

ITEM	HISTORICAL DETAIL		WORKS
D 2 Door to cupboard architrave none, flush frame timber, receive door to plain of wall leaf two styles and three rails with moulded panel, presume only recently uncovered, shown by CL 1972 with door papered over hardware wrought hinges; smith-made locking mechanism furniture Decorative key to lock, no other pulls.	D 2 C18, pre - HW? architrave — frame 1 / 4 C18 leaf 1 / 4 C18 hardware 1 / 4 C18 furniture ? 1 / 4 C18		
WALLPAPER Machine printed red-colour paper to walls, divided by a modern dado rail with 'complimentary' paper below. Present scheme created when this and the Blue Bedchamber were when making 'bridal suite'.	~1993 1753 Over this is Mr Chute's bedchamber, [FN 13] hung with red in the same manner. 20 381 1753 June 12 [HW to Mann] Over this is Mr Chute's bedchamber, [FN 13] hung with red in the same manner. The bow-window room [FN 14] one pair of stairs is not yet finished; but in the tower beyond it is the charm 20 381 PAGE 381, note 12, add See Ossory i. 294, ii. 273 43 271 PAGE 381, note 13, add Since the Des. Of SH (Works ii. 436) describes the Red Bedchamber as 'Hung with Crimson paper,' it seems that the prints here mentioned were covered over in 1771, when HW '...paid Bromwich for papering some rooms' (SH Accounts, ed. Paget Toynbee, Oxford, 1927, pp. 12, 66). 43 271 1754 Feb 22 p ^d Bromwich for papering Staircase, pink room green closet & garretts 77 17 2 Toynbee Accounts 5 [Toynbee suggests the identification of the pink room as the red bedchamber but it could also be the Star Chamber.] 1784 HUNG with crimson paper; Description 30 1972 Country Life image shows plain painted paper.		
FURNITURE Modern matric on box spring with green nylon velvet covered headboard writing table, C 19	≥ 1963 1784 ... by the bed, a crucifix of ivory; an ewer and bason of Chantilli porcelaine; a red and white flower-pot, cup, saucer and sugar-dish, of Seve porcelaine; crimson Norwich damask chairs, and an arm-chair of patch-work. Description 30		

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PICTURES	<p>Used as print room but possibly covered over in 1771</p> <p>1755 Aug 15 [HW to Bentley] and must thank you first for the three pictures. ... The other two I don't, at least won't, take for finished. If you please, Elisabeth Castle [FN 3 ...Red Bedchamber] shall be Mr Müntz's performance: indeed I see nothing of you in it.</p> <p>1810 The Red Bed-chamber has these pictures worthy of attention [list of pictures]</p> <p>1842 May 19 THE RED BED CHAMBER. [lots 41 - 83]</p> <p>35 243 +n Evans 164+ Sale 222 - 223</p>	
<p>Fixtures Modern radiator fitted below window.</p> <p>Lighting Central fixed fitting to ceiling</p>		<p>Renew all services and associated pipework.</p> <p>Remove central light fitting;</p>

ITEM	HISTORICAL DETAIL		WORKS
DOCUMENTS			
letters +9 146n Red Bedchamber at - +10 57n Red Bedchamber at - +11 72 Red Bedchamber at - HW lives in, during fit of gout,; to be occupied by Mary Berry +11 177 Red Bedchamber at - WH able to walk from, to Blue Room	+20 348n Red Bedchamber at - added +20 381 Red Bedchamber at - Chute's bedchamber at +33 81 Red Bedchamber at - HW lives in, during fit of gout, 33 102 Red Bedchamber at - rained into Red Bedchamber at - ?35 343n Red Bedchamber at - chintz bed in 34 105 Red Bedchamber at - WH able to walk from, to Blue Room +35 207n Red Bedchamber at - Bentley's and Müntz's 'Elizabeth Castle' in	+39 317 Red Bedchamber at - HW, in winter, shifts from Blue Room to, 42 108n Red Bedchamber at - Sophia Dorothea's copied portrait in 43 271 Red Bedchamber at -	
	<p><1747</p> <p>The arrangement of the house in the years up to 1747 can thus be summarized. On the ground floor (Fig 6) there was a front parlour to the west, a front hall, and a front service room/kitchen to the east, with, to the rear, a dining room, the staircase, and a back kitchen. On the first floor the 'Best Bedchamber', to the south-west, may have had an adjoining closet to the north; the east chamber would have had a closet to the south, and there may have been a third chamber over the hall. The 'library' was the only second-floor room.</p> <p>The house has taken on a most peculiar and highly asymmetrical shape (Fig 7). To a T-plan two storey cottage was appended to the rear a three-storey 'tower', a lean-to stair, and a small gabled block - 'Jesus, what a house'.</p> <p>GALLERY 109</p>	<p>[Toynbee suggests the identification of the pink room as the red bedchamber]</p> <p>1753 used as <i>Mr Chute's bedchamber</i> used by HW when he had gout. [Orleans 1980]</p>	
	1752 Dec 11 [HW to Mann] all the world are gone to their several Christmases; as I should do, if I could have got my workmen out of Strawberry Hill; [FN 38 In these alterations, HW was adding the little Parlour, the Yellow, Blue, and Red Bedchambers, the Hall and staircase, and the Armoury (W S Leis Genesis] 20 348 FN		

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	<p>1753 May 22 [HW to Montagu] We emerge very fast out of shavings, and hammerings and pastings; [FN 4 The first really extensive additions to SH were made at this time, when the following rooms were either built or remodelled (the numbers in each case refer to <i>des. Of SH, Works</i> ii): ground floor, the Little Parlour (418), Yellow Bedchamber, later the Beauty Room (418), hall (401), and Staircase (420, 439); principal floor, the Red Bedchamber (436), Armoury (440), Green Closet (427), and (?) Star Chamber (453); see 'Genesis of SH' 91; <i>SH Accounts</i> 4-5 and notes; HW to Mann 12 June 1753.] the painted glass is full-blown in every window, [FN 5 HW had begun collecting Flemish painted glass as early as 1750 (HW to Mann 18 Oct. 1750); it was brought him by 'one Ascioti,' whose first importations had been purchased by HW's rival Goth, Richard Bateman...]</p> <p>and the gorgeous Saints that were brought out for one day on the festival of Saint George Montague, [FN 6] are fixed forever in the tabernacles they are to inhabit. The castle is not the only beauty, the garden is at the height of all its sees...</p>	<p>GLAZING , near completion of works</p>

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	<p>1753 June 12 [HW to Mann] The enclosed engravings of the landscape from a Street in London will be to explain a number of the views as well as a very large view which stands before you, which we can find no other title for. The engraving is a landscape from the street in London, which we can find no other title for. The engraving is a landscape from the street in London, which we can find no other title for.</p> <p>20 380</p> <p>Now online with the engraving. I have not as they are to be able to find it. I have not as they are to be able to find it. I have not as they are to be able to find it.</p> <p>20 381</p> <p>PAGE 381, note 12, add See Ossory I. 294, ii. 273</p> <p>43 271</p> <p>PAGE 381, note 13, add Since the <i>Des. Of SH (Works ii. 436)</i> describes the Red Bedchamber as 'Hung with Crimson paper,' it seems that the prints here mentioned were covered over in 1771, when HW '...paid Bromwich for papering some rooms' (<i>SH Accounts</i>, ed. Paget Toynbee, Oxford, 1927, pp. 12, 66).</p> <p>43 271</p>	

[illegible]

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	<p>1779 Jan 3 [HW to Lady Ossory] I took the air four times in Hyde Park, before I began my march, and had this house baked for a week previously, and stayed for the frost. [FN 2] All these precautions have answered - negatively - that is, I have not suffered. I move but from the red to the blue room. [FN 3 The Blue Bedchamber and the Red Bedchamber, described in WH's 'Des. of SH,' Works ii. 435-8, were on the principal floor of SH (the floor plan is <i>ibid.</i> ii. Pl. IV, facing p. 512) and therefore more convenient for him during illness than his own bedchamber on the floor above (<i>ibid.</i> ii 452-3).] and cannot walk even those three yards yet—but my spirits are better, which always flag when the fever is quite gone; so all my vivacity when I was at the worst was a little light-headed.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">33 81</p> <p>Here I have lost two beautiful elms in a line with this bow-window [FN 8 In the Blue Bedchamber]</p> <p style="text-align: right;">33 82</p>	USE of Room; location confirmed
	<p>1779 Jan 9 [HW to Conway] I went to Strawberry partly out of prudence, partly from ennui. [FN 6] I thought it best to air myself before I go in and out of hot rooms here, and had my house thoroughly warmed for a week previously, and then only stirred from the red room to the blue on the same floor. I stayed five days, and was neither the better nor the worse for it. I was quite tired with having neither company, books, nor amusement of any kind. Either from the emptiness of the town, or that ten weeks of gout [FN 7] have worn out the patience of all my acquaintance, but I don not see three persons in three days.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">39 317</p>	<p>USE of Room; heating the house</p> <p>Unclear if the Blue Room or the Blue Bedchamber; probably the first</p>
	<p>1784 HUNG with crimson paper; by the bed, a crucifix of ivory; an ewer and bason of Chantilli porcelain; a red and white flower-pot, cup, saucer and sugar-dish, of Seve porcelain; crimson Norwich damask chairs, and an arm-chair of patch-work.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Description 30</p>	<p>PAPER</p> <p>CHATELS -</p> <p>CHATELS - chairs / Norwich and Patch-work (chintz)</p>
	<p>1789 Sept 30 The weather has been so cold since Monday, that for these two days I have had a carpenter [FN 13 Not identified. There is no record in <i>SH Accounts</i> of payment of this work.] stopping chinks in window frames and listing the door of the blue room which I destined to wife Agnes: winds will</p> <p style="text-align: right;">11 71</p> <p>get into these old castles. Sultana Maria is to sleep in the red room, where the Sultan himself resides when he has the gout, and which his Haughtiness always keeps very comfortable. Adieu!</p> <p style="text-align: right;">11 72</p>	<p>Establishes nomenclature for room</p> <p>USE</p>

ITEM	HISTORICAL DETAIL	WORKS
	<p>1791 Jan 9 All I have done yet is to walk with a little help from the Red Bedchamber [FN 2 Which HW usually used during attacks of gout; see ante 18 Sept. 1789.] to the Blue Room—that is, down three steps; and that journey contains my daily and whole history. [FN 3The tow following paragraphs are in Kirgate's hand.]</p> <p style="text-align: right;">11 177</p> <p>I rise every day and sit in the Blue Room till eleven at night; but the weather is most unfortunate for me, either tempests, or rains—the meadows quite overflowed. I will undoubtedly be carried to town the moment it is possible.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">11 178</p>	Establishes nomenclature for room
	<p>1810 The Red Bed-chamber has these pictures worthy of attention [list of pictures]</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Evans 164+</p>	
	<p>1842 May 19 THE RED BED CHAMBER. [lots 41 - 83]</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Sale 222 - 223</p>	
	<p>The first-floor 'Best Bedchamber', later the Red Bedchamber (Fig 4), has a box cornice. This is a feature that does not appear elsewhere at Strawberry Hill and, like the cyma door architraves, is out of character with Walpole's work. Further, it has been altered to accommodate an adjustment in the position of the doorway into the room. This was a necessary alteration of 1753 when the first-floor landing of the present staircase was formed, forcing an awkwardly placed narrow doorway. The cornice is thus likely to ben an original feature of this early eighteenth-century room. Another box cornice may survive in the ground-floor 'Best Parlour' or Beauty Room, concealed by a bulky modern moulding. On the second floor 'Mr Chenevix's Library' has had its doorway shifted, as that below, but there are no visible early eighteenth-century features.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">GUILLERY 108</p>	
	<p>192[9] Pugin & Pugin Plan [plan survey and proposal for heating? - Marked as SITTING ROOM 4, indication on south external wall suggests a flue, no indication of the closet and radiator positioned on north wall.]</p> <p style="text-align: right;">BEDS ROLL RGH/2/335</p>	
	<p>1958 Dec Sir Albert Richardson Plan [plan recording and with proposal of the restoration of the north entrance. Room marked Priest Bedroom, not linked with Blue Bedchamber, closet not indicated]</p> <p style="text-align: right;">BEDS ROLL RGH/2/335</p>	

STAR CHAMBER S/1/5

1784 THE STAR CHAMBER
1857 Star Chamber

An oblique view of the room from the doorway of the staircase by Bentley, ~1755 shows the room hung with a rose-coloured paper and it may be the 'pink room' described in the household accounts of the 1750s. The C18 descriptions of the room suggest a small intimate space, latter partly as a dark passage with its window heavily shaded and filled. The only representation of the room's decoration is the glimpse given by Richard Bentley in his view of the staircase hall.

From 1861, Walpole's lancet-arch window was replaced by a large rectilinear window frame and the room was furnished with marquetry furniture. From 1861 HW's lancet-shaped window removed and replaced by large rectilinear window nearly the size of the north wall and the doors were removed by Lady Waldegrave. During the C20 Richardson removed the C19 window and remodelled the present window based on C18 drawings and engravings. The north, east and west walls have all been worked on the dry rot repairs of 1958, 1972 and 1984. The present decoration was probably added soon after the 1984 campaign of works.

Present window was glazed with a decorative scheme by Joan Howson from 1959 incorporating pieces of decorated glass from other areas of the house, the series of birds and insects by Price were removed from the Blue Bedchamber. Although the north elevation has been rebuilt several times in the late C20 (1958/9, 1972 and 1983) part of the ceiling appears to survive from the C 18 as well as the south wall and the floor. The architraves and frames date from the middle of the C18, though now missing their doors.

ITEM	HISTORICAL DETAIL	WORKS
CEILING Plain plaster on lath, with plaster rose to centre. All painted plain white.	3 / 4 C18	
CORNICE		
WALLS North Wall rebuilt by AER and John Warren; East wall possibly rebuilt by John Warren. South and probably West wall survive from Pre Walpole house.	1983 1983 1 / 4 C18	
DADO / SKIRTING no dado Skirting: plain timber upright with cyma recta moulding to upper edge, same as first floor landing.	1752 / 3 Presume skirting survive from C18	
FLOOR Fitted carpet, underlay over hardboard applied to old floorboards. Boards survive from HW alteration of house or earlier.	1984 ≤1755	

ITEM	HISTORICAL DETAIL	WORKS
WINDOW		
<p>W 1</p> <p>architrave None, finished with plaster</p> <p>frame embrasure of window in plaster, a wide lancet arch opening</p> <p>shutter None, uncertain how historic shutter was configured, evidence lost.</p> <p>casement Five vertically arranged compartments, fixed close. Inside mouldings finished as polished oak.</p> <p>glazing The five compartments filled with a mixture of painted and plain glass set within clear Nailsea glass decorated with enamelled boards.</p> <p>hardware —</p> <p>furniture —</p> <p>Overall condition of timber elements of window frame is good.</p>	<p>W 1</p> <p>architrave —</p> <p>frame —</p> <p>shutter —</p> <p>casement 1958/9</p> <p>glazing 1959, with C18 and earlier roundels.</p> <p>hardware</p> <p>furniture</p>	
	<p>1783 June 20 [HW to Lady Ossory] ...- Imagine, Madam, what I could show them when it was pitch dark! Of all houses upon earth mine, from the painted glass and overhanging trees, wants the sun the most, besides the Star Chamber and passage being obscured on purpose to raise the gallery.</p> <p>33 403</p> <p>1784 THE STAR CHAMBER</p> <p>It has a large window entirely of painted glass; Description 42</p> <p>1842 May 21 THE STAR CHAMBER</p> <p>40 A singularly fine Gothic shaped window of the RARE OLD stained glass, complete in five compartments, and including many exceedingly interesting and fine specimens of the early art of painting on glass, viz. legendary subjects, Coats of Arms, Saints, with the date of 1615, the whole to be cut from the frame, the size 5 feet by 4 feet SALE 242</p> <p>[bought by Lord Waldegrave]</p> <p>1883 ... with a modern stained glass window;... VENTOM 6</p> <p>1943 - 60 The five light Gothic window in the Star Chamber was filled with fragments from damaged windows as well as panels from other parts of the house.</p> <p>Father Cronin interview in Corpus 2</p>	