

### Designations

- Listed at Grade II as Stable Block to Marble Hill, list entry number 1357725
- Feature within a Grade II\* listed park and garden

**Summary history:** The stable block was built in 1825-1827 by Lieutenant General Jonathan Peel (1799-1879), brother of the prime minister, Sir Robert Peel, and owner of Marble Hill from 1825. The architect is not recorded although it has been suggested that Samuel Wyatt (1737-1807) may have been involved in the design. As built, the stable block building included six stalls for carriage and working horses on the ground floor of the main block. In the rear wings were three loose boxes where more valuable horses, perhaps racehorses, were kept as well as a cart shed. In 1905, following the sale of Marble Hill and transformation of the site into a public amenity, the building was adapted to serve a range of new functions. The stalls were removed from the northern half of the ground floor of the main block to turn the space into a bothy and the end room became an office. The southern half seems to have retained its original layout. The first floor was converted into two tenements. One of the loose boxes was converted into a wash house for the tenements and a WC was formed in a corner of the cart shed. In 1964-1965 the GLC converted the southern half of the ground floor into a café, necessitating the removal of the remaining stall partitions, and the two surviving loose boxes and wash house into a kitchen and stores. The toilet next to the cart shed was also enlarged. Since then more work has been carried out to reconfigure the layout of the toilets. The reduced former cart shed is now a garage and plant room.

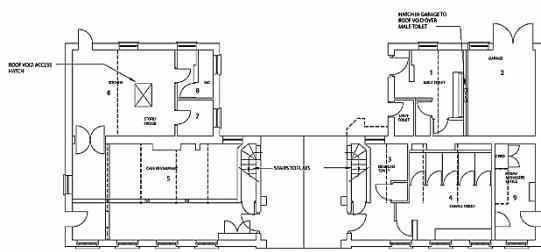
**Brief description:** The stable block consists of a two-storey main block, nine bays in length and orientated approximately north-south (deemed to be aligned exactly thus for the purposes of this gazetteer). It stands roughly at a right angle to the main house and its principal, east-facing aspect looks out over the Great Lawn. The ground floor originally housed the stalls and the horses entered them through doorways in the side walls of the central carriage entrance. Extending from the rear, west-facing elevation either side of the carriage entrance are two single-storey wings of identical size, which originally housed the cart shed and three loose boxes. This aspect of the building is enclosed by a wall to form a service yard, now used as a car park, with one section fenced off to form a bin store for the kitchen.

## STABLE BLOCK – Exterior

**Location:** East elevation

**Date(s):** 1825-1827

**Significance:** High



**Brief description:** This is the principal aspect of the stable block and has the greatest pretensions to formal design, being symmetrically composed about a central bay with a carriage entrance and a pediment, which frames a clock face. Above it is a turret housing the chiming bell. The pediment has a very simple cornice and a plain frieze runs the length of the elevation.

**Notes:** The raised beds in front of the block were formerly thought to have been made using rubble from Second World War bomb damage but current tests indicate that they contain only soil.

| Element  | Description (including history)   |
|----------|---|
| Walls    | Stock brick, mostly obscured by creeper   |
| Windows  | 16-pane sashes to the ground floor and 12-pane casements to the first floor, with one 8-pane casement in the central bay                    |
| Doors    | Only in the side walls of the carriage entrance, providing access to staircases rising to the residential accommodation on the first floor. |
| Features | Elliptical arch to carriage entrance  |

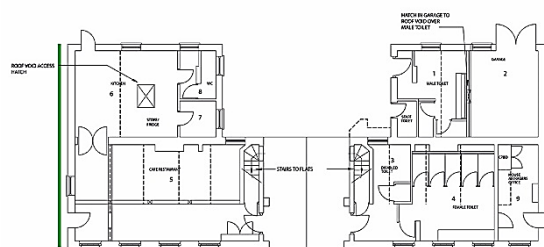


## STABLE BLOCK – Exterior

**Location:** South elevation

**Date(s):** 1825-1827, 1905, 1964-1965

**Significance:** High



**Brief description:** This elevation faces the West Meadow and now contains the visitor entrance to the café. The blank section of wall corresponds to the extension that formerly housed the loose boxes, now the kitchen.

**Notes:** The first-floor window dates from the 1905 alterations.

| Element  | Description (including history)   |
|----------|---|
| Walls    | Stock brick   |
| Windows  | One 12-pane casement at first floor level, hatch with shutters for serving refreshments in summer to ground floor |
| Doors    | One, with 16-pane window  |
| Features | Chimney stack   |

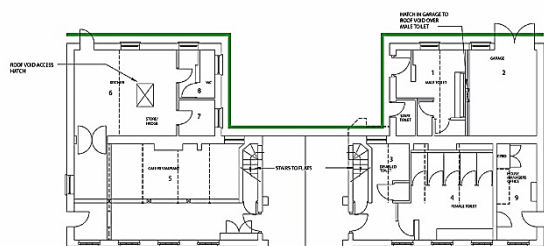


## STABLE BLOCK – Exterior

**Location:** West elevation

**Date(s):** 1825-1827, 1905, 1964-1965

**Significance:** High; late C20 interventions neutral



**Brief description:** This elevation faces the service yard and overlooks the houses at the southern end of Montpellier Row. It is symmetrically composed but otherwise more vernacular than formal in character. It was modified in 1905 when the three four-light casement windows in the centre of the first floor appeared, together with the adjacent chimney stacks. The eastern elevations of the two projecting wings were modified in 1964-1965: two doors in the southern wing were converted to windows and the cart shed, together with its doors, was reduced in size.

| Element  | Description (including history)   |
|----------|---|
| Walls    | Stock brick   |
| Windows  | Casements varying in size from six to 24 lights   |
| Doors    | Plank and batten doors; double-leaf doors on iron hinges, each with six panels of sunk beading, to former cart shed |
| Features | Flat lintel to carriage entrance  |



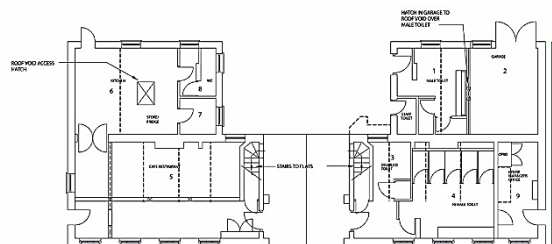


## STABLE BLOCK – Exterior

**Location:** North elevation

**Date(s):** 1825-1827, 1905

**Significance:** High; C20 interventions neutral



**Brief description:** This plain elevation faces the shrubbery of the Sweet Walk and overlooks a garden, which has an area of hard standing, and a former changing block erected by the GLC. It was altered in 1905 when the ground floor door and window (the latter since blocked) and first floor window were created.

| Element  | Description (including history)                                      |
|----------|--|
| Walls    | Stock brick  |
| Windows  | One 6-light casement window  |
| Doors    | One, from the former office  |
| Features | The wall enclosing the service yard abuts the building at this point |



## STABLE BLOCK – Exterior

**Location:** Roof

**Date(s):** 1825-1827, 1905

**Significance:** High



**Brief description:** The roofs of the main block and rear wings of the stable block are hipped and covered in slates throughout. They have broad eaves, although at the north and south elevations the eaves line is broken by the chimney stacks. In the centre of the roof of the main block, aligned with the ridge and pediment on the east elevation, is a wooden turret, square in plan, which houses a chiming bell for the clock. The external faces of each post have Tuscan pilasters, with a frieze and deep cornice above. The turret has a lead-covered roof of truncated pyramidal form with concave faces, rising to another cornice and topped with a gilt ball finial. In 1905 dormers were cut through the western slope of the roof of the main block, abutting the chimney stacks added at the same time.



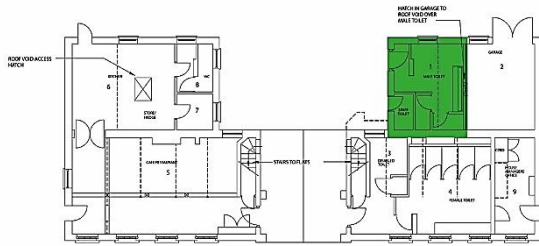
## STABLE BLOCK – Ground Floor

**Room: G1**

**Name: Male and staff toilets**

**Date(s): 1825-1827, 1905, 1964-1965, late C20**

**Significance: Neutral**



**Brief description:** A toilet was created in this location during the 1905 modifications and survives in the form of the single-cubicle staff toilet, which can be reached only from a separate door in the south wall. The visitors' male toilet was created in latter half of the twentieth century by subdividing the southern half of the former cart shed. In its current form it dates from the English Heritage guardianship.

| Element  | Description (including history)                    |
|----------|--|
| Walls    | Plastered and painted, tiled to head height        |
| Floor    | Tiled  |
| Ceiling  | Plaster  |
| Joinery  | Door, windows, hatch to roofspace                  |
| Features | Modern sanitary ware, partition walls for cubicles |



## STABLE BLOCK – Ground Floor

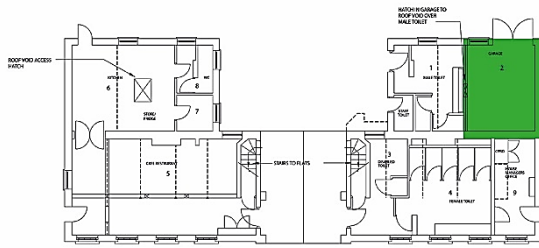
**Room:** G2

**Name:** Garage

**Previous name:** Cart Shed

**Date(s):** 1825-1827, late C20

**Significance:** Some significance



**Brief description:** This is the remaining portion of the cart shed, which formerly occupied all of the northern rear wing but was reduced through subdivision to form the male visitor toilets.

**Notes:** Originally there was a double entrance from the yard, with two sets of doors divided by a single pillar. The existing door leaves may well be a surviving component of the original arrangement but a comparison of modern survey drawings with the plans for the 1905 alterations show that the west wall has been rebuilt and the openings reconfigured.

| Element  | Description (including history)                        |
|----------|--|
| Walls    | Brick – painted on north and east sides, bare to south |
| Floor    | Grey brick   |
| Ceiling  | None, open to roofspace                                |
| Joinery  | Roof structure, cart doors                             |
| Features | Modern ducting and pipework at high level              |





## STABLE BLOCK – Ground Floor

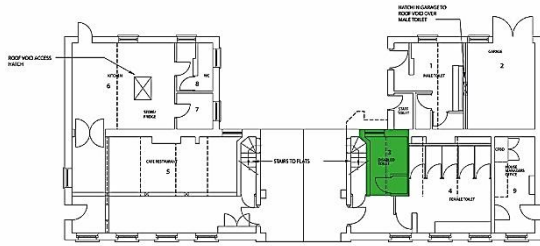
**Room:** G3

**Name:** Disabled toilet

**Previous name:** Bothy

**Date(s):** 1825-1827, 1905, late C20

**Significance:** Neutral



**Brief description:** This cubicle was created through the subdivision of the ground floor space in the northern half of the main block, which was originally occupied by stalls and turned into a bothy during the 1905 alterations. In its current form it dates from the English Heritage guardianship.

| Element  | Description (including history)             |
|----------|---|
| Walls    | Plastered and painted, tiled to head height |
| Floor    | Tiled                                       |
| Ceiling  | Plaster                                     |
| Joinery  | Doorframe, door, window                     |
| Features | Sanitary ware                               |



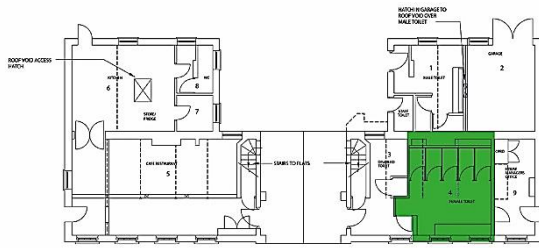
## STABLE BLOCK – Ground Floor

**Room:** G4

**Name:** Female toilet

**Date(s):** 1825-1827, late C20

**Significance:** Neutral



**Brief description:** Created through the subdivision of the ground floor space in the northern half of the main block, which was originally occupied by stalls and turned into a bothy during the 1905 alterations. In its current form it dates from the English Heritage guardianship.

**Notes:** A sealed chimney breast survives in the west wall behind a modern lining. The 1905 plan shows posts in this space like those that survive in G5 but they have been removed.

| Element  | Description (including history)                    |
|----------|--|
| Walls    | Plastered and painted, tiled to head height        |
| Floor    | Tiled  |
| Ceiling  | Plaster  |
| Joinery  | Doorframe, door, windows                           |
| Features | Modern sanitary ware, partition walls for cubicles |



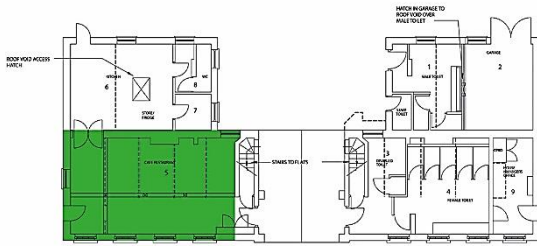
## STABLE BLOCK – Ground Floor

**Room:** G5

**Name:** Café

**Date(s):** 1825-1827, 1964-1965, late C20

**Significance:** Neutral



**Brief description:** This space was originally a stable, divided into four stalls by wooden stall dividers. There was a room at the southern end with a fireplace separated from it by a brick wall. At a date no earlier than 1964-1965 it was converted into a seating area for the café and the stall dividers were removed, leaving only the posts with which they terminated that rise from floor to ceiling and support a beam running the length of the space. The brick partition wall was removed to unite the stable with the adjoining room and a doorway was created communicating with the kitchen in the southern rear wing.

| Element  | Description (including history)   |
|----------|---|
| Walls    | Plastered and painted with roll moulding at dado height   |
| Floor    | Red quarry tiles  |
| Ceiling  | Plaster   |
| Joinery  | Doors   |
| Features | Chimney breast in south wall (grate and fireplace surround removed, opening sealed); elliptical-arched recess for door at north end; counter for serving food and catering equipment; iron tether rings attached to posts |



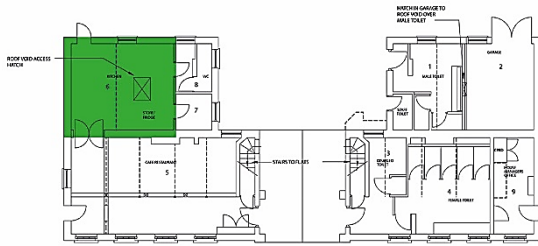
## STABLE BLOCK – Ground Floor

**Room:** G6

**Name:** Kitchen

**Date(s):** 1825-1827, 1964-1965, late C20

**Significance:** Neutral



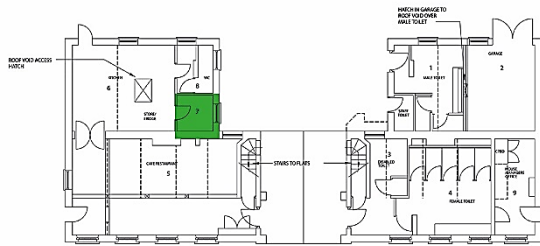
**Brief description:** This space occupies all of the southern rear wing, which formerly housed the three loose boxes. At a date no earlier than 1964-1965 it was converted into a kitchen for the café through the removal of the internal partition walls and creation of a doorway in the east wall to communicate with the seating area. A partition wall was erected at the north end to form G7 and G8.

| Element  | Description (including history) |
|----------|---------------------------------|
| Walls    | Plastered and painted           |
| Floor    | Red quarry tiles                |
| Ceiling  | Plaster                         |
| Joinery  | Windows, doors                  |
| Features | Kitchen fittings                |





## STABLE BLOCK – Ground Floor



**Room:** G7

**Name:** Food store

**Date(s):** 1825-1827, 1964-1965, late C20

**Significance:** Neutral

**Brief description:** One of the two spaces at the north end of the southern rear wing, currently used for storing food for the café.

| Element  | Description (including history) |
|----------|---------------------------------|
| Walls    | Plastered and painted           |
| Floor    | Red quarry tiles                |
| Ceiling  | Plaster                         |
| Joinery  | Window, doorframe, door         |
| Features | Storage cabinets and shelving   |



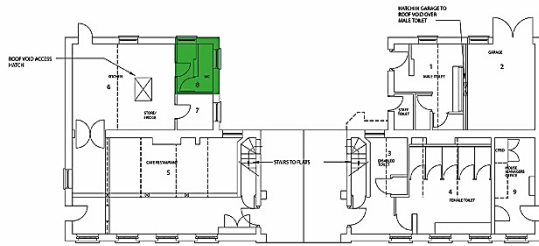
## STABLE BLOCK – Ground Floor

**Room:** G8

**Name:** Toilet and store

**Date(s):** 1825-1827, 1964-1965, late C20

**Significance:** Neutral



**Brief description:** The second of the two spaces at the north end of the southern rear wing, which consists of a storeroom subdivided at its north end to form a toilet cubicle.

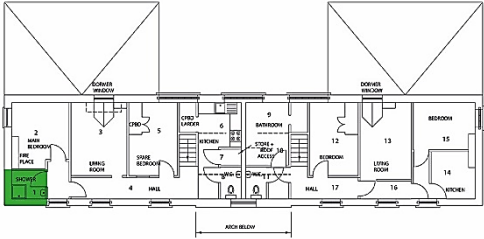
| Element | Description (including history) |
|---------|---------------------------------|
| Walls   | Plastered and painted           |
| Floor   | Red quarry tiles                |
| Ceiling | Plaster                         |
| Joinery | Windows, doorframes, door       |





**STABLE BLOCK – First Floor**

**Room: F1**  
**Name: Bathroom**  
**Date(s): 1825-1827, post-1952**  
**Significance: Neutral**



**Brief description:** Created through subdivision of a larger bedroom

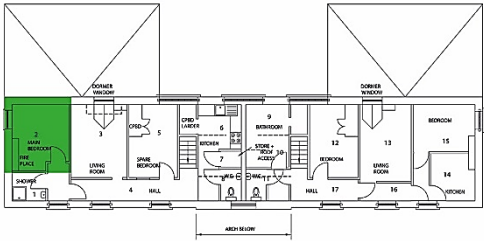
| Element  | Description (including history)     |
|----------|-------------------------------------|
| Walls    | Plastered and painted, partly tiled |
| Floor    | Linoleum                            |
| Ceiling  | Plaster                             |
| Joinery  | Window, doorframe, door             |
| Features | Sanitary ware                       |





**STABLE BLOCK – First Floor**

**Room: F2**  
**Name: Master bedroom**  
**Date(s): 1825-1827, 1905, post-1952**  
**Significance: Some significance**



**Brief description:** The southernmost of the three main rooms over the former south stable, reduced in size when part of it was subdivided to form a bathroom in the later C20. Formerly it extended the full depth of the main block.

| Element  | Description (including history)   |
|----------|---|
| Walls    | Plastered and painted   |
| Floor    | Carpet  |
| Ceiling  | Plaster   |
| Joinery  | Windows, door, mantelshelf, skirting  |
| Features | Cast fireplace surround with Art Nouveau motifs, opening blocked and sealed |



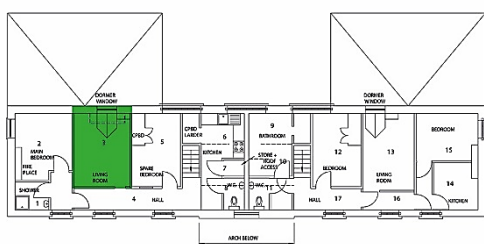
## STABLE BLOCK – First Floor

**Room: F3**

**Name: Living room**

**Date(s): 1825-1827, 1905, 2010s**

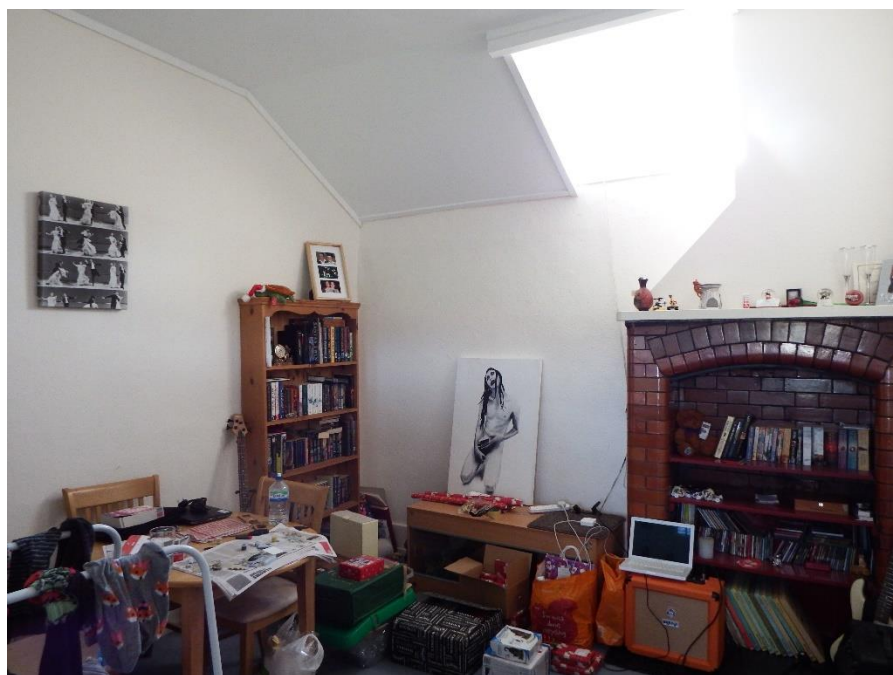
**Significance: Some significance**



**Brief description:** The middle of the three main rooms over the former south stable, shown as a living room on the plans for the 1905 alterations

**Notes:** Glazed fire wall inserted to divide living room from F4 in 2010s.

| Element  | Description (including history)                                      |
|----------|--|
| Walls    | Plastered and painted  |
| Floor    | Carpet   |
| Ceiling  | Plaster, partly extending into roofspace and following pitch of roof |
| Joinery  | Window, skirting   |
| Features | Prominent fireplace of brown glazed brick with segmental arch        |



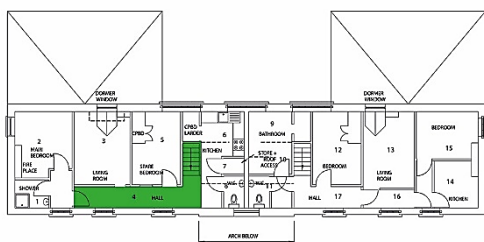
## STABLE BLOCK – First Floor

**Room:** F4

**Name:** Hall and stairs

**Date(s):** 1825-1827, 1905, 2010s

**Significance:** Some significance



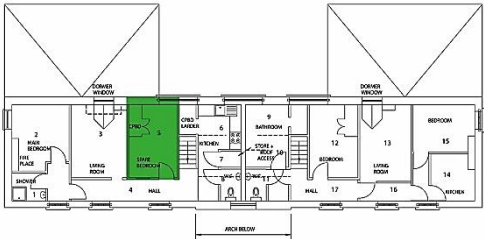
**Brief description:** A staircase rises through a quarter turn from a ground-floor lobby opening off the carriage entrance to a corridor running along the eastern side of the southern flat, providing access to all the rooms. The partition wall separating it from the living room is a modern fire wall but the partition wall with a window separating it from F5 is original.

| Element | Description (including history)   |
|---------|---|
| Walls   | Plastered and painted, stairwell wallpapered  |
| Floor   | Carpet  |
| Ceiling | Plaster   |
| Joinery | Door frame and overlight (former entrance to living room), window in east wall, dado rail, skirting |



**STABLE BLOCK – First Floor**

**Room: F5**  
**Name: Spare bedroom**  
**Date(s): 1825-1827, 1905**  
**Significance: Some significance**



**Brief description:** The northernmost of the three main rooms over the former south stable, shown as a bedroom on the plans for the 1905 alterations

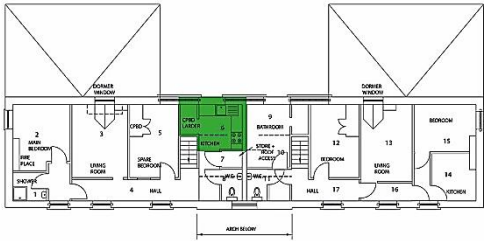
| Element  | Description (including history)                                      |
|----------|--|
| Walls    | Painted and plastered  |
| Floor    | Carpet   |
| Ceiling  | Plaster, partly extending into roofspace and following pitch of roof |
| Joinery  | Doorframe, 4-panel door, window,                                     |
| Features | Modern cupboard in SW corner, probably concealing a fireplace        |





**STABLE BLOCK – First Floor**

**Room:** F6  
**Name:** Kitchen  
**Date(s):** 1825-1827, 1905, 2010s  
**Significance:** Neutral



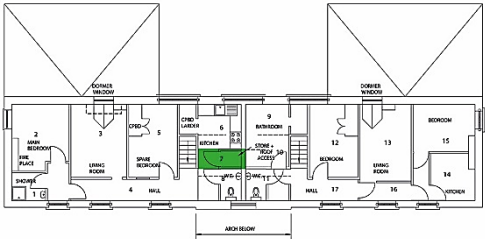
**Brief description:** The kitchen is located directly above the carriage entrance. Its north wall is a party wall that bisects the first floor of the stable block and separates it from the second flat in the northern half. It is adjoined by a walk-in larder that fills the space above the lower part of the staircase.

| Element  | Description (including history)     |
|----------|-------------------------------------|
| Walls    | Painted and plastered, partly tiled |
| Floor    | Linoleum                            |
| Ceiling  | Plaster                             |
| Joinery  | Window, doorframe, door, skirting   |
| Features | Kitchen fittings                    |



# STABLE BLOCK – First Floor

**Room: F7**  
**Name: Storeroom and adjacent lobby**  
**Date(s): 1825-1827, 1905**  
**Significance: Neutral**



**Brief description:** The lobby provides access from the upper landing of the stairs to F6, a tiny storeroom (shown on the 1905 plan as a coal store) and to F8. The storeroom has a hatch in the ceiling that provides access to the roofspace and clock mechanism.

| Element  | Description (including history)  |
|----------|--|
| Walls    | Plastered and papered  |
| Floor    | Linoleum   |
| Ceiling  | Plaster  |
| Joinery  | Doorframes, doors  |
| Features | Wooden housing for clock weights and drive running across the lobby at head height and then vertically downwards against the south wall; clock mechanism in roof space |



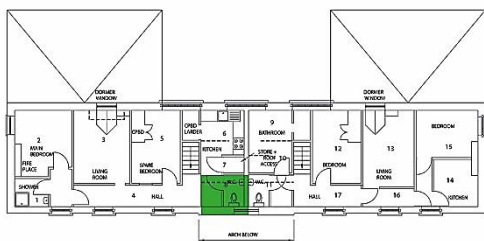
## STABLE BLOCK – First Floor

**Room: F8**

**Name: South toilet**

**Date(s): 1825-1827, 1905**

**Significance: Neutral**



**Brief description:** Lavatory adjacent to store room – shown in this position on the 1905 plan.

| Element | Description (including history) |
|---------|---------------------------------|
| Walls   | Plastered and papered           |
| Floor   | Linoleum                        |
| Ceiling | Plaster                         |
| Joinery | Window, door                    |



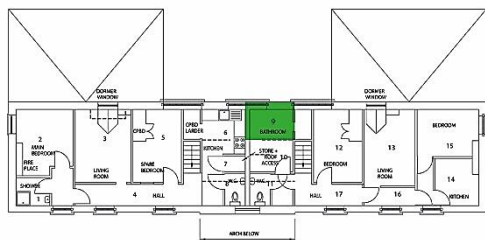
## STABLE BLOCK – First Floor

**Room:** F9

**Name:** Bathroom

**Date(s):** 1825-1827, 1905, late C20

**Significance:** Neutral



**Brief description:** Shown on the 1905 plan as a scullery – the northern flat was originally a ‘mirror image’ of the southern in its layout.

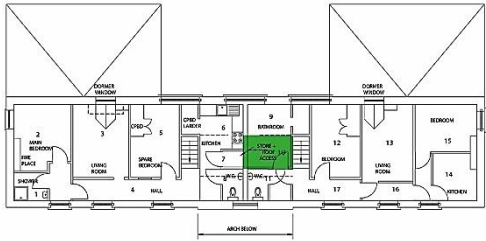
| Element  | Description (including history)  |
|----------|--|
| Walls    | Plastered and papered, partly tiled  |
| Floor    | Linoleum   |
| Ceiling  | Plaster  |
| Joinery  | Window, door   |
| Features | Adjacent space over the lower half of the staircase, curtained off from the rest of the bathroom, the former walk-in larder; secondary glazing |





# STABLE BLOCK – First Floor

**Room:** F10  
**Name:** Lobby and storeroom  
**Date(s):** 1825-1827, 1905  
**Significance:** Neutral



**Brief description:** This space is the ‘mirror image’ of F7 in the southern flat and, like it, provides access from the upper landing of the stairs to a tiny storeroom (shown on the 1905 plan as a coal store) and to F9, the former kitchen. The storeroom has a hatch in the ceiling that provides access to the roofspace and clock mechanism.

| Element  | Description (including history)  |
|----------|--|
| Walls    | Plastered and painted  |
| Floor    | Linoleum   |
| Ceiling  | Plaster  |
| Joinery  | Door frames, doors (panelled and planked)  |
| Features | Wooden housing for clock weights and drive running across the lobby at head height and then vertically downwards against the north wall; clock mechanism in roof space |



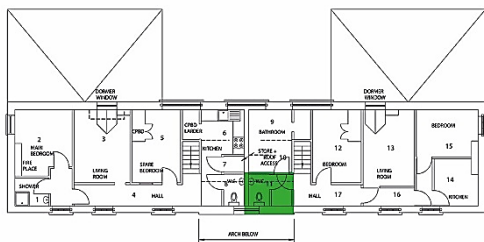
## STABLE BLOCK – First Floor

**Room: F11**

**Name: Toilet**

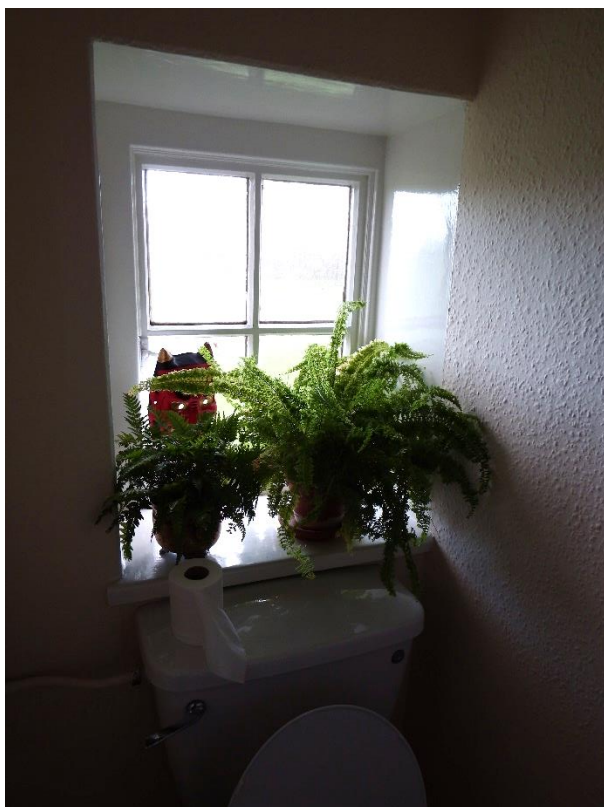
**Date(s): 1825-1827, 1905, late C20**

**Significance: Neutral**



**Brief description:** On plan, the 'mirror image' of the toilet in the southern flat

| Element | Description (including history) |
|---------|---------------------------------|
| Walls   | Plastered and papered           |
| Floor   | Linoleum                        |
| Ceiling | Plaster                         |
| Joinery | Window, doorframe, door         |



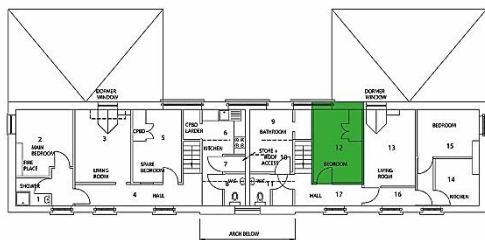
## STABLE BLOCK – First Floor

**Room:** F12

**Name:** Bedroom

**Date(s):** 1825-1827, 1905

**Significance:** Some significance



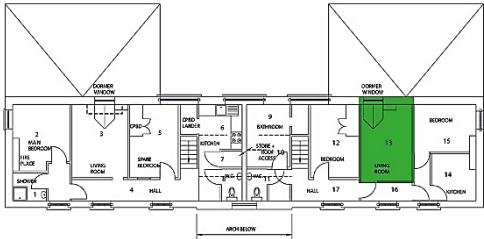
**Brief description:** The 'mirror image' of F5 in the southern flat.

| Element  | Description (including history)  |
|----------|--|
| Walls    | Plastered and papered  |
| Floor    | Carpet   |
| Ceiling  | Plaster, partly extending into roofspace and following pitch of roof   |
| Joinery  | Windows, door, skirting  |
| Features | Tie beam of roof truss; historic built-in cupboard; modern cupboards against west wall concealing the chimney breast and fireplace |



**STABLE BLOCK – First Floor**

**Room:** F13  
**Name:** Living room  
**Date(s):** 1825-1827, 1905, 2010s  
**Significance:** Some significance



**Brief description:** The ‘mirror image’ of F3 in the southern flat and, like it, originally a single space with the adjacent corridor until a fire wall was erected in the 2010s.

| Element  | Description (including history)  |
|----------|--|
| Walls    | Plastered and papered  |
| Floor    | Carpet   |
| Ceiling  | Plaster, partly extending into roofspace and following pitch of roof             |
| Joinery  | Door, window, skirtings, fireplace surround and mantelshelf (opening sealed off) |
| Features | Built-in dresser   |





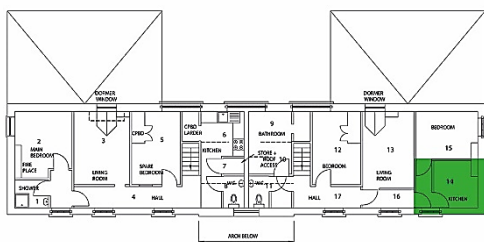
## STABLE BLOCK – First Floor

**Room:** F14

**Name:** Kitchen

**Date(s):** 1825-1827, 1905, late C20

**Significance:** Neutral



**Brief description:** Small room created through the subdivision of F15

| Element  | Description (including history)     |
|----------|-------------------------------------|
| Walls    | Plastered and painted, partly tiled |
| Floor    | Linoleum                            |
| Ceiling  | Plaster                             |
| Joinery  | Window                              |
| Features | Secondary glazing, kitchen units    |



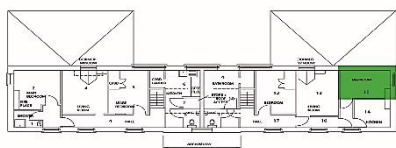
## STABLE BLOCK – First Floor

**Room:** F15

**Name:** Bedroom

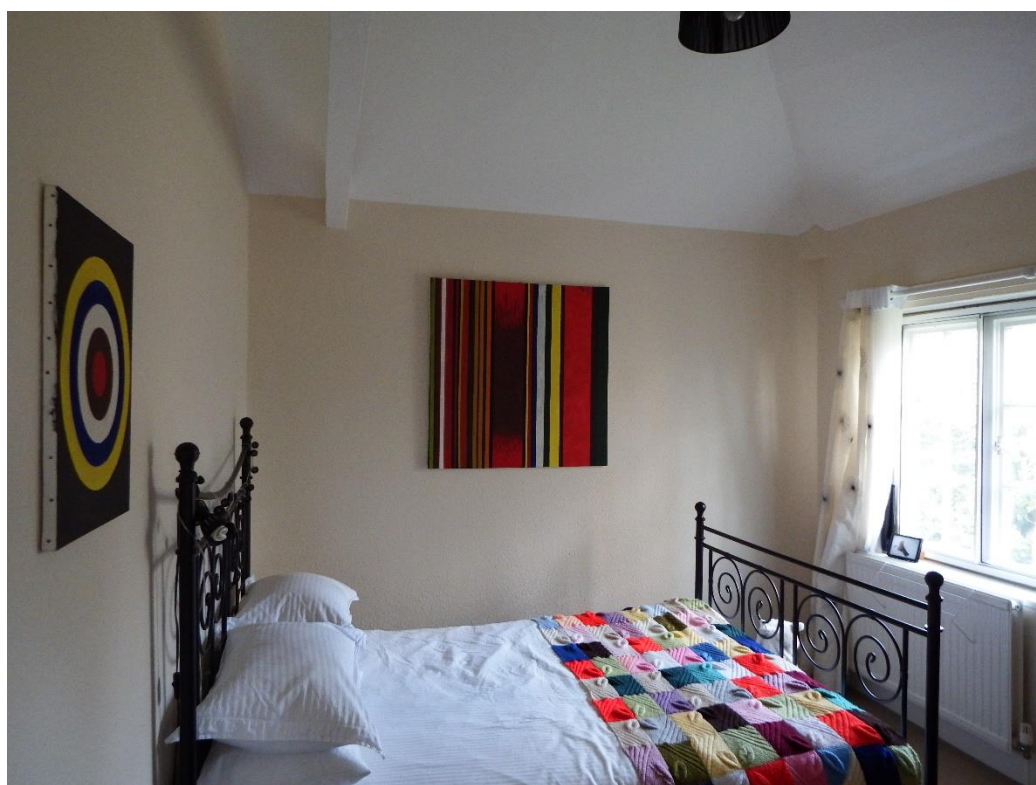
**Date(s):** 1825-1827, 1905, late C20

**Significance:** Some significance



**Brief description:** The 'mirror image' of F2 in the southern flat and, like it, shown on the 1905 plan as a bedroom. It has also been subdivided, although in this instance to create a kitchen.

| Element  | Description (including history)  |
|----------|--|
| Walls    | Plastered and papered  |
| Floor    | Carpet   |
| Ceiling  | Plaster, partly extending into roofspace and following pitch of roof   |
| Joinery  | Window, mantelshelf, skirting  |
| Features | Secondary glazing; tie beam of roof truss; fireplace with Art Nouveau-style motifs in relief identical to that in F2 |



**STABLE BLOCK – First Floor**

**Room:** F16-17  
**Name:** Corridor and stairs  
**Date(s):** 1825-1827, 1905  
**Significance:** Some significance



**Brief description:** The ‘mirror image’ of F4 in the southern flat - a staircase rises through a quarter turn from a ground-floor lobby opening off the carriage entrance to a corridor running along the eastern side of the flat, providing access to all the rooms. The partition separating it from the living room is modern but the partition wall with a window separating it from F12 is original.

| Element  | Description (including history)   |
|----------|---|
| Walls    | Plastered and painted   |
| Floor    | Carpet  |
| Ceiling  | Plaster, partly extending into roofspace and following pitch of roof                      |
| Joinery  | Windows, doorframes, skirtings, doors   |
| Features | Secondary glazing; exposed tie beam of roof truss also visible in F12, handrail to stairs |

