

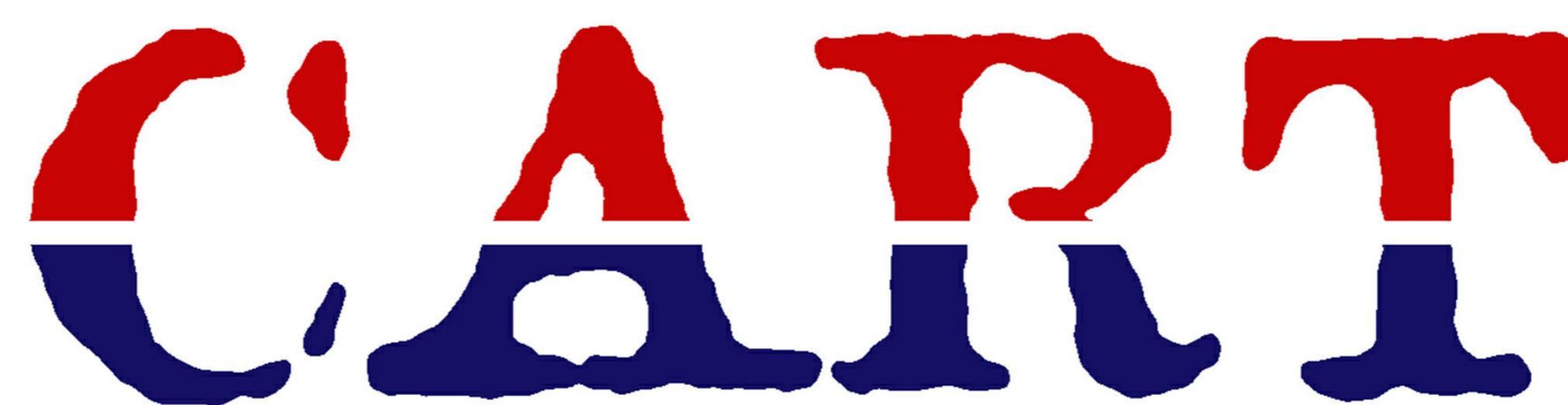


# COLESHILL

**G.H.Q. AUXILIARY UNITS 1940 - 1945**  
**DRAWINGS OF COLESHILL HOUSE, CLOCK HOUSE, & THE STABLE BLOCK**

Produced by

Bill Ashby & Ian Edwards



**The Coleshill Auxiliary Research Team**

**[www.coleshillhouse.com](http://www.coleshillhouse.com)**

*Researching Winston Churchill's Secret Army, The Auxiliary Units.*

## A BRIEF EXPLANATION

During the Second World War my father was an Officer in Churchill's Secret Resistance Organisation called simply 'Auxiliary Units'. It was formed in 1940 when France was about to capitulate, to resist the expected German invasion. Small groups of chosen civilian volunteers were formed into patrols with underground 'hides' from which they would emerge and harass the invaders. The network of patrols was established in all the coastal counties from South Wales, along the South and East coast up into Scotland. The volunteers were trained by regular army personnel and the General Headquarters controlling Auxiliary Units was based at Coleshill House near Highworth. Auxiliaries went there to attend training courses and were billeted in the Stable Block and taught the skills of guerrilla warfare in and around the Coleshill estate.

CART (Coleshill Auxiliary Research Team) has been formed to Research and Record the History of AUX Units and share the information on a website [www.coleshillhouse.com](http://www.coleshillhouse.com) My contribution is to study the G.H.Q. and Coleshill Estate.

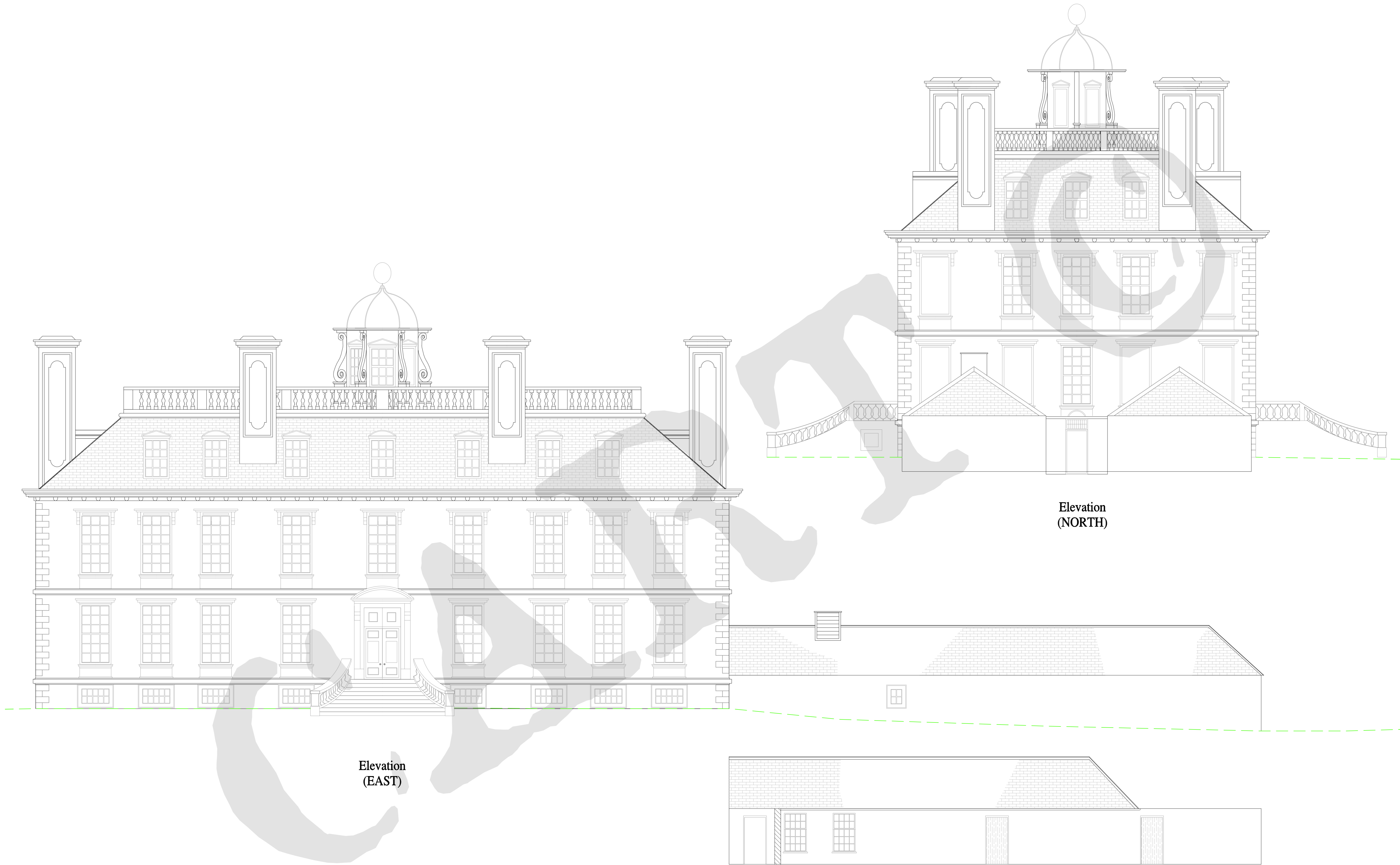
I started by wanting to illustrate the buildings but found that few drawings existed and so began the task of producing this set. Sadly the grand House was destroyed in a disastrous fire in 1952 so it could not be surveyed. It has taken more than a year of intensive research to gather sufficient data to be able produce this set of drawings. The searches through Record Offices and libraries were disappointing, mainly because the few plans found were only of the ground and first floor. However more searching and interviews with persons who could recall the house helped fill in some of the gaps. Photographs were another aid and finally a survey of part of the old coal cellars which are still accessible, completed the data collection.

This set of plans is my interpretation of the layout as it was just before the war and where information was patchy I have made calculated assumptions.

I wish to thank everyone who has helped me with my research, these include Rupert Pleydell-Bouverie and family, Karen Fielder at Southampton University, and Richard Henderson the National Trust's Coleshill Estate manager who arranged access for me to survey the Stable Block. Lastly I want to thank Ian Edwards who did all the CAD work and put up with the many changes I made. His patience and skills are remarkable.

If you would like to follow further work on the house that CART, Ian and I are doing please see here <http://www.coleshillhouse.com/coleshill-house-reborn.php>

Bill Ashby  
October 2011



Elevation (NORTH)

Elevation (EAST)

Service Passageway - Elevation facing West

0 5 10  
SCALE 1:100 (A1)  
SCALE 1:200 (A3) METRES

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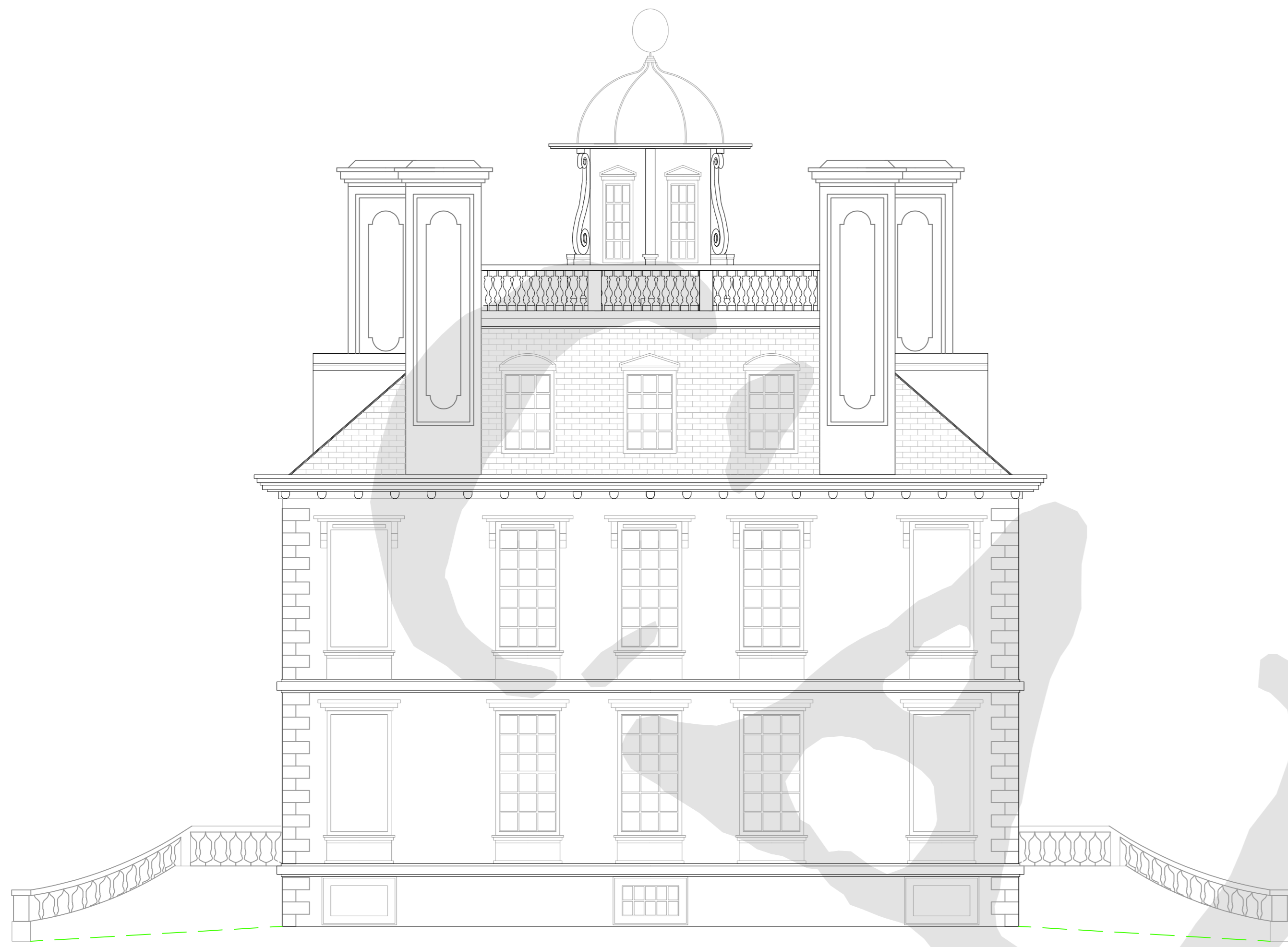
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**COLESHILL HOUSE**  
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Bill Ashby (CART Researcher for Coleshill) [cartresearch@gmail.com](mailto:cartresearch@gmail.com) October 2011

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Bill Ashby & Ian Edwards

Drawing  
**ELEVATIONS  
NORTH & EAST**

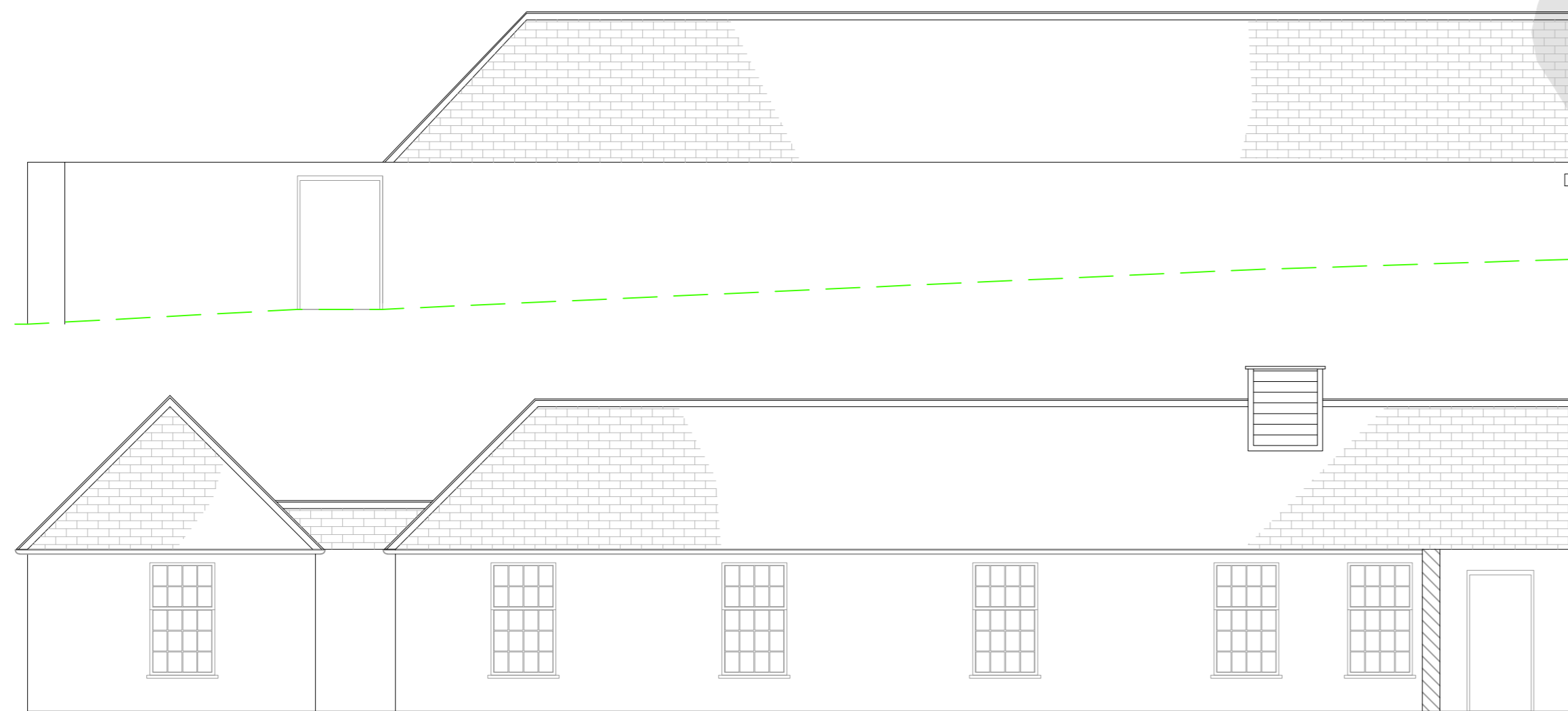
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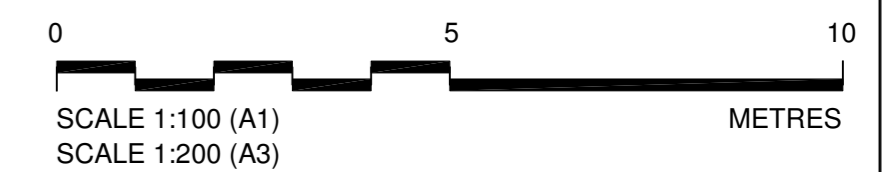
Elevation  
(SOUTH)



Elevation  
(WEST)



Annex  
Elevation (East)  
Service Passage Way



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COLESHILL HOUSE

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Drawing

**ELEVATIONS  
 SOUTH & WEST**

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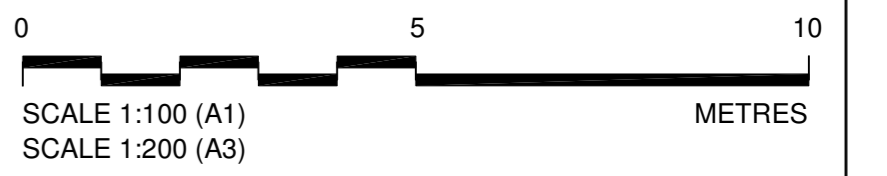
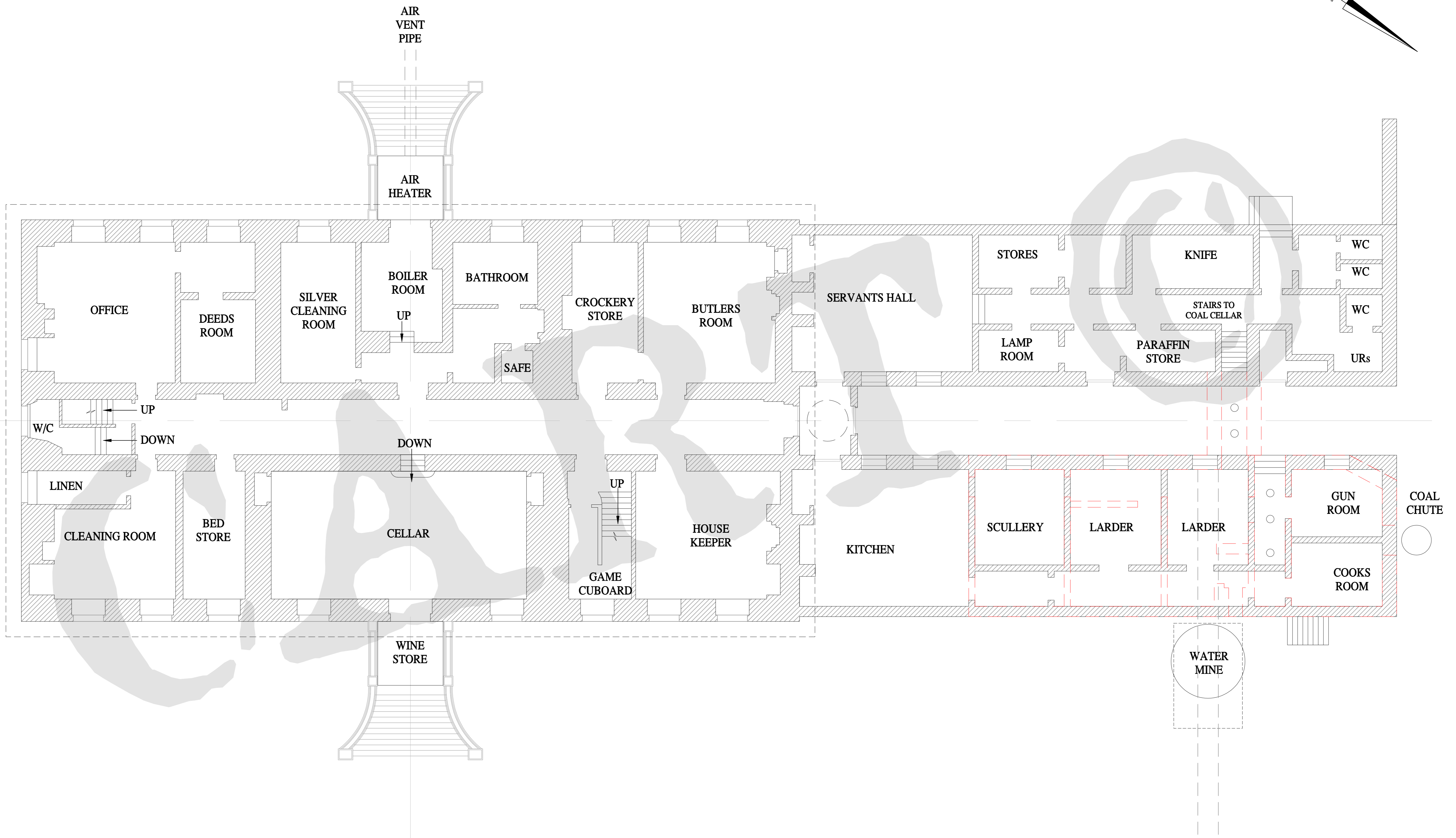
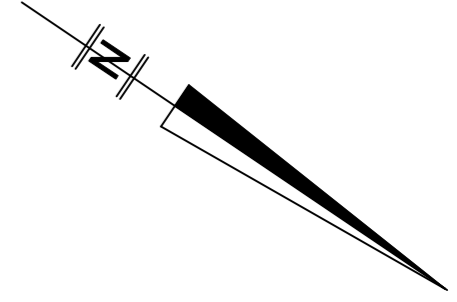
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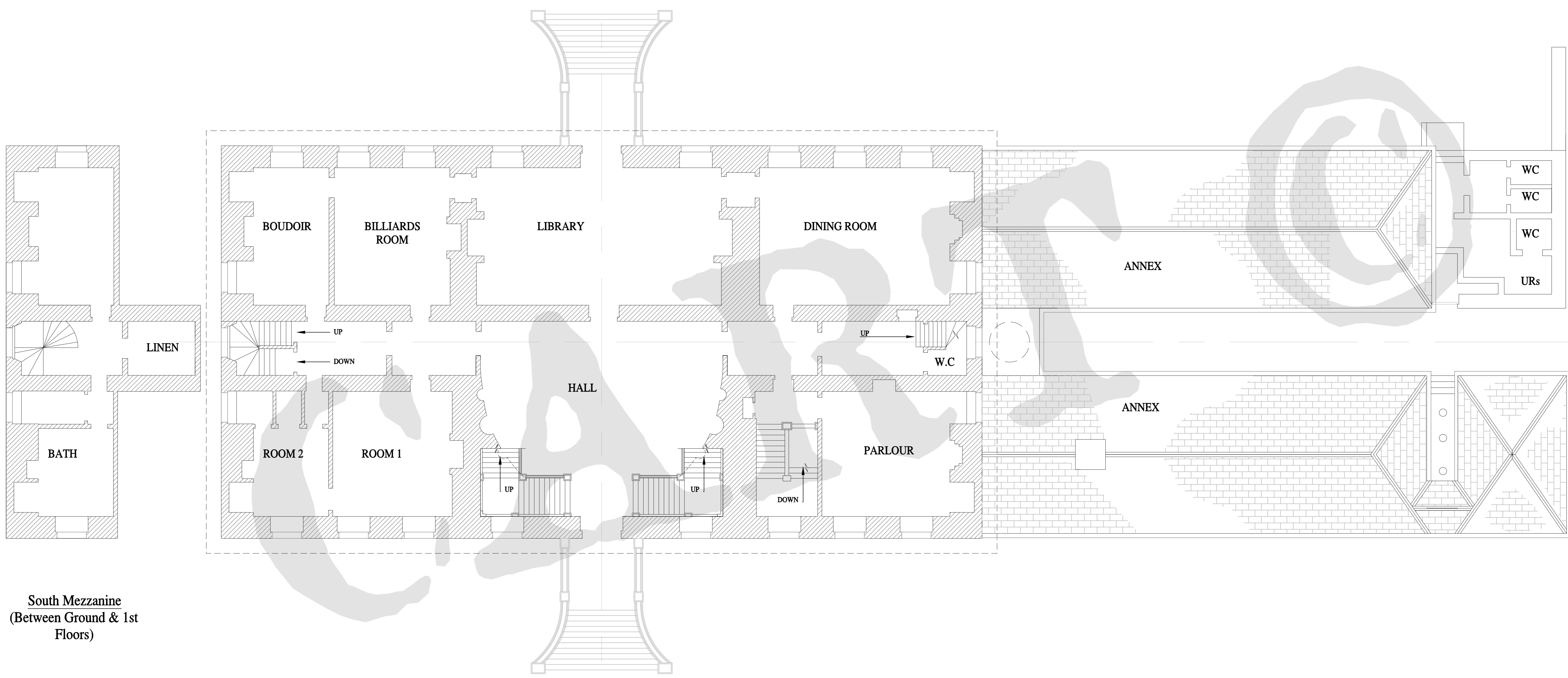
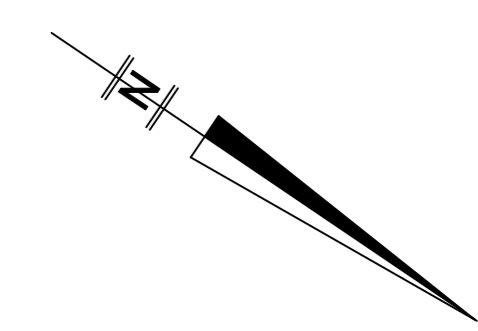
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Drawing  
**BASEMENT PLAN**

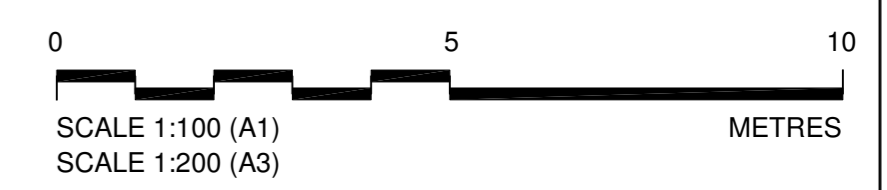
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South Mezzanine  
(Between Ground & 1st  
Floors)



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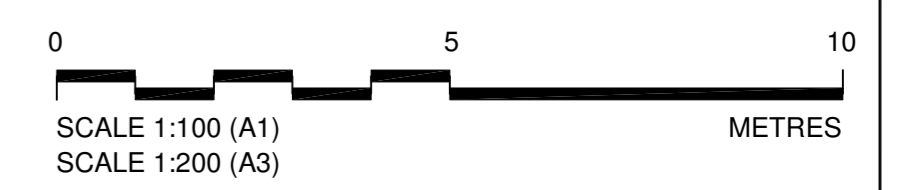
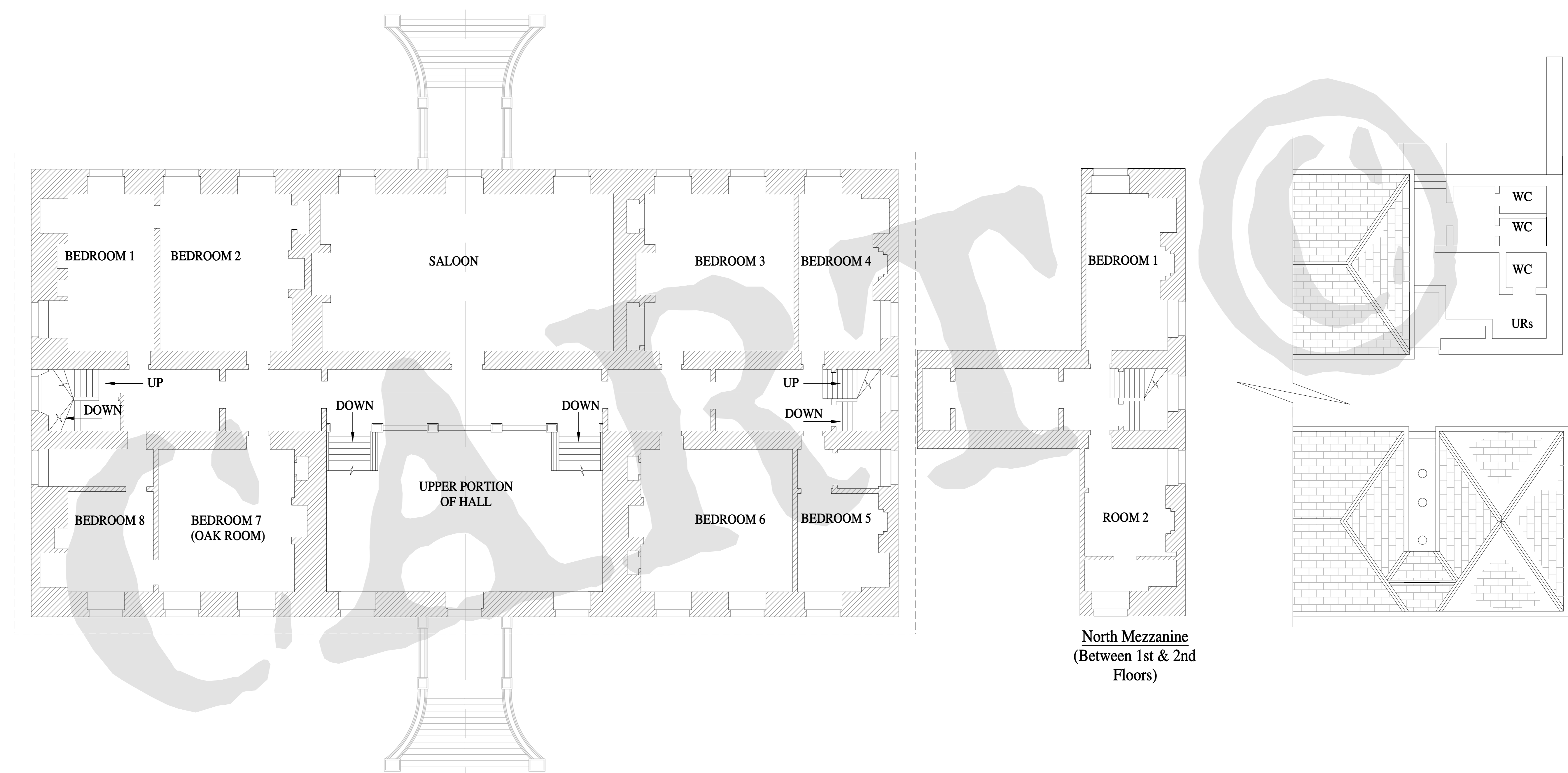
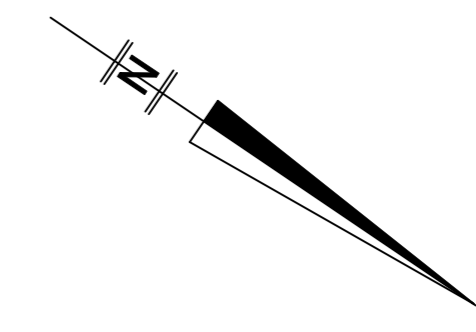
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Email: [hg@coleshillhouse.com](mailto:hg@coleshillhouse.com)  
Bill Ashby & Ian Edwards

Drawing  
**GROUND FLOOR  
& SOUTH MEZZANINE  
PLAN**

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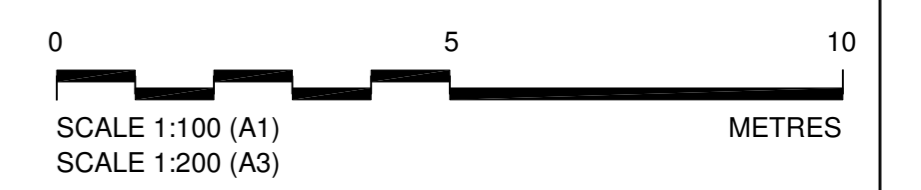
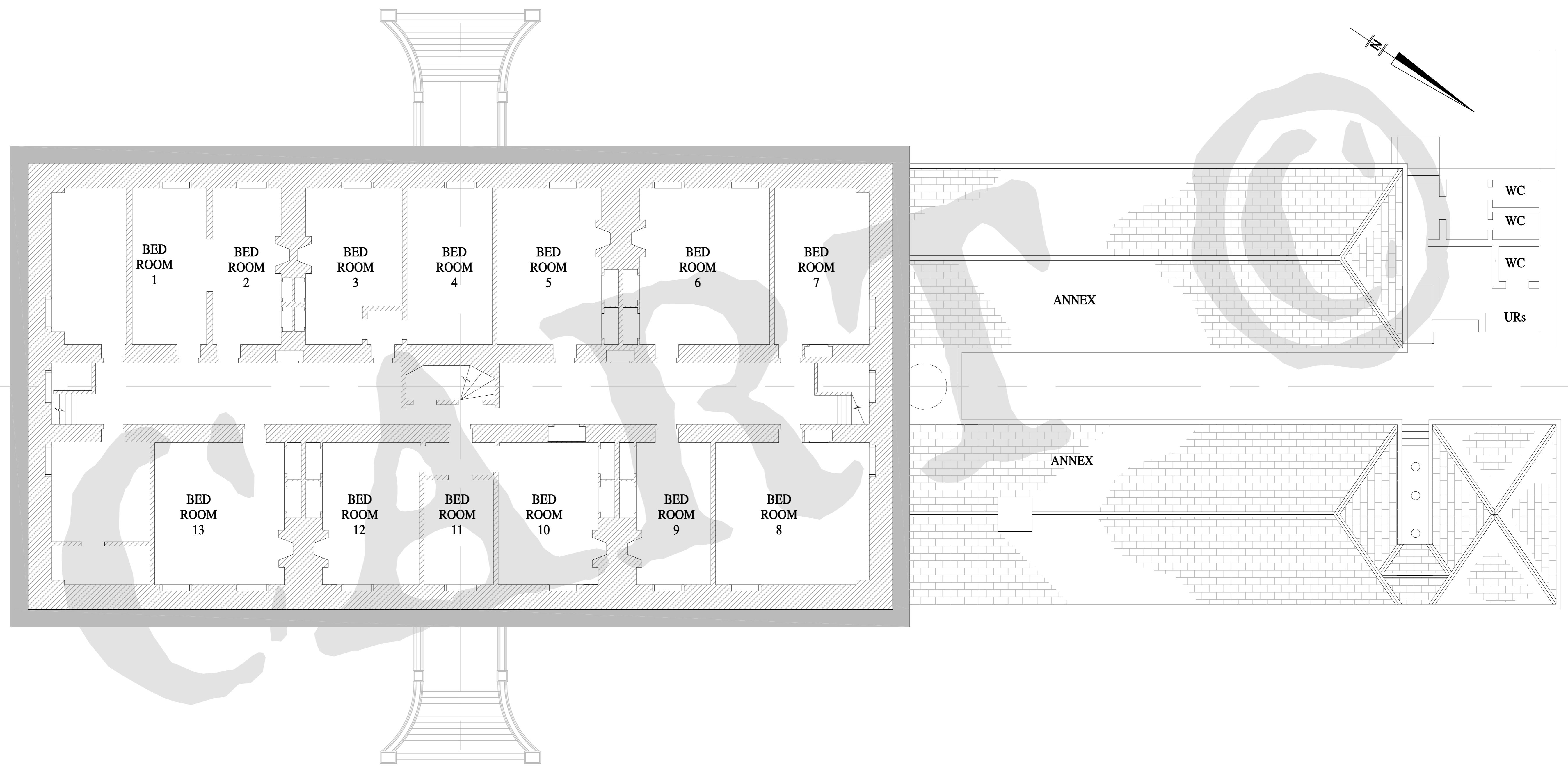
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Drawing  
**FIRST FLOOR & NORTH MEZZANINE PLAN**

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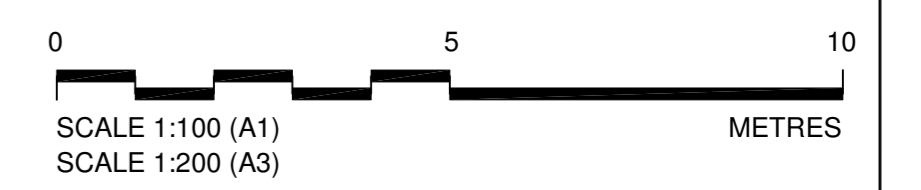
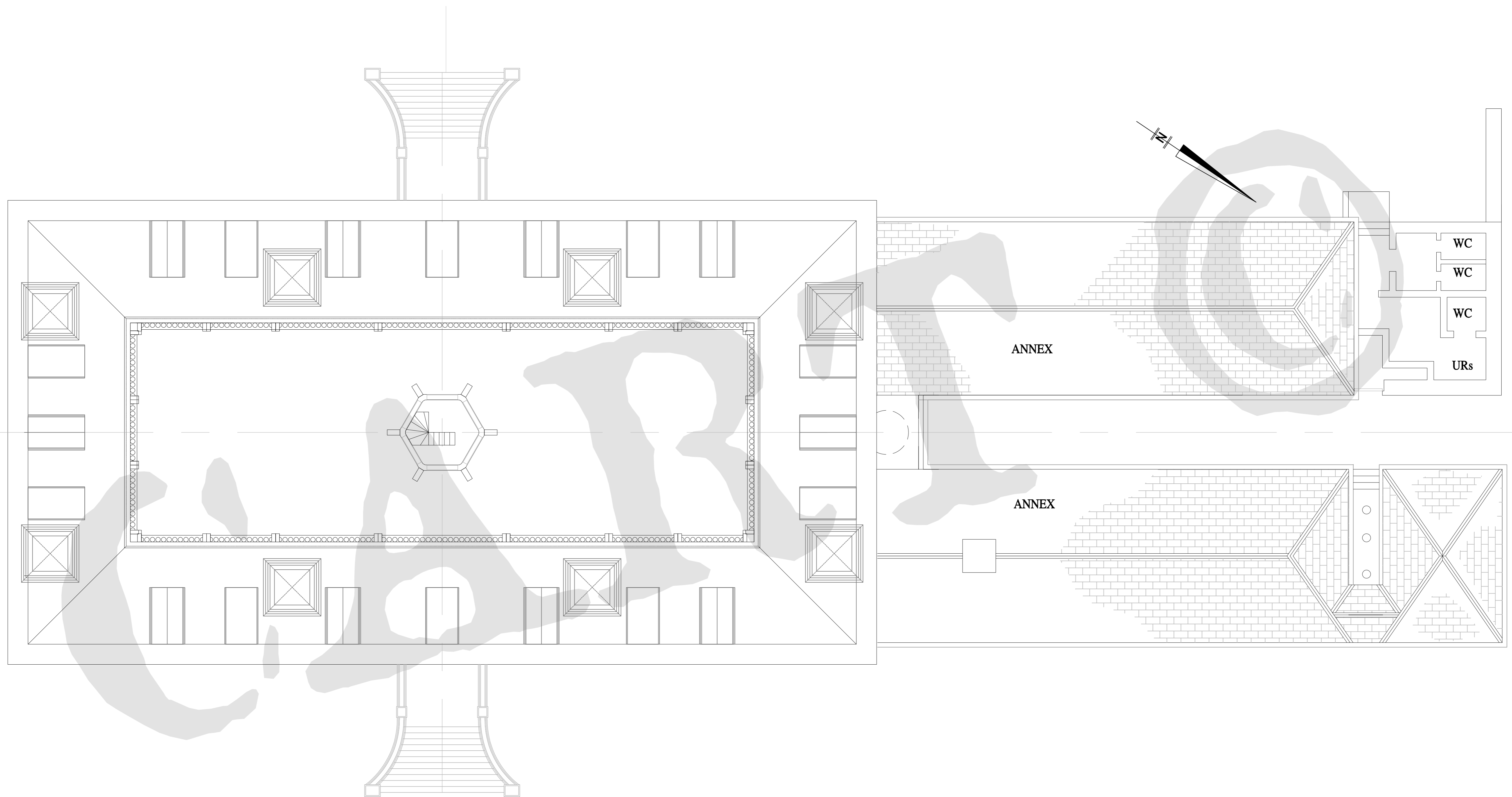
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Drawing  
**SECOND FLOOR PLAN**

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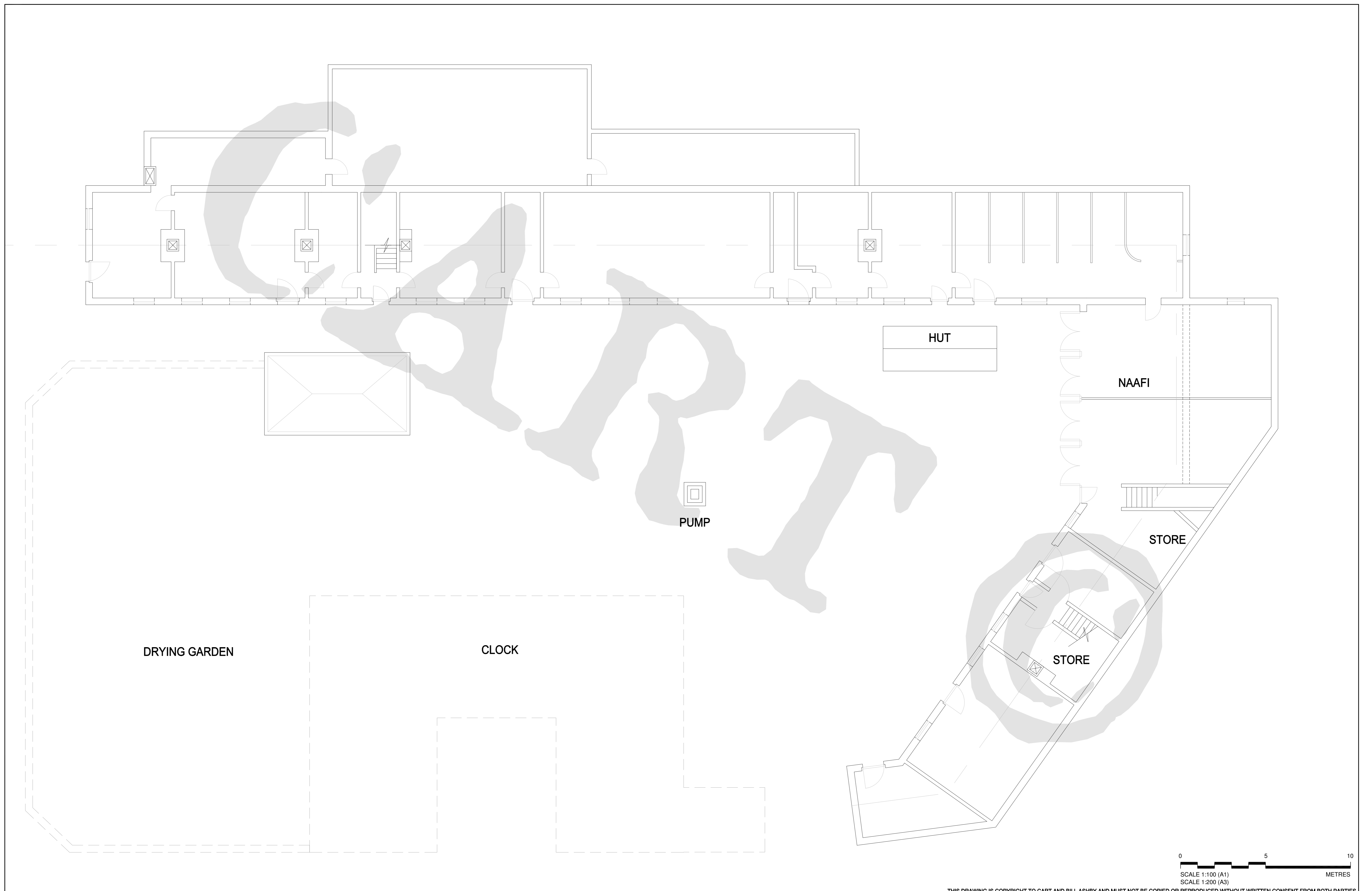
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Drawing  
**ROOF PLAN**

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**COLESHILL STABLE BLOCK**

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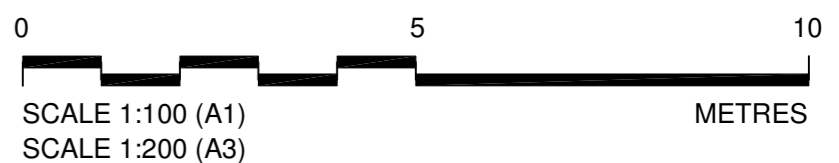
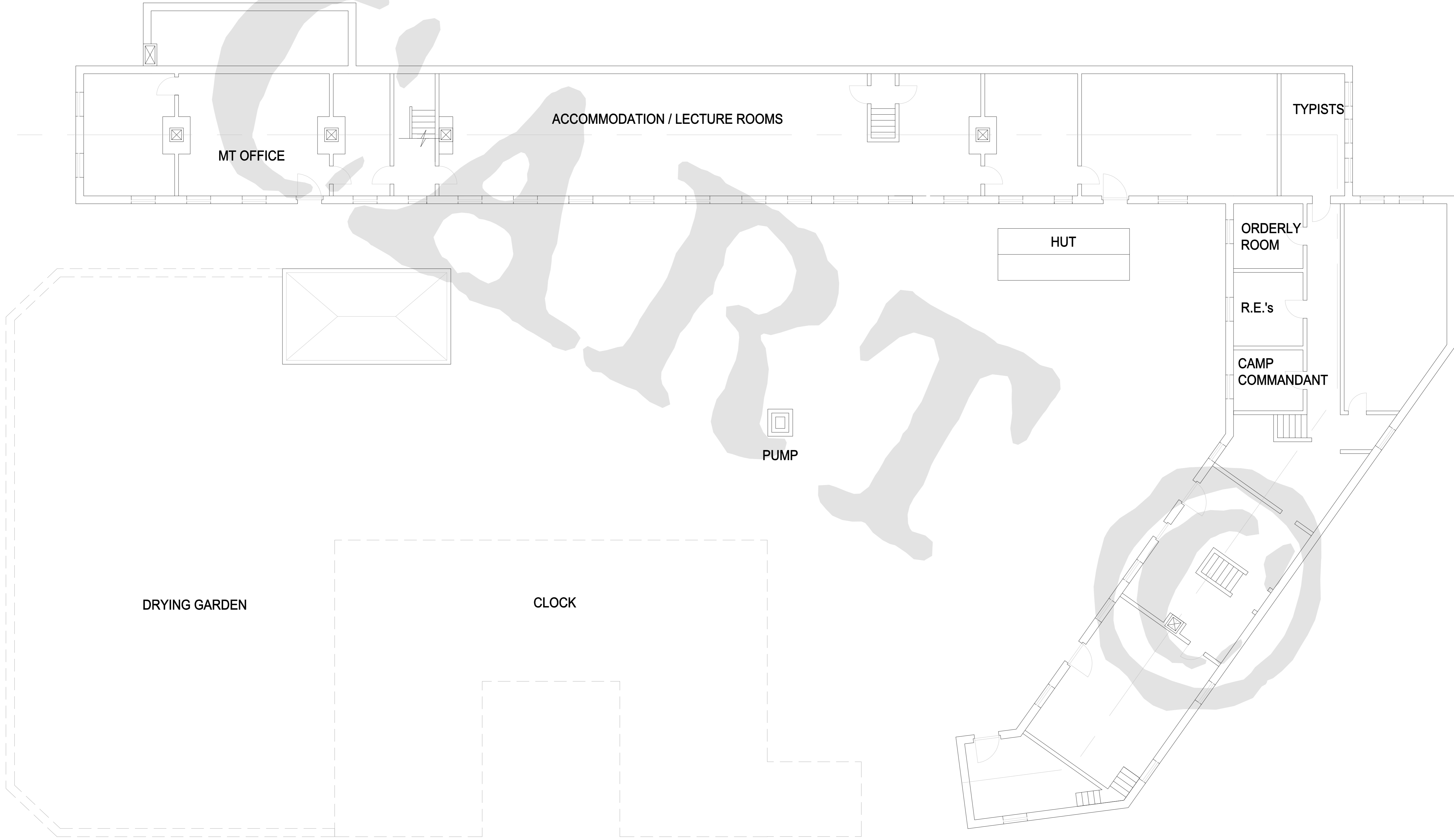
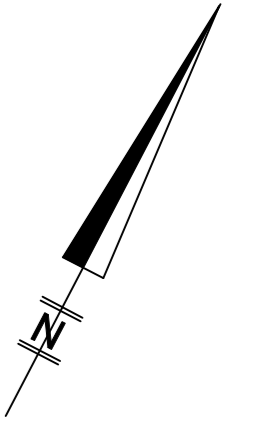
Drawing  
**GROUND FLOOR PLAN**

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SCALE 1:100 (A1)  
 SCALE 1:200 (A3)

0 5 10 METRES

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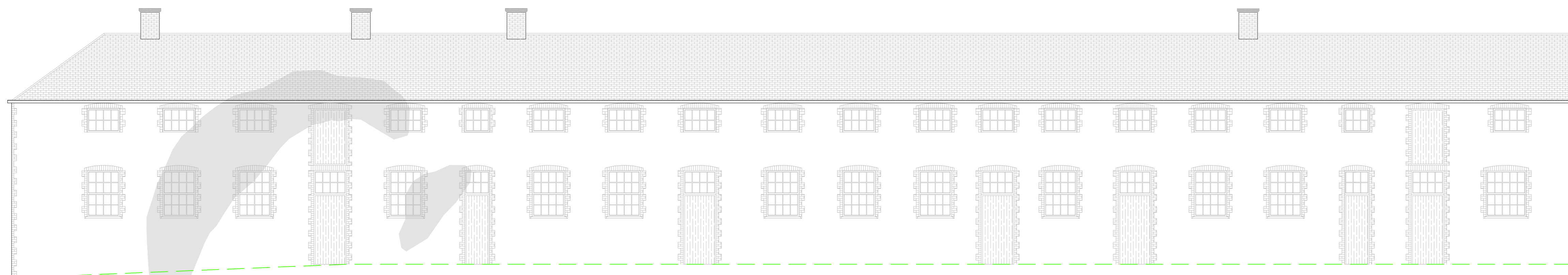
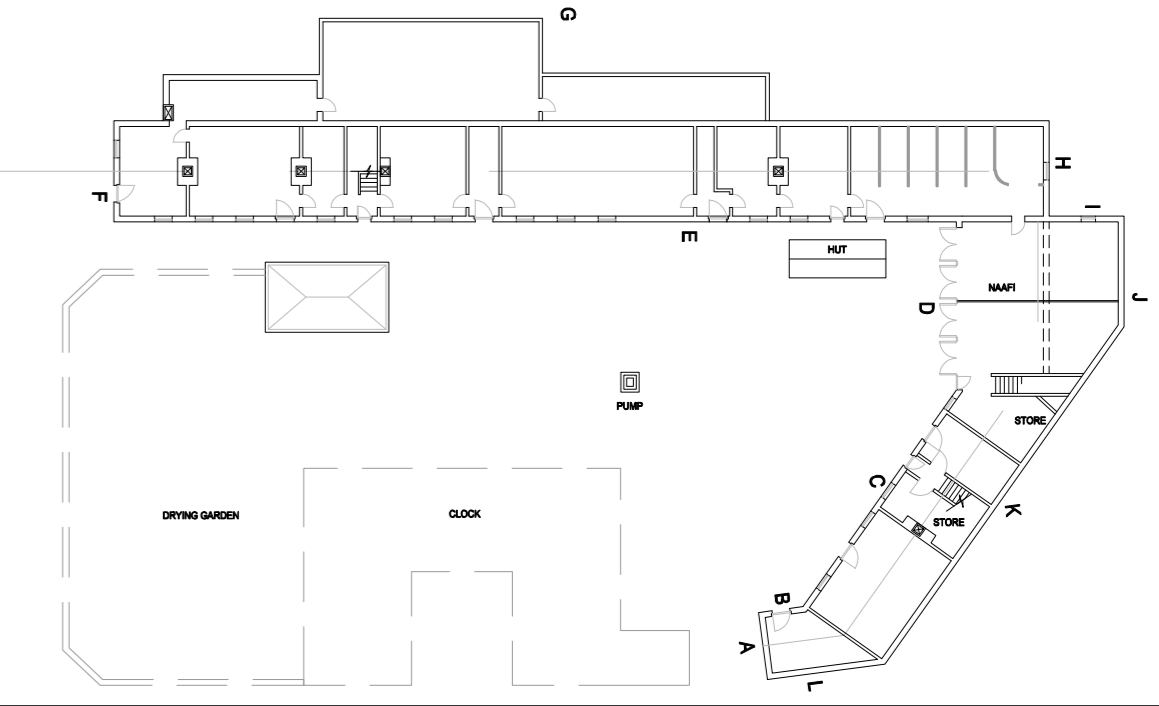
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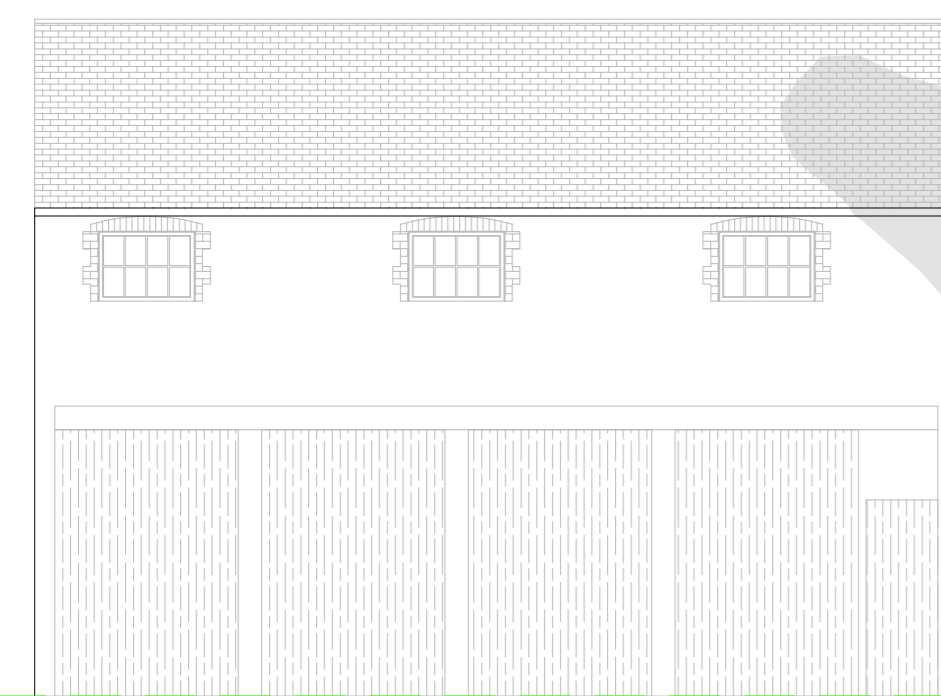


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Key Plan:



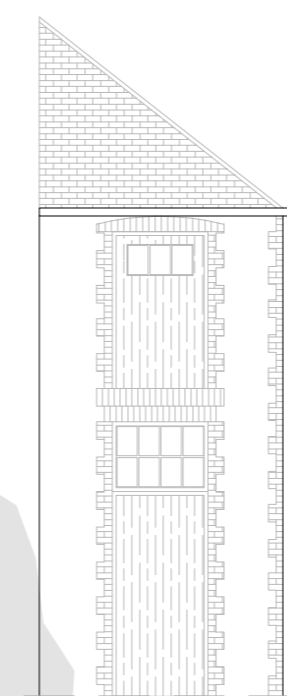
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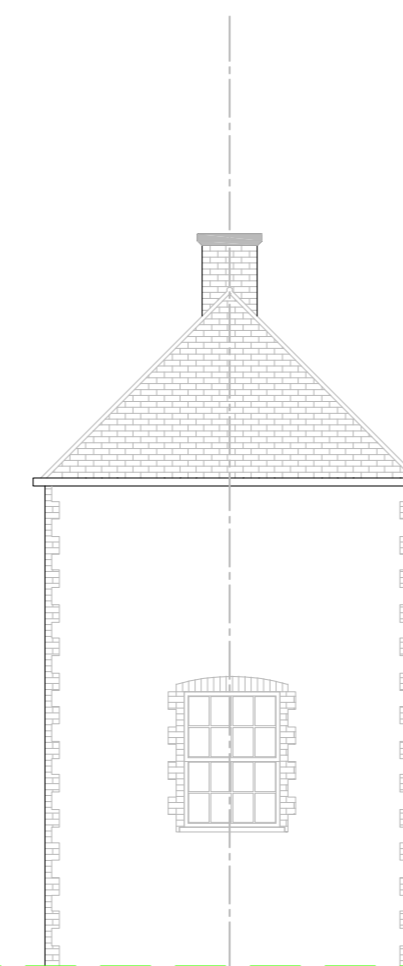
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ELEVATION C



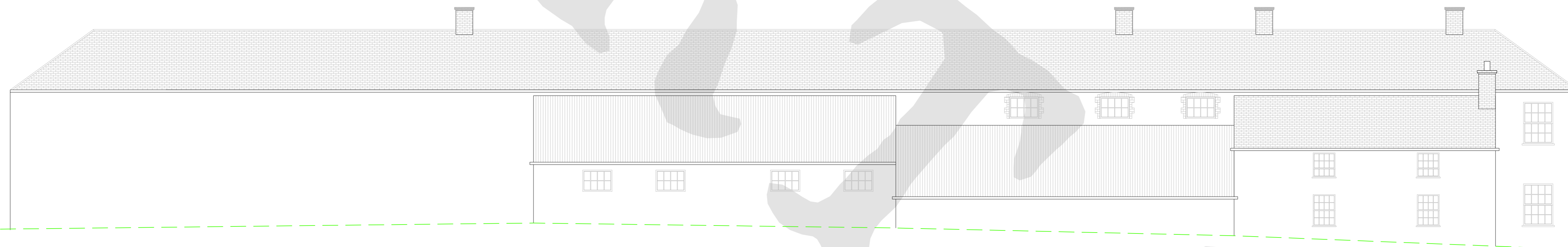
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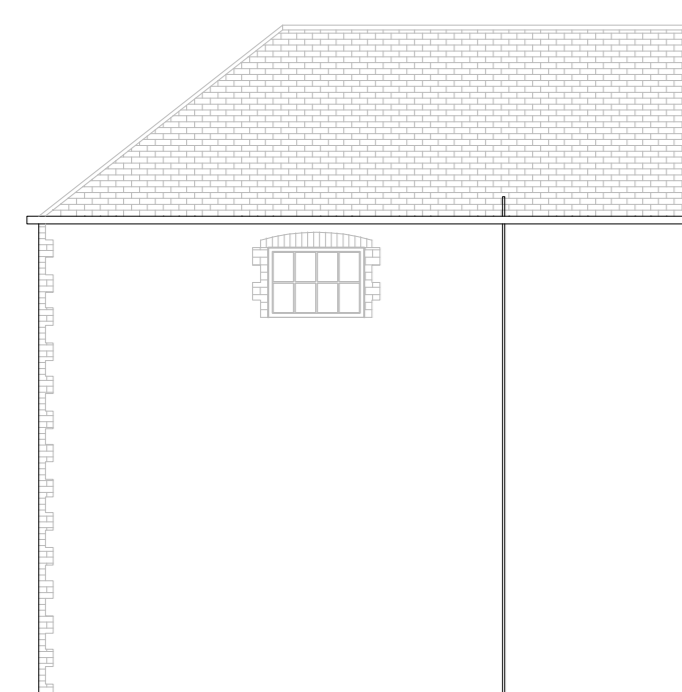
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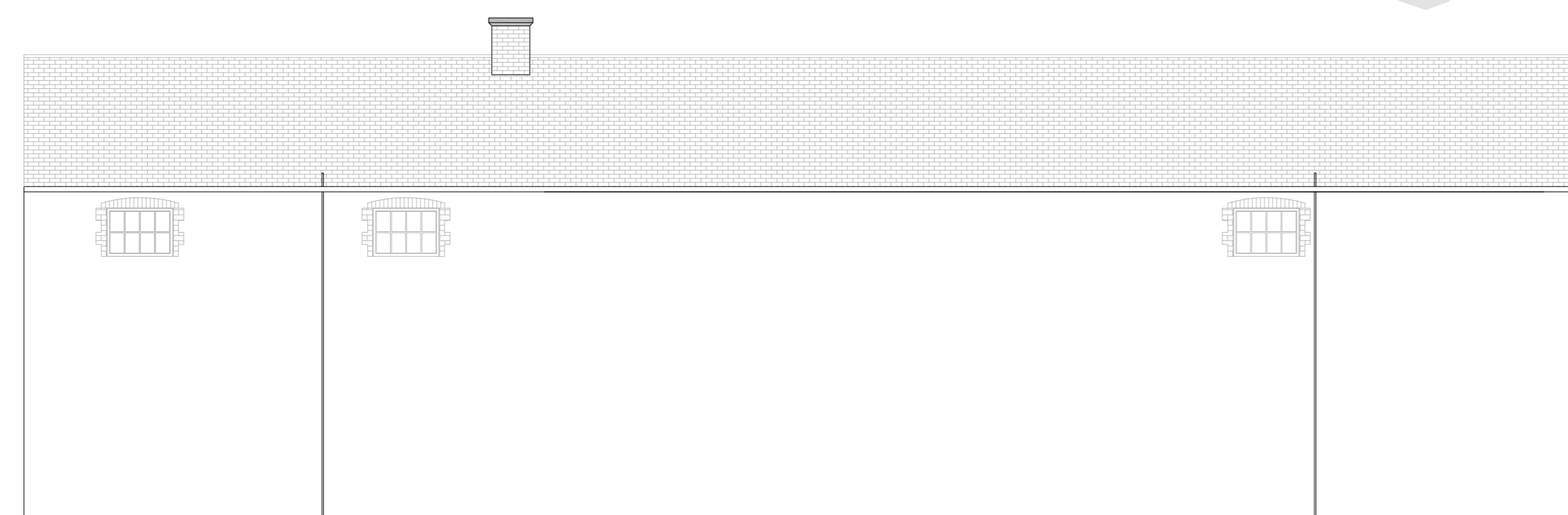
ELEVATION F



ELEVATION G



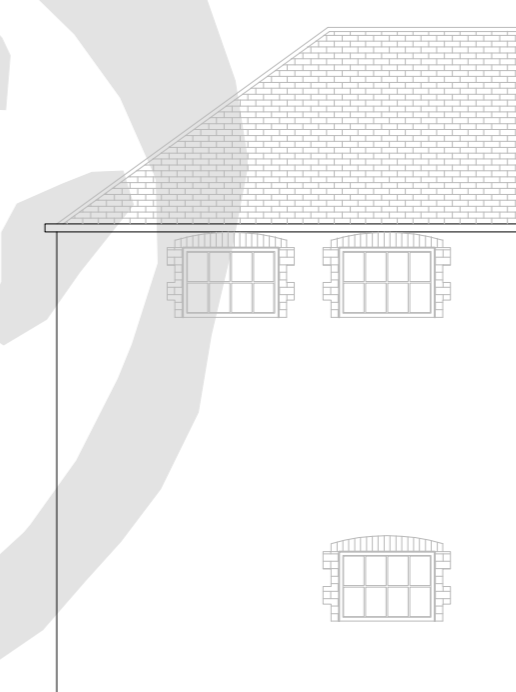
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ELEVATION K



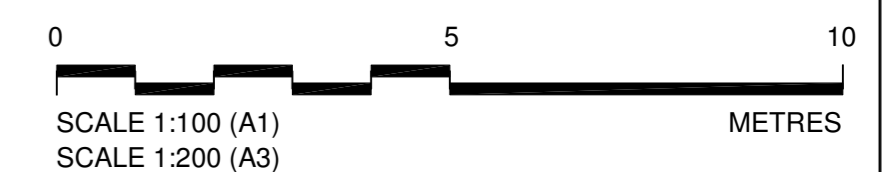
ELEVATION J



ELEVATION I



ELEVATION H



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COLESHILL STABLE BLOCK



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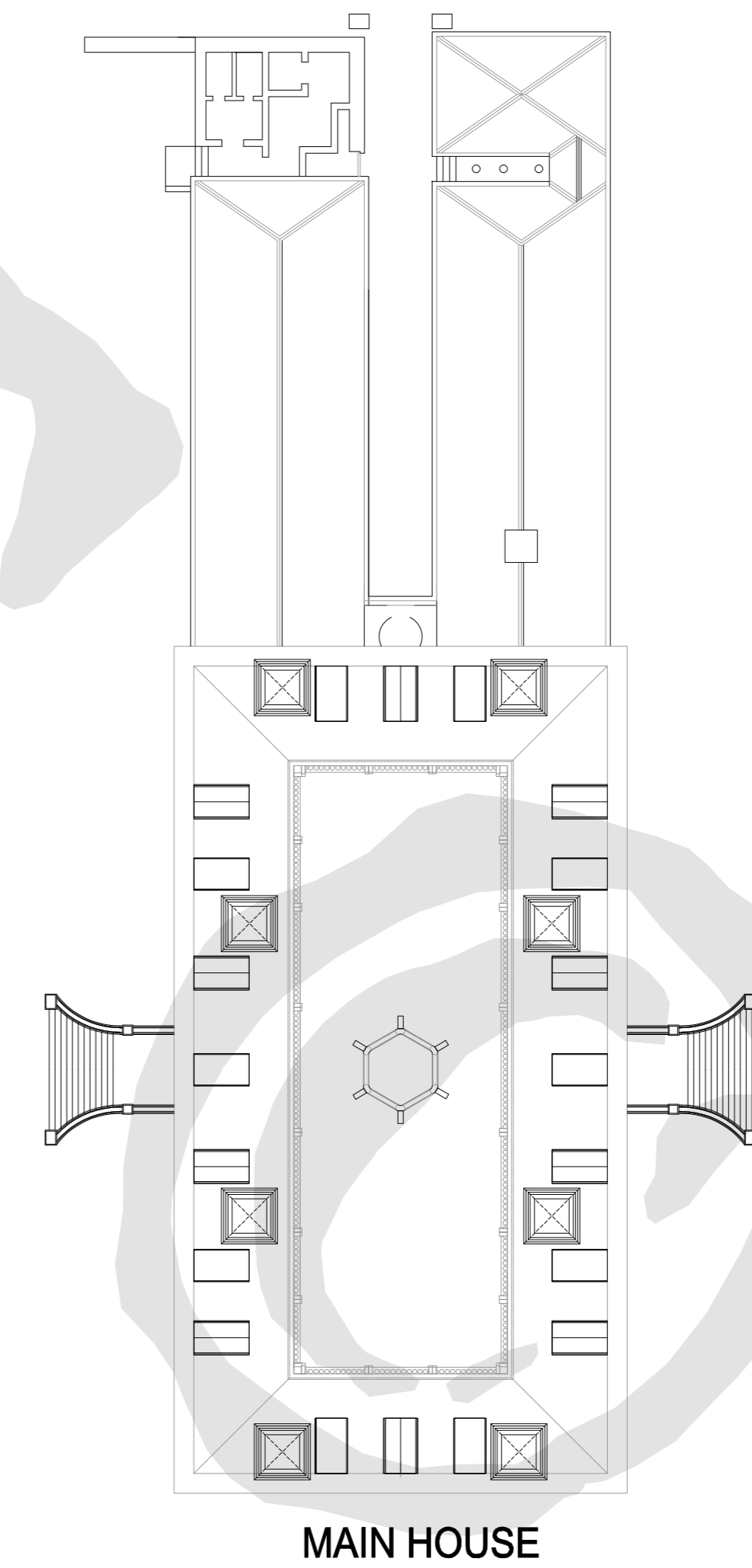
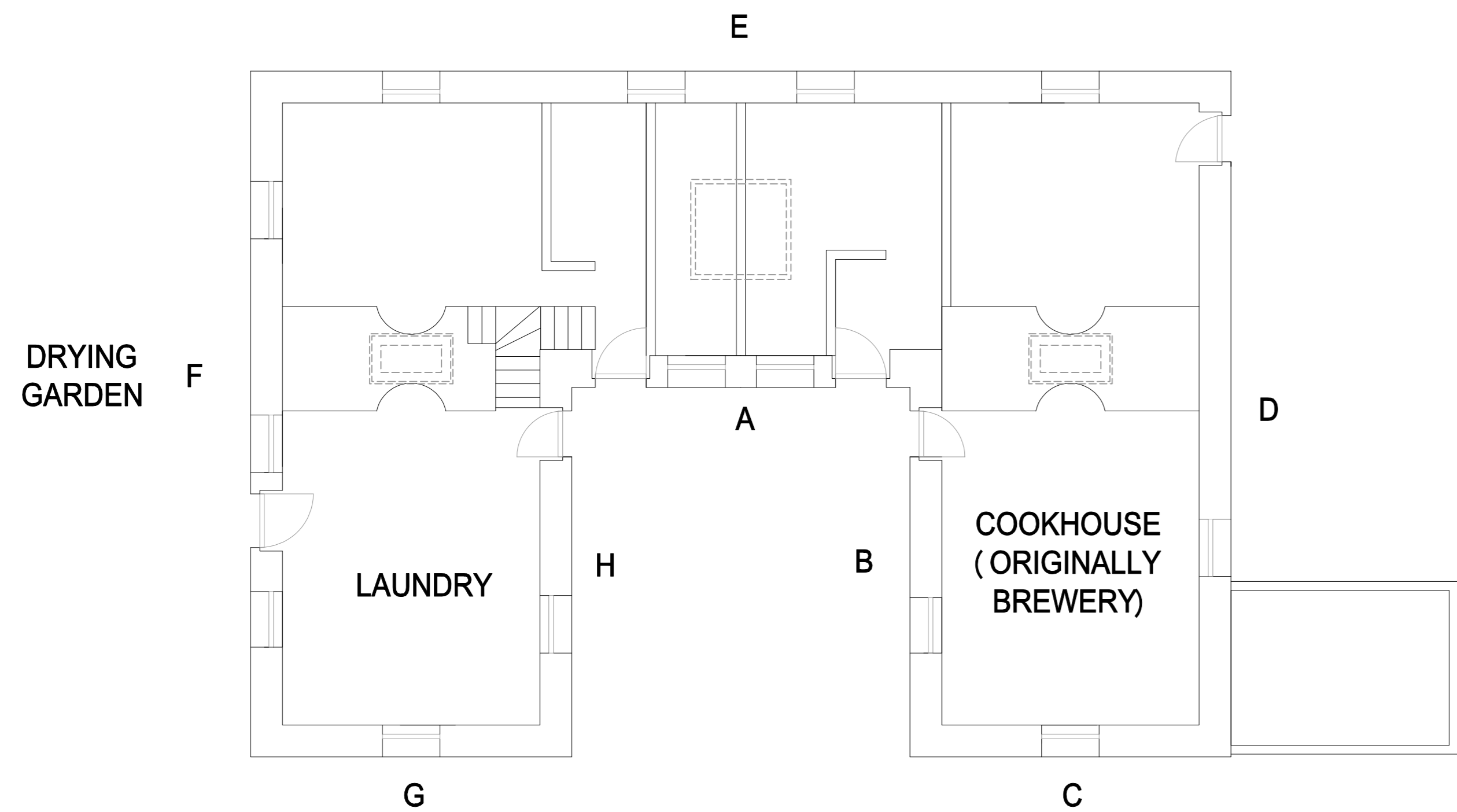
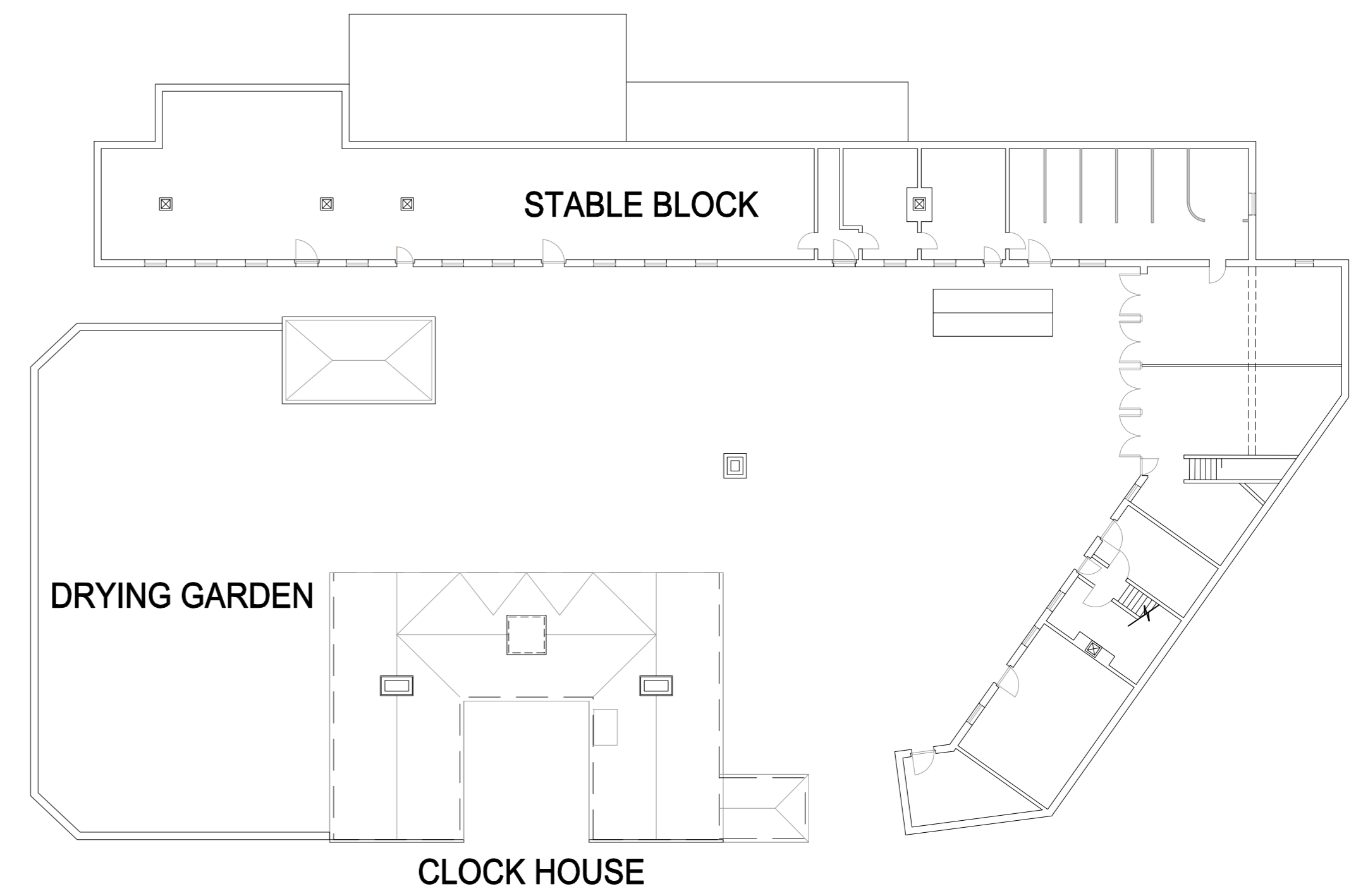
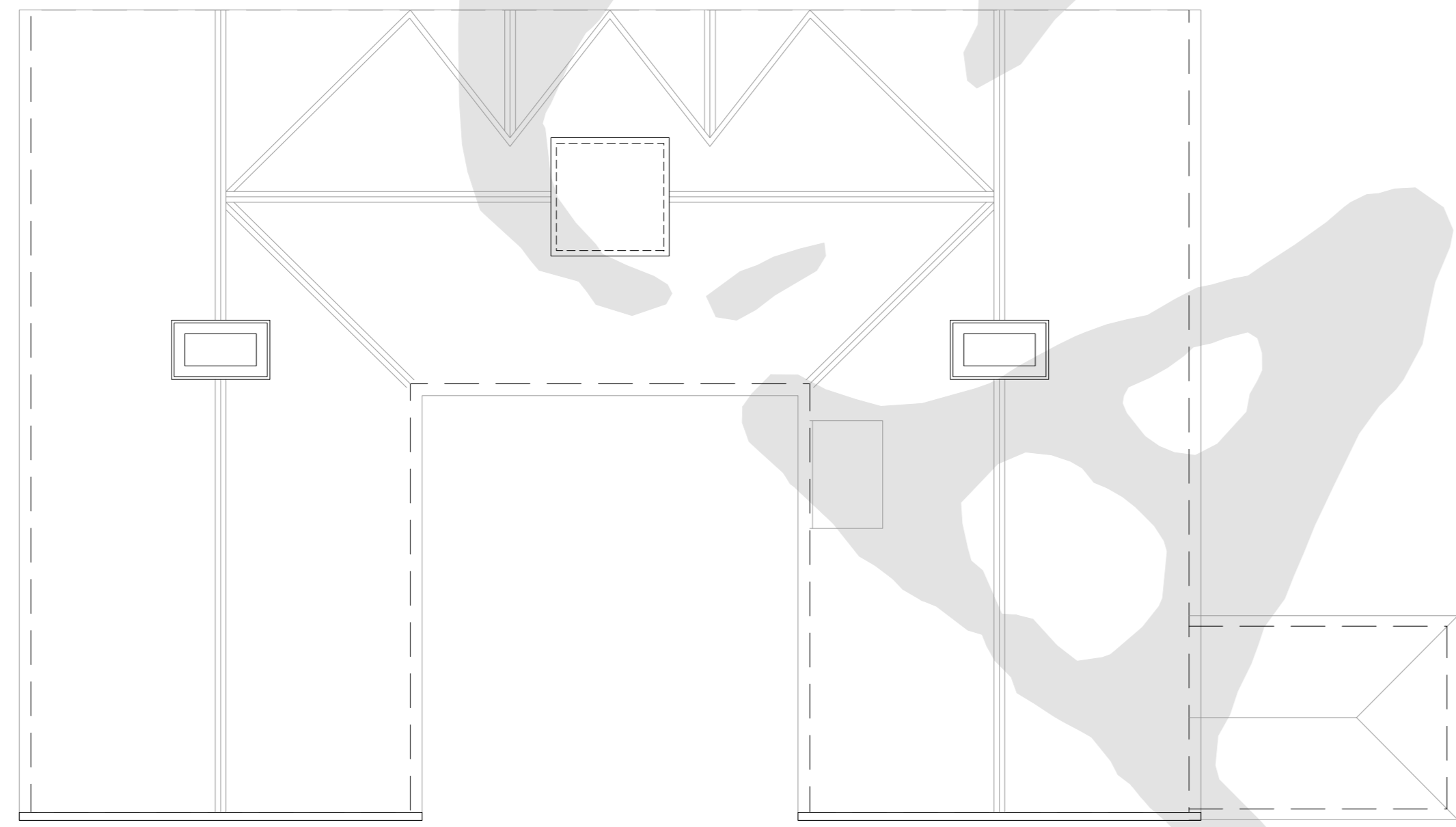
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Email: [hg@coleshillhouse.com](mailto:hg@coleshillhouse.com)  
Bill Ashby & Ian Edwards

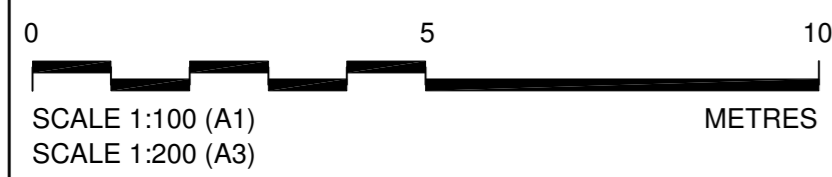
Drawing

ELEVATIONS

Drawn by: Ian J Edwards	Date: Oct 2011
Checked by: Bill Ashby	Date: Oct 2011
Approved by: Bill Ashby	Date: Oct 2011
Drawing No. <b>CHRP-010</b>	Revision <b>0</b>
Drawing Scale: 1:100 at A1	



**GENERAL ARRANGEMENT**  
Not To Scale



**COLESHILL HOUSE CLOCK**

**Notes**  
Coleshill House was built in the 17th Century and was a magnificent building which sadly was destroyed by a disastrous fire in 1952. Although several ground and first floor plans remain to show the basic layout they all vary and some levels are hardly recorded in any detail. I have therefore attempted to compile a full set of drawings from the data available to show the layout of the House as it was in the 1940's a time when it was being used as the General Headquarters of Auxiliary Units, Churchill's Secret resistance Organisation. Although I have done the research and made certain assumptions in the process, I must thank Ian Edwards for all his hard work in producing such a fine set of drawings from the data provided. Additional information and comments are most welcome.  
Bill Ashby (CART Researcher for Coleshill) [cartresearch@gmail.com](mailto:cartresearch@gmail.com) October 2011

Client:

**CART**  
Email: [hq@coleshillhouse.com](mailto:hq@coleshillhouse.com)  
Bill Ashby & Ian Edwards

Drawing

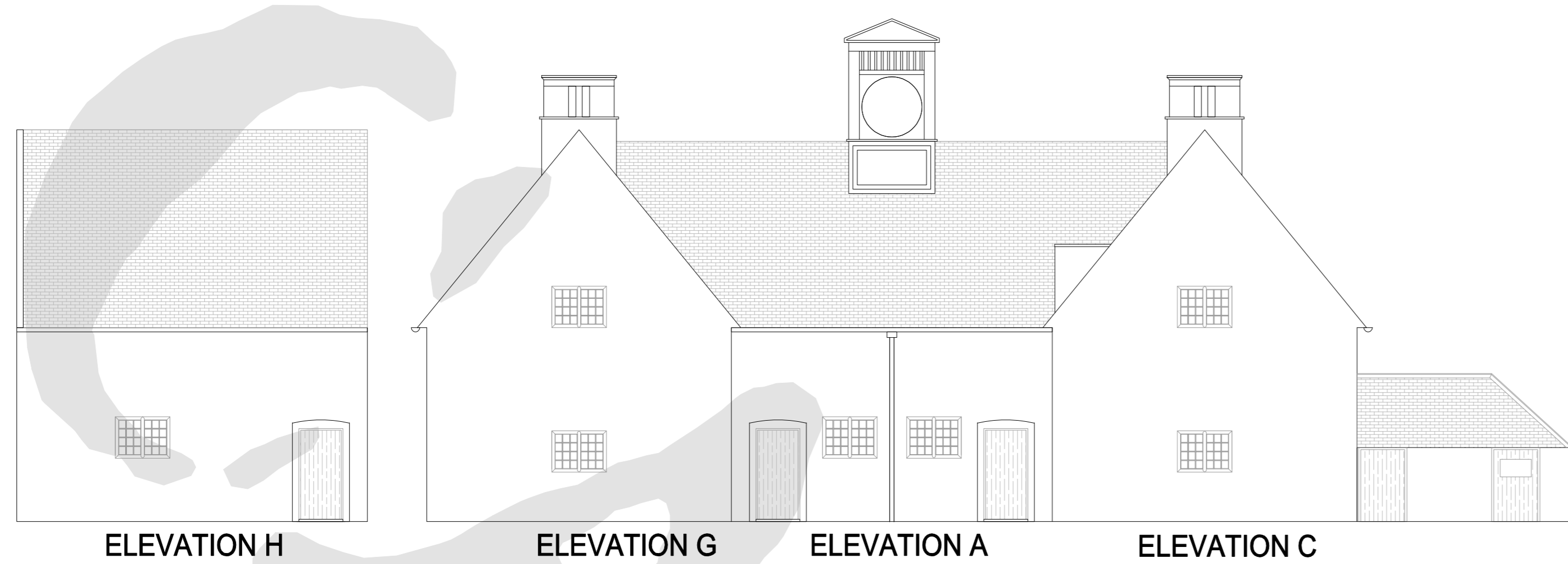
**CLOCK PLAN &  
GENERAL ARRANGEMENT**

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Drawn by: Ian J Edwards	Date: Oct 2011
Checked by: Bill Ashby	Date: Oct 2011
Approved by: Bill Ashby	Date: Oct 2011
Drawing No: <b>CHRP-011</b>	Revision: <b>0</b>
Drawing Scale: 1:100 at A1	



**CART- Coleshill Auxiliary Research Team**  
Dedicated to recording On-line the  
History of Auxiliary Units  
Churchill's Secret Resistance Organisation

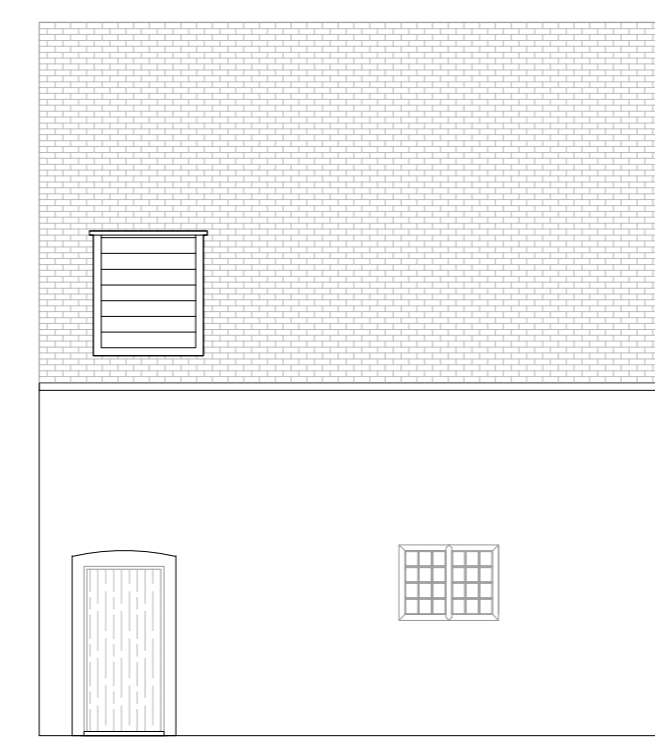


ELEVATION H

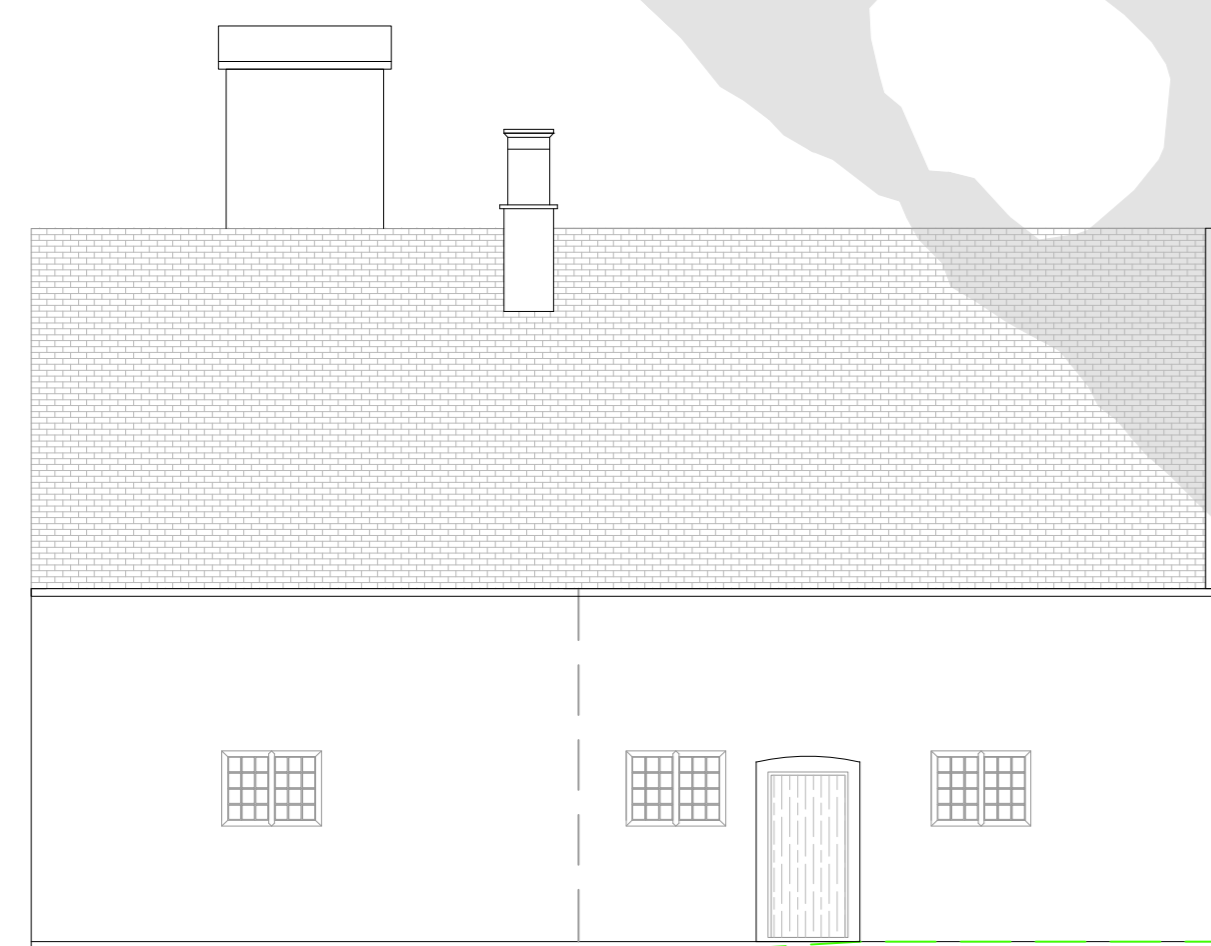
ELEVATION G

ELEVATION A

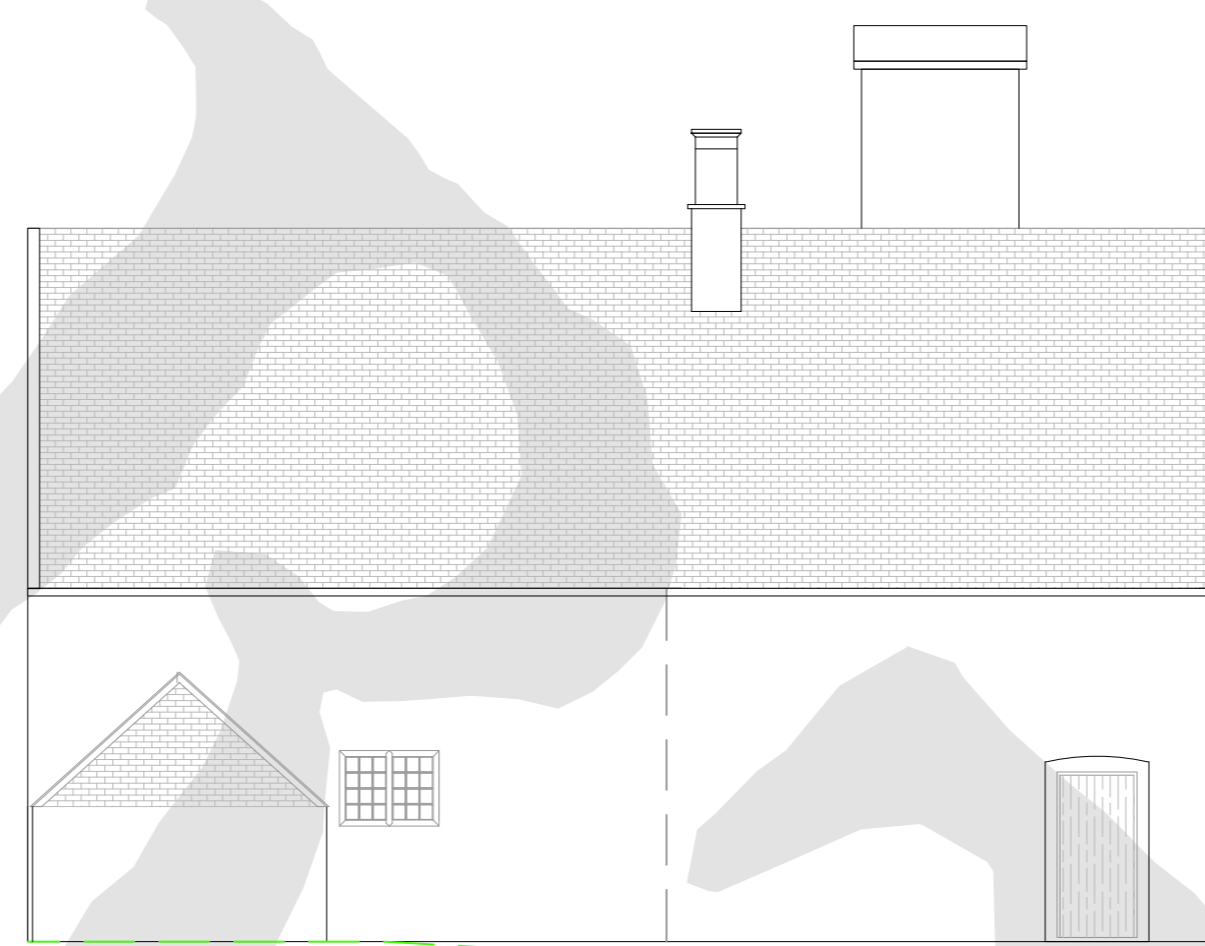
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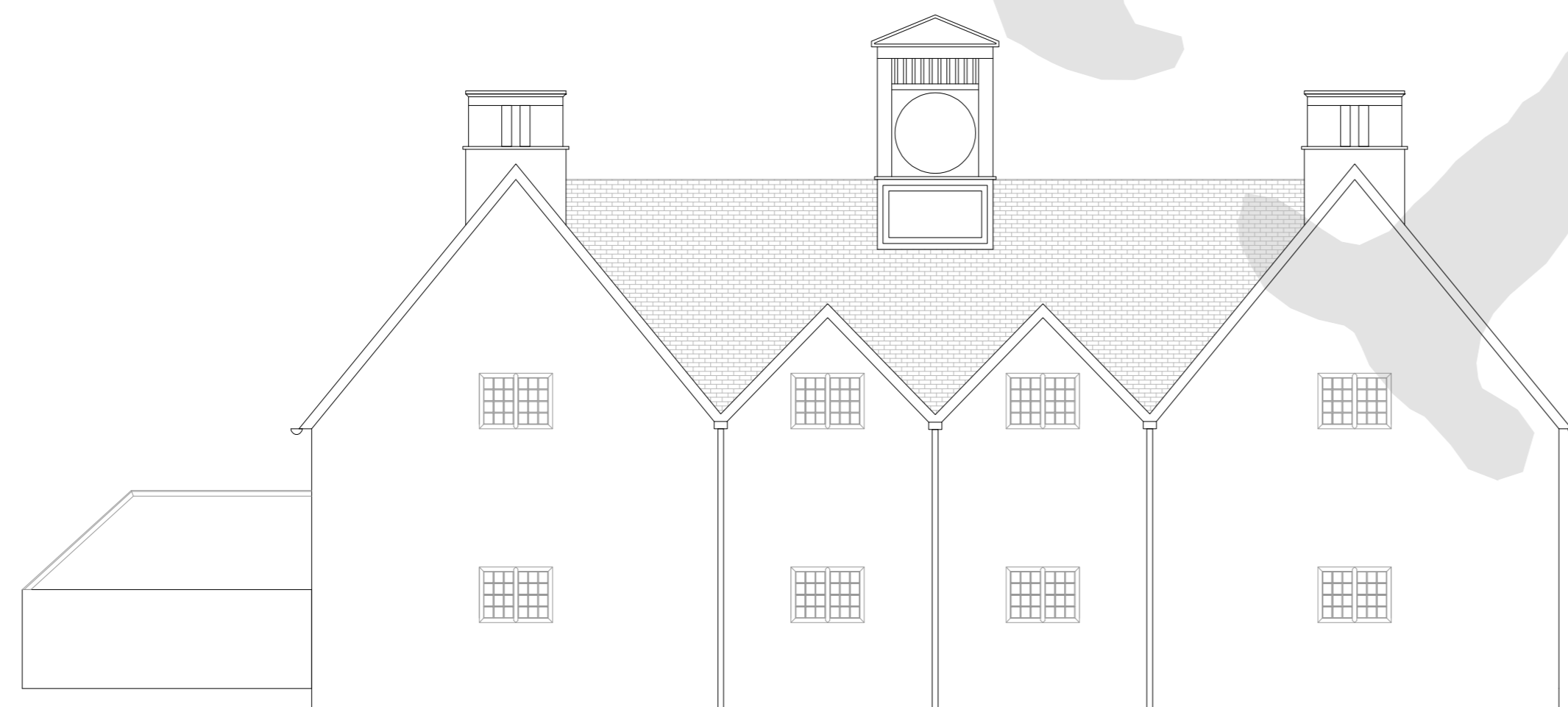
ELEVATION B



ELEVATION F

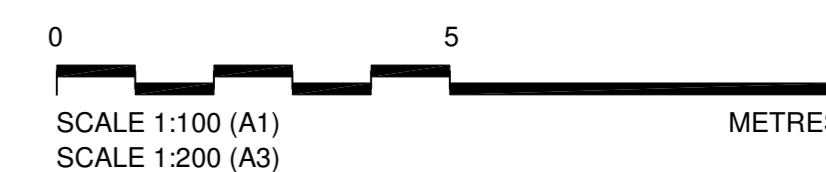
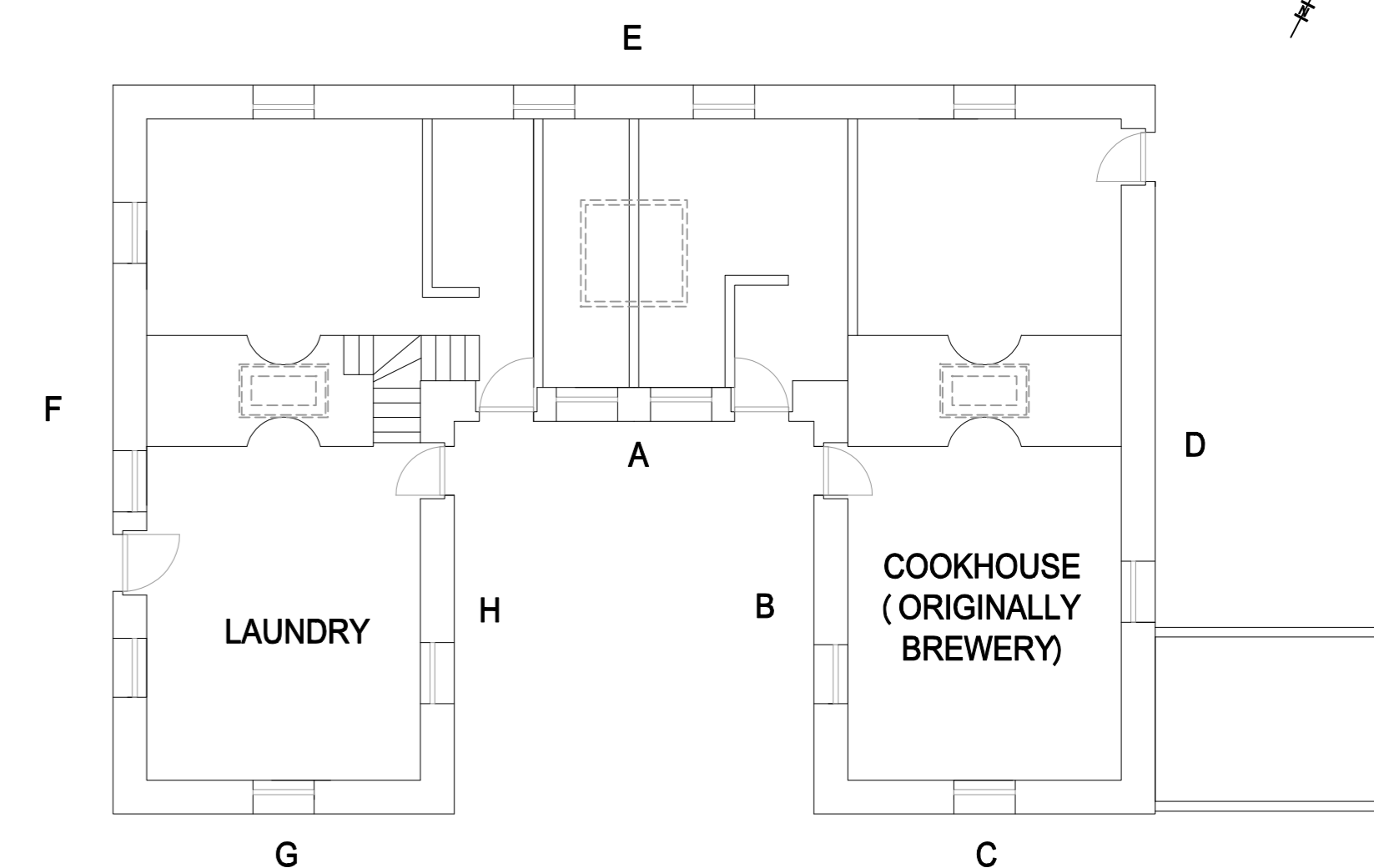


ELEVATION D



ELEVATION E

Key Plan:



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COLESHILL HOUSE CLOCK

Notes

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Client:

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Bill Ashby & Ian Edwards

Drawing

ELEVATIONS

Drawn by: Ian J Edwards

Checked by: Bill Ashby

Approved by: Bill Ashby

Drawing No.

CHRP-012

Drawing Scale: 1:100 at A1

Date: Oct 2011

Date: Oct 2011

Date: Oct 2011

Revision

0



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