

Colchester Archaeological Trust



**CAT Report 2097
Issued December 2024**

**Historic building recording at
Slough Wood Cottage, Slough Road, Danbury,
Essex, CM3 4LX**

October 2024



**CAT project ref.: 2024/09j
ECC code: EEX60240**

**Historic building recording at Slough Wood Cottage,
Slough Road, Danbury, Essex, CM3 4LX**

October 2024

NGR: TL 80211 03029

**Planning district.: Chelmsford
Planning ref.: 24/00596/FUL**

**CAT project ref.: 2024/09j
CAT Report 2097**

**ECC code: EEX60240
ECC monitor: Mark Baister
OASIS id: colchest3-528352**

**report prepared by
Chloé Hill & Sarah Veasey**

fieldwork by Sarah Veasey & Chloé Hill

**Commissioned by: Antony O'Toole
(Elegant Architectural Ltd)
On behalf of: homeowner**

Prepared by:	Chloé Hill PCIfA	Senior Post Excavation Assistant (Archiving)
Prepared by:	Sarah Veasey PCIfA	Project Officer (Archaeology & Historic Buildings)
Reviewed by:	Chris Lister MCIfA	Director, Business Operations
Reviewed and approved by:	Howard Brooks MCIfA	Senior Associate
Issued:	17/12/2024	

Colchester Archaeological Trust

Roman Circus House,
Roman Circus Walk,
Colchester,
Essex CO2 7GZ

tel.: 01206 501785

email: services@catuk.org

web: www.catuk.org

Contents	
1 Summary	1
2 Introduction	1
3 Aims	1
4 Methodology	2
5 Historical background	3
6 Building recording descriptive record	7
7 Discussion	17
8 Acknowledgements	17
9 References	18
10 Abbreviations and glossary	18
11 Archive deposition	19
12 Contents of digital archive	19
Appendix 1 Full digital photographic record	20
Figures	after p44
OASIS data collection form	

List of maps

Map 1	Extract of the 1777 Chapman and André map, location of Slough Wood Cottage is shown in purple.	3
Map 2	Extract of the 1836-1839 tithe apportionment map. Slough Wood Cottage is shown in purple.	4
Map 3	Extract of the 1st edition 6-inch OS map from 1881. Slough Wood Cottage is highlighted in purple with possible, now demolished, outbuildings shown in green.	4
Map 4	Extract of the 1897 25-inch OS map. Slough Wood Cottage is highlighted in purple alongside the possible, now demolished, outbuildings shown in green.	5
Map 5	Extract of the 1922 25-inch OS map. Slough Wood Cottage is highlighted in purple with possible, now demolished, outbuildings shown in green.	5
Map 6	Extract of the 1960 National Grid OS map. Slough Wood Cottage is highlighted in purple with possible, now demolished, outbuildings shown in green.	6
Map 7	Extract of the 1972 National Grid OS map. Slough Wood Cottage is highlighted in purple with possible, now, demolished, outbuildings shown in green.	6

List of photographs reproduced in text

Cover Southern elevation. Photograph taken facing north.

Photograph 1	Southern elevation. Photograph taken facing north.	7
Photograph 2	Detail of window on first floor of southern elevation, with imitation parquetry either side. Photograph taken facing north.	8
Photograph 3	Western elevation. Photograph taken facing north-east.	8
Photograph 4	Northern elevation. Photograph taken facing west.	9
Photograph 5	Eastern elevation. Photograph taken facing north-west.	9
Photograph 6	Detail of first floor window on eastern elevation. Photograph taken facing west.	10
Photograph 7	Fireplace located in room 1. Photograph taken facing east.	11
Photograph 8	Detail of joists and binding beam in ceiling of room 1. Photograph taken facing north north-east.	11
Photograph 9	Fireplace located inside room 2. Photograph taken facing west.	12
Photograph 10	Detail of exposed girding beams and reused joist in room 2. Photograph taken facing south-east.	12
Photograph 11	Example of door hinge (room 2). Photograph taken facing north-east.	13

Photograph 12	Interior of room 4. Photograph taken facing east.	13
Photograph 13	Detail of exposed timber-framing in room 5. Photograph taken facing east.	14
Photograph 14	Detail of exposed aisle tie-beam and wall-plate in room 8. Photograph taken facing north-east.	14
Photograph 15	Detail of diagonal through-bracing on southern wall in room 9. Photograph taken facing south.	15
Photograph 16	Interior of room 10. Photograph taken facing south-west.	16
Photograph 17	Interior of room 10. Photograph taken facing south-east.	16
Photograph 18	Interior of room 11. Photograph taken facing north-west.	17

List of plates

Plate 1	Cover of the survey of timber at Slough House Farm (ERO D/DOpE4).	3
Plate 2	Extract from the survey of timber Slough House Farm (ERO D/DOpE4).	17

List of figures

Fig 1	Site location with the recorded structure in blue.
Fig 2	Ground floor plan. Location and direction of photographs reproduced in text shown.
Fig 3	First floor plan. Location and direction of photographs reproduced in text shown.
Fig 4	Southern elevation.
Fig 5	Eastern elevation.
Fig 6	Northern elevation.
Fig 7	Western elevation.

1 Summary

A programme of historic building recording was carried out by Colchester Archaeological Trust at Slough Wood Cottage, Slough Road, Danbury, Essex on the 14th October 2024.

Slough Wood Cottage is timber-framed, likely constructed from timber sourced from the adjacent Slough House Wood. Using cartographic evidence and a log of timber at Slough House, we can suggest a construction date of between 1820 and 1839. When originally constructed, it comprised two adjacent double-pile, single-fronted cottages which have since been combined into one dwelling. Some original features survive within the cottage, including some doors and the floorboards. The exterior of the cottage has a concrete render with imitation parquetry, likely added when the cottages were merged.

2 Introduction

This is the archive report of an historic building recording carried out at Slough Wood Cottage, Slough Road, Danbury, Essex. The work was commissioned by Antony O'Toole (Elegant Architectural Ltd) on behalf of the homeowner and was carried out by Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT) on the 14th October 2024. The site is located at NGR: TL 80211 03039 (Fig 1).

A planning application (24/00596/FUL) was submitted to Chelmsford City Council in April 2024 for the *demolition of existing dwelling and construction of a replacement dwelling*.

In response to this application, the Essex County Council Place Services (ECCPS) Historic Environment Advisor (HEA) recommended that a Historic England building recording be made of the structures prior to their conversion (ECC 2024). This recommendation was given due to the historic origins of the buildings. The recommendation was based on the National Planning Policy Framework (MHCLG 2023).

A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for the building recording was prepared by Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT 2024) and agreed with the HEA. All work was carried out in accordance with this WSI.

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

- *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)* (Historic England 2015),
- Professional standards of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, including its *Code of Conduct* (CIfA 2020a-c, 2022),
- East of England standards and frameworks published by East Anglian Archaeology (Brown & Glazebrook 2000, Gurney 2003, Medlycott 2011) and the recent review updates on <https://researchframeworks.org/eoe/>
- *Understanding Historic Buildings: A Guide to Good Recording Practice* (Historic England 2016)
- Relevant health and safety guidelines and requirements (CAT 2024).

3 Aims

The aim of the building recording was to provide a detailed record and assessment of the buildings prior to conversion. The building recording was carried out to Level 3 (Historic England 2016) which is defined as:

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

photographic records that may be required to illustrate the building's appearance and structure and to support an historical analysis.

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

In particular, the record considered:

- Plan and form of the site.
- Materials and method of construction.
- Date(s) of the structure(s).
- Function and internal layout.
- Fixtures and fittings.
- Original and later phasing, additions and their effect on the internal/ external fabric and the level of survival of original fabric.
- An account of the building's past and present uses.

4 Methodology

The following are included in this report:

- A documentary, cartographic and pictorial survey of the evidence pertaining to the history and evolution of the site.
- A large-scale block plan of the site.
- Annotated and phased floor-plan of the building at a scale of 1:50.
- A description of the building. The description addresses features such as materials, dimensions, method of construction and phasing.
- A photographic record comprising digital photographs of both general shots and individual features. Selected examples of the photographic record are clearly tied into the drawn record and reproduced as fully annotated photographic plates supporting the text. The photographic record is accompanied by a photographic register detailing location and direction of shot (Appendix 1).

5 Historical background

The following archaeological background includes extracts of the ECC Brief (ECCPS 2024) and Essex Historic Environment Records (EHER) held at Essex County Council, County Hall, Chelmsford, Essex (accessed via <http://www.heritagegateway.org.uk>).

Slough Wood Cottage, the structure detailed in this report, comprises a timber-framed dwelling with historic origins. Although currently a single dwelling, the building has historically been recorded as a pair of semi-detached cottages.

On the Chapman and André map (Map 1) from 1777, the area of Slough Wood Cottage is shown as woodland, known as Slough House Wood. The property is first depicted on the tithe apportionment map from 1839 (Map 2), where it is shown to be square shaped with no other detail, except showing the associated gardens. This suggests a construction date between 1777 and 1839.

The records associated with Map 2, which refer to the building plot as number 385a, disclose that the “2 cottages and garden” were owned by Christopher Comyns Parker, and occupied by J Mines and William Stebbing. The woodland surrounding the cottage is no longer labelled as Slough House Wood but rather Purleigh wood.

A survey of timber at Slough House Farm (ERO D/DopE4, Plates 1 and 2) makes a record of the wood on land associated with Slough House in 1788 as well as wood felled from Slough House Wood from 1820 to 1831. It seems reasonable to suggest the cottage was constructed from timber felled from Slough House Wood, potentially narrowing the construction date to between 1820 and 1833.



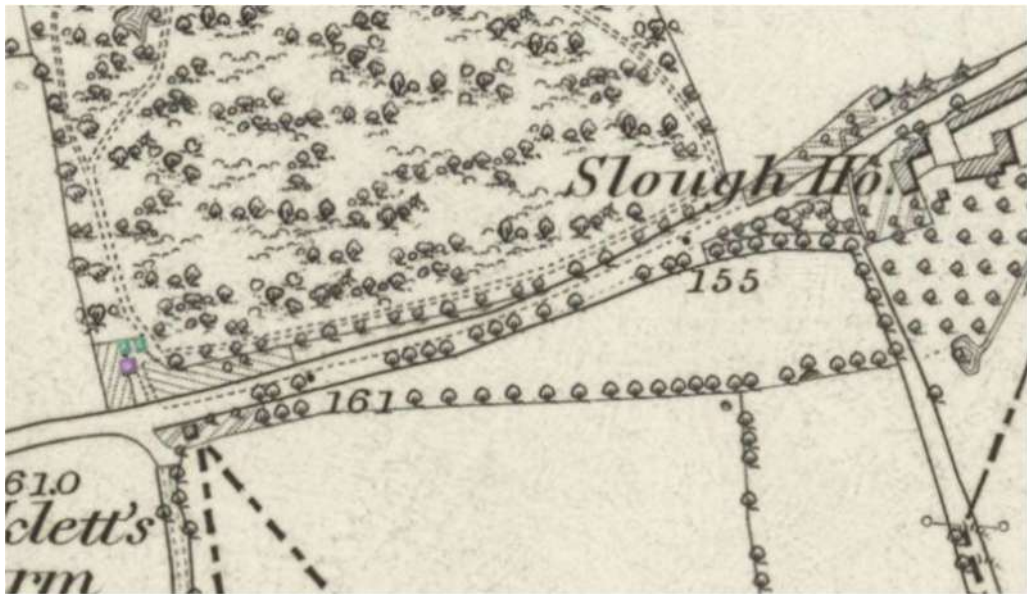
Plate 1 Cover of the survey of timber at Slough House Farm (ERO D/DopE4).



Map 1 Extract of the André and Chapman 1777 map. The location of Slough Wood Cottage is shown in purple.

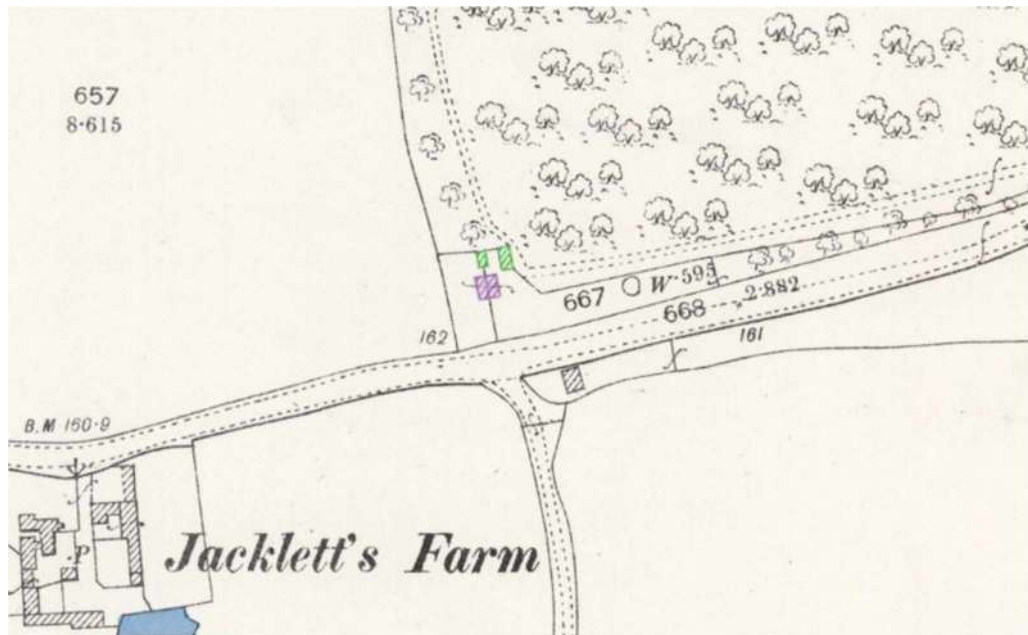


Map 2 Extract of the 1839 tithe apportionment map. Slough Wood Cottage is shown in purple.



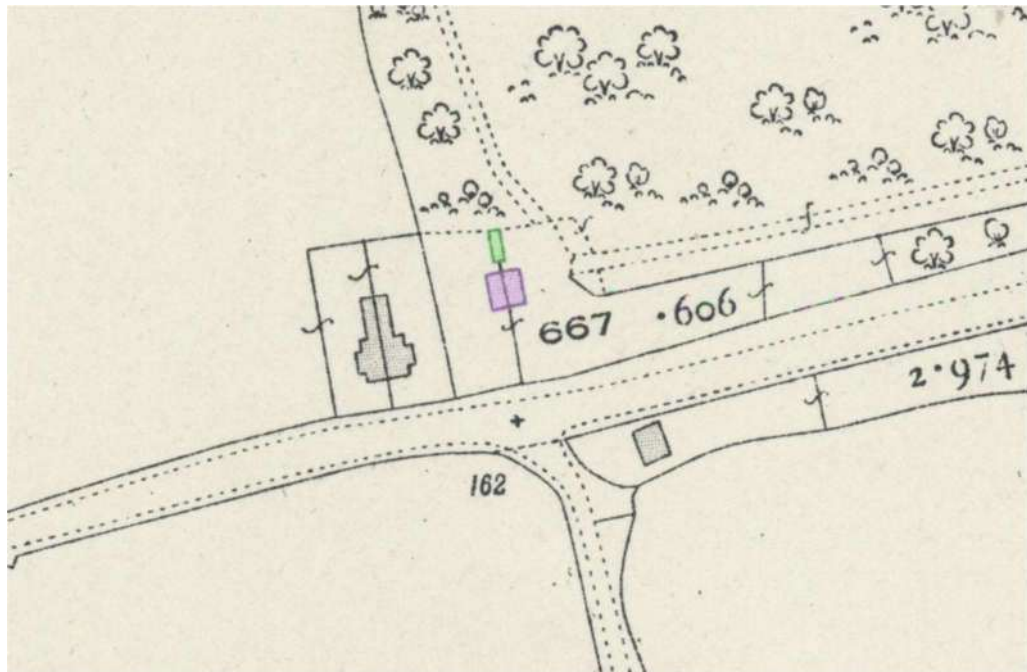
Map 3 Extract of the 1st edition 6-inch OS map from 1881. Slough Wood Cottage is highlighted in purple with the now demolished outbuildings shown in green.

The 1st edition 6-inch OS map, from 1881 (Map 3), is comparable to Map 2 in depicting the property in little detail. This map highlights the property with two possible (now demolished) outbuildings to the north. The property is surrounded by the associated gardens. The surrounding woodland is once again labelled as Slough House Wood.



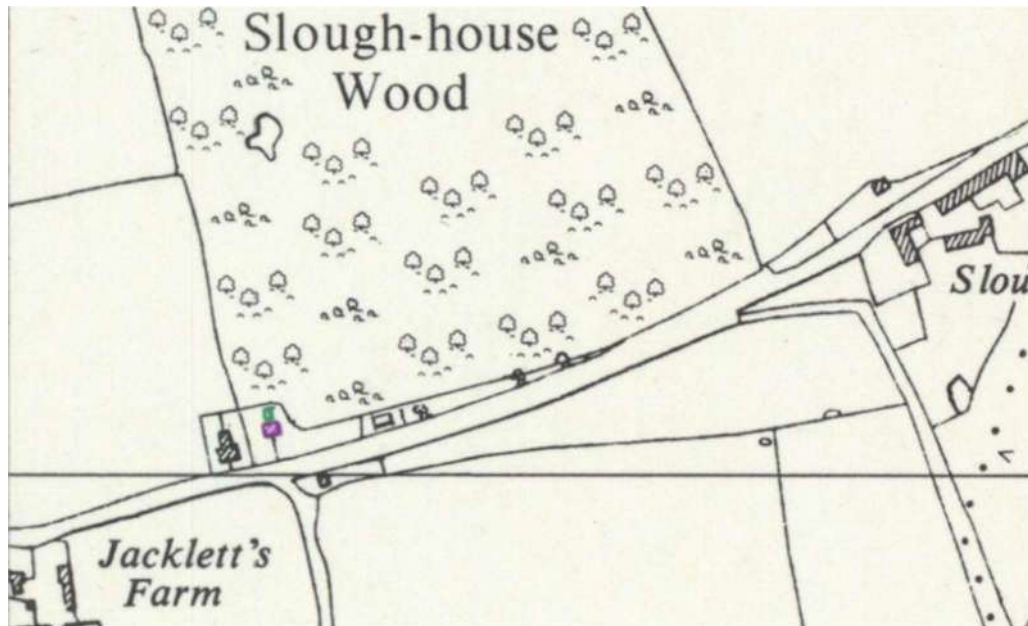
Map 4 Extract of the 1897 25-inch OS map. Slough wood cottage is highlighted in purple alongside the now demolished outbuildings shown in green.

The 1897 25-inch OS map (Map 4) shows the area in more detail, displaying the building as semi-detached, alongside the no longer extant outbuildings to the north (similar to Map 3).



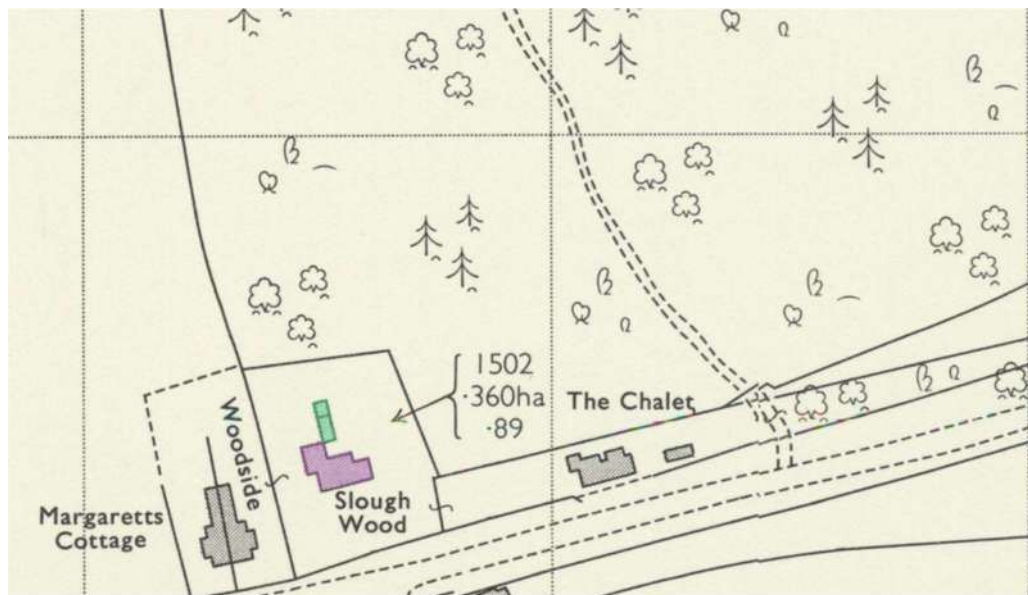
Map 5 Extract of the 1922 25-inch OS map. Slough Wood cottage is highlighted in purple with now demolished outbuilding shown in green.

The 1922 25-inch OS map (Map 5) presents the properties in a similar layout as the 1897 25-inch OS map (Map 4). The cottages are still squared-shaped, now with only one outbuilding to the north. The associated garden still surrounds the property. Some developments have begun to the west of the cottage.



Map 6 Extract of the 1960 OS map. Slough Wood cottage is highlighted in purple with the now demolished outbuilding shown in green.

The extract of the 1960 OS map (Map 6) presents the property as square shaped with one possible (now demolished) outbuilding to the north, with no other detail except the associated garden.



Map 7 Extract of the 1972 OS map. Slough Wood cottage is highlighted in purple with the now demolished outbuilding shown in green.

The OS map from 1972 (Map 7) is the first to depict the Slough Wood Cottage as one building, along with the added modern extensions on the eastern and western elevations. The gardens surround the cottage are no longer divided on this map. This change in shape and size of the property and land from Map 6 to Map 7 captures that the cottages were renovated at some point during that 12-year period to form a single dwelling. Map 7 also captures the (now demolished) outbuilding, comparable to maps 3, 4, 5 and 6.

6 Building recording descriptive record (Figs 2-7)

Slough Wood Cottage comprises a timber-framed building with two adjoining modern extensions, one to the east and the other to the west. The cottage (excluding the modern extensions) is roughly square in shape and covers an area of 59m².

Exterior

On all elevations, the upper register of the cottage is covered with a modern concrete render with imitation pargeting on the eastern, southern and western elevations. The pargeting comprises two different designs; zig zags and what appears to be a compass or cross like design. The bottom of the elevations are weatherboard painted white. The cottage has a gabled, asymmetric roof, with a catslide roof to the north. The roof is clad with peg-tile on the southern pitch and slate on the northern pitch. There is a red brick chimney laid in Stretcher bond, which can be seen from all elevations.

Extension 1, a modern conservatory, is timber-framed and clad with white weatherboard. The roof is gabled to the north and mono-pitched to the south and comprises a combination of roofing felt and translucent polycarbonate sheets.

The lower half of extension 2 is constructed from breeze blocks while the upper is timber-framed, clad with weatherboard which is mostly painted white. The roof is flat and covered with roofing felt.

On the upper floor of the southern elevation, there are two replacement casement windows consisting of one six-light window and one four-light window. The lower floor consists of a further replacement four-light casement window and a two-light casement window. There is a single timber door to access extension 1, flanked by fixed windows. Extension two has two single-light fixed windows.



Photograph 1 Southern elevation. Photograph taken facing north.



Photograph 2 Detail of window on first floor of southern elevation, with imitation pargeting either side. Photograph taken facing north.



Photograph 3 Western elevation. Photograph taken facing south-east.

The imitation of pargeting on the western elevation is not as prominent as the other elevations with noticeable cracking and damage to the render. The upper floor has one replacement two-light timber-framed casement window, as does the lower floor. A change in the weatherboarding beneath the ground floor window suggests the window has been used to block a doorway. The western elevation captures the asymmetry of the roof with a longer pitch towards the northern elevation. Along extension 1, there are a number of windows comprising two two-light windows, with awning and casement openings, while the rest are single-light fixed windows.



Photograph 4 Northern elevation. Photograph taken facing south.

There are two timber-framed windows on the northern elevation, a three-light casement window and a single-light awning window. On this elevation extension 2 has a single timber door for access inside and 4 single-light fixed timber-framed windows to the east of the door.



Photograph 5 Eastern elevation. Photograph taken facing south south-west.

The upper floor of the eastern elevation has a replacement two-light timber-framed casement window while there is a replacement two-light awning window on the lower floor. Extension 1 has two single-light fixed windows flanking a central timber door. Extension 2 has three timber-framed single-light windows on this elevation, two fixed and one with a horizontal pivot opening.



Photograph 6 Detail of first floor window on eastern elevation. Photograph taken facing west.

Interior

The interior of Slough Wood Cottage has been divided into 12 rooms, labelled from 1-12 on Figs 2 and 3. Most of the internal doors are timber vertically-planked doors with strap hinges. The hinges are largely tapered in shape with rounded ends and secured with pintles

Rooms 1 and 2 are both positioned in the south of the ground floor, both of which have wooden floorboards and plaster walls with timber skirting boards. In room 1, there are replacement timber-framed windows in the southern and western walls. An original door is present in the northern wall with an inserted door in the eastern wall. A red brick fireplace is present on the northern wall, constructed in a rough Stretcher bond, showcasing stretchers with some headers. The opening of the fireplace is tall and rectangular in shape with a small timber mantle. Either side of the opening are two timber nogs set into the brickwork. There is evidence of burning on bricks in the back of the fireplace. To the north of the fireplace is a built-in wooden cupboard. The ceiling of room 1 is exposed joists with a central binding beam. The joists are mostly machine-cut while the binding beam is hand-sawn. The wall plaster has come away from certain parts on the northern wall revealing the laths beneath.



Photograph 7 Fireplace located in room 1. Photograph taken facing east.



Photograph 8 Detail of joists and binding beam in ceiling of room 1. Photograph taken facing north north-east.

There is a replacement two-light timber-framed casement window on the southern wall of room 2. An inserted door is present in the western wall, with a an original (but blocked) door in the eastern wall and an original doorway in the northern wall. There is a fireplace on the western wall, which is also in a rough Stretcher bond, showcasing mostly stretchers with some headers. The opening of the fireplace has an arched brick lintel with no mantle. As with the fireplace in room 1, either side of the opening are two timber nogs set into the brickwork. Equivalent to room 1, room 2 has a similar white wooden cupboard on the western wall adjacent to the fireplace. The ceiling of room 2 is exposed joists with a central binding beam. The joists comprise a combination of hand-sawn and machine-cut timbers, some which have evidence of reuse. The binding

beam is machine-cut. Hand-sawn girding beams are exposed in the eastern and southern walls.



Photograph 9 Fireplace located inside room 2. Photograph taken facing west.



Photograph 10 Detail of exposed girding beams and reused joist in room 2. Photograph taken facing south-east.



Photograph 11 Example of door hinge (room 2). Photograph taken facing north-east.

Rooms 3 and 4 are positioned in the north of the ground floor. Room 3 is a bathroom with quarry tiles covering the floor and plastered walls. An original timber door is present in the southern wall. There is an awning window on the eastern wall with timber-framing and another in the northern wall. The ceiling comprises exposed joists, which are a mixture of hand-sawn and machine-cut.



Photograph 12 Interior of room 4. Photograph taken facing east.

Room 4 appears to previously have been used as a kitchen. The walls are plastered, with the hand-sawn timber studs of the eastern wall exposed, and the floor is quarry tiles. A single timber-framed replacement window is in the northern wall with doorways in the southern and western walls, the western of which is inserted. Hand-sawn joists are exposed in the ceiling of room 4, some of which have evidence of reuse. A replacement staircase is present in the south of the room.

Room 5 is the hallway-like space, or under stair space, located in the middle of the ground floor. The floor of room 5 is a continuation of the quarry tiles from rooms 3 and 4. The ceiling comprises exposed joists, which are machine-cut. The timber-framing of the northern and eastern walls is exposed and comprises hand-sawn timbers, some of which have been crudely processed, with areas of repair using machine-cut timber. The frame displays diagonal through-bracing.



Photograph 13 Detail of exposed timber-framing in room 5. Photograph taken facing east.

Room 6 and 7 are the adjoining modern extensions, not shown to be on the 1960 OS map (Map 6) but later appearing on the 1972 OS map (Map 7). Both have walls composed mostly of windows with modern tiled floors.



Photograph 14 Detail of exposed aisle tie-beam and wall-plate in room 8. Photograph taken facing north-east.

On the first floor there are a total of 5 spaces which includes the hallway space, room 12. All of the walls of the rooms upstairs have been plastered and painted over in various colours, with noticeable damage and cracking. In many rooms, a shadow of the timber-framed beneath is visible in the external walls. As with the ground floor, the framing comprises diagonal through-bracing. The floors are mostly exposed timber floorboards and the ceilings mostly plastered.

Room 8 has wooden floorboards with a wooden skirting board. There is a single replacement two-light timber-framed casement window in the western wall, beneath which is an exposed girding beam. The southern wall is clad with wooden panels and has a single replacement door. There is also a sliding glass window on the top part of this wall and a built-in cupboard that slides open. Across the eastern and northern wall, the hand-sawn aisle tie-beam and wall-plate are visible, both are sinuous in nature particularly the aisle tie-beam. There is a narrow part of the ceiling which is flat while the rest of the ceiling slopes downwards towards the northern wall.

Room 9 has a single replacement two-light timber-framed casement window in the eastern wall, below which is an exposed girding beam. There is an original timber door in the southern wall adjacent to a built-in cupboard. There is a rectangular fanlight above the door to the cupboard. There is a slim part of the ceiling which is flat, while the rest of the ceiling slopes downwards towards the northern wall. The southern wall is exposed timber-framing, to which a cupboard is fixed.



Photograph 15 Detail of diagonal through-bracing on southern wall in room 9. Photograph taken facing south.



Photograph 16 Interior of room 10, evidence of hidden framing in yellow wall. Photograph taken facing south-west.

Rooms 10 and 11 are both square-shaped in plan. In room 10, there is a replacement six-light timber-framed casement window on the southern wall, along with a single original door on the northern wall. The room has wooden skirting boards. Two timber tie-beams are present at either ends of this room, both of which are sinuous. The wall-plates in the northern and southern walls are also exposed, both appear to be machine-cut replacements. There is a central brick fireplace projecting from the eastern wall. The fireplace has a cast-iron hob grate, with a brick hearth, both of which are off-centre. The red bricks surrounding the fireplace are painted white and appear to be laid in stretcher bond. The western wall has noticeable evidence of diagonal through bracing.



Photograph 17 Interior of room 10. Photograph taken facing south-east.



Photograph 18 Interior of room 11. Photograph taken facing north-west.

The southern wall in room 11 has a single replacement four-light timber-framed casement window and an original timber door is in the northern wall. The ceiling of the room slopes downwards towards the southern wall. The fireplace is central to the western wall, a fire grate is no longer present but the opening is still present. It is constructed from bricks, laid in Stretcher bond, some of which have been painted green. The fireplace is flanked by cupboards. On the eastern wall, the gable tie-beam is exposed, which is hand-sawn and fairly sinuous, and beneath which a trace of the timber-framing beneath the plaster is visible. A machine-cut replacement tie-beam is also visible in the western wall. The northern and southern walls have exposed wall-plates, both which appear to be a machine-cut replacement.

Room 12 is space is at the top of the stairs which is laid with asbestos flooring. The stairs have been replaced. From room 12 you can access each of the first-floor rooms (rooms 8, room 9, room 10 and room 11).

7 Discussion

Slough Wood Cottage comprises a timber-framed building with two adjoining modern extensions. Previously listed on the 1839 tithe map (Map 2) as “2 cottages and garden” this property has more recently been converted into one cottage. The cottage continues to be depicted as two cottages up until the 1960 OS map (Map 6) is published, on which it is shown in its current configuration.

When originally constructed, Slough Wood Cottage would most likely have been a pair of double-pile single-fronted cottages, often referred to as a ‘two-up, two-down’ (Brunksill 1982). They would have had mirrored floorplans and shared the central chimney breast. The cottages would have been cheaply built and provided run-of-the-mill housing (Woodforde 1969), likely to have been used by local farm workers. This timber-framing is presumably constructed from local timber, originating from Slough House Wood behind where the cottage is situated.

Timber-framing in the construction of buildings started to fall out of fashion during the 17th-century, after which bricks became the favoured material. However, the use of timber at Slough Wood Cottages is most likely reflective of the environment it was built in. The local source of timber from the woodland of Slough House Wood would have made it quickly available during the construction phase. A survey of timber at Slough

House Farm (ERO D/DOpE4, Plates 1 and 2) records wood on land associated with Slough House in 1788 as well as wood felled from Slough House Wood from 1820 to 1833. This, along with the cartographic evidence, could suggest a construction date of between 1820 and 1833.

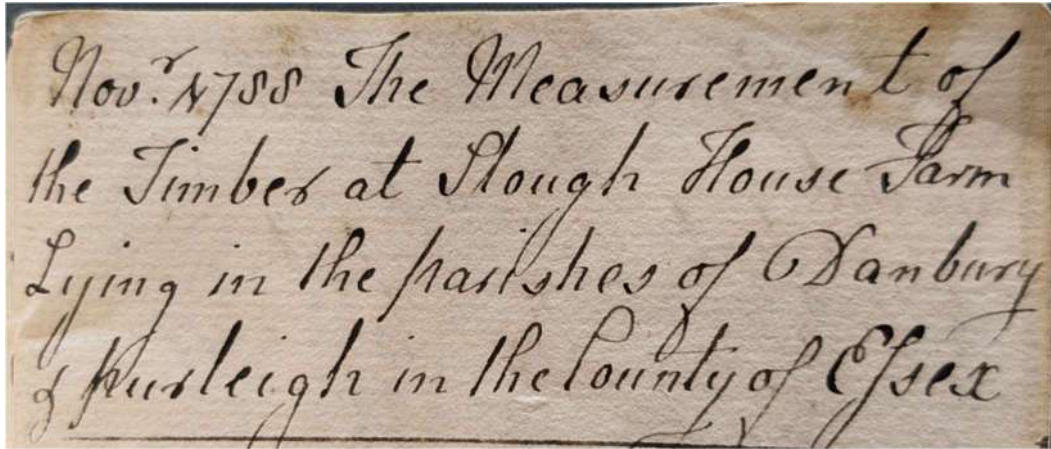


Plate 2 Extract from the survey of timber Slough House Farm (ERO D/DOpE4).

In the areas where the timber-framing is exposed, it utilises diagonal through-bracing, a technique dated to the 17th century and later (Stenning 2013). The frame comprises mostly hand-sawn timbers, except in areas affected by the previous conversion work, some of which are crudely processed and other fairly sinuous in nature. The use of these types of timbers is further evidence of that the cottage was cheaply built. Some of the framing has been replaced with machine-cut timbers, including the tie-beam in room 11 and the joists in room 5, most likely during the renovation from two cottages to one.

Some possible original features survive within the cottage. Many of the doors are simple vertically-planked with iron strap hinges. The hinges are tapered with rounded ends and secured on pintles; a style used in the early 19th century (Hall 2017). The floorboards are relatively wide, suggesting they are also original to the cottage (*ibid*).

From the exterior, Slough Wood Cottage is a quaint rural cottage, but both the interior and exterior have been later renovated, with some original timber beams and framing being plastered and painted over. Architecturally, the cottage is relatively uninteresting. It uses framing techniques very typical of the period and has a basic 'two-up-two-down' floor plan. It does, however, provide a reminder of the standards for rural housing in the late Georgian period. The use of timber-framing could be attributed to the continuation of a vernacular architecture or it may speak to the frugality of landowners, using outdated construction techniques to utilise cheap materials at a time when bricks were so readily available.

8 Acknowledgements

Colchester Archaeological Trust would like to thank Antony O'Toole (Elegant Architectural Ltd) and the homeowner for commissioning and funding the historic building recording. The recording was carried out by Sarah Veasey and Chloé Hill. Figures are by Sarah Veasey, based on original architect's drawings by Elegant Architectural Ltd. The project was monitored by Mark Baister for Essex County Council.

9 References

Note: all CAT reports, except for DBAs, are available online in .pdf format at <http://cat.essex.ac.uk>

Brunskill, R W	1982	<i>Houses</i>
Brown, N & Glazebrook, J	2000	<i>Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern Counties 2. Research agenda and strategy.</i> East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper 8 (EAA 8).
CAT	2024	<i>Written Scheme of Investigation for historic building recording at Slough Wood Cottage, Slough Road, Danbury, Essex, CM3 4LX</i> by C Hill
ClfA	2020a	<i>Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives.</i> Published 2014, revised 2020
ClfA	2020b	<i>Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials.</i> Published 2014, revised 2020
ClfA	2020c	<i>Standard and guidance for archaeological investigation and recording of standing buildings and structures</i>
ClfA	2022	<i>Code of Conduct.</i> ClfA Chartered Institute for Archaeologists; published 2014, revised 2022.
EAA 14	2003	<i>Standards for field archaeology in the east of England</i> east Anglian Archaeological occasional papers 14 by D. Gurney
EAA 24	2011	<i>Research and Archaeology Revisited: A Revised Framework for the east of England,</i> east Anglian Archaeological occasional papers 24 by M Medlycott
ECC	1979	<i>The Essex Countryside Historic Barns: a Planning Appraisal</i>
ECCPS	2024	<i>Brief for Archaeological Building Recording at Slough Wood Cottage, Slough Road, Danbury, Essex</i> by M Baister
ERO D/Dop E4	1788	<i>Survey of timber at Slough House Farm in Danbury and Purleigh made 1788 (including copy of account of sale), 1826-28, 1831 and 1833</i>
Gurney, D	2003	<i>Standards for field archaeology in the East of England.</i> East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 14 (EAA 14)
Hall, L	2017	<i>Period House Fixtures & Fittings 1300-1900</i>
Historic England	2015	<i>MoRPHE: Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment</i>
Historic England	2016	<i>Understanding Historic Buildings. A guide to good recording practice</i>
MHCLG	2023	<i>National planning policy framework</i>
Stenning, D & Shackle, R	2013	<i>Discovering Coggeshall</i>

10 Abbreviations and glossary

beam	horizontal members in timber-frames
bolster	a piece of timber acting as a spreader, collecting loads and concentrating them on to the head of a post
bond timber	a length of timber incorporated into a brick wall for strength
carpenter's marks	symbols scratched, incised or chiselled into timbers to assist in assembly
CAT	Colchester Archaeological Trust
catslide roof	a roof continuing down beyond the main wall-plate to cover and outshot or extension
ClfA	Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
collar	a horizontal timber in a roof structure spanning between a pair of inclined timbers (such as rafters)
cubic volume mark	marks scratched, incised or chiselled into timber indicating the cubic volume of the original timber baulk
EHHER	Essex Historic Environment Record, held by the ECC
ERO	Essex Records Office
English bond	a brickwork bond created from alternate courses of headers and stretchers

Flemish bond	a brickwork bond created from alternating headers and stretchers within a single course
HE	Historic Environment
mono-pitched roof	a single pitched roof surface.
NGR	National Grid Reference
OASIS	Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations, http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main
post	vertical members in timber-frames
purlin	a longitudinal timber giving support to the common rafters of a roof and normally set at right-angles to the slope of the rafters
rafter	an inclined timber following the slope of the roof
ridge-board	a plank-like timber running below the apex of the roof and receiving the ends of the rafters
stretcher	a brick laid parallel to the face of the wall, i.e. lengthways
stretcher-bond	a brickwork bond where each course consists of only stretchers – indicating a cavity wall
stud	in wall frames the upright smaller section timbers between the main posts of the frame
wall-plate	a timber running horizontally along the top of a wall to receive the ends of common rafters
wind-brace	diagonal roof braces designed to connect the rafters together and prevent racking

11 Archive deposition

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

12 Contents of digital archive

The CAT WSI
The report (CAT Report 2097)
Digital plans
Site digital photos and log

© Colchester Archaeological Trust 2024

Distribution list

R11 Limited
Teresa O'Connor, ECCHEA
EHER



EEX60240_Phograph_001
Southern elevation. Photograph taken facing north.



EEX60240_Phograph_002
Detail of window on ground floor of southern elevation. Photograph taken facing north.



EEX60240_Phograph_003
Detail of window on first floor of southern elevation. Photograph taken facing north.



EEX60240_Phograph_004
Detail of window on ground floor of southern elevation. Photograph taken facing north.



EEX60240_Phograph_005
Detail of window on first floor of southern elevation. Photograph taken facing north.



EEX60240_Phograph_006
Eastern elevation. Photograph taken facing south-west.



EEX60240_Phograph_007
Eastern elevation. Photograph taken facing south-west.



EEX60240_Phograph_008
Detail of ground floor window on eastern elevation. Photograph taken facing west.



EEX60240_Phograph_009

Detail of first floor window on eastern elevation. Photograph taken facing west.



EEX60240_Phograph_010

Detail of imitation pargeting on eastern elevation. Photograph taken facing south-west.



EEX60240_Phograph_011

Northern elevation. Photograph taken facing south.



EEX60240_Phograph_012

Detail of windows on northern elevation. Photograph taken facing south.



EEX60240_Phograph_013
Western elevation, Photograph taken facing north-east.



EEX60240_Phograph_014
Western elevation, Photograph taken facing north-east.



EEX60240_Phograph_015
Western elevation, Photograph taken facing east.



EEX60240_Phograph_016
Detail of window on the first floor of western elevation. Photograph taken facing east.



EEX60240_Phograph_017
Detail of window on the western elevation. Photograph taken facing east.



EEX60240_Phograph_018
Detail of chimney. Photograph taken facing north north-west.



EEX60240_Phograph_019
Interior of room 1. Photograph taken facing south south-east.



EEX60240_Phograph_020
Interior of room 1 with fireplace. Photograph taken facing south-east.



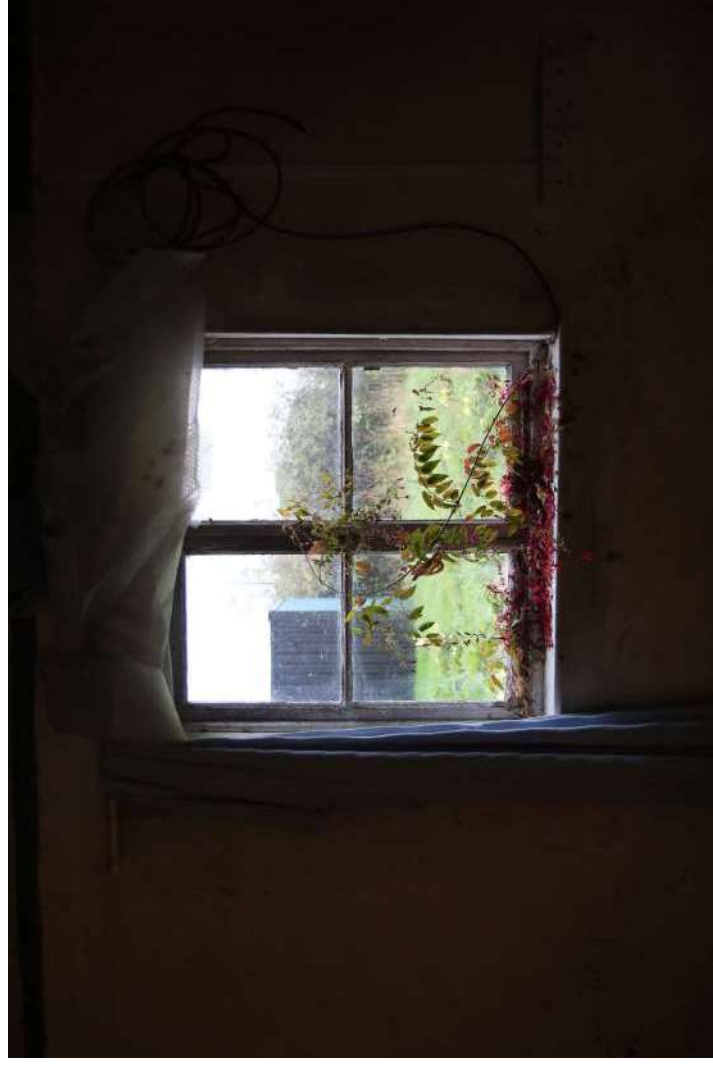
EEX60240_Phograph_021
Interior of room 1. Photograph taken facing north-west



EEX60240_Phograph_022
Detail of fireplace and cupboard in eastern wall of room 1. Photograph taken facing east.



EEX60240_Phograph_023
Window in western wall of room 1. Photograph taken facing west.



EEX60240_Phograph_024
Window in southern wall of room 1. Photograph taken facing south.



EEX60240_Photograph_025

Detail of joists and binding beam in ceiling of room 1. Photograph taken facing north north-east.



EEX60240_Photograph_026

Detail shot of lath and plaster in room 1. Photograph taken facing north-east.



EEX60240_Photograph_027

Detail of light switch located in room 1. Photograph taken facing north.



EEX60240_Photograph_028

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



EEX60240_PhotoGraph_029
Interior of room 2. Photograph taken facing south-west.



EEX60240_PhotoGraph_030
Interior of room 2. Photograph taken facing north-east.



EEX60240_PhotoGraph_031
Interior of room 2. Photograph taken facing north-west.



EEX60240_PhotoGraph_032
Detail of fireplace and cupboard of western wall of room 2. Photograph taken facing west.



EEX60240_Phograph_033
Door in eastern wall of room 2. Photograph taken facing north-east.



EEX60240_Phograph_034
Window in southern wall of room 2. Photograph taken facing south.



EEX60240_Phograph_035
Detail of reused joist in ceiling of room 2. Photograph taken facing south-east.



EEX60240_Phograph_036
Detail of exposed girding beams in room 2. Photograph taken facing south-east.



EEX60240_Phograph_037
Interior of room 3, details of bath and sink area. Photograph taken facing north-east.



EEX60240_Phograph_038
Timber nogs in fireplace located in room 2. Photograph taken facing north-west.



EEX60240_Phograph_039
Door in eastern wall of room 2. Photograph taken facing north-east.



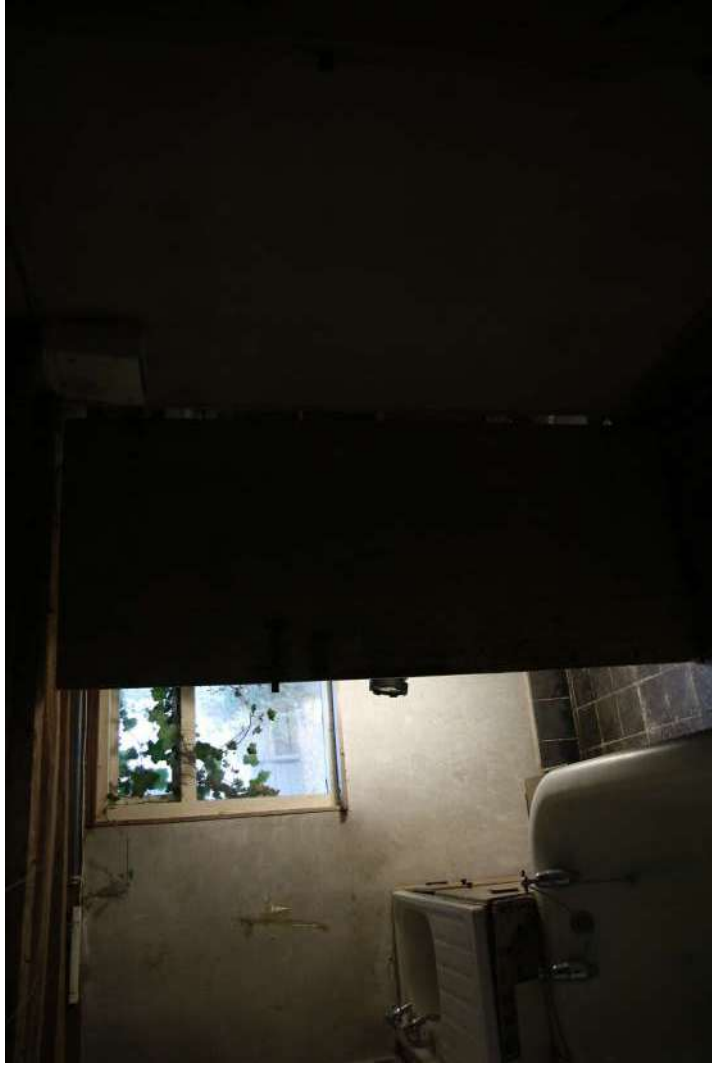
EEX60240_Phograph_040
Detail of hinges on door located in room 2. Photograph taken facing north-east.



EEX60240_Phograph_041
Detail of light switch in room 2. Photograph taken facing north.



EEX60240_Phograph_042
Interior of room 3. Photograph taken facing west.



EEX60240_Phograph_043
Interior of room 3. Photograph taken facing south-east.



EEX60240_Phograph_044
Detail of sink area in room 3. Photograph taken facing north-east.



EEX60240_Phograph_045
Details of taps in room 3. Photograph taken facing north north-east.



EEX60240_Phograph_046
Interior of room 3. Photograph taken facing north-west.



EEX60240_Phograph_047
Details of door hinges in room 3. Photograph taken facing south-east



EEX60240_Phograph_048
Detail of window in eastern wall of room 3. Photograph taken facing north-east.



EEX60240_Phograph_049
Interior of room 4, Photograph taken facing east.



EEX60240_Phograph_050
Detail of three diagonal through bracing made from hand sewn timbers in room 5, facing east



EEX60240_Phograph_051
Interior of room 4, Photograph taken facing west.



EEX60240_Phograph_052
Detail of reused joist in ceiling of room 4, Photograph taken facing east.



EEX60240_Phograph_053
Detail of window in northern wall of room 4. Photograph taken facing north-east.



EEX60240_Phograph_054
Interior of room 5. Photograph taken facing west.



EEX60240_Phograph_055
Detail of exposed timber-framing eastern wall of room 5. Photograph taken facing east.



EEX60240_Phograph_056
Photograph of window on northern wall in room 4 facing north-east



EEX60240_PhotoGraph_057
Interior of room 6. Photograph taken facing north.



EEX60240_PhotoGraph_058
Interior of room 6. Photograph taken facing east.



EEX60240_PhotoGraph_059
Interior of room 6. Photograph taken facing north.



EEX60240_PhotoGraph_060
Interior of room 8. Photograph taken facing north-west.



EEX60240_Phograph_061

Interior of room 8, Photograph taken facing east.



EEX60240_Phograph_062

Detail of window in western wall of room 8, Photograph taken facing west.



EEX60240_Phograph_063

Photograph of room 6, facing east



EEX60240_Phograph_064

Photograph of staircase leading to first floor, facing east



EEX60240_Phograph_065
Detail of built in cupboard in room 8. Photograph taken facing south.



EEX60240_Phograph_066
Detail of aisle tie-beam in room 8. Photograph taken facing north-east.



EEX60240_Phograph_067
Interior of room 10, facing south-east



EEX60240_Phograph_068
Interior of room 9. Photograph taken facing south-east.



EEX60240_PhotoGraph_069
Interior of room 10, facing north-east



EEX60240_PhotoGraph_070
Detail of window in eastern wall of room 9. Photograph taken facing east



EEX60240_PhotoGraph_071
Interior of room 10, facing north-west



EEX60240_PhotoGraph_072
Interior of room 10. Photograph taken facing south-west.



EEX60240_Photograph_073

Interior of room 10. Photograph taken facing south-east.



EEX60240_Photograph_074

Interior of room 10. Photograph taken facing north-west.



EEX60240_Photograph_075

Interior of room 10. Photograph taken facing north-east.



EEX60240_Photograph_076

Detail of window in southern wall of room 10. Photograph taken facing south.



EEX60240_PhotoGraph_077
Detail of fireplace and tie-beam in eastern wall of room 10. Photograph taken facing east.



EEX60240_PhotoGraph_078
Detail of doorway in northern wall of room 10. Photograph taken facing north-east.



EEX60240_PhotoGraph_079
Detail of cast iron hob grate in fireplace of room 10. Photograph taken facing east.



EEX60240_PhotoGraph_080
Interior of room 11. Photograph taken facing south-west.



EEX60240_PhotoGraph_081
Interior of room 11. Photograph taken facing south-east.



EEX60240_PhotoGraph_082
Interior of room 11. Photograph taken facing north-west.



EEX60240_PhotoGraph_083
Interior of room 11. Photograph taken facing north-east.



EEX60240_PhotoGraph_084
Interior of room 11. Photograph taken facing north-east.



EEX60240_PhotoGraph_085
Detail of window in southern wall of room 11. Photograph taken facing south.



EEX60240_PhotoGraph_086
Detail of door in northern wall of room 11. Photograph taken facing north-west.



EEX60240_PhotoGraph_087
Detail of gable tie-beam in eastern wall of room 11. Photograph taken facing north-east.



EEX60240_PhotoGraph_088
Detail of fireplace and flanking cupboards in western wall of room 11. Photograph taken facing west.



EEX60240_PhotoGraph_089
Detail of replacement staircase. Photograph taken facing north-east.



EEX60240_PhotoGraph_090
Detail of stairs. Photograph taken facing south-west.



EEX60240_PhotoGraph_091
Possible remains of rear outbuilding. Photograph taken facing north.



EEX60240_PhotoGraph_092
Possible remains of rear outbuilding. Photograph taken facing north-west.



EEX60240_PhotoGraph_093
Interior of room 9. Photograph taken facing south-east.



EEX60240_PhotoGraph_094
Location shot of cottage. Photograph taken facing north-west.



Fig 1 Site location with the recorded structure in blue.

© Crown copyright. All rights reserved. Licence number 100039294.

0 50 m

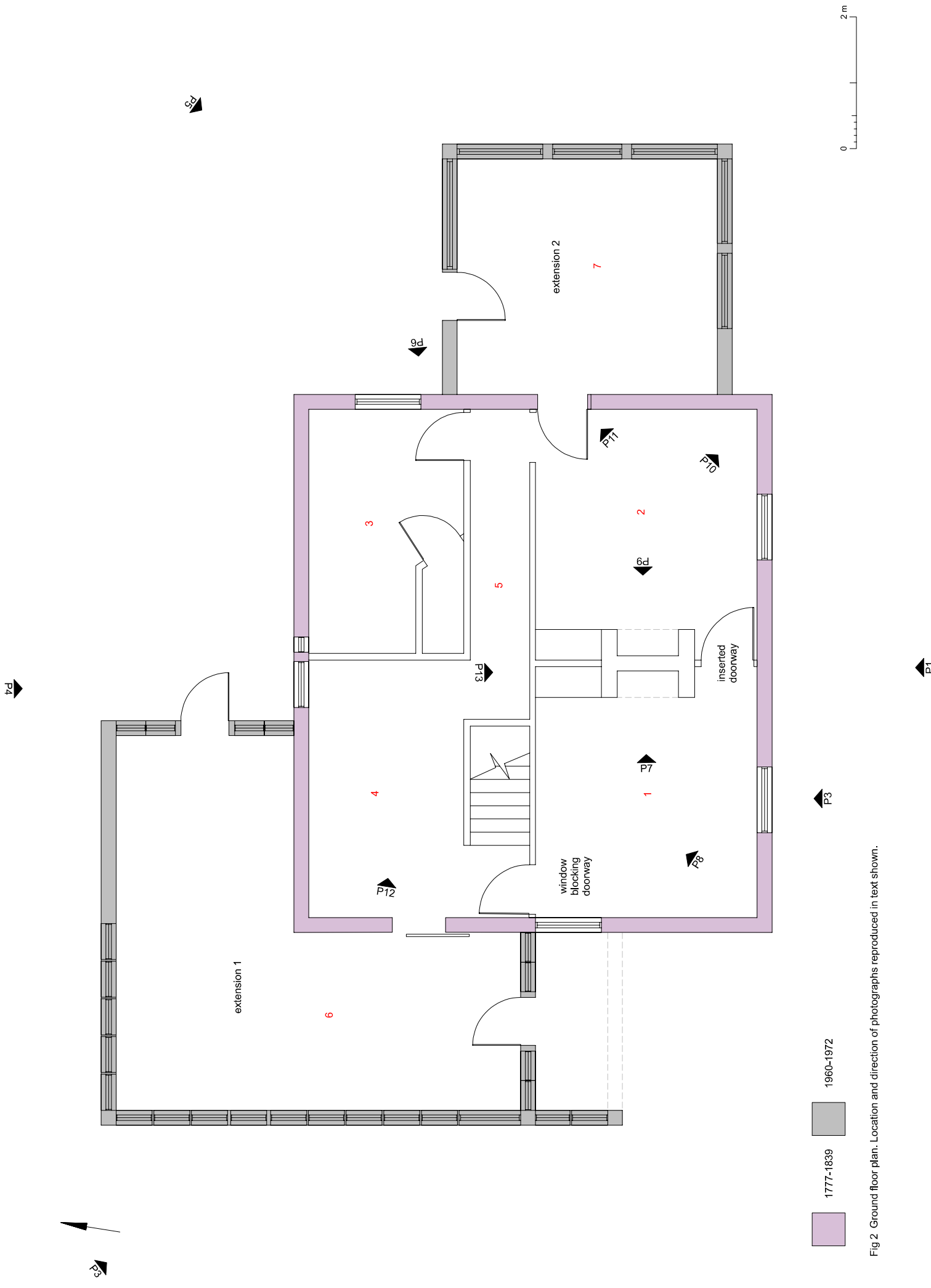


Fig 2 Ground floor plan. Location and direction of photographs reproduced in text shown.

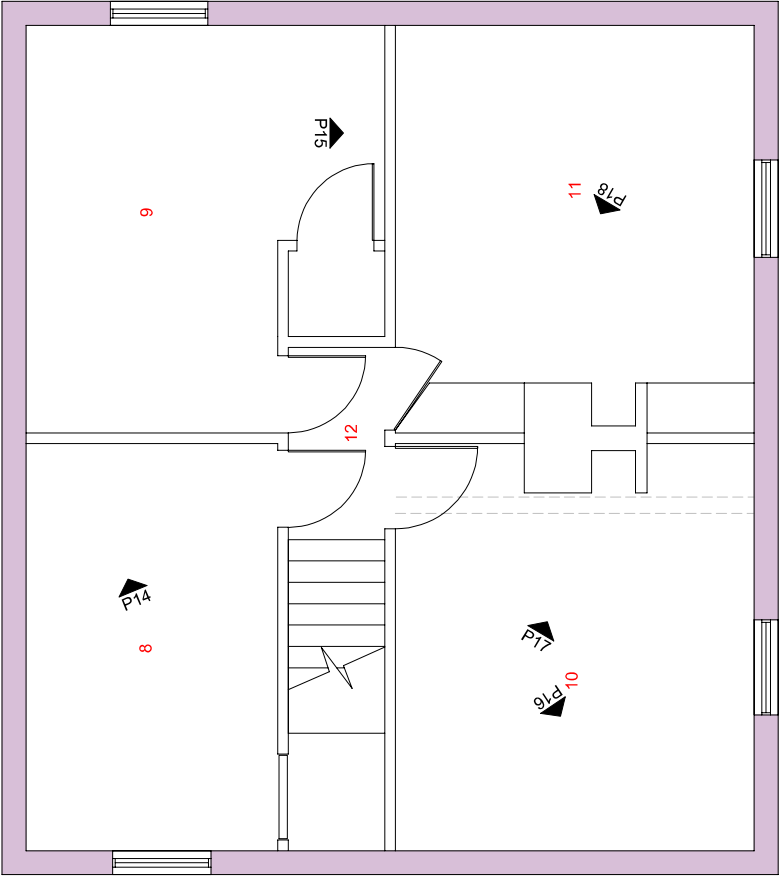


Fig 3 First floor plan. Location and direction of photographs reproduced in text shown.

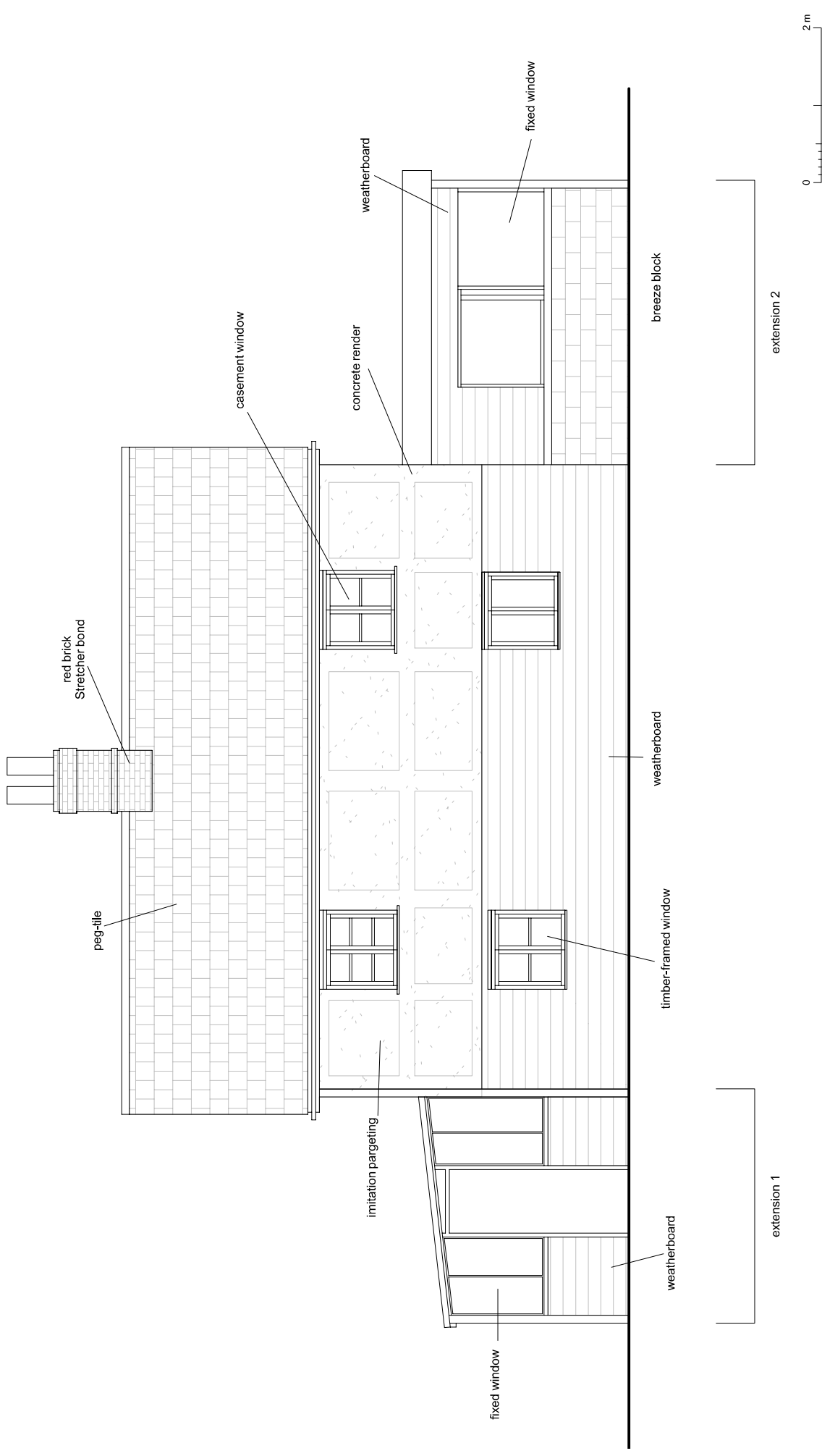


Fig 4 Southern elevation.

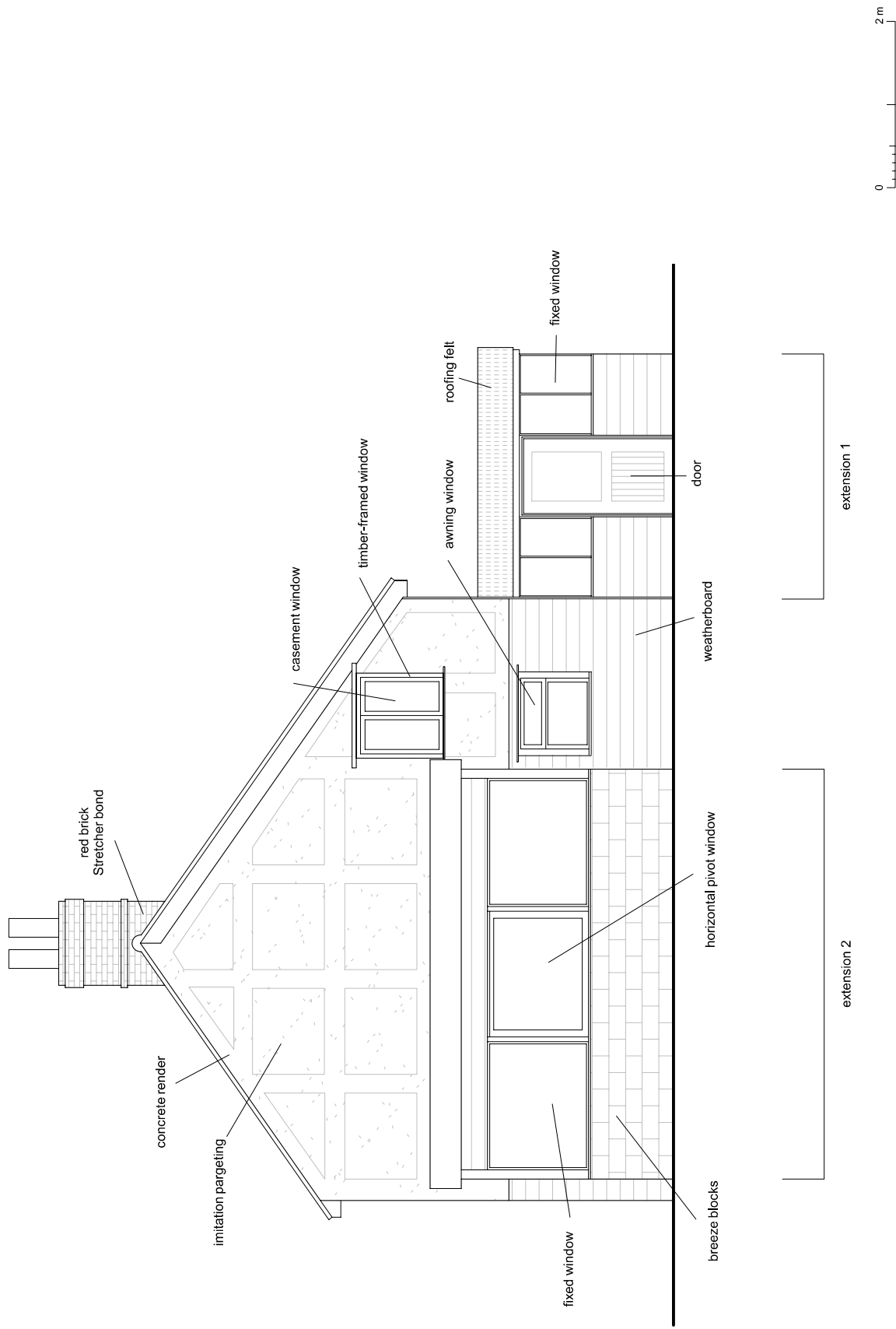


Fig 5 Eastern elevation.

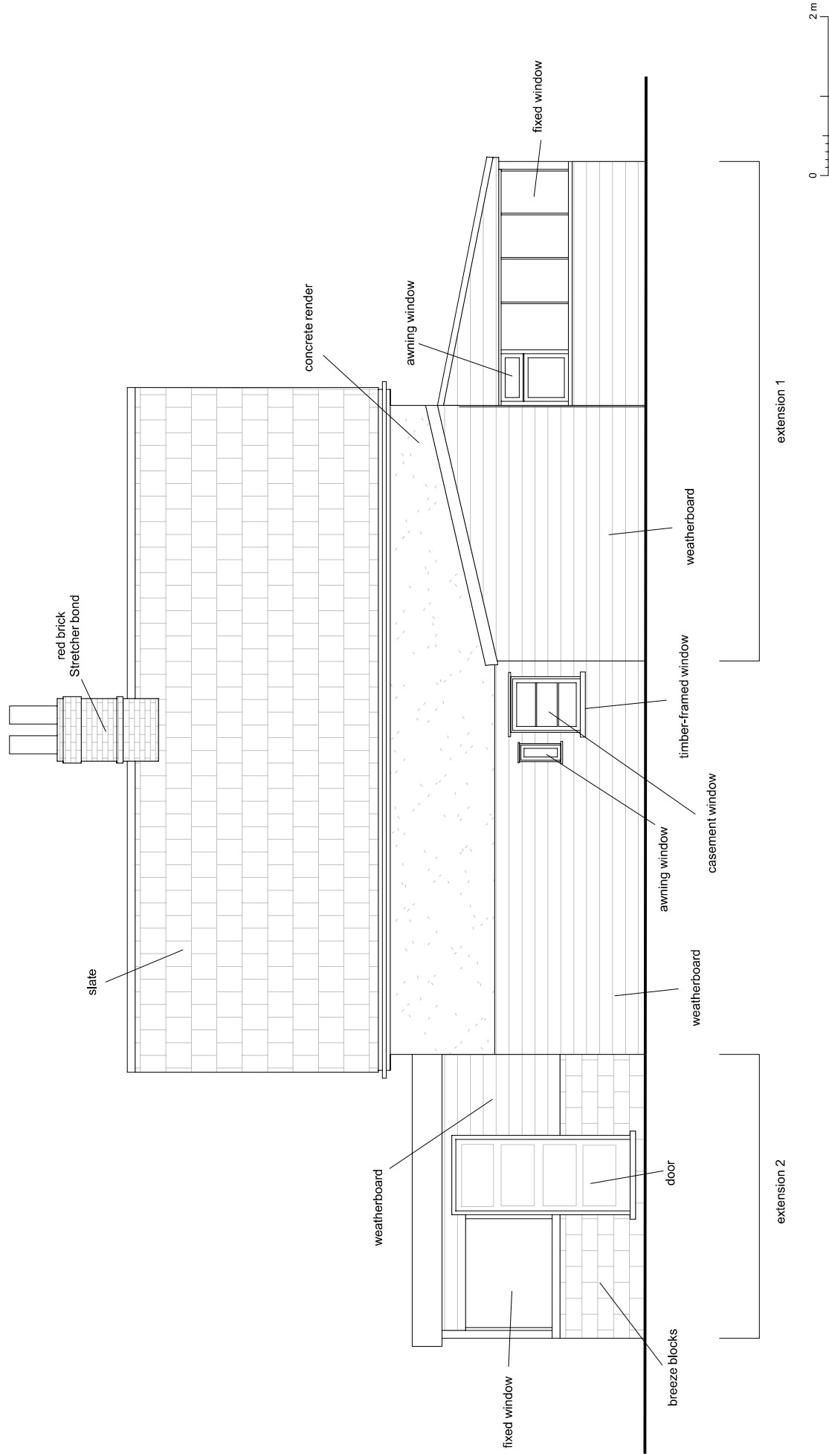


Fig 6 Northern elevation.

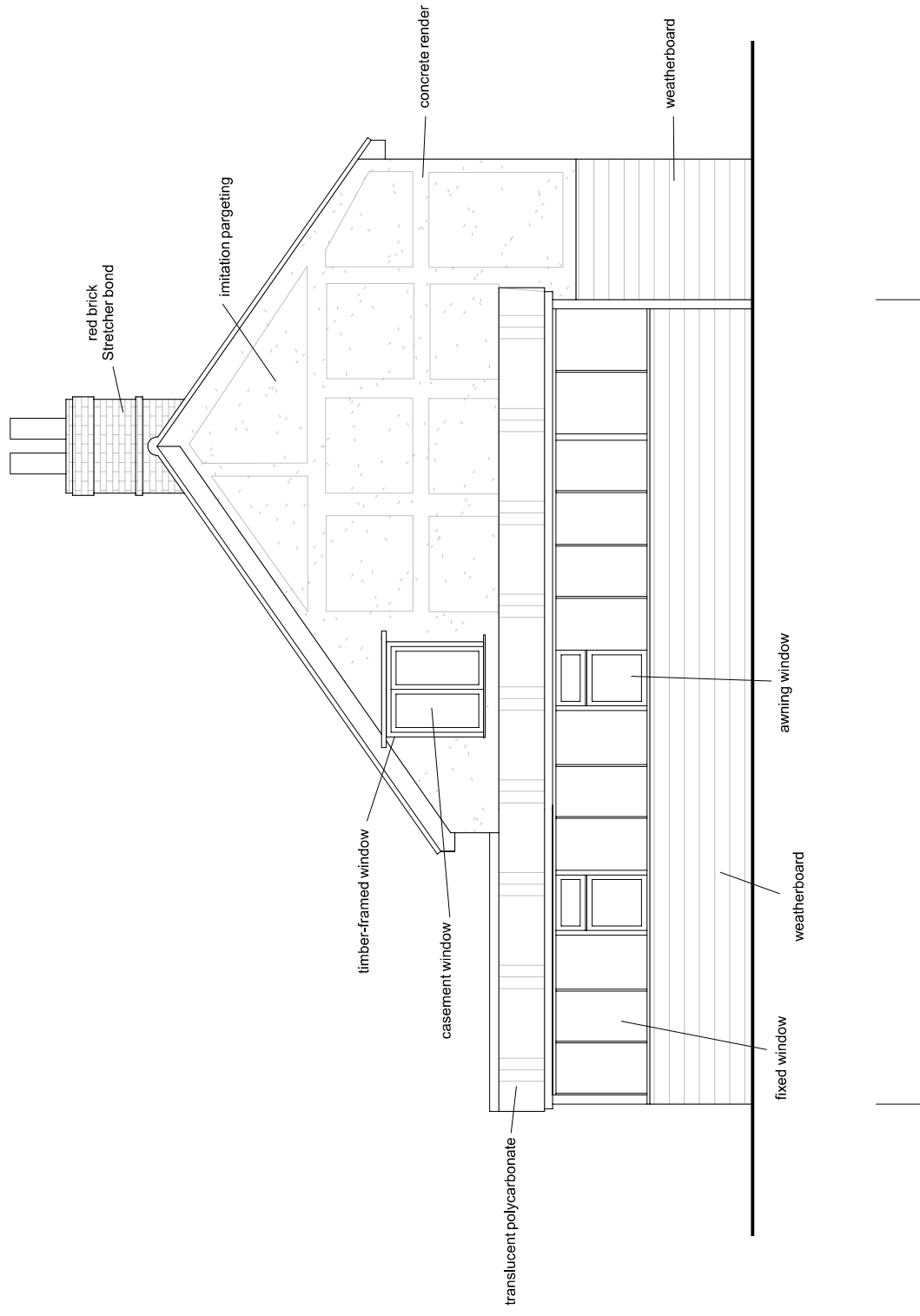


Fig 7 Western elevation.

OASIS Summary for colchest3-528352

OASIS ID (UID)	colchest3-528352
Project Name	Analytical Buildings Record (level 3) at Slough Wood Cottage, Slough Road, Danbury, CM3 4LX
Sitename	Slough Wood Cottage, Slough Road, Danbury, CM3 4LX
Sitecode	2024/09j
Project Identifier(s)	2024/09j
Activity type	Analytical Buildings Record (level 3)
Planning Id	24/00596/FUL
Reason For Investigation	Planning requirement
Organisation Responsible for work	Colchester Archaeological Trust
Project Dates	13-Nov-2024 - 13-Nov-2024
Location	<p>Slough Wood Cottage, Slough Road, Danbury, CM3 4LX</p> <p>NGR : TL 80210 03029</p> <p>LL : 51.697074126157, 0.606202192067229</p> <p>12 Fig : 580210,203029</p>
Administrative Areas	<p>Country : England</p> <p>County/Local Authority : Essex</p> <p>Local Authority District : Chelmsford</p> <p>Parish : Danbury</p>
Project Methodology	<p>The aim of the building recording was to provide a detailed record and assessment of the buildings prior to demolition. The building recording was carried out to Level 3 (Historic England 2016) which is defined as:</p> <p>“Level 3 is an analytical record and will comprise an introductory description followed by a systematic account of the building’s origins, development and use. The record will include an account of the evidence on which the analysis has been based, allowing the validity of the record to be re-examined in detail. It will also include all drawn and photographic records that may be required to illustrate the building’s appearance and structure and to support an historical analysis.</p> <p>The information contained in the record will for the most part have been obtained through an examination of the building itself. The documentary sources used are likely to be those which are most readily accessible, such as historic Ordnance Survey maps, trade directories and other published sources. The record may contain some discussion the building’s broader stylistic or historical context and importance. It may form part of a wider survey of a number of buildings which will aim at an overall synthesis, such as a thematic or regional publication, when the use of additional source material may be necessary as well as a broader historical and architectural discussion of the buildings as a group.”</p> <p>In particular, the record considered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan and form of the site. • Materials and method of construction. • Date(s) of the structure(s). • Original function and layout. • Original and later fixtures and fittings. • The significance of the site in its immediate local context.

Project Results	Slough Wood Cottage is timber-framed, likely constructed from timber sourced from the adjacent Slough House Wood. Using cartographic evidence and a log of timber at Slough House, we can suggest a construction date of between 1820 and 1839. When originally constructed, it comprised two adjacent double-pile, single-fronted cottages which have since been combined into one dwelling. Some original features survive within the cottage, including some doors and the floorboards. The exterior of the cottage has a concrete render with imitation targetting, likely added when the cottages were merged.
Keywords	Workers Cottage - Georgian - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types
Funder	Private individual
HER	Essex HER - unRev - STANDARD
Person Responsible for work	
HER Identifiers	HER Event No - EEX60240
Archives	Digital Archive - to be deposited with Archaeology Data Service Archive;

Report generated on: 16 Dec 2024, 12:07