

Meadow Cottage, Brook, Albury GU5 9DJ
Domestic Buildings Research Group Report 2170
Albury History Society - alburyhistory.org.uk



DBRG No 2170

REPORT No 2170

ALBURY BROOK MEADOW COTTAGE TQ 060 462

by kind invitation of...
This two bay cottage has an internal jetty over the open hall. It is wider than most jetties. There are arching braces in the framing and traces of the open hall window. The roof structure is clasped purlin with curved wind bracing. All the rafters are sooted and there is a sooted wattle and daub partition wall between open hall and solar bedroom. This rises to the apex. The east end of the roof is hipped with gablet, and the west end is gabled with one rafter outside the end wall to make deep eaves. This roof is fossilised inside the added bay roof on the west end. There is an outshot on the east end. The original house was probably built at about fifteen hundred.

Meadow Cottage faces north and the stream. It is end on to the north south road which passes through the hamlet, and it is set back from this road, and behind later houses which face this way. Timber framing is retained on the south side, which is underbuilt in stone. The front of the house is clad in brick with a string course. The gable end has three queen struts up with a V in timber above, and brick nogging. On the solar east end the roof is hipped with a gablet. The chimney rises behind the ridge.

The back of the house retains arched braces in the timber framing - these are an early feature. The replacement walling below is a mixture of sandstone lumps, some roughly squared, with ironstone which is readily available, and ironstone galleting. The wall in line with the chimney shows the scar of the bread oven which had extended into the garden, but which has since been removed.

The entrance is into the open hall at the end furthest from the solar. The beam crossing the room has a short spine beam over with joists resting on the side walls. Into this crossing beam are joists chamfered and stopped but which are plain towards the back of this room. The joists pass over a second crossing beam which has mortices for a partition wall. Here the eight joists are plain, as this back room was probably the service room under the solar bedroom. The missing partition wall probably had a bench along where the family sat to watch the fire which was set on the ground in the open hall

Generally, in a hall house the entrance is between the open hall and service room, or within the service end. Only larger four bay houses had a cross passage within the service. Perhaps this house had a lean to service room on the west end, and the entrance would then be in its original position. Entrance doors are seldom changed, and are generally in line with the well. Hearths, built in brick often block the opposed entrances in a hall house. It is not possible to find evidence for the door out to the garden side.

Upstairs are jowl posts, one of which has been cut back to give shoulder room when the hall was floored over. The roof structure is clasped purlin with arching wind bracing. Rafters are sooted over the open hall and to the end of the old house. The extra rafter outside the framing at C is morticed for a gablet. The wallplate ends just beyond C truss. One clean rafter is set in the centre of the roof over the open hall

*Faces
an old
E-W
lane,
from
Blackwell
? to Peaslake
or Shere*

*Build as an
upholstery
Room when
Cottage was
Albury
Estates
upholsterers
cottage*

The inserted chimney is set to one side of the hearth room, thus leaving space for a new stair up beside, and necessitating the building of the bread oven on the other end, projecting into the garden. Often the bread oven is built under the stair, but the warmest place for the inglenook seat is backing the entrance. The popular building in the seventeenth century was a central chimney house, and by adding a brick chimney here Meadow Cottage became up to date and a 'central chimney house'. Roof trusses with three queen struts were usual in the late sixteenth century. If there had been an outshot here it was built up at about this time, probably. *There was probably a wattle-daub smoke hood against the W. wall in which the chimney was built.* This is an interesting house. Only one other has so far been recognised in Surrey with such a large internal jetty.

References

Two bay hall houses with internal jetties

Holmhurst East Clandon DBRG Report No 1581
 Doves Cottage Headley DBRG Report No 819
 Friars Gate Chiddingfold DBRG Report No 340
 Old Cottage Tot Hill Headley DBRG Report No 1160
Large Internal Jetty

Old Cottage Frensham DBRG Report No 1712

Houses with plain joists over the room under the solar, and chamfered on the projection over the open hall

Eashing Upper Eashing DBRG Report No 222

Old house facing the stream and not the old road

Little Waters Milton Street Westcott DBRG Report No

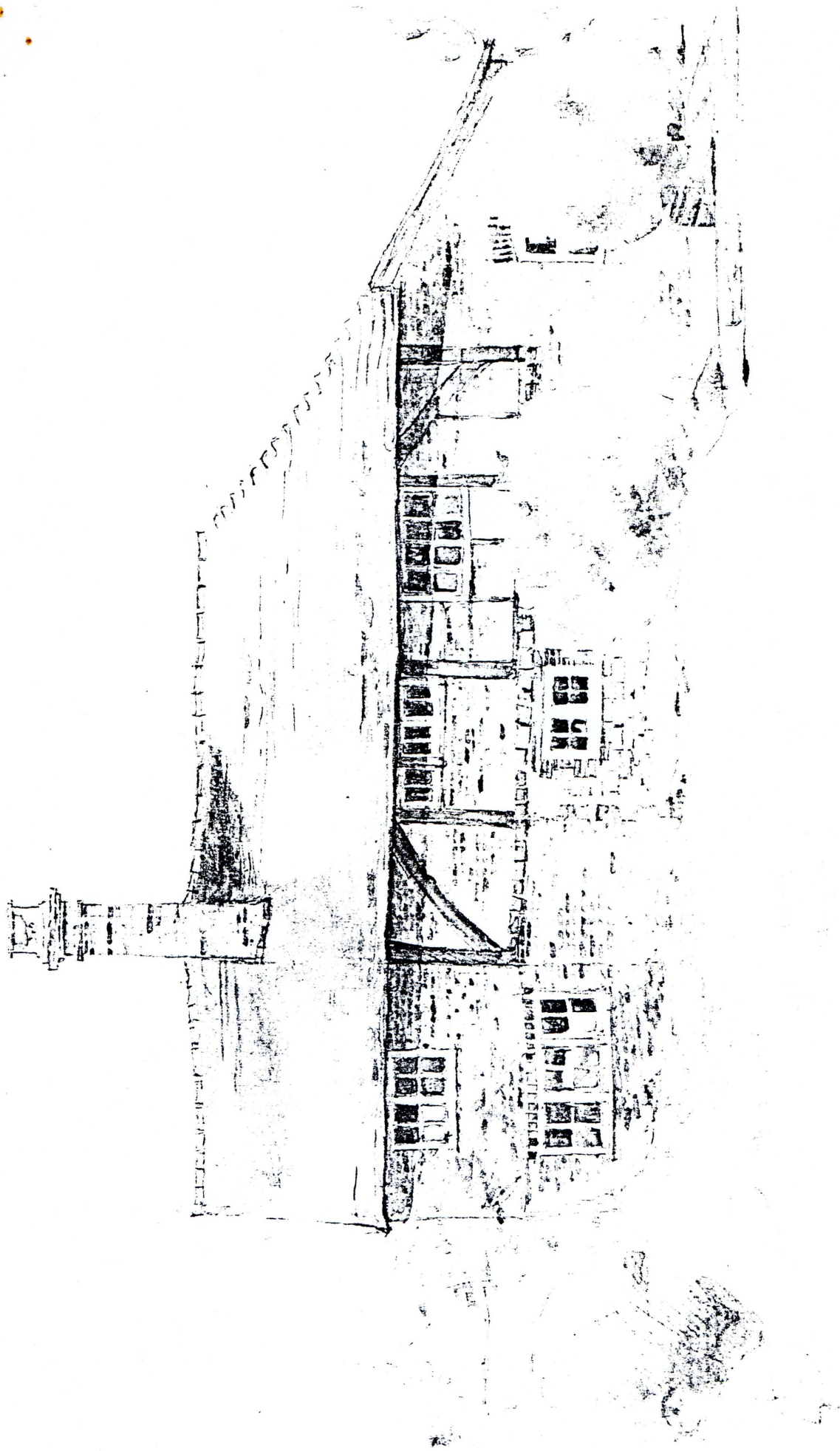
Bread ovens extending into the garden

Wyvern Westcott DBRG Report No 287
 Primrose Charlwood DBRG Report No 2

Recorded by Carol Martin March 1979

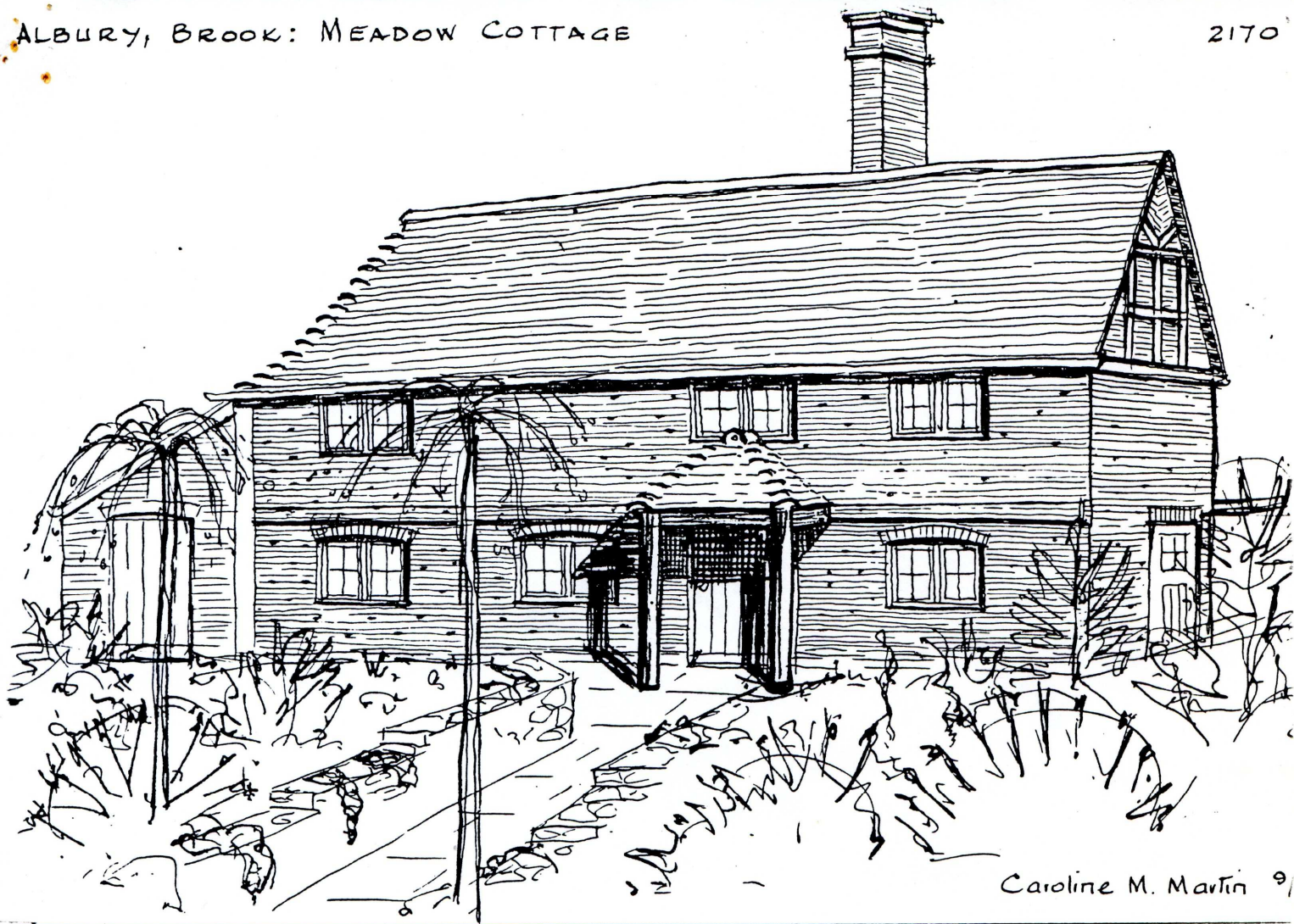
Report by Joan Harding April 1979

C Domestic Buildings Research Group (Surrey) 1979

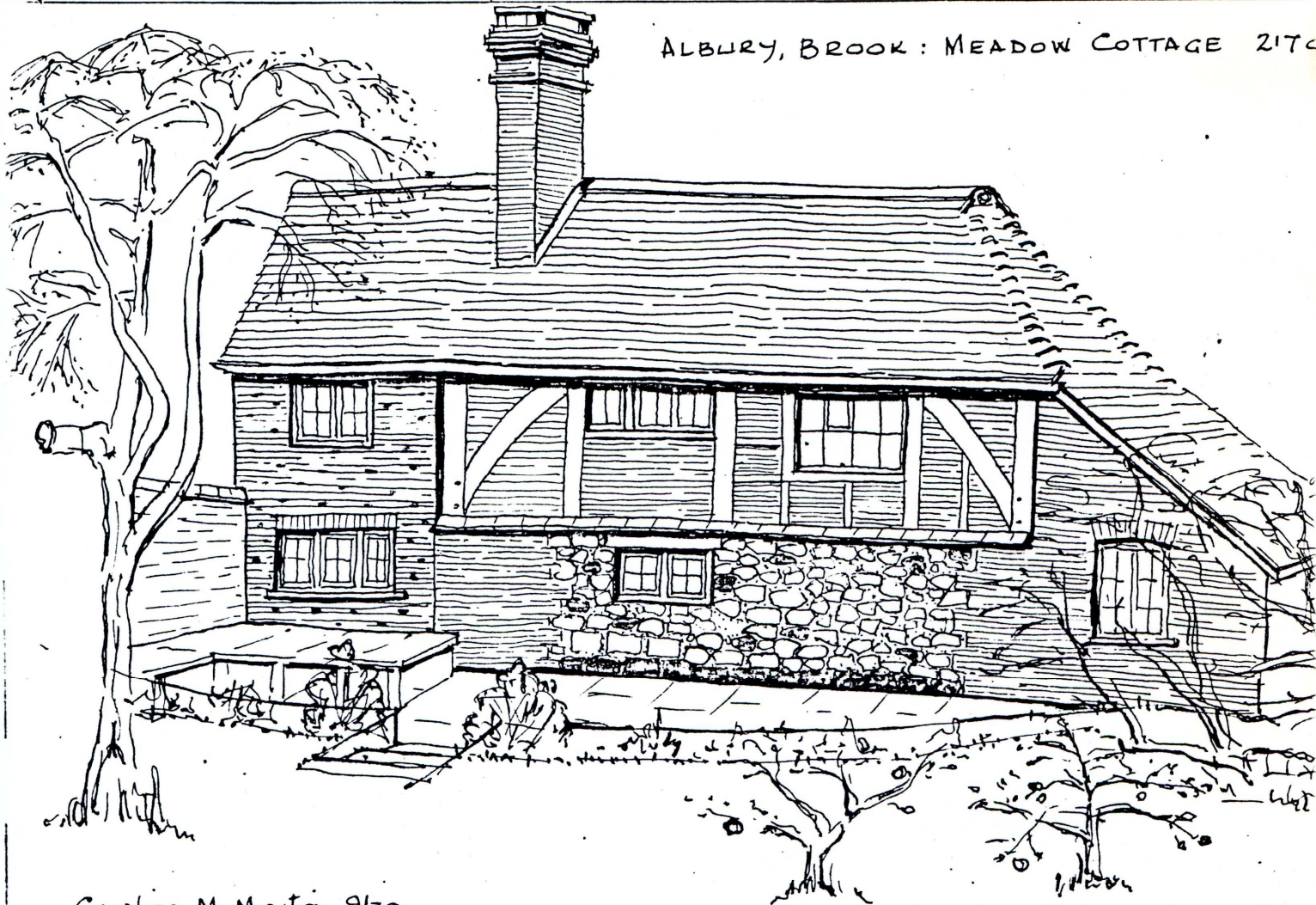


W. W. W. W. W.
Aug 1984

Watercolour by Alison Welford.

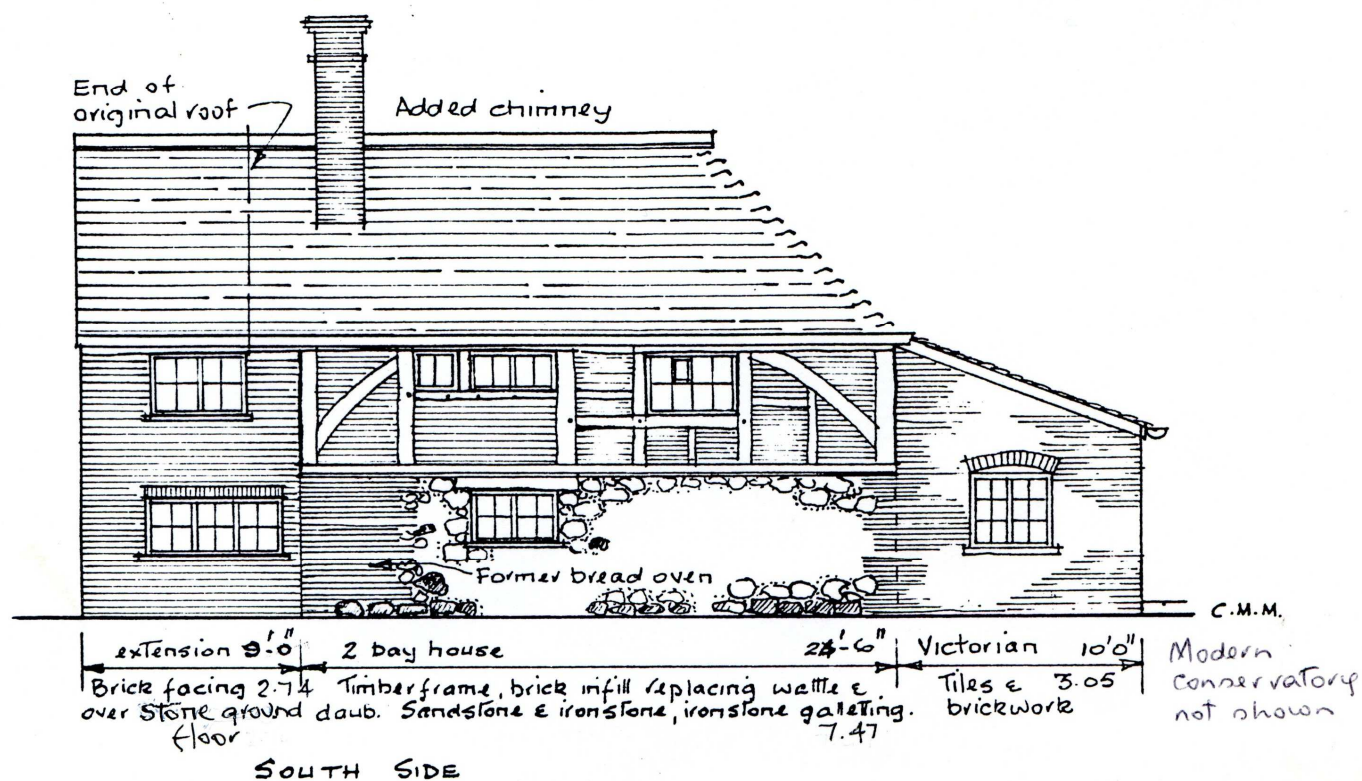


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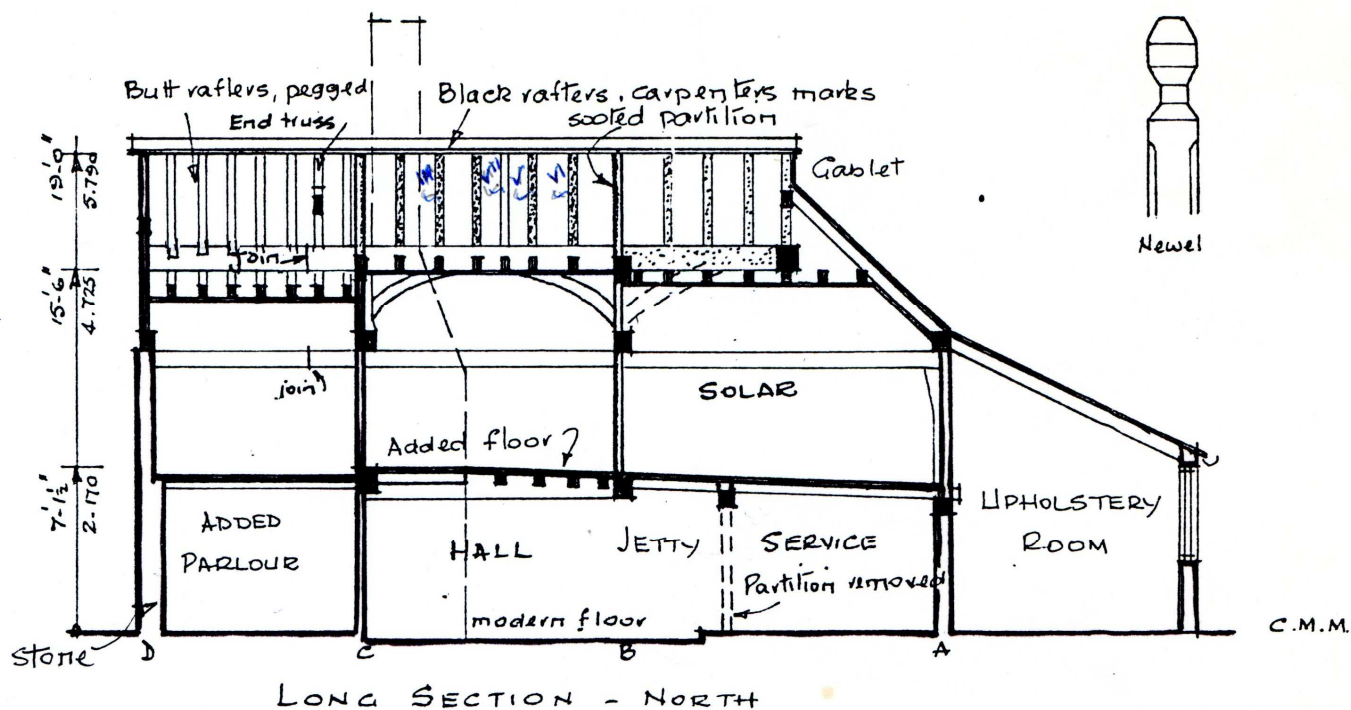
Caroline M. Martin 9/19

MEADOW COTTAGE, BROOK, ALBURY [formerly Oakfield House Cottage]



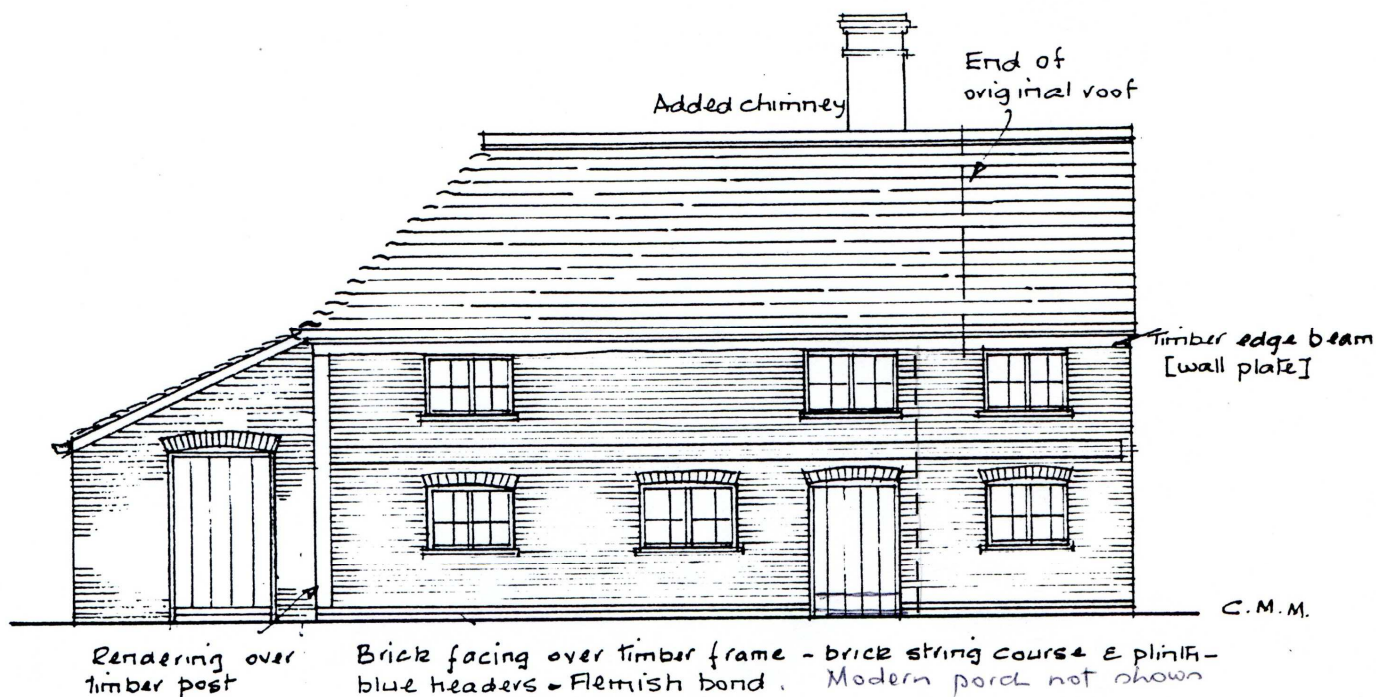
REVISED 1986 1/8":1'0"

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REVISED 1986.1991

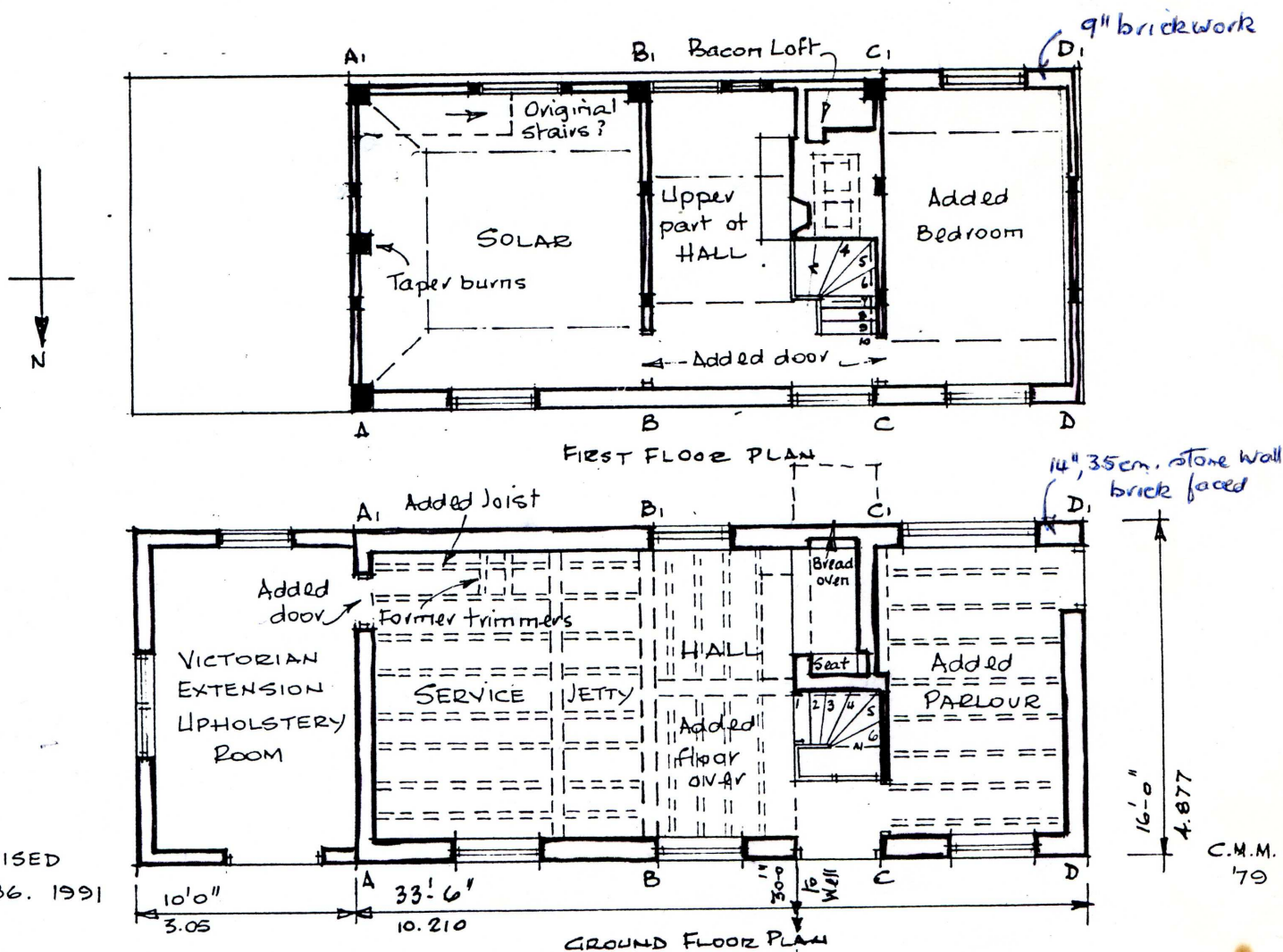
Caroline M. Martin '79

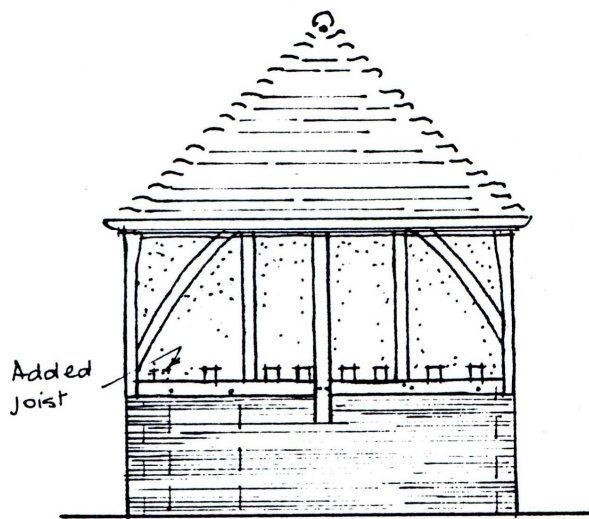


NORTH SIDE

REVISED 1986, 1991

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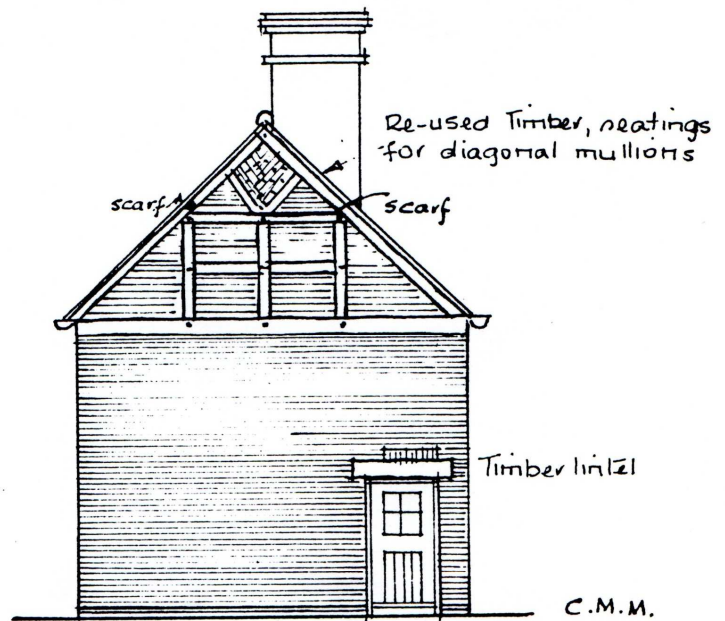


E. END A-A

Timber frame, wattle & daub.
Brick replacement to ground
floor.

Victorian Extension
not shown

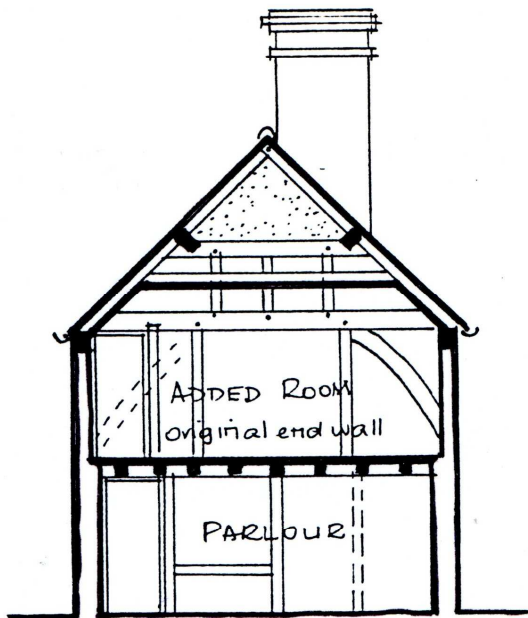
REVISED '86



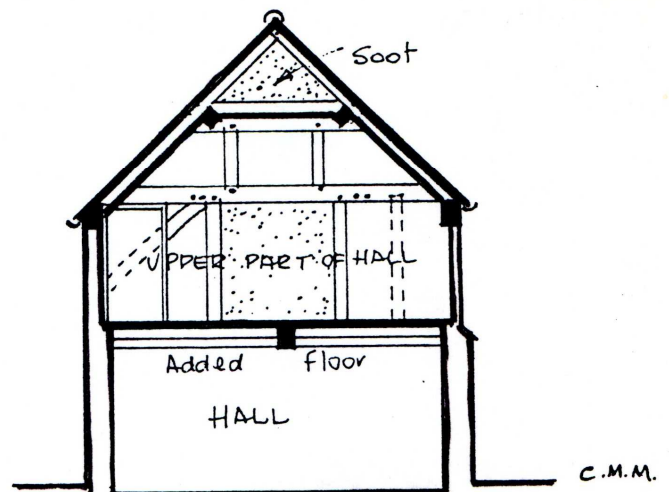
W. END D-D

Brick facing over timber
framing. Brick infill, herring bone
at apex.

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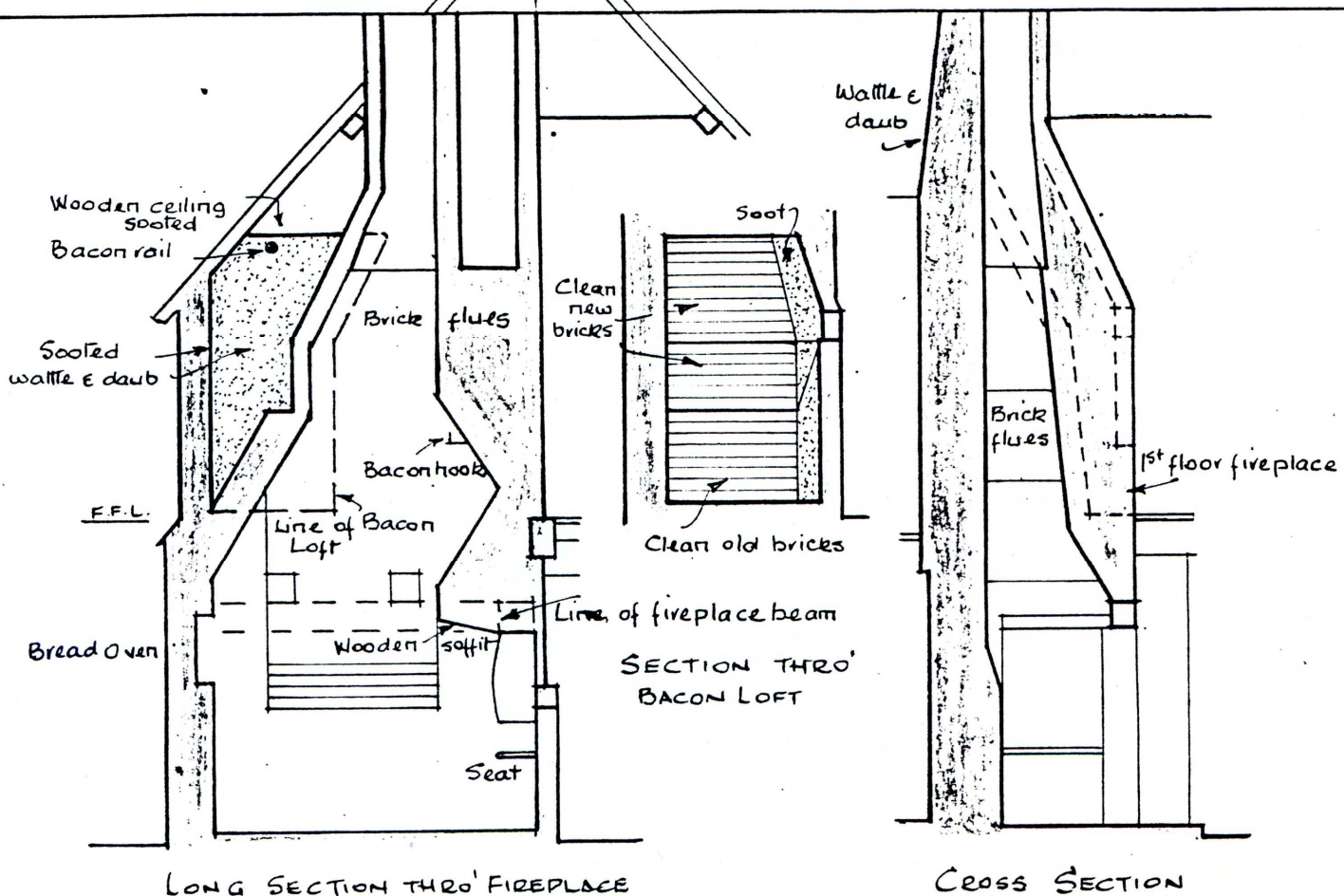
SECTION C-C



SECTION B-B

REVISED 1986, 1991

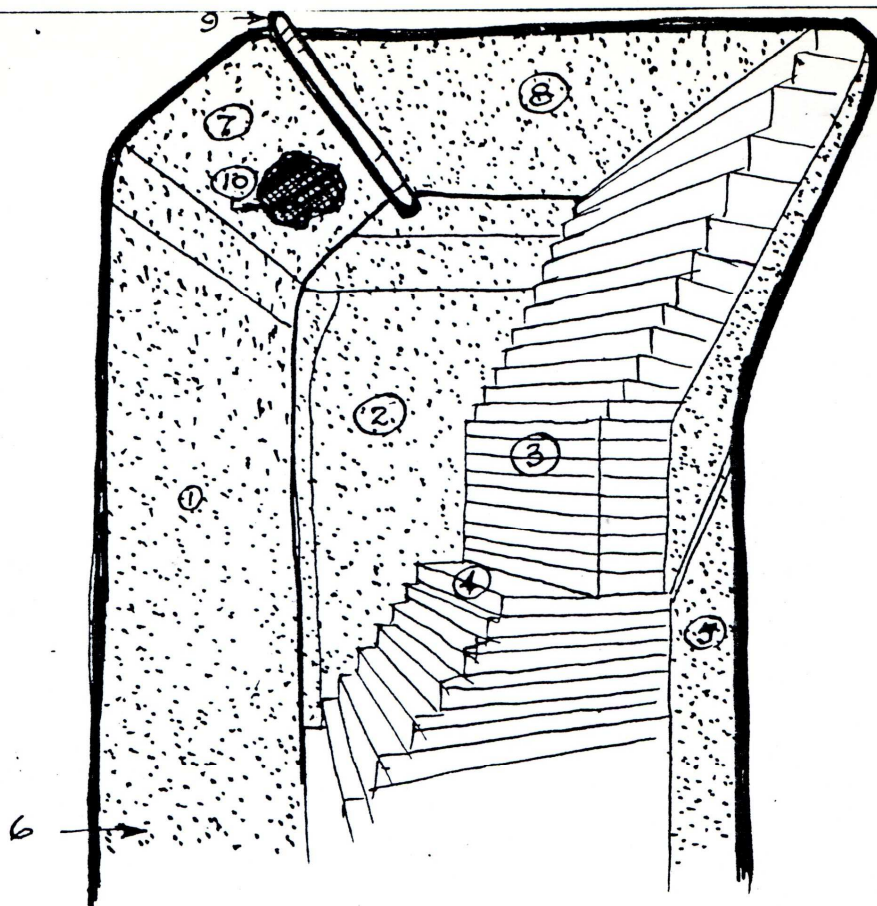
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LONG SECTION THRO' FIREPLACE

CROSS SECTION

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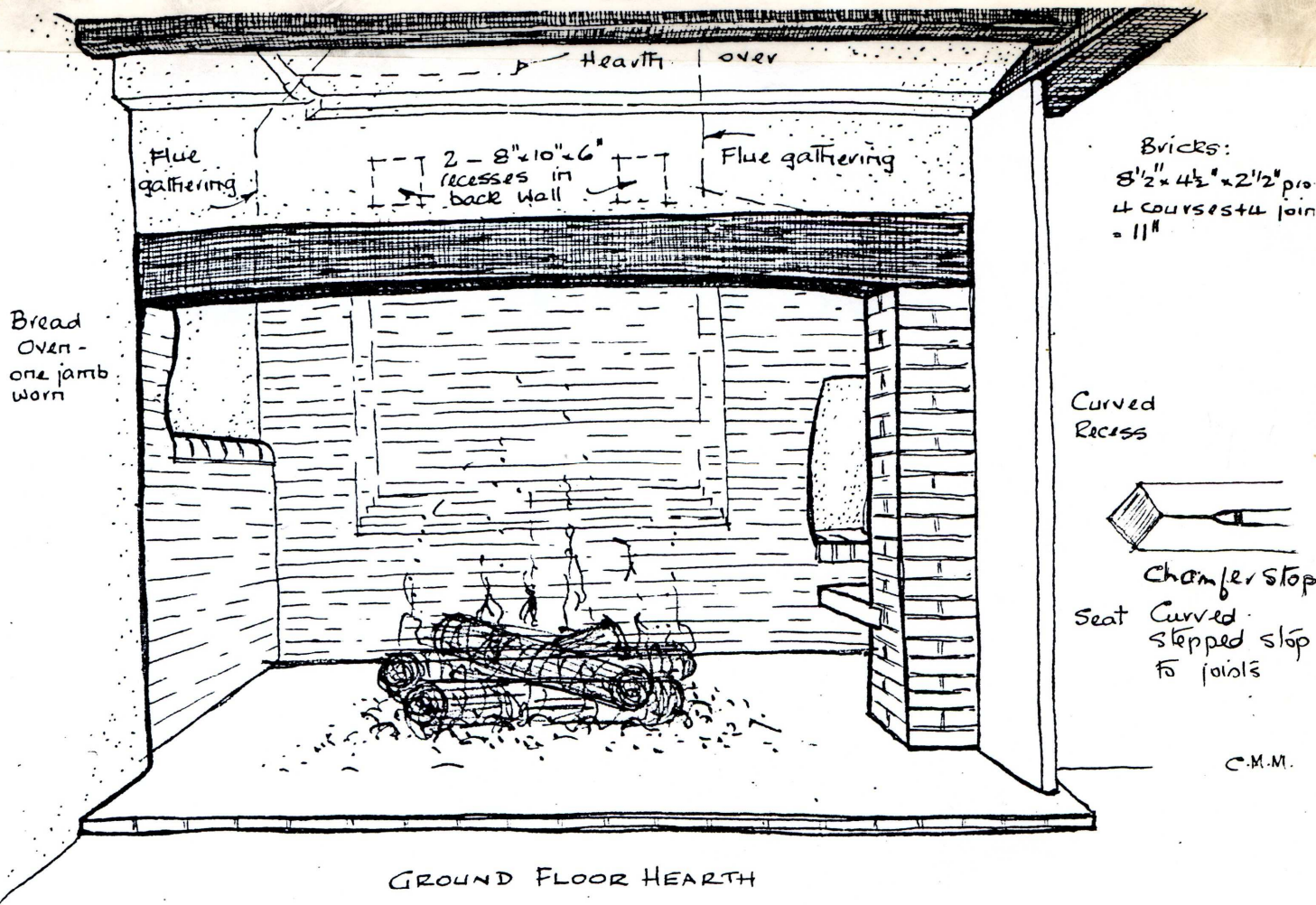
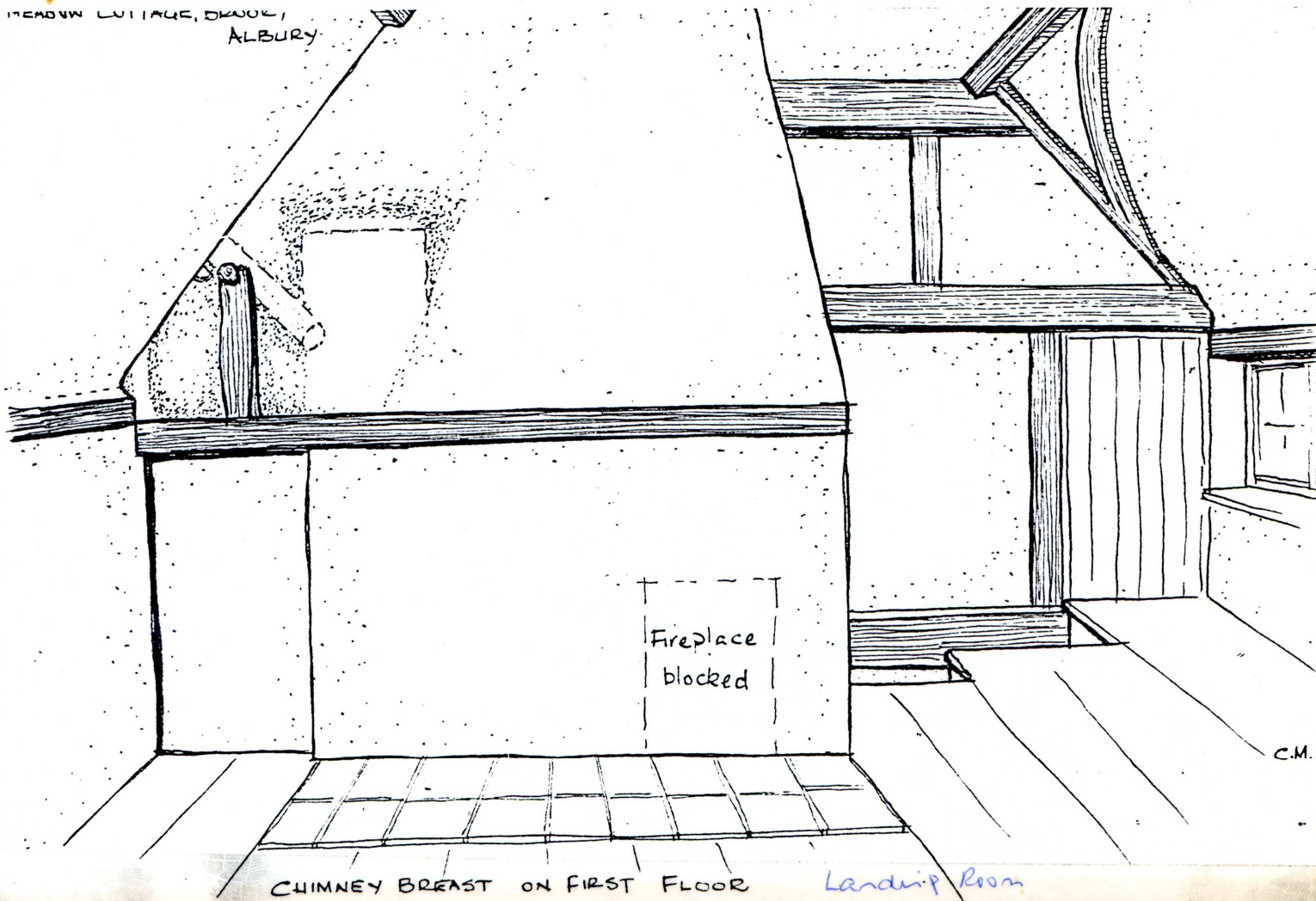
VOID BETWEEN CHIMNEY ON FIRE
FLOOR & S. [OUTSIDE] WALL

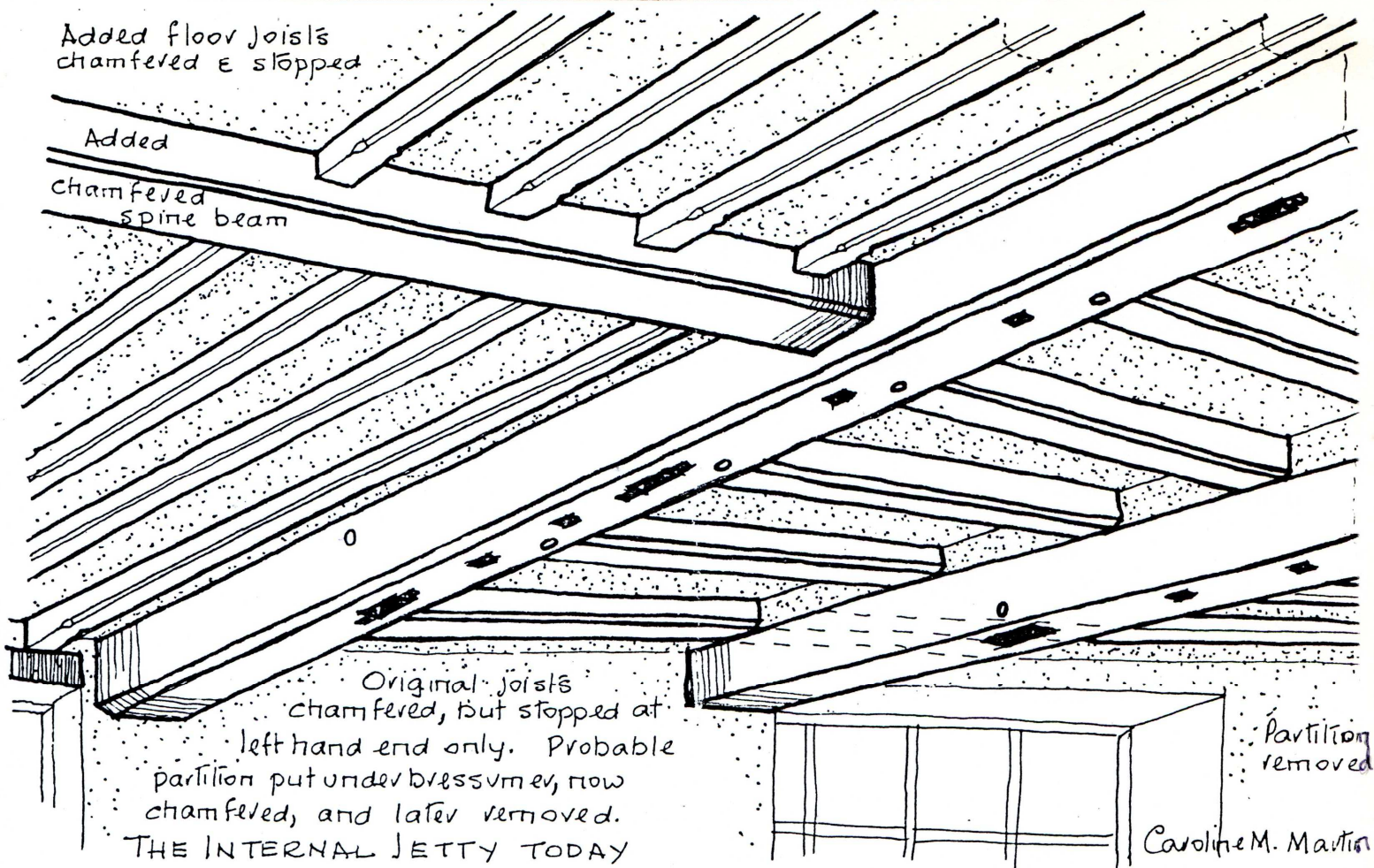
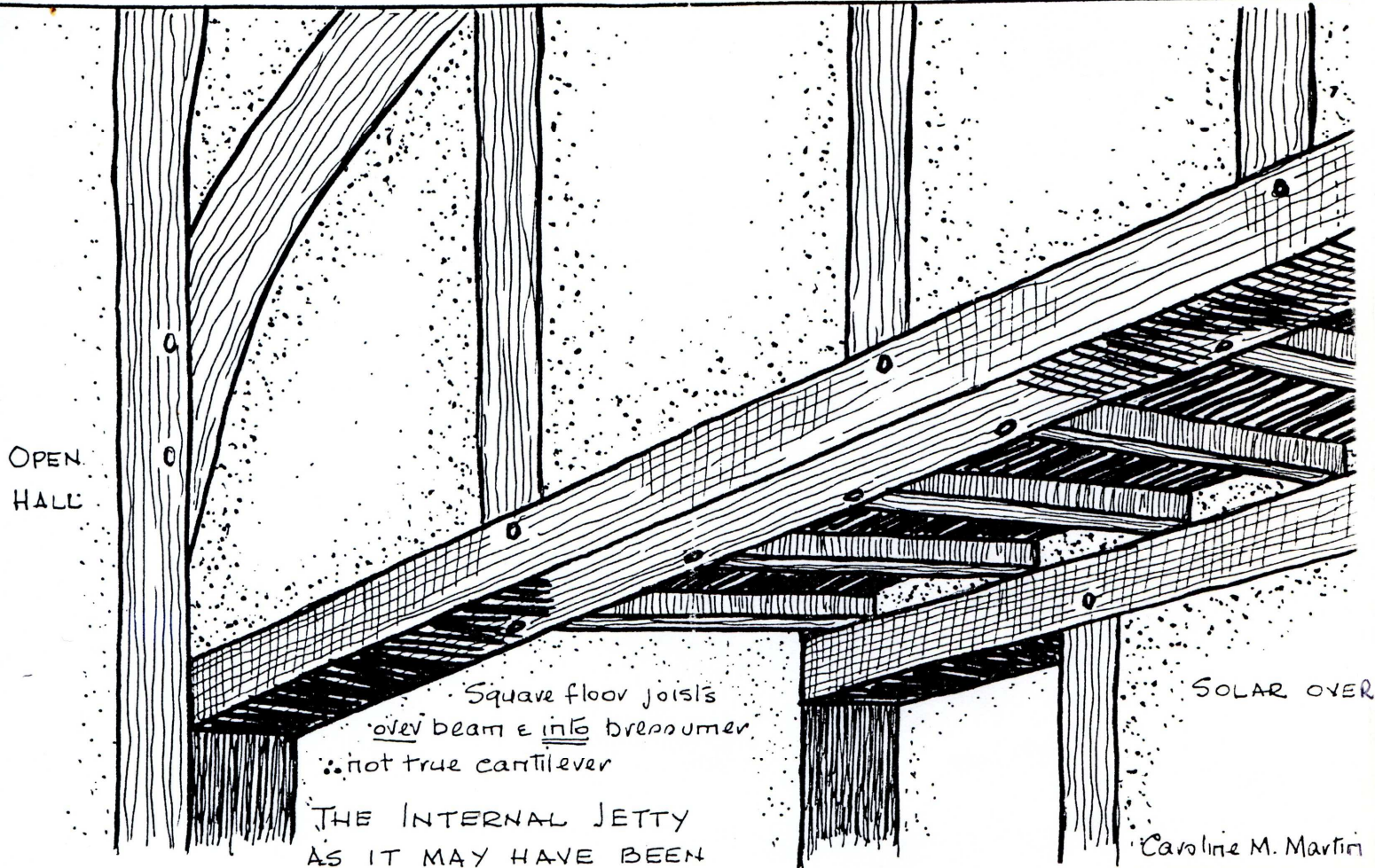
1. 10" wattle & daub sooted
2. Wattle & daub sooted
3. New brickwork built from inside chimney
4. Old brickwork
5. Brickwork sooted
6. Bathroom wall - 1" daub, 1/4" lathes nailed from inside, 1/2" daub, sooted
7. Daub sooted
8. Boarding sooted
9. Fir rail
10. Hole where straw was inserted. Prox. 1 bale removed

VIEW THROUGH HOLE IN
BATHROOM WALL

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MEADOW COTTAGE, BROOK, ALBURY
MEADOW COTTAGE, BROOK,
ALBURY







STAGE I: Solar open
to Hall below

STAGE II: Partition
between Solar and Hall
plastered full height.

THE OPEN HALL &
INTERNAL JETTY. Stage
as it might have been

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c. 1550.



STAGE III:
Smoke Hood & Bacon
Loff built against
West wall

STAGE IV Brick
chimney built within
Smoke Hood

THE OPEN HALL
WEST END. c. 1550

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B1

B

ALBURY: BROOK: MEADOW COTTAGE

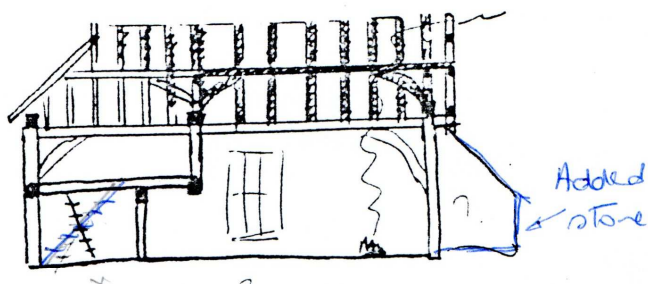
2170



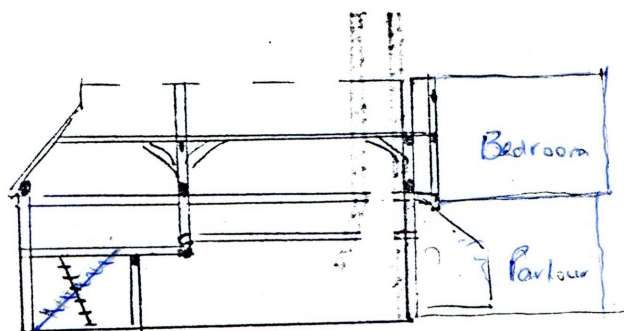
TAPER BURNS ON CENTRE POST ON A-A.
IMMEDIATELY BEHIND BEDSIDE LAMP SHADE!

9/30

PROBABLE DEVELOPMENT



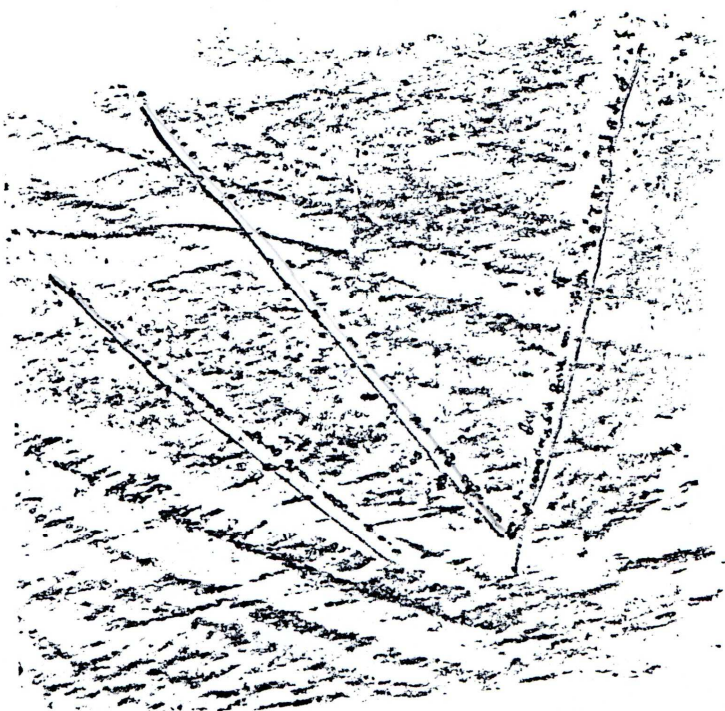
c 1500 Open hall house with internal jetty



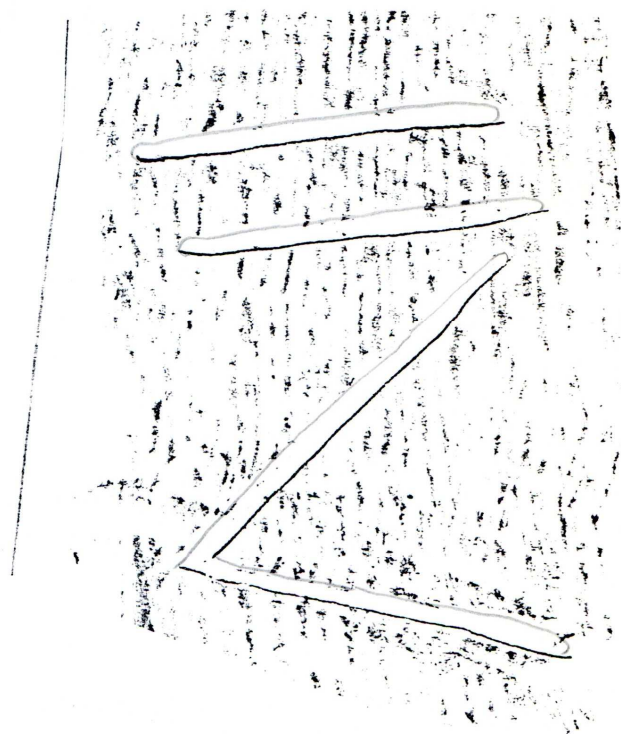
c 1600 Hall floored & chimney built. Extension added?
17-18c. brick facing.
Upholstery Room ? 19c.

J. HARDING 4.79

Carpenter's assembly mark on sorted rafter - on white rafter



scratched



chiselled



DBRG No. 2170A

REPORT No. 2170 A

To be read in conjunction with Report No. 2170

ALBURY BROOK HILL MEADOW COTTAGE TQ 060 462

by kind invitation of Miss C. M. Martin

Since the original report was written in 1979 more information has come to light about the construction of this house. It has now been dendro dated to 1515, slightly later than originally thought and faced what was probably a track from Blackheath to Shere.

What was then called an "internal jetty" has now been renamed an "overshot cross passage" as it is considerably wider (4'0" 1.2m) than a conventional jetty. If it was a cross passage then the doors would have been beside posts B and B1, but no evidence of them remains. This large projection over $\frac{1}{4}$ of the whole of the hall suggests the idea of flooring over the whole of the open hall, the next step in the development of the house. There are roughly cut mortices in the beam at the outer edge over the cross passage suggesting that at one time a wall was added turning this passage into a corridor between the two doors.

The fire, which had originally been in the middle of the hall, was moved back against the wall C-C1 with a wattle and daub smoke hood to contain the smoke and a bacon loft at its Southern end. At this time the hall was floored over with a central spine beam running from, and jointed into, the mid rail at B-B1 and set over the mid rail at C-C1, thus accounting for the sloping floor in the landing over. This chamfered beam accepts the new floor joists with their curved stepped stops and chamfers in the hall, and continues, though now cut back beside the new staircase, as part of the side wall, now gone, of the smoke hood. More evidence of this wall is shown in the grooving of the spine beam for the wattle and daub and by the added "central Queen post" over the tie beam at C-C1. Later a brick chimney was built within the smoke hood, with a bread oven projecting into the garden, now gone, a seat and a salt hole. The door and stairs were then moved to their present position beside the hearth, and in line with the well, the floor over the door being higher than the rest. The floor of the added bedroom C-D is at the same level as that of the solar, but with a step down from the landing instead of the ramp C-B.

The wall C-C1 appears always to have been the end of the house in spite of the large roof overhang with its apparent gable; this is because the "upper face" of the truss faced the "outside" and not into the hall as it would have done had it been an internal wall. (At B-B1 the "upper Face" is to the hall, being the more important room.) The walls in the bay C-D are of stone to the ground floor, suggesting a lean-to here, later faced in brickwork when the upper storey was added in 9" (22cm.) brickwork, with a gabled roof of butt rafter construction.

The last full pair of rafters at the hipped end of the roof, though not part of a full truss, have a collar spanning between them supporting the ends of the purlins which continue on to the hip rafters, but not along the hip itself.

It is thought that the house was timber framed from the ground up but the only evidence for this is the central post at A-A1 and pegs for others. The outshot here with its catslide roof was added in 19C. by the Albury Estate, which owned the house, as the upholsterer's cottage. A large 4'0" (1.2m) external ^{door} allowed for the furniture to be brought in. In 1994 a small conservatory was added to the South with a door replacing one of the upholstery room's windows. At one time there was a wash house adjoining the wall C1-D1 and a privy down the garden to the South built against a neighbouring barn on the Western boundary. A small larder, now gone, was made in the South East corner of the parlour when it was made into a kitchen.

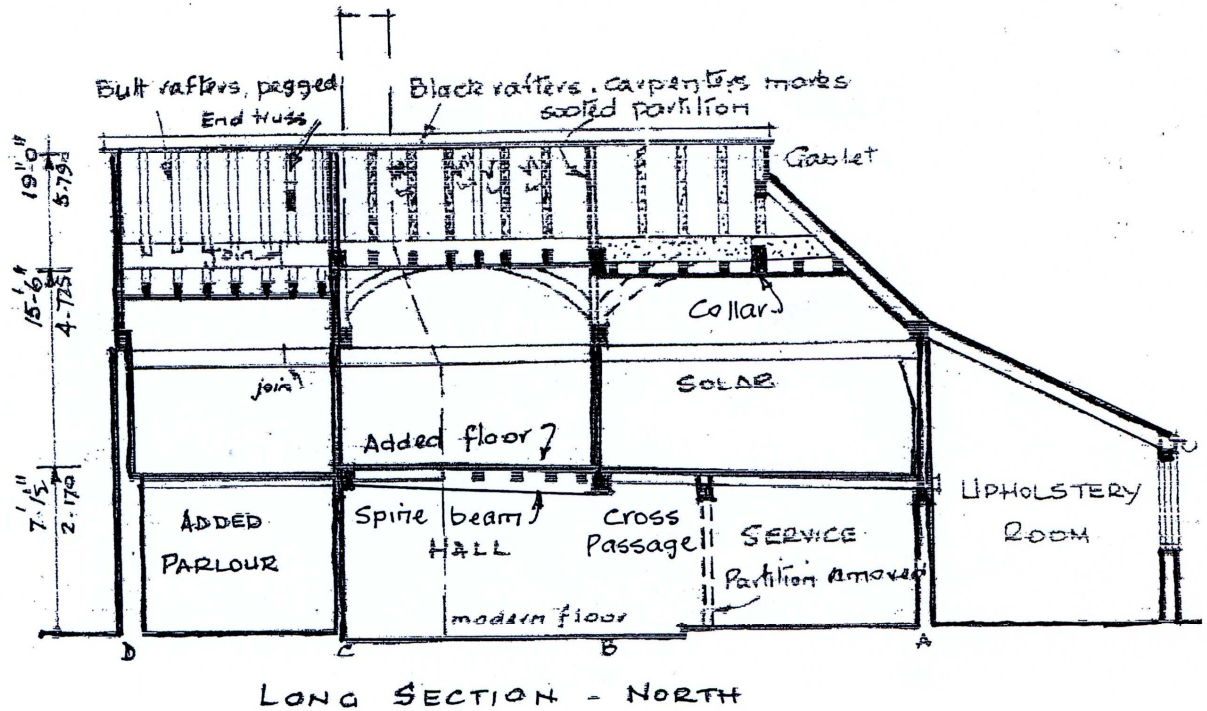
Some local houses with an overshoot cross passage:

Coverwood Farm, Ewhurst c. 1400 Rapsley, Ewhurst mid 16C.
Wykehurst Farm, Ewhurst late 16C. Lower Springfield Farm, Westcott 1539

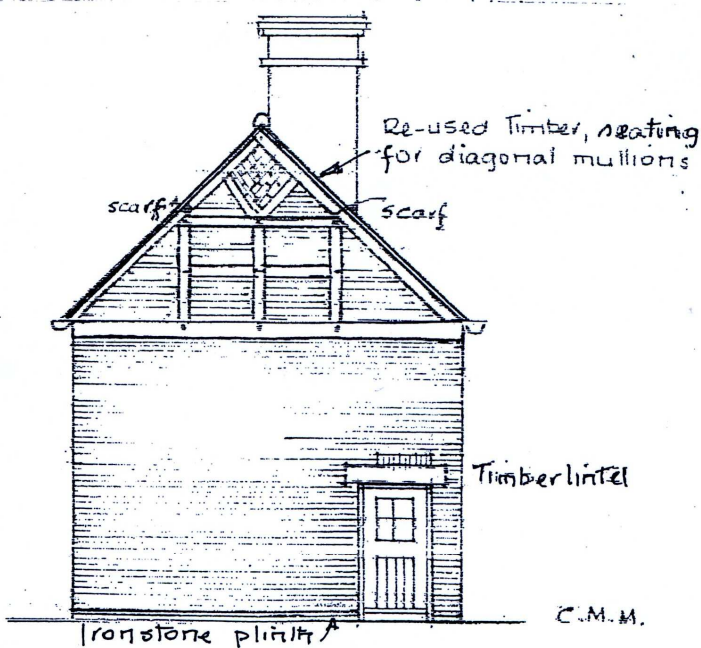
Report and Drawings: Caroline M. Martin

June 2005

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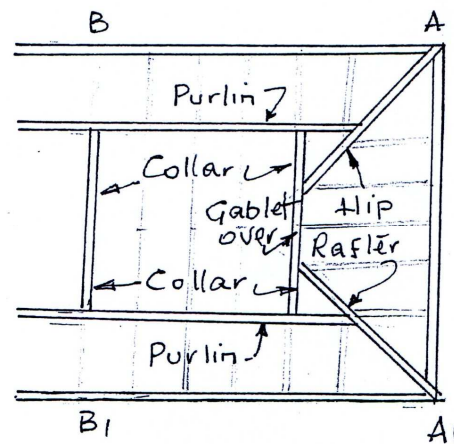


LONG SECTION - NORTH



W. END D.D.

Brick facing over stone to ground floor
3" brick over. Brick infill, herring bone
at apex.



PART
ROOF PLAN
SHOWING
MAIN TIMBERS