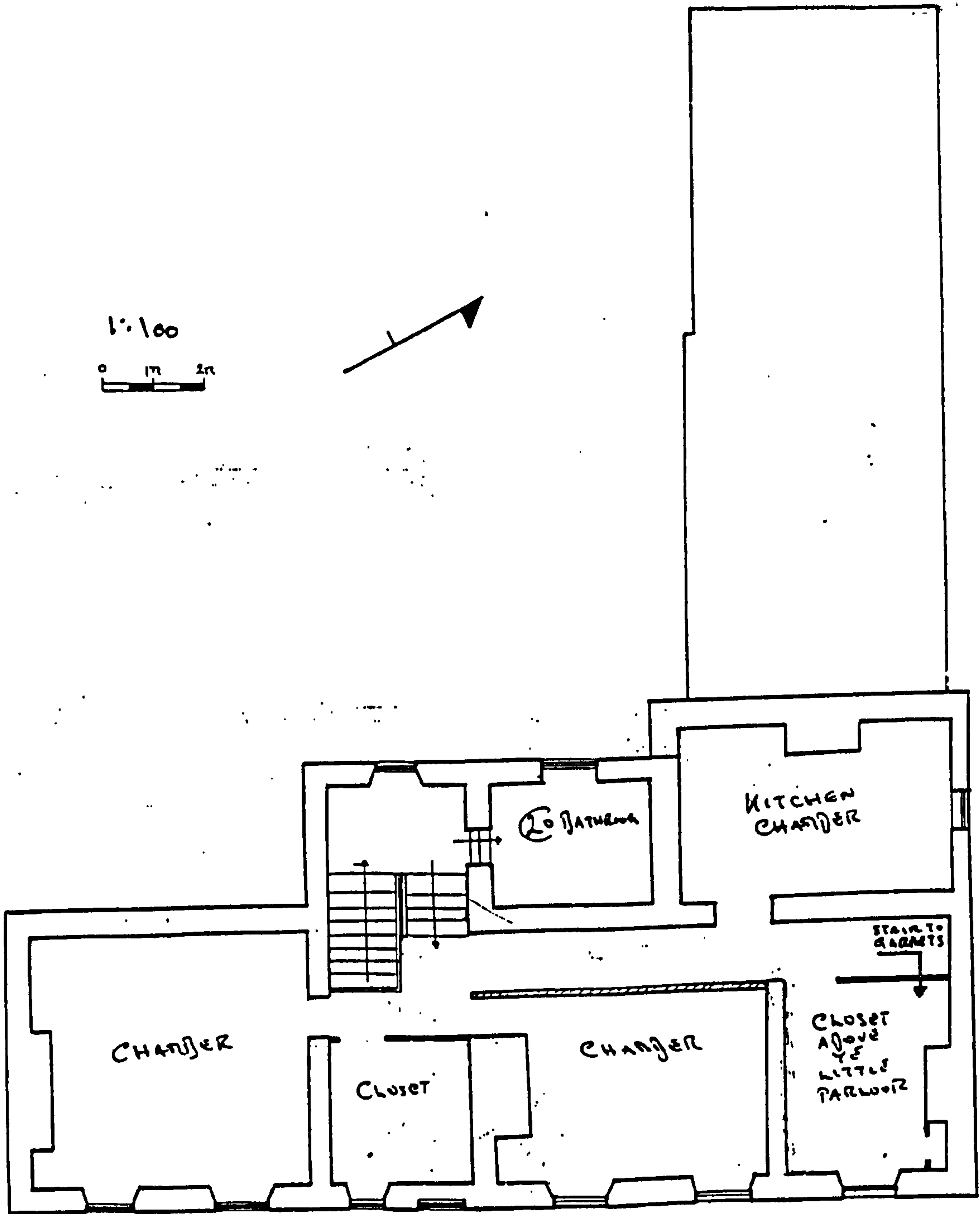
17.1 Ramshaw Hall

Ground plan (1688 room names) & environs



17.2 Ramshaw Hall

First floor plan (1688 room names)

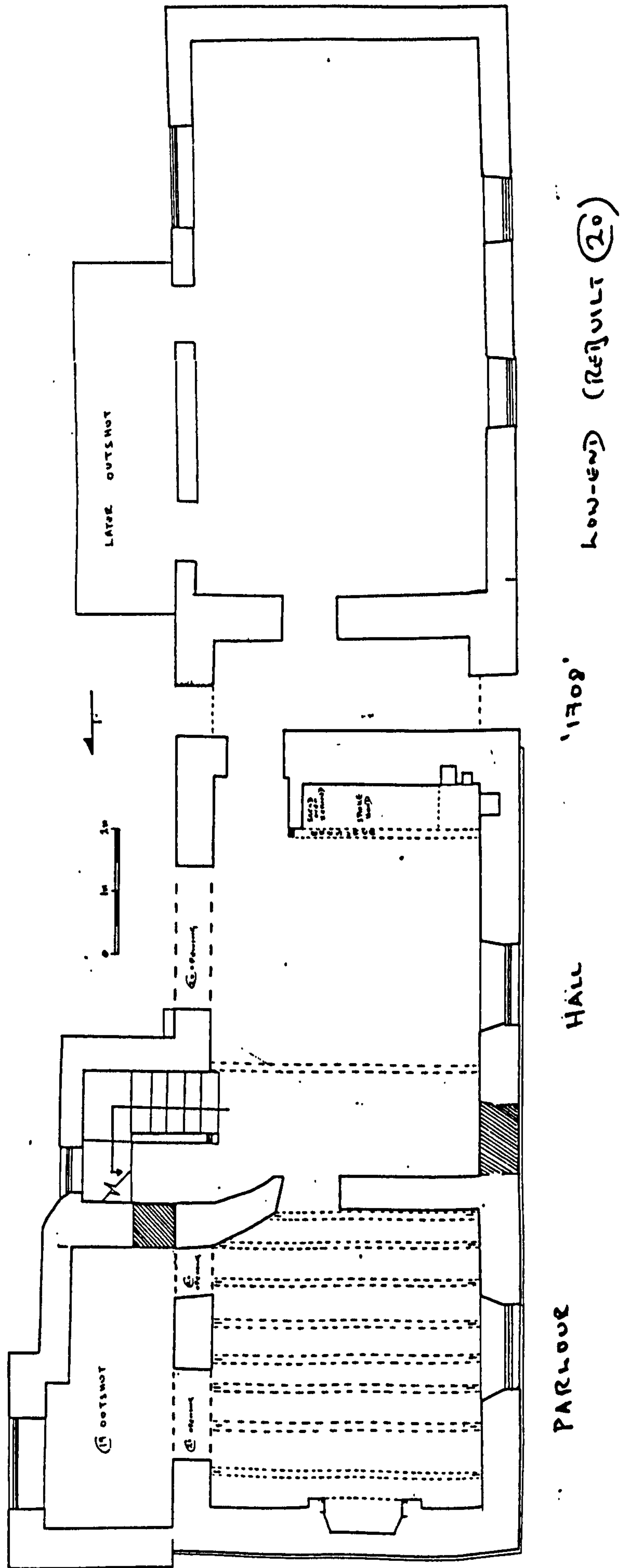


18 **Slashpool Farm, Hett**

On east side of village green, still the most prominent house in the village. 1674 Hearth Tax, 24 exempt, 15 single hearths, 3 two hearth and one 3 hearth house. No surnames in 1666 Hearth Tax correlate with 1708 IEA initials (if E is surname, as usual), implying occupants relatively new to village. In 1666, the 2 hearth houses were occupied by Jonathon Watson, Jonathon Meadburne and Ralph Adamson; 3 hearth house by Thomas Wood: one of these, probably the 3 hearth house, was Slashpool Farm. Late 17C two and a half storey hall and parlour house (raised upper cruck roof; eave line lower in earlier 17C), with projecting gabled stair turret to rear. Late 17C stair (comparable to examples in Durham City) and slender four-centred arch parlour fireplace. Small diamond shaped closet windows, in brick, to chamber over hall. Wide hall fireplace with bressumer; chimney derivative of smoke-stack. Cross-passage behind the stack, and low-end rebuilt as kitchen, 1708. Represents successive rebuilding of 16C single storey longhouse as 17C two storey hall and parlour house, raised to two and a half storeys in later 17C (with byre probably still beyond the cross-passage) and early 18C rebuilding of low-end as kitchen (and perhaps, given size, stable). Sequence of development similar to Greystone Hall, Gainford and Tudhoe Hall. Also compare late 17C form of house with Great Chilton Hall farm. Arches into parlour and tractor entrance into hall-house product of 20C agricultural use. Roof covering originally pantile with stone slate edges and mullion windows. Central entrance (with passage through to stair?) 18C? creation, now blocked.

18.1 Slashpool Farm

Ground plan



18.2 Slashpool Farm**from the village green (west)****from the rear (east) showing stair turret**

18.3 Slashpool Farm

parlour fireplace

hall fireplace (with smoke stack flue)



The fireplace in the parlour is a fine example of the work of the local stonemasons. The stone is a mix of local and imported, and the work is of a high quality. The fireplace is set within a stone wall, and the stove has a chimney pipe extending upwards. The surrounding area is finished with white plaster and a dark wood mantel.

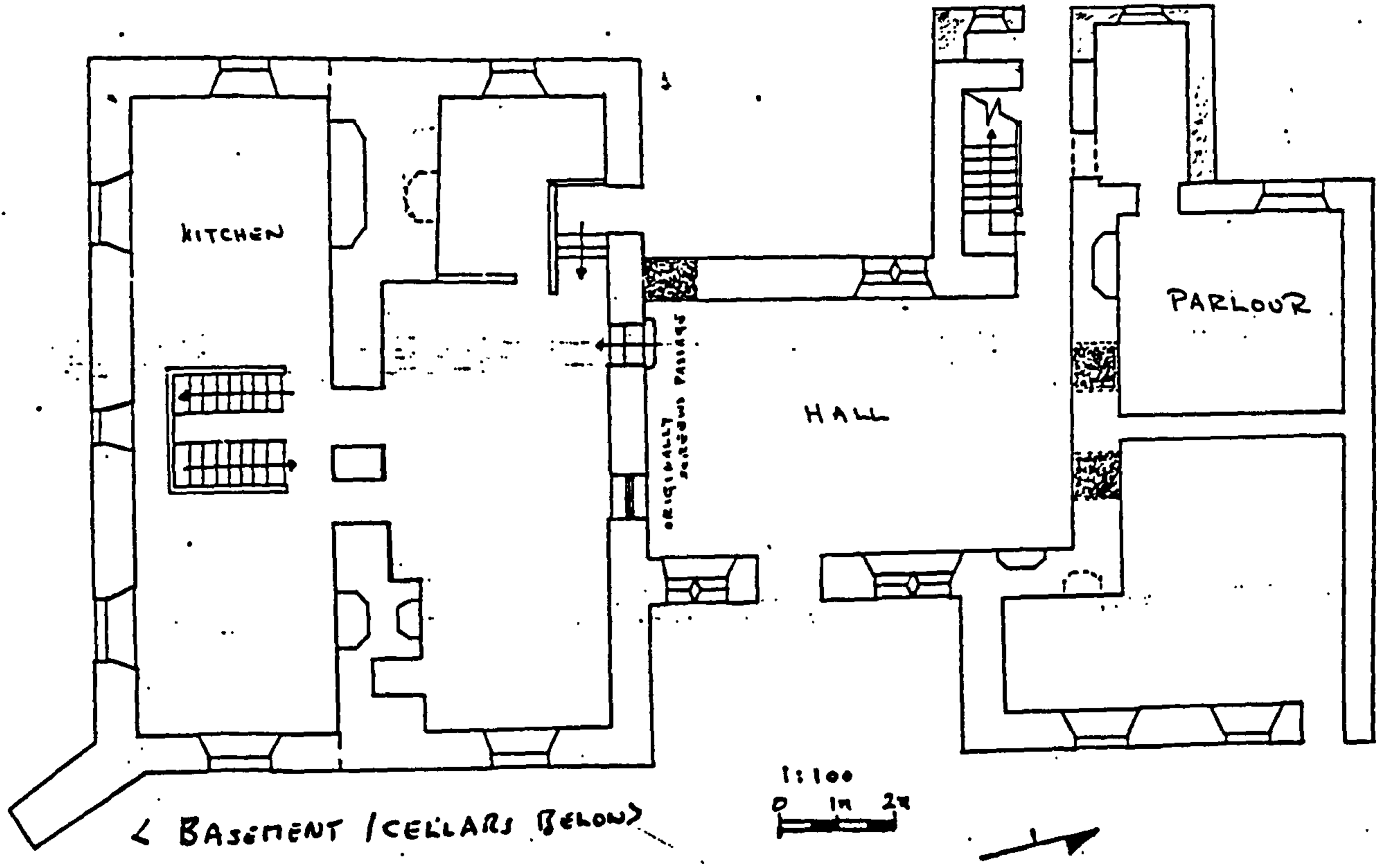
19 Stanhope Old Hall, Stanhope¹³

On western edge of Stanhope, main house of Featherstonehaugh family. Late 16C H-plan (central hall with cross wings) rebuilding earlier house: range to south retains substantial 15C? fabric (large buttress on south east corner and vestiges of large oriel window resting on corbels, at first floor level). Higher status rooms in north cross-wing (late 16C stair & parlour fireplace). Services and stair in southern ranges; basement below (16C door and window surrounds, accessed at ground level to south), kitchen at same level as hall. Late 16C, cross-passage to low-end of hall. Late 17C, central recess of entrance front remodelled: refaced in ashlar with central door and mullion and transom windows to either side and three above (arrangement parallels West Auckland Manor House and near identical late 17C windows at New House, Ireshopeburn). Mid-19C roof with stone slate covering (half-hipped at end of cross wings). Roof originally leaded and balustraded.

¹³plan based on architects drawings rather than measured survey, since a thorough archaeological survey already exists. Note: 19C roof, 20C sub-division and use of south range (with medieval fabric) as main entrance, rather than architecturally sophisticated entrance front with balustraded roof, gives distorted impression of early modern house: Stanhope Hall appears more vernacular than it was.

19.1 Stanhope Hall

Ground plan



19.2 Stanhope Hall

from the east, looking up the carriageway

recess of main (east) facade, showing late seventeenth century mullion and transom windows and refacing in ashlar



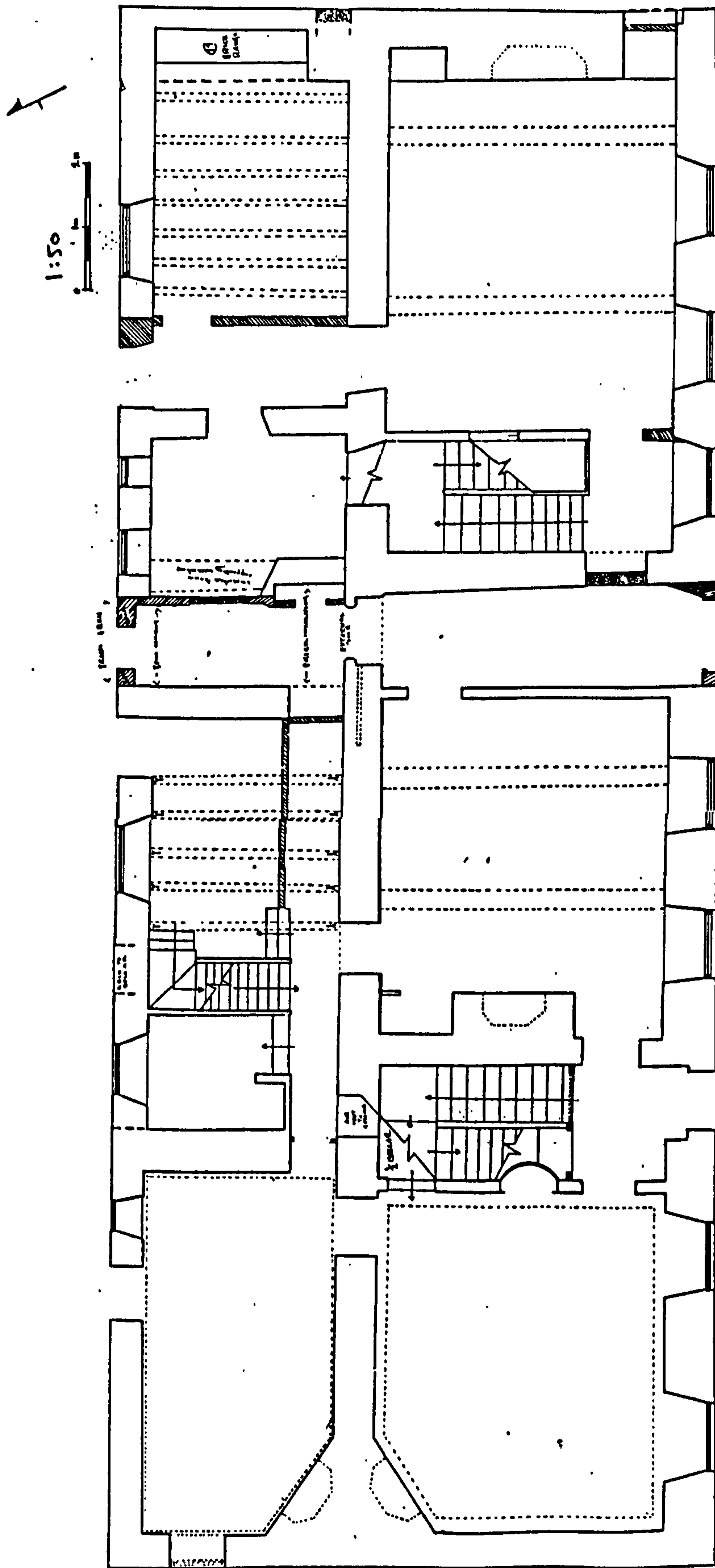
20 Thornley Hall, Thornley

Situated away from nucleated settlement, adjacent to deserted village of Thornley. Six miles south east of Durham. Trollope family till late 17C (no known connection with Robert Trollope, Newcastle and Northumberland architect), and Spearmans thereafter. Stone, early 18C nine bay, two and a half storey south facade with brick voussoirs to sashed-window openings, and one a half storeys to north, forming 'salt box' silhouette. South facade may simply be 18C refenestration of late 17C house, rebuilt by Spearman family (presumably with mullion and transom windows). House in origin, ground floor at least surviving, late 16C U-plan (like Low Harperley Hall), with recessed centre to north infilled in early 17C.¹⁴ Central recess indicated by straight joints and late 16C external doorway (with drawbar) enclosed by brick arched passage; passage possibly secondary to initial early 17C infilling of central recess. Arched cellar under central recess to north only, created early 17C. Two stairs by 18C; principal stair rises from front entrance, second (service) stair rise from service end of house (simpler balustrade and narrower rail), both have hand rail running into rise of string forming an acute angle (like examples recorded in Whitehaven from c.1700 & 1740s; RCHME 1991: 120 & 125). Kitchen and services at east end 16C through 19C. 18C panelling, including curved recess cupboard under stair, and corner fireplaces (compare Whitfield House, Wolsingham), in parlours to west. Hall in centre, with remnant of cross-passage between services. Sub-divided into two houses by 20C.

¹⁴16C U-plan previously unrecognised, although always known to be a 17C/18C rebuilding of earlier house.

20.1 Thornley Hall

Ground plan



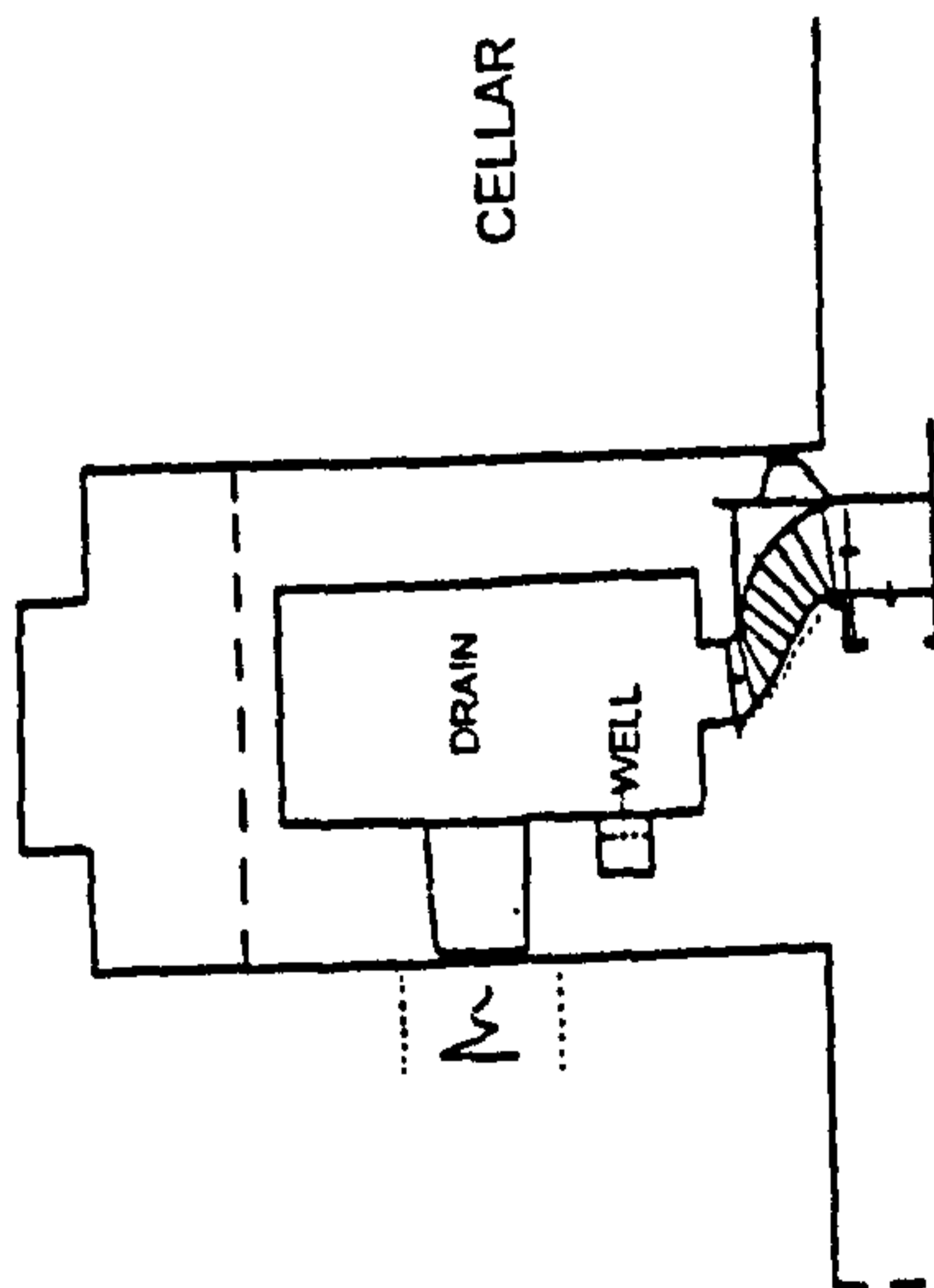
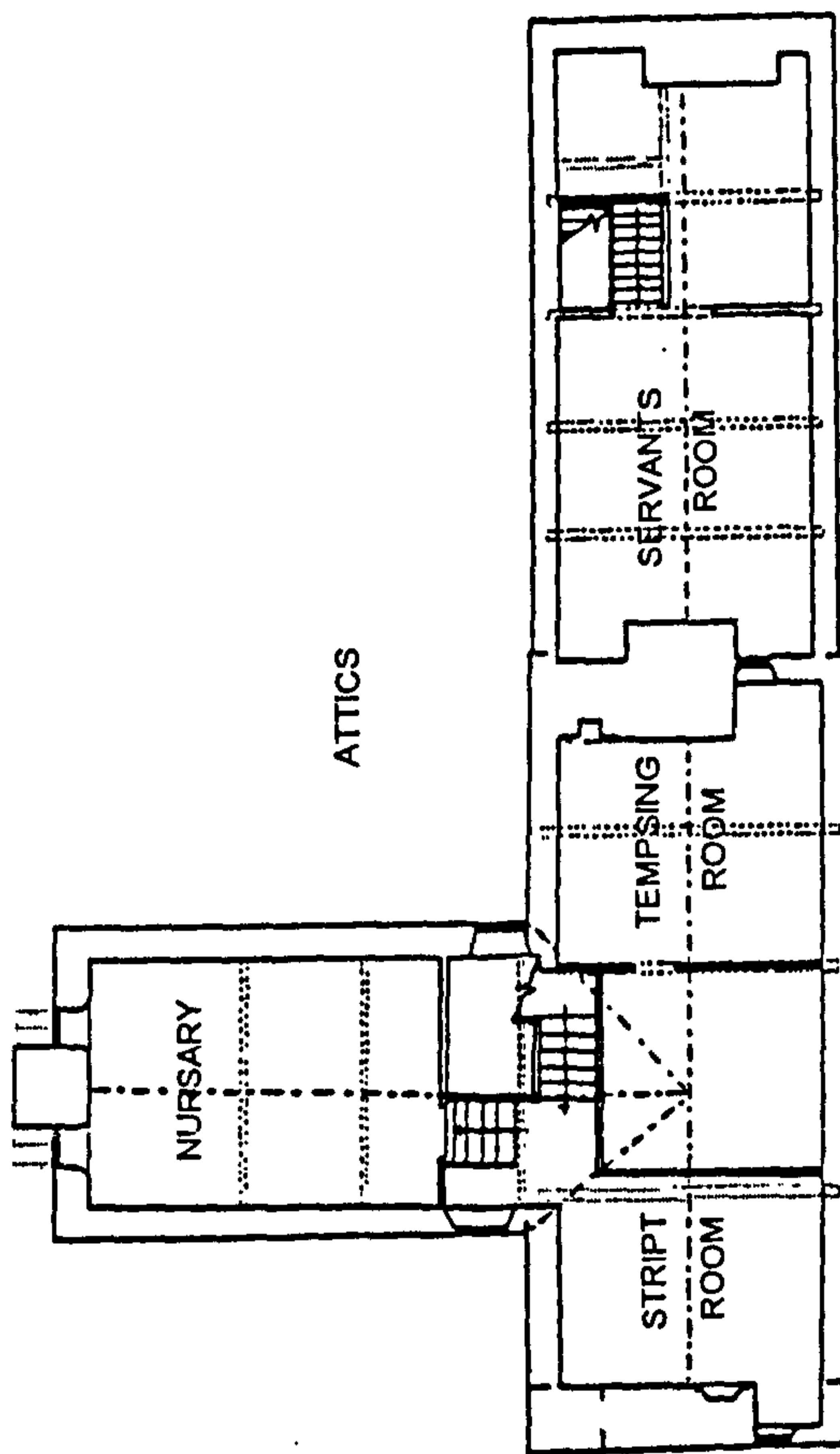
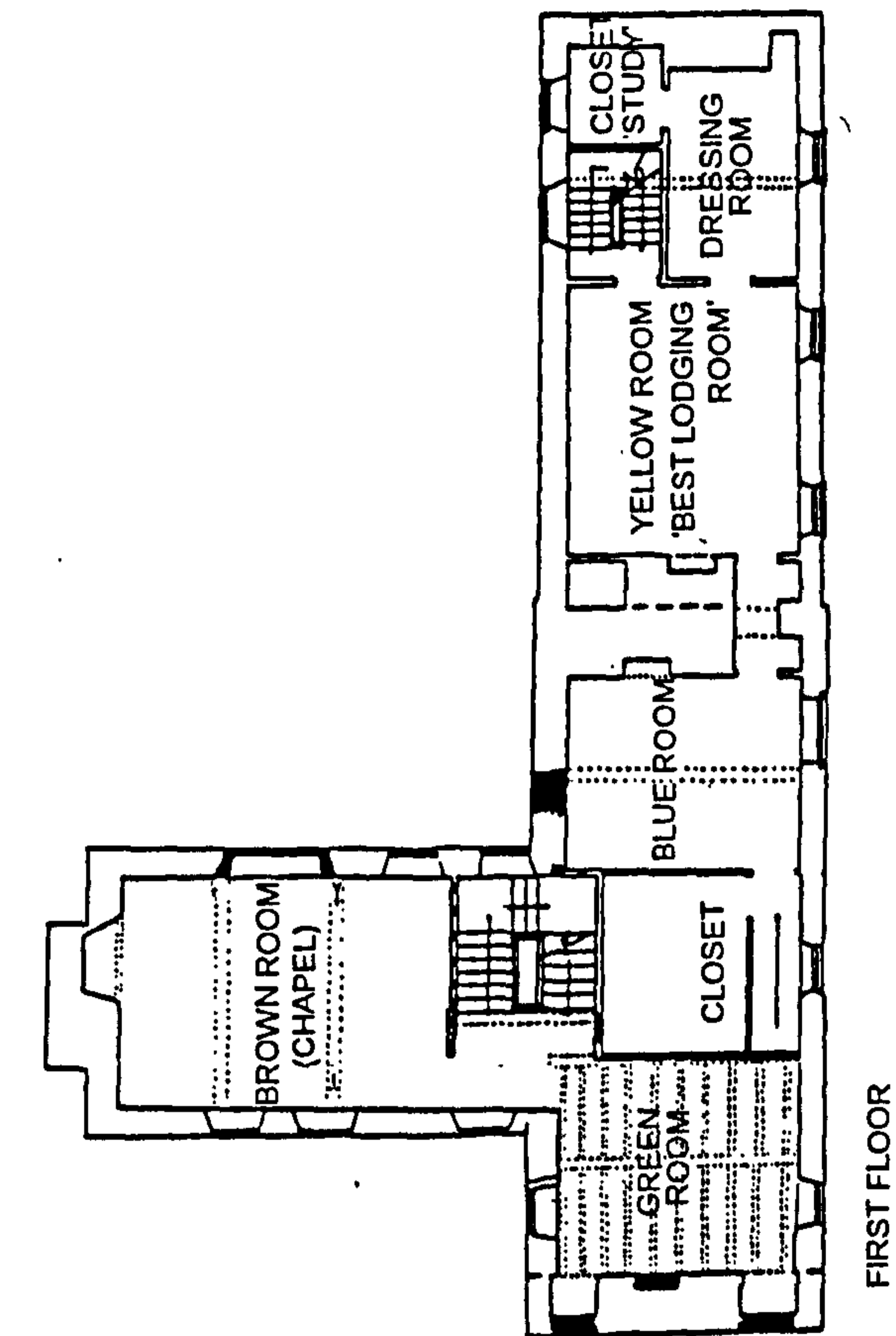
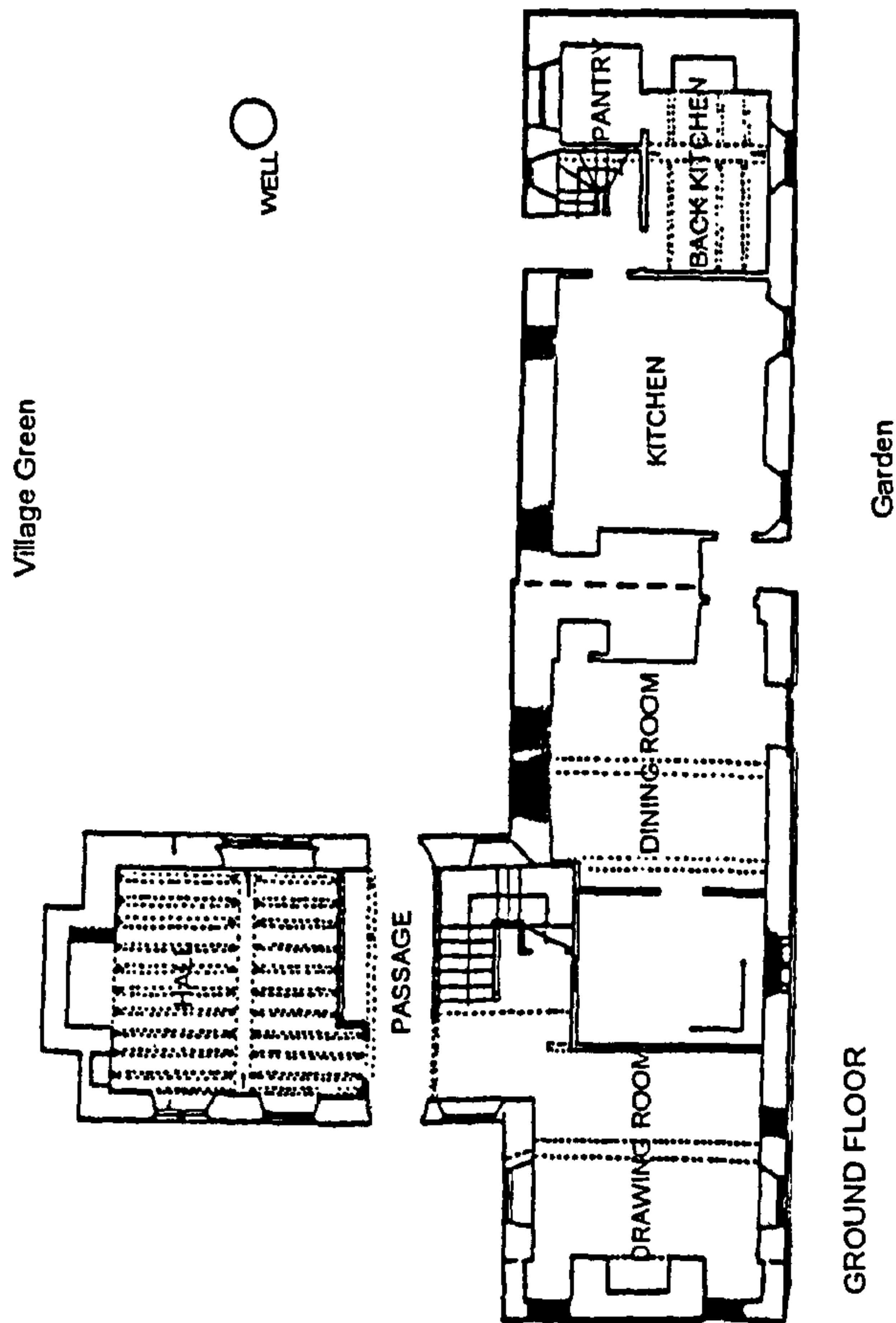
21 Tudhoe Hall, Tudhoe¹⁵

Situated in the centre of Tudhoe village, on the green. 16C longhouse rebuilt c.1600 by husbandman farmer, added to by yeoman farmer 1620s and remodelled as gentry residence and recusant household late 17C and early 18C for Salvins. c.1600 range parallel to village green, of two and a half storeys with two rooms to a floor; hall and parlour house with chambers above and garrets for servants and storage. No central stair given blocked mullion window at rear. Presumably a cross-passage and low end on site of east wing. Hall with cooking stack to east end; parlour with projecting stack to west end. Roof of this range c.1600: raised crucks with elbowed principal rafters. 1620s one and a half storey projecting wing added, forming T-plan, providing kitchen and cellar below (window glass 1620-40; brick vaulted and floored). 1663-1729 remodelled by Salvins. Projecting wing raised to two and a half storeys and extended 1666-7 (1666 Hearth Tax, two hearths in use; 1667 four hearths in use; 1667 four plus '3 laid since April 1666' and '4 more was laid and yet unfinished'; 1668-73 five hearths in use 'and three never used': accords with eight hearths in T-plan house, with three unused in garrets). Main stair inserted c.1680. 1705-1729 lateral wing to east raised (upper cruck roof reassembled), with panelling (originally containing painted cloth panels) and sashed windows in first floor suite of rooms; stair connects kitchen and service (ground floor) with servant garrets. 17C? strapwork decorative plasterwork survives on parlour ceiling beam.

¹⁵full documentary & built evidence in Green 1998: 33-42

21.1 Tudhoe Hall

Floor plans



TUDHOE HALL 1729 ROOM NAMES

SCALE 1:50
0 1M 2M



21.2 Tudhoe Hall

from the village green (north)

from the garden (south)



22 West Auckland Old Hall, West Green, West Auckland

South side of West Green, facing Old Manor House. Linear-plan 17C house of sandstone rubble and river cobble walls with pantile roof and stone edge slates. By end 17C almost symmetrical two-and-a-half-storey seven-bay front with three light windows. Late 17C central three-storey tower porch, with rusticated quoins and shaped gable (three stone balls mounted on iron pegs, removed). Four-centred porch doorway with weathered shield(?), mullioned window under string first floor, and hoodmoulded mullion window in gable, plus side windows to porch on ground and first floor. Porch is butt jointed to west, bonded to east, indicating division in phases. To east, original early 17C (RCHME, c.1625) three-bay hall and parlour house originally with a cross-passage behind stack and low-end (service?) to west: presumably rebuilding earlier long-house. Cross-passage rebuilt late 17C and three bays of west half (low-end) built (plinth does not extend to western half, and tie beam trusses reused, whereas east half has truncated principal trusses). Also late 17C, rear service staircase wing to west added along with late 17C rear wing on east half, containing main stair, half cellar and rooms above, with two and three light windows. On the east half, hoodmoulds over all the front windows, rusticated quoins added to east, as built on west: quoins decrease in depth with height exaggerating the height of the house. On west half all windows are mullioned under hoodmoulds, with differences from east. Central door on western half inserted 18C, replacing a window.

Inside early 17C deep chamfered beams in hall and parlour in east half, and four-centred arched hall and parlour fireplaces (traces indicate parlour fireplace painted, with bolection moulded surround). Hall fireplace contains bread oven against cross-passage (note aperture to side of hall stack; compare Auckland Manor House kitchen fireplace; Great Chilton Hall; Newfield Farmhouse). West half, at least by late 17C service. 17C fireplaces to all upstairs rooms in main range and attics, and in narrow rooms over cross-passage and porch, on both first and attic floor. Large fireplaces in the two rooms behind the main stair (now removed). Floor levels of these rooms are below that of the stair landing, relating to half cellar beneath. Cellar

accessed from hall. Staircase late 17C with fat balusters, oak with pine mouldings; upper portion of stair has flat balusters and upper flights rearranged 20C. In west rear wing, stair replaced. No communication between attics of two halves. Front door, to cross-passage, with surviving drawbar (as at Thornley Hall and Slashpool Farm, Hett).

22.2 West Auckland Old Hall

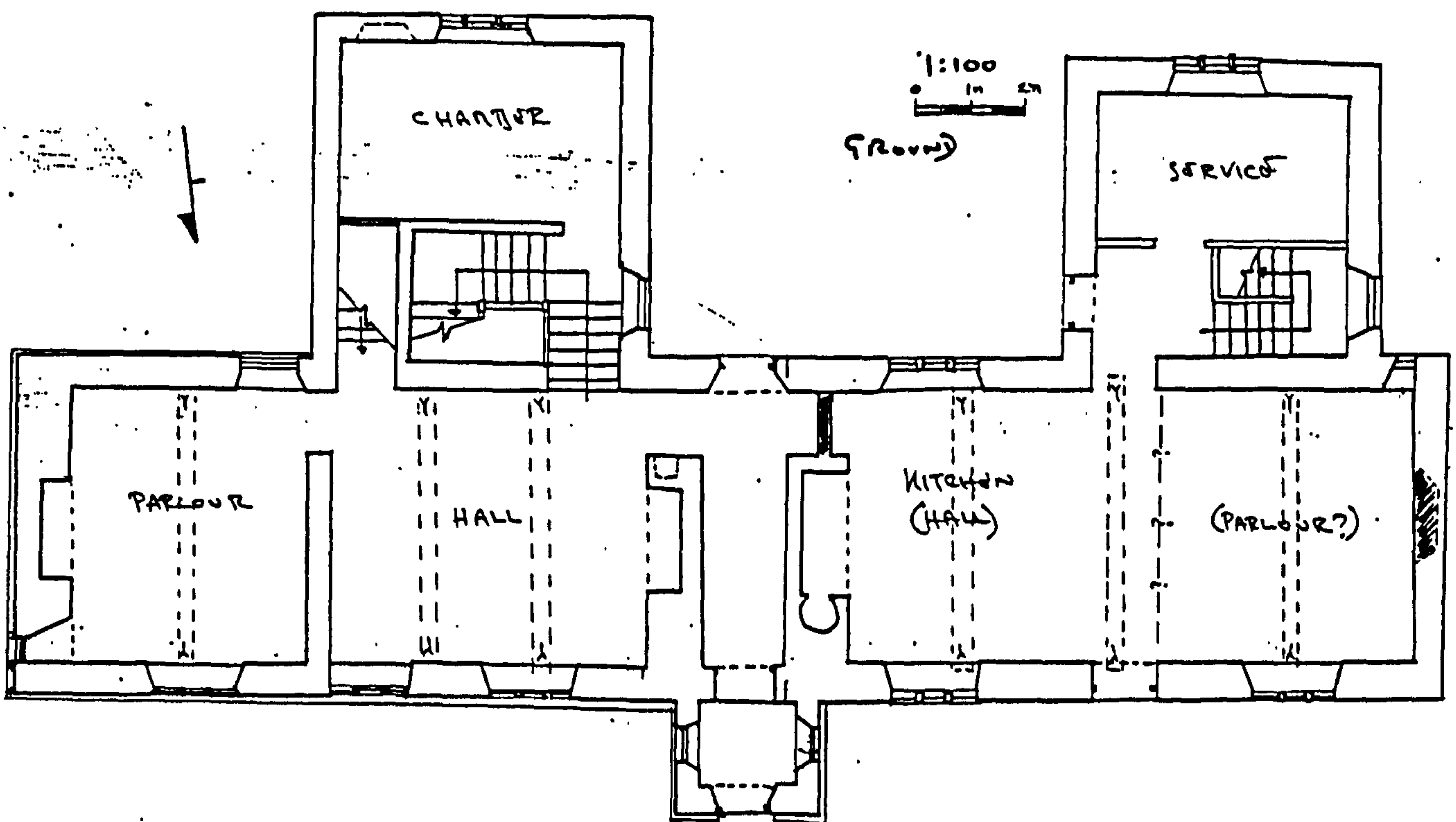
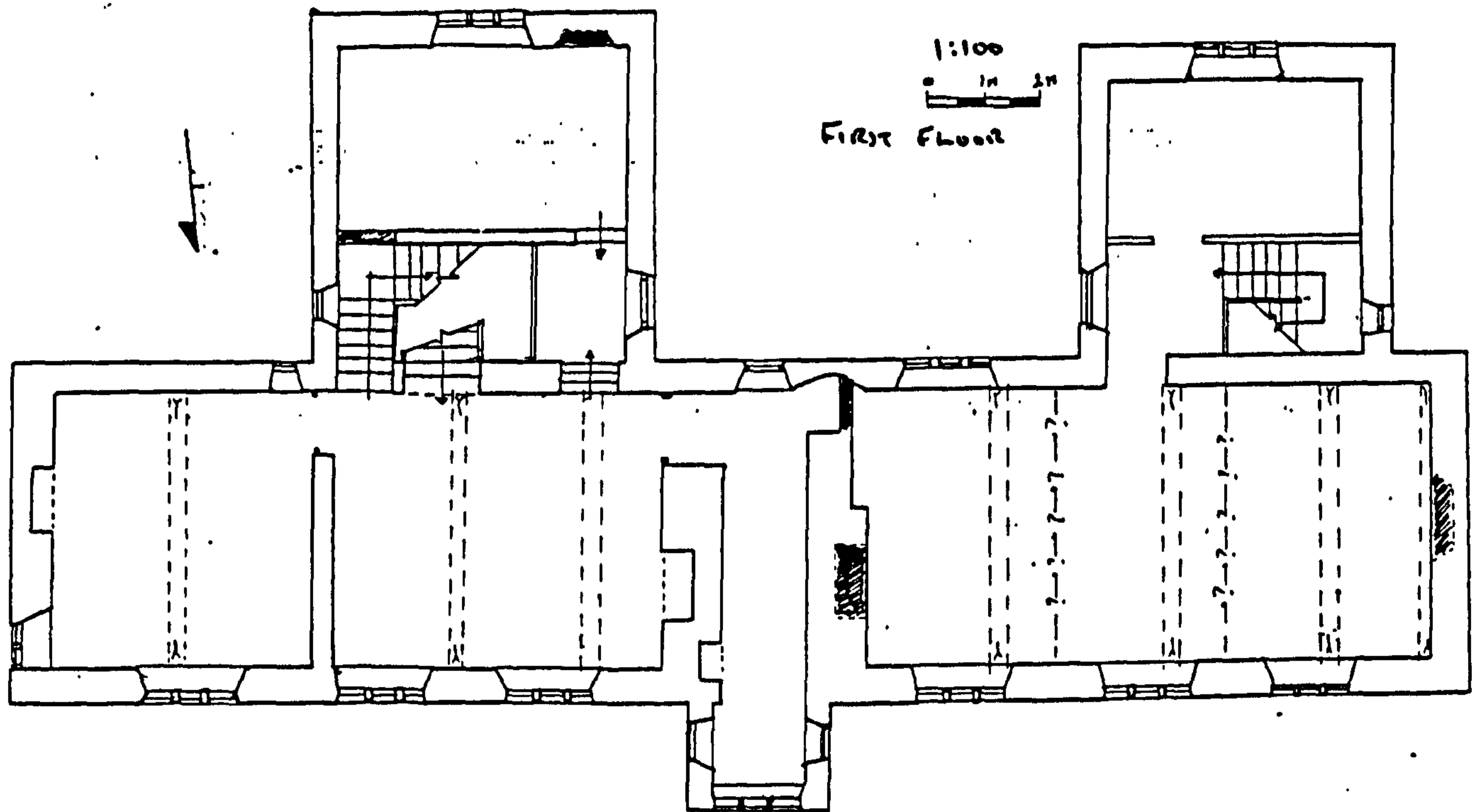
from the village green

the porch



22.1 West Auckland Old Hall

Ground & first floor plans



23 West Auckland Manor House, West Auckland

Situated at west end of West Green, facing road entering the village from Staindrop and Barnard Castle.¹⁶ Principal house of Eden family. Late 16C H-plan. Incorporating as west cross-wing earlier 16C range, itself with older fabric (witness 15C? masonry with small 16C window surrounds inserted at south-west corner, where floor levels different from rest of house) and foundations said to be 12C. East cross-wing narrower. Both cross wings gabled with later parapet across central (hall range) recess. Late 16C mullion and transom windows to central recess and re-entrant angles of the wings intact (and similar replaced with sash window on west side of west cross-wing), with large stone relieving arches; windows straight-headed under hoodmoulds with round-headed lights. Relieving arches indicate similar windows replaced by early 18C sashes on front of wings and first floor on west wing and later 18C on west front. Early 18C sashes in end wings to front integral to early 18C panelling inside, but blocking of four-light mullioned window on re-entrant angle of east wing postdates early 18C panelling. Late 17C central entrance to hall, with open scrolled pediment¹⁷ and a cartouche and pilasters with Composite capitals, part of post-1670 alterations. Late 17C alterations include square stair tower at rear of hall with integral (post 1670) stair with scroll balusters of foliage and bulbous finials (compare Horden Hall and The Castle, Durham). Lower flight moved into hall (20C) and upper flights originally gave access to leads - which command a broad view over the village and surrounding countryside. *c.*1672 panelling in related style to stair removed to Bowes museum; originally in front (south-west) parlour.¹⁸ Late 17C plaster ceilings (to both parlours in west cross-wing and hall) including fleur-de-lis¹⁹ and crown motifs. Service in rear of east wing. Kitchen with large 17C cooking

¹⁶This location is in keeping with Stone's comments about houses on edge of settlements, whereas later houses were built in own grounds, signalling withdrawal from the community.

¹⁷compare Helmington Hall & door at Ramshaw Hall from 17C house demolished at St Helen Auckland.

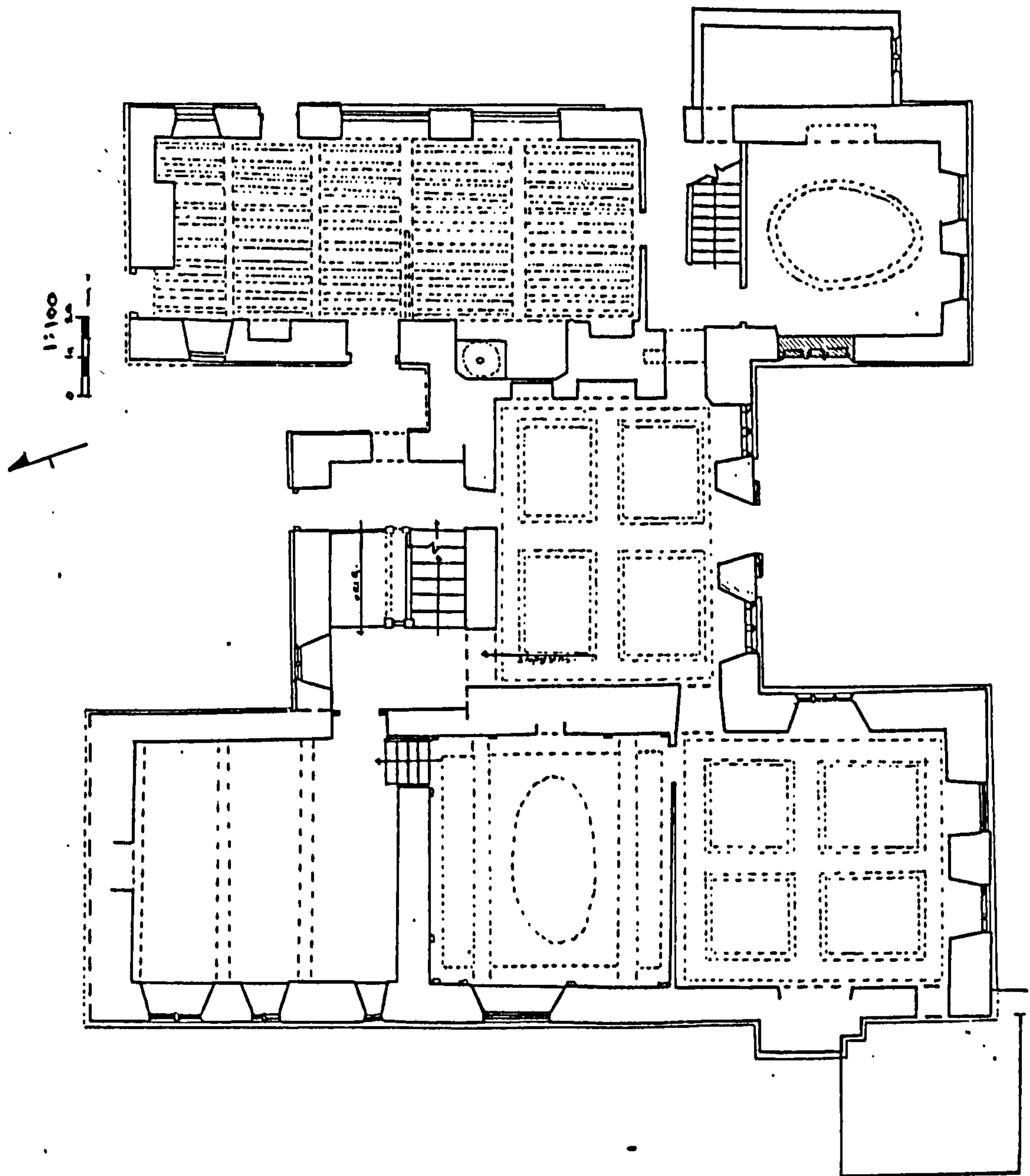
¹⁸My measurements confirm that the panelling must have come from this room.

¹⁹compare Stotley Hall, Middlestone in Teesdale, NYCVBBSG 680.

fireplace and bee-hive bread oven of brick. Slots in beam indicate former partition, to the side of the hearth, extending half-way across the room. Secondary stair (now 18C, with earlier (late 17C?) flat balusters in garrets and reused elsewhere) between kitchen and dining? parlour at front of east wing (with 18C panelling). Access from garrets to balustraded flat roof over small projection against east wing (this small later 17C addition possibly provided water closets). Rear of west wing (where 16C fabric visible externally), raised chamber over half cellar (accessed from beneath main stair). Roof similar to c.1600 roof at Seaton Holme, Easington (RCHME), of 'low curved-principal-rafter type'. Partly 17C stables behind.

23.1 West Auckland Manor House

Ground plan

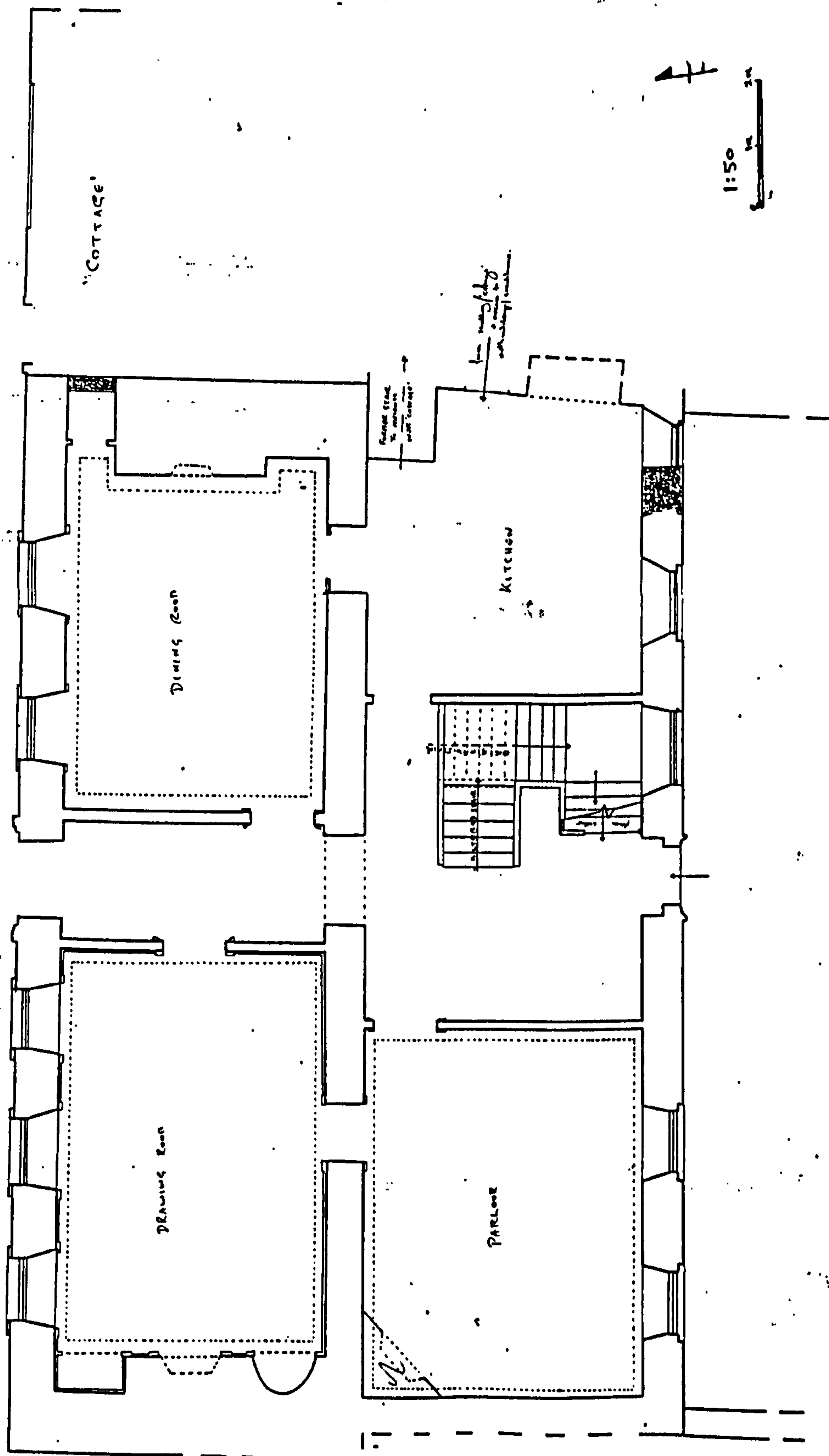


24 Whitfield House, Wolsingham

Wolsingham Market Place. Early 18C (perhaps *c.*1700) for Matthew Whitfield, three storeys, double-pile. Coarsed rubble to rear. Stuccoe front facade with quions (quions similar to Sedgefield Manor House; stuccoe added later?). Top parapet (in contrast to cornice at Sedgefield Manor House). Cornice on scrolled brackets over door. Original glazing bars and glass to rear, narrower than front windows (replaced?). Plan: central entrance passage through to rear stair hall, early 18C stair, two flights; lower flight altered) with ramped handrail. Large field panelling to front reception rooms and upstairs; ogee-headed corner fireplace in rear ground floor reception room and chamber above. Kitchen in south east room, off staircase hall (services possibly in adjacent cottage; compare Eden House, Durham). Cellars under rear of house. Coach house behind cottage, accessed from lane; Wesley preached here. Medieval property boundaries not perpendicular from street and disjointed in relation to Whitfield Place to west.

24.1 Whitfield House

Ground plan (room names conjectural)



24.2 Whitfield House & Whitfield Cottages, from the market place



25 Whitfield Cottages, Wolsingham²⁰

Adjacent to Whitfield House. Early 17C two and a half storey rebuilding of rubble linear range, raised from earlier one and a half storeys (witness change in quions). On western half, early?17C twin canted bays (rubble, dressed quions, mullion windows with ovolo label hood-mouldings) to parlour and hall with later square-headed door into hall between. Canted bay to hall larger than to parlour. Original entrance, into large eastern room, blocked: inserted 1677 dated plaque over (Plate 3). Early 17C gabled stair turret to rear of hall, with early 17C well stair rising to garrets (thus contemporary with raising to two and a half storeys). c.1700 panelling (ex situ?) sub-divides the hall, creating closet and lobby to stair. Eastern half, early mullioned window and three later mullions with hood-moulds (c.1600 and early 17C respectively?): ground floor originally one room, 17C cooking fireplace and stair to east end. Upstairs, partitions inserted and plan unclear, but possible first floor living room over hall. Early 18C square-headed central door to eastern room with triangular pediment above implies house sub-divided early 18C, along with earlier (c.1700?) square-headed door to hall (allowing separation of commercial space from living accommodation).²¹ Door to far north inserted much later (20C?) when further sub-divided. 19C and 20C outshuts to rear. 17C plan and facade might imply an inn: with public hall and parlour to north and kitchen to south. Possibly, partition sub-dividing 'kitchen', between cooking end of room and public/commercial space, prior to inserted wall. But originally one room, given beam positions and chamfering to both sides. Roof only accessible over western half: two raised upper cruck trusses of different construction.

²⁰A difficult house to interpret: 1677 date plaque has been taken as contemporary with canted bays (and classical mouldings might support this). But canted bays easily early 17C, as is stair. Later door insertions (all of different dates) exaggerate 'two unit' appearance and symmetry.

²¹compare 20-22 Market Street, Hexham, late 17C, separate entrances to house and shop (bolection moulded surrounds with open scrolled pediments over) and two canted bay windows.

25.1 Whitfield Cottages

Ground plan (room names conjectural)

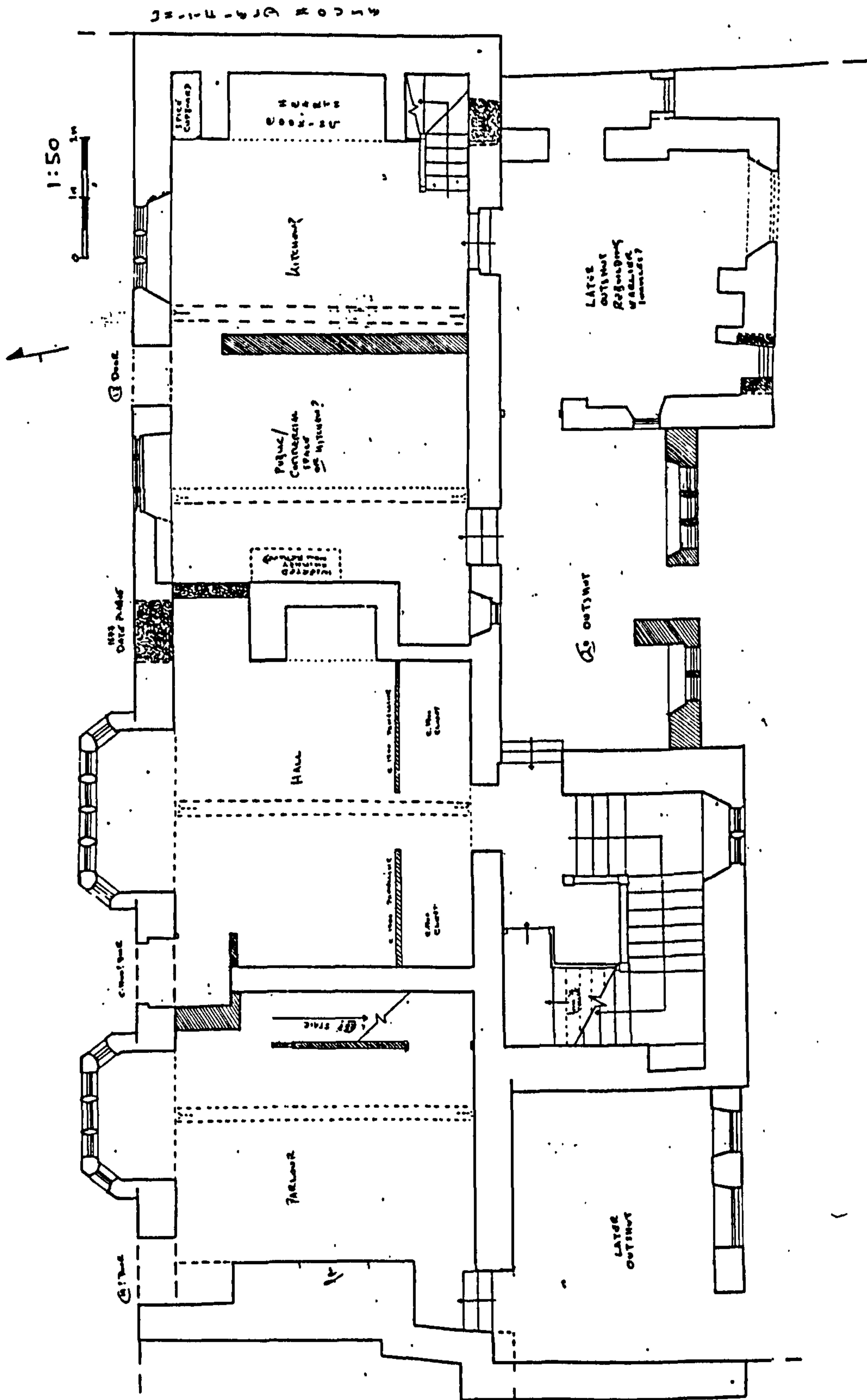


Plate 1**Greystone Hall, Gainford parish****Low Woodifield Farm, near Crook**

Plate 2

High Street Yarm, Yorkshire, North Riding

The Bank, Barnard Castle, County Durham



Plate 3

40 The Bank, Barnard Castle, inscribed fireplace

Whitfield Cottages, Wolsingham, date plaque



Plate 4**Helmington Hall, 1680s, open scrolled pediments over first floor windows****Doorcase (with open scrolled pediment) from St. Helen Auckland Hall, now at
Ramshaw Hall**