

WORTLEY HALL, WORTLEY,  
SHEFFIELD, SOUTH YORKSHIRE

ARCHITECTURAL RECORDING OF ATTIC FLOORS



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On behalf of

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

*In May 2018, Ed Dennison Archaeological Services Ltd (EDAS) were commissioned by Mr Andrew Shepherd, architect, on behalf of his client Wortley Hall Ltd, to undertake a programme of architectural recording in two attic rooms at Wortley Hall, Wortley, Sheffield, South Yorkshire, S35 7DB. The work was required as part of an application for Listed Building Consent to convert the attic spaces into hotel accommodation. The fieldwork involved a drawn and photographic survey of the rooms, and the results were then used to prepare an appropriate report. The extent of the project was defined by a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) produced by EDAS at the request of the project architect and approved by South Yorkshire Archaeology Service. The survey was funded by Wortley Hall Ltd, and the fieldwork was carried out on 10th May 2018.*

*The principal surviving feature of interest in both attic rooms are the lime-ash floors. Lime-ash is usually defined as being the waste or residue produced by a wood or coal-fired lime kiln, and is thought to have a long history of use, from the late medieval period right through to the end of the 19th century and within both domestic and industrial buildings. It has been suggested that the fabric of the attic at Wortley Hall was remodelled under the direction of William Burn, as part of his known involvement at the house between c.1867-73. It is therefore assumed that the lime-ash floors recorded by the current survey are broadly of this date, and that they are associated with the creation of servants' accommodation within an earlier roof space. The visible numbering of the roof trusses in the southern part of the attic's west range suggests that they are all of the same phase, and may belong to works carried out during the 1780s. In addition, an early 18th century door remaining in one of the attic rooms may be re-used from the earlier house on the site.*

# 1 INTRODUCTION

## Background to the Project

- 1.1 In May 2018, Ed Dennison Archaeological Services Ltd (EDAS) were commissioned by Mr Andrew Shepherd, architect, on behalf of his client Wortley Hall Ltd, to undertake a programme of architectural recording in two attic rooms at Wortley Hall, Wortley, Sheffield, South Yorkshire (NGR SK 31241 99495 centred). The work was required as part of an application for Listed Building Consent to Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council (MBC) to convert the attic spaces into hotel accommodation (application 2018/0211).
- 1.2 The fieldwork involved a drawn and photographic survey of the rooms, and the results were then used to prepare an appropriate report. The extent of the project was defined by a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) produced by EDAS at the request of the project architect and Barnsley MBC's Conservation Officer, and approved by the South Yorkshire Archaeology Service (SYAS). The work was funded by Wortley Hall Ltd, and the fieldwork was carried out on 10th May 2018.

## Site Location and Description

- 1.3 Wortley Hall is located to the east of the village of Wortley, some 13km north-west of Sheffield city centre (see figure 1). The Hall is now a hotel complex, employing some 60 people, and over recent years there has been an ongoing programme to improve the amenities and accommodation offered by the hotel. The number of bedrooms has been reduced to provide *en suite* bathrooms, and it is proposed to convert the presently unused second floor attic spaces into four family suites. The two rooms forming the subject of this report are known as 'Room 1' and the 'Plant Room' respectively (see figure 2). They were formerly servants' accommodation, and contained lime-ash floors. These floors were required to be removed as part of the conversion works to conform to current fire regulations.
- 1.4 The history and development of Wortley Hall has been summarised in a Statement of Significance, produced by Andrew Shepherd (2016), and the following text is taken from that source.
- 1.5 The present Hall was built for Edward Wortley-Montagu, the husband of Lady Mary, a Whig politician at the time of George I, who had been the Ambassador to Turkey and who had inherited Wortley Hall from his father, Sidney Montagu, a younger son of the Earl of Sandwich. He had acquired Wortley by marrying the natural daughter of the last of the Wortley Baronets. It is not known when the Wortley family first came to this area. Alunus de Wortley is recorded as having his residence at Wortley in 1165 and was followed by seven generations of Nicholas de Wortleys. Sir Thomas Wortley, born in 1440, is known to have lived at 'The Manor' at Wortley, which is presumed to be the first Wortley Hall until Wharncliffe Lodge was built in 1510. Sir Richard Wortley rebuilt Wortley Hall in 1586 and, following his death in 1603, his widow became the Countess of Devonshire on remarriage. The Countess purchased the estates in 1643 and settled them onto her grandson, Sir Francis Wortley. He passed the estates to his illegitimate daughter, Anne Newcomen. Her son Edward, who took the Wortley surname, inherited the Hall in 1727 but was unable to live there, as was his intention, because of the extent of its decay.
- 1.6 The Hall replaced a multi gabled, presumed Tudor, house of which no traces remain apart from an illustration by Samuel Buck. The drawing is marked as being

the south prospect but no topography is shown to place the building on the current site. The local mason-architect George Platt of Rotherham is understood to have first been engaged to consider the rebuilding of the Hall by Edward Wortley-Montagu, but he died in 1743. It is suggested that George Platt's widow, who continued the business with her son John, recommended James Leoni, the Venetian architect of some repute, and his design for the south front of the house still exists and is inscribed on its back with "Rough Draught of the Upright of Wortley by Sig. Leoni April 1743".

- 1.7 The architect and builder of the present Hall seems to have been John Platt, and he appears to have been employed more or less continuously at the house from 1749 to 1789. In 1757–59, he built the east wing of the house, probably to the design of Matthew Brettingham, but the house was still unfinished when Edward Wortley-Montagu died in 1761. It seems to have not been completed by the 1780s when Platt was commissioned to design and build the west wing and offices for Lady Bute, Montagu's daughter. Her grandson James Archibald Stuart Wortley (later 1st Lord Wharnccliffe) came to live at Wortley around 1800, and it was he who ordered the carving of the coats of arms on the pediment of the Leoni frontage. He also commissioned works designed and constructed by Peter Atkinson either working for, or with, John Carr of York, including the design and construction of the stable block and attached accommodation.
- 1.8 The house then remained relatively unchanged until alterations were commissioned from William Burn, the noted Scottish country house architect, and Hugh Stanuss. The grounds were also one of the glories of Wortley Hall, and they are attributed to Lady Caroline Creighton, the wife of James Archibald Stuart Wortley. The early 19th century park was said to be laid out by the head gardener, Joseph Harrison, during the mid 19th century.
- 1.9 The house was reportedly occupied during the Second World War after requisition by the American Air Force. It was then returned to the Wharnccliffe family and then acquired by the Labour Party's Recreational Educational Trust in 1959, although they had leased it from around 1951. After this date, volunteers worked hard to achieve the repair and necessary conversion of parts of the Hall to provide residential accommodation at a cost of £10,000. Among the works carried out were the repair of the Fire Brigades Room (the former Office), whose panelling and marble columns had been affected by water penetration, and also the decorative work to the walls and ceilings in the Dining Room (Foundry Room and formerly the Billiard Room). Around 1961 parts of the offices range on the north-west side of the Hall were converted to a Ballroom with a stage which, together with lavatories and kitchens, is now operated as a club separate to the main body of the Hall. Since 1989 the management of the Hall, now incorporated as Wortley Hall Ltd, has operated the Hotel, and they have been involved in a continuous programme of upgrading of the facilities. This has mainly involved the provision of en suite bathrooms to individual bedrooms, the upgrading of the kitchen facilities, and the improvement to the principal function rooms.
- 1.10 Wortley Hall is a Grade II\* Listed Building, named as 'Wortley Hall with attached south-front terrace and steps including attached retaining wall and steps to wing set back on left', and was first listed on 25th April 1969 with the most recent amendment to the listing on 4th December 1986 (National Heritage List for England 1192585). The Listed Building description states:

*GV II\* Country house now rest home. South front 1742-46 by Giacomo Leoni for Edward Wortley-Montagu (d1761); east wing 1757-61 by Matthew Brettingham,*

*mason/executive architects were George Platt (d1743) and son John. Additions by John Platt for Lady Bute (d.1784) during 1784-88, completed for James Archibald Stuart Wortley under guidance of John Carr of York. Probably remodelled and lantern added by William Burn c1867-73 (Hewlings, pp397-400). Ashlar sandstone, graduated slate roofs. Irregular plan, mostly 2 storeys. 7-bay south front with 5-bay wing set back by 5 bays on left and with single linking bay; east front of 1:1:3:3 bays with wing on right forming part of extensive service ranges enclosing courtyard. Front terrace with retaining wall and central steps flanked by urns; additional steps and balustraded retaining wall to front-left corner of wing set back on left. South front: 1:1:3:1:1 bays, outer bays flanked by twin Ionic pilasters, central 3-bay pediment breaks forward. Moulded plinth. Central French window in architrave beneath consoled cornice. Moulded sill band links 2-pane sashes; bays 1, 3, 5 and 7 have balustraded aprons, shouldered architraves, pulvinated friezes and dentilled pediments, bay 2 and 6 have cornices. 1st floor: central 8-pane window, other bays with 6-pane windows, all in architraves. Full entablature surmounted by balustrade, central pediment with arms of James Archibald Stuart Wortley (added on his elevation to the peerage in 1826). Hipped roof with ashlar stacks set to rear. Octagonal lantern over entrance on right return has archivolted openings beneath lead-covered dome with finial. Wing set back on left: wider bay 5 projects and has tripartite windows to each floor, that to ground floor with cornice and pedimented central light. 4-pane sashes to each floor on left, balustrade to hipped roof with corniced ridge stack and end stack on left. Linking bay with pedimented doorway beneath blind architrave; balustraded parapet. Attached retaining wall on left has balustrade and 2 flights of steps. Right return: bay 1 flanked by twin pilasters as front. Quoined projection on right with window having bracketed sill, architrave with segmental pediment, 6-pane sash in architrave above. Set back on right main entrance has Ionic columned doorcase with archivolt within open pediment. 3 bays on right have sashes with glazing bars in corniced architraves, deep floor band beneath 4 sashes, entablature and balustrade as front. 3 bays further right set back: sashes with glazing bars to each floor, modillioned cornice, blind balustrade. Service wing attached on right.*

*Interior: dining room (ground-floor bay 7 of south front) has marble Ionic columned screen and oak panelling with decorative doorcases having oakleaf friezes, archivolt to servery; elegant ceiling with relief plasterwork and armorial panel (heavily repainted). Sitting room (at centre of south front): fluted-columned screen, plaster wall panels, ceiling in Rococo style. Room to rear left (of south front) with end-wall fireplaces and panelling with well carved drops depicting musical instruments; fine panelled door with carving. Salon (now called Foundry Hall) elaborately decorated c1860 with Japanese and exotic motifs, by Geoffrey Sykes of Sheffield, completed by Sir John Poynter, central lantern with stained-glass side lights. Central hall with C19 imperial staircase having brass balusters to wooden handrail. Landing with marbled Ionic columns flanking recesses, frieze with bucrania, oval lantern. C19 armorial glass panels against north window of landing. Former home of the Wortley Montagu and Stuart Wortley families.*

*Used by army during 1939-45 after which the hall fell into disrepair. Purchased by trade union and Labour movement in 1950 to become educational holiday centre.*

*R. Hewlings, 'Wortley Hall', Archaeological Journal, vol 137, 1980, pp397-400. Wortley Hall Labour's Home - 25 Years Souvenir, booklet.*

- 1.11 Wortley Hall is also included on the National Record of the Historic Environment (site 619248) and the South Yorkshire HER (site 03501/01).

## **Planning Background**

- 1.12 An application for Listed Building Consent for the proposed attic conversion works is currently under consideration by Barnsley MBC (application 2018/0211). A combined Statement of Significance and Design and Access Statement report, as well as other supporting documents, for the proposed conversion works has been issued by the project architect, and has been submitted with the current Listed Building Consent application (Shepherd 2016 & 2018).
- 1.13 Discussions between Barnsley MBC's Conservation Officer and the project architect led to an agreement that the surviving lime-ash floors in two of the attic rooms (Room 1 and the Plant Room) should be the subject of architectural survey prior to their disturbance and subsequent removal as required by current fire regulations. EDAS therefore produced a WSI to define this work (see Appendix 2), and this document was approved by SYAS in consultation with Barnsley MDC, on 3rd May 2018.

## **Aims of the Project**

- 1.14 The aim of the project was to record the lime-ash floors of the two rooms, as they existed at the time of survey, prior to their removal as part of the conversion works.

## **2 SURVEY METHODOLOGY**

- 2.1 The scale and scope of the architectural survey work were determined by the approved WSI (see Appendix 2). Additional standards and guidance published by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists and Historic England were also followed (ClfA 2014; Historic England 2016).

### **Documentary Research**

- 2.2 In view of the limited nature of the recording, no new archival or documentary research was carried out as part of the project. However, a considerable amount of material has already been collected and collated by the project architect, and this was made available to EDAS for incorporation into the survey report as appropriate.

### **Architectural Survey**

- 2.3 The two lime-ash floors were subject to a Level 3 historic building survey, as defined by Historic England (2016, 26). A Level 3 survey is essentially an analytical record augmented by detailed photographs and appropriate plans. A report on the survey work was then produced and an ordered archive prepared. The fieldwork was undertaken on 10th May 2018.

#### *Measured and Drawn Survey*

- 2.4 A new set of 1:20 scale floor plans of the two rooms was produced, to record the floors as they existed at the time of survey. These plans also recorded any patches, areas of alterations, modifications or renewal etc to the floors, which may aid interpretation. The plans were supplemented by more detailed sections at 1:2 through the floor, to show the construction of the floors as well as supporting joists, voids etc.

### *Photographic Survey*

- 2.5 A general photographic record of the floors, together with close-up photography of significant details, was undertaken. The guidelines produced by Historic England (2016, 17-21) were followed and each photograph was provided with a scale where appropriate. Artificial flash lighting and tripods were used where necessary, subject to practicalities and access.
- 2.6 The primary photographic record was produced using 35mm black and white film, supplemented with 35mm colour slide photography. Additional digital photographs were taken for illustrative purposes, using an SLR digital camera with 12 megapixel resolution. All photographs were clearly numbered and labelled with the subject, orientation, date taken and photographer's name, and were cross referenced to film and frame numbers. A photographic catalogue detailing the location and direction of each photograph was completed (see Appendix 1); the relatively simple nature of the spaces being recorded meant that no plans showing the location and direction of each photograph was produced. It should be noted that the photographic catalogue only covers the digital photographs, although the 35mm format photographs have been included with the site archive; the black and white photographs were printed at 6" x 4".

### *Written Accounts*

- 2.7 Sufficient notes were taken on site in order for a detailed description of the floors and the two rooms in general to be prepared, illustrated with the drawn and photographic records.

### **Survey Products**

#### *Archive Survey Report*

- 2.8 An EDAS archive survey report was produced, based on the results of the fieldwork. This assembles and summarises the available evidence for each survey area in an ordered form, synthesises the data, comments on the quality and reliability of the evidence, and whether it might need to be supplemented by further site work or desk-based research. The survey report also contains the photographic catalogues and a copy of the approved WSI as appendices. Copies of the final report were supplied for distribution to the client, Barnsley MBC, and the South Yorkshire Historic Environment Record. A copy of the final report was also included with the site archive.

#### *Project Archive*

- 2.9 A properly ordered and indexed project archive has been prepared, following the guidance produced by Historic England. The archive comprises primary written documents, plans, sections and photographs, and an index to the archive. All material within the archive is stored in archival-stable material, including appropriate sleeves for the photographic prints and slides. The archive was deposited with the local record office (Barnsley Archives) with the client's permission (EDAS site code WHW 18).

### 3 ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

#### Introduction

- 3.1 The two recorded rooms are described below in a logical sequence. The plan form, floor and structure of the rooms are described first, followed by the internal elevations and any other details. Reference should also be made to the floor plans and sections.
- 3.2 As previously noted, Appendix 1 contains a catalogue of all the digital photographs taken. Throughout the following description, reference is made to these photographs using italic type, the numbers before the stroke representing the film number and the number after indicating the frame (e.g. *1/2*). A selection of the colour digital photographs has been used as plates to illustrate the report.
- 3.3 For the purposes of description, the two rooms that were recorded are referred to as 'Room 1' and the 'Plant Room', following the terms used on the existing architects plans. Both rooms are set on a slight north-east/south-west alignment but, for ease of description, they are considered to be aligned either north-south or east-west. Unless otherwise noted, the terms used to describe surviving roof structures are taken from Alcock *et al* (1996) and Campbell (2000), and fixtures and fittings from Alcock and Hall (1994). Where possible, specific architectural terms used in the text are as defined by Curl (1977). Finally, in the following text, the term 'modern' is used to denote features or phasing dating to after c.1945.

#### Room 1 (see figure 3)

- 3.4 Room 1 is sited on the west side of the attic floor, to the south of centre, above one of the principal first floor rooms (see figure 2). At the time of the survey, the only access to the room was from the corridor to the south, itself opening directly off the service stairs rising from the first floor. The room is rectangular in plan, with maximum internal dimensions of 7.30m east-west by 6.75m north-south. At the time of the survey, it was open to the underside of the roof ridge, but was formerly ceiled at the level of the roof truss collars (see below).
- 3.5 The room preserves a lime-ash floor over the majority of its extent, although the floor has been subject to considerable repair and alteration, particularly along the southern side [*1/963-1/970*] (see plates 1 and 2). The lime-ash is typically 30mm deep, and laid over a bed of very closely spaced laths, typically 10mm deep [*1/003*]; it is suggested that the lime-ash may be a Victorian overlaying (Sheppard 2018, 16), presumably of an earlier, slightly shallower, lime-ash floor. The laths are fixed to east-west floor joists, themselves jointed to north-south floor beams; there is no evidence for a bed of reeds beneath the laths, as is often suggested to have been used in the construction of a lime-ash floor. The joists are on average 80mm deep, whilst the floor beams are 360mm deep. There is a second, lower, set of joists jointed to the base of the sides of the floor beams, which support the lath and plaster ceiling of the first floor room below; the gap or void between the floor and ceiling joists is some 200mm.
- 3.6 The survey noted no clear indication in the lime-ash floor of former room divisions or other features which may have since been removed, although a slight north-south aligned depression, 3.60m long, visible to the north-west part of the floor might mark a former partition. To the west of this feature, there are several shallow indentations in the surface of the lime-ash, some with a part-hexagonal or octagonal plan form, presumably marking where heavy objects have been placed

on the floor over a period of time [1/975] (see plate 3). As has already been noted above, the lime-ash floor has been subject to considerable repair along the southern side. Here, a section measuring a maximum of 5.50m east-west by 2.40m north-south has been replaced or repaired with sand cement screed [1/971]. This screed has in turn been cut through by three electricity cable runs, all diverging from a small square metal duct. There is a smaller, sub-rectangular, area of repair to the north of the main area of cement screed [1/974], and a small area of reddish-coloured patching or repair to the threshold of the doorway in the south wall [1/005].

- 3.7 The room is entered through the doorway in the south wall, which retains a 19th century door with six raised and fielded panels [1/980] (see plate 4). The doorway appears to have been cut through the thickened base of the south wall, formed by a wider partition wall rising up from the first floor. To the east of the doorway, there is a projecting chimney breast, housing a cast-iron grate with side hobs bearing a floral design, set within a plain surround with mantelshelf [1/976, 1/977, 1/979]. Above the former ceiling level, the chimney breast can be seen to be built from red handmade bricks (average dimensions 230mm by 115mm by 60mm) set with a lime mortar but not laid in any particular bonding pattern; there are also stone dressings where the chimney breast passes through the roof line [1/982]. The south wall, like the other three walls of the room, retains several different phases of decorative wallpaper, all dating to the second half of the 20th century (see plate 4).
- 3.8 The west wall is relatively plain; where the wallpaper has been stripped away, it has revealed mostly sandstone fabric, with some areas of brick. There is a horizontal timber built into the wall, the base of which is set c.0.50m above the level of the lime-ash floor [1/999, 1/001]. The east wall is also relatively plain, housing two window openings which are set within external dormers. Each window opening is fitted with a wooden, horizontal sliding-sash window, each sash having nine (three rows of three) panes set between narrow, moulded glazing bars [1/986-1/989]. The north wall, like the south wall, has a thickened base where a wider partition wall rises up from the first floor; a short flight of wooden steps mount the thickened base [1/990, 1/991] (see plate 5). The wall base supports a roof truss, originally of king-post form. The truss appears to have been of pegged softwood construction throughout. The king-post has a joggled foot and splayed head holding a diamond-set ridge-piece, and formerly supported a pair of raking struts to the principal rafters. Each principal supports a single trenched purlin, with the feet of the common rafters set against the wall plates; there is boarding above the common rafters. At a later date, the west raking strut was removed and a doorway created in line with the low wooden steps, with studs used to infill between the tie-beam and the principals [1/992, 1/993].
- 3.9 The room is crossed by two east-west roof trusses, each of the same raised-collar form. Like the truss to the north wall, each roof truss appears to have been of softwood construction throughout, partly pegged but also with iron strapwork. Struts rise from low posts or corbels (surmounted by a stub tie-beam) to both walls to meet the principals, with straight braces running between the struts and the soffit of the collar [1/983, 1/984]. The collar supports a short king-post with joggled foot and splayed head; the diamond-set ridge piece is a later alteration or replacement. Each principal rafter supports a single trenched purlin, with the feet of the common rafters set against the wall plates; there is some boarding above the common rafters [1/998].
- 3.10 Although the two roof trusses and the truss in the north wall are of differing form, the visible carpenter's/assembly marks on the trusses suggests that they are all of

the same period. In the room to the south of Room 1 (marked as a 'Store' on the architect's as-existing plans; see figure 2), the truss is numbered 'XI'. There must be a truss numbered 'X' buried in the south wall of Room 1, as the southern roof truss is numbered 'VIII' [1/985]. There is no visible numbering to the northern roof truss, but it must form 'VIII', as the truss in the room's north wall is numbered 'VII' [1/994] (see plate 6). It therefore appears that the roof trusses in the southern part of the attic's west range are numbered sequentially in descending order from south to north.

### **The Plant Room** (see figure 4)

- 3.11 The Plant Room is sited on the east side of the attic floor, to the south of centre, above the toilets and Linen Room on the first floor. At the time of the EDAS survey, the only access to the room was from the corridor to the south, itself opening directly off the service stairs rising from the first floor (see figure 2). The room is rectangular in plan, with maximum internal dimensions of 6.40m north-south by 5.99m east-west. At the time of the survey, the lath and plaster ceiling was set at the level of the roof truss collar (see below).
- 3.12 The room preserves a lime-ash floor over the majority of its extent, although the floor has been subject to considerable repair and alteration, particularly along the southern side and towards the centre [1/006-1/011] (see plates 7 and 8). The lime-ash is typically 40mm deep, and laid over a bed of very closely spaced laths, typically 10mm deep [1/023, 1/025] (see plate 11). The laths are fixed to east-west floor joists, themselves jointed to north-south floor beams; again, there is no evidence for the use of a bed of reeds beneath the laths. The joists are on average 80mm deep, whilst the floor beams are at least 280mm deep, although their lower parts are obscured by debris. The floor joists are set on more substantial east-west timbers (earlier joists?) which extend at least as far as the visible base of the beams. The survey noted no clear indication in the lime-ash floor of former room partitions or other features which have since been removed.
- 3.13 As has already been noted above, the lime-ash floor has been subject to considerable repair and alteration along the southern side and towards the centre. The southern section measuring a maximum of 3.10m east-west by 1.20m north-south has been repaired with sand cement screed. The sub-triangular area of screed to the central part of the floor is associated with electrical cabling, and has a series of small holes running to the north, east and south. Finally, there is a third strip of screed to the base of the north wall.
- 3.14 The room is entered though the doorway in the south wall, which retains a two-panelled door hung on L-shaped hinges of very late 17th or early 18th century appearance [1/021, 1/022], presumably re-used here (see plate 10). To the east of the doorway, there is a projecting chimney breast, housing a cast-iron grate with a fan design, set within a plain surround with moulded mantelshelf [1/017, 1/019, 1/020]. A fitted cupboard of probable early 20th century date is set to the east of the chimney breast [1/026, 1/027]. The south wall, like the other three walls of the room, is painted yellow.
- 3.15 The east wall is plain, with a small doorway giving access to a roof void beyond [1/016]. The west wall is also relatively plain, housing two window openings which are set within external dormers. Each window opening is fitted with a wooden, horizontal sliding-sash window, each sash having nine (three rows of three) panes set between narrow, moulded glazing bars [1/013-1/015]. The north wall has a thickened base where a wider partition wall rises up from the first floor; a small

doorway in the wall gives access to the roof void beyond [1/011, 1/012] (see plate 9).

- 3.16 The roof is crossed by a single east-west roof truss. At the time of the survey, it was covered with lath and plaster and so only partly visible, but is probably of the same form as the roof trusses described above to Room 1.

## 4 DISCUSSION

- 4.1 The limited nature of the recording work undertaken in the two attic rooms at Wortley Hall makes it difficult to draw any detailed conclusions about the structural development of the house. Nevertheless, a number of observations were made.
- 4.2 Lime-ash is usually defined as being the waste or residue produced by a wood or coal-fired lime kiln, and is suggested to have a long history of usage, from the late medieval period right through to the end of the 19th century. Lime-ash floors appear to have been used by all levels of society, for both domestic and industrial purposes; they were present at Hardwick Hall, Derbyshire, in the mid 16th century (Barley 1961, 83-84) and are commonly found in 19th century floor maltings. It has been suggested that the fabric of the attic at Wortley Hall was remodelled under the direction of William Burn, as part of his known involvement at the house between c.1867-73 (Sheppard 2016, 5). It is therefore assumed that the lime-ash floors recorded by the current survey are broadly of this date, and not earlier, and that they are associated with the creation of servants' accommodation within an earlier roof space. The visible numbering of the roof trusses in the southern part of the attic's west range suggests that they are all of the same phase, and may be part of the works dating to the 1780s. The early 18th century door remaining in the Plant Room may be re-used from the earlier house on the site.

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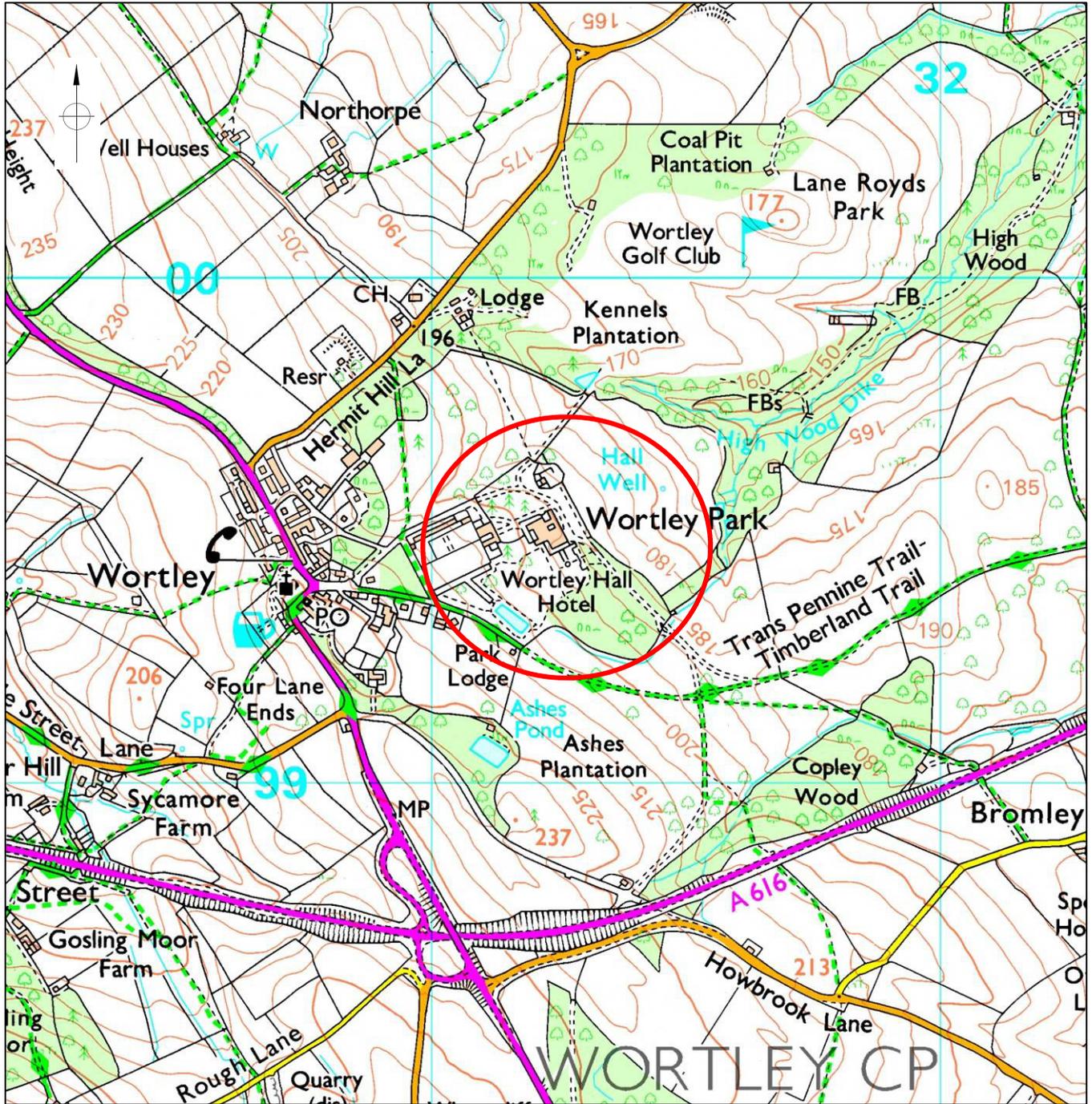
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Shepherd, A 2018 *Fire Compartmentation and Separation Strategy for Wortley Hall Ltd*  
(unpublished document to support LBC application)

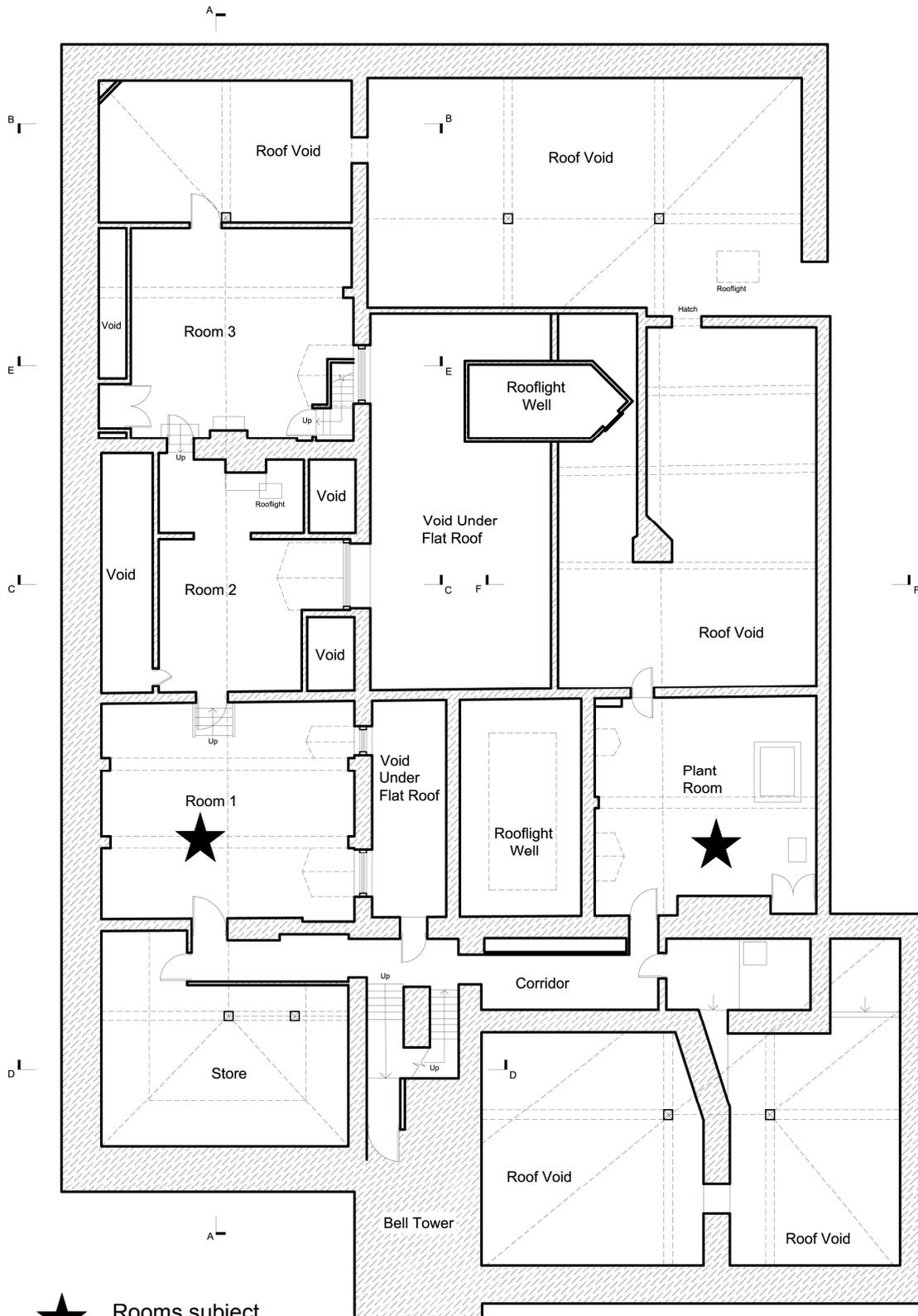
## **6 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

- 6.1 The architectural survey work was commissioned by Mr Johnathan da Rosa, General Manager at Wortley Hall Hotel, and EDAS would like to thank him and Mr Andrew Shepherd, architect, for their help and co-operation in carrying out the work. The recording was undertaken by Shaun Richardson of EDAS, and the final report and other drawings were produced by Ed Dennison, who retains responsibility for any errors or inconsistencies.



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PROJECT		WORTLEY HALL ATTICS	
TITLE		GENERAL LOCATION	
SCALE	NTS	DATE	MAY 2018
EDAS		FIGURE	1



★ Rooms subject to survey

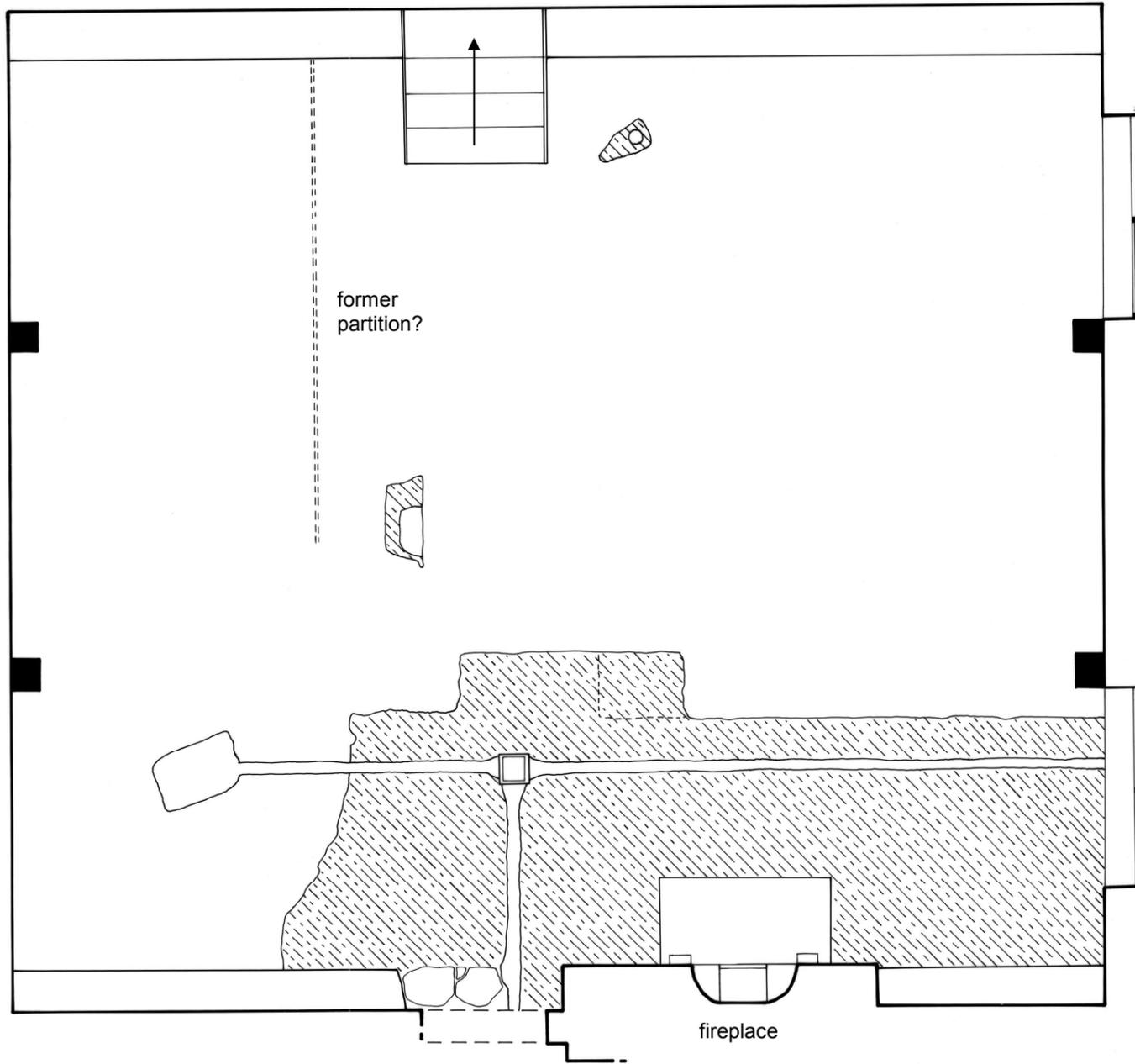


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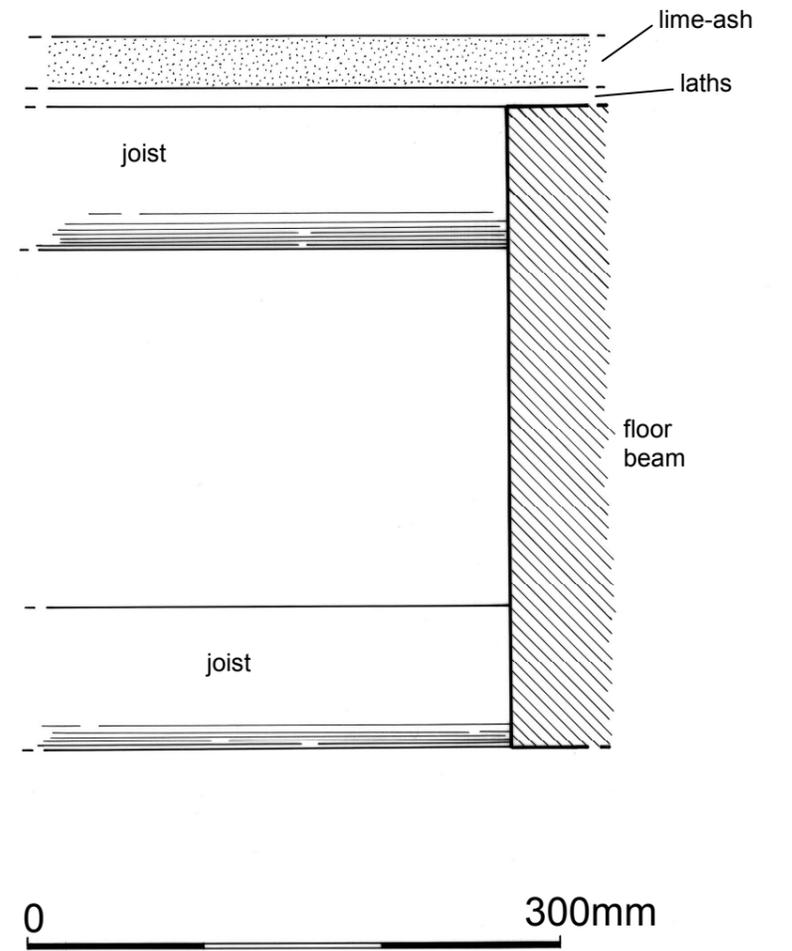
Drawing provided by Andrew Shepherd, reproduced with permission.

PROJECT		WORTLEY HALL ATTICS	
TITLE		ATTIC FLOOR PLAN AS EXISTING	
SCALE	AS SHOWN	DATE	MAY 2018
EDAS		FIGURE	2

PLAN



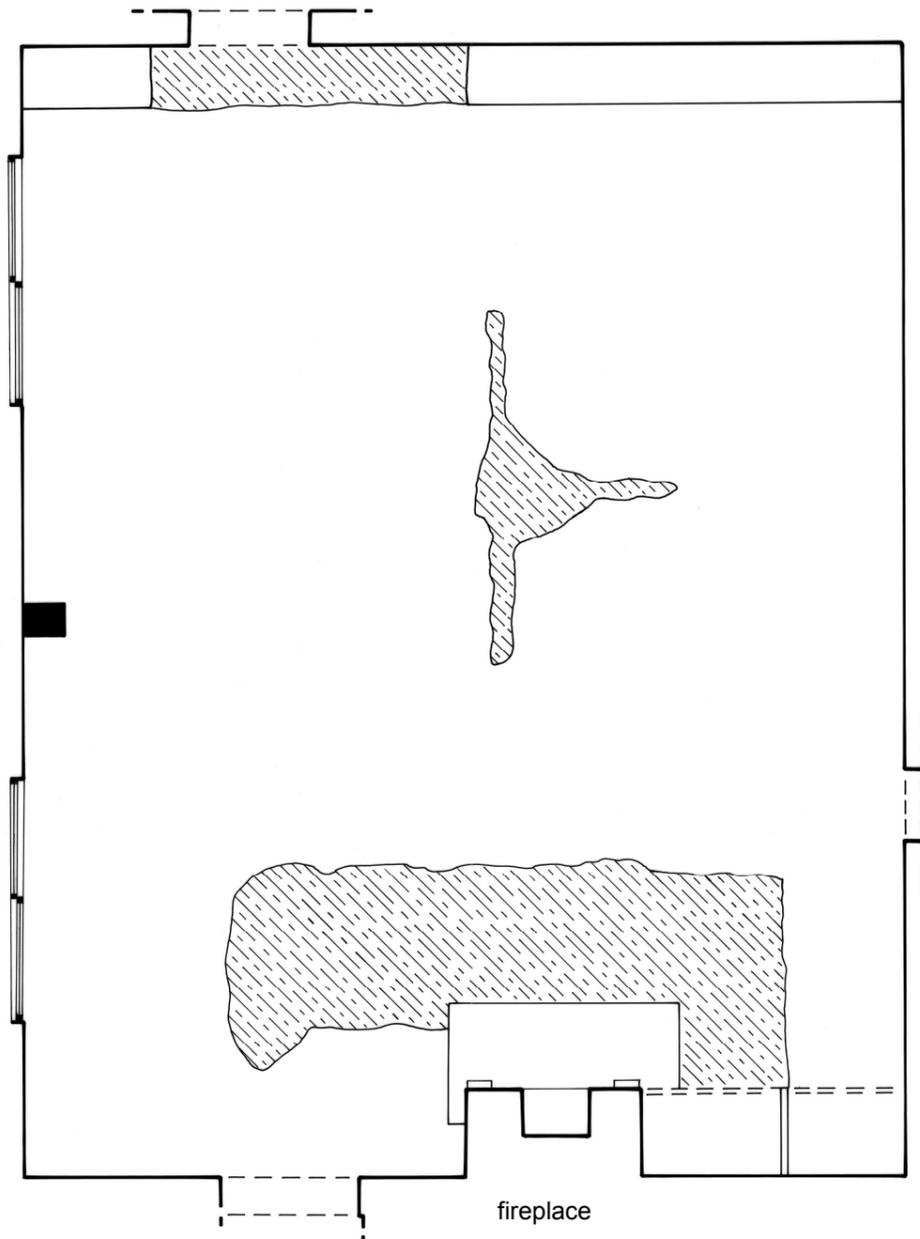
SECTION



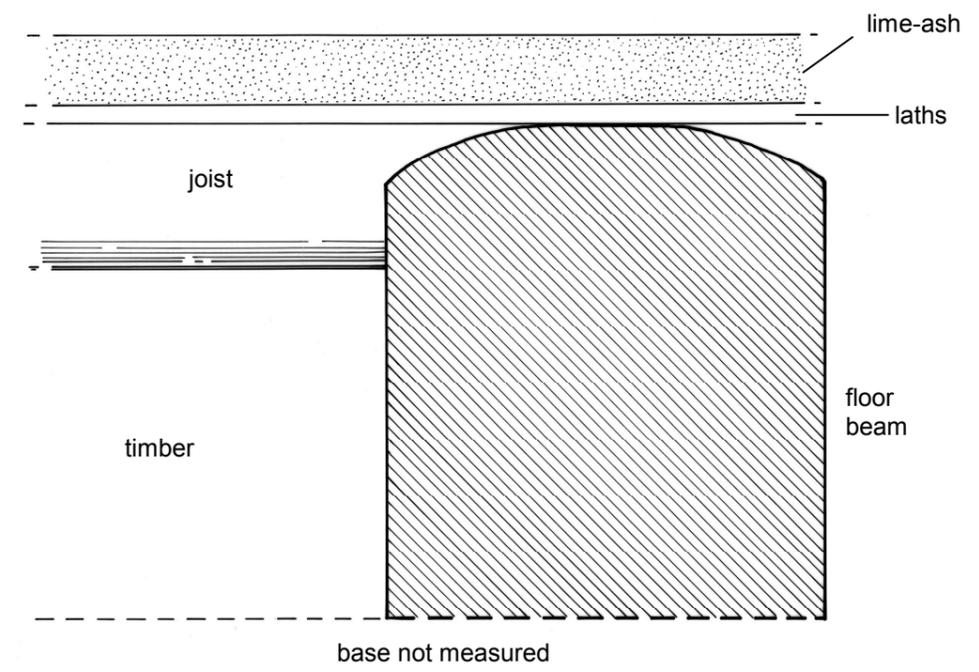
SAND CEMENT SCREED

PROJECT		WORTLEY HALL ATTICS	
TITLE		ROOM 1 FLOOR DETAILS	
SCALE	AS SHOWN	DATE	MAY 2018
EDAS		FIGURE	3

PLAN



SECTION



 SAND CEMENT SCREED

PROJECT		WORTLEY HALL ATTICS	
TITLE		PLANT ROOM FLOOR DETAILS	
SCALE	AS SHOWN	DATE	MAY 2018
EDAS		FIGURE	4



Plate 1: Lime-ash floor to Room 1, looking SW (photo 1/963) (2 x 1m scales).



Plate 2: Lime-ash floor to Room 1, looking SE (photo 1/966) (2 x 1m scales).



Plate 3: Indentation in lime-ash floor to Room 1 (photo 1/975) (1m scale).



Plate 4: Room 1, south wall, looking S (photo 1/979) (2 x 1m scales).



Plate 5: Room 1, north wall, looking N (photo 1/990) (2 x 1m scales).



Plate 6: Room 1, carpenter's marks to truss in north wall, looking N (photo 1/994).



Plate 7: Lime-ash floor to Plant Room, looking SE (photo 1/007) (2 x 1m scales).



Plate 8: Lime-ash floor to Plant Room, looking N (photo 1/008) (2 x 1m scales).



Plate 9: Plant Room, north wall, looking N (photo 1/011) (2 x 1m scales).



Plate 10: Plant Room, south wall, looking S (photo 1/020) (1m scale).



Plate 11: Plant Room, section through lime-ash floor (photo 1/025).

APPENDIX 1  
EDAS DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHIC CATALOGUE

## WORTLEY HALL DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHIC CATALOGUE

Film 1: Colour digital photographs taken 10th May 2018

<i>Film</i>	<i>Frame</i>	<i>Subject</i>	<i>Scale</i>
1	963	Room 1, floor, looking SW	2 x 1m
1	964	Room 1, floor, looking SW	2 x 1m
1	965	Room 1, floor, looking SE	2 x 1m
1	966	Room 1, floor, looking SE	2 x 1m
1	967	Room 1, floor, looking NE	2 x 1m
1	968	Room 1, floor, looking NE	2 x 1m
1	969	Room 1, floor, looking NW	2 x 1m
1	970	Room 1, floor, looking NW	2 x 1m
1	971	Room 1, floor, screed repair to S side, looking SE	1m
1	974	Room 1, floor, screed repair to S side & central area, looking S	1m
1	975	Room 1, floor, impression in floor, W side, looking W	1m
1	976	Room 1, S wall, fireplace, looking S	1m
1	978	Room 1, S wall, looking S	2 x 1m
1	979	Room 1, S wall, looking S	2 x 1m
1	980	Room 1, door, S wall, looking S	1m
1	982	Room 1, chimney breast / flue, S wall, looking S	-
1	983	Room 1, E end of S roof truss, looking N	1m
1	984	Room 1, E end of S roof truss, looking N	1m
1	985	Room 1, E end of S roof truss, carpenter's mark, looking N	1m
1	986	Room 1, window to E wall, looking E	1m
1	987	Room 1, E wall, looking E	2 x 1m
1	988	Room 1, E wall, looking E	2 x 1m
1	989	Room 1, window to E wall, looking E	1m
1	990	Room 1, N wall, looking N	2 x 1m
1	991	Room 1, N wall, looking N	2 x 1m
1	992	Room 1, N wall, looking N	1m
1	993	Room 1, N wall, looking NE	1m
1	994	Room 1, N wall, carpenter's mark, looking N	-
1	998	Room 1, upper part of roof truss, looking S	-
1	999	Room 1, W wall, looking W	2 x 1m
1	001	Room 1, W wall, looking W	2 x 1m
1	003	Room 1, section through lime-ash floor	-
1	005	Room 1, doorway threshold in S wall, looking S	1m
1	006	Plant Room, floor, looking SE	2 x 1m
1	007	Plant Room, floor, looking SE	2 x 1m
1	008	Plant Room, floor, looking N	2 x 1m
1	009	Plant Room, floor, looking NW	2 x 1m
1	010	Plant Room, floor, looking NW	2 x 1m
1	011	Plant Room, N wall, looking N	2 x 1m
1	012	Plant Room, N wall, looking N	1m
1	013	Plant Room, W wall, looking W	2 x 1m
1	014	Plant Room, window, W wall, looking W	1m
1	015	Plant Room, window, W wall, looking W	1m
1	016	Plant Room, E wall, looking SE	2 x 1m
1	017	Plant Room, S wall, looking S	1m
1	019	Plant Room, S wall, fireplace, looking S	1m
1	020	Plant Room, S wall, looking S	1m
1	021	Plant room, door to S wall, looking S	1m
1	022	Plant Room, hinge of door to S wall, looking S	-
1	023	Plant Room, section through floor	-
1	025	Plant Room, section through floor	-
1	026	Plant Room, cupboard to S wall, looking S	-
1	027	Plant Room, cupboard to S wall, looking S	-

APPENDIX 2  
EDAS WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION

# WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION FOR A PROGRAMME OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL RECORDING OF ATTIC FLOOR, WORTLEY HALL, WORTLEY, SHEFFIELD S35 7DB (Listed Building Consent application 2018/0211)

## 1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 This Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) details a programme of archaeological and architectural recording that will be undertaken prior to the conversion of two of the attic rooms at Wortley Hall, Wortley, Sheffield S35 7DB (NGR SK 31241 99495 centred). This written scheme has been produced by Ed Dennison Archaeological Services Ltd (EDAS), at the request of the project architect, Andrew Sheppard.

## 2 SITE LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION

- 2.1 Wortley Hall is now a hotel complex, employing some 60 people, and over recent years there has been an ongoing programme to improve the amenities and accommodation offered by the hotel. The number of bedrooms has been reduced to provide en suite bathrooms, and it is proposed to convert the presently unused second floor attic spaces into four family suites.
- 2.2 The history and development of Wortley Hall has been summarised in a Statement of Significance, produced by the project architect, to accompany the current Listed Building Consent application (2018/0211).
- 2.3 The present Hall was built for Edward Wortley-Montagu, the husband of Lady Mary, a Whig politician at the time of George I, and who had been the Ambassador to Turkey and inherited Wortley Hall from his father, Sidney Montagu, who was a younger son of the Earl of Sandwich. He had acquired Wortley by marrying the natural daughter of the last of the Wortley Baronets. It is not known when the Wortley family first came to this area. Alunus de Wortley is recorded as having his residence at Wortley in 1165 and was followed by seven generations of Nicholas de Wortleys. Sir Thomas Wortley, born in 1440, is known to have lived at 'The Manor' at Wortley, which is presumed to be the first Wortley Hall until Wharnccliffe Lodge was built in 1510. Sir Richard Wortley rebuilt Wortley Hall in 1586 and, following his death in 1603, his widow became the Countess of Devonshire on remarriage. The Countess purchased the estates in 1643 and settled them onto her grandson, Sir Francis Wortley. He passed the estates to his bastard daughter, Anne Newcomen. Her son Edward, who took the Wortley surname, inherited the Hall in 1727 but was unable to live there, as was his intention, because of the extent of its decay.
- 2.4 The house replaced a multi gabled, presumed Tudor, house of which no traces remain apart from an illustration by Samuel Buck. The drawing is marked as being the South prospect but no topography is shown to place the building on the current site. The local Mason Architect George Platt of Rotherham is understood to have first been engaged to consider the rebuilding of the Hall by Edward Wortley-Montagu, but he died in 1743. It is suggested that George Platt's widow, who continued the business with her son John, recommended James Leoni, the Venetian Architect of some repute, and his design for the south front of the house still exists and is inscribed on its back 'Rough Draught of the Upright of Wortley by Sig. Leoni April 1743'.

- 2.5 The architect and builder seems to have been John Platt, and he seems to have been employed more or less continuously at the house from 1749 to 1789. In 1757–59, he built the East wing of the house, probably to the design of Matthew Brettingham, but the house was still unfinished when Montagu died in 1761. It seems to have not been completed by the 1780s when Platt was commissioned to design and build the West wing and offices for Lady Bute, Montagu's daughter. Her grandson James Archibald Stuart Wortley (later 1st Lord Wharnccliffe) came to live at Wortley around 1800, and it was he who caused the carving of the coats of arms on the pediment of the Leoni frontage. He also commissioned works designed and constructed by Peter Atkinson either working for, or with, John Carr of York, including the design and construction of the stable block and attached accommodation.
- 2.6 The house then remained relatively unchanged until alterations were commissioned from William Burn, the Scottish country house architect, and Hugh Stanuss. The grounds were always one of the glories of Wortley Hall, and they are attributed to Lady Caroline Creighton, the wife of James Archibald Stuart Wortley. The early 19th century park was said to be laid out by the head gardener, Joseph Harrison, during the mid 19th century.
- 2.7 The house was reportedly occupied during the Second World War after requisition by the American Air Force and then acquired from the Wharnccliffe family in 1959, having first leased it from the Labour's Recreational Educational Trust, who leased the building around 1951. After 1951, volunteers worked hard to achieve the repair and necessary conversion of parts of the Hall to provide residential accommodation at a cost of £10,000. Among the works carried out were the repair of the Fire Brigades Room (the former Office), whose panelling and marble columns had been affected by water penetration, and also the decorative work to the walls and ceilings in the Dining Room (Foundry Room and formerly the Billiard Room). Around 1961 parts of the offices range on the north-west side of the Hall were converted to a Ballroom with a stage which, together with lavatories and kitchens, is operated as a separate Club to the main body of the Hall.
- 2.8 Since 1989 the management of the Hall, now incorporated as Wortley Hall Ltd., operates the Hotel, and has been involved in a continuous programme of upgrading of the facilities. This has mainly involved the provision of en suite bathrooms to individual bedrooms, the upgrading of the kitchen facilities, and the improvement to the principal function rooms.
- 2.9 Wortley Hall is a Grade II\* Listed Building, named as "Wortley Hall with attached south-front terrace and steps including attached retaining wall and steps to wing set back on left", and was first listed on 25th April 1969 with the most recent amendment to the listing on 4th December 1986 (National Heritage List for England 1192585). The Listed Building description states:

*GV II\* Country house now rest home. South front 1742-46 by Giacomo Leoni for Edward Wortley-Montagu (d1761); east wing 1757-61 by Matthew Brettingham, mason/executive architects were George Platt (d1743) and son John. Additions by John Platt for Lady Bute (d1784) during 1784-88, completed for James Archibald Stuart Wortley under guidance of John Carr of York. Probably remodelled and lantern added by William Burn c1867-73 (Hewlings, pp397-400). Ashlar sandstone, graduated slate roofs. Irregular plan, mostly 2 storeys. 7-bay south front with 5-bay wing set back by 5 bays on left and with single linking bay; east front of 1:1:3:3 bays with wing on right*

*forming part of extensive service ranges enclosing courtyard. Front terrace with retaining wall and central steps flanked by urns; additional steps and balustraded retaining wall to front-left corner of wing set back on left. South front: 1:1:3:1:1 bays, outer bays flanked by twin Ionic pilasters, central 3-bay pediment breaks forward. Moulded plinth. Central French window in architrave beneath consoled cornice. Moulded sill band links 2-pane sashes; bays 1, 3, 5 and 7 have balustraded aprons, shouldered architraves, pulvinated friezes and dentilled pediments, bay 2 and 6 have cornices. 1st floor: central 8-pane window, other bays with 6-pane windows, all in architraves. Full entablature surmounted by balustrade, central pediment with arms of James Archibald Stuart Wortley (added on his elevation to the peerage in 1826). Hipped roof with ashlar stacks set to rear. Octagonal lantern over entrance on right return has archivolted openings beneath lead-covered dome with finial. Wing set back on left: wider bay 5 projects and has tripartite windows to each floor, that to ground floor with cornice and pedimented central light. 4-pane sashes to each floor on left, balustrade to hipped roof with corniced ridge stack and end stack on left. Linking bay with pedimented doorway beneath blind architrave; balustraded parapet. Attached retaining wall on left has balustrade and 2 flights of steps. Right return: bay 1 flanked by twin pilasters as front. Quoined projection on right with window having bracketed sill, architrave with segmental pediment, 6-pane sash in architrave above. Set back on right main entrance has Ionic-columned doorcase with archivolt within open pediment. 3 bays on right have sashes with glazing bars in corniced architraves, deep floor band beneath 4 sashes, entablature and balustrade as front. 3 bays further right set back: sashes with glazing bars to each floor, modillioned cornice, blind balustrade. Service wing attached on right.*

*Interior: dining room (ground-floor bay 7 of south front) has marble Ionic-columned screen and oak panelling with decorative doorcases having oakleaf friezes, archivolt to servery; elegant ceiling with relief plasterwork and armorial panel (heavily repainted). Sitting room (at centre of south front): fluted-columned screen, plaster wall panels, ceiling in Rococo style. Room to rear left (of south front) with end-wall fireplaces and panelling with well carved drops depicting musical instruments; fine panelled door with carving. Salon (now called Foundry Hall) elaborately decorated c1860 with Japanese and exotic motifs, by Geoffrey Sykes of Sheffield, completed by Sir John Poynter, central lantern with stained-glass side lights. Central hall with C19 imperial staircase having brass balusters to wooden handrail. Landing with marbled Ionic columns flanking recesses, frieze with bucrania, oval lantern. C19 armorial glass panels against north window of landing. Former home of the Wortley Montagu and Stuart Wortley families.*

*Used by army during 1939-45 after which the hall fell into disrepair. Purchased by trade union and Labour movement in 1950 to become educational holiday centre.*

*R. Hewlings, 'Wortley Hall', Archaeological Journal, vol 137, 1980, pp397-400. Wortley Hall Labour's Home - 25 Years Souvenir, booklet.*

### **3 PLANNING BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 An application for Listed Building Consent for the proposed conversion works is currently under consideration by Barnsley MBC (application 2018/0211). A combined Statement of Significance and Design and Access Statement report

for the proposed conversion works has been issued by the project architect, and has been submitted with the current Listed Building Consent application.

## 4 SURVEY METHODOLOGIES

### Introduction

- 4.1 Discussions between the project architect and Barnsley MBC's Conservation Officer have confirmed that the archaeological and architectural recording of the attic rooms should be confined to the floors of two rooms only (labelled as 'Room 1' and 'Plant Room' on the project architect's 'as existing' plan; see attached figure). These rooms were formerly servants accommodation and contain limeash floors. The two floors are required to be removed as part of the conversion works, to conform to current fire regulations.

### Project Objectives

- 4.2 The objectives of the archaeological and architectural recording are to record the limeash floors of the two rooms, as they currently exist, prior to their removal as part of the conversion works.

### General Comments

- 4.3 The scale and scope of the architectural and archaeological survey work will be determined by this WSI. Additional standards and guidance published by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, in their 2014 publication *Standard and Guidance for the Archaeological Investigation and Recording of Standing Buildings or Structures*, and by Historic English in their 2016 publication *Understanding Historic Buildings: A Guide to Good Recording Practice* will also be followed.
- 4.4 The architectural and archaeological recording work will not unduly delay the overall programme of the site works, and will be achieved through effective liaison and co-operation with the client's building contractor. However, all parties should ensure that EDAS have sufficient time and resources to ensure compliance with all elements of this WSI. It is likely that the recording work will be accomplished within a single day visit, and the building contractor has agreed to clear and sweep out the two rooms prior to the recording.

### Documentary Research

- 4.5 In view of the limited nature of the required recording, no new archival or documentary research will be carried out as part of the project. However, a considerable amount of material has already been collected and collated by the project architect, and this will be made available to EDAS for incorporation into the survey report as appropriate.

### Architectural and Archaeological Survey

- 4.6 The two limeash floors will be subject to a Level 3 historic building survey, as defined by Historic England in their 2016 publication *Understanding Historic Buildings: A Guide to Good Recording Practice*. A Level 3 survey is essentially an analytical record augmented by detailed photographs and appropriate plans. A report on the survey work will then be produced and an ordered archive prepared.

### *Measured and Drawn Survey*

- 4.7 A new set of 1:50 or 1:20 scale floor plans of the two rooms (labelled as 'Room 1' and 'Plant Room' on the project architect's 'as existing' plan; see attached figure) will be produced, to record the floors as they currently exist. These plans will also record any patches, areas of alterations, modifications or renewal etc to the floors, which may aid interpretation. The plans would be supplemented by more detailed sections at 1:1 through the floor, to show the construction of the floors as well as supporting joists, voids etc.

### *Photographic Survey*

- 4.8 A general photographic record of the floors, together with close-up photography of significant details, will be undertaken. The guidelines produced by Historic England will be followed and each photograph will be provided with a scale where appropriate. Artificial lighting and tripods will be used where necessary, subject to practicalities and access.
- 4.9 The primary photographic record will be produced using 35mm black and white film, supplemented with 35mm colour slide photography. Additional digital photographs will be taken for illustrative purposes, using an SLR digital camera which has 12 mega-pixel resolution.
- 4.10 All photographs will be clearly numbered and labelled with the subject, orientation, date taken and photographer's name, and will be cross referenced to film and frame numbers. A photographic register detailing the location and direction of each photograph will be completed; the limited nature of the spaces being recording means that no plans showing the location and direction of each photograph will be produced.

### *Written accounts*

- 4.11 Sufficient notes will be taken on site in order for a detailed description of the floors and the two rooms in general to be prepared, illustrated with the drawn and photographic records.

### **Scientific Analysis**

- 4.12 No scientific dating or other sampling of the limeash floors will be undertaken.

### **Modifications**

- 4.13 The programme of recording work outlined above may be modified in accordance with the professional judgement of the staff undertaking the work, insofar as the overall provisions and objectives of this WSI would not be changed. Any variations in the project would be discussed and agreed in advance with the client and the South Yorkshire Advisory Service.

## **5 REPORTING AND ARCHIVING**

- 5.1 Once the on-site fieldwork is completed, a fully indexed field archive would be prepared, following the guidance produced by Historic England. The archive will comprise primary written documents, plans, sections and photographs, and an index to the archive. Black and white photographs would be printed at a

size of 6" x 4" (or metric equivalent), and prints will be labelled on the back of the print to include film and frame number, date recorded and photographers name, details of what is being photographed, national grid reference etc. All material within the archive will be stored in archival-stable material, to include appropriate sleeves for the photographic prints and slides.

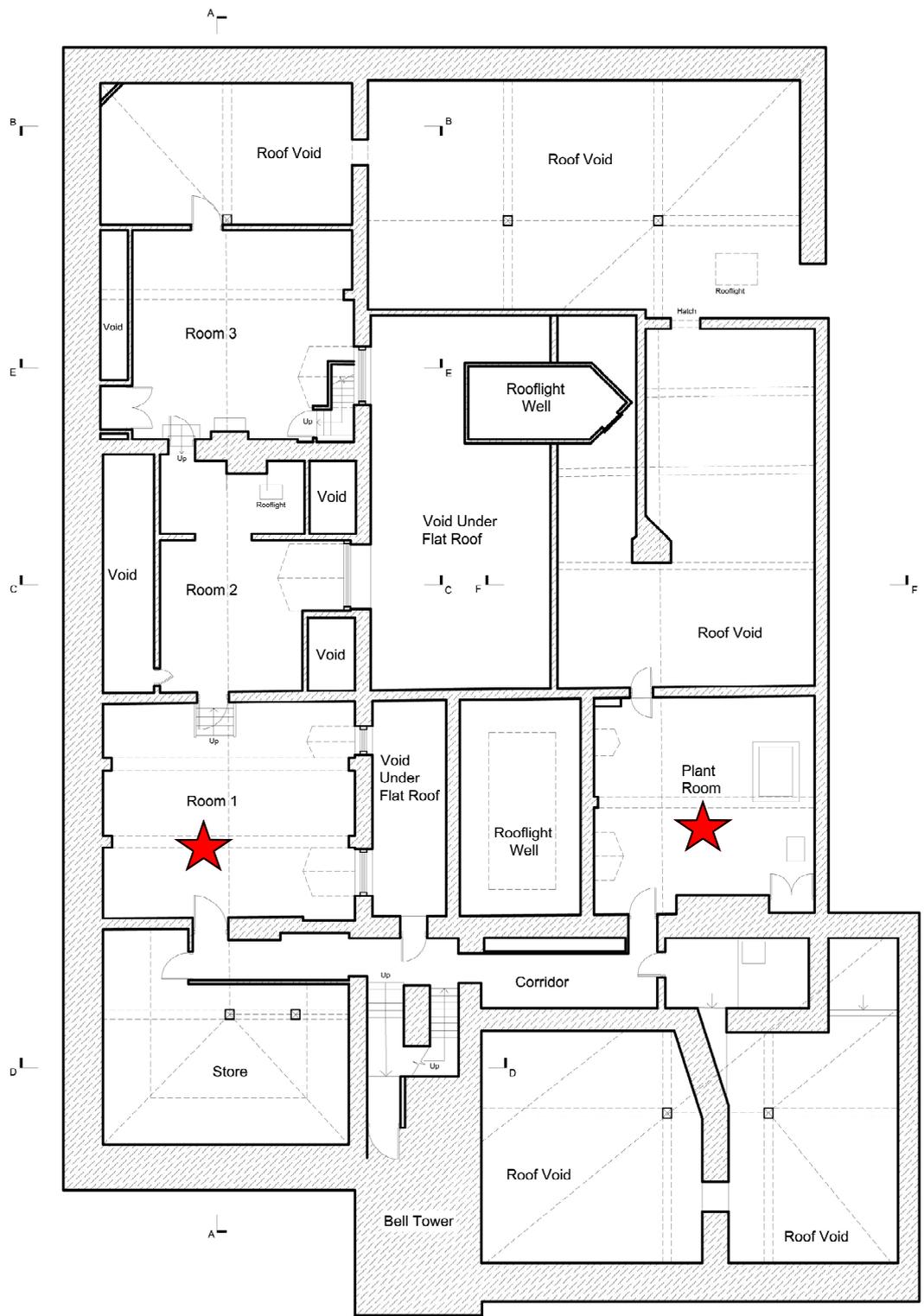
- 5.2 EDAS will obtain the site owner's consent for the donation of the building recording archive in the local record office (Barnsley Archives). EDAS will adhere to any specific transfer and donation requirements which the record office might impose; these might include charges for the storage and long-term curation of the site archive.
- 5.3 Within six weeks of the completion of all the site work (or longer if agreed with relevant parties), an EDAS survey archive report detailing the results of the building recording will be produced. The final report will include the following (as appropriate):
- A non-technical summary;
  - Site code/project number;
  - Planning reference number and SMR casework number;
  - Dates of fieldwork visits;
  - National Grid reference;
  - A brief account of the project plan, research objectives, survey methodology, procedures and equipment used;
  - A summary of the historical and archaeological background to the site;
  - The results of the architectural and archaeological survey work, and an account of the overall form and modifications of the two floors;
  - Discussion and Conclusions;
  - A bibliography and list of sources consulted;
  - Site location plans, with scales;
  - Survey plans and section drawings, showing ground level, Ordnance Datum and vertical and horizontal scales;
  - Selected illustrative material, including general and detailed site photographs;
  - Appendices containing a copy of this WSI, together with the details of any departures from that design, and photographic registers and catalogues.
- Appropriate drawn records of the floors would be produced as reduced A4 or A3 size paper copies within the body of the report; full scale drawings would be included within the site archive.
- 5.4 Copies of the final report will be supplied (either as hard copy or pdf versions), for distribution to the client, the Local Planning Authority's Conservation Officer, and the SYSMR. A copy of the final report will also be included with the site archive.
- 5.5 If the architectural/archaeological recording produces results of sufficient significance to merit publication in their own right, allowance will be made for the preparation and publication of a brief note detailing the findings of the project in an appropriate local journal.

## **6 HEALTH AND SAFETY**

- 6.1 All site recording work will be carried out with due regard for all health and safety considerations, and health and safety will take priority over archaeological matters. EDAS would comply with the Health and Safety at

Work Act of 1974 while undertaking the work, and any specific requirements of the main contractor already working on the site. A Risk Assessment would be produced in advance of any site work. The site is privately owned and EDAS would indemnify the landowner in respect of their legal liability for physical injury to persons or damage to property arising on site in connection with the recording brief, to the extent of EDAS's Public Liability Insurance Cover (£5,000,000).

Ed Dennison, EDAS  
2nd May 2018



Section Floor Plan as Existing

(Scale 1:100)



Floors to be recorded

FIGURE 1: WORTLEY HALL SECOND FLOOR  
(plan provided by Andrew Shepherd, reproduced with permission)