

**Paycocke's House and Garden Access Statement**

A fine Tudor wool merchant's house with a beautiful and tranquil arts-and-crafts style cottage garden and period rooms.

**Contact details**

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**Points to note**

- There is poor mobile phone reception in the House and garden.
- Assistance dogs are welcome throughout the property. There is a water bowl along the side of this building which is refilled regularly or can be filled on request.
- There are no wheelchairs available for loan in the House.
- There is one area of water at the far end of the garden.
- To request this document in Microsoft Word format to assist with accessible software for the visually impaired, please contact us via email.

## Arrival & Parking Facilities

- There are brown signs from the A120 and from the centre of Coggeshall village. The entrance is signed. There is a car park at Grange Barn on Grange Hill, signed from the centre of the village. The car park is about a 10-minute walk from Paycocke's House, half a mile.
- The car park surface is gravelled.
- It is possible to drop off visitors at the entrance to Paycocke's House. There is limited on street parking. Blue Badge holds are allowed to park on the double yellow lines.
- There is a paved path at the entrance to the House and uneven paths in the garden which make wheelchair access difficult. Entrance can be gained through the front door on request and by prior appointment.

## Route to Paycocke's House

- The route from Grange Barn carpark to Paycocke's House takes around 10 minutes to walk at a moderate pace.
- The route is via tarmac paths and is initially downhill.
- There is no pavement on the first left hand turn but it is possible to take the second left turn where there is a pavement.

## Accessibility

- Garden and courtyard accessible; some uneven pathways and steps, but sloped access along western edge of garden.
- Wheelchair access confined to ground floor of house.
- There is an accessible toilet through the entrance cartway of the property.
- Internal stairs are steep, but have handrails.
- Most rooms have raised thresholds and doorways are narrow but wide enough for most manual wheelchairs. Please ask for assistance if required.
- For visitors with a visual impairment it is important to stress that the House is quite dark inside and the contrast between floors and furniture is poor. Take care when sitting down.
- Most doorways have trip hazards in the form of raised thresholds.
- Access to the first floor toilet is narrow and the toilet does not have enhancements for access use.
- The upper floors of the building are reached by some narrow steps and stairs, and floors are uneven in places.
- The first floor solar room has a low tie-beam.
- Visitors may rest/sit on any seats or chairs not marked with a thistle.

## WCs

- There are two unisex WC's, one on the first floor of Paycocke's House and a second in the grounds of Paycocke's, which is accessible. There is also an accessible WC at Grange Barn

## Visitor Reception

- The reception desk is over 1000mm high but there is a lower area, approx 750mm high, which the reception team can also use for admission and membership enquiries. There are seats provided upon request. Access to Visitor Reception from the front door is difficult as the entry door is very narrow. Room steward can check membership details or arrange tickets in main hall if required.

## House

- The floor surfaces are mostly wooden. Some of the objects may be touched, please ask a room guide for more information.
- Seating is available if required, please ask the room guides for assistance. There is usually someone on each floor.
- 4 wheeled powered mobility vehicles and powered wheelchairs cannot be accommodated in the House due to the entrance step and narrow doorways.

## Bookshop

- This is located on the ground floor, accessed from the Great Hall. This is reached via a very narrow, doorway.

## Catering

- The coffee shop has a paved path to the entrance and has level access apart from a small raised lip across the doorway.
- The doorway is over 1860mm and 830mm wide. This is usually open to at least 90 degrees and is non-power assisted. The door opens inwards. Volunteers can assist if required.
- There is some outdoor seating with tables which can accommodate wheelchair users.
- The counter is over 850mm high. Volunteers are available to assist with service and carrying trays.
- The floor surfaces are wooden, and the lighting is from LED lights. There is one overhead light in the seating area so it can be dull in this room.
- The chairs have cushioned seats.
- There is a small step down into the coffee shop.

## Retail

- The entrance is level and via the reception area. The floor is wooden, and the lighting is dim.
- The counter is over 1000mm high, but staff and volunteers are able to assist with service here and with lifting and carrying goods if required.
- There is no induction loop.
- Some of the goods on the lower shelves are reachable by wheelchair users and children.

## Garden

- The garden is level with some uneven pathways and steps. There is sloped access along the western edge of the garden via the writing shelter and is brick pathway leading to grass. There are a number of benches. At the far end there is an area of water.

## Photographs to illustrate points described

Step on front door entrance



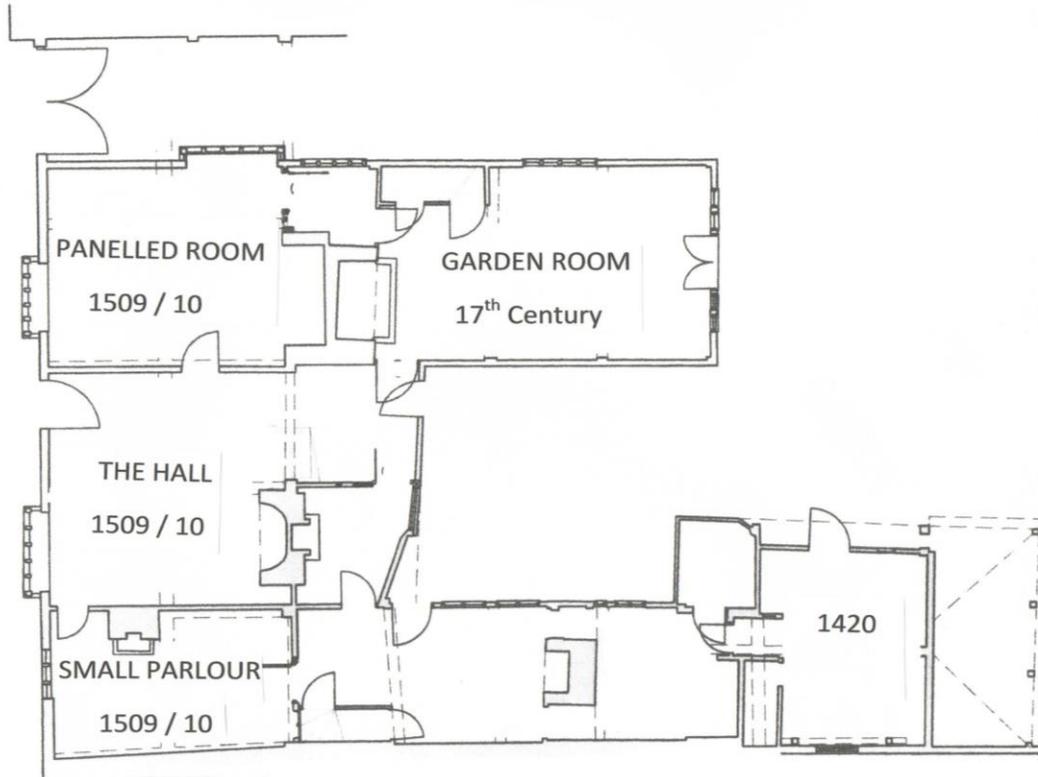
Example of threshold step in most doorways



Garden, paved area and sloping path on far edge



**Floor Plan – Ground floor**



**First floor**

