



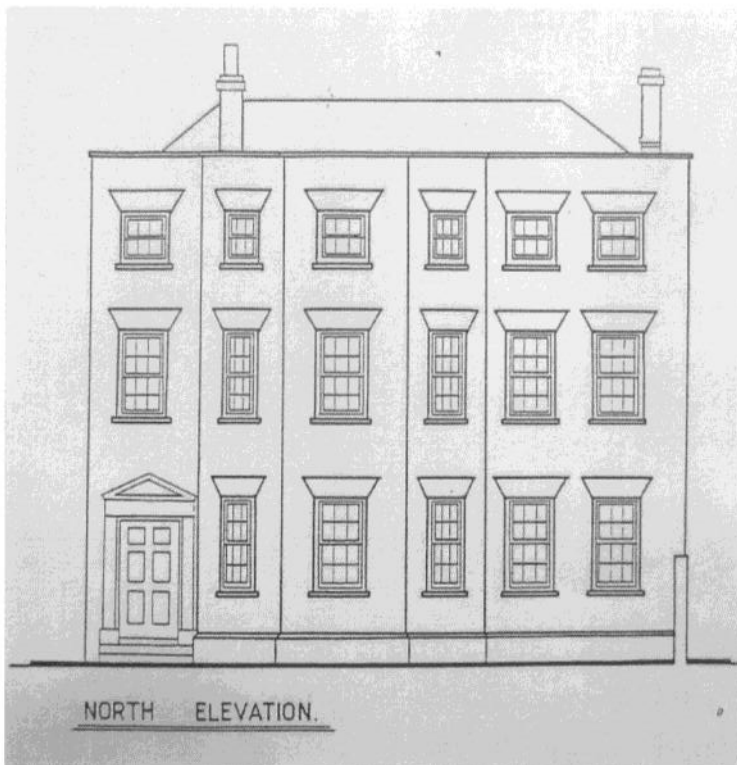
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SPRING HOUSE EWELL



Over a number of years the owner of Spring House & EEHAS have investigated the history and archaeology of this prominent building in Ewell village.



Spring House in Ewell is unique in construction being a timber framed building with mathematical tiles on all four elevations.

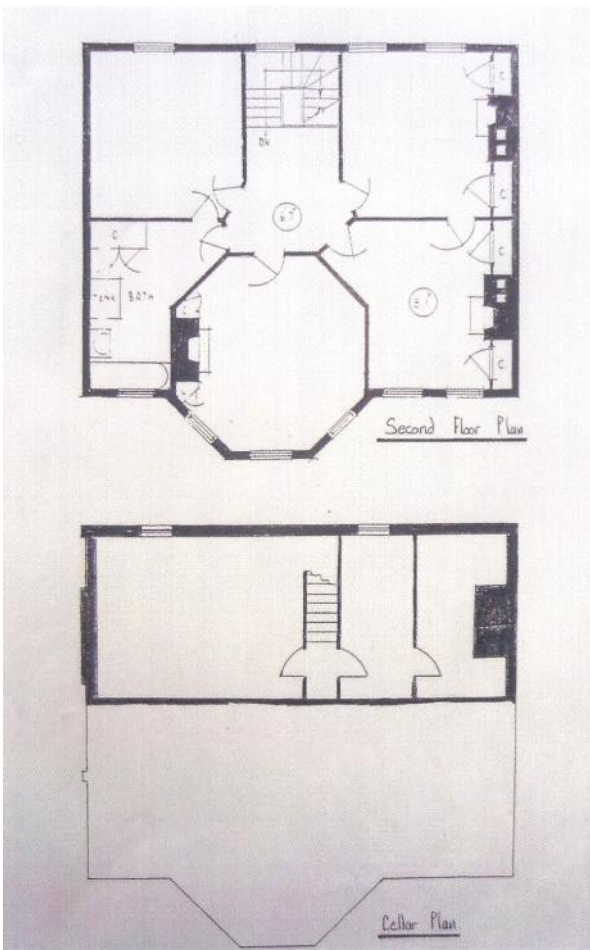
It has an asymmetric frontage, with a canted front bay forming the outer part of internal octagonal rooms that survive on 1st & 2nd floors.



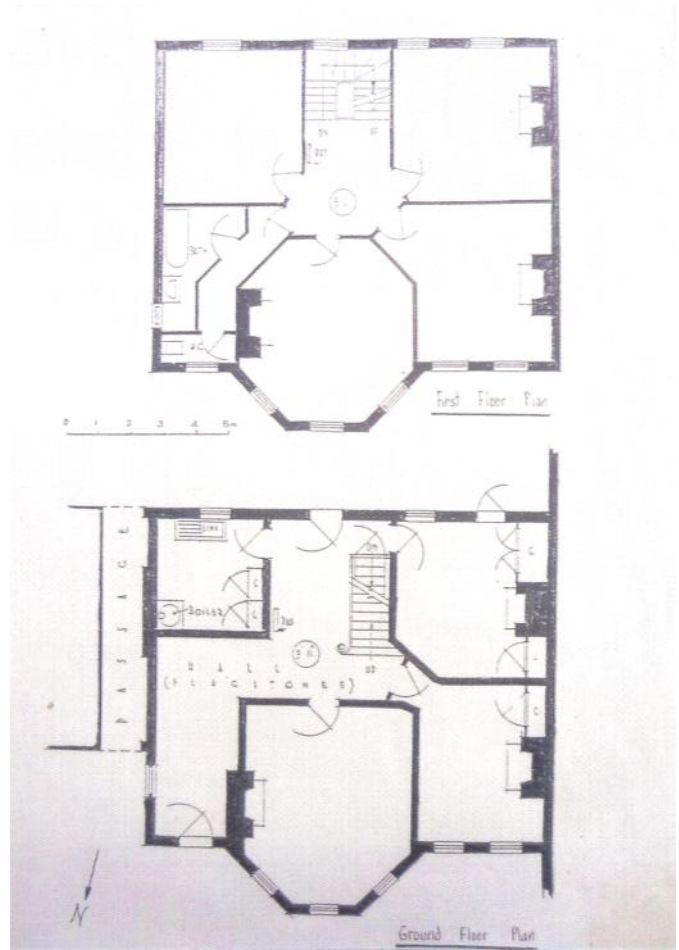
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Current Floor
Plans for Spring
House



Floor construction under ground
floor front room showing original
octagonal form





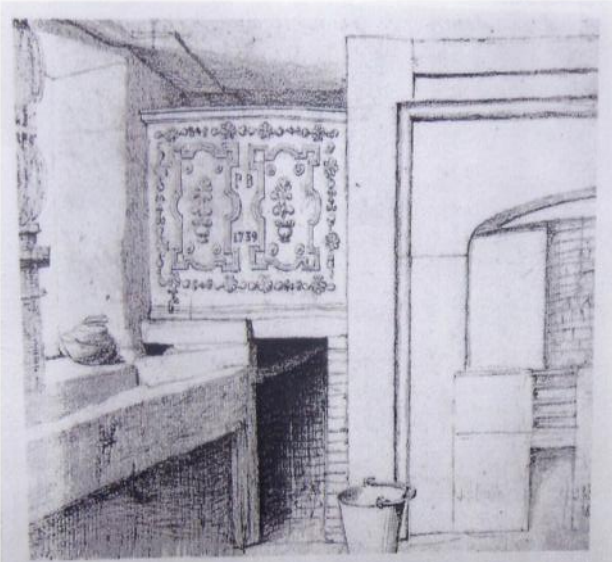
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Voids found beside fireplace in kitchen which would have housed a lead water tank.



A late-nineteenth-century drawing of the basement kitchen at No. 30 Spital Square. The house was built in the late 1730s, and since the lead cistern is dated 1739, this view probably shows the original arrangement. The kitchen was in the front basement room overlooking the front area. Under the window was a stone sink, and immediately next to it the lead water storage tank. Presumably the tank was fed through the pipe running up beneath it, with the water supplied, most probably, by the New River Company. The massive cooking hearth must be original, but it has had a smaller grate inserted to make it more economical. All in all, a typical eighteenth-century London kitchen.



Spring House staircase (left) compared with similar design in Spitalfields Rectory of 1728



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Front ground floor
with fragment of c18
wallpaper behind
fireplace surround

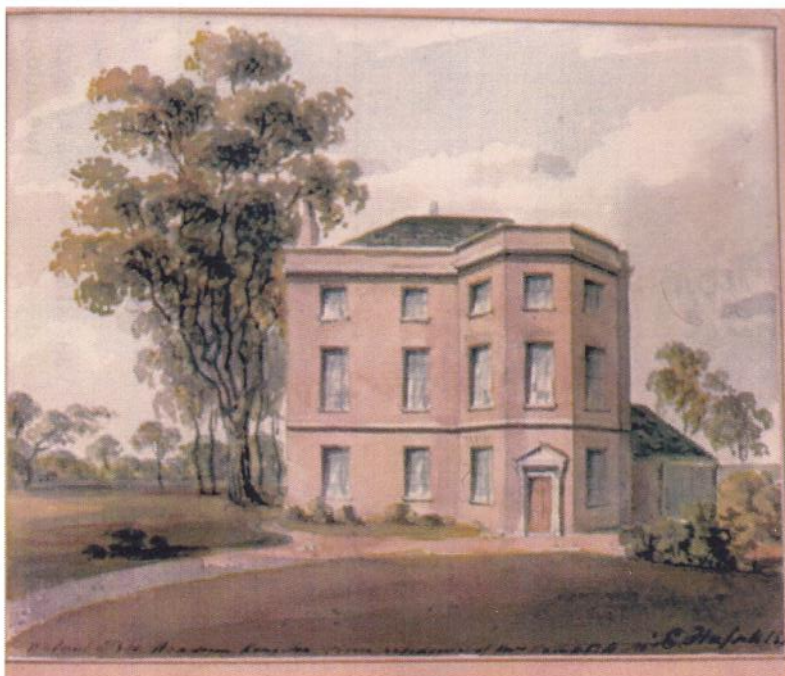
Spring House Ewell c 1740

(Sadly there is no Hassell drawing known of Spring House despite both having worked in the area)



Elmfield Kingston c 1754

(Watercolour Ed Hassell 1827)





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THE DOCUMENTARY BACKGROUND

A number of documentary sources refer to buildings in Spring Street (Beggerstrete) area from 1408 onwards. It is difficult to place these precisely but a property, referred to as Cateswell (various spellings), seems to have occupied the site of present Spring House. The old name of Cateswell continued in legal documents even after it was known as Spring House in 1720.

The following advertisement, for sale of Spring House, appeared in the *Daily Courant* in 1720

To be sold at Ewell near Epsom in Surrey, a messuage
in good repair with a large garden and other conveniences
commonly called Spring House being copyhold of
inheritance and capable of great improvement
Enquire of Mr Mathews Attorney in Gutter Lane near
Cheapside or of Mrs Conyers at the said house.

However, the property was unsold, as it remained in the same ownership, Formans, until it was surrendered (sold) to George Lewen in 1742. Lewen was a man of some means who later married into the Glyn family. Considering the architectural and archaeological evidence this would best fit a date of construction of the present Spring House.

After it assumed date of construction in 1742 the building seems to have been let or leased for much of its subsequent history. In 1760 it was occupied by a William Baldwin, described as a hop merchant and his small brass name plate survived on the rear door. During the first half of the C19 it was occupied by the proprietors of the adjacent building, Chessington Lodge, who operated a brewery and later a laundry there.

From the census returns we know that a number of well to do people occupied the house in the second half of C19 including Edward Fairfax Taylor, Clerk to the House of Lords, who among other things first translated the Aeneid into English prose. He was followed by Sir John Stokes, a one time Director of the Suez Canal Company.



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SPRING HOUSE EWELL

EWELL "SPRING HOUSE" PROPERTY

Date	Owners/Occupiers	Source
1372	Tenement & curtilage, acquired of John Parker by Walter de Merstham rector of Ewell, between ten't of John Kypping on W & that of Alice Wrynkleot on other	Fitznells Cartulary 89-98
1400	Held by Richard Parker	Fitznells 464, 469
1408	"a message of Waletons (Wallington) fee which Richard Parker holds"	Register or Memorial of Ewell
1437	Robert Hall, sometime Parker. Tenement & garden of old Catewell & ½ cre.	Fitznells 89-98
1507	Tenement next to Cateswell on which built one bovaria and part of barn, between gate of Thomas Hayton on west & Cateswell on east that Thomas Hayton formally held of the lord	Gadeston 20/12/xxi/12
1577	Held by Henry Hall	Taylor's survey
1604	Ed Hall "tenement opposite a well, called Catewell form'ly Parkers"	Gadeston 20/12/xxi
1617	Edmund Cordwell "tenement with barn stable & orchard with ½ acre in Southfield"	Gadeston 20/12/xviii
1637	William Price	
1662	Henry & Ann Fendall	
1688	Ann Fendall, then Ann Baxter, leased to Wm Shrawley	Gadeston 20/1
1689	William Shrawley	
1695	Henry Foreman, admitted	Gadeston 20/1
1698	Henry F died, his son an infant inherited	Gadeston 20/1
1705	Henry Foreman, son, presented	Gadeston 20/1
1720	Sale of message, in good repair, commonly called Spring House & capable of great improvement.	Advert in Daily Courant July 23 & Aug 20 1720
1742	Catherine Foreman, sister & heir of Henry F jnr, surrendered to George Lewen	Gadeston 20/1
1753	Robert Fowle & John Badcock admitted	Gadeston 20/1
1760	William Baldwin, hop merchant	Gadeston 20/1
1780	William Baldwin owner Robert Peck occupier	Land Tax
1783	Sold to Simon/William? Barratty, occupiers Roger Peck & James Daubin	Gadeston 20/2
1787	Property enfranchised	
1798	<i>Mention of "new brick built message with yard & garden adjoining house & garden of William Baldwin"</i>	
1799	John Cholmley, "buys Catwells house & orchard + 49 rods with 2 houses since pulled down"	Nicholls deeds
1802	John Cholmley house, yard & garden 1+ acre	Enclosure No 318
1809	John Cholmley dies, heir Lewin Cholmley	Nichols deeds
1828	Philip Cutler, mealman, occupier	Directory
1834	George Ede, brewer, buys at auction (in King William IV inn) for £780 together with Chessington Lodge.	Nichols deeds
1840	George Ede, brewer – mortgages Catswells, brewery and the Fox at Kingswood to Richard Lee for £3000 (first mention of brewery on site)	Nichols deed
1841	George Ede owner & occupier, rateable val £27	Poor Law Award
1841	G Ede occupier + wife 3 sons & daughter and Cutler.	Census
1842	Transfer of mortgage from Lee to John Lambert	Nichols deeds
1845	Sale of Catwells and brewery, malthouse, coach houses etc lately erected & the Fox at Kingswood, Lambert to Fred White, common brewer & mortgagor John Pontifex as trustee for the Lamberts.	Nichols deeds
1851	John Roffey, proprietor of houses, occupier	Census
1857	White, owner, Willion occupier	Poor Rate
1858	Fred White declared bankrupt on application by Lamberts	Nichols deeds
1859	Properties transferred to John Lambert (but no mention of the Fox)	Nichols deeds
1859	<i>Brewery premises leased to Thomas Yuill, bleacher & Robert Sinclair & Co for 4 yrs at £80 pa.</i>	Nichols deeds
1859	Private residence, leased to W H Willion member of Stock Exchange for 4 yrs at £42 pa	Nichols deeds
1861	<i>Thomas Yuill, bleacher employing 29 women, 4 men & 1 boy. Received notice to quit from Geo Torr of Garbrand Hall on behalf of the Lamberts.</i>	Nichols deeds
1861	William Henry Willion	Census
1871	William Henry Willion	Census
1881	J Soady occupier	Census
1891	Edward Taylor, Clerk to House of Lords (moved to the Gables, Church Street by 1895)	Census
1895	Sir John Stokes	Nichols deeds
1901	John Stokes Retired Lt Gen RE	Census
1902	Gen Sir John Stokes died 17 Nov 1902	Times obituary
1908	A T Dudgeon	Andrews'
1911	Andrew Tilston Dudgeon Consultant Naval Architect	Census
1923	Lady Bell owner, A Dudgeon occupier	
1925	Andrew Tilston Dudgeon	Kelly's
1936	Acquired by Albert Nichols, Manson Gibson occupier	Nichols deeds & Kelly's
1940	Gibson Manson occupier	Kellys



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ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION

Some archaeological work in advance of landscaping and the recording of features exposed in service trenches has contributed to an understanding of the site and the date of the building. In particular it has revealed –

- Evidence of earlier buildings that occupied the site.
- Series of dumped building debris clearly associated with the construction of Spring House.
- Tentative remains of the C18 front garden layout in terms of possible bedding trenches.

Analysis of the finds from contexts associated with the front wall foundation of Spring House included much material of C17 & early C18 date. It was the identification of the latest dated pottery type (Salt Glazed Stoneware) that has indicated a date of after 1730 for the construction but before the introduction of Cream ware pottery types after c 1750.

Other important finds included pottery sherds of a North Italian slipped bowl, dating to the early C17 and a rare example of this type imported in to England. Also part of a stoneware bottle showing the sign of Henry Crosse of the Cock tavern London. This was made in Fulham and is one of the first examples of such vessels made by Dwight in between 1675 1690. A miniature lead alloy child's toy dish of a type known to have been popular in the Mid C18 was found in the rear garden.

A COMBINATION OF ARCHITECTURAL ANALYSIS, DOCUMENTARY RESEARCH AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION HAS COMBINED TO PROVIDE A LIKELY DATE FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE BUILDING.



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Indications of Garden Layout





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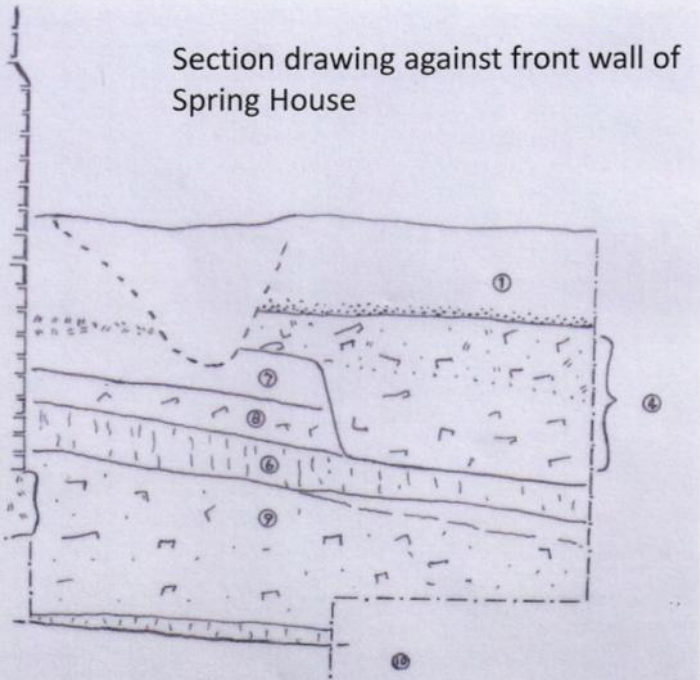
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Trenches showing evidence for earlier buildings on the site, and for a series of dumped building debris associated with the construction of Spring House



Section drawing against front wall of Spring House



WEST FACE





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FINDS FROM SPRING HOUSE



Above - a miniature lead alloy child's toy dish

Below - sherds of an early 17th century Northern
Italian slipped bowl



Above - a stoneware bottle with the sign of Henry
Crosse of Cock Tavern London

Below - a wine bottle seal late 17th - early 18th
century

