

HISTORICAL ANALYSIS OF THE EAST WING, INNER COURTYARD, NEWTON HOUSE



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HISTORICAL ANALYSIS OF THE EAST WING, INNER COURTYARD, NEWTON HOUSE

By

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INTRODUCTION

The National Trust acquired the Inner Courtyard to Newton House in February 2006 and proposes to use the East Wing as a new Area Office. A historical analysis of the range has been commissioned by The National Trust in order to understand its historical development and significance.

OBJECTIVES

The objective of this building and documentary analysis of the East Wing of the Inner Courtyard at Newton House is to obtain a better understanding of its chronology, development and function.

METHODOLOGY

An initial site meeting on the 9th January between Curator Stephanie Evans, House Steward Stephen Batsford and Cambria Archaeology team, Ken Murphy, Hubert Wilson and Alice Pyper discussed the scope of work to be carried out and the following scheme was agreed. The brief and specification of works are appended to this report in Appendix A.

A comprehensive survey of the Inner Courtyard commissioned by the National Trust was used as a base to annotate and update with additional information gained from the building analysis.

Architectural details of mouldings including the cornice, skirting, architraves, and doors were undertaken, and the extent of each type noted. In addition each of the five passageway arches and their detailing was examined and a selection recorded. The arches have been referenced 'A' to 'E' and the moulding profiles have been numbered to allow for cross referencing in the text. Supplementary photographs have also been undertaken and are recorded on a separate plan.

HISTORICAL CONTEXT

Newton House itself is believed to have been constructed around 1660. The Inner Courtyard, sometimes referred to as the North Courtyard, is considered to have been constructed in 1720 and was thought to have incorporated earlier buildings, a view which appears to have originated with Cyril Fox's correspondence with Lord Dynevor in 1934. Two paintings dated around 1700 show a large barn and a service building in the location of the Inner Courtyard (see Figs 2 & 3) and would appear to correspond with the location of the South and North Wings respectively. Recent observation of the roof structures in these wings by the RCAHMW and Cadw has confirmed that the evidence would point to seventeenth century date.

The East Wing was thought to have been constructed by Griffith Rice II in 1720 when the house was also renovated (Dignam et al. 1989) and the Home Farm moved to 'Little Newton'. Recent interpretations of the fixtures and fittings within the East Wing have suggested a nineteenth century date.

The upper floors of the East Wing have, latterly at least, been used to accommodate guests and apparently until very recently painted room numbers identified each room (Stephen Batsford pers. comm.). The ground floor contained service rooms, and a number of which are identified on the pre 1896 plan of 'Dynevor Castle' (see Fig 4).

DOCUMENTARY RESEARCH by Duncan Schlee

Two archives containing material relating to the Dinefwr Estate were visited in order to identify and scrutinise any manuscripts that had not previously been examined for reference to the East Wing of the Inner Courtyard at Newton House.

Carmarthenshire Records Office

The schedule for the Dynefor archive held at the Carmarthenshire Record Office was scrutinized for documents that might have some relevance or likely reference to the construction of the East Wing of the Inner Courtyard at Newton House. Two 'workman's account books' for 1758, 1802, (Refs: Bundle 201/2 & 16) were examined.

Document 201/2 (1785) was found to contain monthly records of disbursements to workmen and labourers for a variety of tasks apparently relating to the 'backstable' at Llandeilo, and the construction of a 'new stable'. While interesting in its own right, the document did not refer to or contain any information relevant to the construction of the East Wing of the Inner Courtyard.

Document 201/16 (1802) was also a workman's account book. The December entry mentions 'plastering the courtyard', 'new plastering cottage'. 'cook room plastering' and 'pointing the mansion house' appears to have been undertaken in 1803. There is reference to 'tiling the shed behind the hot house' and roofing the old cowshed in 1804.

Other document bundles such as 'correspondence 1623-1950' were considered too wide-ranging in content to warrant systematic scrutiny for relevant documents or passing references.

Mr Bundy's Account book (Ref 206/11) (an account book of the building work undertaken in the mid 1855s) is understood to have been investigated previously, and found not to refer to the building in question.

National Library of Wales

A visit was also made to the National Library of Wales at Aberystwyth to investigate the nature of some 'partially catalogued' manuscript material within the Dinefwr archive. The contents of the Dinefwr archive was searched for the relevant material using the 'on-line' catalogue.

Parcel 18, containing 'plans of cottages at Llwynceilyn, gateway, entrance and kitchen at Newton 1776' were examined, but no documents relating to the East Wing of the Inner Courtyard were identified.

Parcel 15 containing 'accounts and correspondence between Griffith Rice and T and E Lloyd- 1705-20' was not available for scrutiny, having been withdrawn from the archive.

Parcel 16 (deeds of houses and lands in Llandeilo 1706-94), and Parcel 20 (...and other estate matters (1733-42) were found not to contain relevant material.

Conclusions

No new documentary sources referring to the East Wing of the Inner Courtyard at Newton House were identified during the research.

BUILDING ANALYSIS

The following descriptions are based on a visual inspection of the areas which are accessible. The descriptions should be read in conjunction with the site drawings appended to this report.

Exterior

West Facing Elevation (Plate 1)

The west facing elevation of the East Wing of the Inner Courtyard is constructed from roughly squared rubble stone almost brought to courses. Evidence of a

roughcast lime render survives in patches. Each of the window openings are constructed with flat stone arches and sawn stone sills and appear to be integral to the construction of this elevation, no evidence has been observed of window enlargement or other modification.

The openings in this elevation demonstrate an almost symmetrical arrangement. In the centre of the ground floor is a high stone arch forming a through passageway to the exterior of the courtyard. This entrance is now partially blocked with stone and a doorway leading into a central vestibule. The late insertion of this blocking is indicated by the yellow brick arch forming the doorhead.

To the north of this central passage is a former doorway now blocked with stone, one of two which flank the central arch, its pair still surviving to the south of the former passage.

The only other modification noted on this elevation is the ground floor window at the north end which was formerly a doorway, now partially blocked. This is the only window which does not conform in this elevation and is of later twentieth century origin.

Otherwise the windows in this elevation follow the same pattern; the ground floor windows are all six paned (three over three) sliding sash windows with horns, above in the first floor, the windows are four paned (two over two) sliding sash also with horns.

East Facing Elevation (Plate 2)

The east facing elevation of the East Wing of the Inner Courtyard is also constructed out of rubble stone, however less of the masonry fabric is visible due to a greater proportion of this elevation being obscured by roughcast lime render and ivy.

The central passage opening is visible and fully blocked with stone.

To the north of the elevation is a single low blocked doorway (probably an insertion) with a flat stone arch. A twentieth century window has been inserted into the fabric to the left of this doorway.

The dressings of the window openings on this elevation are different to those of the west facing elevation; the stone arches include more substantial voussoirs and there maybe some suggestion that the openings have been modified - one has a timber lintel (First Floor room 7). Many of the window jambs are obscured by vegetation and render so observation is difficult and the evidence is inconclusive at this stage.

Roof

Three large chimneys rise from the East Wing and are all of the same stone construction. The roof to the east is covered with stone tile and slate to the west.

Interior

Ground Floor (Fig 5)

Much to the north of the central passage has been subject to recent renovations by the previous owners of the courtyard, therefore the descriptions are brief.

Ground Floor Room 1

This room is formerly known as the **House Keeper's Room** on the pre 1896 plan. In a structural sense Room 1 lies within the North Wing of the Inner Courtyard, its east wall forms the gable end of the north wing. Within the gable

wall is a fireplace with stone arch and exposed stone wall. A large cupboard lies to the north. This room has been recently refurbished with a new door to the west. However, the door to the north into the corridor beyond is a six panelled raised and fielded door, similarly proportioned and moulded as those seen in the first floor, the box for the lock is removed and the scar visible. Although the corridor and store room do not reveal further architectural or historical information as they appear refurbished and inaccessible, the store was known to have contained a stair to the first floor.

Ground Floor Room 2

This room is currently furnished as a kitchen and has been extensively refurbished.

Ground Floor Room 3

Room 3 is marked on the pre 1896 plan as the **Still** room, the doorway shown between this and room 3, has been blocked and access is gained through the adjoining passage. The door here is a 6 panelled raised and fielded door with L-shaped strap hinges, as seen leading from Room 1. The door is evidently not in its original position and has been rehung in this new doorway. This room has been extensively refurbished, however the external door and window with planked shutters survive intact.

Ground Floor Room 4

The vaulted room to the south of the Still room is marked as the **Bakehouse**. Currently used as a store room, access to it is difficult, however a possible blocked doorway to the central passage beyond is visible, currently partially blocked and used as a cupboard. The door blocking, visible externally, is not apparent in the internal elevation. The pre 1896 plan suggests that the doorway at this stage had been reduced to a window.

Central passage and vestibule

The through passage is now infilled with stairs leading to the first floor, inserted in the later 20th century. The partition between the central passage and the vestibule is constructed from timber stud and brick infill. The vestibule to the south of this partition was further subdivided with a timber and brick partition and this arrangement is clearly depicted on the pre 1896 plan. The doorway between the two is a simple 3 plank door with ventilation slits in the upper portion, L-shaped strap hinges have been removed.

Ground Floor Room 5

This room is marked as the **Office** on the pre 1896 plan. Access is gained by slate steps in the vestibule and it is intriguing that the floor level rises significantly. The door into room 5 is vertically split and hinged to either side. It is raised and fielded with the same moulding profiles as seen elsewhere in the East Wing. A fireplace, now obscured by kitchen units is visible by the hearth stone in the floor.

On the east side of the room, is a large metal door set within a masonry architrave (see drawing 18; Plate 3), which leads to the strong room. This is a stone vaulted room with quarry tile floor, one small barred opening in the external wall and an arched ceiling. The door is an immense metal door, four panelled with the crest 'IMPREGNABLE FIRE-PROOF CHEST' and 'Frederic Whitfields Patent Lock' embellished with banners 'Safe Bind Safe Find' above and 'Whitfield Maker Birmingham' below. (Agents for Whitfield's fire proof safes are recorded in Slaters' Commercial Directory, 1858-1859 for Merthyr Tydfil). The doorway is constructed with crisp ashlar jambs with a plain chamfer and pyramidal chamfer stop. It is curious that this room is omitted entirely from the

pre 1896 plan, when the evidence strongly suggests that it is an integral part of the construction of the building. It seems likely that this room, which was evidently an important repository, was purposely omitted from the plan for security reasons.

Ground Floor Room 6

Room 6 is accessed by steps which return the floor level in this room to ground level. There is no doorway, but a panel has been removed from what is assumed, due to its thickness, to be a timber and brick partition. In the east wall of this room is a small decorated hob firegrate with a decorated back, probably of early nineteenth century date, set into the thickness of the wall (Plate 4). This room is recorded on the pre 1896 plan as the **Saddle** room.

Ground Floor Room 7

The doorway leading from room 6 to room 7 is clearly inserted into the masonry fabric, and correspondingly the pre 1896 plan shows this wall was solid. Room 7 is recorded as housing **Charcoal**. The only access available is through the external door, which has now been partially blocked to create a window. The room is poorly lit with just a small high window in the east elevation. The ceiling is vaulted in the same manner as room 4.

First Floor (Fig 6)

The first floor is arranged as a continuous range of rooms accessed from a single passageway running the length of the wing on the west side. Unlike the ground floor there is no physical subdivision of the range and the character of the two floors is entirely different. The only evidence for historic access between the ground and first floor is the former stair which used to occupy the small room to the east of the First Floor Room 1, now a store room below. The modern stair rising from the former central passage, is a late 20th century insertion.

Passageway (Plate 5)

The passageway runs from the connecting corridor to Newton House, through the former gable wall of the north wing, marked by a decorative plaster arch (Arch A). As the passage turns the corner into the East Wing, it is punctuated by four more arches along the length of the corridor (Arches B to E). Further examination of the corridor has shown that a further two more arches were constructed in the passageway and that these have been removed. The scars relating to these arches lie either side of Arch C, in line with the party wall between rooms 3 / 4 and the party wall between rooms 5 / 6. The present passage opening adjacent to room 4 is clearly a later twentieth century insertion.

In general, the arches follow a pattern and the mouldings conform. There are, however, some differences to note; Arch A is not as high as those found in the length of the passage and the impost mouldings from which the architrave springs are plainer to the others in the passageway. The profiles of Arch E are very much more crisp and slightly more pronounced than those associated with the other arches suggesting that this is a reproduction.

Similarities are such with each of the rooms on the upper floor that the architectural details will be discussed as a whole pointing out where differences occur.

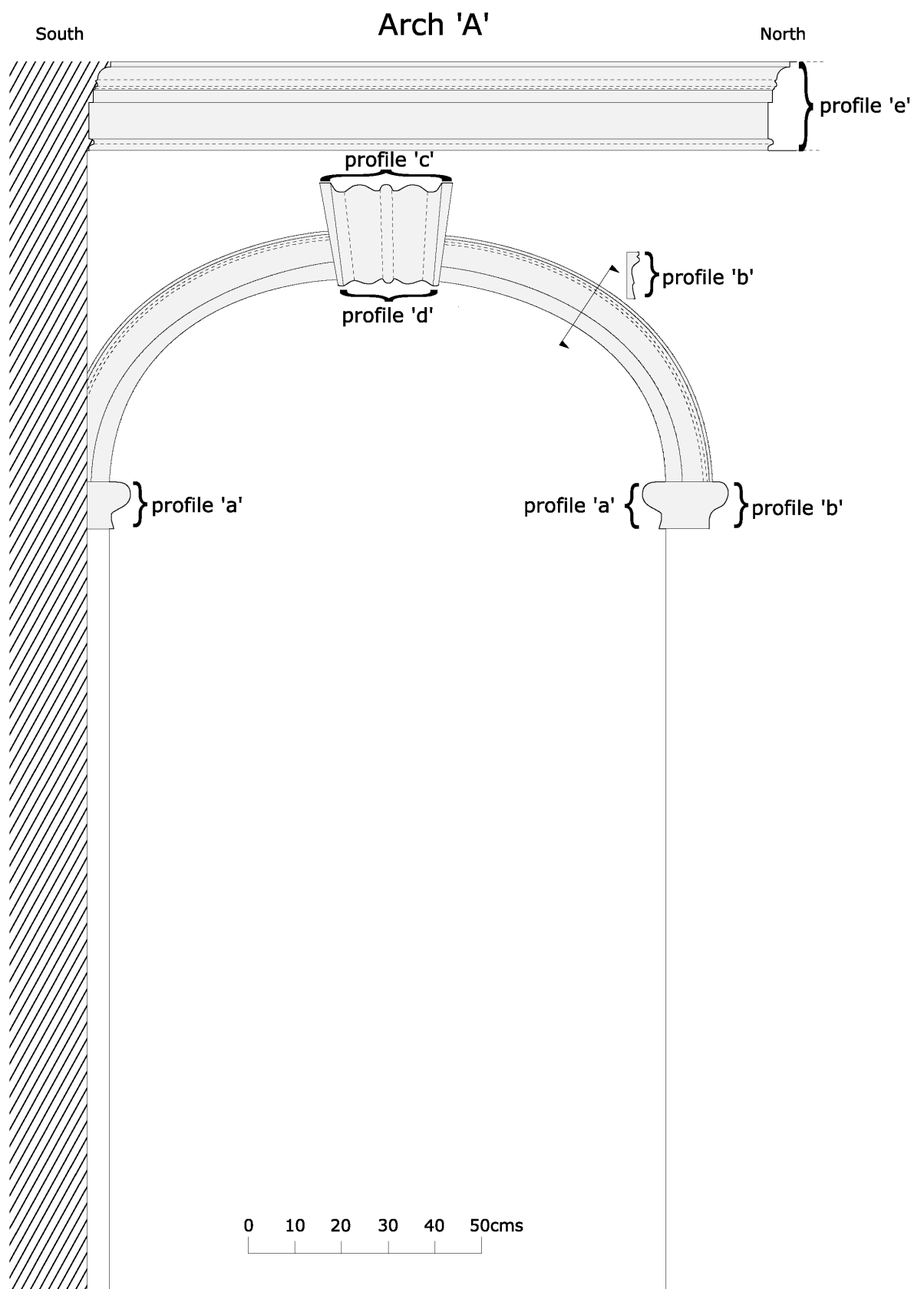


Figure 1: Arch A

Windows

The window openings conform along each side of the wing, those on the west, passage side are not as high, but are four pane sliding sash with horns. To the east, the windows conform to a standard high four paned sliding sash with panelled wainscot within the window recess below. Profiles are shown on drawing numbers 3 & 4.

Doors

The doors on the first floor are six panelled, raised and fielded type. All but one (Room 8), have looped door handles, similar to those seen in the upper floors of Newton House (Plate 6 & 7).

Fireplaces

The fireplaces within the upper floor, with the exception of room 7, conform to a Gothick type with trefoil detailing. There is a slight variation in the surrounds and mantelshelves. The brackets to the mantelshelf are usually perforated with diagonal slots. These distinctive firegrates are strikingly similar to those found in the turret rooms of Newton House (Plates 8 & 9).

First Floor Room 1

Like the ground floor room 1, this room lies structurally within the north wing, inside the former gable end wall. This room appears to have undergone recent refurbishment, with new plaster, a fibreboard floor and replacement skirting. The fireplace is a small firegrate of Gothick design with trefoil cusped details similar to those seen elsewhere in the upper floors. To the east of the gable end wall is the former stair rising from what is now the store room downstairs. This area has undergone some alteration with much of the lime plaster and the skirting removed, however the cornice is intact (Drawing no. 11, type 01).

First Floor Room 2

Room 2 has no cornice surviving. The fireplace again conforms to a small Gothick grate, although the mantelshelf brackets are solid. Either side of the fireplace is a large cupboard with panelled doors. The skirting conforms with that throughout the upper floor (Drawing no. 2, type 03).

First Floor Room 3

Again no cornice is present in Room 3, but the skirting is profile type 03 in common with the rest of the upper floor. The door has six raised and fielded panels surrounded by the standard architrave (Drawing no. 4, type 02). The fireplace is the standard Gothick type with the exception of being without a mantelshelf, but with a marble surround. The hearth stone or tiles have been removed exposing brick beneath.

First Floor Rooms 4 and 6

Rooms 4 and 6 are very similar in size and layout, although room 6 has been considerably altered by the insertion of bathroom facilities. The cornice moulding of these two rooms differs from that seen in the passageway (Drawing no. 1, type 04). Room 6 differs in that it also has a chair rail – it is the only room to do so.

First Floor Room 5

This room has undergone considerable alteration with the insertion of the stair rising from the central passage below. No cornice survives and the skirting has been replaced. A wide opening has been inserted through the passageway partition and the scar of an earlier blocked door can be traced in the passageway to the south of Arch C. The Gothick firegrate is still intact within room 5 however the mantelshelf has been removed.

First Floor Room 7

The same cornice profile as seen in the passageway extends around room 7 (type 01). The fireplace is significantly different from the others in that the fireplace is of a late Georgian/early Victorian style of a waisted hobgrate with decorative motifs and garlands to either side. The surround and mantelshelf are similar however to those seen elsewhere in the upper floors (Plate 10). In the centre of the ceiling is an ornate metal ventilation grille.

First Floor Room 8

Like room 7 the cornice in room 8 conforms to that seen in the passageway type 01. Here the fireplace is the standard Gothick style with a slate hearth and a perforated bracketed mantle shelf.

Roof Structure (Drawing no. 19)

The roof structure of the East Wing of the Inner Courtyard is uniformly characterised by king post roof trusses, each truss composed of tie beam, a pair of principal rafters or blades with a central king post rising from the tie beam to the ridge. Braces rise from a shoulder near the base of the king post to meet the principal rafters. The two rows of butt-purlins, the ridge piece and the wall Plate form the longitudinal members. Each of the roof trusses is numbered in Roman numerals on each north face, Truss I starting at the south end based upon the masonry wall which forms the north wall of the south wing. In addition truss number X has a carpenter's mark scratched onto the king post. The roof covering to the east is stone tile, laid in diminishing courses, to the west it is true slate. The principal rafter of truss number II has failed on the east side and the truss has subsequently been strengthened. In addition truss XIV has been supported with braces added to the king post. All the trusses are pegged with wooden dowels.

The earlier roof structure of with rafters is clearly seen in the roof of the south wing, demonstrating the later addition of the roof of the east wing.

The north wing and south wing exhibit clearly different and earlier roof structures, with heavy oak collar trusses, the collars morticed into the principal rafters.

DISCUSSION

The historical analysis of the East Wing of the Inner Courtyard has found that there is no evidence to support the theory that the construction of this range dates from the 1720s. The external fabric, the intact nature and character of the openings together with fixtures and fittings within the range would point towards a later, nineteenth century date. That the range has benefited from Penson's input in the mid nineteenth century seems certain, but to what extent is the question; did his works extend to the building of the range itself or was he simply refurbishing an existing building?

The two early paintings of c.1700 which illustrate Newton house show existing buildings which correspond with the North and South Wing of the Inner Courtyard. Interestingly the southern range appears to show a return on the east side, with a gable end facing north and corresponding roughly with the position of the later East Wing. This return is not visible in the roof structure, and there is no apparent sign of it in the visible masonry.

Structurally, within the visible fabric of the East Wing of the Inner Courtyard, there is little evidence of multiple phases of alteration or modifications in line with the theory that the building is originally of eighteenth century origin. The exterior masonry fabric, where it can be seen, is consistent with a single phase of construction. The west elevation of the East Wing demonstrates stonework

consistent with openings which show no visible sign of being modified or enlarged. The case is less certain on the east side and there is the suggestion that the windows may have undergone some modification, but this elevation is less visible and heavily obscured by render and vegetation. What can be seen, however, does not suggest large scale remodelling.

The structure of the roof is intact and fitting with a mid nineteenth century construction. If the East Wing were to have an earlier origin it suggests that the roof has been entirely stripped and rebuilt removing any evidence of an earlier roof structure. This seems unlikely when there is only a hundred years between these phases and there is no record of a catastrophic event which would have caused the roof to be removed wholesale. Obviously the roof may have been entirely reconstructed if the height of the building were increased, however there is no evidence of the walls being raised in height to accord with this theory.

Internally the fixtures and fittings seem to give a mixed story. There are a number of fittings which seem to belong to the period encompassing the late eighteenth, early nineteenth century, including a number of raised and fielded, six panelled doors corresponding to those seen in Newton House (Suhr; Type 1, Fig ED1/MD1). The fireplaces in ground floor room 7 and first floor room 7 also appear to date stylistically from the late 18th or early 19th century and contrast with the Gothick fireplaces which predominate elsewhere in the East Wing. The arches which line the passageway in the upper floors would sit well within the late eighteenth century, early nineteenth century and the skirting and cornice profiles would be consistent with this date.

The number of fixtures and fittings which appear to correspond with a late eighteenth, early nineteenth century date may strongly suggest the East Wing originates from this period. However, fixtures and fittings can be deceptive and are open to be reused, relocated or reproduced, often with the intention of giving an appearance of antiquity.

There are a number of points of comparison with Newton house itself; the Gothick fireplaces with quatrefoil details found in the turret rooms of Newton House are ostensibly from the same pattern book as those which predominate the upper floor of the East Wing. The turret rooms and the fittings therein are attributed to Penson's refurbishments of 1856. The doors and door furniture are also very closely related, indicating that Penson had a hand in fitting out the East Wing.

Given Penson's refurbishments in Newton House and his use of stylistically earlier features, it seems entirely possible that architectural features and details have been reused or recreated throughout the East Wing, either in renovating the rooms for guest accommodation or even the construction of the building at this time.

It is possible that within the ground floor survives earlier fabric, hinted at by the raised floor in the central section of the ground floor and the vaulted chambers. These areas might hide the precursor to the nineteenth century service block and guest accommodation which is what we see today.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FURTHER WORK

The analysis of the East Wing should not be seen in isolation, undoubtedly the questions that have been raised may be resolved by further work and analysis of the adjoining wings will undoubtedly shed further light on the origins and development of the inner courtyard.

- Examination of the paint schemes on the each of the passageway arches should help to demonstrate their authenticity. A specialist would be able to draw up an appropriate scheme of investigation.
- Careful paint removal around the doorways along the passageway may reveal the room numbers said to have been recently painted over.
- Further investigation and recording of the roof space – particularly at where the two wings, north and south meet. This would help provide clarity over the development of the courtyard.
- Removal of the render on the east facing wall would confirm the historical integrity of this elevation.
- The courtyard as a whole ought to be examined with a view to identifying suitable timbers for dendrochronological dating, although it is thought to be of limited potential within the East Wing itself.
- The twentieth century doorway within the first floor passage should be removed to restore the open passage with views through the arches.
- The closing of the present (twentieth century) opening in First Floor Room 5 and the reopening of the door blocking would restore the symmetry of the guest rooms' access from the passageway.

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FIGURES

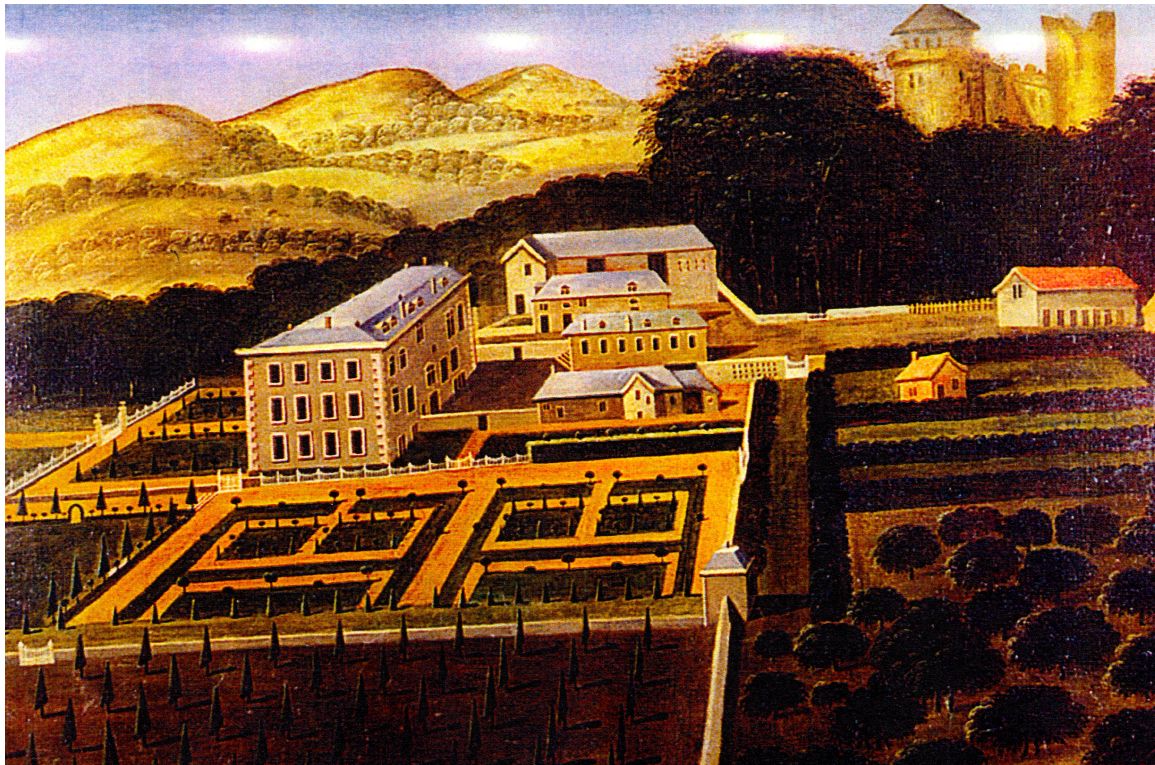


Figure 2: Newton House from the North c. 1700
by permission of Lord Dynefor (Original painting at Newton House)

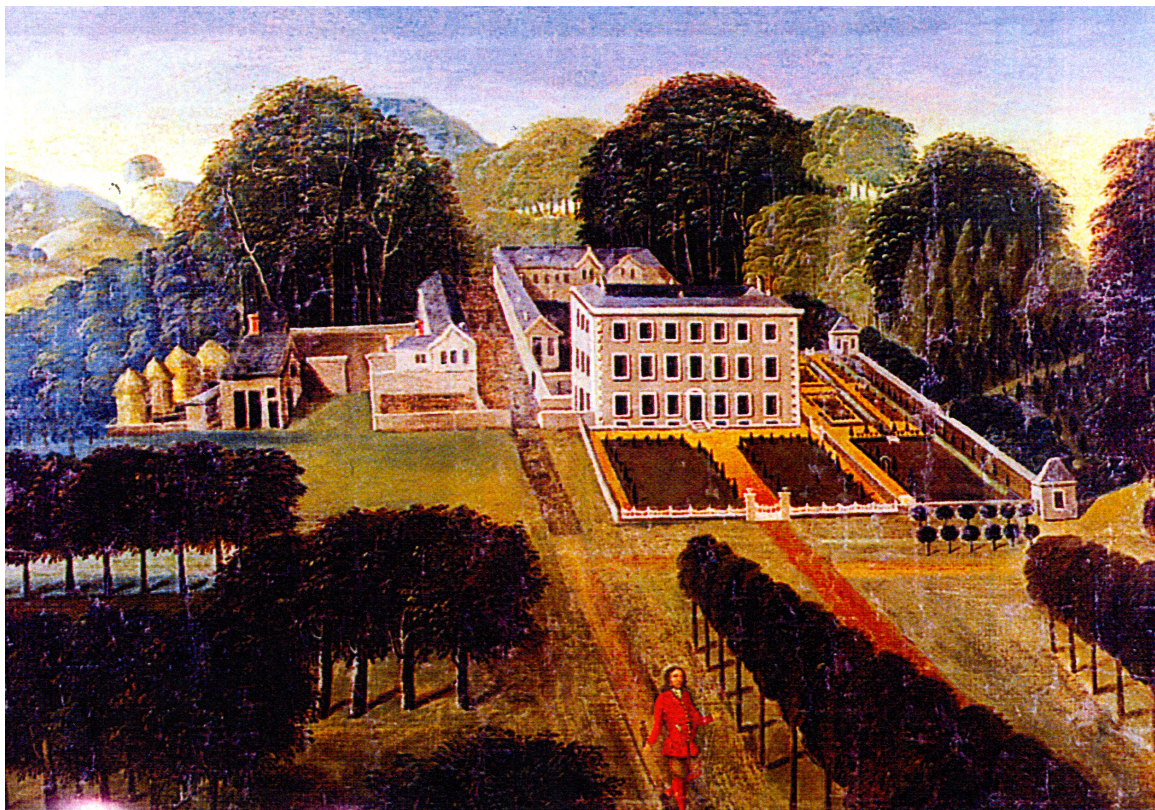


Figure 3: Newton House from the East c. 1703
by permission of Lord Dynefor (Original painting at Newton House)

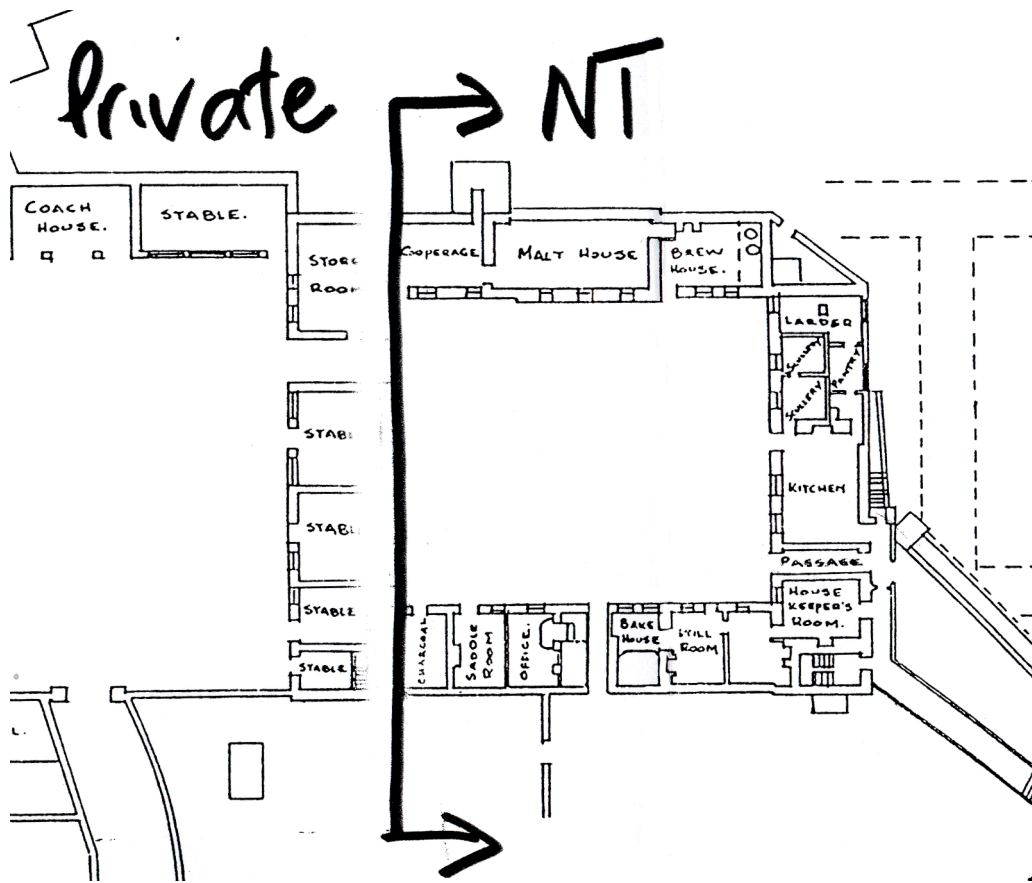


Figure 4: Extract from a pre 1896 plan of 'Dynevor Castle'

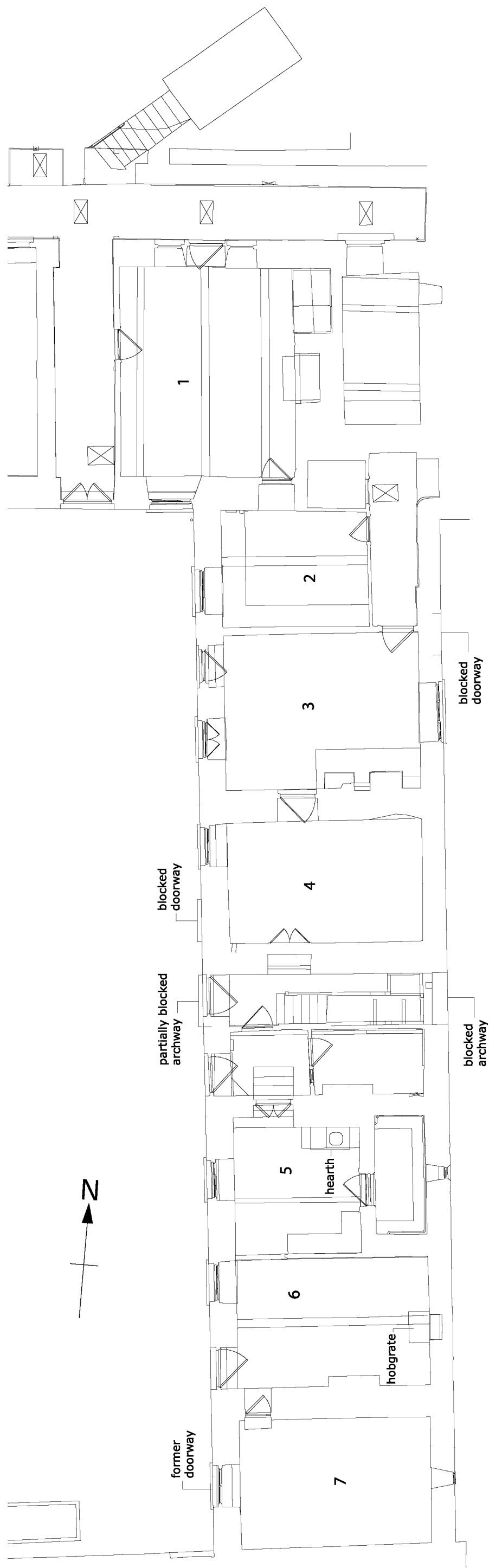


Figure 5: Ground Floor Plan

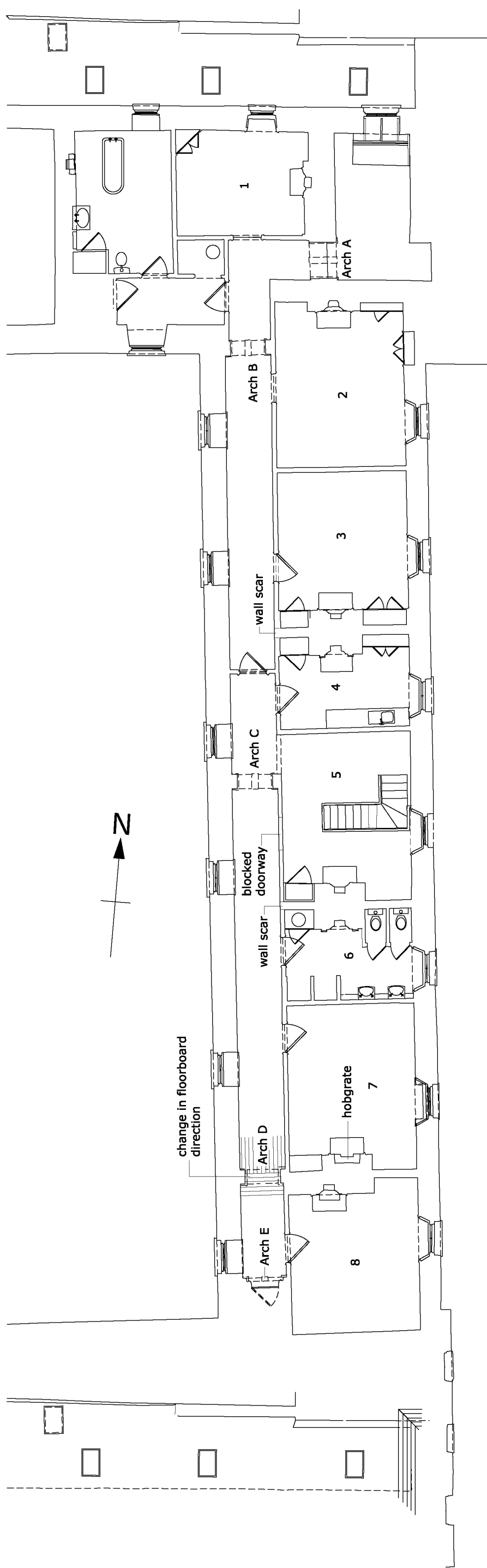


Figure 6: First Floor Plan

Sketch Plan of Roof

Not to scale.

Photo. numbers in brackets.

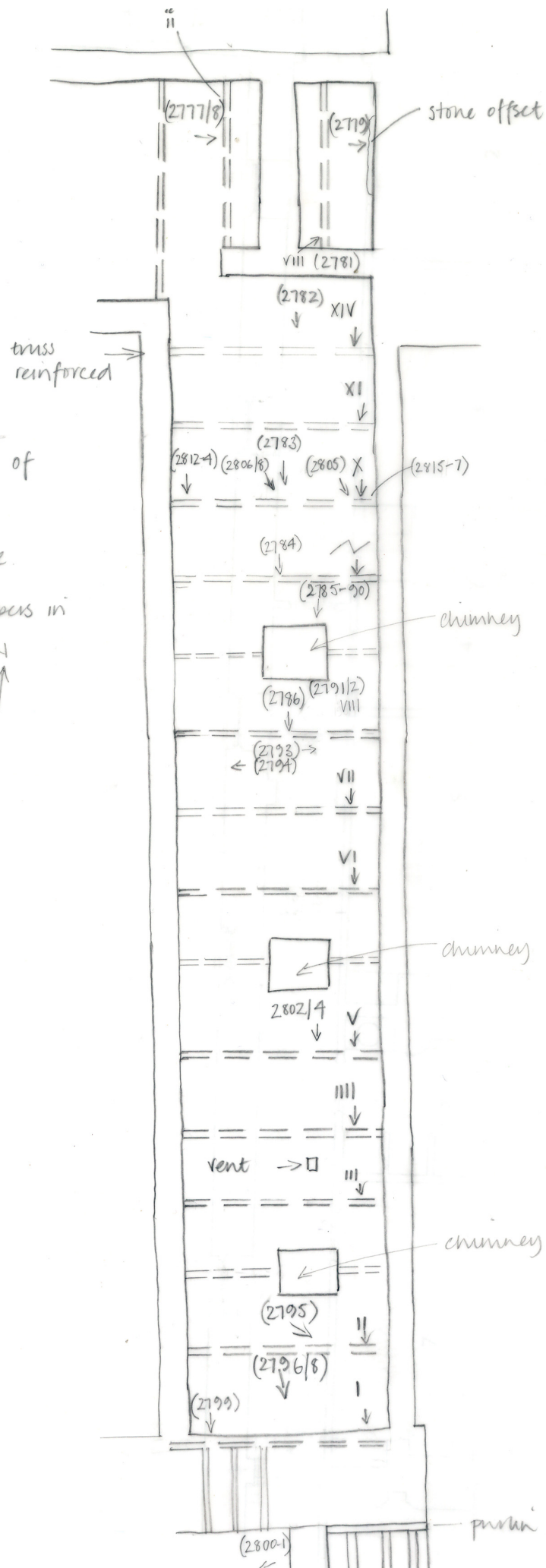


Figure 7:
Sketch Plan
of Roof

PLATES



Plate 1: The west elevation of the East Wing of the Inner Courtyard



Plate 2: The east elevation of the East Wing of the Inner Courtyard



Plate 3: The metal door and architrave to the strong room



Plate 4: An ornate hobgrate in Ground Floor room 6



Plate 5: Looking south down the passageway at Arch C



Plate 6: East Wing door handle



Plate 7: Newton House door handle



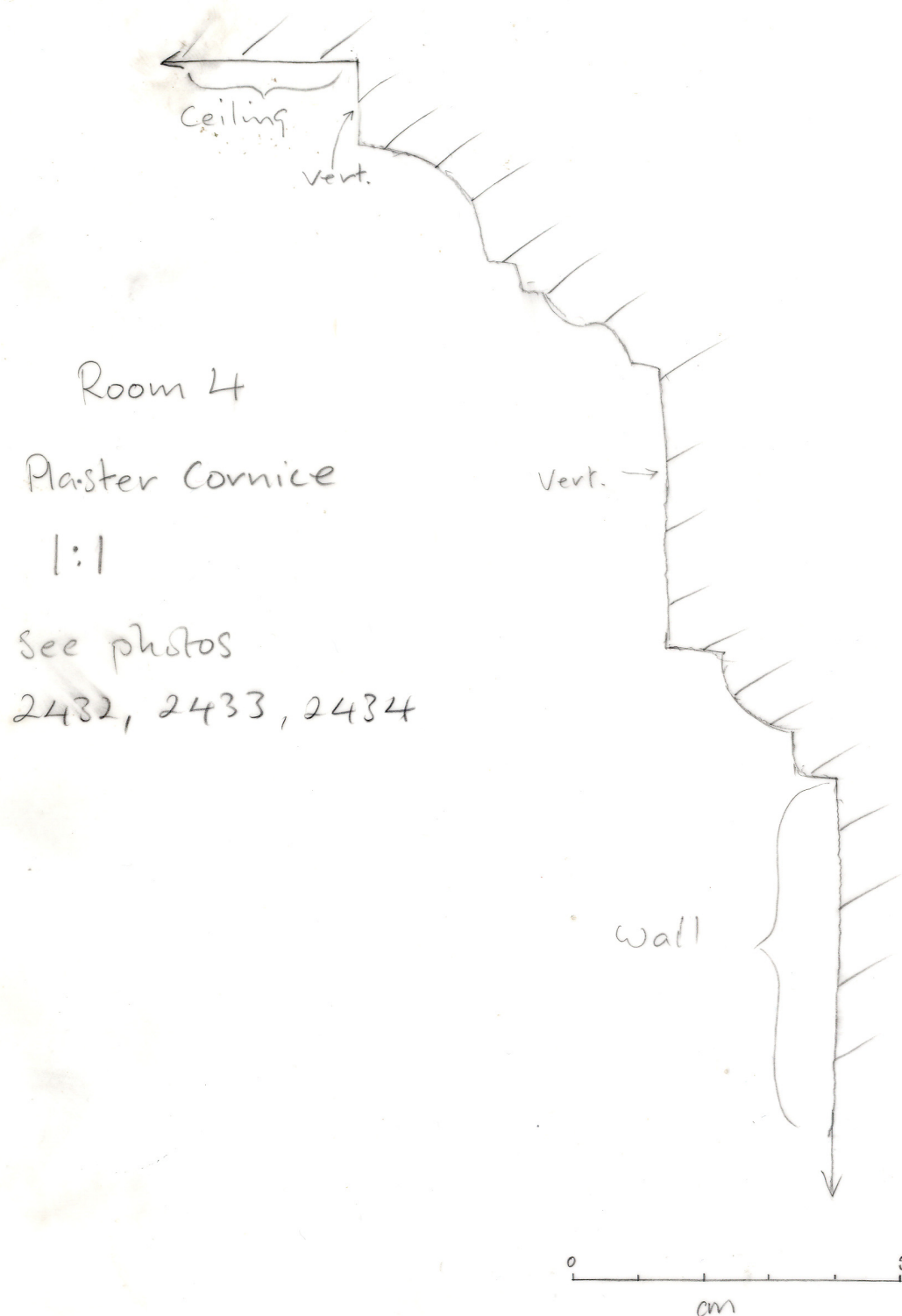
Plate 8: Firegrate in the East Wing



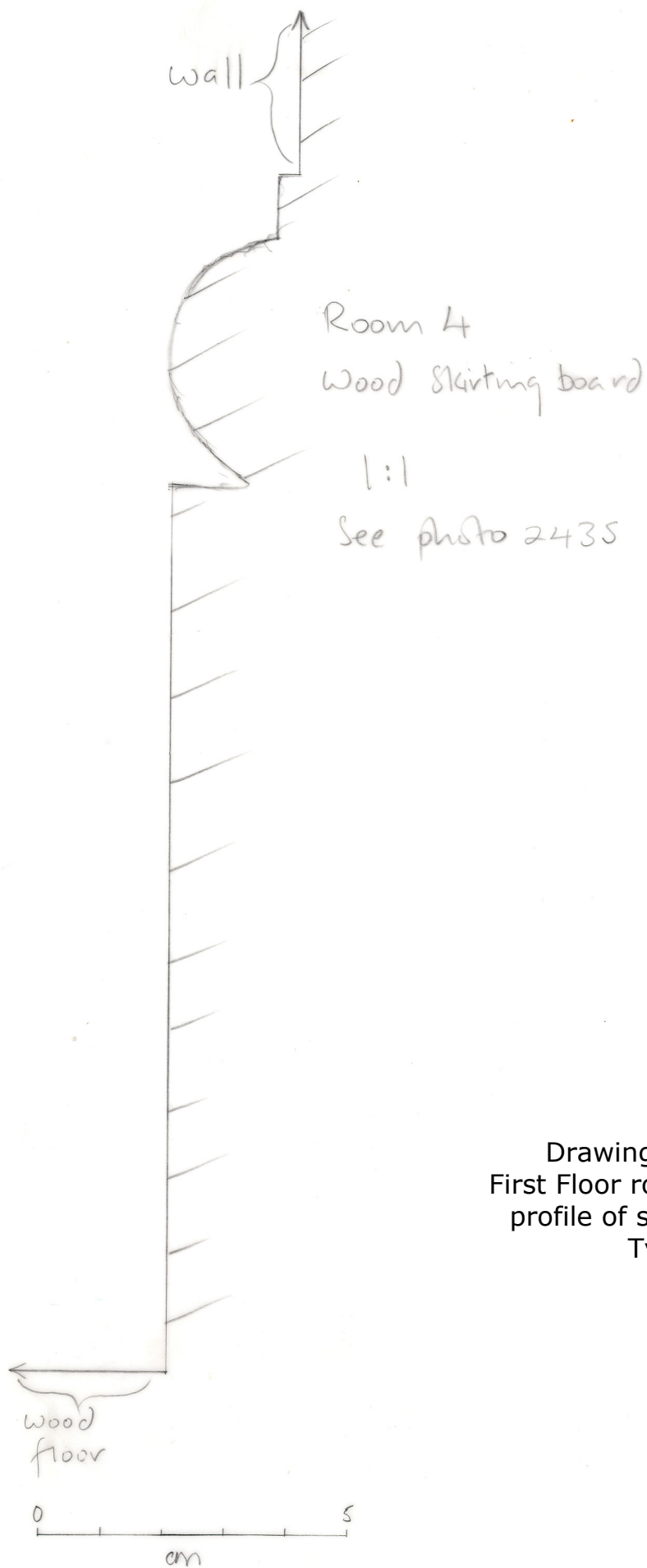
Plate 9: Firegrate in Newton House turret room



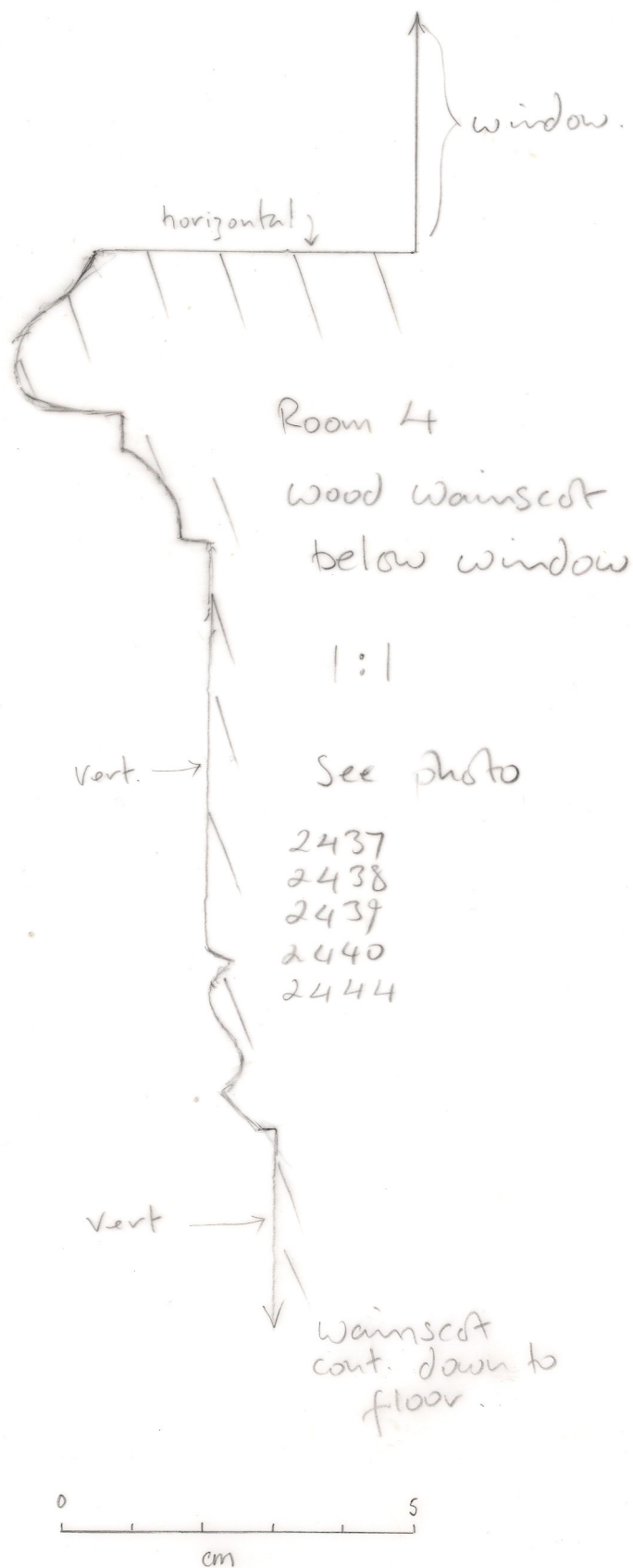
Plate 10: A hobgrate fireplace in First Floor room 7.



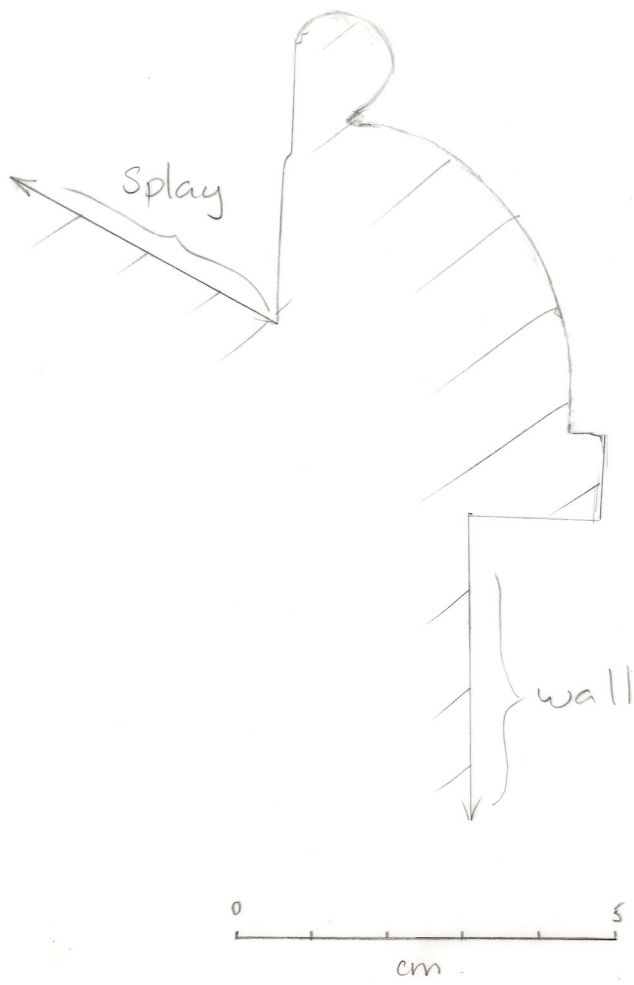
Drawing no 1: First Floor room 4, profile of plaster cornice
Type 04



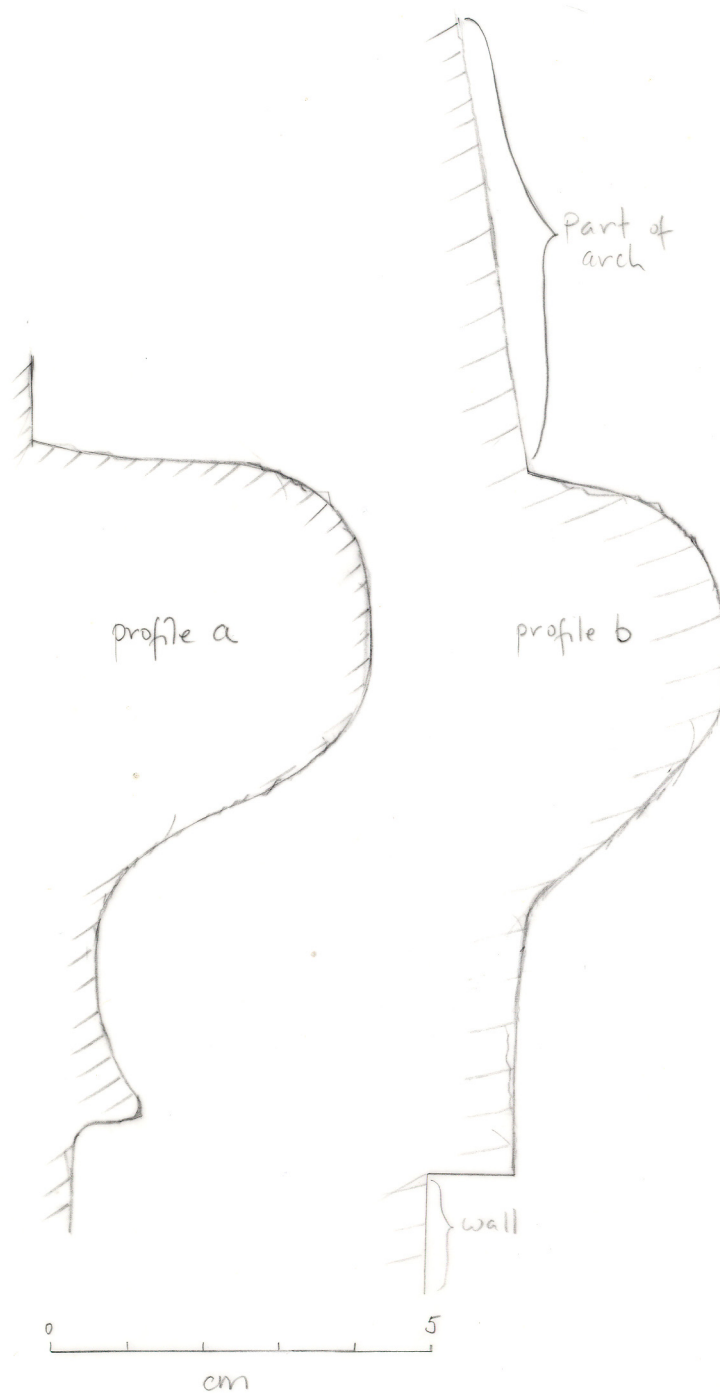
Drawing no 2:
First Floor room 4,
profile of skirting
Type 03



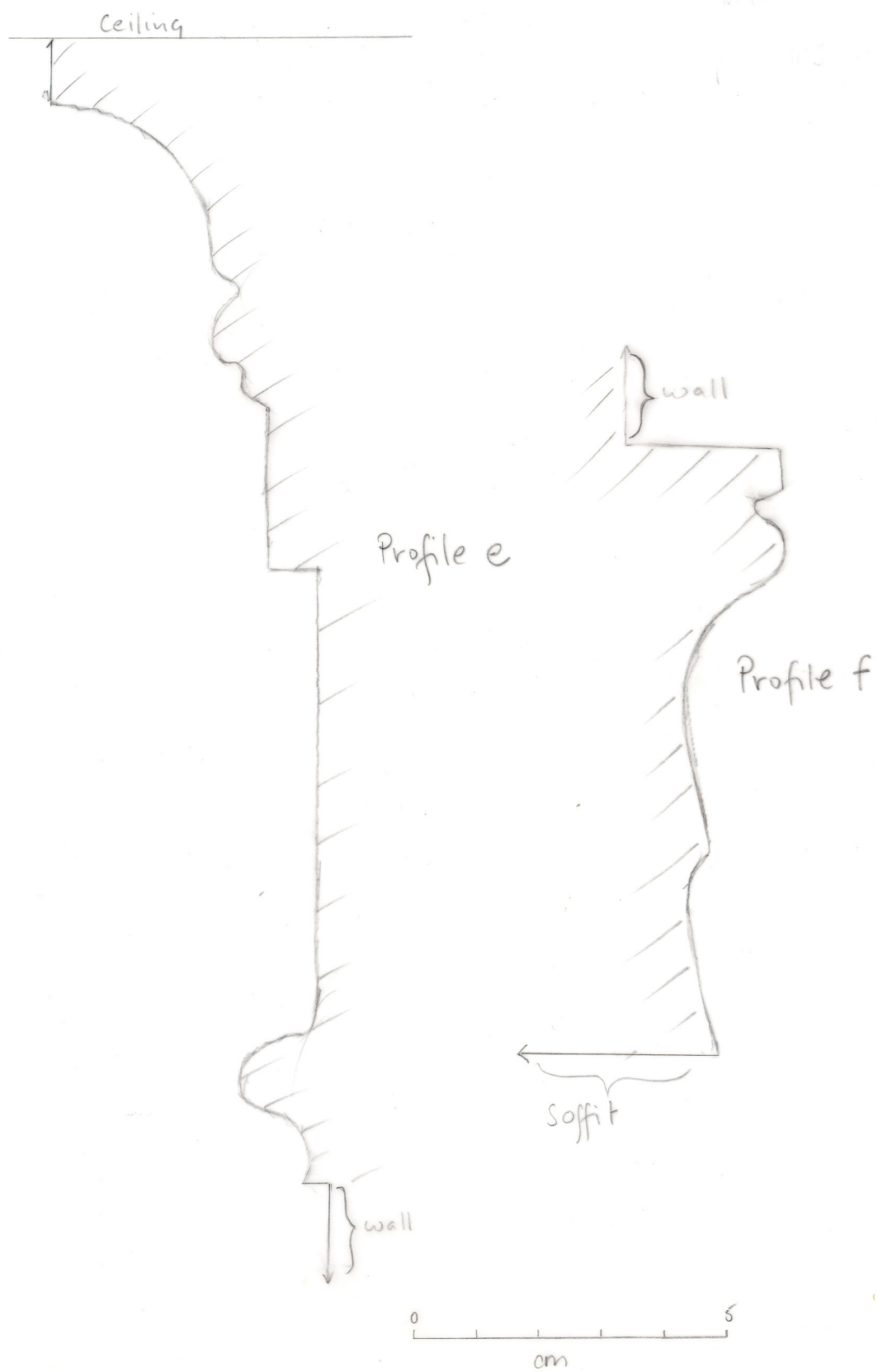
Drawing no 3: First Floor room 4, profile of wainscot below window



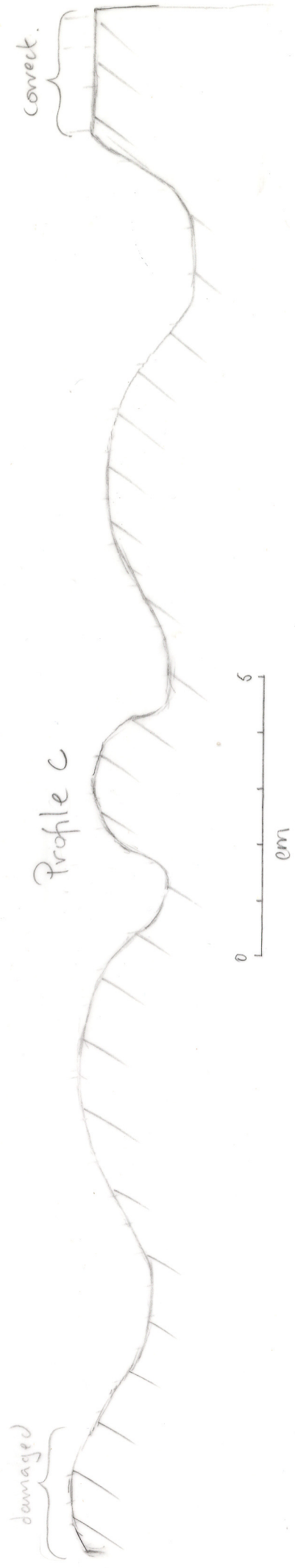
Drawing no 4: First Floor room 4,
profile of window architrave



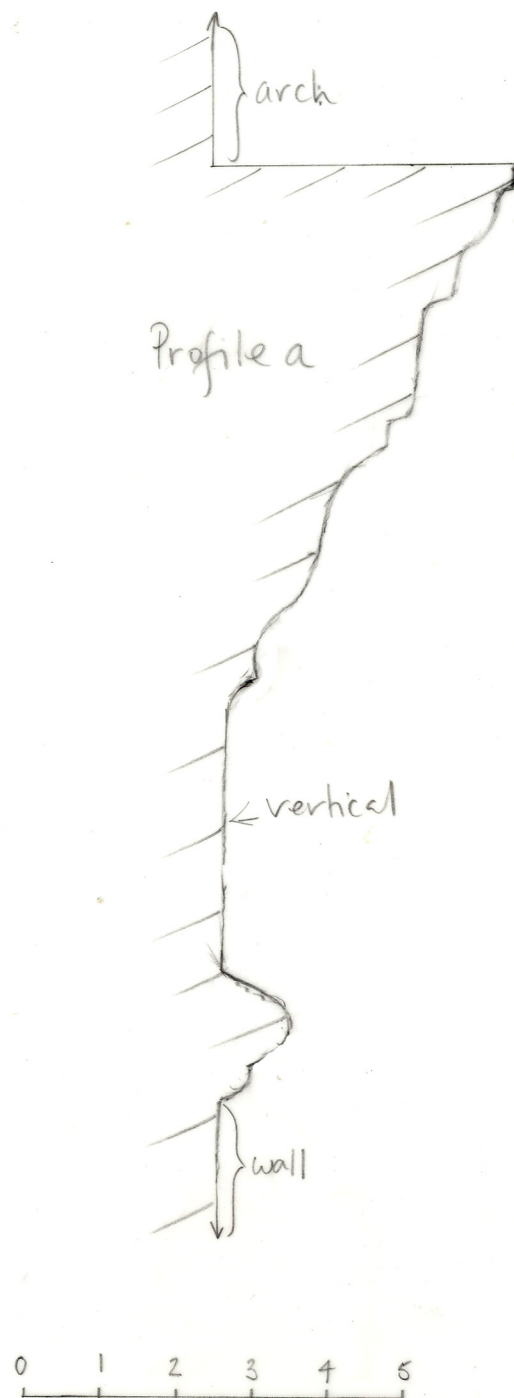
Drawing no 5: Arch A
Profiles a & b



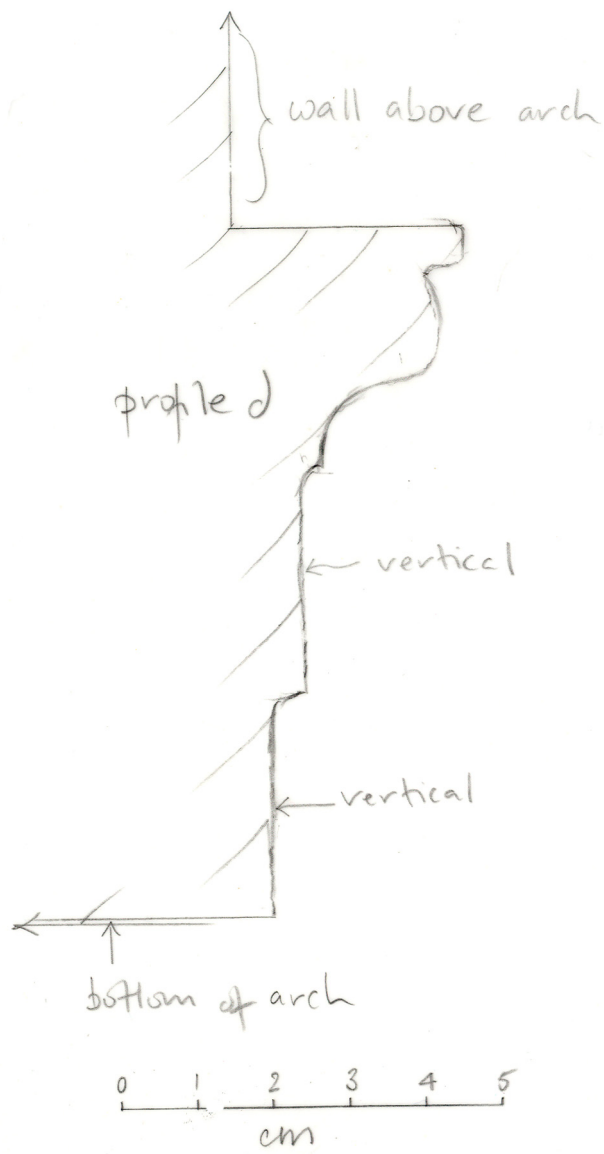
Drawing no 6: Arch A
Profiles e & f



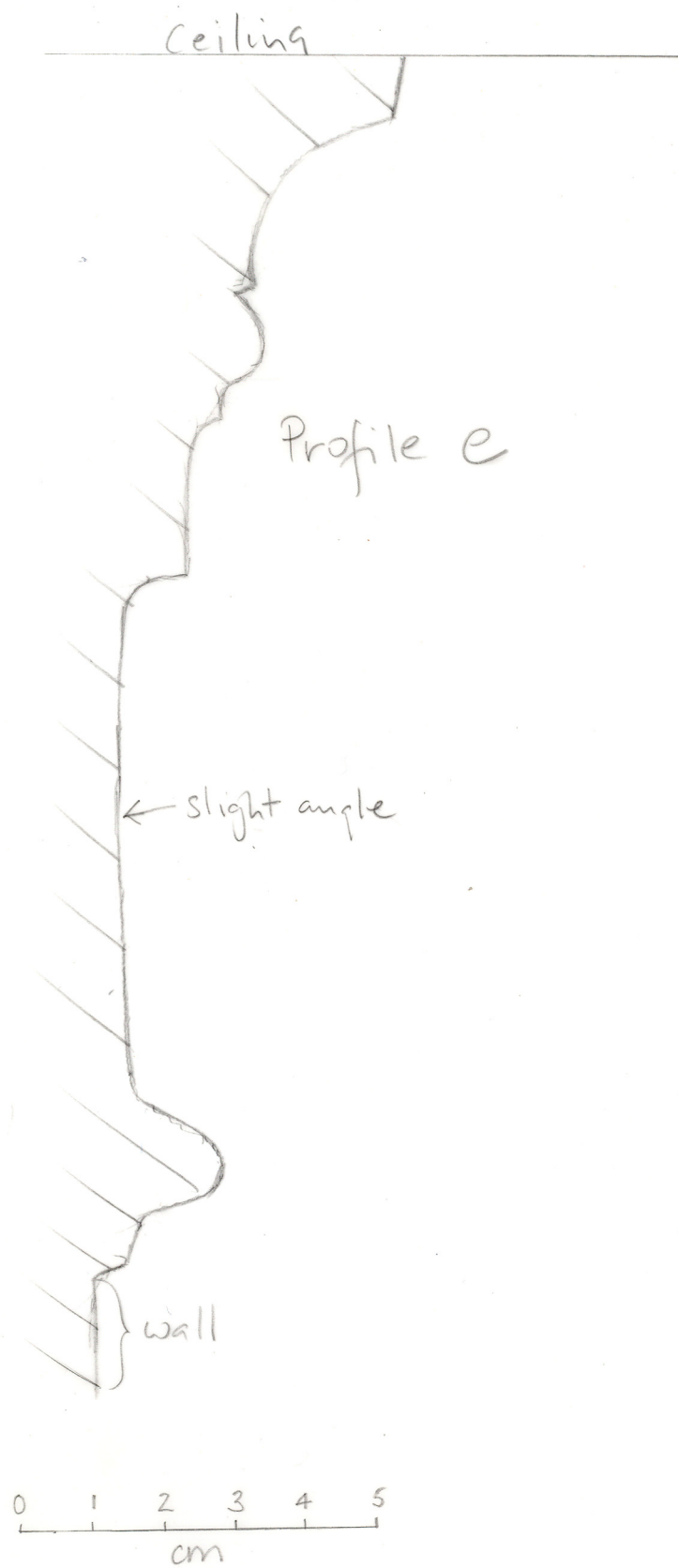
Drawing no 7: Arch A profiles c & d



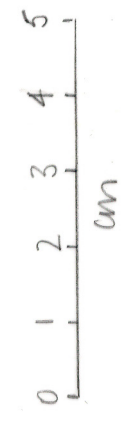
Drawing no. 9: Arch C profile a



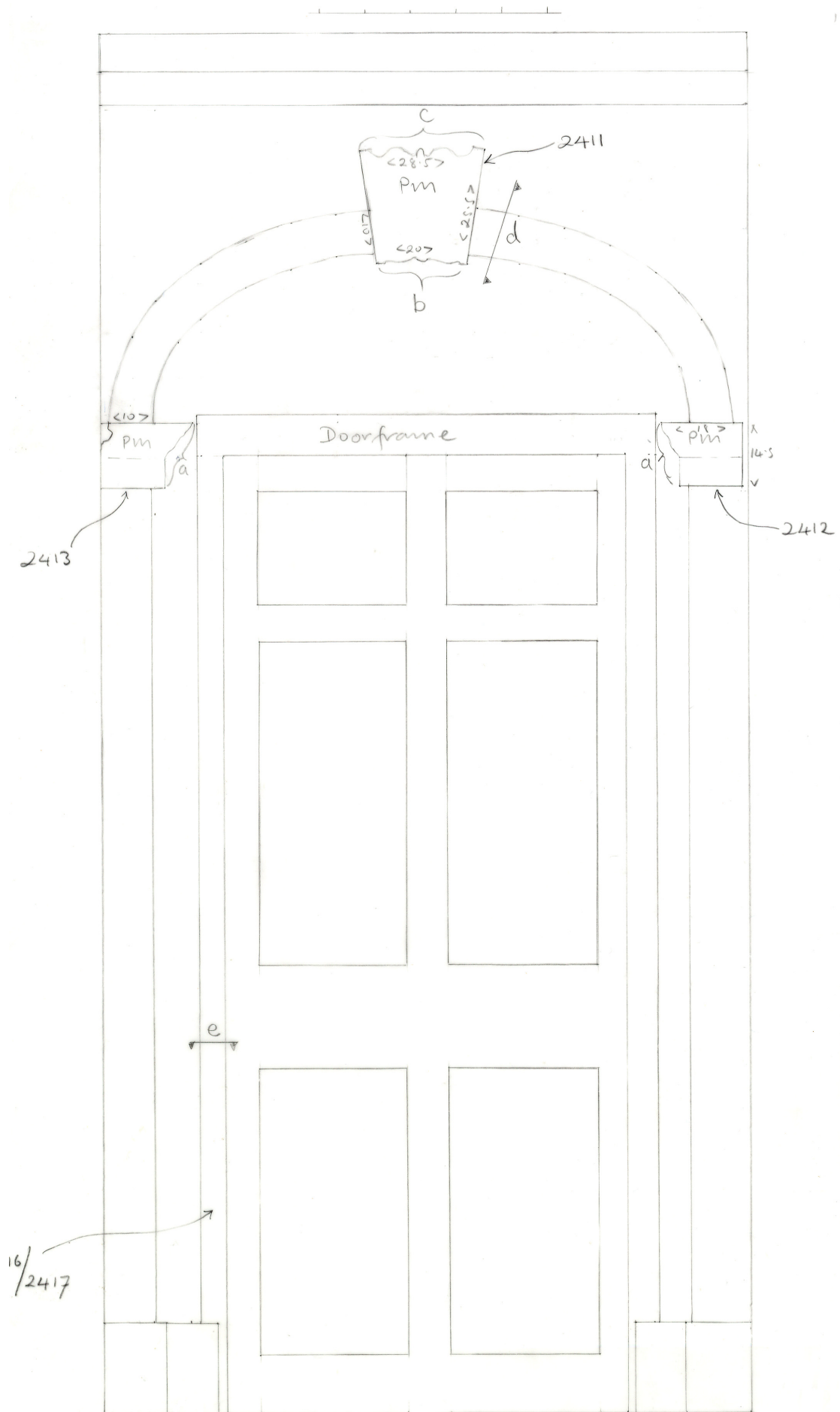
Drawing no 10: Arch C profile d



Drawing no 11: Arch C Profile e
Type 01



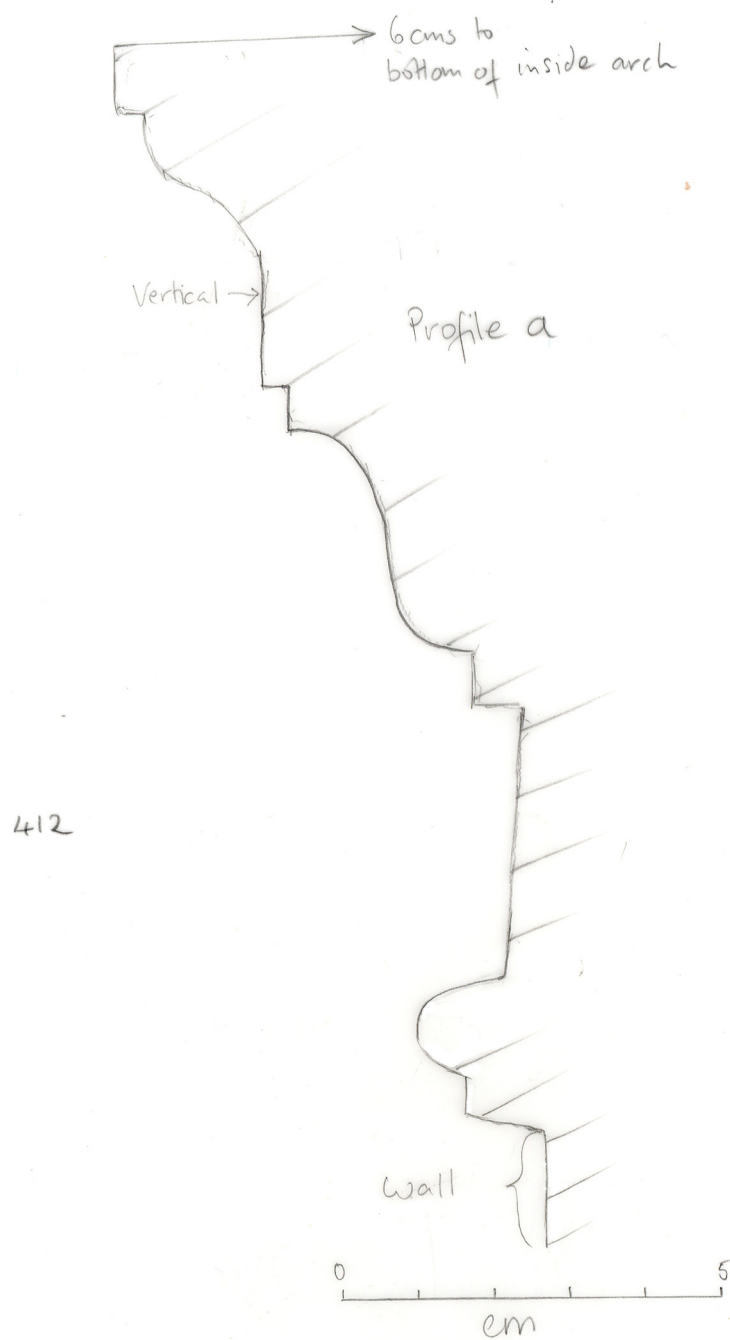
Drawing no 12: Arch C Profiles b & c



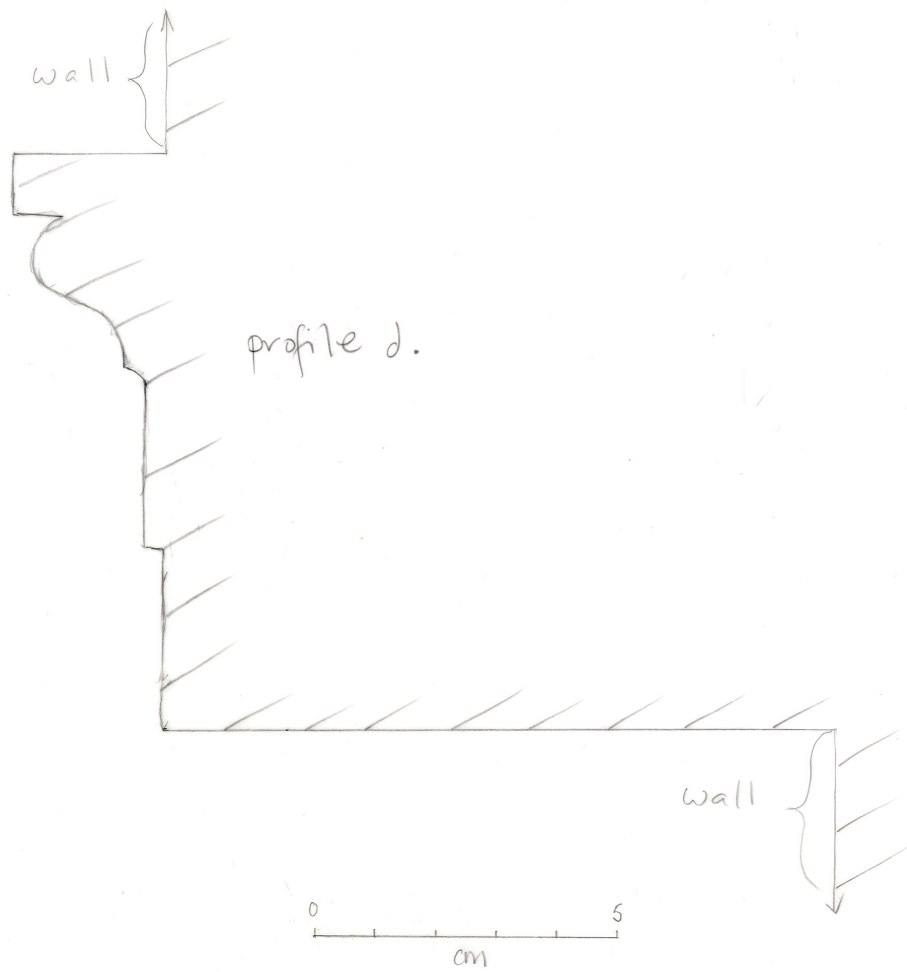
Drawing no 13: Arch E



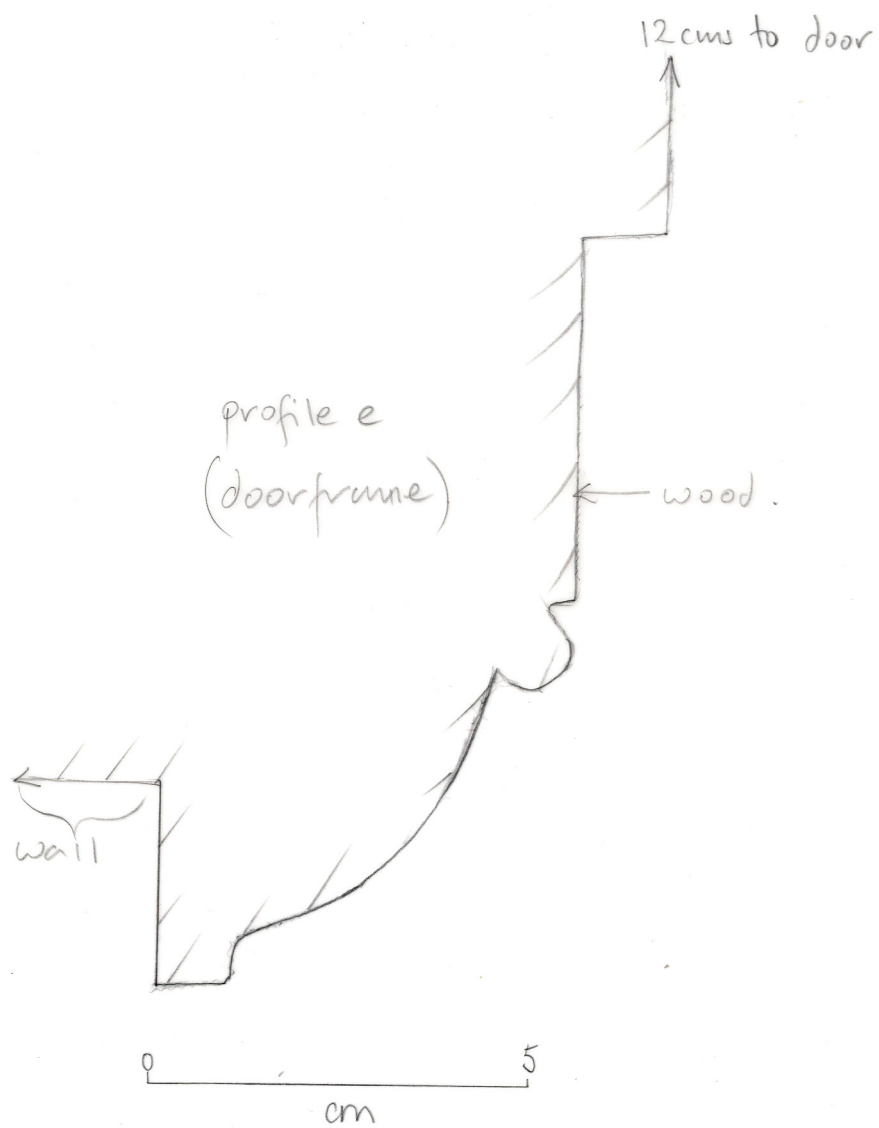
Drawing no 14: Arch E Profiles b and c



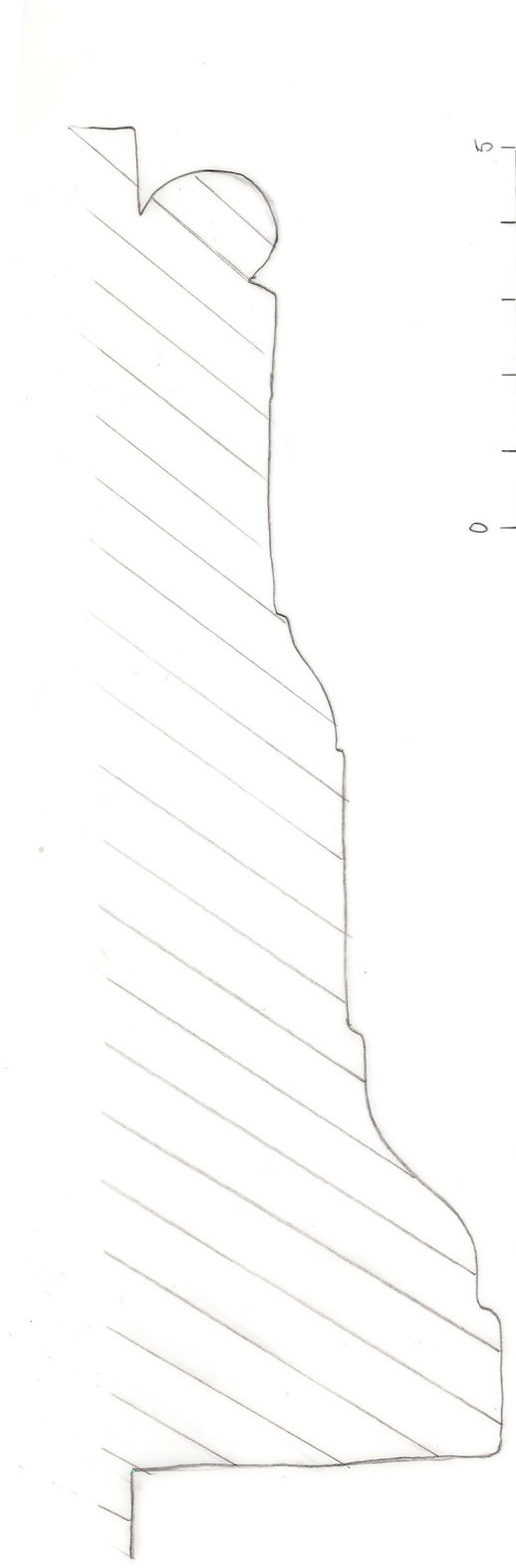
Drawing no 15: Arch E Profile a



Drawing no 16: Arch E Profile d



Drawing no 17: Arch E doorway architrave

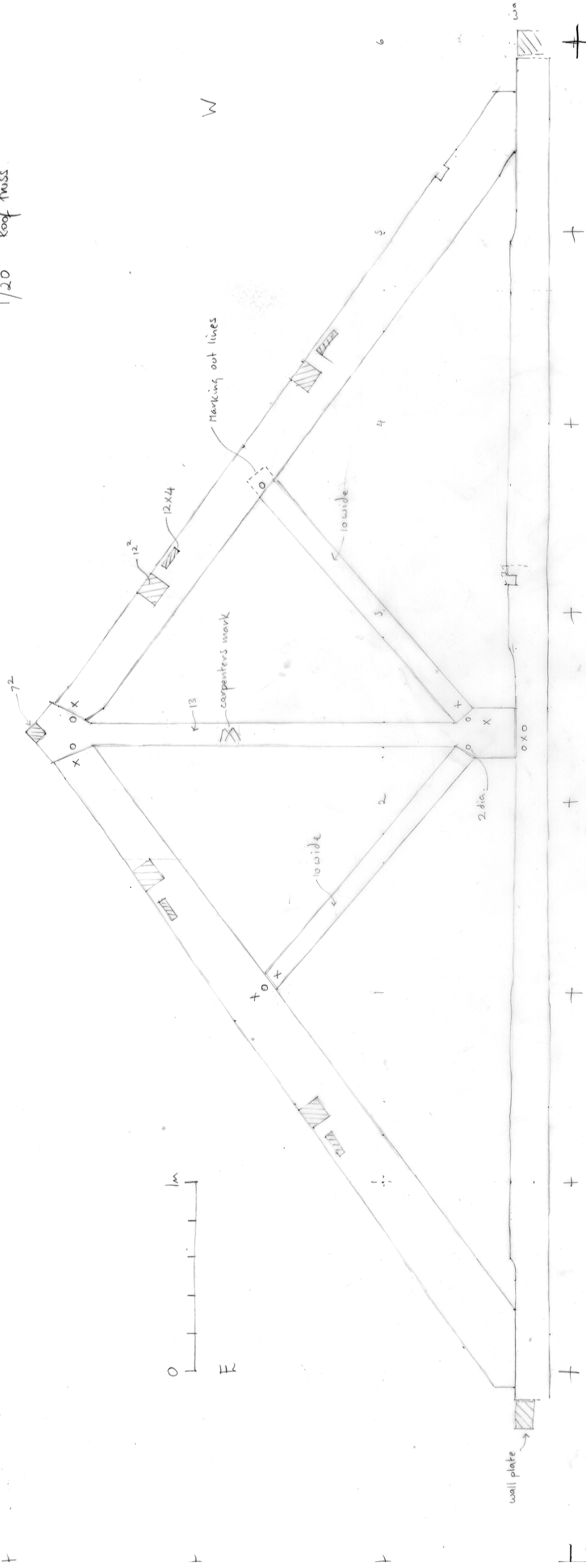


Drawing no 18: Architrave to strong room doorway

+

Dynefure East wing 1/20 12 march '07

1/20 Roof truss



Drawing no 19: Roof truss (number X)

APPENDIX A:

BRIEF SPECIFICATION

Brief for:

Historical Survey of the East Wing of the Inner Courtyard, Newton House, Llandeilo.

1.0 Background

1.1 Whilst significant research has been carried out into the general history of Dinefwr Park and much is known of the development of the Landscape, no comprehensive investigation of the development of Newton House and its two courtyards has yet been undertaken (for plan see appendix 1). The National Trust has owned Newton House itself since 1990 and has carried out several phases of repair and restoration during this time. Elements of the development of the house are therefore well known although there remain many gaps in understanding.

1.2 The Trust acquired the Inner Courtyard in February 2006 (the Outer courtyard and mid range remains in private ownership). The Trust intend to relocate the South West Wales Area Office to the East Wing of the Inner Courtyard as soon as possible but is committed to understanding the historic development and significance of this wing before starting any building work. The Trust will commission similar work for the rest of the wings in due course.

1.3 With this aim in mind a full survey of the layout and external elevations has already been carried out (see appendix 2). A structural and condition survey will also be commissioned. The purpose of this brief is to commission an historical survey to complete the Trust's understanding of the wing.

2.0 Current Understanding

2.1 Newton House is thought to have been constructed c.1660, the Inner Courtyard added between 1720 and 1760 and the outer in 1780¹. The Inner Courtyard is believed to have been formed by adapting and extending barns which pre-date the building of the house². Certainly recent visual surveys by the Royal Commission and Cadw would confirm the view that the north wing and mid range (the latter in private ownership still) contain seventeenth century roof timbers. The west wing is believed to date from the late seventeenth / early eighteenth century and appears to be an in fill between the two earlier barns. Until recently the east wing was thought to have been built c.1720 although the roof construction and moulding detail on first floor joinery appear to indicate a nineteenth century date.

3.0 Scope of Work

3.1 The purpose of this brief is to commission a more robust and comprehensive investigation into the development of the east wing. Whilst it is acknowledged that some context will need to be drawn from the adjoining wings and from

¹ Please see Dinefwr Historic Survey 1989 and the Dinefwr Conservation Plan 2004. The original reference is from the 7th Baron Dynevor's "Castles of Dynevor", although the primary source is not quoted. Therefore these dates must be open to question.

² Please see the two landscape paintings owned by the National Trust of the house c.1700
K:\Conservation\Historic Properties\Curator\ Carmarthenshire\DinefwrProject2005\Inner Courtyard\Brief for Inner Courtyard.doc

the house, the focus for this phase of the work is for the East Wing. It is anticipated that the research work will need to include:

- 3.2 An historic analysis of the structure of the building and architectural detailing of the East Wing (internal and external). This can (but does not have to be) done by annotating or adding to the survey recently completed by Russell Geomatics Limited. Please add to the library of photographs where necessary to illustrate a point. This should record: all evidence of earlier building work such as blocked openings, where buildings have been added to one another; fireplace details; corridor archway details etc.
- 3.3 A survey including diagrams and photographs which records details of joinery and mouldings at a scale of 1:1 - 1:10 including windows and doors.
- 3.4 A survey including diagrams and photographs of the roof construction, as well as an historic analysis.
- 3.5 A paint scrape and paint analysis from agreed points around the East Wing. The National Trust can help with practitioners for this work.
- 3.6 Research of the documents held at the National Library in Aberystwyth (catalogued and un-catalogued boxes). Archives held at the Carmarthenshire Records Office may also prove relevant.
- 3.7 The outcome should be a report of findings with evidence of phasing and the above work appended as well as a summary.
- 4.0 Process for appointment of contractor
The work will be awarded via a tender process. Tenders should be returned no later than noon on the 17th November 2006.
- 4.1 To help with the pricing process contractors are invited to tender for five days work into the archives held at the Area Office, the National Library and Carmarthenshire Record Office. *It would be useful to show this element as a day rate should this period need to be reduced or extended.*
- 4.2 The principal contact at The National Trust will be Stephanie Evans, Curator (07769 916786 or 01558 825130). If you would like to visit the Inner Courtyard prior to submission, please ring to make an appointment.
- 5.0 Delivery
The National Trust would like delivery of the report no later than January 31st 2007.
- 5.1 Please supply four bound copies of the report as well as the report and photographs / diagrams (not embedded in the text) on disc. Diagrams should be produced in Autocad.

- 5.2 Regular contact with National Trust staff is encouraged.
- 6.0 Contractual Conditions
- 6.1 The contractor will provide a copy of a risk assessment prior to commencing the work. The National Trust will provide a record of information exchange.
- 6.2 Evidence of public liability to the value of no less than 2 million pounds and professional indemnity to the value of no less than 1 million pounds must be provided to the National Trust.
- 6.3 The contractor will take sole responsibility for observing all current legal requirements concerning themselves or their employees Health and Safety. The project will be undertaken by the contractor on an independent basis. Staff working on the project will not be deemed employees of the National Trust.
- 6.4 The National Trust will retain full copyright over the information, reports and plans and shall have absolute control over the use and or dissemination of that information. The contractor will be fully accredited wherever material is used or re-produced. It is National Trust policy to deposit copies of archaeological reports with all relevant regional archives and the National Monuments Record.

Appendices supplied with this Brief:

1. CD of the recently completed Russell Geomatics Limited survey. Please call if you would prefer paper copies of these.
2. A layout of the House and Courtyards, undated but pre 1896 when the Billiard Room was added. Also showing National Trust ownership.
3. Photocopy of extract from History of Dinefwr by Chris Dignam et al 1989.
4. Collection of papers concerning the history of Newton from 1934.
5. Copies of Landscape paintings of Dinefwr c.1700. Originals hung at Newton House

HISTORICAL ANALYSIS DINEFWR HOUSE, INNER COURTYARD, EAST WING SPECIFICATION

INTRODUCTION

This project specification has been prepared by Cambria Archaeology Field Operations in response to a request from the National Trust to provide a costed specification for historical analysis of the East Wing of the Inner Courtyard at Dinefwr House. The following specification is in accordance with the appropriate standards of the Institute of Field Archaeologists.

Cambria Archaeology Field Operations has considerable experience of this type of project and always operates to best professional practice. The conclusions in a final report will be based on a considered assessment of the collected data. Cambria Archaeology Field Operations has its own Health and Safety Policy, and all works are covered by appropriate Employer's Liability/Public Liability and Professional Indemnity Insurances.

Cambria Archaeology is an IFA Registered Archaeological Organisation.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

Building and documentary analyses of the East Wing of the Inner Courtyard at Dinefwr House in order to better understand its chronology, development and function.

BUILDING ANALYSES

A comprehensive survey of the building has been prepared for the National Trust. This survey will be annotated with information gathered during this proposed work.

In order to understand building development analysis of architectural details (mouldings, arches, door types, fireplaces, roof trusses, etc) will be undertaken. This analysis will be supported by drawings (at 1:1 for mouldings and one 1:10 for other features) and digital drawings. It is anticipated that approximately 10-12 detailed drawings will be required. Comparisons with details in other areas of the house will be made in order to place the East Wing in its developmental context.

Paint scrapes from several locations will be suggested - the analysis will not form part of this contract.

DOCUMENTARY RESEARCH

A scan of 18th-19th century manufactures' catalogues will be undertaken to identify parallels to the architectural details in the East Wing.

A search of documents held by the National Library of Wales and Carmarthen Record Office will be made in an attempt to locate details of building work, repairs etc. undertaken on the East Wing. The amount of available documentation is uncertain, so initially two days have been allowed for a rapid scan of the documentation, with a day rate provided for further work, if required.

REPORTING AND ARCHIVE

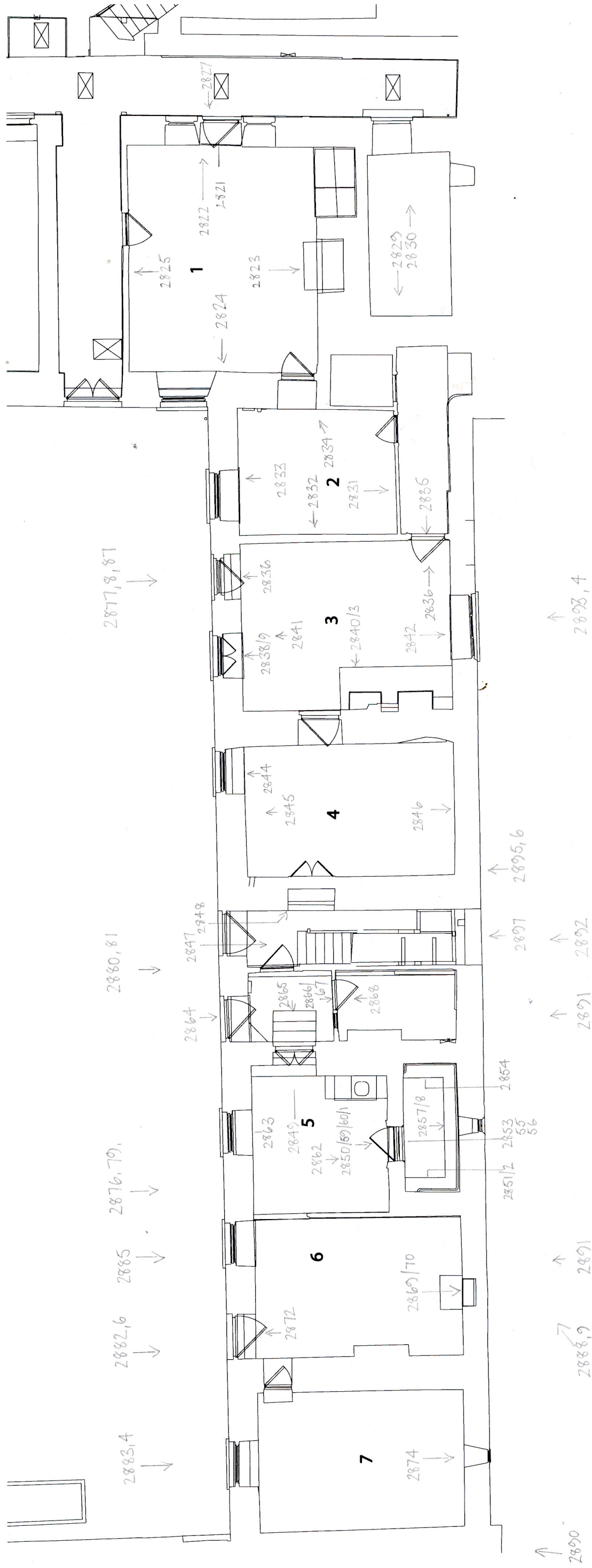
The report will include a description of all findings together with an interpretation of the results. It will be supported by drawings of architectural details, phase plans (if necessary), photographs, and amended AutoCad survey drawings. An archive including field drawings, digital photographs and, if available, copies of historical documents will be prepared for the National Trust.

STAFF

The Project Manager will be K Murphy. Alice Pyper will undertake the building analysis, Hubert Wilson the drawing and D Schlee the documentary research. CVs are attached.

APPENDIX B

PHOTOGRAPHIC INDEX – SHOWING PHOTO DIRECTION AND NUMBERS CORRESPONDING TO FILENAMES ON CONTACT SHEETS



GROUND FLOOR PLAN

FIRST FLOOR PLANS

