

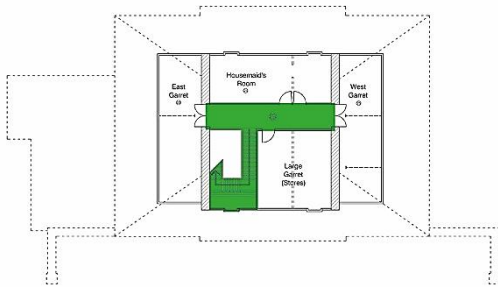
MARBLE HILL HOUSE – Garret

Room: 26a

Name: Corridor and landing

Date(s): 1724-9

Significance: Moderate



Brief description: The Stone Staircase terminates in the roofspace, where the top landing forms part of a corridor running east-west across the garret between the two north-south spine walls that carry the flues. The only source of natural light is the eastern dormer in the north slope of the roof.

Notes: No public access.

Element	Description (including history)
Walls	Plaster
Floor	Boards, partly historic; stone treads of stair
Ceiling	Plaster
Joinery	Skirting, door frames, two-panel doors, six-pane casement to dormer, handrail to stair and landing balustrade
Features	The roof of the dormer is glazed to provide extra light; hexagonal, brass-framed lantern hanging from ceiling



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.

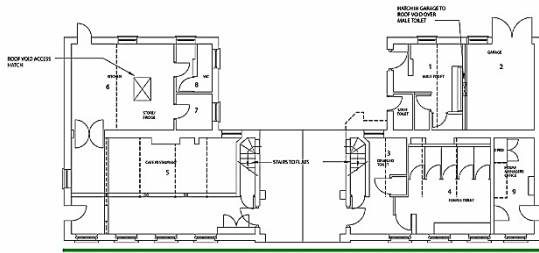
Brief description: The stable block consists of a two-storey main block, nine bays in length and orientated approximately north-south (deemed to be aligned exactly thus for the purposes of this gazetteer). It stands roughly at a right angle to the main house and its principal, east-facing aspect looks 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

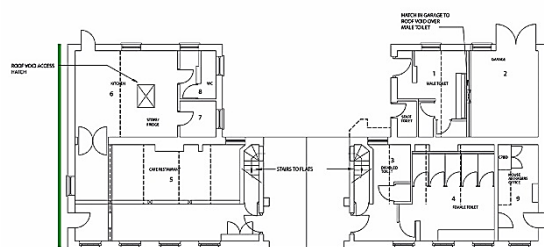


STABLE BLOCK – Exterior

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

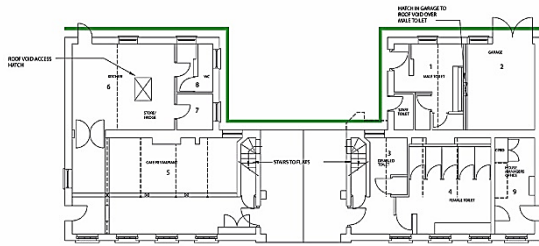


STABLE BLOCK – Exterior

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

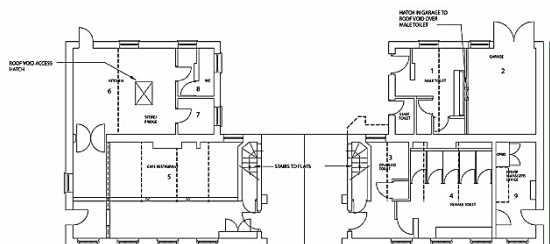


STABLE BLOCK – Exterior

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.



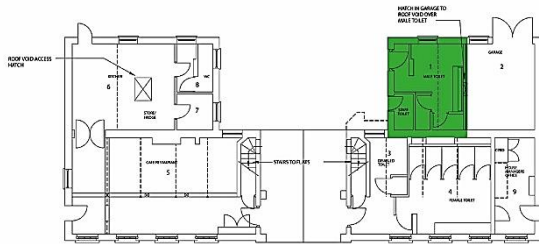
STABLE BLOCK – Ground Floor

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

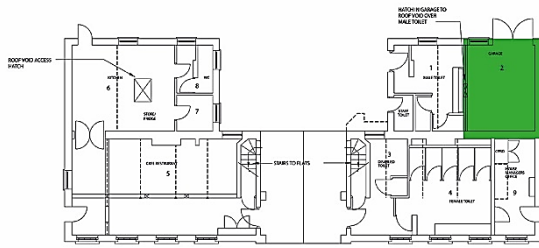
Room: G2

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

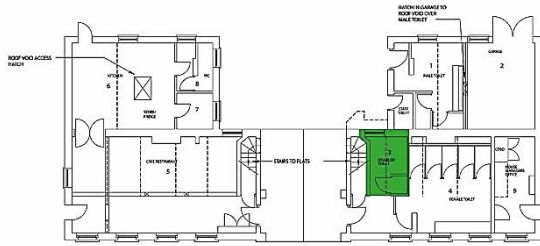
Room: G3

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



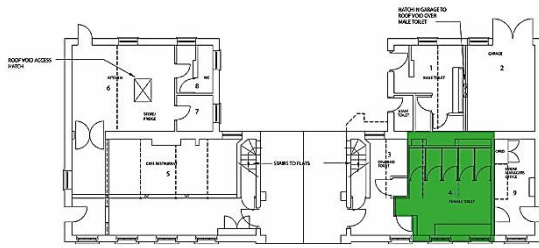
STABLE BLOCK – Ground Floor

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



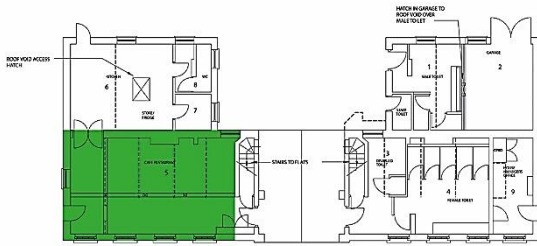
STABLE BLOCK – Ground Floor

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



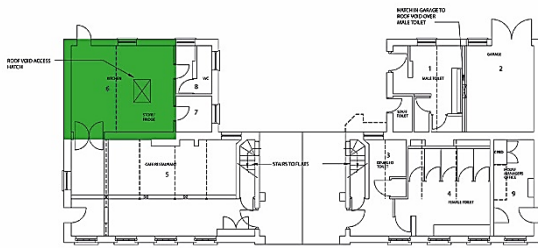
STABLE BLOCK – Ground Floor

Room: G6

Name: Kitchen

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

Significance: Neutral

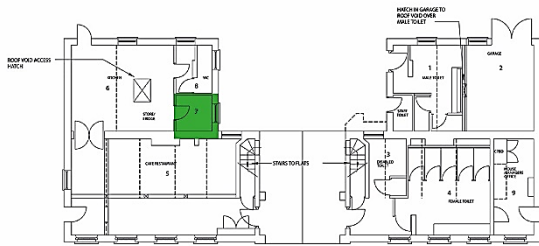


Brief description: This space occupies all of the southern rear wing, which formerly housed the three loose boxes. At a date no earlier than 1964-1965 it was converted into a kitchen for the café through the removal of the internal partition walls and creation of a doorway in the east wall to communicate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



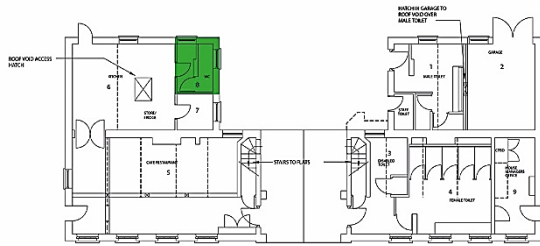
STABLE BLOCK – Ground Floor

Room: G8

Name: Toilet and store

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

Significance: Neutral



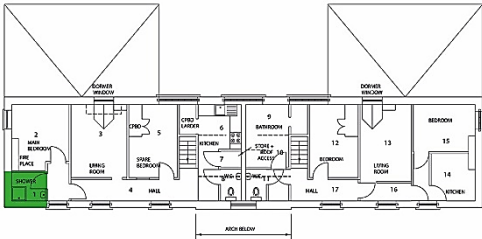
Brief description: The second of the two spaces at the north end of the southern rear wing, which consists of a storeroom subdivided at its north end to form a toilet cubicle.

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

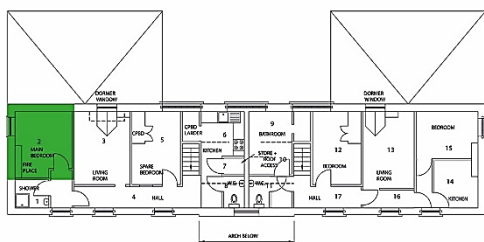


Brief description: Created through subdivision of a larger bedroom

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

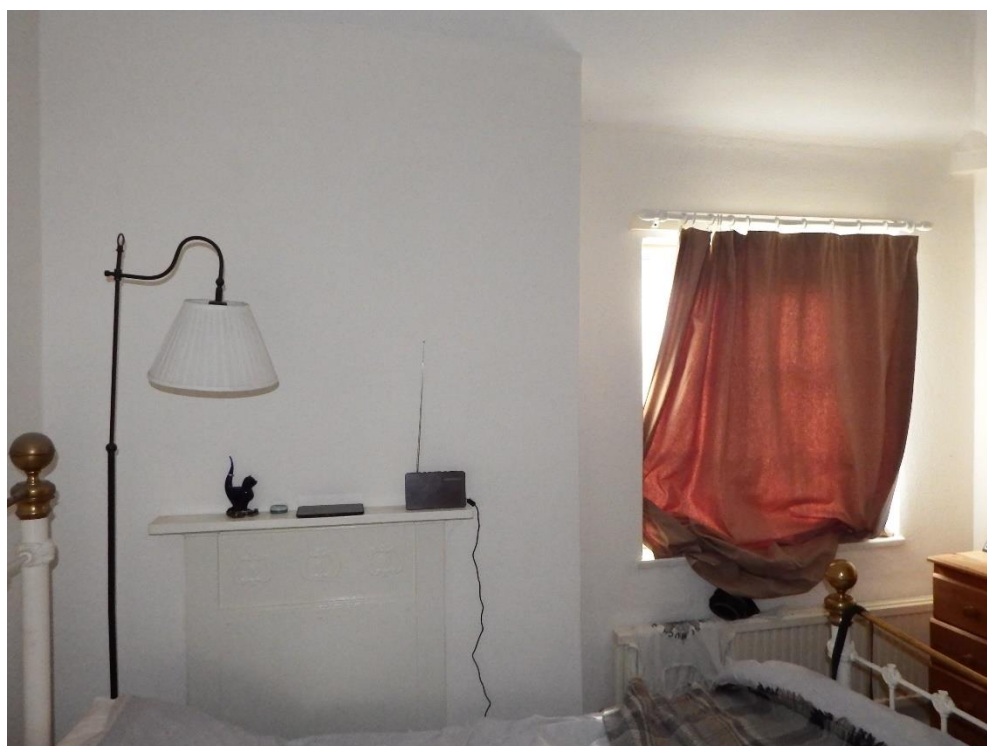
Name: Master bedroom

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



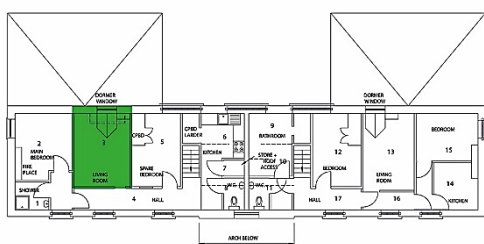
STABLE BLOCK – First Floor

Room: F3

Name: Living room

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

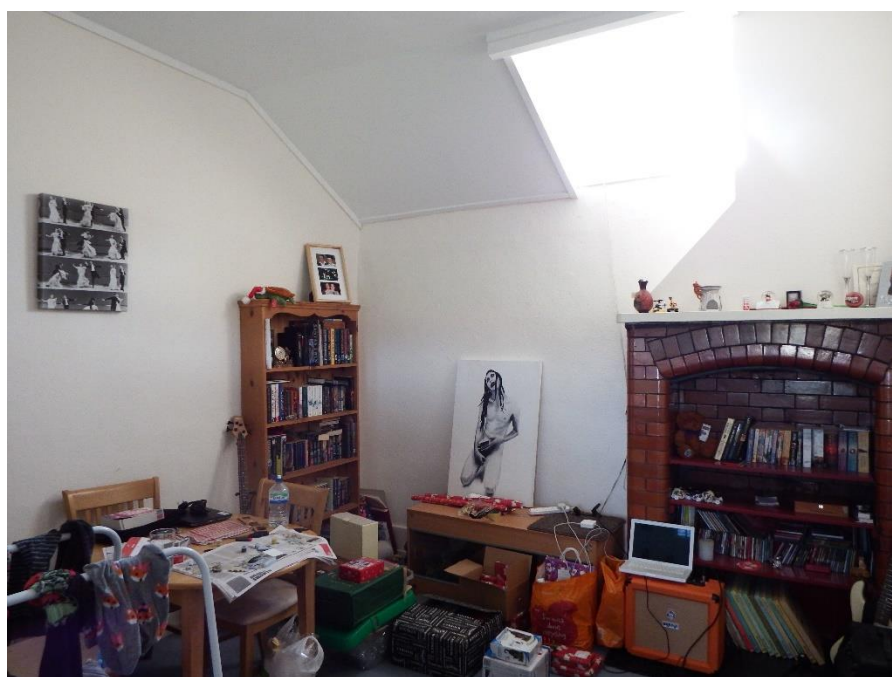
Significance: Some significance



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

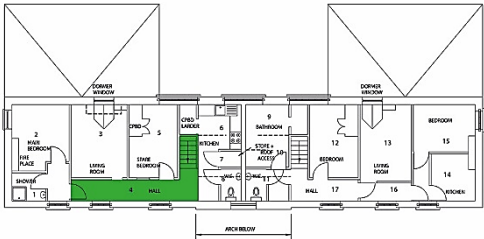
Notes: Glazed fire wall inserted to divide living room from F4 in 2010s.

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



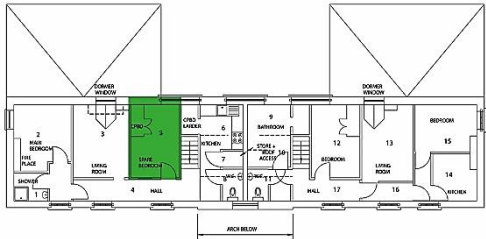
Brief description: A staircase rises through a quarter turn from a ground-floor lobby opening off the carriage entrance to a corridor running along the eastern side of the southern flat, providing access to all the rooms. The partition wall separating it from the living room is a modern fire wall but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



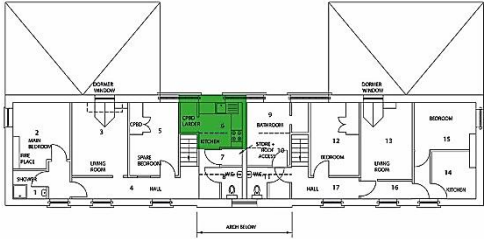
Brief description: The northernmost of the three main rooms over the former south stable, shown as a bedroom on the plans for the 1905 alterations

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



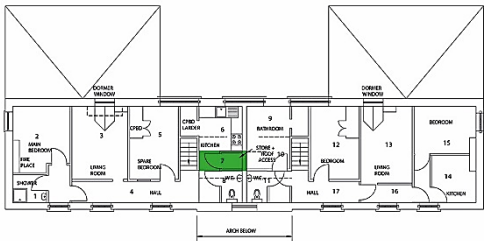
Brief description: The kitchen is located directly above the carriage entrance. Its north wall is a party wall that bisects the first floor of the stable block and separates it from the second flat in the northern half. It is adjoined by a walk-in larder that fills the space above the lower part of the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



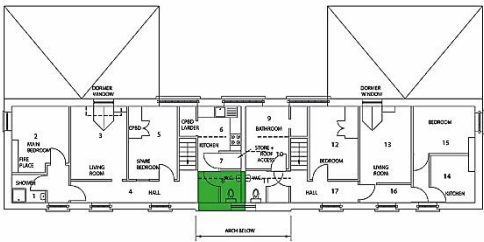
Brief description: The lobby provides access from the upper landing of the stairs to F6, a tiny storeroom (shown on the 1905 plan as a coal store) and to F8. The storeroom has a hatch in the ceiling that provides access to the roofspace and clock mechanism.

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



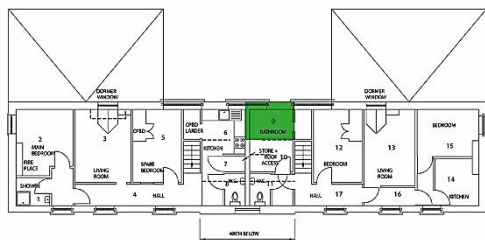
STABLE BLOCK – First Floor

Room: F9

Name: Bathroom

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

Significance: Neutral



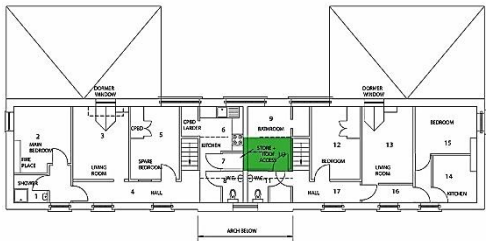
Brief description: Shown on the 1905 plan as a scullery – the northern flat was originally a ‘mirror image’ of the southern in its layout.

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



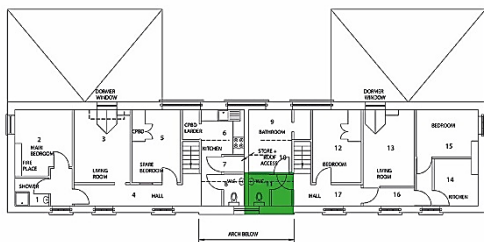
STABLE BLOCK – First Floor

Room: F11

Name: Toilet

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

Significance: Neutral



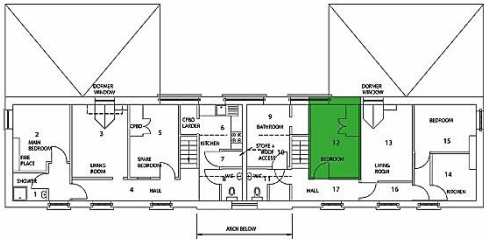
Brief description: On plan, the 'mirror image' of the toilet in the southern flat

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



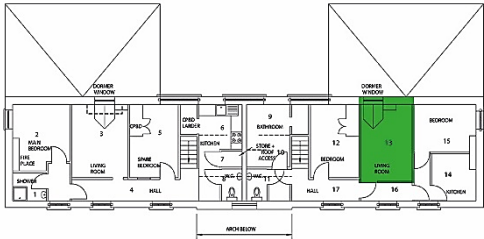
Brief description: The ‘mirror image’ of F5 in the southern flat.

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



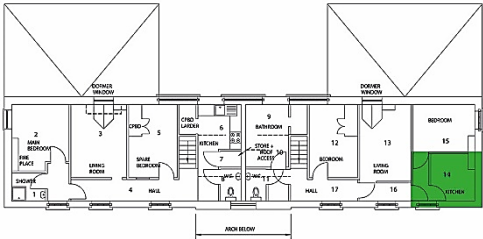
Brief description: The ‘mirror image’ of F3 in the southern flat and, like it, originally a single space with the adjacent corridor until a fire wall was erected in the 2010s.

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



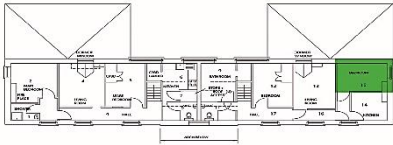
Brief description: Small room created through the subdivision of F15

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

