



For office use.

REPORT COVER FORM

Modern County (Historic County): North Yorkshire (West Riding)

Township: Austwick

Name of building: Austwick Hall

NGR: SD 7695 6890

Building listed: Yes

Owner/occupier: Mr M Pearson & Mr E Culley (Austwick Hall, Austwick, North Yorks LA2 8BS)

Date of record: 01.05.2008

Names of recorders: Alison Armstrong, Josephine Drake, Helen McKinley, Phyllida Oates,
Jill Sykes, Sonia Wilkinson

Plans etc attached;

- block plan of site
- detail drawings
- photographs
- copies of inventories, maps
- oral information
- other(rubbings etc)
- ground floor plan
- first floor plan
- elevations
- section

DATING-*Likely date for oldest part and any major extensions and alterations.*

Largely of 16th C date with linear service end rebuilt perhaps in 17th C.

19th C alterations include re-fenestration with sash windows and new central front doorway.

The roof line has been changed and now has kingpost roof trusses in the wing and hall range, probably 18th C, but re-using older timber. The hall range roof has been raised at the eaves but was steeper.

PLAN FORM:

Hall, without passage, and with rectangular west cross wing and original direct entry near linear service end.

SUMMARY OF DESCRIPTION AND INTERPRETATION:

The architectural features (hollow chamfered mullions, deeply moulded doorway and fireplaces, diamond set chimney stacks joined at the moulding) and symmetry of the rows of chimney stacks and windows suggest a late 16th C fully storied hall with w cross wing and east linear service end. This ties in with the sale of the manor house at that time.

There is no evidence of the supposed 12th C "peel tower" although the manor was probably on this site. Changes in the stonework indicate rebuild alterations, including the hall range roof on raised eaves for the current kingpost roof. The re-used timber in the roof is probably from the site but is difficult to interpret and appears to have been used more than once. There are some halved joints which might come from medieval carpentry. Possibly there were once stone parapets with Elizabethan timber gables. The terraced gardens in the hillside may have been constructed for the house wing

BUILDING REPORT

Modern County (Historic County);
NORTH YORKSHIRE (West Riding)

Parish or township;
Austwick (township and ecclesiastical parish)

Name of building;
Austwick Hall

NGR: SD 7695 6890

Building listed; Grade 11

Date of record: 01.05.2008

Names of recorders; Alison Armstrong, Josephine Drake, Helen McKinley, Phyllida Oates,
Jill Sykes, Sonia Wilkinson,

DESCRIPTION

1. Building type/purpose;

Gentry house

2. Materials;

Walling of local limestone rubble, including the quoins of the west wing with through stones of dark Horton slate. Changes in coursing indicate rebuilds. Other dressed work, mullioned windows and 19th C flat-faced sash window surrounds with their prominent horizontal broad-tooling are of Carboniferous sandstone dressings brought from further afield. Micaceous sandstone, perhaps from Leeds/Bradford area, makes up the 19th C Tuscan columns of portico and stairs.

Roofing of slates; from Kirkby Ireleth (Cumbria?) for 1890s repairs.

Interior timber includes hardwood roof timbers with the long 19th C trusses probably of imported timber.

Softwood flooring and panelling in the dining room of west wing.

3. Exterior details;

FRONTAGE (general): This displays the west wing, hall range and east service end. The six individual diamond-set chimney stacks on the hall range/west wing wall (late 16/early 17thc) are joined by a cornice with rich moulding. The scar of a formerly steeper roofline over the hall range remains on the stack masonry indicating a probable third storey perhaps with parapet. The subtle changes in walling indicate wall heightening at the eaves. The west wing walling suggests some rebuilds perhaps retaining the corners of an older structure. The service end, of three storeys, is separated by a prominent wavy joint as if quoins have been removed. Large stone-surround rectangular sash windows c1840, are inserted into former mullioned windows, symmetrically placed in the walling.

HALL RANGE:

The 19th c columned doorway is inserted where there would have been a hall window. The blocked up, richly moulded earlier doorway is to the east of this entry, near the low or service end (see plan), and thus in a normal position in a house with "wing" ends. West of the porch straight joints suggest a window has had alterations and was eventually blocked up. This may have been the site of a fire window or long hall window. The joints however appear to descend to the ground so this could possibly be the site of a pre 16th C passage.

WEST WING:

Built of rubble limestone there are subtle changes indicating rebuilds between the older corner walls. There is a plinth that on the west side is well exposed since the ground has been dug away. Blocked, symmetrically placed 16th C mullioned and transomed windows on the south and west elevations would typically give views of a garden from the best private chambers. On the west elevation small straight joints

might possibly be from narrow early windows but they are not entirely convincing. One mullioned window has been restored and inserted sashes removed.

EAST SERVICE END:

This is separated from the hall range by wavy joint at the rear and by a straighter joint at the front although it is partly obscured by vegetation. The joint in the upper part of the wall has some quoins which suggest it was once higher than the hall range eaves or was of stone against timber gables. The walling of the wing is set back slightly from that of the hall range indicating some rebuilding. The lowest rear walls however are thicker than those of the hall range suggesting the east end is older.

WEST WING REAR EXTENSION;

This low two storey addition, for a Smoking Room and chamber, was built into the hillside c 1893 with access through the old rear wall into a small lobby.

REAR :(See sketch of rear elevation)

The building is cut into the solid limestone hillside. The ground has been further cut away for 19th C coal house and wash-house outbuildings, in what was a covered passage. The large plinth stops near the west wing. Any join with the west wing is obscured by the c 1893 rear extension lobby. The chimneys are asymmetrically placed on the roof ridge, and do not show the steeper roof seen on the south side. The hall range shows a blocked mullioned and transomed windows cut by the 19th C stair window. It probably indicates the earlier stair position prior to 19th C re-modelling rather than a rear chamber window. Tiny chamfered windows light the attic space but the upper stonework looks raised, as it does at the front.

The wavy straight joint of hall range and service end indicates a rebuilding of either the service end or hall range rear wall. In the service end there is a small blocked first floor chamfered window, possibly round headed and a chamfered window on the third floor. The back door looks inserted and has a rough timber lintel and a porch. A blocked mullioned window is seen at the side of it.

4. Interior details (see plan and detail drawings);

The Clapham's, a family with scientific interests in the 19th and 20th C, meticulously recorded alterations to the building by means of tiny brass date plaques. The survey did not record these in detail.

GROUND FLOOR

The hall range was altered about 1840 to create a wide entrance hall reached through the central portico doorway and featuring a stairway c 1840 with polished handrail, curled ends but floral wrought iron balusters. The style seems a little old-fashioned for its date. Possibly the stair has been brought from elsewhere? The reception hall is very wide at 10m and the Tuscan columns may well be supporting the former partition wall of an earlier stair that has been cut away. The stair is placed on top of the stone flagged floor which must have been laid first. The plaster ceiling is in 12 panels. The front and back walls are over 70 cm thick. The 1.70 thick walls of the west wing contain the chimney stacks of the hall range and wing chimneys. In the hall, the large stone fireplace, 90 cm deep, has deep cavetto mouldings like the old front doorway and is probably 16th C and contemporary with it. Two doorways cut the chimney stack wall into the west wing.

The west wing is divided by a partition into two rooms.

The south room (drawing room) retains a deeply chamfered hollow-moulded mullioned window on the west side. The main interest is the Tudor-arched fireplace with spandrels and deep mouldings indicating a good parlour. The wall may still retain panelling under the wallpaper making the fireplace appear recessed. The 19th C ceiling obscures any cross beams but cracks suggest they are above. Three 19th C pediment arches form a partition with the north room but any doorway has been blocked up. Perhaps the arches were designed to display specific ornaments.

The north dining room (back parlour) is reached awkwardly under the 19th C stair and through a low opening at the end of the chimney stack wall. There is an opening here in the side of the stack wall with a small brass plaque saying it was opened up in the 19th C. Possibly this was the site of an earlier stone newel up to the west wing chambers. The parlour is clad in good panelling with raised centres and with dado and incorporates a cupboard and fireplace with eared architraves of early 19th C. The ceiling is plastered and includes a deep N-S beam. The fireplace is of crinoidal fossil limestone "marble" possibly from Dent. The wide timber floorboards may be on top of stone flags causing the slope upward from the hall.

The added 1893 rear range is reached through a small lobby and a doorway inserted through the old rear wall. The smoke room fireplace is of black "marble" with timber surround and small timber panelling perhaps early 20th C.

The east service end includes the kitchen, pantry and back stairs with back door inserted through 72cm wall into a small yard. The very thick 170 cm wall from the hall range contains more chimney stacks, most of which are now blocked in (owner information).

There is a 50 cm wall across the service end dividing kitchen and pantry and it supports the oak beams of the kitchen which have narrow-chamfers with cavetto stops. Thin partitions separate kitchen and stair-hall with its diagonal quarry tiles and meteorological, hand-painted, blue and white corner tiles perhaps of 19/20th C date.

One of the three substantial N-S kitchen beams is partly embedded in the hall cross wall and is scarfed. Wall beams continue all the way up the service end with floor levels lower than in the hall range but there was no evidence of timber framing. The kitchen beams retain hanging hooks. The main feature is the very large voussoir-arched stone fireplace with plain hollow chamfer (see drawing). The very wide masonry joints suggest it may have been rebuilt.

The rear pantry is stone flagged and has stone keeping shelves and is lit by a splayed 17th C? window in the gable.

The timber dog-leg back stair has a square newel, applied mouldings and stocky turned balusters. The backdoor is cross-boarded and nailed with large rails and large plain hinges and may be re-used.

UPSTAIRS CHAMBERS

The west wing is again divided into two rooms by a thin partition wall. Chimneys indicate these solar rooms were heated.

The housebody range has chambers with 19th C plaster ceilings, one with a floral ceiling rose of c 1840.

The service end, with step down, has a beam embedded in the wall and cut-off joists. The room over the kitchen was the library in 1856 and would have been reached from the private hall chamber bedroom.

ATTICS

The attics are reached by the service end stair. In the service end there are two low ceiled rooms, giving an extra three storey level. The north east room has a stone fireplace (deep lintel and sill, 18th C?) which may not be original as it appears to sit on a beam and joists. The larger south room has a tie beam exposed in the ceiling. We were told a builder remembers evidence of a fireplace flue in the thick cross wall.

The stairs continue up several steps to the attic of the hall range. There are two tall and slender king post roof trusses of sawn hardwood, probably of imported timber (see drawing). The shoulder-height tie beams and tiny eaves windows and the 1856 inventory indicate this was for storage. The first east truss has rows of pegholes which may have held a partition. The middle section of the roof has timbers embedded in the N and S walls perhaps marking the earlier eaves lines of the steeper roof. The truss joints are all carpenter-marked in Roman numerals. The west truss retains the carpenters red chalk lines along the tie beam. The carpenter also produced some red chalk graffiti, possibly writing his name "J Moor" in large letters. A Clapham plaque shows the roof repaired in 1890s with slates from Kirkby Ireleth. All the purlins on the south side are old and re-used and have redundant mortices and halvings; two appear to be lap joints that are notched and possibly medieval. Timbers on the north are all replacements.

The east stone wall has sloping lines marked by slates but this appears to be for inserted chimney flues for the east wing and chambers. The west end wall has a horizontal masonry line all around it with some suggestion if a castellated parapet remaining. There is a line of old limewash too. This suggests roof alterations in which an upper storey has gone along with possible steep timber gables over a parapet.

The west wing contains more old timber probably salvaged from the older, pre-hipped roof. The apex appears a little higher than the housebody. There are three trusses, carpenter marked with a chisel in Roman numerals but of different carpentry to the hall roof. The roof appears to be raised over earlier roofline stacks. The ledge in the stack masonry now supports the east side of the roof trusses (see drawing). The principal rafters have timber added above them, but the roof slopes to the eaves on the west. The kingposts appear re-used and each has a mortice in the side but no peg. They may be older kingposts that have been turned around so the windbrace mortices are on the side. There is a re-used timber which has seatings for rafters and which may be a ridge piece or from a valley. A principal rafter on truss 2 (see drawing) has a good mortice with three pegholes, some trenches with unusual raised centres under, (possibly for purlins?) and a notched dovetail or lap joint. The ridge piece retains mortices for windbraces. Rafters are re-used too.

The timber is difficult to interpret and appears re-used at least twice as the roof was modified at different times. Lap joint carpentry is likely to be pre 1600.

5. Plan

L plan: hall with west wing and linear low end

6. DATING and INTERPRETATION

The architectural evidence indicates a fully storied house, without cross passage, and of the late 16th C. It ties in with some of the known history.

The "pele tower" of 1180 quoted by Speight and others has no real evidence. A defensive pele tower would have had a strong vaulted storage undercroft, stair access and entrance to an upper floor hall, garderobes, further chambers above, a squarish plan and an enclosed yard - but these are not seen. Speight mistook the thick chimney walls for old wall thicknesses.

The old manor house was sold off in 1551 and again in 1573 and this is the likely date for much of what we see. The old house may have been partly of timber and easily rebuilt. Pre 1551 evidence might include possible blocked slit windows in the west wing and some masonry and possible lap-jointed timber re-used in the roof. The cavity in the north end of the chimney masonry may be the site of a wall stair. Ground floor halls were sometimes added later to towers. A group of large early houses (c 1300) in N Yorks have a plan of an open hall and one early stone cross wing (containing service below and solar above) with almost square halls of around 8 or 9 metres (Harrison and Hutton). Here the hall is 9X10 metres but may have been widened for the rear stair; the roof line on the chimney stacks is not symmetrical to this full width. Although it is just possible the footprint of the hall matches these dimensions, and the west tower wing is apparently on the "low" ground end, there are no screen passage doorways in the west wing and no cross passage. The blocked moulded doorway of c 1600 into the hall range is adjacent to a service end, as normal, at the east end.

Non-defensive "tower houses" with tower-like solar wings were traditional gentry manor houses in Pennine Yorkshire and continued into the post medieval period and Austwick Hall is more likely to fall into this category and retains this plan and architectural evidence. The solar wing has the best private rooms and garden view and is attached to a fully storied, post-medieval hall (no sign of a former open hall) and at the other end is a service end, probably modified from an earlier wing. The evidence suggests a typical 16th C storied stone house without a passage and with some attempt at "Tudor symmetry" with evenly placed windows. The very thick walls at each end of the hall range enclose all the chimney stacks symmetrically. There was probably a good 16th C staircase up the north wall for which only the blocked transomed window remains in the north wall.

The kitchen may have been re-modelled in the 17th C with the large arched fireplace. It retaining different floor level heights, indicating lower status, but third storey rooms were heated. It is unclear if this end was once timber framed although timbers remain embedded in the walls with the hall range. It was clearly rebuilt at a different time from the hall range, perhaps in the 17th C, but may even pre-date the rebuilt hall range.

After the Dissolution the Duke of Suffolk sold the manor to Sir John Yorke in 1551. It was sold in 1573 to the Ingilby family in the late 16th C who remained there until early 19th C. Later 16th C evidence includes the Tudor style fireplaces, deep hollow mouldings, diamond-set stacks with joined mouldings (as at Burnsall grammar school dated 1606), hollow-moulded mullioned windows and use of limestone quoins. There is evidence on the chimney stack masonry of a former higher roofline to a narrower hall range. This may have had a flat ceiling below (lime-washed stonework step seen in the attic). This roof was steep pitched but this storey was removed in the early 19th C when the present, less-steep roof was added onto raised side walls. The re-used timber in the west wing may come from a reconstruction of the roof there. There may have been timber gables. Timber ceiling beams and joists may well survive disguised under the 19th C plaster ceilings. Timber panelling may survive as the bulge under the wallpaper in the west wing drawing room.

In the early 19th C the house was bought by William King but in 1829 it came to the Clapham family (a scientific family of naturalists, surveyors, astronomers and writers.) The projecting sash windows, Tuscan columns, stair, panelled parlour, plaster ceiling rose, roof trusses on a re-modelled roof could all be a

Georgian or Regency style which continued on to 1840, so it could have been King or Clapham who carried this out this re-modelling. The Clapham's in the late 19th C however were careful, in a time of antiquarianism, to preserve as much as possible of their home and meticulously recorded their alterations in tiny brass plaques which they probably produced and engraved themselves. It seems unlikely they would have modified the house to such an extent. Speight comments that in 1863 Clapham removed rough cast from the walls and cemented them instead. The plaster had concealed a fine doorway, presumably the one now exposed near the portico entry. The "old mullioned window" was also found damaged. It is unclear which window he refers to. The NW corner he says is built on a glacial boulder. This is probably part of the plinth of the west wing.

An 1856 inventory of Richard Clapham's house named the rooms which can still be identified. The hall range contained entrance hall, front stairs landing, room over hall (with two beds) and landing. West wing had drawing room and back parlour, room over drawing room (with one bed). The east service end is less easy to identify rooms but included three rooms with beds. It had kitchen, scullery (for pots and pans), pantry (for china and food), wine bin and beer cellar (perhaps under the stairs?), coal cellar, backstairs, library over kitchen (books and gentleman's scientific equipment eg telescope, theodolite and also a bed), room over pantry (a bedroom), servants bedroom. Other rooms are in the attics. The "attic" is probably the first bay lit with a rectangular window and where the truss is marked for partitioning and here were stored drawers, chests, fossil cabinets etc); "dark room" (perhaps the west part of this space with blocked eaves windows and used for portmanteau and carpet boxes but not for any photographic work); "dark attic" (probably that over the west wing which just has a modern skylight and contained domestic items such as beehives, meal arks, milk bowls.) Outside was an outhouse (for harness and gig) and back kitchen (probably the exterior washhouse since it contained wash day items and the room over it had a stove). Also mentioned is his daughter's bedroom but this may be the room over the drawing room. It was not a large house with only five bedrooms so the addition of the "Smoke Room" wing to the rear gave further private rooms

SETTING

7. Orientation;

Faces south. Built into hillside on elevated site above village.

8. Relationships;

The site also contained (but not recorded) other features; the kitchen garden to the NE, the dog kennel on the E, the barn to the SE and the stables to SSE.

The water supply from the hillside above is likely to be the original source and was the subject of a dispute when the spring supply was taken for the public water supply by the Council in 1902. T R Clapham claimed it reduced supply to their lands and house. 19th C maps show watercourses and water pipes to the house was supplied from a spring above. This was diverted to the service end of the house (where troughs remain) and then to the barn and stables. Another diversion fed the gardens with a fountain and trough and an ebbing and flowing well that changed with water table.

The gardens terraced around the solar wing are likely to be original gardens viewed from the solar wing. T R Clapham, FRAS, kept notes on tree species planted in the garden. In 1900, for example, seeds from a Sequoia gigantea, collected as cones on 7 Oct 1870 in California (their native habitat) were sown. Three survived and were planted in the garden in 1878. He recorded rates of tree growth and even trees felled when they were too big. Pine sp purchased from Lawson and Sons Edinburgh were also grown. Some of his recorded trees may survive today.

The Clapham's sundial and surveyors calibrated measure, in chains, survive in the garden.

OTHER INFORMATION

9. Initials/datestones;

J Moor (red chalk on roof truss c 1830 and possibly the carpenter)

10. Oral information from owner/occupier;

Fireplace flues in east wall of hall range serving hall chamber and wing chamber.

11. Documentation, maps, inventories etc;

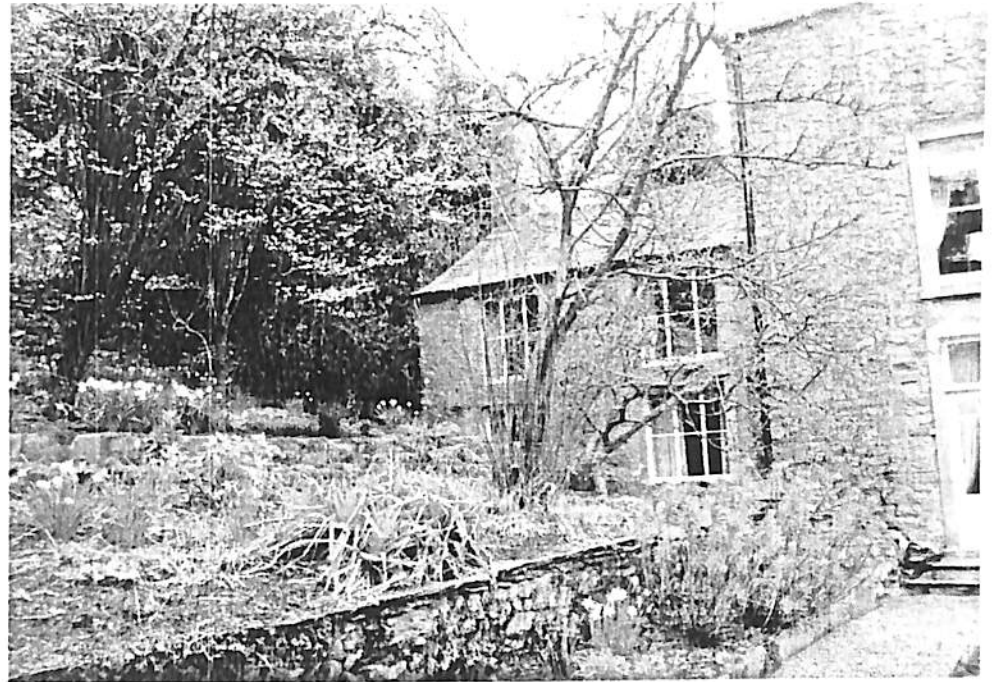
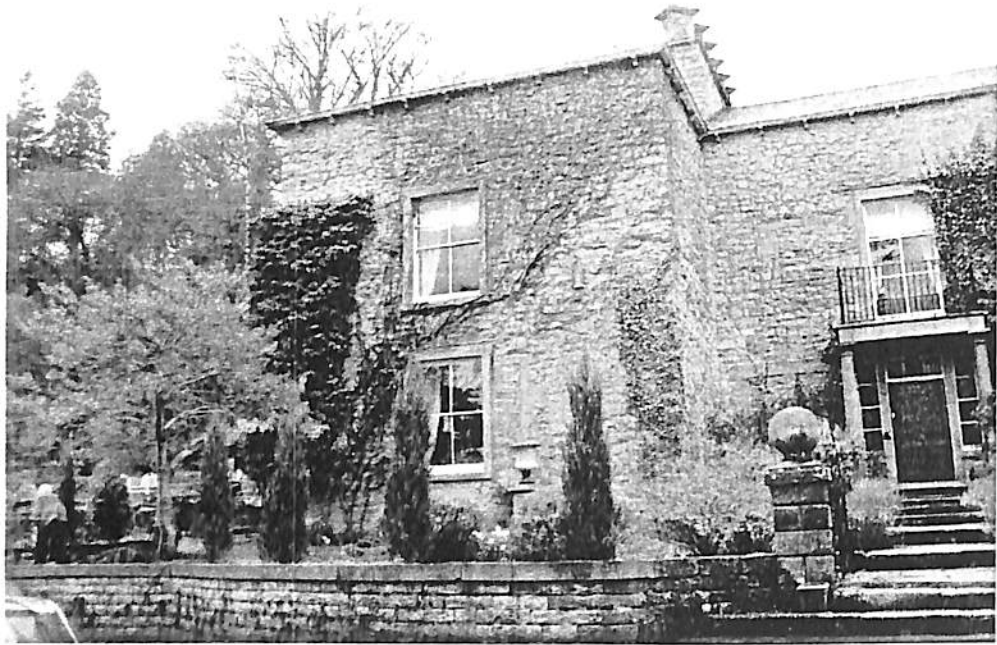
Map of water courses c 1902.

12.Plans etc annexed (please tick)

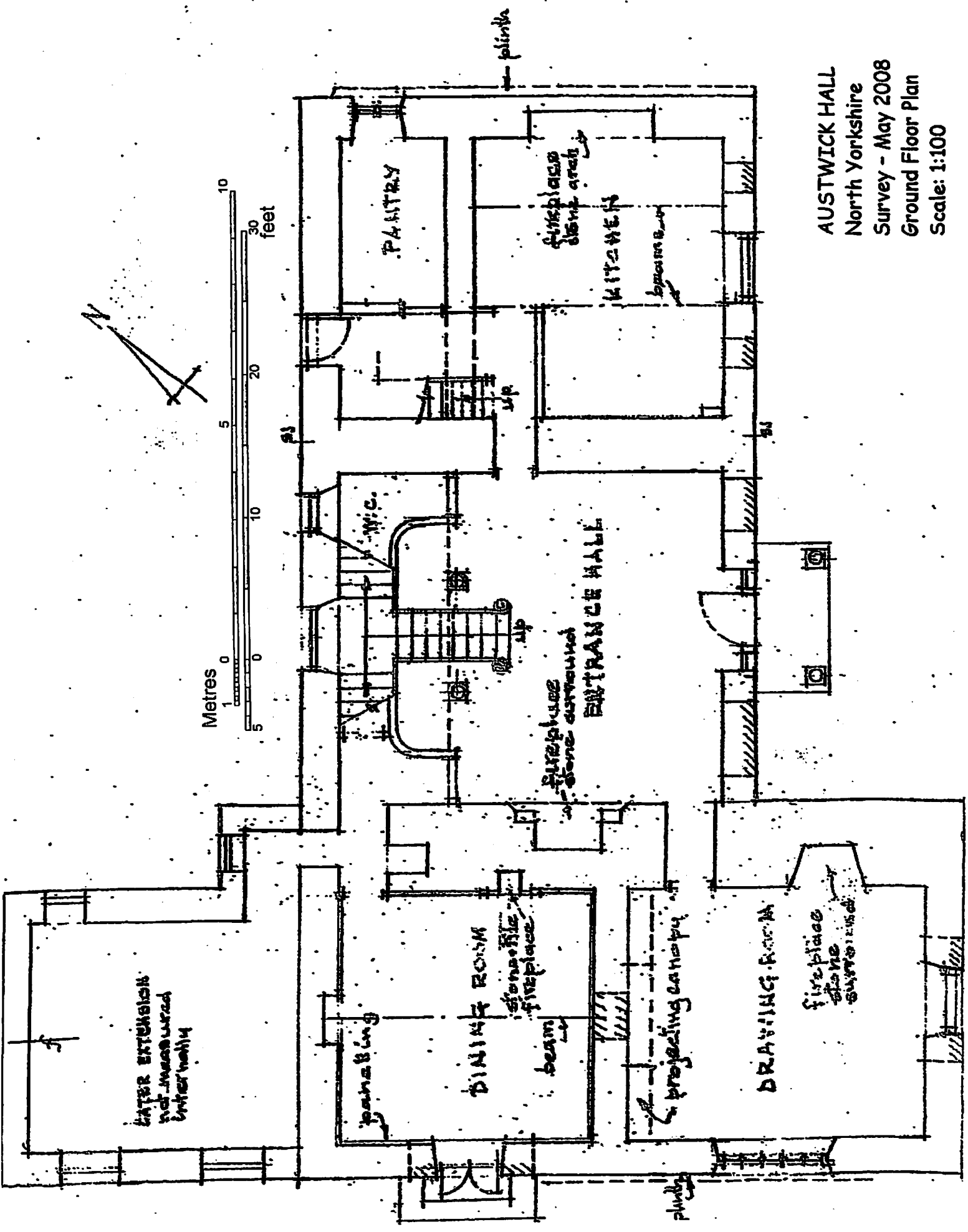
block plan of site
ground floor plan
first floor plan
analytical plan
copies of inventories,maps etc

sections
elevations
detail drawings
photographs
rubbings

Report by ACA

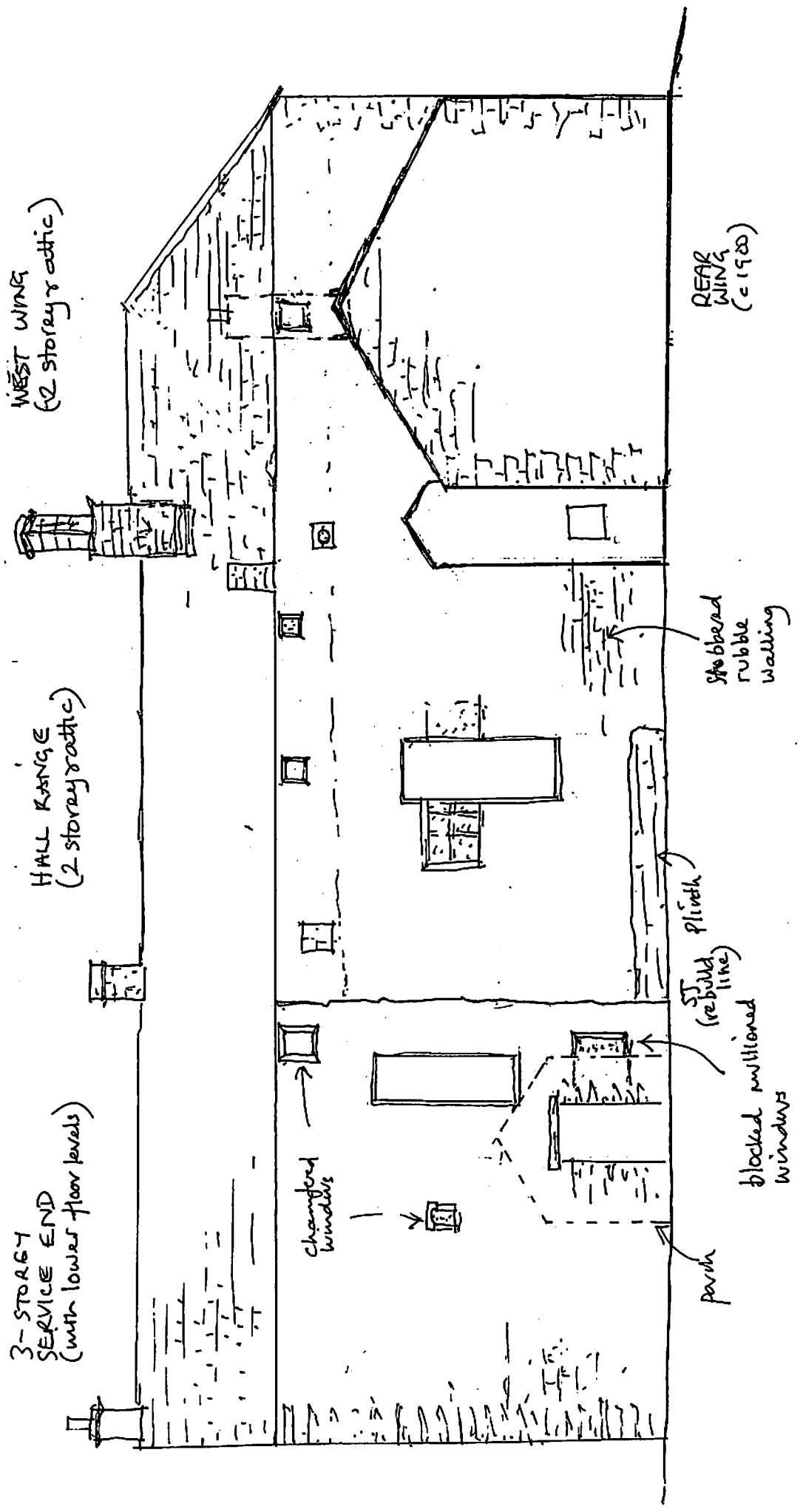


AUSTWICK HALL
 North Yorkshire
 Survey - May 2008
 Ground Floor Plan
 Scale: 1:100



AUSTWICK HALL

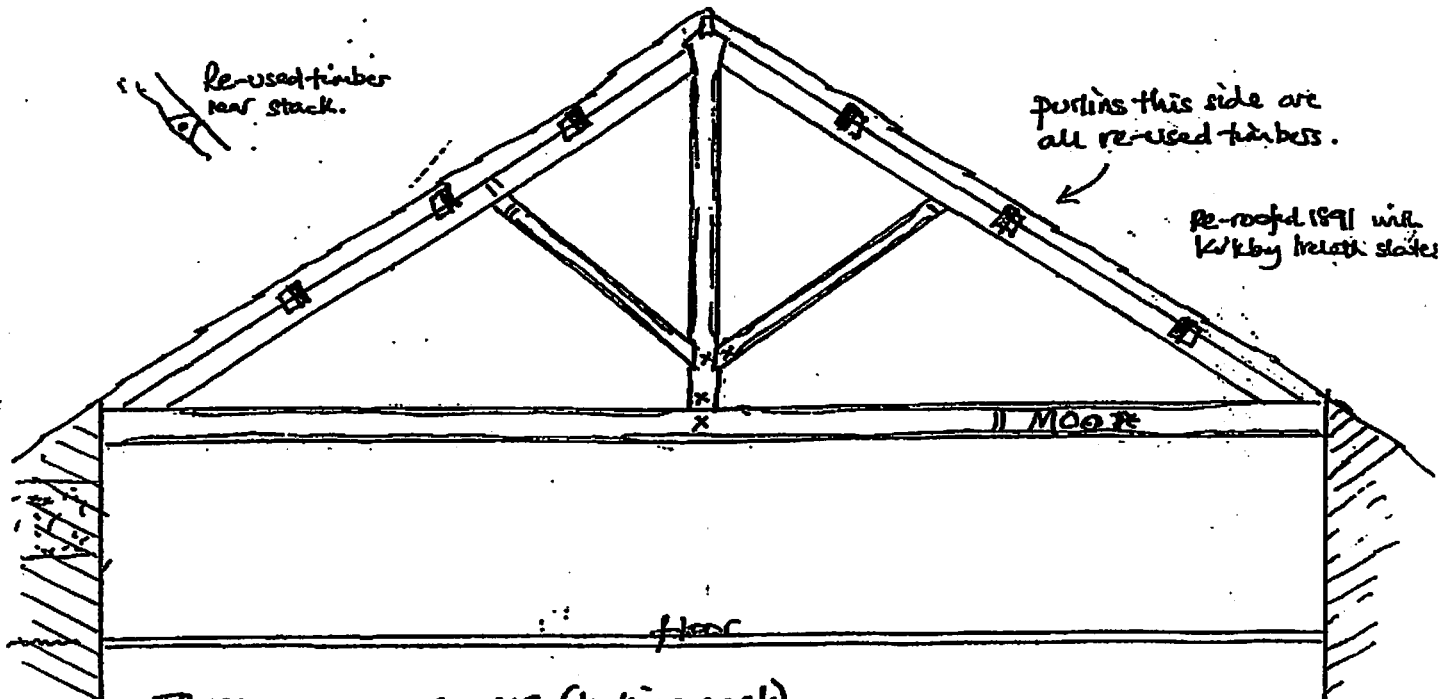
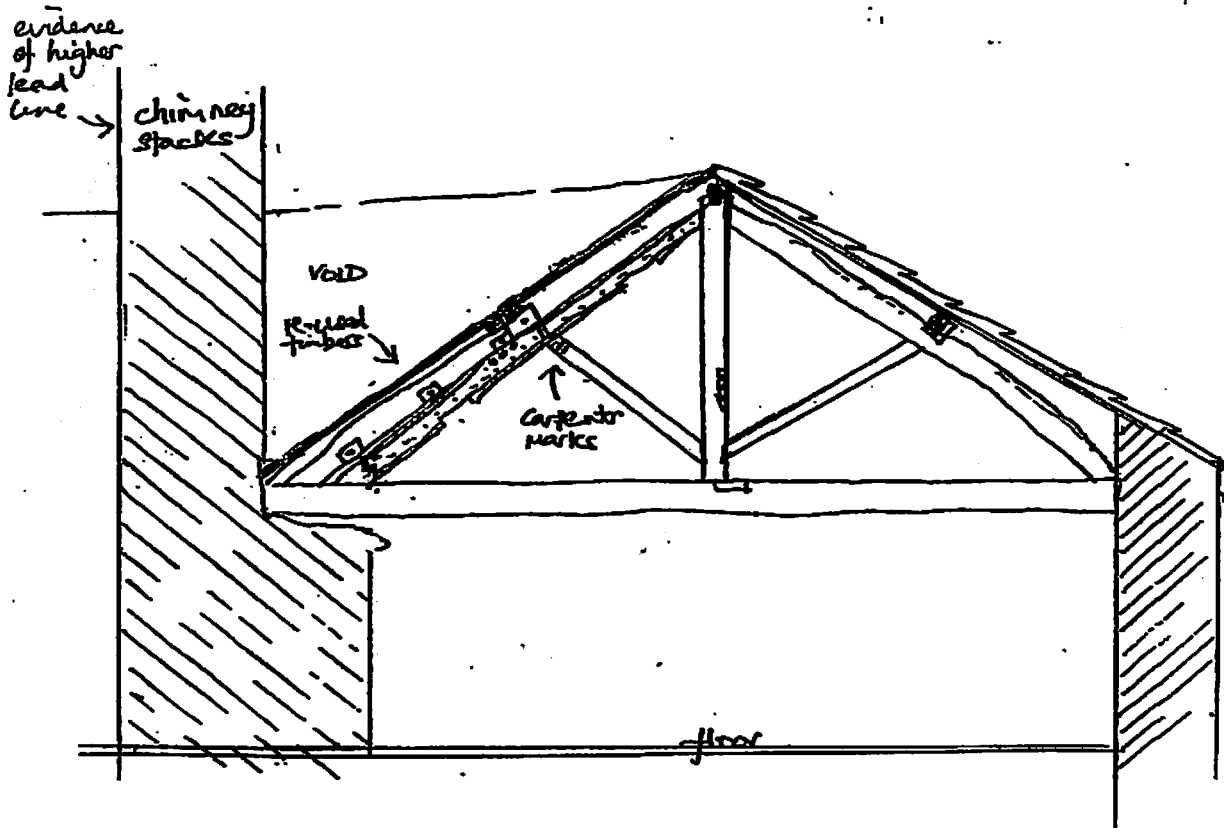
Sketch of rear north wall.



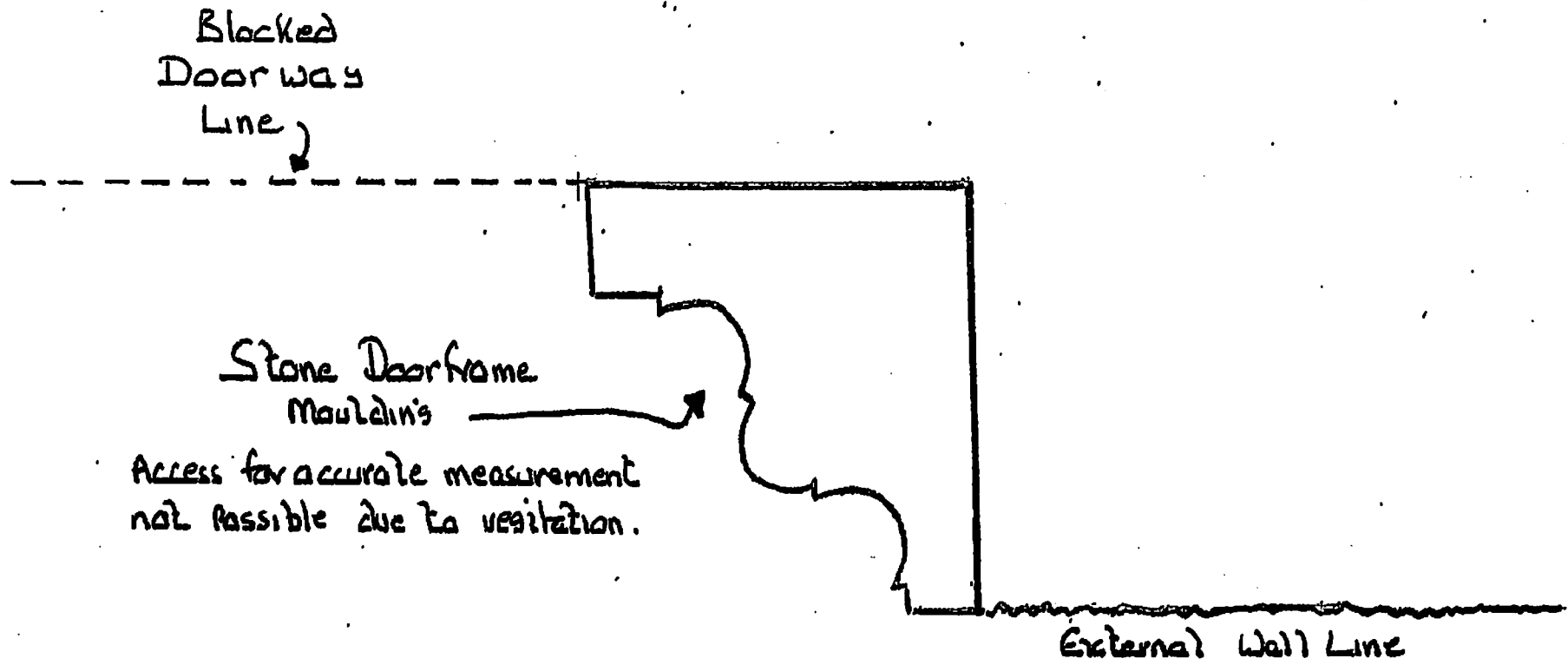
AUSTWICK HALL ROOF TRUSSES

TRUSS II, WEST WING (looking south)
Many of the component timbers are re-used or re-set.

0 50 100 200 cm.
A.C.N. 2008



TRUSS 2, MAIN RANGE (looking east)
Showing carpenter construction marks and graffiti, possibly "J Moor:", in carpenter's red chalk.



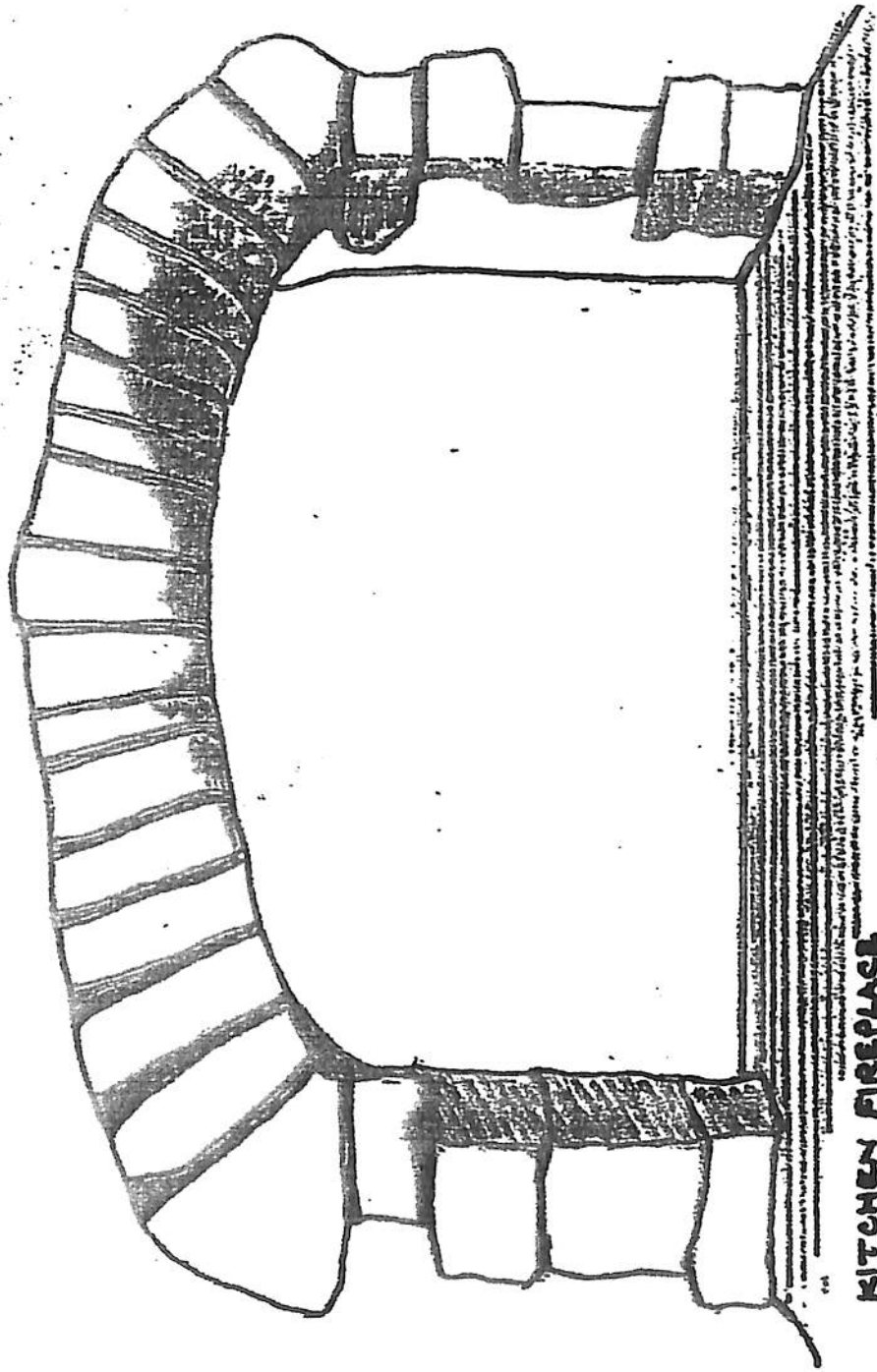
Blocked
Doorway
Line

Stone Doorframe
Mouldings

Access for accurate measurement
not possible due to vegetation.

External Wall Line

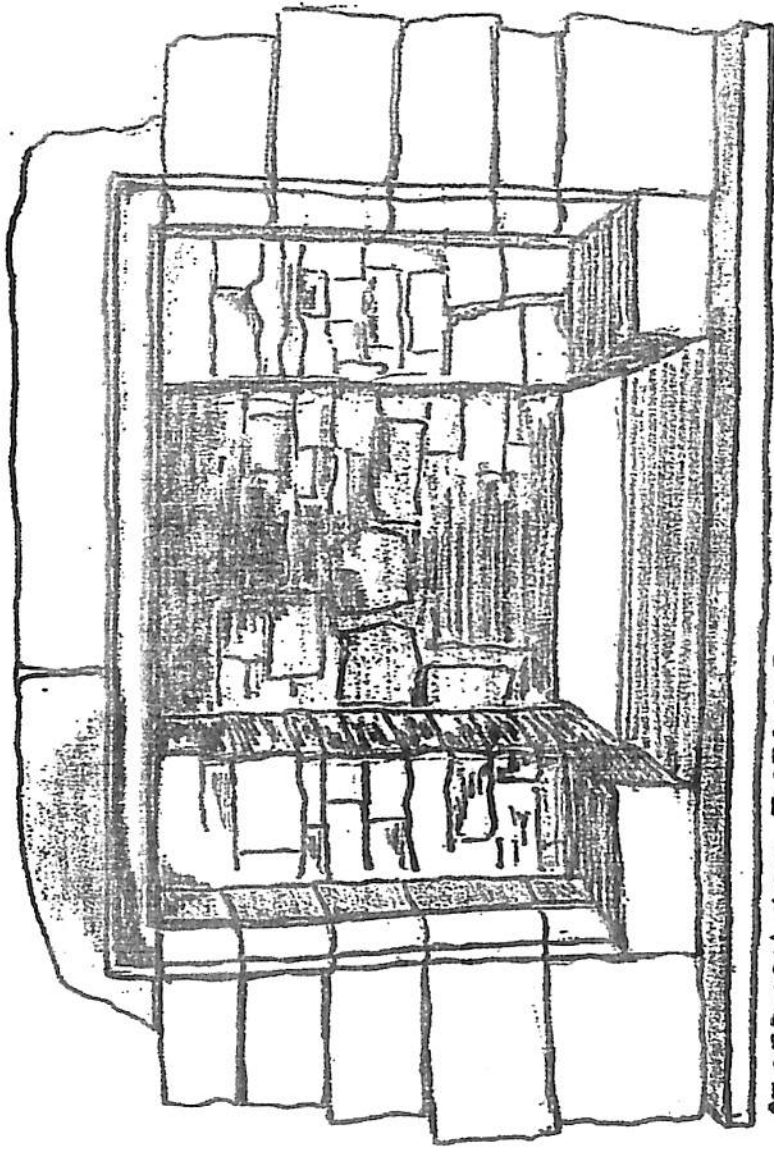
AUSTWICK HALL
North Yorkshire
Survey - May 2008
Profile of Stone Door
Frame, now blocked



**KITCHEN FIREPLACE
AUSTWICK HALL, MARCH 2008**

P. DATES

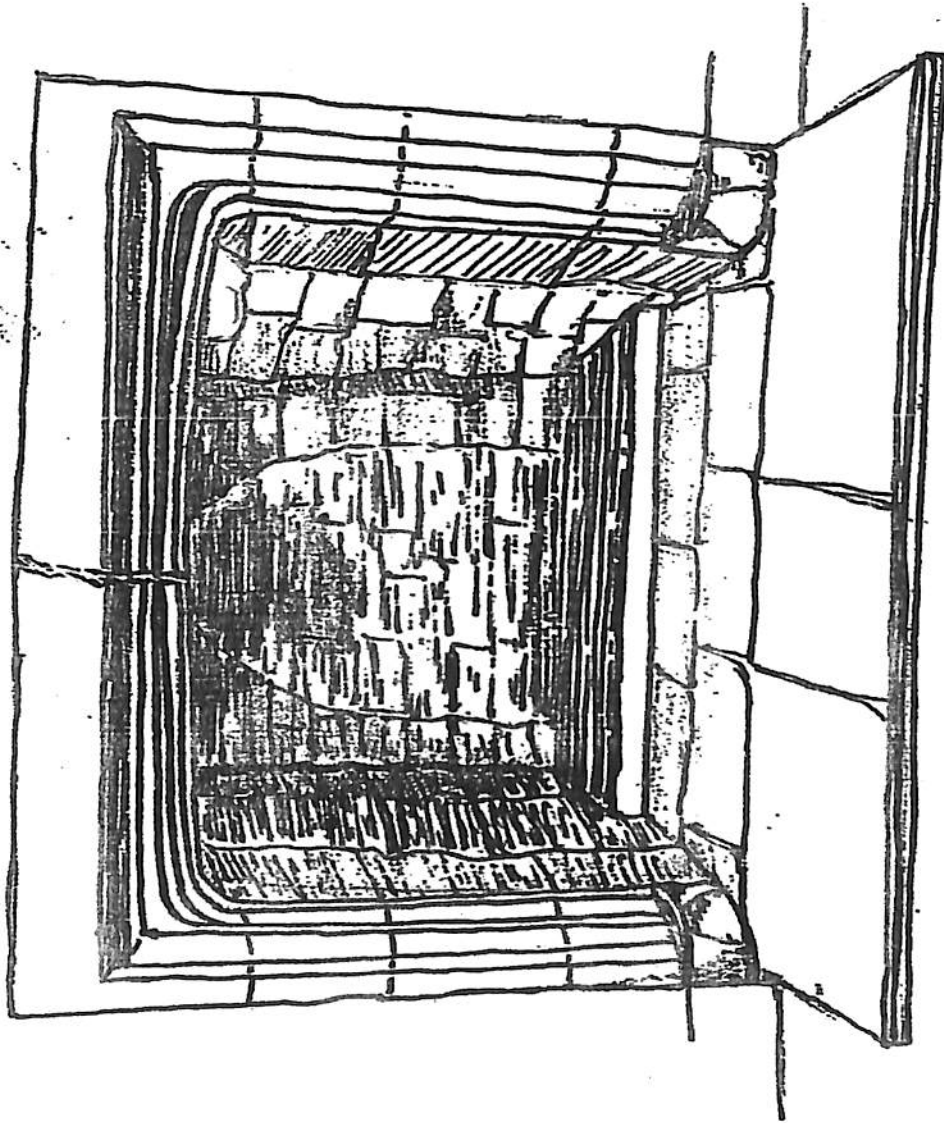
**AUSTWICK HALL
North Yorkshire
Survey - May 2008
Kitchen Fireplace**



RECEPTION HALL FIREPLACE
AUSTWICK HALL, MARCH 2008

R. OATES

AUSTWICK HALL
North Yorkshire
Survey - May 2008
Reception Hall Fireplace



DRAWING ROOM FIREPLACE
AUSTWICK HALL, MARCH 2008
P. DATES

AUSTWICK HALL
North Yorkshire
Survey - May 2008
Drawing Room Fireplace