

November 1997

**LATHOM HOUSE,
NEAR ORMSKIRK,
LANCASHIRE**

SURVEY AND EVALUATION REPORT

Commissioned and funded by:

The W K Group Ltd

Lathom House, Ormskirk
Lancashire

Survey and Evaluation Report

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SUMMARY

A programme of topographical survey, building recording, geophysical survey and archaeological evaluation was carried out at the site of the former Lathom House near Ormskirk, South Lancashire (NGR SD 34594091). Of the Great House, only one ancillary wing (the West Wing) remains, along with several outbuildings, but pictorial sources indicate that this was a grand eighteenth century Palladian mansion in the best traditions of its architect, the celebrated Venetian Giacomo Leoni. The landscaped gardens to the south and east of the standing building, including the ha-ha, are likely to date from this period of the site's history. The surviving building, a stable block, appeared to be essentially a construction of the first half of the eighteenth century, constructed as a wing to the house, and had been subject to modifications during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

This house had been preceded by a large and impressive fortified residence of the late fifteenth and early sixteenth century, built by the Earls of Derby and inhabited in the late fifteenth century by Lady Margaret Beaufort, mother of Henry VII. This house was besieged twice by the forces of Parliament during the Civil War, and thereafter slighted. The site of this first house/castle has been a matter of antiquarian debate over the last 200 years, and prior to the LUAU work, little direct evidence had been found to support the view that the eighteenth century house lay in close proximity to its late medieval predecessor.

Building recording of the surviving West Wing was undertaken in advance of reconstruction work, this revealed that fragments of masonry from earlier buildings had been incorporated into the eighteenth century structure. A new topographical field survey was undertaken in order to locate all of the other elements of the project.

Geophysical survey, utilising both resistivity and magnetometry, was undertaken on the plot of land to the south of the West Wing; this revealed both linear and discrete anomalies, which were interpreted as being related to features of the eighteenth century garden.

Within this latter plot, and based upon the results of the geophysical survey, evaluation trial-trenching, followed by area stripping on the site of a proposed bungalow, revealed a large curvilinear rock-cut feature, to the south of the West Wing, which appeared to run south-eastwards into the ha-ha: this has been provisionally interpreted as the moat of the medieval house, and suggests that the medieval fortified residence of the Stanleys may have lain in the area presently occupied by the landscaped garden to the east of the standing West Wing.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE PROJECT

- 1.1.1 A programme of archaeological work, including desk-based assessment, topographic survey, building recording, geophysical survey, trial trenching, and watching brief, at Lathom House, Ormskirk, Lancashire was undertaken between March, 1996, and January, 1997 by LUAU at the request of Mr Bill Kenyon and Mr James McConville. This work was conducted in advance of site redevelopment and the conversion of the standing, but ruined, West Wing.
- 1.1.2 The topographical survey and building recording were undertaken between 27th March and 17th April, 1996. The geophysical survey was undertaken by Geophysical Surveys of Bradford on 21st March, 1996, the trial-trenching was carried out in the week beginning 29th April, 1996, and the watching brief undertaken on 27th January, 1997.

2. METHODOLOGY

2.1 DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT

2.1.1 A detailed desk-based assessment was undertaken in order to collate all existing and accessible documentary material relating to the site, in order to locate the site within its historical context; and to inform successive stages of the project. Sources consulted included the Lancashire Sites and Monuments Record, the Lancashire Record Office, Lancaster University Library, Manchester Central Library, Chetham's Library, Manchester, and Pilkington's Technology Centre at Lathom. Sections 3 and 4 of this report are based upon the results of this research.

2.2 TOPOGRAPHIC SURVEY

2.2.1 A topographic survey of the area contained within the ha-ha to the south and east, and the open fields immediately to the north of the West Wing, was required. This would serve to record topographic features such as field boundaries, the ha-ha, standing buildings, and any other features. It would provide primary control for the building recording, and would locate the geophysical survey and trial-trench locations. Survey control was established by closed traverse using a Zeiss Elta 3 Total Station, while the location of the ha-ha was determined by using a MIDAS Global Positioning System (GPS).

2.3 BUILDING SURVEY

2.3.1 The recording of the West Wing prior to reconstruction work consisted of a ground plan, two cross-sections running through the two principal axes of the building, three external elevations, and a photographic record consisting of general coverage and architectural details. The level of detail was commensurate with Level 3 in the descriptive specification of historic buildings devised by the Royal Commission on Historical Monuments. The plans were prepared using a conventional Total Station and hand-measurement. The cross-sections and survey control for the external elevations were prepared using a reflectorless total station, while the elevations themselves were recorded using rectified photography. A photographic record of the building was also made using colour transparencies.

2.3.2 The range of outbuildings to the west of the West Wing were recorded to a level commensurate with level 2 in the Royal Commission descriptive specification: this consisted of a ground plan (measured by instrument survey and hand-measurement) and a photographic record was made.

2.3.3 In addition, a record was made of architectural elements of the West Wing which were no longer *in situ*, this comprised photographs and *pro-forma* sheets.

2.4 GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY

- 2.4.1 Geophysical survey was carried out within the open plot located to the south of the standing West Wing. As this area was to be subjected to redevelopment, a programme of limited trial-trenching was required, and it was proposed to locate the trenches according to the results of the geophysical survey. Both magnetometry and resistivity were utilised over an area of c50m by 50m, and the resulting interpretive data superimposed onto a single plan.

2.5 TRIAL TRENCHING

- 2.5.1 Following on from the results of the geophysical survey, and following consultation with the Lancashire County Archaeological Service (LCAS), a total of six trial trenches were excavated within the plot to the south of the West Wing. These ranged between 6m and 29m in length, and 2m in width. They were cut to a maximum depth of 1.5m, utilising a tracked hydraulic excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket. Following recording in plan and section, contexts were described, and photographs taken in colour and monochrome mediums. Samples were taken for palaeoenvironmental assessment, but later discarded on the basis of their relatively modern date.

2.6 WATCHING BRIEF

- 2.6.1 The proposal to erect a new bungalow within the plot to the south of the West Wing necessitated the topsoil stripping of the proposed building area. This was undertaken as an archaeological exercise, with recording in plan of the exposed moat, and of another large, but undated negative feature.

3. THE SITE

3.1 LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION

- 3.1.1 The site of Lathom House lies in open countryside at the northern end of a gentle bluff approximately 4km to the east of Ormskirk, West Lancashire (Figure 1). This location, at c50m above OD, affords widespread views of the low-lying Lancashire plain to the north, east, and west; although to the south the ground rises gently towards Pilkingtons Laboratories (Figure 2). The limits of the medieval deer park, still known as "Lathom Park" can still be discerned, fossilised by the curvilinear course of the B5240 to the west, and by surviving field boundaries elsewhere, delineating a subcircular area c1.5km across, approximately in the centre of which lies the Lathom House site. The earthworks of a possible medieval moated site are located within the wood at Spa Roughs, c1km to the south-west of the site; while the private chapel of the Stanley family, probably of sixteenth century origin, is still intact, c400m to the north-west of the site.
- 3.1.2 The site itself is dominated by the surviving West Wing, and ancillary buildings of nineteenth century date lying further to the west, grouped around two courtyards. Immediately to the east of the site is a modern formal garden related to the Pilkington Technology Centre, and this itself is bounded to the east and south by the ha-ha, which extends westwards to terminate just south of the West Wing.

3.2 GEOLOGY AND SOILS

- 3.2.1 The solid geology below the house and surrounding area comprises Carboniferous Lower Coal Measures (OS/Geol Survey 1937). There is a legend of the fifteenth century house having had its own mine *within the confines* of its walls (Swarbrick, *pers comm*). The drift geology map sheet (OS/Geol Survey 1950) shows the Leoni house as standing within an island of Lower Coal Measures outcrop (coded d5'), ringed by an area of boulder clay, itself surrounded by Shirdley Hill Sand, which is economically important in glass manufacture.
- 3.2.2 The soils around the site, developed upon the Carboniferous Coal Measures, are of the Sollom 1 Association (641a), with a tongue of Flint Association (5721, formerly called Salwick Association) immediately to the south-west of it (Lawes Agricultural Trust 1983). The dominant Sollom series in the Sollom 1 Association comprise typical gley-podzols (Ragg *et al*, 1984, 295-8; Hall and Folland 1970, 111-17 and 121). The Flint Association comprise mainly stagnogleyic argillic brown earths in thick reddish drift; the principal soils being fine loam over clays (Ragg *et al* 1984, 200-202).

4. HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

4.1 EARLIER MEDIEVAL PERIOD

- 4.1.1 There is no physical evidence for the existence of a medieval castle or house of any great size in the area of the present standing building. References to a manor at Lathom date from the mid-eleventh century, when Uctred was named as the lord, but it cannot be conclusively proved that the capital messuage of Uctred and successive lords through the next four centuries lay in the vicinity of the present building (Coney and Lewis 1990, 1). The only standing structure of any antiquity which survives within Lathom Park is the chapel of St John, which dates to the early sixteenth century: this does not relate directly to the house, but to the college of almshouses founded by the Earl of Derby in 1500 (Farrer and Brownbill 1907, 256).
- 4.1.2 Grants of land to the Augustinian Canons at Burscough, dating from the early thirteenth century onwards, contain references to *Burnardescastel* and *Castlegate siche* (denoting a small stream). The location of this 'castle' cannot be conclusively identified, but Lewis supposes that the buildings must have been associated with the park mentioned in these deeds, which she further identifies with the 'Great Park', in which stood the fifteenth century house (Lewis, forthcoming, 1). Robert de Lathom had founded the priory at Burscough in or before 1189. His younger son, Robert, was knighted in 1243, and in 1249 the county and castle of Lancaster were committed to him by the king; hence the male line of the family became hereditary dukes of Lancaster. Probably in 1385, Isabel de Lathom married Sir John Stanley, and the manor and other lands descended in that family until the estate sale of c1717.

4.2 LATER MEDIEVAL TO CIVIL WAR PERIOD

- 4.2.1 In the last decade of the fifteenth century, Thomas Stanley, first Earl of Derby and father-in-law of Henry VII, created a large and impressive fortified residence; the appearance, scale, and location of have been a matter of speculation and debate for several historians. Baines (1825, 457), quoting earlier sources, describes the house at the time of Henry VII's visit in July-August 1495, as having '*eighteen towers, nine in the outer and as many in the inner wall, the whole surmounted by a deep fosse, eight yards wide and two deep, immediately within which, and beyond the drawbridge, was a strong gateway, and in the centre a lofty tower, called the Eagle Tower*'. It has been suggested that Henry rebuilt Richmond Palace shortly after his visit to Lathom, influenced by his impressions of the new house erected by Stanley (Ormerod, 1844).
- 4.2.2 Various authorities have suggested that Lathom House is represented on two misericords in Manchester Cathedral (the former Collegiate Church), carved between 1485 and 1506, when James Stanley, a son of the first Earl of Derby, was warden. A depiction of the Lathom legend, the story of the Eagle and Child, is represented on the Dean's stall (Hudson 1924, 18-20, and 43-4, and Pl 6), and includes a countryman knocking at the castle gateway, which has two towers and machicolated battlements, to appraise the inmates of the discovery of the baby discovered safe and well. Another stall depicts the Elephant and Castle, with the castle consisting of an octagonal keep, curtain walls, and corner towers (Hudson 1924, 46-7 and Pl 18).

- 4.2.3 John Leland, the King's antiquary, visited the site in about 1540, stating: '*Lathom, most part of stone. The chiefest house of the earl of Derby. Two miles from Ormskirk*'.

4.3 POST-CIVIL WAR PERIOD

- 4.3.1 The story of the protracted siege of Lathom House by the Parliamentary Army under the command of Sir Thomas Fairfax in 1644, and of the spirited, yet ultimately unsuccessful defence by Charlotte de la Tremouille, Countess of Stanley, is well-known (Beamont 1864). Following the fall of the house to Parliamentary forces in December, 1645, the fabric and the site were sequestered and plundered. The lead was stripped from the roofs (the men of Wigan, formerly staunch Royalists, being most active in carrying the material away) and several of the buildings were pulled down and thrown into the moat. The account concludes with a lament for the loss of what had been '*the glorie of the county*' and with the observation that '*when it will be repaired again is doubtful*' (Beamont 1864, 63). According to another contemporary source, the buildings of Lathom House were raised to the ground, leaving only '*two or three small timber buildings alone left to mark the site of the palatial mansion*' (Seacombe 1793, 164).
- 4.3.2 However, other documentary evidence suggests that this may be interpreted not as the complete destruction of the house, but as a slighting, common in castles and heavily fortified houses, to ensure that the site could not again be used for military purposes. Most significant, the hearth tax return of 1666 indicated that the site contained seventeen hearths, suggesting that the house, or at least part of it, had survived (for comparison, the manor house of the Anderton family at Lostock, near Bolton, a very substantial building, contained twenty hearths). After the Restoration, the Derby family had regained their estates, and William, the 9th Earl, began to rebuild Lathom, apparently building a new frontage onto part of the old house. This reconstruction ceased on his death in 1702, and Knowsley became the principal family residence. In or about 1717, Henrietta Maria, daughter of William, sold the estate to a Henry Furnesse, of London; and in 1724, he sold Lathom to the Bootle-Wilbraham family, who were later responsible for the construction of the eighteenth-century house (Lewis forthcoming, 6).

4.4 THE EIGHTEENTH-CENTURY HOUSE

- 4.4.1 In the first half of the eighteenth century, whatever may have remained of the medieval house was finally cleared to make way for a new mansion for Sir Thomas Bootle, designed by the fashionable architect Giacomo Leoni (c1686-1746) (Colvin 1995, 608-11). Leoni described himself as a Venetian, and came to England in c1713-14, probably having worked previously at Schloss Bensberg, near Cologne. His greatest claim to fame was an edition (in English, French, and Italian) of *The architecture of A Palladio... revis'd...*, published in 5 parts 1715-20. Of nineteen commissions listed by Colvin, only four survive. Bold Hall, St Helens (c1730-32) was his only other work in Lancashire, and only part of its stables survives. Most sources for the Leoni house give a date of 1724-34, but Colvin (1995, 610) gives c1740. The building was altered by T H Wyatt in 1862. The small number of sources available includes published versions in *Vitruvius Britannicus*, Vol 4, of

Leoni's own ground floor plan and several elevations, including the surviving stables wing (the West Wing) (Woolfe & Gandon eds 1767, 10 and Pl 94-8). A plan of the 1860s refurbishment (Kerr 1865, 456-7 and Pl 39) gives the use of ground floor rooms, which should aid the identification of the locations of nineteenth century discoveries. A number of illustrations of the house also exist (eg Gregson 1817; Twycross 1847; Fleetwood-Hesketh 1955, 63; West Lancashire District Council c1990, 2 and 35; Lancashire County Council file [*per* J Champness]).

- 4.4.2 The central block was demolished in 1926 (Anon 1926), and the east wing in c1960 (J Champness, *pers comm*), leaving only the West Wing to survive in splendid isolation.

4.5 ANTIQUARIAN RESEARCH

- 4.5.1 The Civil War siege, subsequent slighting, and final destruction of the late medieval house, by c1740, gave rise to one of the most enduring and best known of the county palatine legends.
- 4.5.2 Thomas Pennant had visited Lathom in c1780, and wrote '*Lathom is placed on a most barren spot, and commands a view as extensive as dull. The back-front was begun by William earl of Derby; the rest completed in a most magnificent manner by Sir Thomas Bootle*', and then '*The ancient Lathom, the celebrated seat of nobility and hospitality, stood between the north-east offices of the present house and the kitchen-garden*', followed by '*On the Restoration it was repossessed by the family; was repaired, and even inhabited the beginning of this century, when the Eagle Tower and some parts of the wooden house were standing.*' (Pennant, 1801).
- 4.5.3 The location of the medieval house had been clear enough to Pennant, but in subsequent years this knowledge seems to have been lost. Between 1857 and 1884, various discoveries were made on the site, including, during the restoration of the saloon or drawing room it was found '*that the north wall of the room is extremely old and built of rubble stone; and that the whole of the south front of the present house is built up to and abuts upon this ancient wall*' (Lea, 1893). In addition, there were accounts of nineteenth century discoveries of burials and re-used stonework and foundations, made during refurbishment work (Anon, 1859; Smith, 1873, 122-6; Buxton, 1889, 47-9). Pilkington (nd) stated that parts of the old building were also discovered during the 1920's demolition.
- 4.5.4 In recent years, a school of thought developed the belief that the house had stood within the extensive earthworks at Spa Roughs (NGR SD 4665 0844), c900m to the south-east of the West Wing (Scheduled Ancient Monument No.13506; Lancs SMR PRN 0759). Proponents of this idea included the National Monuments Record, O'Hanlon (1979), Lawson (quoted in Anon, 1989), Swarbrick (nd, c1993), and Critchley (1994).

5. BUILDING SURVEY

5.1 GREAT HOUSE STABLES

5.1.1 The West Wing at Lathom House was designed as an ancillary range to the eighteenth century great house which once lay to its south-east. No trace of this structure presently survives above ground with the exception of a short length of walling surviving at ground level, originally from its rear wall. Likewise, another of the 'offices', built to mirror the West Range on the east side of the complex, has disappeared (Figure 4). However, the surviving building gives an indication of the scale and sophistication of the architecture of Lathom House as designed. Evidence from the standing fabric, disarticulated architectural fragments, and ground plans made of the complex drawn up during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries have been taken into account in this brief description of the building's present appearance and a discussion of its development since the original design.

5.2 A DESCRIPTION OF THE BUILDING

5.2.1 The West Range presents a frontage of five bays of two unequal storeys and three bays in depth: it is orientated with its long axis running north-south. In the centre of the long axis, three bays are slightly advanced under a triangular pediment, to both east and west elevations. The central bay of the ground floor is occupied by a through-passage of which the arched openings take up the complete width of the bay on the frontages. The building is constructed externally of sandstone ashlar masonry bearing machine-milled tooling marks. The principal quoins of the building are executed in projecting stones laid in side-alternate fashion. The upper storey and ground floor are differentiated externally by a string course of plain square section with a drip-moulding in the soffit, running completely around the building. In the centre, above the through-passage, the building is crowned by an octagonal lantern with a depressed elliptical cupola, again octagonal, all rising from a square plinth. The cupola is surmounted by a stone ball finial.

5.2.2 The principal frontage of the West Range lies on its eastern façade, where it originally faced into the courtyard of the main house (Figure 9). All of the decoration of this frontage is to be found on the ground floor. With the exception of the central bay, each bay contains a rectangular window with stepped keystones forming a flat arch. The window quoins are designed with 'Gibbs surrounds' in which the architrave mouldings are broken intermittently by projecting blocks. The northernmost of these shows signs of incompetent setting-out. There is also inconsistency as to minor details: for example, the second window from the south bears a drip-moulding under the sill, while others on this frontage do not.

5.2.3 The central carriageway is flanked by two Tuscan pilasters with half-columnar shafts interrupted by square blocks. The Tuscan capitals are surmounted by squared abaci. Observation of the upper surfaces of these indicates that they previously supported objects, probably urns or other decorative devices. Above these, in the spandrels of the carriageway arches, are stub string courses running inward from the edge of the doorway surround: these bear *cyma recta* moulding. The voussoirs of the

carriageway arch are emphasised with grooves of square section, while the central projecting keystone is also indented with a square panel.

- 5.2.4 The upper storey is particularly plain. Each bay contains a low rectangular window with plain quoins and flat unornamented lintels and no aprons. The sills project slightly from the surface of the wall. This pattern is repeated on the first floor of each façade.
- 5.2.5 The moulding of the cornice consists of two stages. The lower consists of a cavetto topped by an ovolo moulding. The upper projects from the lower and consists of a cavetto below a *cyma recta* moulding. This moulding profile is constant in all surviving sections of the cornice and also describes the mouldings of the pediments on both east and west façades.
- 5.2.6 The north side of the range also contains a certain degree of embellishment on the ground floor. The windows again have Gibbs surrounds, although without the moulding on the thinner panels. The eastern and western bays of this frontage also contain elaborate doors below triangular moulded pediments and with side-alternate quoins. The westernmost of these doors has been blocked.
- 5.2.7 The western façade is a simpler version of the eastern, fitting for the rear of the building (Figure 10). The basic proportions of the two frontages are the same, with three bays breaking forward under a central pediment, but several elements of the decoration of the eastern elevation are absent, such as the pilasters flanking the central arch and the interrupted moulding of the window surrounds: it may also be valid to comment that there is less attention to detail at the back of the range. For example, the symmetry of the elevation is imperfect: the apex of the pediment can be seen to be on a different alignment to the central window of the first floor and the keystone of the carriageway arch.
- 5.2.8 The southern external elevation is largely obscured by abutting outbuildings on the ground floor, though the same plain windows are visible on the upper storey. A blocked doorway is visible close to the south-east corner: this appears to have contained a flat lintel and stepped voussoirs rather than the triangular pediment of its counterpart on the northern wall.
- 5.2.9 This door originally led from the stable block into a curving *loggia* or covered way connecting the stable to the main house: the scar for the roof of the passage can be seen cut into the south wall of the range. The rear wall of this feature still runs for a short distance south of the West Range. The well-house is built in the awkward angle created by the junction of the *loggia* and the south wall of the range: a plan of 1865 indicates that this was formerly an open courtyard. In this area may also be seen a short length of a single course of stones running parallel to the curved rear wall. The gap between this and the rear wall is too narrow for this to be a stylobate wall supporting a colonnade: it appears that the *loggia* was adapted to contain a passageway running behind the open arcade (Kerr 1865, 456). Several fragments of the columns may still be seen lying in this area of the site. They are plain circular in section. In addition, three fragments of the entablature of the *loggia* have been found in the pile of stones close by: these are far more elaborate than the mouldings of the range, with decorative modillions and a complex moulding sequence incorporating

cavetto, quirk and ovolo, surmounted by a cornice with two stepped narrow fillets, ovolo, quirk and *cyma recta*. No capitals have been found, but there is a suggestion in the drawings of Leoni's design published in *Vitruvius Britannicus* that the colonnade was built in the Ionic order (Woolfe and Gandon 1767, 96-97). Robinson (1991, 214) shows what appears to be Ionic capitals on the eastern *loggia*: an Ionic design would accord with profiles of the surviving pieces of entablature. This is also suggested in a description of the house by Lea (1893, 80).

5.2.10 The roof of the West Range consisted of a saddleback roof on all four sides with a central valley meeting on the spine wall. The roof of the longer sides was raised in the central area over the pediments. Elements of a tie beam can be seen corbelled out of the spine wall in the south-eastern quadrant, but with this exception, little of the roof structure survives and it is not possible to determine the form of the roof trusses. The quality of the timbers is particularly crude, with the exception of the jointing: disarticulated examples found on the woodpile to the west of the outbuildings contain several joints of extraordinary complexity. It is possible that at least some of these may have originated within the late medieval buildings; and have been reused in the eighteenth century house.

5.2.11 The surviving decoration of the West Range is entirely external: the remains of the structure give no indication of any concessions to architectural pretension on the rooms inside. The quality of the workmanship is also correspondingly lower. For example, the fabric suggests that not all of the occurrences of brick can be explained as secondary alterations; some areas of brickwork around windows and doors are almost certainly primary construction. However there appears to be no consistency to the use of different materials in the primary fabric: some of the internal arches above the window-heads are executed in brick, while others, particularly on the first floor, are in thin irregular slabs of sandstone. This reflects the fact that all interior surfaces were to be covered with a thick coat of plaster or render: internally, the construction of the building and its architectural elements were not designed to be seen.

5.3 THE GENESIS OF THE DESIGN

5.3.1 Giacomo Leoni, the architect employed by Richard Wilbraham Bootle in the design of the new house at Lathom, was one of the most celebrated advocates of the Palladian style of architecture working in England in the eighteenth century. A Venetian by birth, he is best remembered in the twentieth century as an architectural theorist, principally for his English edition of the seminal text-book for the Classical Revival, *I Quattro Libri Dell' Architettura* by Andrea Palladio, which was first produced between 1715 and 1720 (published under the title *The Architecture of A Palladio... Revis'd, Design'd and Publish'd by Giacomo Leoni, a Venetian: Architect to his Most Serene Highness, the Elector Palatine*). In addition, he was himself an architect of some accomplishment, producing designs for several important town houses in London. Of his country houses, very few traces presently survive: the most significant is probably the monumental remodelling of the house at Lyme Park, Cheshire (Colvin 1995, 608-611). The House at Lathom was one of his last designs for a country house, carried out in c1740.

- 5.3.2 There were several precedents for the design of Lathom House in the writings of Palladio. Particularly notable is the concept of curving *loggias* flanking the main house and connecting it to symmetrical outbuildings aligned at right angles to the axis of the main frontage. For example, Plate XLV of the second book depicts the house designed for Oleardo and Theodoro de Thieni at Cigogna with short *loggias* of six bays (Ware 1738, 52).
- 5.3.3 It may also be noted that there was a progression of the orders employed from Tuscan (in the office ranges) through Ionic (in the *loggias*) to Corinthian (in the Hall itself). This conforms to the strict theory of Palladian architecture in which the plainest styles should be used only for invisible structural elements and for unimportant parts of a complex, while the more sophisticated orders should be employed in the decoration of those parts lying higher up the social scale and physically more elevated within the building (Ware 1737, 11).

5.4 THE ALTERATIONS TO THE FABRIC

- 5.4.1 The fabric of the West Range indicates in several places that the building had undergone alterations with changes in use. Pictorial sources, notably the plans and elevations included in the fourth volume of *Vitruvius Britannicus*, and the revised plans published in 1865 by Kerr also show several deviations from the original conception. Some of these discrepancies may be the result of adaptations of Leoni's design on the drawing board in the eighteenth century: that is to say that his designs were not faithfully executed. It must be noted that the plans in *Vitruvius Britannicus* date to some 25 years after the original design: they are moreover inscribed with the name of Gandon, who may have drawn them from the buildings, rather than from the original designs. However, in favour of the first interpretation, there are inconsistencies between the drawings in this volume, as for example, with regard to the presence of chimneys in the office ranges (see below). If Gandon drew the buildings from life, he appears to have been inattentive to matters of detail. It is the view of the author of this report that the drawings from *Vitruvius Britannicus* are, either wholly or in part, taken from the actual designs of the architect, rather than from the buildings themselves.
- 5.4.2 In the mid-nineteenth century, alterations were carried out to the complex by T.H. Wyatt in the interests of the efficient running of the household (Colvin 1995, 610). These alterations are documented by Kerr (1865, 456), whose plan shows both the original design of the complex from the eighteenth century, and the revised arrangement of the rooms envisaged in the mid-nineteenth century restoration; moreover the functions of individual rooms are indicated. This plan is invaluable in reconstructing the changes which the West Range had undergone by 1865 and appears to be correct down to minor details such as the pilasters on the east façade; though it is regrettable that only the ground floor is indicated.
- 5.4.3 The eighteenth century plan given in *Vitruvius Britannicus* shows a building of five rooms around a central through-passage, as at present. The two southern rooms extend for the complete length of the southern half of the building, with the exception of a small lobby and staircase at the south-east corner of the range, where there was also a doorway leading into the western arm of the *loggia*. No corresponding lobby

is shown in the western room, nor a door in the south wall, but such a blocked opening does exist. Both of these rooms are divided into stalls (presumably for horses) projecting from the spine wall dividing them. A blocked opening can be seen in the spine wall close to the southern end: this is interpreted as the door for the staircase within the original lobby. The eastern window adjacent to the through-passage is shown as blocked on the inside in the plan: there is no evidence for this in the eastern elevation in the same volume. A room of similar size exists in the north-east corner, also partitioned into stalls and with a door leading outside the building in the north wall close to the north-east corner.

- 5.4.4 The north-western quadrant of the range is more complex. Immediately to the west of the spine wall was a staircase leading to the upper storey from the through-passage. The remainder of this part of the building was occupied by two rooms, divided by an east-west wall emerging directly from the reveal of the second western window. These rooms did not intercommunicate: the southern room led into the through-passage, the northern to the outside of the building. No fireplaces were present. Though no functions are given, all rooms are shown as partitioned into stalls, suggesting that all were used as stabling. This is supported in the first plan drawn by Kerr.
- 5.4.5 Kerr's first plan bears the annotation '*18th Century Offices Modernized*'. This may be interpreted in several ways: either alterations had been undertaken to the Leoni plan after construction but before 1862, or alternatively, the first building was not built precisely according to the designs of Leoni, which were used as a base by Kerr. As will be discussed below with reference to the outbuildings, there is evidence to suggest that the Kerr plan represents a projection of the replanning of the complex rather than an 'as is' record of works that had actually taken place. The discrepancies between Kerr's first plan and that in *Vitruvius Britannicus* are relatively minor. Kerr shows the first eastern doorway to the north of the passageway open, rather than blocked and does not show a door at the north-west corner, where Gandon shows one. Gandon also shows the three doors adjacent to the central arches in the façades with splayed reveals, whereas Kerr shows them straight.
- 5.4.6 The elevation of the West Range in *Vitruvius Britannicus* differs from the building presently standing in several minor details, though the basic proportions and conception of the Leoni design have survived. It should be noted that the chimneys to north and south of the central turret are present even at this stage, suggesting that the fireplaces in the spine wall on the first floor were part of the original design (Woolfe and Gandon 1765, 98, however, they do not appear in the drawing in the same volume showing the whole complex from the north (*op cit* 97)). It is conceivable that Gandon chose not to include them so as to emphasise the cupolas of the two side ranges. The surrounds of the central doorway are considerably plainer than at present, with a triangular open pediment over a plain round-headed doorway without rusticated voussoirs, flanked by circular Tuscan pilasters, with shafts interrupted by two broad bands with vermiculation. The other principal area of discrepancy is the octagonal turret. Gandon shows all faces plain, with a clock face on the north, south, east and west faces: this appears to be repeated on the east range. At present, all faces contain louvred oculi in this position. Lea describes the West Range as containing '*the clock tower*' and the east range '*the bell tower*' (Lea 1893, 80). The replacement of the clock faces with oculi would appear to have been a

development of the very late nineteenth or twentieth century: that is to say, after Wyatt's renovation, or would suggest that Lea's testimony is unreliable.

- 5.4.7 Kerr's second plan shows several important revisions to the ground plan of the West Range in the redevelopment of 1862. In particular, these affected the rooms in the north-west quadrant of the building. A passage had been created running immediately west of the central spine wall, leading to the stairs to the grooms' rooms above at the northern end (with a newel stair running anti-clockwise from the east side of the passage). The fabric bears evidence of disturbance in this area, for example, the thickness of the spine wall is drastically reduced at the through-passage end, presumably connected to the removal of the staircase and its migration to the northern end of the passage. This part of the spine wall is built in brick, in contrast to the remainder, in stone. The ground-floor rooms to the west of the passage (the saddle room and harness room) were now heated by opposed fireplaces in the wall partitioning them. They did not yet intercommunicate, but the harness room could be reached from either the through-passage or the yard to the west of the range, whilst the saddle room could be entered from the yard or from an opposing doorway in the west wall of the passage to the stairs. The doorway in the north-west corner of the saddle room had been partially blocked and had become a window. As regards the remainder of the ground floor in Kerr's design, there are few differences. In the other three quadrants, occupied by long stable rooms, the width of each stall has been increased, so that each room is now occupied by six animals, as opposed to the seven in Gandon's plan (incidentally, no stalls are shown on Kerr's first plan). The doors in the south wall leading into the *loggia* and the south-west corner are not shown as open: in the new design, a closed passageway had been created in the *loggia* behind the colonnade: the footings of this new wall may still be seen in places. This led into an east-west passage running to the south of the west range to various ancillary buildings such as the wood store and bake-house.
- 5.4.8 No plan exists for the first floor of the building: the architectural history of this part must therefore be reconstructed from the fabric alone. Regrettably it is not possible to recover the complete internal layout of the first floor: in areas where the plaster covering remains, blocked doorways and other openings obviously remain hidden, while it is impossible to determine whether existing windows and doors are later insertions into the walling. The basic plan of the first floor is similar to that of the ground floor: there is a central passage over the carriageway, from which doors led into the rooms on either side. These were basically similar in layout to the ground floor, although it is certain that several partition walls have disappeared. The brick wall forming the ground floor staircase passage does not presently extend above first floor level, but it is believed that there was a partition on this level also: the existence of doors from the through-passage on either side of its probable position strongly suggest this. There is evidence that there were formerly two doorways leading from the through-passage into each quadrant, suggesting that at this stage of the design, there were north-south non-structural partition walls dividing up the spaces. In the south-west quadrant, both of these doors are blocked, the western is blocked in the north-west quadrant, the eastern in the south-east quadrant, while in the north-east, both doors are open. The spine walls also show that there was interconnection from the west to the eastern half of the building at both the northern and southern ends of the first floor.

- 5.4.9 The spine walls also show evidence for the insertion of fireplaces. The wall in the northern half is less complete and its fabric is obscured in places by render and by the obstruction of the passage wall. Nevertheless, the jamb of one brick fireplace (open to the east) is visible and it is likely that a brick blocking further north is evidence for another, facing west. Much of this wall has been lost, following the recent collapse of the northernmost chimney-stack. To the south of the passage may be seen three fireplaces, two facing west and a third further south facing east. The surrounds to the fireplaces and the flues are in brick and are plainly later insertions to the wall. This cannot be taken as proof that the chimneys were absent in the building of the eighteenth century, but in their present form, they appear to relate to the remodelling of the range in the mid-nineteenth century. Certain anomalies relating to the heating of the first floor cannot presently be resolved. Photographs of the range show five terracotta chimney pots on the southern chimney stack, yet only three flues can presently be identified.
- 5.4.10 Wyatt's improvements to the house affected all parts of the complex from the main house, to which an extra storey was added in the central frontage, to the service buildings. It is not presently known what arrangements existed to the west of the West Range prior to 1862, but Kerr's plan shows that during these works, a yard was created with stone-fronted outbuildings on three sides. Significant parts of this design may still be seen at present. With regard to the West Range, it is notable that these buildings are constructed in a coarse and distinctive sandstone, which also occurs in repairs and alterations to the range. It is likely that these works date to the Wyatt renovation of 1862 (Ken Hughes, mason, *pers comm*).
- 5.4.11 Among these works to the West Range are alterations to the carriageway arches of both the east and west fronts. On both façades, the masonry of the window surrounds is imperfectly jointed into the eighteenth century coursing of the wall around. This may be seen in the small square stones needed to level up the courses on the west side and in smaller discrepancies in the coursing on the eastern frontage. Another piece of evidence is the slate packing in the joints of the arch jambs on the west side; this does not appear to be a characteristic of the eighteenth century building and would conform with the massive increase in scale of the Welsh slate industry over the nineteenth century (Cossons 1975, 155). The voussoirs on the west elevation also sit somewhat clumsily under the string-course of the eighteenth century building, but are reduced to fit in the central part of the arch, which would seem to indicate that the carriageway arch was widened and raised in the nineteenth century.
- 5.4.12 One detail not shown on the Kerr plan is the arcade of cast-iron columns projecting from the outbuildings in the south-east corner of the yard; the first known depiction of this is in the first edition Ordnance Survey map in the late nineteenth century. These carried a slate-roofed covered portico running around at least the eastern and part of the southern sides of the yard. The fabric of the West Range indicates that these were erected after the Wyatt renovations. Holes for the roof members are cut into the west elevation, including the voussoirs of the enlarged central carriageway. That these post-date both the Kerr plan and the alterations to the carriageway is taken as further evidence that these alterations were the work of Wyatt in 1862. Among the pieces of cast iron lying around the site are several fragments dating from this period. These include five of the columns themselves and two elaborate brackets. The dimensions of these accord with the spandrels of the western arch to the carriageway;

it is, therefore, suggested that they were mounted against the wall to support the roof of a small *porte cochère*.

- 5.4.13 Other alterations to affect the West Range since Wyatt have included the creation of a door between the saddle room and the harness room. More substantial works have occurred in the stable yard, including the creation of a new range of outbuildings to the south of the carriage sheds and the filling in of the work yard to the west of the plumber's shop and loose boxes.

5.5 OUTBUILDINGS

- 5.5.1 It is clear from the examination of the structures in the field, combined with an assessment of the documentary and pictorial sources, that the outbuildings to the west of the West Range, like the range itself, have been subject to several episodes of alteration and extension. Three distinct phases are proposed, of which no easily identifiable evidence for the first survives at present. This phase relates to the original construction of the West Range and Great House, when it is certain that buildings for the accommodation of carriages and other vehicles would have been required. However, the standing fabric of the outbuildings (the character of the stonework and the proportions of the bricks in particular) leave no doubt that the structures must post-date this phase and are better accommodated by a nineteenth-century chronology. The Kerr plan is annotated to indicate that there was a stable yard in the eighteenth century, but its surrounding buildings are not represented.
- 5.5.2 Kerr's plan showing the Wyatt modifications of 1862 suggests that by this time (and probably at the same time as the renovation of the house), several elements of the present layout were in place. However, it seems likely that this plan was based on the architect's drawings, rather than drawn from life: while the basic form of the complex is drawn faithfully, there are several major discrepancies with the standing evidence, including the number of bays in individual buildings and the location of corners. These discrepancies cannot be explained as modifications to the complex after the initial construction, since they would have required a substantial campaign of demolition and rebuilding which is inconsistent with the basic similarity of the plan of the buildings. It is therefore simpler to interpret this as evidence for alterations at the planning stage. The room ascriptions given in the Kerr plan are provisionally assumed to have correctly represented the original room functions.
- 5.5.3 A rectangular courtyard was created running westwards from the West Range. Along the north side were located several sheds, mess rooms and stables: these only presently survive as brick walls, faced in stone in places. The western end of the courtyard contained two loose boxes, flanked by a plumbers' shop and foundry under a portico: this is still upstanding although the internal arrangement of the rooms has altered. The south side of the courtyard contained a shed and a carriage house. To the west of all the above-mentioned was located a small work-yard, contained in a boundary wall with a central gate. The angle between the curving *loggia* passageway and the west range was filled in with additional outbuildings including the kitchen, scullery, larders and a coal store: examination of the buildings and the presence of a staircase in the Kerr plan indicates that this block originally contained two storeys.

5.6 ARCHITECTURAL FRAGMENTS

- 5.6.1 During the rebuilding work on the West Wing during 1996 and 1997, the mason, Mr Ken Hughes, retrieved a large number of worked/moulded architectural fragments (c30), which had obviously been reused within the building walls and footings. These included window and door jambs, a column capital, sills/lintels, and other fragments, almost certainly derived originally from a high status medieval building. Also to be noted were large structural timbers lying outside the West Wing, with mouldings and jointing of vernacular origin, which, although they had probably been removed from the West Wing (or other parts of the great house), were not likely to have originated there and may well have come from the medieval house. Additionally, within the West Wing, and still *in situ*, were several pieces of timber which exhibited carpentry features such as peg holes and joints, all incompatible with their present location, and thus having been removed from their original locations and reused.

6. GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY

6.1 GENERAL

6.1.1 The area of the paddock to the south of the West Wing was surveyed by a combination of both magnetometer and resistivity, in order to inform the subsequent trial-trenching programme. This area lay within the formal eighteenth century garden, and at the northern end of the area, massive stone footings of the Leoni great house could still be seen at ground level. The intact ha-ha bounded the plot to the south, while to the east was the Pilkington Garden. The total area surveyed was c2,500 square metres, as outlined in Figure 6. The full detail of the survey is presented in a separate report by Geophysical Surveys of Bradford, *Lathom House, Lancashire*, Rep No 96/35.

6.2 MAGNETOMETER RESULTS (FIG 16)

6.2.1 To both north and south of the area, east-west zones A and B were disturbed by probable buried trackways, which were indicated on the 1929 OS plan. At the western and eastern edges of the area were two further linear anomalies (C and D), thought to be related to buried service pipes. In the approximate centre of the area was a very strong sub-circular anomaly (E), with weak, poorly defined linear anomalies (F, G, and H), radiating away from it.

6.3 RESISTIVITY RESULTS (FIG 17)

6.3.1 Surface waterlogging over a large portion of the western part of the site (I) had possibly masked any buried features here. The tracks identified at A and B showed up as high resistance. In the north-west of the area was a high resistance anomaly (J). Along the northern limit, and in the north-east corner of the survey area, there were high resistance readings (K). High resistance readings (L) along the eastern edge of the area were suggested as possible buried wall foundations. Several poorly defined anomalies (M and N) were suggested as indicating former garden features, such as flower beds.

7. TRIAL TRENCHING

7.1 INTRODUCTION

7.1.1 The proposed locations of the trial trenches were determined by the results of the geophysical survey, in consultation with the Lancashire County Archaeological Service, although these locations were later revised during the evaluation because of unexpected features. Although only three trenches were initially proposed, six were excavated in total, ranging between 6m and 29m in length, by 2m in width. They were cut to a maximum depth of 1.5m, utilising a tracked hydraulic excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket. Trench locations were recorded on the topographic plan (Figure 14), trench sections were recorded, contexts described, and photographs taken in colour and monochrome mediums. Finds were recovered, and some contexts sampled for possible palaeoenvironmental assessment.

7.2 TRENCH 1

7.2.1 Trench 1 was cut to determine whether the existing ha-ha, probably constructed in the early eighteenth century, followed the course of any major pre-existing feature, ie the moat which had reputedly encompassed the late medieval fortified house. The trench was cut from north to south, immediately to the north of the ha-ha. This revealed a 0.5m depth of topsoil, below which was natural bedrock, comprising weathered shale. There were no features present.

7.3 TRENCH 2

7.3.1 Trench 2 was intended to investigate the north-south trending geophysical anomalies which had been defined, running parallel to the eastern boundary of the paddock. This ran from east to west. Bedrock was encountered at 0.35m below the surface, beneath topsoil. The only feature identified was a north-south pipe trench, which cut the bedrock, probably accounting for one of the geophysical anomalies.

7.4 TRENCH 3

7.4.1 Trench 3 was located in order to investigate two large contiguous subcircular anomalies approximately in the centre of the paddock. This was aligned from south-east to north-west. Excavation revealed c0.5m of topsoil, beneath which were various fills, investigated to a depth of up to 1.5m, which represented the top of the water table. Bedrock was not encountered, and a machine cut sondage at the north-western end of the trench had to be abandoned at c2.3m depth because the rapid influx of water was washing out the sides of the trench. The fills were very variable, comprising large amounts of sandstone and mortar, evidently demolition debris, and fresh loose angular sandstone fragments, probably excavated from elsewhere, and dumped here. Beneath these, dark organic silts were encountered at the south-eastern end of the trench. Finds recovered from the fills were of post-medieval date, although there was no modern material of nineteenth/twentieth century date.

- 7.4.2 It was clear that this trench was cut within the fills of a very large negative feature, which, in all probability, pre-dated the layout of the gardens of the early eighteenth century great house.

7.5 TRENCHES 4, 5 AND 6

- 7.5.1 These trenches were aligned approximately at right angles to trench 3, ie north east to south west, in order to investigate the possibility that the latter trench had been cut running along the length of a major linear feature, possibly the moat of the late medieval house.
- 7.5.2 This assumption was confirmed, as all three trenches revealed that the fills encountered within trench 3 were indeed contained within a massive curvilinear rock-cut ditch, c13m wide at the top, in excess of 1.5m in depth, and proven to run from south-east to north-west for a minimum distance of c25m. The fills were similar to those seen in trench 3 and in trench 6, where the bulk of the fills comprised sandstone and mortar demolition debris; clear tipping lines could be discerned across the width of the feature, indicating tipping from the north-eastern side.

7.6 FINDS ASSEMBLAGE

- 7.6.1 A total of 56 fragments were recovered from trenches 3 and 6. All of the material was unstratified, hence is only discussed in summary. The group seems quite closely dated, around the end of the seventeenth or very early eighteenth century. The group is a mix of domestic (pottery and glass with a small amount of bone) and demolition (brick and tile) debris.
- 7.6.2 A group of ceramic vessels comprises mainly black glazed vessels of early form, but with amongst other things a thrown slip-trailed vessel, a small fragment of tin-glazed ware, and some small fragments of ?German stoneware. The small amount of glass represents wine/beer bottles of late seventeenth or early eighteenth century date.
- 7.6.3 A complete but badly abraded line-impressed tile and two or more plain, green-glazed tiles hint at an earlier building of considerable status on the site, perhaps including a chapel. Line impressed tiles were most popular in the fourteenth century, but undoubtedly persisted beyond that period. Chester, to the south, was a significant production centre. Also of interest is a small but relatively well-preserved fragment of colour-washed plaster, although in itself insignificant, its presence in a fairly closed group of material raises the possibility that larger quantities may perhaps have found their way into the ditch in course of demolition.

7.7 INTERPRETATION

- 7.7.1 The results of the geophysical survey gave no indication of the presence of the very large and deep feature cut into the bedrock. Discussion with the geophysicist (J Gator, *pers comm*) following the evaluation suggested that because the area surveyed was of such limited extent, and the investigated negative feature so relatively large by comparison, so that a 'background' was not established against which the feature

could be identified. The ditch fills were noted as being extremely variable; changing rapidly both by depth and laterally. The magnetic anomaly E and the resistivity anomaly M may have represented discrete fills, whilst the linear anomaly G ran parallel to, and just inside, the north-eastern edge of the ditch.

- 7.7.2 Very variable and localised changes within the Carboniferous solid geology, which was encountered without any drift cover, across the area of the evaluation may also have influenced the results of the geophysical survey. It is probable that the interpretation of possible north-south walls in the eastern portion of the area may have reflected upon the presence of thin, hard sandstone beds here, which trended from north to south, with a shallow dip towards the east.
- 7.7.3 The existence of a massive rock-cut ditch, which artefactual evidence strongly suggests was backfilled prior to c1750, could be interpreted as the defensive moat which was recorded as encompassing the medieval fortified Lathom House. The plotted curvature of the feature may well coincide with that of the ha-ha to the south east (Figure 6), suggesting that the latter may have been partially constructed within the moat, and that the course of the ha-ha to the east may well have defined the limits of the medieval enclosure. The course of the feature further to the north-west may have been located by the position of the large masonry relieving arch contained within the outbuildings to the west of the West Wing, which is most probably spanning an area of unconsolidated ground.
- 7.7.4 The curvilinear form of the moat, clearly defined in plan by its respective position within trenches 4, 5, and 6, would imply that the interior area lay to the north east, suggesting that the medieval house stood immediately to the east of the site of the early eighteenth century great house.
- 7.7.5 The fills of the probable moat are clearly derived from demolition of a very substantial sandstone-built structure, most likely the medieval house, and since these were tipped from the north-east, it would help to confirm that the building lay in this direction, as suggested above.
- 7.7.6 The lack of any visible traces at ground level, either of the moat cut, or of the medieval house, could well be explained by the scale of the landscaping which occurred in relation to the eighteenth century house, whereby much of the moat may have been utilised to form the existing ha-ha, while that part of the moat recently evaluated has been backfilled by demolition debris and spoil from the section of newly-formed ha-ha to the west.

8. WATCHING BRIEF

8.1 BUNGALOW DEVELOPMENT - RESULTS

- 8.1.1 In advance of the proposed bungalow construction in the southern portion of the evaluated plot, the development plot was stripped down to bedrock under direct archaeological supervision. The surface of weathered Coal Measures was exposed at depths varying between 0.32m and 0.50m; in the western part of the site this was a pale yellow-orange clay, and to the east it comprised blocky shale beds. A series of modern drainage features were identified cut into the bedrock at the western end of the site, and two linear brick-filled features in the western part.
- 8.1.2 A substantial north-south aligned cut feature was identified crossing close to the western end of the site, c4m in width, with steeply angled sides, with a depth of 2.1m. The upper fill comprised a layer of orange/red clay, with a high stone content; whilst the bottom fill consisted of unabraded, fractured bedrock in a grey/green silty clay matrix. Towards the eastern end of the site, the edge of the moat, as defined during the evaluation, was exposed, although in places the edge was unclear due to disturbance from the trenches. The north-eastern edge of the moat was visible within the western end of the area stripped for the driveway.

8.2 GATE TO NORTH-WEST OF WEST WING

- 8.2.1 During May and June, 1997, the east-west walls adjacent to the gate at the north-west corner of the West Wing were dismantled and new wall footings excavated within a trench c1m in width. Although not archaeologically observed by LUAU, it was reported that wet clay was encountered at a depth of c1.8m, and reused fragments of (medieval?) masonry were recovered from the wall footings (Mr Stephen Baldwin, *pers comm*).

8.3 INTERPRETATION

- 8.3.1 The probable medieval moat was confirmed in plan within the area stripped for the bungalow, as well as another large negative feature to the south-west. This feature was not dated, but the similarity of the fills (including unabraded fractured bedrock, possibly from the ha-ha) would suggest that it may well have been backfilled at the same time as the moat, ie early eighteenth century. The origin of the feature is presently unknown, but could include a water-management cut related to the moat, or a civil war siegework, or a post-medieval quarry/drain.
- 8.3.2 At the western end of the outbuildings related to the West Wing was a second relieving arch, running east-west, but somewhat smaller in scale than the one referred to in 7.7 above. This has now been demolished within the new works, but was no doubt constructed to carry the wall here, above an area of unconsolidated ground, possibly indicating the location of another north-south trending ditch.
- 8.3.3 Prior to demolition, the east-west trending walls adjacent to the gateway at the north-west corner of the West Wing were clearly suffering from subsidence, and it is

suggested that the medieval moat ran from north to south, immediately adjacent to the west external elevation of the West Wing. Although the new works here were contained within a non-archaeological trench only 1m in width, it is possible that the depth to clay here (c1.8m) may confirm the presence of the moat cut.

9. DISCUSSION

9.1 DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

- 9.1.1 The documentary evidence alone would suggest that the site is of unparalleled historic significance in the north-west of England. As a private residence, the late medieval house was on a scale comparable to that of royal palaces elsewhere. The role of the Stanley family in national affairs, during both the late medieval, and early post-medieval periods, was profound. Within the County Palatine of Lancashire, the earls of Derby commanded more power, respect, and loyalty than did the King himself. Lathom was a house built to reflect that status.
- 9.1.2 The Civil War siege, subsequent total destruction of the House, and 'loss' of the house site, clearly made a strong impression upon local folk memory over the last 200 years. Antiquarian speculation became rife concerning the location of the House, how it had appeared when intact, and whether it had been totally destroyed during the Civil War. Only the contemporary siege and destruction of Basing House, in Hampshire, was comparable in terms of its impact on the historical record of that period.
- 9.1.3 There are suggestions that the eighteenth century great house may have contained *in situ* fabric from the earlier building, as a result of the attempted reconstruction of c1700. The recent reconstruction of the West Wing has revealed many disarticulated fragments of masonry, and structural timbers, which almost certainly originated in the earlier building. Additionally, the surviving evidence for the largely destroyed Leoni house implies an important architectural structure in its own right, in terms of the Palladian classical revival in north-western Europe.

9.2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVIDENCE

- 9.2.1 The discovery of the massive rock-cut ditch (and presumed moat) apparently backfilled prior to, or during, the construction of the eighteenth century great house, strongly suggests that the site of the medieval house is beneath, or immediately to the east of, the site of the later building. The former moat was alluded to in documentary references to the Civil war siege, and would be in keeping with a late medieval fortified house. If, as suggested, the moat did follow the course of the ha-ha to the east of the recently excavated portion, then it would have enclosed an area measuring c300m from east to west; although the north-south dimension would probably have been less because the ground falls away to the north.
- 9.2.2 The location of the Leoni house seems to have been hard against the western edge of this enclosure, with the west wall of the West Wing being literally on the eastern edge of the moat. It could probably be assumed that the moat was still visible to some degree in the early eighteenth century. If it was intended to build the new house within the moated enclosure, why then were the Leoni buildings erected in an off-centre location. It is possible that a more central location may have still been occupied by the standing remains of the earlier house, which were either then in use as a residence (recorded with seventeen hearths in 1666, *Section 4.3* above), or formed a convenient 'quarry' for material for the new house. Another possibility is

that the Leoni house was built around, or onto, a pre-existing building or façade, bearing in mind the possible reconstruction by William, the 9th Earl of Derby (*Section 4.3* above). It is most likely that during the erection of the Leoni house, the section of moat in close proximity was backfilled by demolition debris, and a wholly new section of ha-ha excavated to the west, with spoil from this feature (ie freshly-dug bedrock) being also dumped into the open moat. The effect of this work would have been to re-establish the new building within a garden curtilage extended to the west, outside of which lay the deer park.

- 9.2.3 Although the site of the late medieval house has now probably been defined approximately, no *in situ* archaeological evidence for the structure itself has been located as yet. The known shallow depth of topsoil overlying solid bedrock, as revealed during the trial-trenching, could suggest that surviving physical evidence for the house will be slight. Any medieval floor surfaces may have been truncated by the creation of the eighteenth century garden; and any footings, even for tall stone towers, may not be of great depth because of the bedrock foundation. It may be the case that the only surviving evidence will be negative archaeological features, such as pits, wells, and drains.

9.3 SUMMARY

- 9.3.1 To summarise then, on the basis of historical and archaeological evidence, the Lathom House site is proven as one of national significance. The late medieval fortified palace of the Derby family almost certainly underlies the site of the later great house. However, this project has been able to investigate only a small and limited proportion of the site, and it is not yet demonstrated whether any fabric remains *in situ* of the earlier house.

10. RECOMMENDATIONS

10.1 LATHOM HOUSE SITE

10.1.1 As it is now almost certain that the site investigated was the location of the fortified medieval house, any proposed 'new build' within this area has further important archaeological implications, especially so to the north-east, within the presumed interior of the enclosure. This is relevant not only in the case of any new buildings, but in any proposed groundworks, where surviving below ground archaeology may be affected, such as any new drainage and the proposed new road line to the north of the West Wing. Therefore, where such groundworks are proposed, either archaeological evaluation should be undertaken in advance (ie trial trenching); or, for instance, in the case of new roads/service lines, topsoil and subsoil clearance should be undertaken under direct archaeological control, including a suitable programme of recording and sampling.

10.2 LATHOM PARK

10.2.1 As the effective curtilage to the Lathom House site, the area of the Park is itself of archaeological significance. Any future proposals for development within the Park area should be subjected to appropriate archaeological responses, potentially including assessment, geophysical prospection, and evaluation.

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APPENDIX 1
PROJECT BRIEF

APPENDIX 2
PROJECT DESIGN

**Lancaster
University
Archaeological
Unit**

February 1996

**THE WEST WING,
LATHOM HOUSE,
LATHOM,
WEST LANCASHIRE**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION AND
HISTORIC BUILDING RECORDING**

Proposals

The following project design is offered in response to a brief provided by the Lancaster University Heritage Planning Consultancy, dated February 1995, on behalf of Mr Bill Kenyon, requesting an archaeological evaluation and historic building recording in advance of proposed redevelopment at Lathom House, Lancashire.

1. INTRODUCTION

The site of the proposed new development is within an area of significant archaeological potential. The West Wing (a grade II* listed building), presently in a semi-derelict condition, represents the last surviving element of the 18th century Lathom House. This building may have been erected upon the site of the late-medieval fortified residence of the Earls of Derby, which was destroyed following a siege during the Civil War. An alternative possibility is that the latter building occupied the moated platform at Spa Roughs, some 900m to the south east. It is also possible that the fortified house had an earlier, medieval predecessor.

A planning application has been submitted by Hayes & Partners, on behalf of the client, Mr Bill Kenyon, to West Lancashire District Council, with respect to proposed restoration and redevelopment work. A planning condition has been imposed requesting archaeological evaluation and building recording work prior to development, and a watching brief during the development itself.

The Lancaster University Archaeological Unit has considerable experience of the evaluation and excavation of sites of all periods, having undertaken a great number of small and large scale projects during the past 15 years. Evaluations have taken place within the planning process, to fulfil the requirements of clients and planning authorities, to very rigorous timetables. In addition, advice has been supplied to clients for the preparation of Environmental Statements. LUAU has the professional expertise and resources to undertake the project detailed below to a high level of quality and efficiency. LUAU and all its members of staff operate subject to the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA) Code of Conduct.

2. OBJECTIVES

The following programme has been designed, in accordance with the brief, to provide an accurate archaeological evaluation and building survey within the designated area, within its broader context. The required stages to achieve these ends are as follows:

2.1 Desk based survey

A desk-top study of all relevant documentary and cartographic sources, in order to provide a historic landscape appraisal to inform the successive phases. A review would be held following this element, in order to decide upon how to progress the successive stages.

Half day Jen Lewis

2.5 days Preston

2 days follow

2.2 Topographic survey

A topographic survey of the site would be undertaken, at an appropriate scale and level of detail, in order to provide a framework for the tasks outlined in stages 2.3 - 2.6.

2.3 Geophysical survey

A sample geophysical survey, using either resistivity or magnetometer, would be undertaken, to attempt to define areas of archaeological interest in order to inform the trial-trenching (2.4)

2.4 Trial trenching

A limited programme of trial-trenching would be undertaken, following a review of stages 2.1 - 2.3, and consultation with the County Archaeological Curator.

2.5 Building recording

A programme of building recording of the West Wing is proposed, comprising a Level III RCHME survey, and rectified photography of the exterior elevations. The outbuildings to the rear would be similarly recorded by a survey at RCHME Level II. The large structural timbers and any other relevant items removed from the building would also be recorded.

2.6 Permanent presence watching brief

A permanent presence watching brief could be provided during any groundworks undertaken during the development, in order to record the nature, extent, chronology, and preservation of any archaeological deposits or features encountered. However, no day rate costs are offered for this aspect within this project design.

2.7 Report & archive

An archive of a professional standard will be collated and deposited in an approved repository. A written report will assess the significance of the data generated by this programme within a local and regional context and will evaluate the impact of the development on the archaeological resource.

3. METHOD STATEMENT

The following work programme is submitted in line with the objectives of the archaeological work summarised above.

3.1 Desk based assessment

The following will be undertaken as appropriate, depending on the availability of material. The method statement is based on the *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Desk-based Assessments* compiled by the IFA.

3.1.1 Documentary and cartographic material

This work should address the full range of potential sources of information, although it will concentrate on information contained in the Lancashire Sites and Monuments Record. This search will also make reference to appropriate sections of local histories, early maps, and such primary documentation (O.S. maps and estate plans etc) as may be reasonably available. Appropriate photographic material will also be consulted. Potential sources would include the Lancashire Record Office at Preston, known to contain records from Hill & Son of Ormskirk and the Bootle-Wilbraham Lathom estate papers. It is also proposed to consult the recent research records of Jen Lewis of Liverpool University, who has undertaken extensive documentary work upon the Lathom House site.

3.1.2 Aerial photography

A survey of the extant air photographic cover will be undertaken. This will aid the identification of surviving archaeological and structural features in the designated area.

3.1.3 Artefact evidence

Local and regional museum catalogues will be consulted to produce a gazetteer of any artefactual evidence from the study area.

3.1.4 Physical environment

A rapid desk based compilation of geological (both solid and drift), pedological, topographical, and palaeoenvironmental information, including any available engineering and borehole data, will be undertaken. This will not only set any archaeological features in context but also serves to provide predictive data, that will increase the efficiency of the field investigation.

3.1.5 Access

Liaison for basic site access will be undertaken with the Client. The precise location of any utility services or pipelines within the study area will also be established.

3.1.6 Collation of data

The data generated by 3.1.1 - 3.1.5 will be collated and analysed in order to provide an assessment of the nature and significance of the known standing, surface and subsurface remains. It will also serve as a guide to the archaeological potential of the area to be investigated, and the basis for the formulation of the detailed field programme, and associated sampling strategy.

3.2 Topographic survey

3.2.1 Instrument survey

The area indicated as 'B' on the map appended to the brief will be subjected to a topographic survey, in order to locate with precision the location, extent, and nature of the standing buildings and any visible surviving archaeological remains. This work will be undertaken using a data-logging total station theodolite to run a closed traverse around the site, from which necessary detail will be surveyed. This will include outlines of existing buildings, field boundaries, selected spot heights, and features of archaeological interest such as the 'ha-ha' and the visible footings of the early eighteenth century house. This survey will provide primary control for the building survey of the West Wing (see ?????????? below), and will also record the locations of the geophysical survey areas (?????), and the trial trenches (?????).

3.2.2 Site plan

Using the digital data generated during the field survey, the LUAU FastCAD package would be used to produce site plans at an appropriate scale(s), most probably 1:250 or 1:500. Additionally, the results of the collation of the desk-based assessment (3.1.6 above) would be superimposed onto the plan, to indicate those areas of predicted archaeological potential, and also locations of utility services and other modern disturbance, for consideration prior to geophysical survey and trial trenching.

3.3 Geophysical survey

A geophysical survey, utilising both magnetometry and electrical resistivity, would be undertaken across the area marked 'A' on the plan supplied with the brief. This area covers approximately 2,750 square metres, comprising fairly level rough pasture, and it would seem to be the only relatively undisturbed parcel of land within the former curtilage of Lathom House. This would suggest that if a medieval predecessor to the House had been located on the site, then area 'A' may present the optimum location to undertake geophysical prospection to detect any associated features, such as wall foundations, drains, or ditches. Because of the relatively small scale of this area, on cost-effective grounds it is proposed to survey the whole of it, rather than just a sample. The high speed and non-destructive nature of this work allow for rapid identification and targetting of potential archaeological features, which could then be tested by trial-trenching. LUAU maintains close links with Geophysical Surveys of Bradford, to whom this aspect of the work would be sub-contracted.

3.4 Trial trenching

3.4.1 Methodology

A limited programme of trial excavation will be undertaken, in consultation with the County Archaeological Curator, in order to fulfil the objectives of the evaluation, and following the strategy outlined in stages 3.1 - 3.3 above. This will establish the presence or absence of archaeological deposits and, if established, will then briefly test their date, nature, and quality of preservation. A total of three trenches have been specified by the County Archaeological Curator, to be located . The exact trench location may be varied slightly to avoid any drains or services which are identified as running across the site. Excavation will normally be limited to the upper surface of significant archaeological deposits, followed by limited sampling of deposits/features. However, where important deposits are identified, these would be left intact and the evaluation terminated, following consultation with the County Archaeological Curator.

3.1.2 Methodology

To maximise the speed and efficiency of the operation the majority of the work (including removal of overburden) will be undertaken by a machine fitted with a toothless bucket, although in areas where ephemeral remains are encountered elements may be hand dug. It is understood that the Client will provide the machine and driver, but that the trenches will be excavated under archaeological direction. All trenches will be excavated in a stratigraphical manner, whether by machine or by hand. Trenches will be accurately located with regard to local topographical features.

Full regard will, of course, be given to all constraints (services etc) during the excavation of the trenches, as well as to all Health and Safety considerations. LUAU provides a Health and Safety Statement for all projects and maintains a Unit Safety policy. All site procedures are in accordance with the guidance set out in the Health and Safety Manual compiled by the Standing Conference of Archaeological Unit Managers (1991) and risk assessments are now being implemented for all projects. As a matter of course the Unit uses a U-Scan device prior to any excavation to test for services. Additionally, a Health & Safety Plan in accordance with the recent Construction (Design and Management) Regulations will be drawn up and submitted to the Client/Client's Agent for approval.

At the conclusion of the evaluation, LUAU will reinstate all land disturbed to the satisfaction of the Client, including re-tarmacing of the surface. Movable security fencing will be maintained around the open trench throughout the duration of the work, although it is understood that the evaluation will take place on private land.

2.1.4 Timetable

All excavation will be undertaken within constraints agreed with the Client. Subject to these constraints, work of this scale and nature can normally be completed within a period of one working week.

2.1.5 Recording

All information identified in the course of the site works will be recorded stratigraphically, with sufficient pictorial record (plans, sections and both black

and white and colour photographs) to identify and illustrate individual features. Primary records will be available for inspection at all times.

Results of the field investigation will be recorded using a paper system, adapted from that used by Central Archaeology Service of English Heritage. The archive will include both a photographic record and accurate large scale plans and sections at an appropriate scale (1:50, 1:20, and 1:10). All artefacts and ecofacts will be recorded using the same system, and will be handled and stored according to standard practice (following current Institute of Field Archaeologists guidelines) in order to minimise deterioration. Samples will be collected for technological, pedological, palaeoenvironmental and chronological analysis as appropriate. If necessary, access to conservation advice and facilities can be made available. LUAU maintains close relationships with Ancient Monuments Laboratory staff at the Universities of Durham and York and, in addition, employs artefact and palaeoecology specialists with considerable expertise in the investigation, excavation and finds management of sites of all periods and types, who are readily available for consultation.

Watching brief

A permanent programme of field observation at 56 Church Street will accurately record the location, extent and character of any surviving archaeological features within the designated area. This work will comprise the observation of the groundworks related to the development, including excavation of the wall footings, service trenches, and manholes, with accurate recording of all archaeological features and horizons, identified during observation.

3.1.3 Recording

All information identified in the course of the site works will be recorded stratigraphically, with sufficient pictorial record (plans, sections and both black and white and colour photographs) to identify and illustrate individual features. Primary records will be available for inspection at all times.

Results of the field investigation will be recorded using a system, adapted from that used by Central Archaeological Services of English Heritage. The archive will include both a photographic record and accurate large scale plans and sections at an appropriate scale (1:50, 1:20, and 1:10). All artefacts and ecofacts will be recorded using the same system, and will be handled and stored according

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It is assumed that LUAU will have the authority to stop works for up to one hour to enable the recording of particularly important deposits, and to call in additional archaeological support if necessary, as a contingency (see 3.2 below).

3.2 Detailed recording

3.2.1 Introduction

In the event of significant archaeological features or evidence being identified during the course of the watching brief, it may be necessary to undertake more detailed recording and/or excavation, utilising additional archaeological support. Any such additional work would be undertaken only after consultation with the client and the County Archaeological Curator, and would be subject to a cost variation.

3.2.2 Methodology

To maximise the speed and efficiency of the operation the removal of overburden within the footing and service trenches will be undertaken by a small machine (fitted with a toothless digging bucket), although in areas where ephemeral remains are encountered elements will be hand dug. All trenches will be excavated in a stratigraphical manner, whether by machine or by hand. Trenches will be accurately located with regard to surrounding features.

Full regard will, of course, be given to all constraints (services etc) during the excavation of the trenches, as well as to all Health and Safety considerations. LUAU provides a Health and Safety Statement for all projects and maintains a Unit Safety policy. All site procedures are in accordance with the guidance set out in the Health and Safety Manual compiled by the Standing Conference of Archaeological Unit Managers (1991) and risk assessments are implemented for all projects. As a matter of course the Unit uses a U-Scan device prior to any excavation to test for services.

3.2.3 Timetable

All excavation will be undertaken within constraints agreed with the Client.

3.3 Evaluation Report

3.3.1 Archive

The results of the fieldwork will form the basis of a full archive to professional standards, in accordance with current English Heritage guidelines (*The Management of Archaeological Projects, 2nd edition, 1991*). The project archive represents the collation and indexing of all the data and material gathered during the course of the project. It will include summary processing and analysis of all features, finds, or palaeoenvironmental data recovered during fieldwork. The deposition of a properly ordered and indexed project archive in an appropriate repository is considered an essential and integral element of all archaeological projects by the IFA in that organisation's code of conduct. LUAU conforms to best practice in the preparation of project archives for long-term storage. The expense of preparing such an archive is part of the project cost, but only represents a very small proportion of the total. This archive can be provided in the English Heritage Central Archaeological Services format, both as a printed document and on computer disks as ASCII files, and a synthesis (in the form of the index to the archive and the report) will be included in the Lancashire Sites and Monuments Record. A copy of the archive will also be available for deposition with the National Archaeological Record in London. LUAU practice is to deposit the original record archive of projects (paper, magnetic and plastic media) with the appropriate County Record Office, and a full copy of the record archive (microform or microfiche) together with the material archive (artefacts, ecofacts, and samples) with an appropriate museum. The actual details of the arrangements for the deposition/loan and long term storage of this material will be agreed with the landowner and the receiving institution. Wherever possible, LUAU recommends the deposition of such material in a local museum approved by the Museums and Galleries Commission, and would make appropriate arrangements with the designated museum at the outset of the project for the proper labelling, packaging, and accessioning of all material recovered. The archive costs include a single payment of £11/m³ to the receiving museum as a one-off contribution towards the cost of long term storage and curation.

3.3.2 Evaluation report

One bound and one unbound copy of a written synthetic report will be submitted to the Client, and a further copy submitted to the Lancashire Sites and Monuments Record. The report will include a copy of this project design, and indications of any agreed departure from that design. It will present, summarise, and interpret the results of the programme detailed above and will include a full index of archaeological features identified in the course of the project, with an assessment of the overall stratigraphy, together with appropriate illustrations, including detailed plans and sections indicating the locations of archaeological features. Any finds recovered from the excavations will be assessed with reference to other local material and any particular or unusual features of the assemblage will be highlighted and the potential of the site for palaeoenvironmental analysis will be considered. The report will also include a complete bibliography of sources from which data has been derived, and a list of further sources identified during the programme of work, but not examined in detail.

This report will identify areas of defined archaeology, the location of trenches, and whether the results of the sampling were positive or negative. An assessment and statement of the actual and potential archaeological significance of the site within the broader context of regional and national archaeological priorities will be made. Illustrative material will include a location map, section drawings, and plans if appropriate; it can be tailored to the specific requests of the client (eg particular scales etc), subject to discussion. The report will be in the same basic format as this project design; a copy of the report can be provided on 3.5" disk (IBM compatible format).

3.3.3 Proposals

The report will make a clear statement of the likely archaeological implications of the intended development. It will highlight whether, as a first option, the preservation *in situ* of significant archaeological features should take place and possible strategies for the mitigation of the impact of the development, including design modification, will be considered. When conservation is neither possible, nor practical, it may be appropriate to suggest a further stage of more intensive archaeological work in order to mitigate the effects of development. In this case, a project design for such mitigation measures will be submitted.

3.3.4 Confidentiality

The evaluation report is designed as a document for the specific use of the Client, for the particular purpose as defined in the project design, and should be treated as such; it is not suitable for publication as an academic report, or otherwise, without amendment or revision. Any requirement to revise or reorder the material for submission or presentation to third parties beyond the project brief and project design, or for any other explicit purpose can be fulfilled, but will require separate discussion and funding.

3.4 Project Monitoring

3.4.1 Mr James

If required, an initial meeting between the Client, the Curator and the contractor can be arranged. Further consultation will include the attendance of a representative of the Client (if required) at any meetings convened with the Lancashire Archaeological Curator to discuss the progress of the watching brief or the content of the report.

3.4.2 Lancashire Sites and Monuments Record

Any proposed changes to the project design will be agreed with the Lancashire County Archaeological Curator in coordination with the client. LUAU will arrange a preliminary meeting with the Curator, if requested, and the Lancashire Sites and Monuments Record will be informed in writing at the commencement of the project.

4. WORK TIMETABLE

The phases of work would comprise:

4.1 Permanent presence watching brief

Monitoring of all groundworks relating to the development, and observation and recording of any archaeological features and deposits revealed. Discussion with the Client has suggested that this will require an on-site presence of between 2 and 3 days.

4.2 Detailed recording

The scale of any additional work required as a result of *4.1* above cannot be properly estimated in advance, but it is not likely to exceed a single day.

4.3 Prepare Watching Brief Report & Archive

To be undertaken immediately after the completion of all fieldwork. LUAU generally calculates a 1:1 ratio of fieldwork : post-fieldwork (archive, analysis, and report preparation).

LUAU can execute projects at very short notice once an agreement has been signed with the client. The project (fieldwork, report and archive) would be completed and submitted within six weeks following its commencement.

5. OUTLINE RESOURCES

The following resource base will be necessary to achieve the proposals detailed above.

The total cost quoted on the accompanying sheet is a fixed price, inclusive of all management, overheads, and other disbursement costs (travel and expenses), to undertake the programme of work as defined in the project brief and this project design. Any other variations from this programme of work at the clients' direction will require recosting.

5.1 Field Evaluation

2-3 man-days Project Supervisor

2-3 man-days Project Assistant

5.2 Evaluation Report

2-3 man-days Project Supervisor

1 man-day Draughtsperson

The project will be under the direct line management of **Mark Fletcher, BSc, MAAIS**, (Unit Project Manager) to whom all correspondence should be addressed. All Unit staff are experienced, qualified archaeologists, each with several years professional expertise.

APPENDIX 3 THE LIST DESCRIPTION

The following is a transcription of the entry for the West Range given in the statutory list of historic buildings held by Lancashire County Council.

LATHOM, WEST LANCASHIRE

Remains of Lathom Hall, Lathom Park

Country House Stabling

Grade 2*

Wing of former country house, now derelict c1730. By Giacomo Leoni; with additions to rear c1862 by Mr Wyatt. Sandstone ashlar, slate roof (formerly hipped). Rectangular double-depth plan on north-south axis, facing east, with a central through-passage; and various outbuildings arranged around a double courtyard to the rear. Palladian style.

Two storeys, 2:3:2 bays, the centre pedimented and breaking forward slightly, with a plinth, banded quoins, and a moulded cornice with blocking course.

The centre has a large round-headed archway with an architrave including banded semicolumns, run-out voussoirs, a panelled keystone and a cornice with blocking course, and damaged wooden gates. The ground floor has tall windows with Gibbs surrounds and cornices (all now boarded), and the 1st floor has small square windows with raised sills but otherwise plain surrounds.

Rising from the centre of the roof is an octagonal cupola with an *oeil-de-boeuf* in each side (some with the remains of wooden louvres), a moulded cornice and an ogival stone cap with a large ball finial surmounted by a weathervane; and to each side is a chimney stack.

The 4-bay north return side (which is now propped with timber buttresses) has a doorway near each corner with triple keystone and pedimented Gibbs surround, 2 windows between these with triple keystones and Gibbs surrounds, and at 1st floor 4 small windows like those at the front. The rear elevation is similar but simpler. The attached stable yard ranges are single-storey stables, coach-houses, etc, very much dilapidated at time of survey (1991).

INTERIOR: very badly dilapidated at time of survey, the floors and roof of the northern portion collapsed, but the southern portion has remains of the plank panelling of former horse stalls.

Forms group with remains of garden wall attached to north-east corner (q.v.) and with ha-ha bounding south and east sides of former garden (q.v.)

APPENDIX 4
THE ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE
OF THE LATE MEDIEVAL LATHOM HOUSE

A poem, composed by Bishop Thomas Stanley, grandson of the 1st Earl of Derby, builder of Lathom House, has suggested that the re-building of Richmond palace, by Henry VII, begun before October 1495, was inspired by a royal visit to Lathom in July or August of that year:

*King Henry the Seaventh, who did lye their eight dayes,
And of all houses he gave it the most praise,
And his haule at Richmond he pulled downe all
To make it up againe after Latham hall...*

(Halliwell 1850, 266)

This interpretation is not favoured in a recent publication on the Royal Palaces of Tudor England, in which a French prototype is suggested (Thurley 1993). However, if this connection is a valid one, Lathom House may occupy an important position in the evolution of high-status houses in England, notably in the use of a 'stacked lodging', in which elaborate suites of chambers were constructed one on top of another. A notable example exists at Thornbury Castle in Gloucestershire, while it is known that Cardinal Wolsey constructed such a lodging for the King and Queen at Hampton Court Palace in the late 1520s, now almost completely demolished. The 'Eagle Tower' at the centre of the site at Lathom and presumably the prominent feature displayed in the Manchester misericords may have been a *donjon* in the tradition of military architecture, but it is at least possible that it was a lodging block of more domestic character.

ILLUSTRATIONS

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- Fig 2 Lathom Park: OS 2nd edition 25": 1 mile 1909
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- Fig 14 Trench Location Plan
- Fig 15 Sections of Trenches 5 and 6
- Fig 16 Magnetometer Survey Data
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- Fig 18 Superimposed Resistance and Magnetic Data

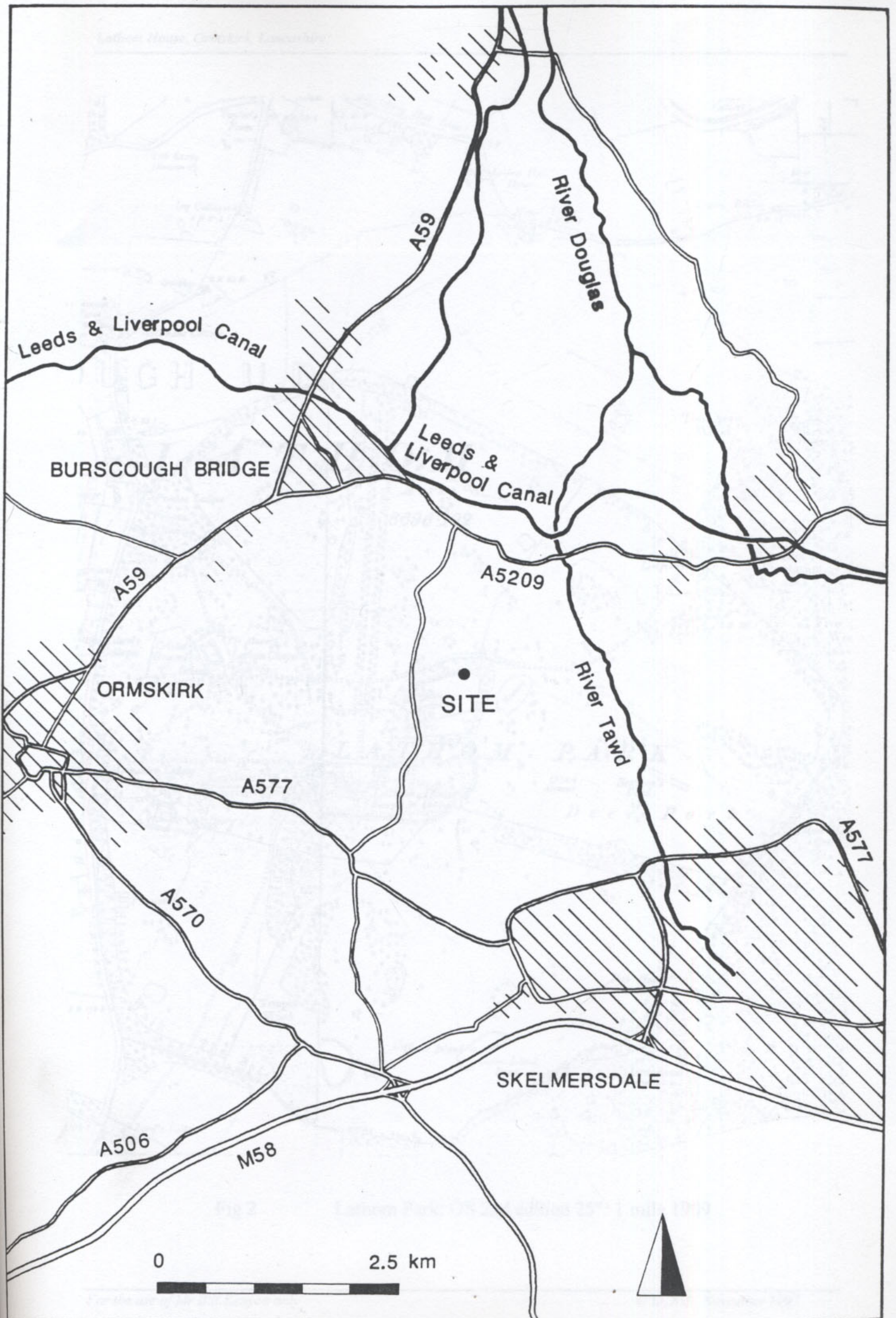


Fig 1 Lathom Location Plan



Fig 2

Lathom Park: OS 2nd edition 25": 1 mile 1909

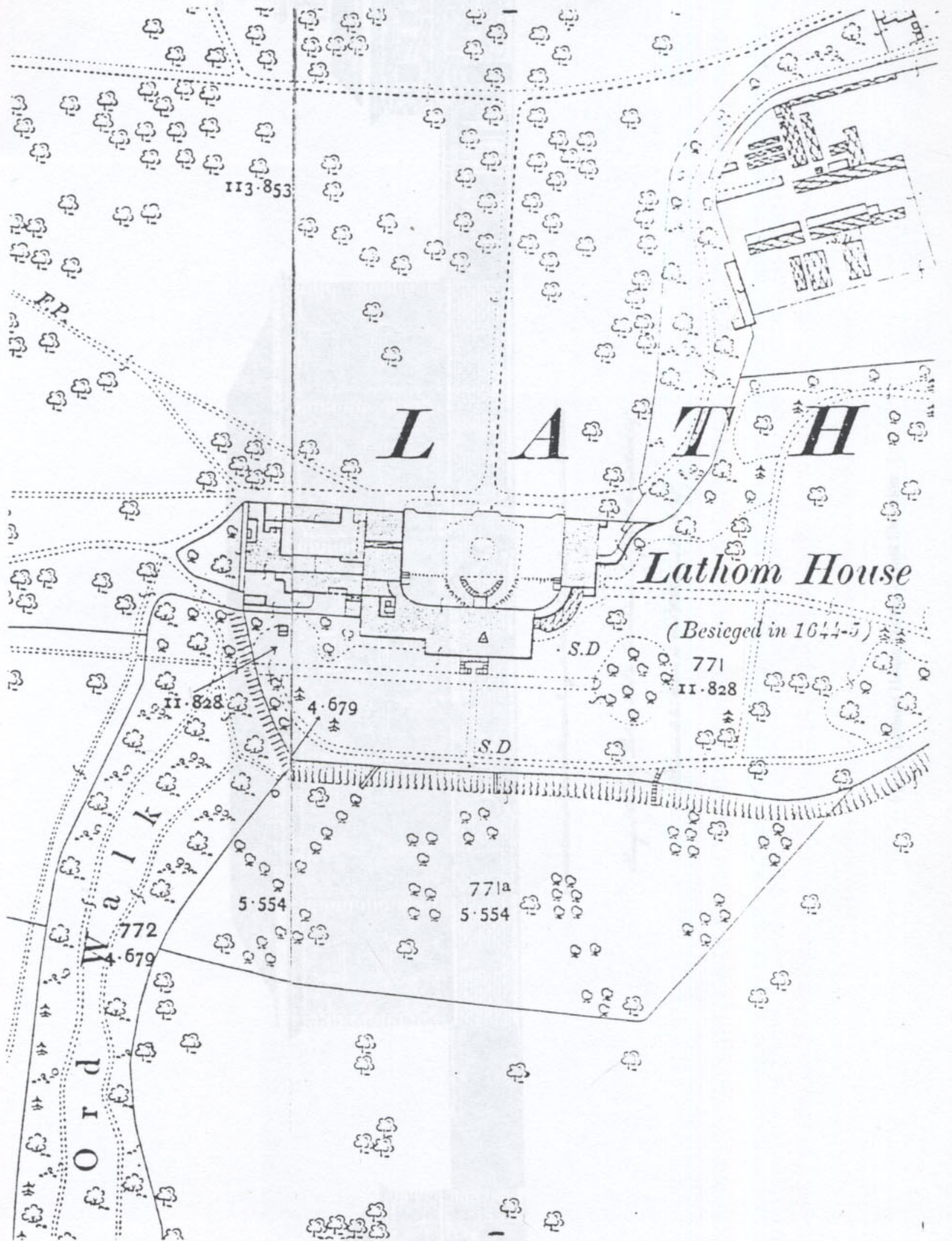
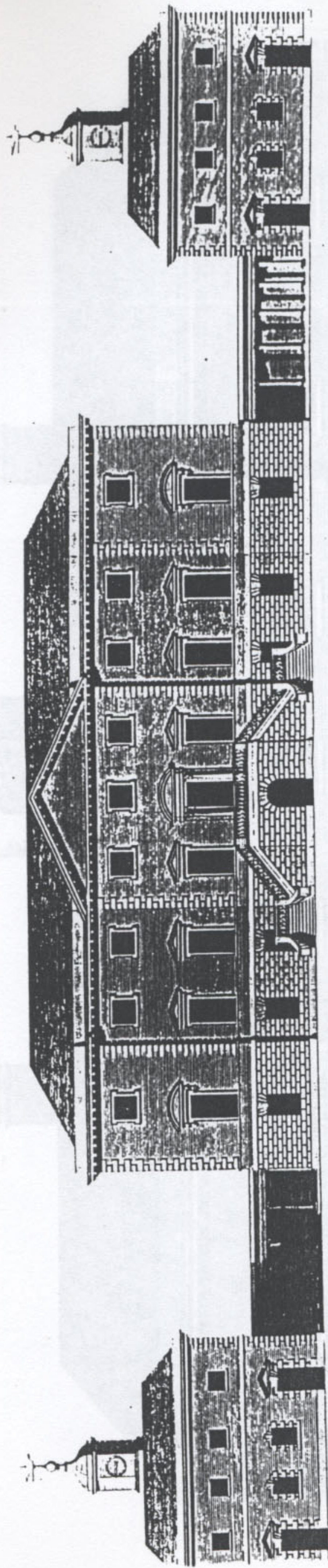


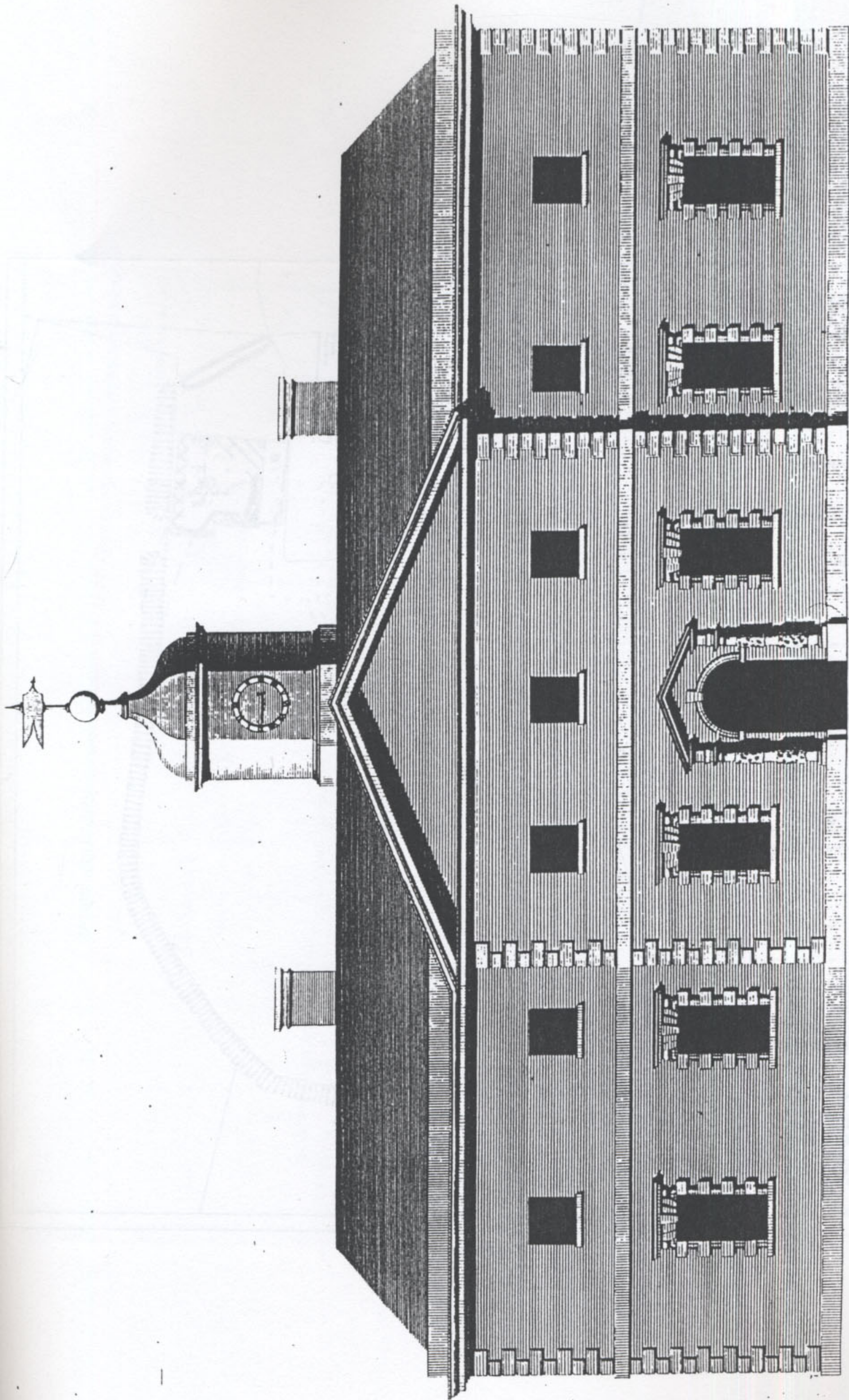
Fig 3 Lathom House: OS 2nd edition 25" to 1 mile 1908



Principal Front of Lathom Hall in Lancashire. As seen from West Hill in the North East of York.
 Elevation de la. Maison de. West Hill in the North East of York.

Fig. 4

Fig 4 Lathom House Stables - Front Elevation



Elevation of the Stables at Lathom Hall.

Fig 5 Lathom House Stables - Side Elevation

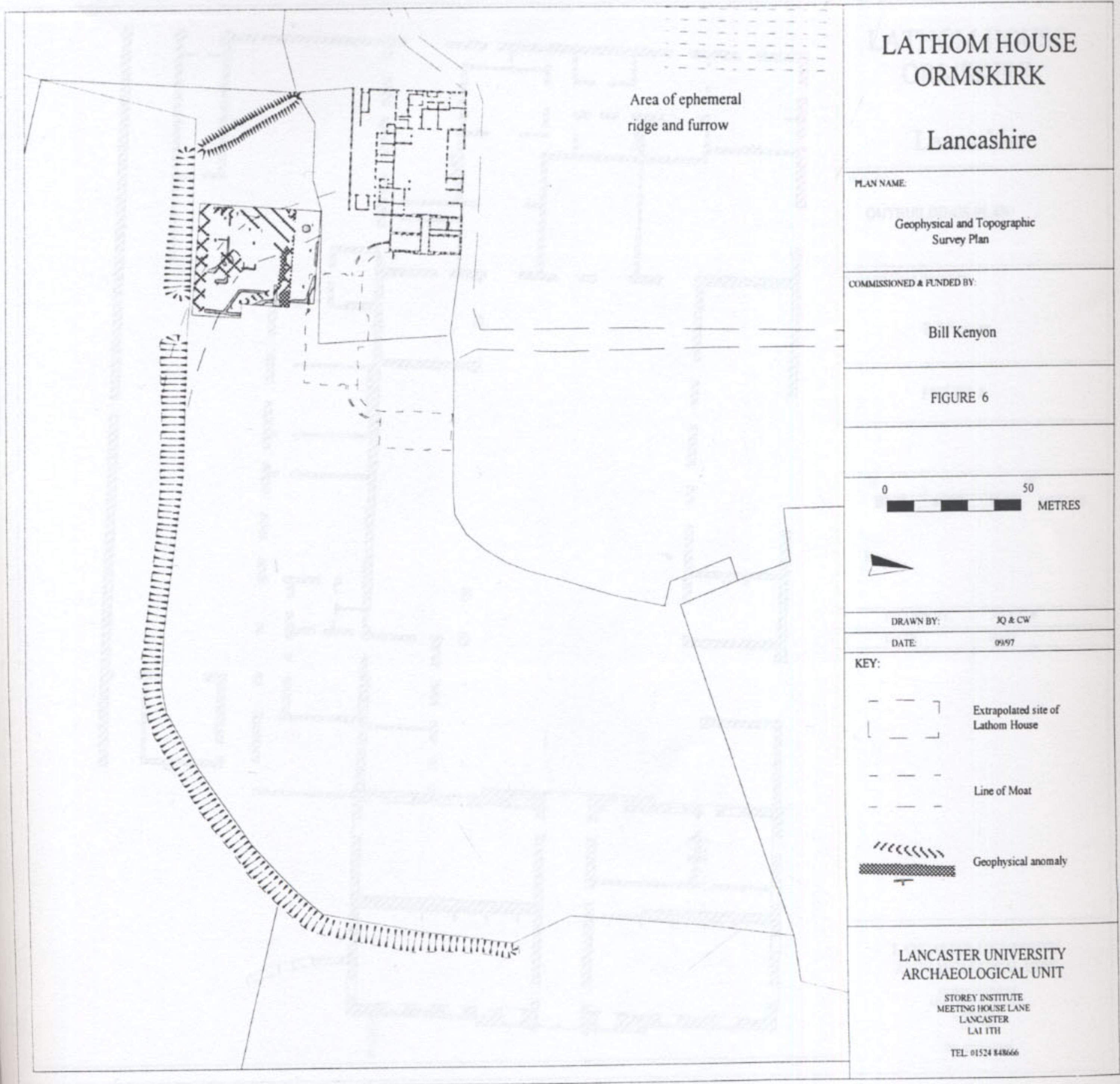


Fig 6 Site Survey Plan

LATHOM HOUSE
ORMSKIRK

Lancashire

PLAN NAME

GROUND FLOOR PLAN

COMMISSIONED & FUNDED BY:

Bill Kenyon

FIGURE 7



DRAWN BY: JQ & CW

DATE: 06/97

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ARCHAEOLOGICAL UNIT

STOREY INSTITUTE
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LANCASTER
LA1 1TH

TEL: 01524 848666

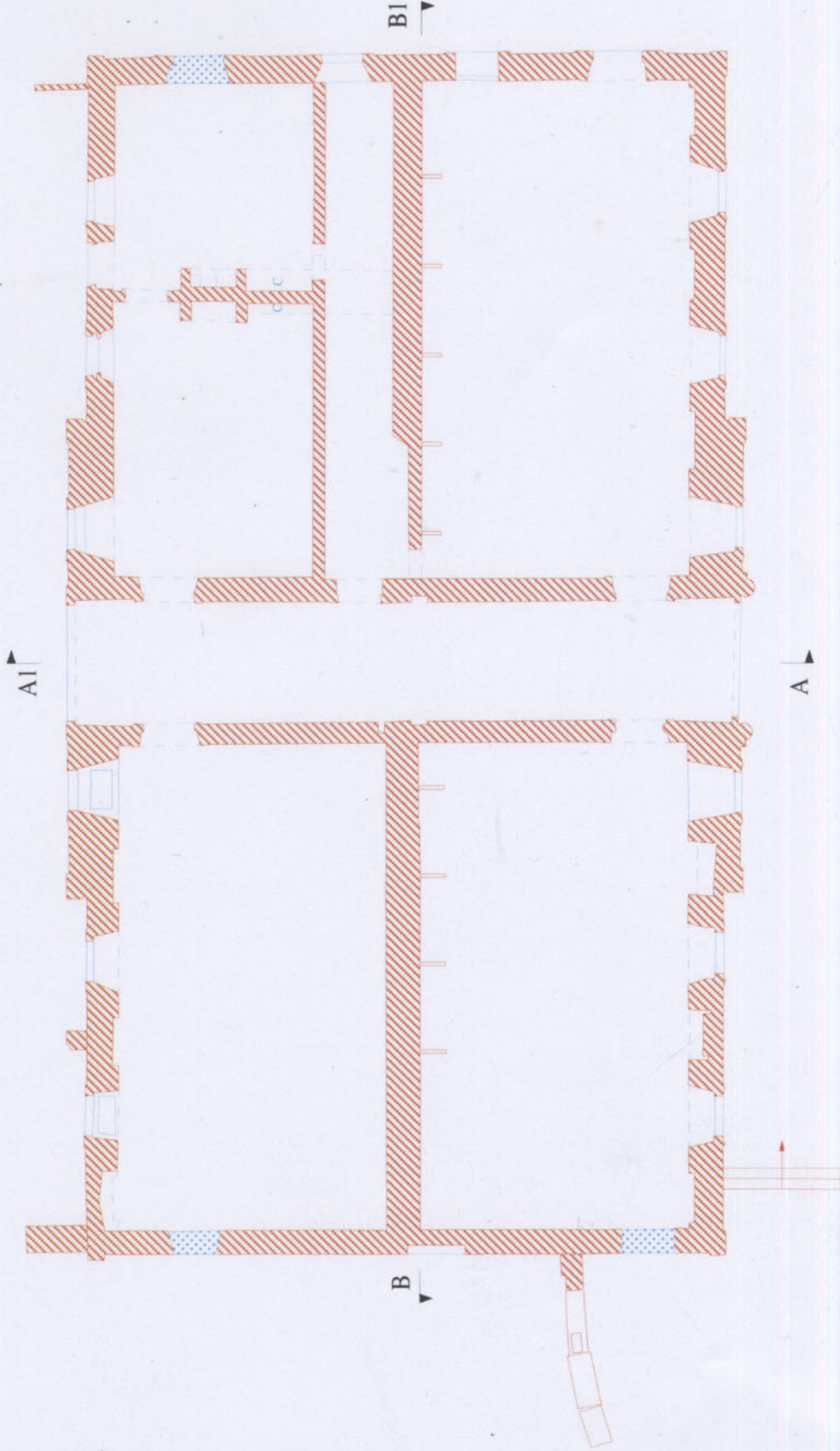


Fig 7 Ground Floor Plan

LATHOM HOUSE
ORMSKIRK

Lancashire

PLAN NAME:

OUTBUILDINGS PLAN

COMMISSIONED & FUNDED BY:

Bill Kenyon

FIGURE 8

0 10
METRES



DRAWN BY: JQ & CW

DATE: 09/97

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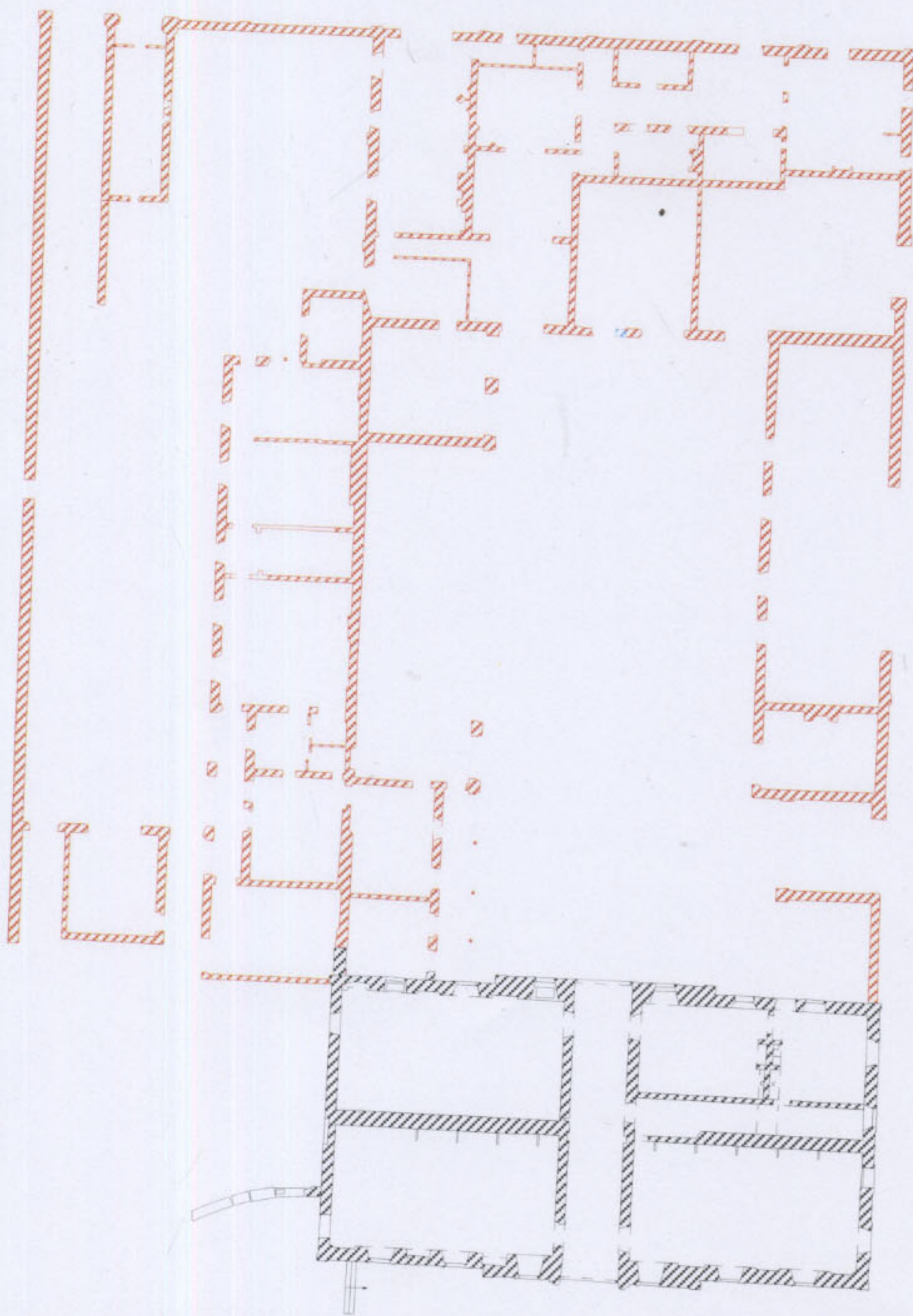


Fig 8 Outbuildings Plan

LATHOM HOUSE
ORMSKIRK

Lancashire

PLAN NAME

East Elevation

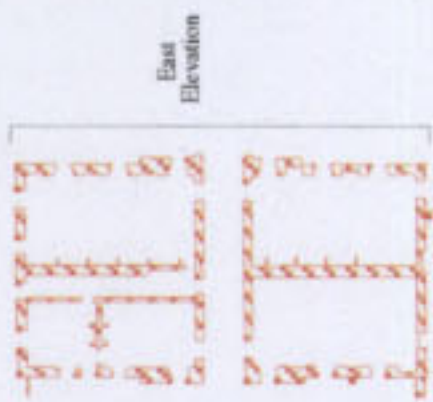
COMMISSIONED & FUNDED BY:

Bill Kenyon

FIGURE 8



DRAWN BY: J.A.C.W.
DATE: 1997



LANCASTER UNIVERSITY
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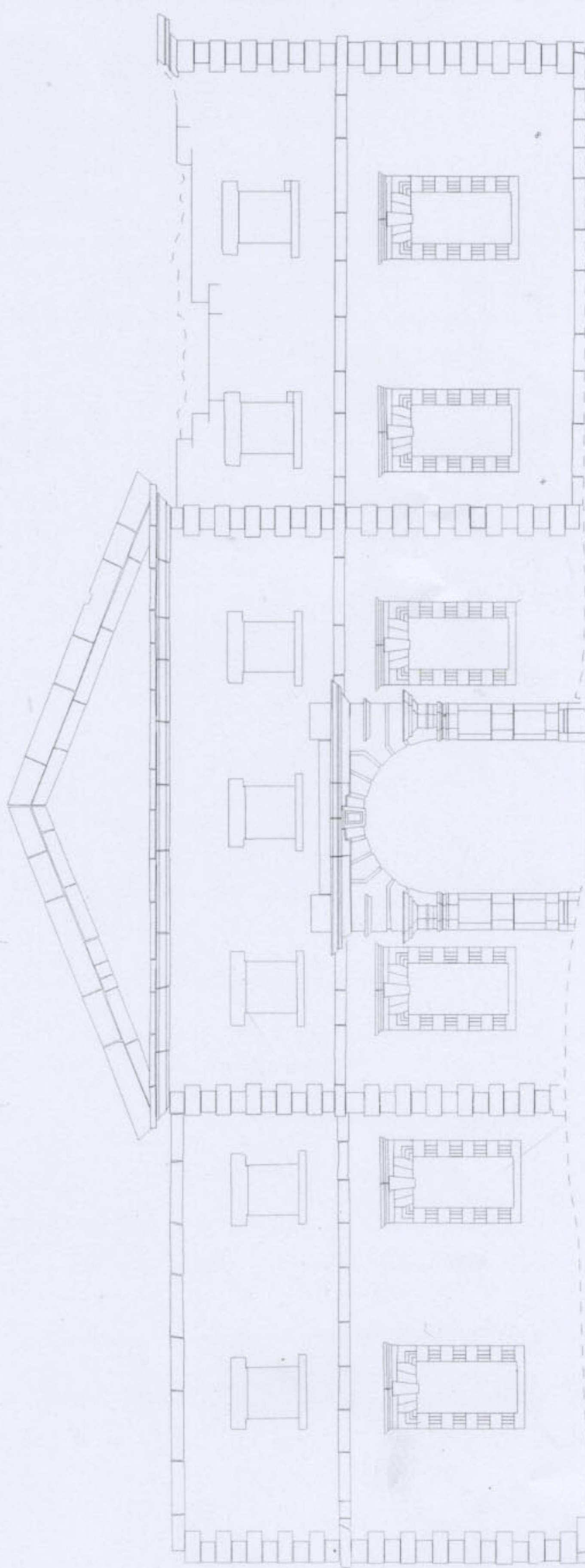


Fig 9 East Elevation

LATHOM HOUSE
ORMSKIRK

Lancashire

PLAN NAME

West Elevation

COMMISSIONED & FUNDED BY:

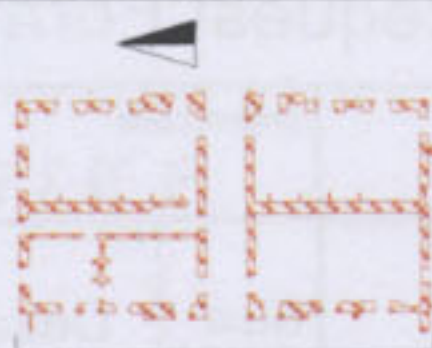
Bill Kenyon

FIGURE 9

0 1 2 3
Metres

DRAWN BY: JJA/CW

DATE: 11/97



West
Elevation

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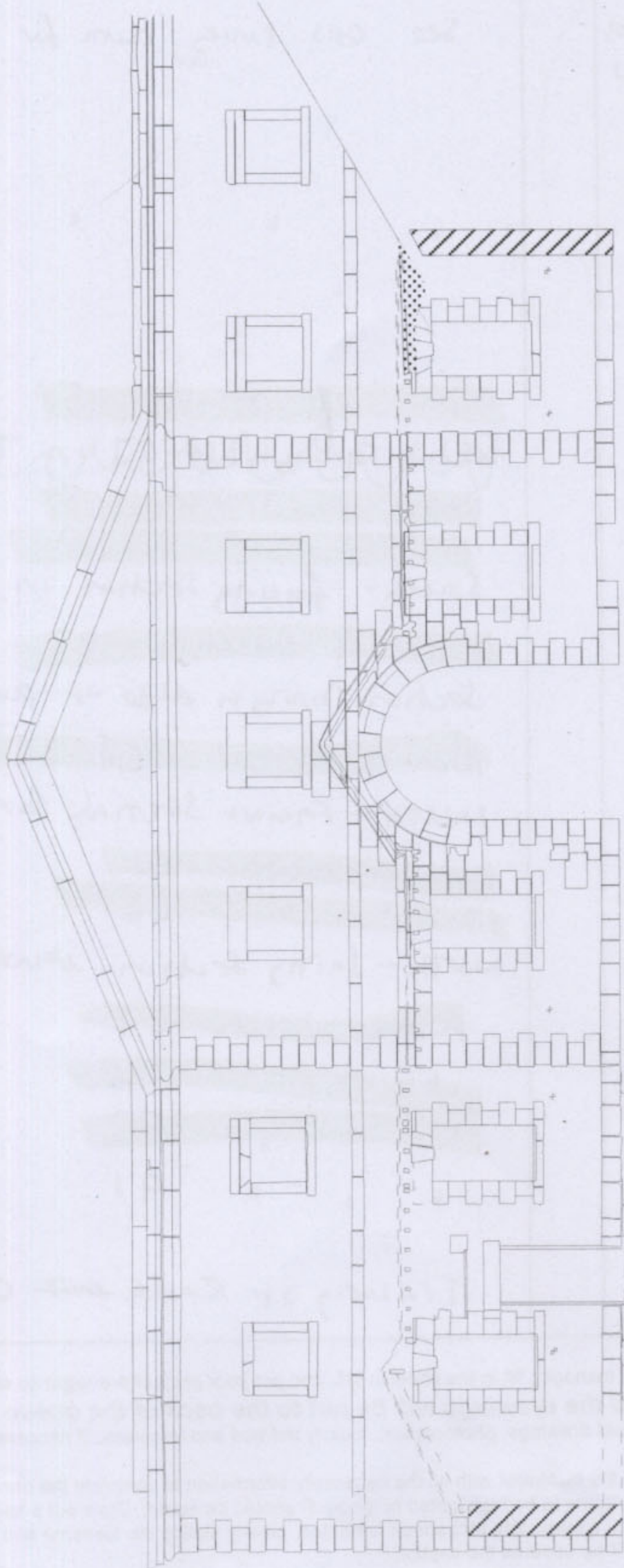
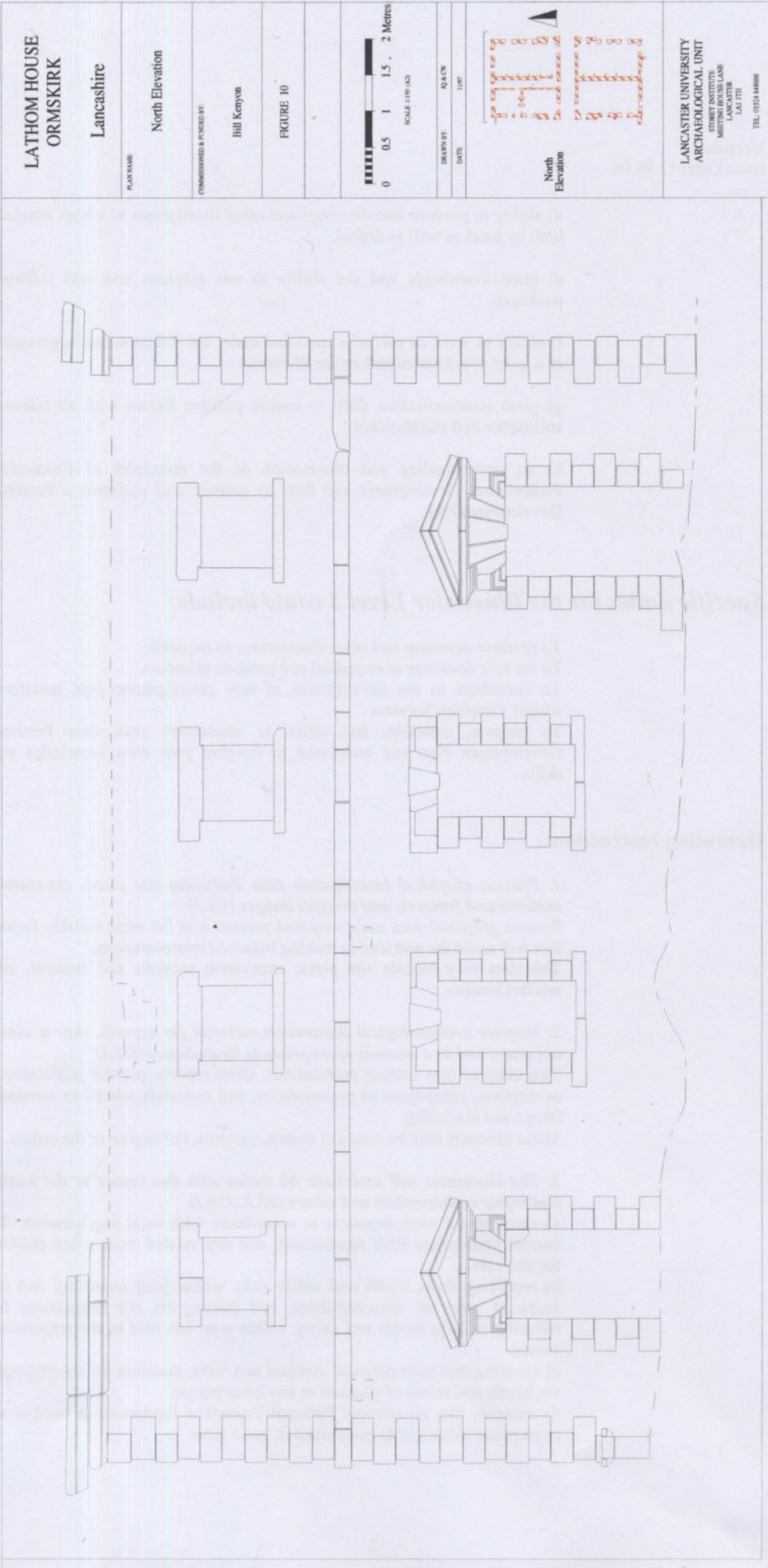


Fig 10 West Elevation



LATHOM HOUSE
ORMSKIRK

Lancashire

PLAN NAME

North Elevation

COMMISSIONED & FUNDED BY:

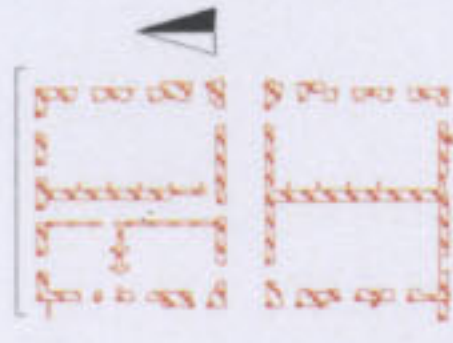
Bill Kenyon

FIGURE 10

0 0.5 1 1.5 2 Metres
SCALE 1:100 (A3)

DRAWN BY: R.A.C.W.

DATE: 11/97



North
Elevation

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Fig 11 North Elevation

WEST WING, LATHOM
HOUSE, ORMSKIRK,
LANCASHIRE

CROSS - SECTION ON CENTRAL
SPINE WALL

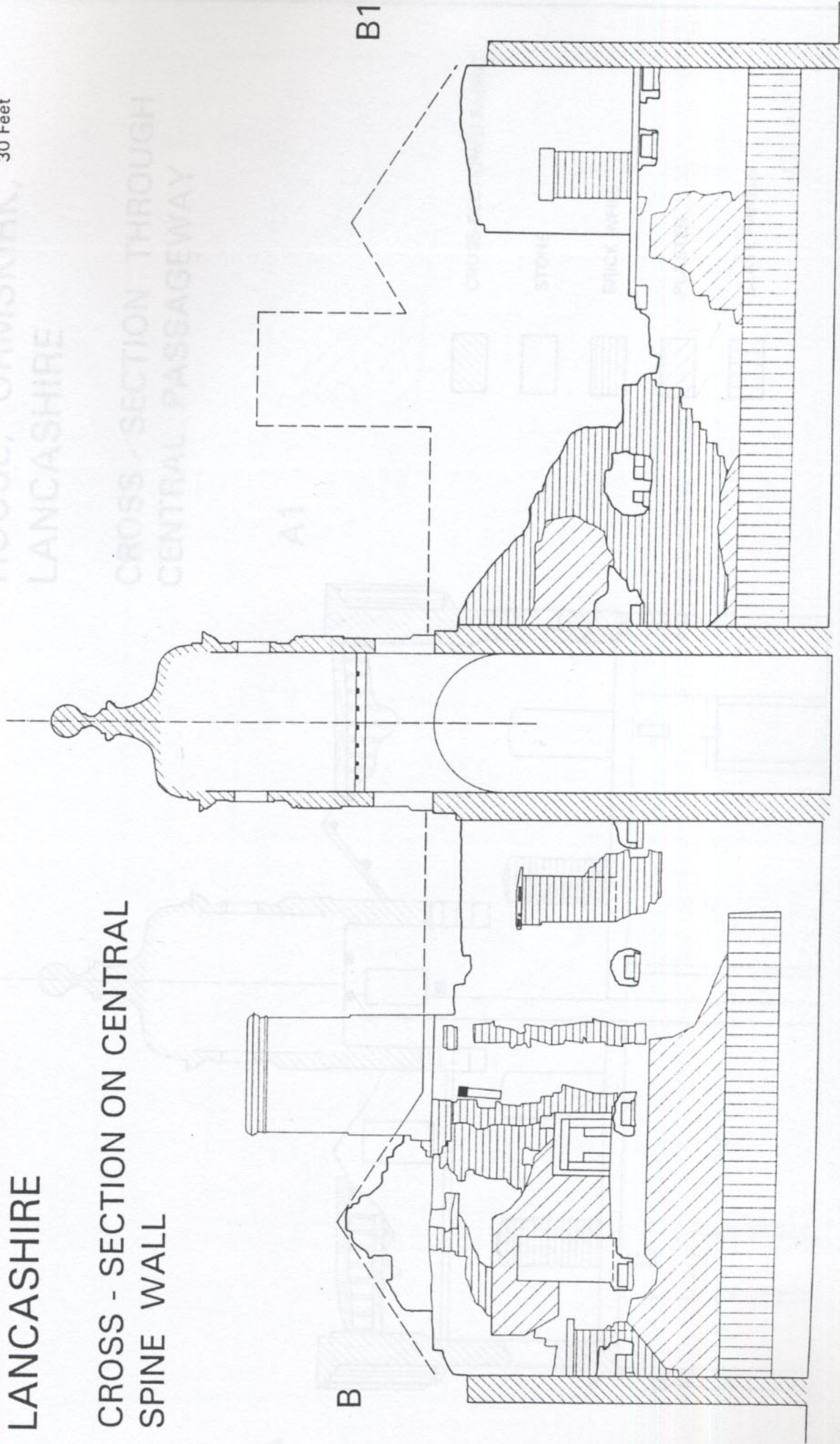


Fig 12 North/South Cross-Section through West Wing

WEST WING, LATHOM HOUSE, ORMSKIRK, LANCASHIRE

CROSS - SECTION THROUGH CENTRAL PASSAGEWAY

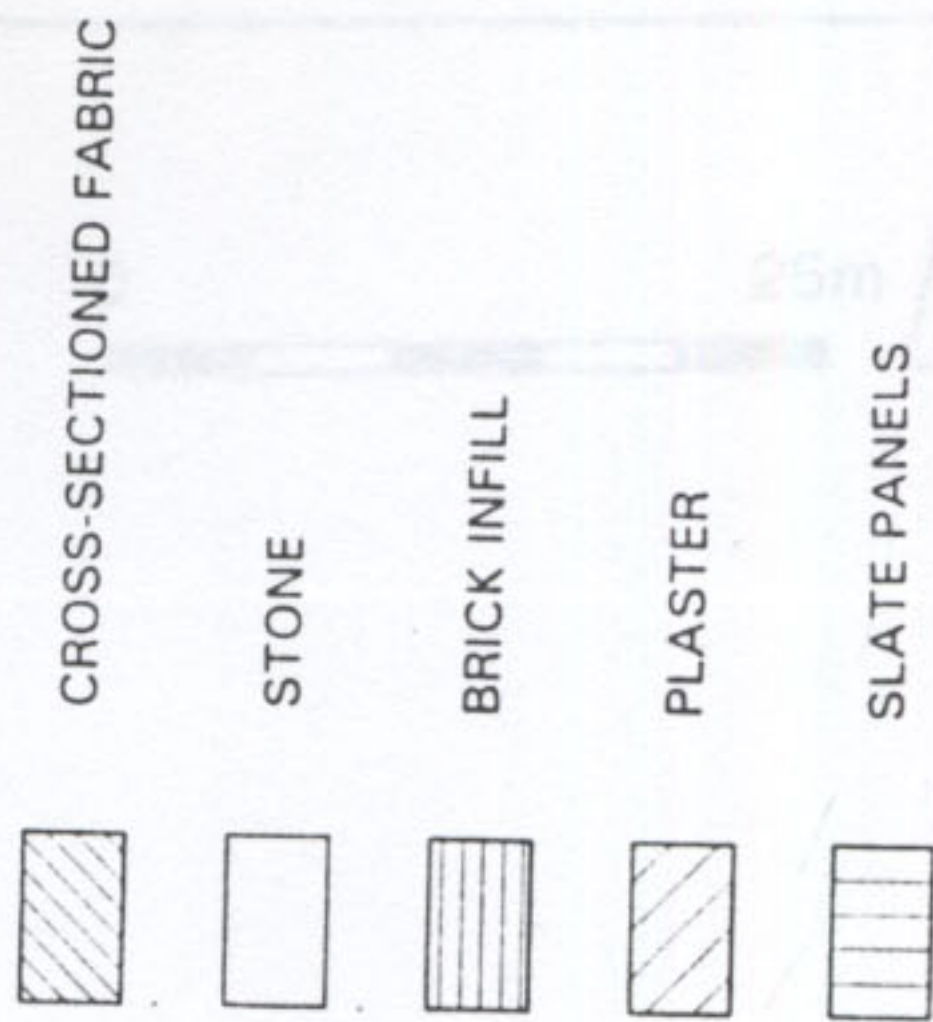
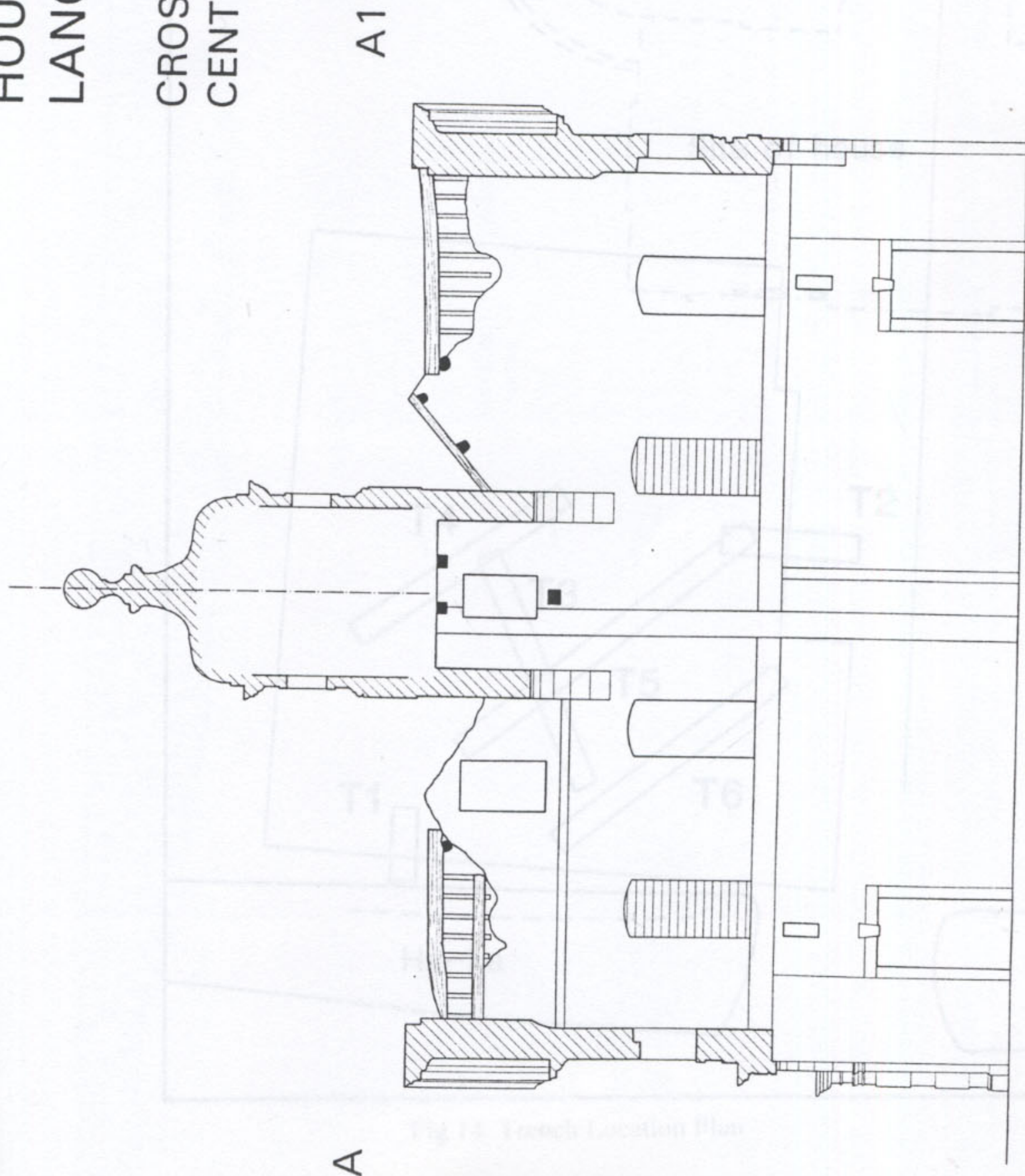


Fig 13 East/West Cross-Section through West Wing

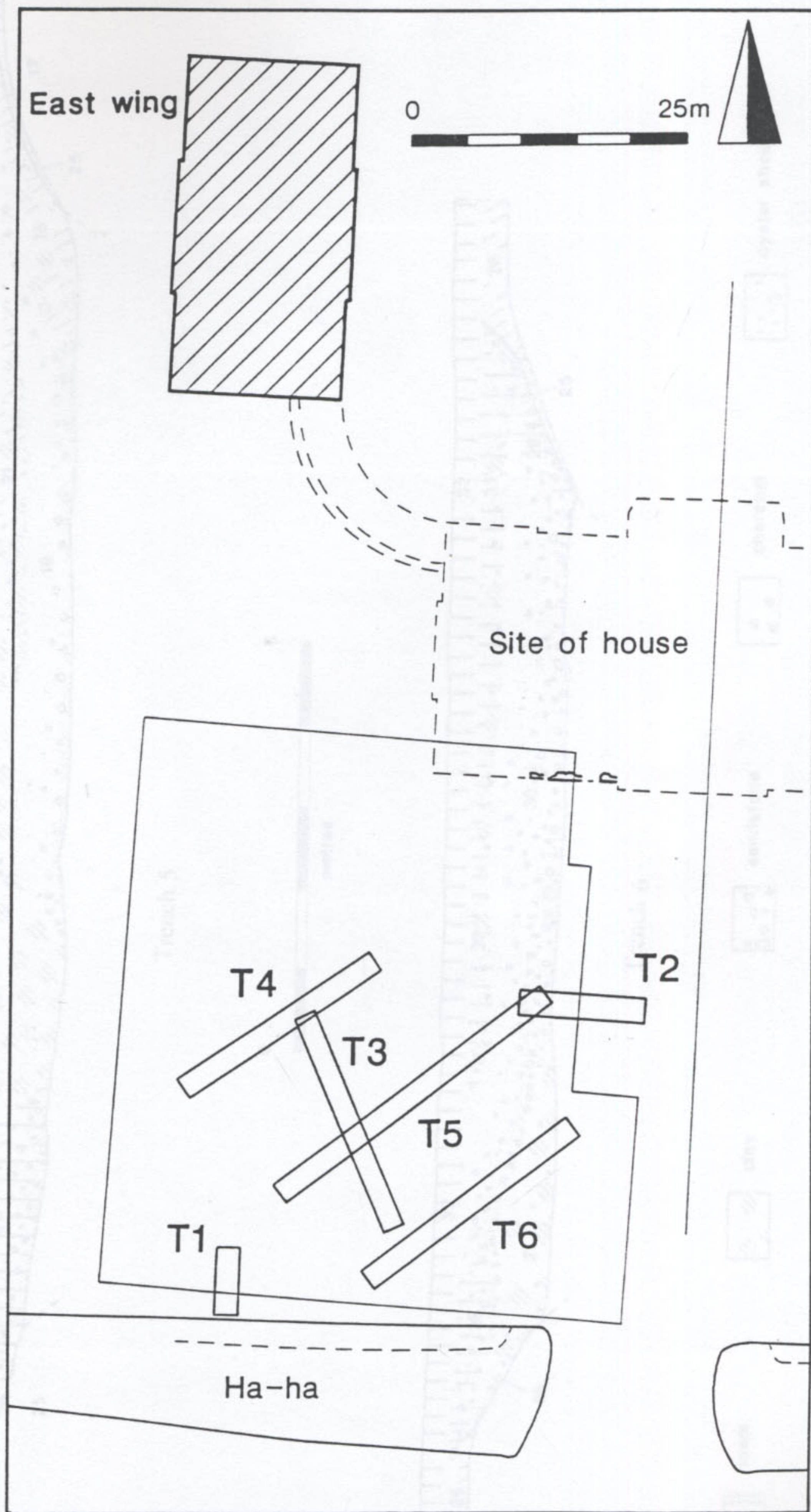
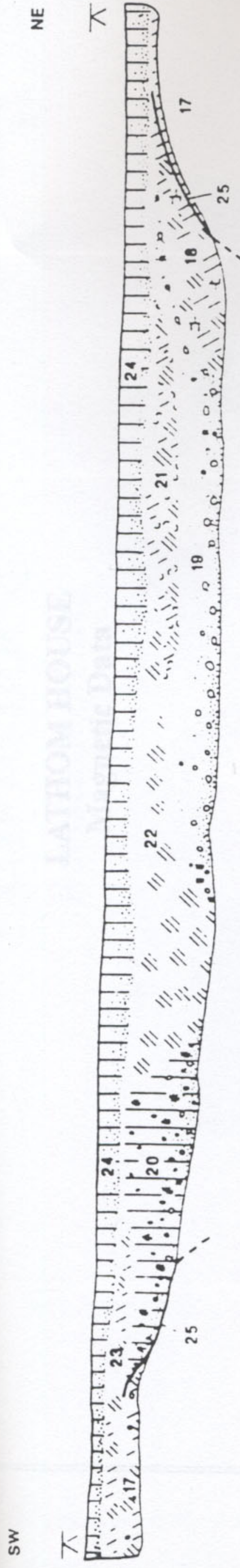
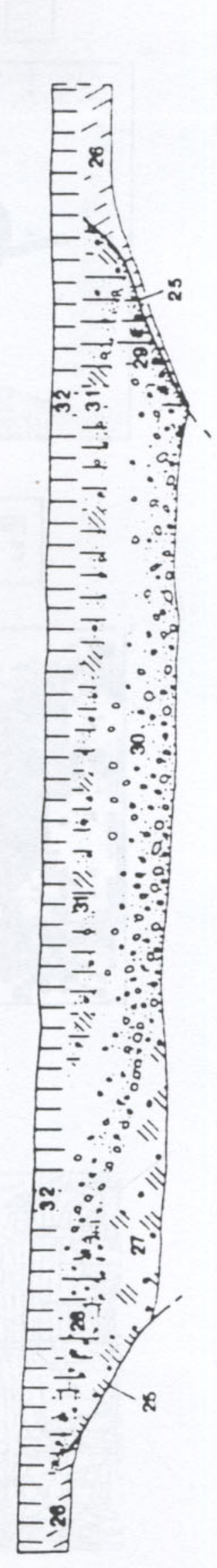
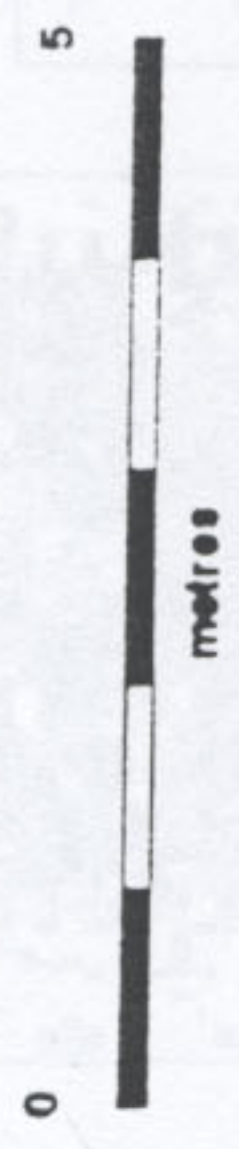


Fig 14 Trench Location Plan



Trench 5



Trench 6

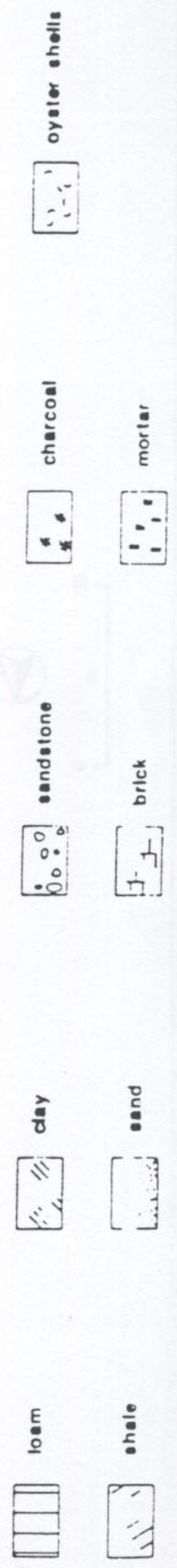


Fig 15 Sections of Trenches 5 and 6

LATHOM HOUSE

Magnetic Data

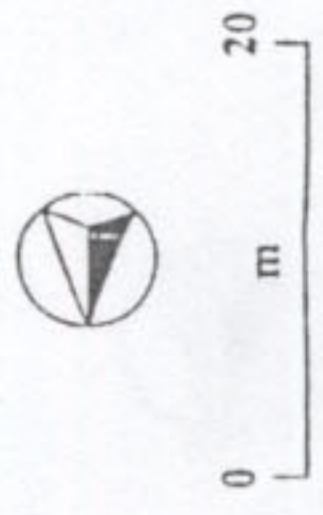
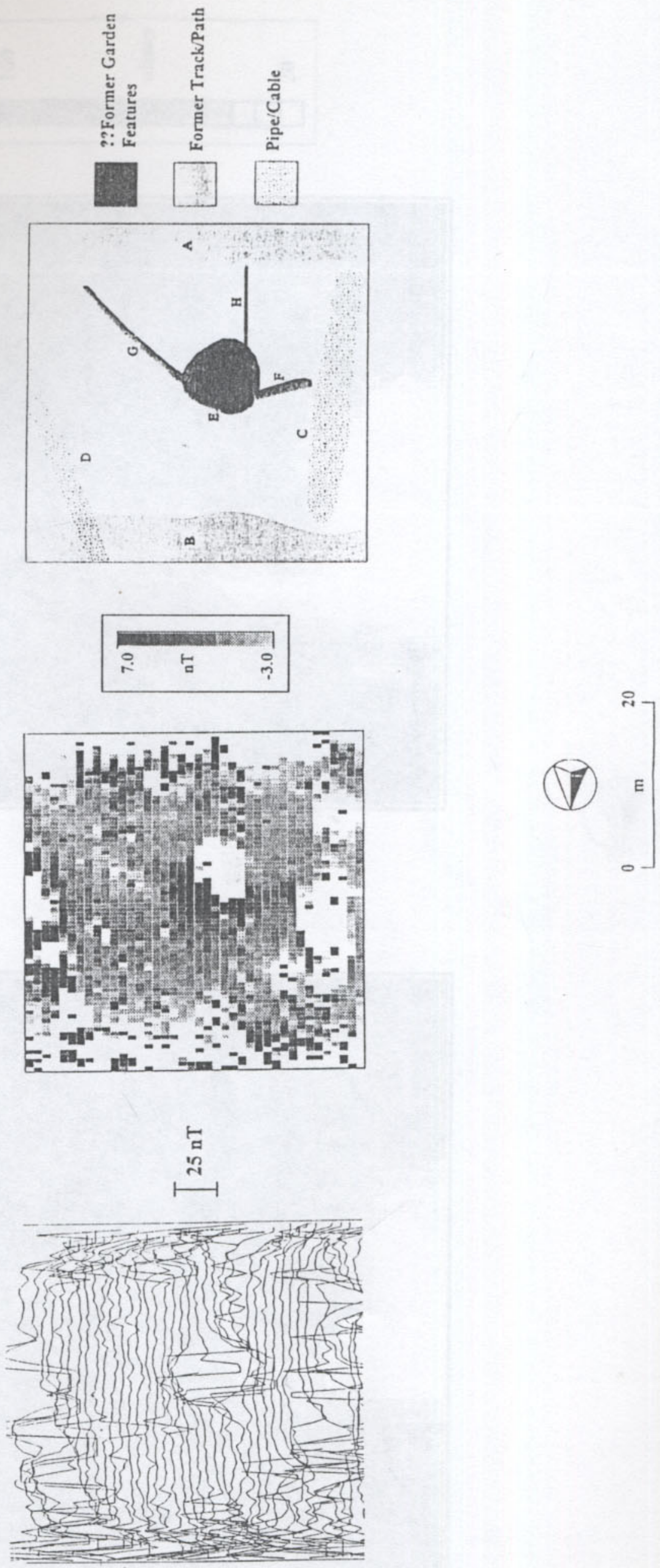


Fig 16 Magnetometer Survey Data

LATHOM HOUSE

Resistance Data

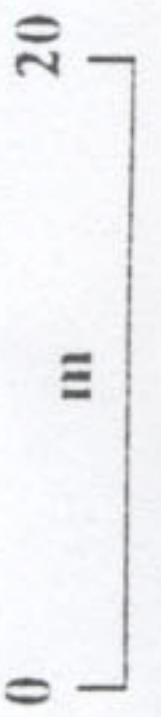
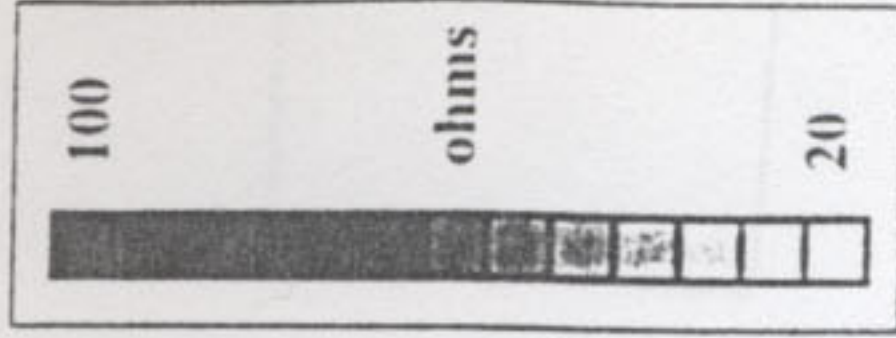
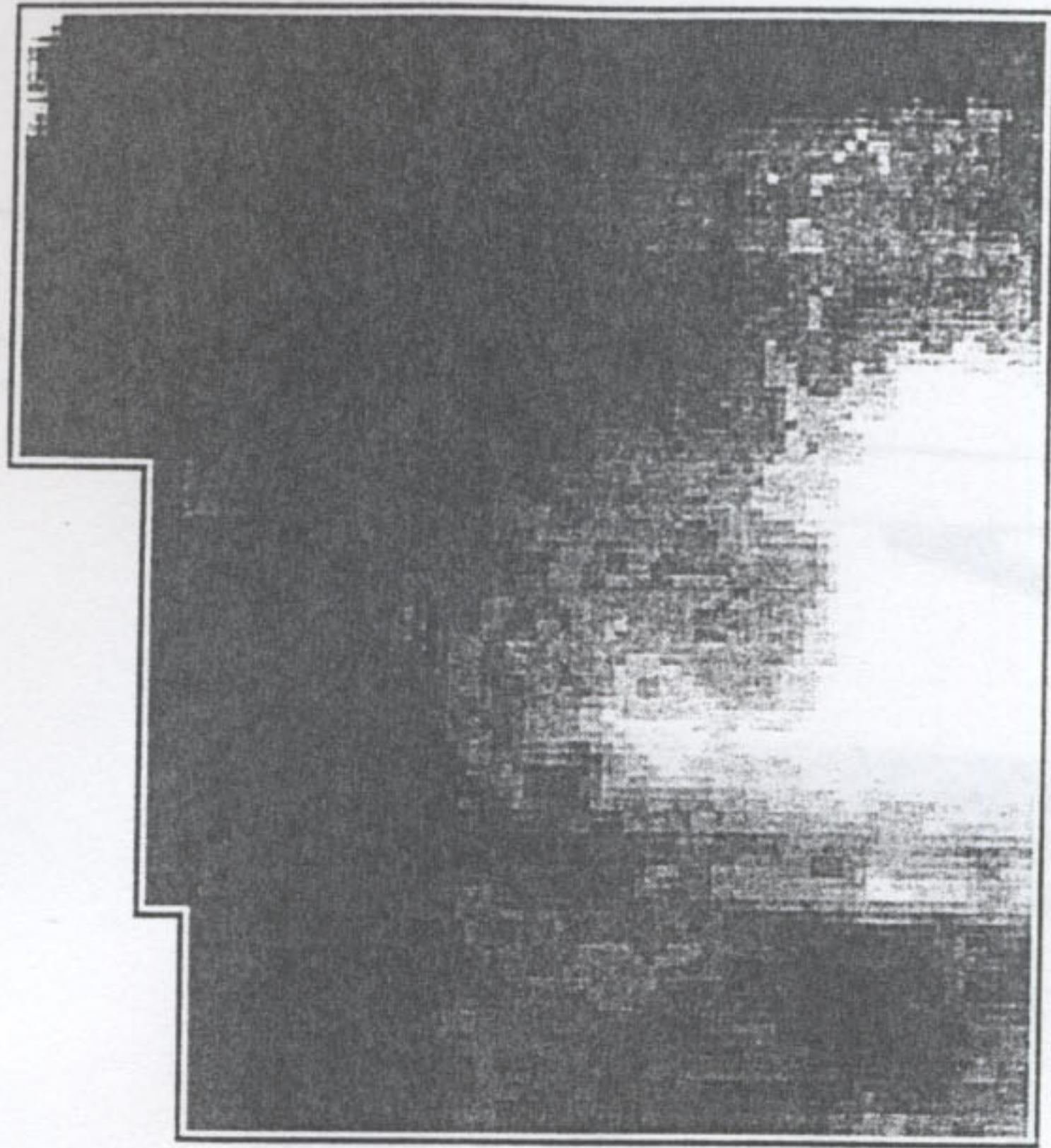
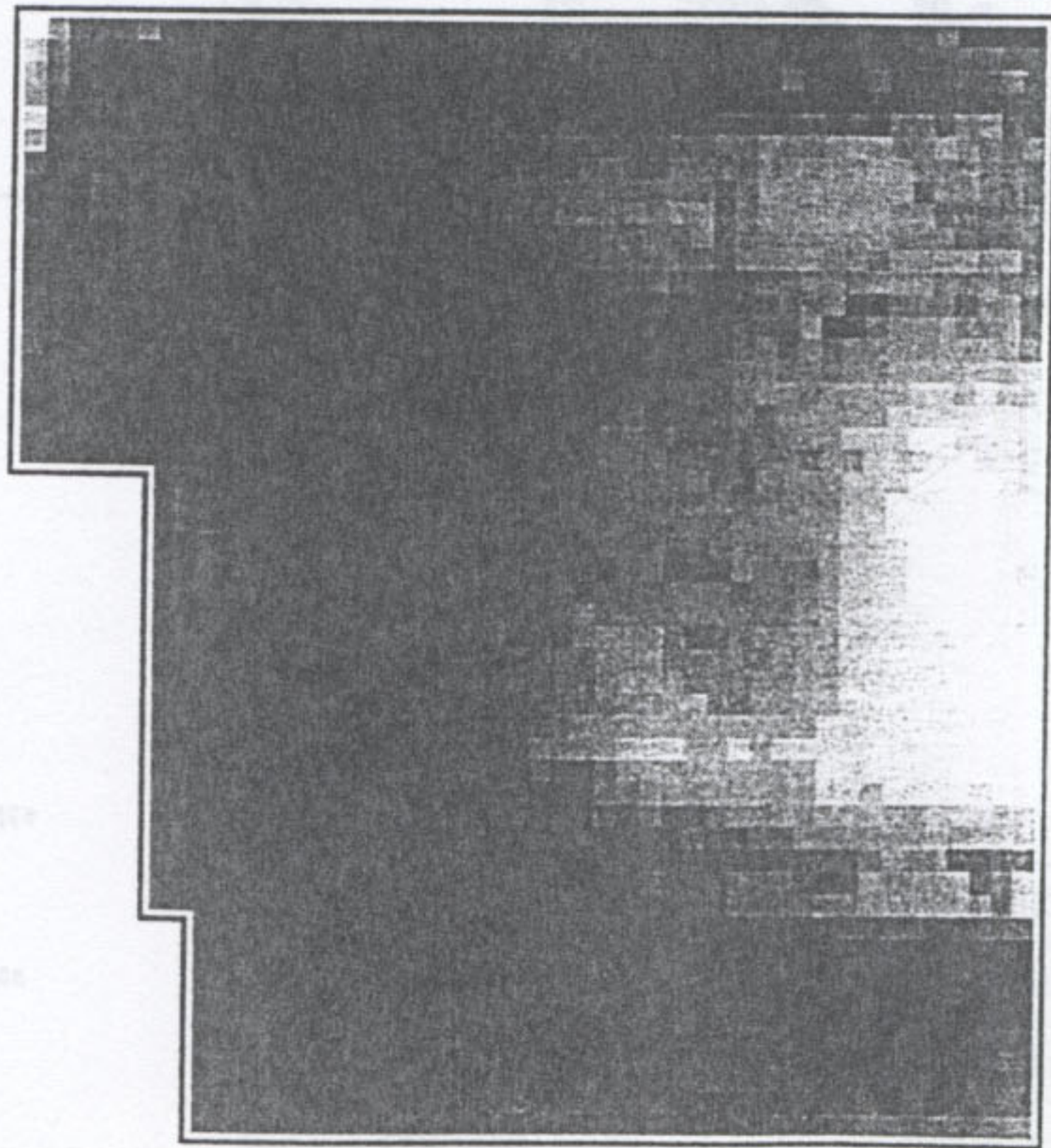
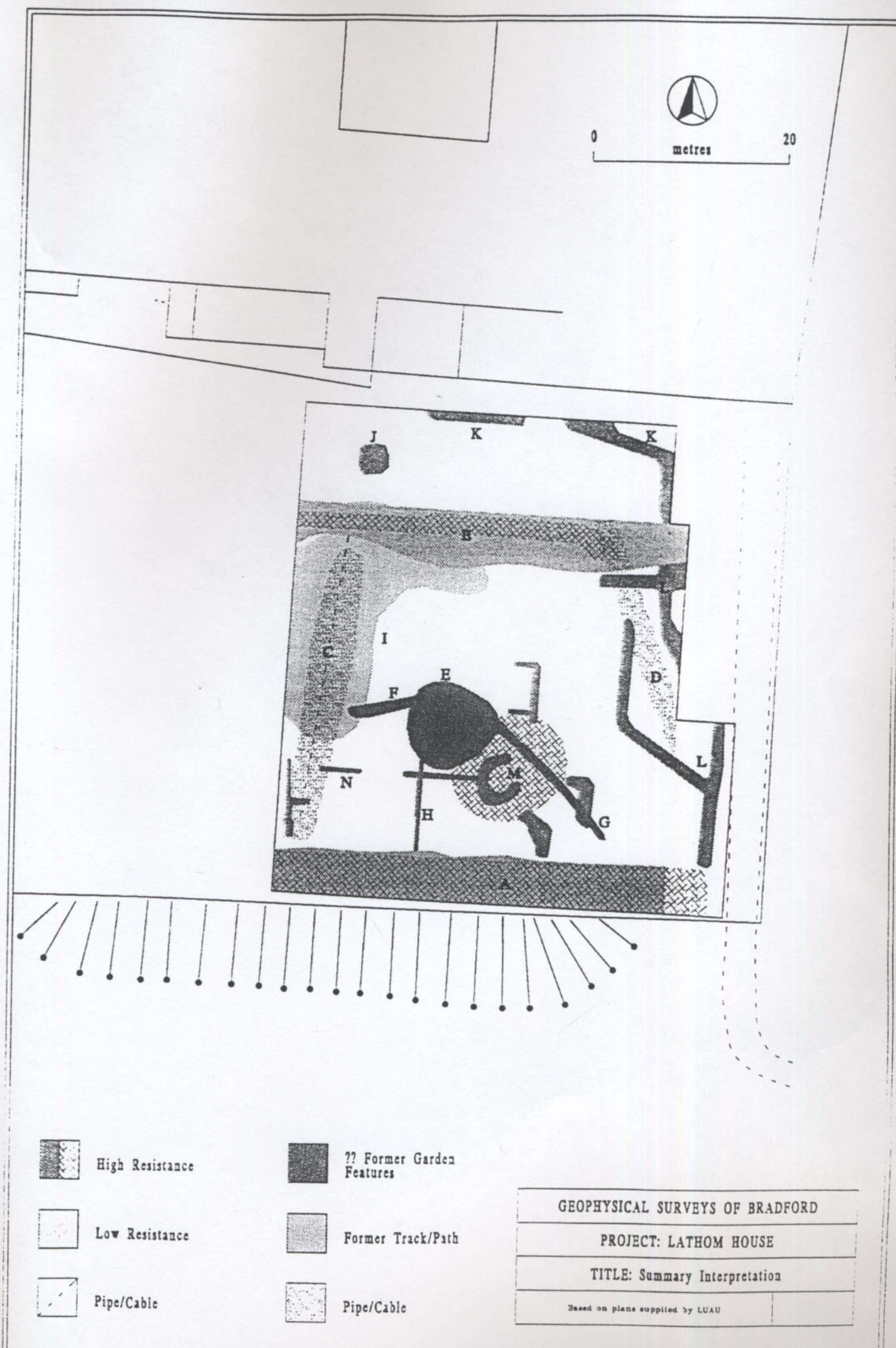








Fig 17 Resistance Survey Data



- | | |
|---|---|
|  High Resistance |  ?? Former Garden Features |
|  Low Resistance |  Former Track/Path |
|  Pipe/Cable |  Pipe/Cable |

GEOPHYSICAL SURVEYS OF BRADFORD
PROJECT: LATHOM HOUSE
TITLE: Summary Interpretation
Based on plans supplied by LUAU

Fig 18 Superimposed Resistance and Magnetic Data