



**ARCHAEOLOGICAL BUILDING RECORDING AT  
SOUTHWOOD HOUSE FARM OUTBUILDINGS,  
CALKE ABBEY ESTATE, DERBYSHIRE**

*BUILDING ANALYSIS REPORT*

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## NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

This report presents the results of a Level 2 historic building survey of the farm outbuildings at Southwood House Farm, Calke Abbey, Derbyshire. The recording was required to inform a future planning application for the adaptation and reuse of the buildings. ArcHeritage were commissioned by the National Trust Midlands Region to undertake the survey and recording. The recording indicated that there are several phases of construction and adaptation evident in the buildings, which are arranged around the four sides of a rectangular open yard. There appears to have been a major phase of construction in the 1780s, comprising adjoining straw and hay barns and an attached stable at the north end. Another small stable closer to the farmhouse has a painted date of 1792. The larger stable was extended and converted into a cowshed in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century, with the hay barn largely demolished at the same date. A further range was added to the cowshed, to form an L-shaped structure, probably prior to 1850. Some alterations to the cowshed were undertaken in the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, as were the construction of modern barns and a yard cover. The buildings as a group are considered to be of local historic significance, being typical post-Enclosure farm outbuildings, though there are some more unusual features within the barn and stable.

## KEY PROJECT INFORMATION

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## **1 INTRODUCTION**

This report presents the results of a Level 2 archaeological building survey of outbuildings at Southwood House Farm, Calke Abbey Estate, Derbyshire. The survey was required to inform a future planning application for adaptation and reuse of the buildings. The survey was undertaken in line with a brief provided by the National Trust, and the guidelines provided by English Heritage (2006) and the IfA (2008). ArcHeritage were commissioned by the National Trust Midlands Region to undertake the survey.

## **2 LOCATION, GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY**

The site lies on farmland within the Calke Abbey Estate, Derbyshire (Figure 1). Southwood House Farm, centred on NGR SK 35891 21481, is located approximately 1.5km southeast of Calke Abbey and 2.5km southeast of the village of Ticknall. The building survey recorded outbuildings located around a rectangular courtyard to the northeast of the farmhouse and comprising an L-shaped single-storey barn along the northern and western edges of the yard, a two-storey barn on the east side of the yard, and a two-storey stable with an extension on the south side. Southwood House Farm is a grade II listed building, and there is also a grade II listed group of bee boles in the garden wall to the north of the house. The outbuildings are not currently listed. The underlying geology comprises Pennine Lower Coal Measures sandstone, mudstone and siltstone.

## **3 METHODOLOGY**

### **3.1 Aims**

The aims of the Level 2 descriptive survey were to provide a record of the current form and character of the buildings, to understand their development and use, and to assess their historical significance.

### **3.2 Methodology**

The building recording was undertaken to English Heritage's Level 2 criteria (English Heritage 2006) and comprised a descriptive record. Sketched annotations were made on measured architects drawings provided by the National Trust. A detailed photographic survey was undertaken, comprising digital photographs at 12 megapixel resolution, and including views of all interior and exterior elevations, architectural details and general views of the buildings' settings and relationships. Evidence for the phasing of the buildings was noted during the survey. The work was monitored by the National Trust Archaeologist.

The project archive, comprising drawn records and notes, digital photographs and digitised plans, will be assembled in accordance with the UK Institute for Conservation guidelines (Walker 1990), and will be deposited with the National Trust. An online OASIS record has been completed for the project.

## 4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The historical summary is based on information in the brief provided by the National Trust (see Appendix 3), and information from Derbyshire Historic Environment Record.

The original Southwood Farm House is thought to date from between 1549 and 1563 and was built by Gilbert Thacker. There were later alterations and additions, with major alterations undertaken between 1760 and 1770. The surrounding land was enclosed from Southwood Common in c.1775, when the farm was in the occupation of William Woodward. Earthwork remains of ridge and furrow ploughing marks survive to the immediate south of the farm, in two different alignments that do not appear to be related to the current enclosure boundaries, suggesting that they may relate to medieval or early post-medieval cultivation, possibly associated with the farm of Gilbert Thacker.

The farm includes a two-storey brick-built farmhouse with a tiled roof, a brick-built smithy and bakery which bears the inscription 'WW 1772' on the brickwork, and a brick hayloft and stables also bear the same initials and the date '1792', this time painted on the interior plaster walls. These three buildings are shown on a plan of 1820. A single-storey livestock shed is attached to the stables, and there is a large brick-built threshing barn to the south of this. Facing the livestock shed is an L-shaped range of brick cattle sheds, which form a quadrangular enclosure with the livestock shed and threshing barn. Attached to the south end of the cattle sheds is a second, smaller, two storey threshing barn or chop house which is linked to an exterior horse gin, as suggested by a circular mark on the west wall where the drive shaft penetrated the building. Facing the farmhouse is a range of single-storey brick piggeries, now used as a stable. The brick-lined cellars incorporate a stone well and appear to relate to a previous house on the site (Marshall and Walker 1988, 121).

The farm also has a large rectangular kitchen garden, enclosed by a rough sandstone wall. This was also shown on Crabtree's 1820 plan. The garden, now grassed, has an artificial water course running through it, and may have been divided into flower and vegetable beds. The sandstone wall incorporates a range of 11 brick-lined bee boles, which are Grade II listed as a rare survival of such a large group. A receipt for the bricks dates the bee boles to c.1820, and they were located between an orchard and a wild flower garden.

## 5 RESULTS OF THE BUILDING RECORDING

The farm buildings at Southwood House Farm (Plate 1) were recorded as three distinct groups:

- the barn, together with the remains of an extension at its north end;
- two adjoining single-storey ranges (1 and 2) of cowsheds;
- the stable, along with a small building at its south end and an adjoining single-storey range at its north end.

The locations of the buildings are shown on Figure 2. The locations of photo viewpoints are shown on Figure 2 (general shots), Figure 6 (barn and cowsheds) and Figure 9 (stable).

### 5.1 The barn

The current barn as it now appears (Barn 1) is a brick-built three-bay long Type 1a barn (Peters classification), with a central threshing floor and a bay to either side, open to the roof from

ground level (here named bays 1-3 from south to north end). There are full-height centrally-placed doors of equal size on either side of bay 2, both now reduced in height by upper boarding and with the east doorway also narrowed (Plate 2; Figure 3). On the long west side there are smaller segmental-headed doorways into bays 1 and 3. There are high-level pitch-holes in bay 3 and in the south gable-end. Plain narrow vertical ventilation slits occur on three sides of the building, with three rows on the long sides and a fourth showing in the south gable end below a single diamond-shaped pattern and an owl-hole near the apex. The external size of the barn is 15.3m by 6.4m (50ft by 21ft).

Internally, the bays are divided by short spur walls about 1m long that at the top support the ends of the tie beams of two king-post trusses (Plate 3; Figure 4). The trusses are connected by two rows of back purlins, held in place by cleats and presumably jointed together behind them. At ground level the central area has a brick threshing floor (extending a short way into bay 3), whilst the other bays have concrete floors that overlie brick flooring. The ends of the spur walls dividing bays 1 and 2 are recessed on the south side to accommodate a former 1.1m (3ft) high barrier. Above this level rounded bricks have been used. On the east side of bay 3 an absence of ventilation slits close to the spur wall may indicate the former presence of a small wooden-lined corn-hole. There is no evidence for former raised floors at either end.

The brickwork is 2½-2¾ inches (63-67mm) thick and 8¾-9¾ins (226-238mm) in length. Most of the brickwork is laid in Monk bond (one header to two stretchers each course), with some English bond showing in parts of the inner facing, especially at the north end. The outer walling is generally only one brick thick, whilst the inner spur walls that support the trusses are one and a half bricks thick. On the external southeast face of bay 1 there is a roof scar for a removed building that formerly ran at right angles from the south end of the barn (Plate 2). This was shown on the 1901 OS map (Figure 11). The roof scar indicates that this was a narrow single storey structure with a pitched roof. Internally, there are no clear indications for any doors or openings between Barn 1 and the demolished structure.

The north end of Barn 1 once had a large central opening 2.9m (9½ft) across that rose to a cross-beam that spans the building at eaves level, and above this there was a second narrower opening. Both openings are now filled in. They indicate a former extension into a fourth bay which no longer survives intact beyond the present building. However, there is good evidence that a second 3-bay long barn of the same length but 0.6m (2ft) narrower, and of lower height, once extended beyond the north end of the present building. This is henceforth referred to as Barn 2.

Part of the west wall of Barn 2 remains, set back from the west frontage of Barn 1 and with its brickwork coursed into the latter. Now reduced in height, two rows of ventilation holes are visible, the lower one indicating a lower floor level to this barn (Plate 4). There is a blocked-in doorway and then an open gap between the wall and a short length of wall that is coursed into the east cowshed range. Truncated brickwork covered by plaster to either side of the gap suggests a central entry into the second barn that has been widened after the barn was demolished to provide access into the yard to the west. A short stub wall on the inside of the surviving wall marks the start of a fifth bay. Most of the east wall of this barn is now missing and where it was originally coursed into Barn 1's north wall brickwork alterations have been made to patch the former join. Patches show where single purlins of Barn 2's roof once



penetrated this wall. Lower down there are the remains of the east and north walls of a modern lean-to addition that partly filled the space left when the second barn was removed. Holes cut into the north wall of Barn 1 and remaining limewash indicate the former roof-line of this building (Plate 5).

Part of the lower walling of the third bay of Barn 2 (bay 6 of the full sequence) can be seen in the east end of a cowshed (Range 2 mentioned below), to which it was originally joined (Plate 6). Brickwork on the north and east sides of this end has the same tone, bonding pattern and ventilation holes, although the upper brickwork has been replaced at least once. How bays 5 and 6 were originally separated is now unclear as the walling here has also been much altered too. A straight joint a half-brick in from the south-east corner may be what remains of the east doorway entry into Barn 2, where a barn door had once opened outwards. If so, this doorway would have been wider than its opposite member.

The end bay of this Barn 2 had a small doorway in its north wall, now blocked-up, and two openings into a single-storey range that continued westwards and was part of the same construction. This is discussed further in Section 5.2.

## 5.2 Cowsheds

Two ranges of single-storey cowsheds form an L-shape (with a less than 90 degree join) around the north and west sides of a now covered yard, with the barn forming its east side (Plate 7; Figures 4 and 5). The west range (Range 1) abuts the north range (Range 2) and is eight bays long with 11 double-milking stalls on its west side. There are no openings apart from some modern vents in its west wall but there is a single doorway and pitch-hole in its south gable end and a line of three stable doorways and nine metal-framed windows, 3 x 3 feet (0.9m) and 3ft x 4ft (0.9m x 1.2m) in size, in the east wall (Plate 8). The cowshed is open to the roof with a series of queen-post trusses, all but one being of relatively modern appearance.

The lower brickwork, to a height of about 1m (in line with the window sills), is generally about 2 $\frac{3}{8}$ -2 $\frac{1}{2}$  inches (60-63mm) thick and about 9-9 $\frac{1}{4}$  ins (230-235mm) long, laid in Sussex bond (one header to three stretchers each course). Above this the brickwork is slightly lighter in tone, of more irregular coursing and is thicker at 2 $\frac{5}{8}$ -2 $\frac{3}{4}$  inches (67-70mm) and slightly shorter. Rebuild of the upper walling is evident on all three sides of the range. The brickwork in the south gable appears to be a modern rebuild (resulting in a rising roof-line here) and the dentillated coursing in the side walling beneath the eaves is composed of modern 3-inch brickwork.

Where Range 1 abuts Range 2 the latter has a two-bay section separated by an internal wall. This may have been a feed preparation area (thus forming overall a Peters' type 4eii cowhouse) but now has three milking stalls on its west side. A double-sliding doorway in the north wall is a 20<sup>th</sup>-century introduction. East of the first internal wall Range 2 has an open seven-bay section (with nine double milking stalls) that ends at a second internal wall, beyond which there is another two-bay section which was formerly the north end bay of Barn 2. This range is 11 bays long in total.

The middle seven-bay part faces southwards into the yard and has two stable-type doorways, five 3ft (0.9m) square metal-framed windows and five remaining ventilation slits (Plate 9). The back wall has only slits, irregularly spaced. Both sides betray evidence of alterations and two

phases of construction denoted by a straight joint on either side which correspond with an oddly angled truss between the fourth and fifth bays. Whilst the north side joint may be the start of a former opening, the south joint has truncated bricks showing and its position is probably explained by the placement of a doorway (now infilled) to its left. Brickwork east of these straight joints is Monk and Sussex bond, similar to and coursed into remaining brickwork of Barn 2, and includes narrow vertical ventilation slits. West of the joints the brickwork is slightly thinner and similar in size to the lower brickwork of Range 1 at 2¾-2½ inches (60-63mm) thick and about 9-9¼ins (230-235mm) long. Ventilation slits here are wider. Whilst the west part has dentillation showing at the top of the walls, the east part lacks this embellishment.

Internally, the east part has simple trusses with high straight collars (Plate 10), whilst the west part has more substantial queen-post trusses (Plate 11); the central truss is a modern replacement king-post truss. The evidence overall suggests that the west part of the range is a later add-on to east part.

As explained above, the two-bay east end of the range was originally part of Barn 2, with doorways in three walls and ventilation slits on two sides. The south wall may originally have been largely open, adjacent to a large barn doorway at the east end and featuring an internal spur wall at its west end. At some point the opening may have been partly filled-in to form a stable doorway and an adjacent window; later still the doorway was moved to a more central position and the earlier openings filled in with 2¾ inch (70mm) thick brickwork (Plate 12). This may have coincided with a change in use as machinery was installed in the southeast corner of the room, powered from outside through a hole put through the lower east wall. A support base and a hopper still remain in place. The structure has also been reduced in height; this is attested by a curious added internal brick staircase that now leads only to the side of the roof (Plate 13). There may have been an upper loft before the height was reduced.

### 5.3 The stable/granary

A small three-bay long two-storey building with a high loft is a combined stable and granary (Plate 14; Figure 7). Fronting the west side, the stable has two compartments, one occupying the first bay with its entry door now blocked up, the second two-bay part with a wider door and a side window still in use. The spacing of these openings is matched by three delivery hatches on the floor above; all openings have segmental heads. A single small opening above the middle hatch may be where a hoist was once positioned. An external staircase, brick-built with gritstone steps, gives access to a first floor doorway in the south wall. Whilst this level is unlit, an internal staircase rises to a high loft that is lit from windows in both gable ends.

The building is largely brick-built, the bricks being 2¾-2½ inches (60-63mm) thick and 8¾-9ins (222-229mm) long, laid in English Garden bond (an all header course alternating with two to four stretcher courses). On the east side the brickwork is built off a thick stone wall c.1.3m high (Plate 15). An irregular brick pillar has been set within the stonework to give added support to an internal cross-beam, the end of which shows in the wall above. Several brick courses up and set between long horizontal timbers, there is a series of six large rectangular ventilation/feeding openings, now reduced to narrow slits. In the brick walling above these are two rows of irregularly spaced holes where half-bricks have been removed to aid ventilation at just above floor level, and another row of projecting timbers that support a long timber

running along the outside wall. This may have supported a lean-to roof that protected hay feed kept externally below; this would then have been passed through the six openings to be retained between the sloping top of the stone walling and feed racks to the front. The building has brick dentillation at the top of the walling. Both gables appear to have been rebuilt.

On the inside, the smaller one-bay section is 2.5m (just over 8ft) across and the larger stable is 5.36m (17½ft) across (Figure 8). Horses faced the thick back wall but no stalling or indications of it in the floor survive to show how many animals were housed (Plate 16). Below the ceiling level there are the six large openings in the back wall. In the floor, in front of the back wall, there are a series of rectangular brick bases that may have supported wooden troughs and/or supported stall piers. Whilst these together might suggest stabling for up to six horses, conditions would have been cramped with insufficient space for grooming; a more likely total is four, three working horses and a nag.

The larger stable has two cupboards in the back wall but there is little space for holding harness. A former doorway led off the north side wall of the smaller stable and a low opening in the south end wall may have allowed access to animal feed kept under the external staircase and in a room attached to it on the south end of the stable-block. The flooring is composed of 4 inch cobbles sloping down to a continuous drainage channel towards the front of the building. The floor above is well supported by a 12 inch (0.3m) chamfered beam, the cross wall and thick joists (Plate 17). Finally, set within the base of the cross-wall there is a timber plate, now in poor condition, with what appear to be part of a head with a medieval hairstyle showing at one end (Plate 18). This may be an effigy or a poppy-head bench end that has been reused; where it came from and what purpose it served in the base of a stable wall are questions without obvious answers.

The floor above the stable is well supported to take weight and is well insulated and plastered to prevent stale air and heat from the animals below from penetrating. The first floor area, separated into two compartments as below, was probably used to store grain. Some ventilation and dappled light came through the wooden slatted delivery doors and through small low-level openings in the back wall (Plate 19). The walls were thickly plastered over laths set into the walls. Painted on the plaster in two places are the initials WW with the date 1792, but these are now fragmenting (Plate 20). A basic wooden staircase in the southwest corner gives access to a high loft, lit at either end by window openings. This may have provided extra storage space or some accommodation for farm workers.

The small room attached at the south end of the stable-block has undergone several alterations and is now inaccessible due to being in an unsafe condition. Its connection through to the stable via the base of the stairs suggests an associated purpose, probably for housing harness or some animal feed, as mentioned above. Its original brickwork is similar to the main building and it is probably of a near-contemporary date. At the north end there is a single range that was added later. This is in two parts: a four-bay long shed fully open at the east end and with a smaller opening on the north side and a blocked-off one on the south side (Plate 21). There are several cupboards set into the side walls. This suggests use as a wagon/ implement shed, with all-round access points. At the west end there is a walled-off two-bay room with remains of brick flooring, an original doorway on the west side (now infilled) and a later doorway cut through the north side. Formerly with access through from the adjacent

stable, this was probably an ancillary stable or for an associated use. This range's brickwork is 2½ inches (67mm) thick, 8¾-9¼ins (222-235mm) long and is laid in Flemish Garden bond.

## 6 ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

As a group, the buildings are typical of post-Enclosure farm architecture, and are not particularly unusual. Five phases of construction have been identified (see Figure 10):

- Phase 1: 1770s-1780s: Barn 1 and the now demolished Barn 2;
- Phase 2: 1792: the stable;
- Phase 3: Early 19<sup>th</sup> century: the two cowsheds;
- Phase 4: Pre-1850: the open-ended shed north of the stable;
- Phase 5: 20<sup>th</sup> century.

The farm buildings are considered to be of local historic significance. Specific features which may have greater significance include the adjoining barns (Barn 1 and the demolished Barn 2), which are not a typical arrangement. The very solid stone walling at the back of the stable is also an unusual feature, and could relate to the reuse of part of an earlier building. The re-used wooden plate in the cross-wall on the ground floor of the stable is of unknown function and date. It has a possible carved head at one end, and could be of medieval date. The farm as a whole, including the farmhouse and the surrounding buildings, form an interesting site, with elements of an earlier structure surviving within the farmhouse, and medieval or early post-medieval ridge and furrow to the south of the farm.

## 7 CONCLUSIONS

Several phases of construction and adaption are evident in the buildings looked at. All the buildings seen are shown as present on the Ordnance Survey 25 inch scale map of 1900 (Figure 11), arranged on the four sides of a rectangular-shaped open yard, with a bigger fenced off area to the east.

The evidence points to a major phase of building after enclosure, possibly in the 1770s-80s, with a clear emphasis on arable farming. This included the two adjoining barns suggested above, the south one a straw barn, the north one a hay barn, with an attached stable running to the west off its north end. Prior to 1800, stables were often part of the barn or abutted them (Wade Martins 1991). The simple traditional style of the existing threshing barn and the presence of long timbers (before they became harder to find) certainly point to a pre-1800 date. Also, the presence of Monk bond and bricks averaging a thickness of 2½ inches (63mm) would confirm an 18<sup>th</sup>- rather than 19<sup>th</sup>-century date. The complex may have been built over several years but what may be a possible date, the numerals 1784 roughly inscribed into the west side of the remaining barn (Plate 22), would fit with other pointers to a construction date of about that time.

Another stable was built closer to the farmhouse in 1792, if the date painted onto its interior is correct. This small stable was probably originally intended for riding and carriage horses rather than farm horses. This demarcation probably changed after the other stable was lost, and led to the need to add another stable room and wagon shed on the north side.

Although the late 18<sup>th</sup>-century farm will almost certainly have had cattle, if only for supplying dairy produce or for converting straw into manure, in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century the existing stable was lengthened westwards and converted into a new long cowshed. This probably coincided with the taking down of the hay barn, but with the retention and reuse of its north end bay. Probably not long afterwards, another range was added to form an overall L-shaped cowshed, with a feed room at the corner where they met.

The by now mixed farm appears to have been fully formed before 1850 and remained largely unchanged throughout the Agricultural Depression of the later 19<sup>th</sup> century. Some subsequent rebuilding to improve lighting and milking facilities to the cowsheds and the erection of modern barns and a yard cover probably occurred before 1950. Since then maintenance and repairs have kept the buildings intact, if now under-utilised. The buildings as a group are considered to be of local historic significance, being typical post-Enclosure farm outbuildings, though there are some more unusual features within the barn and stable.

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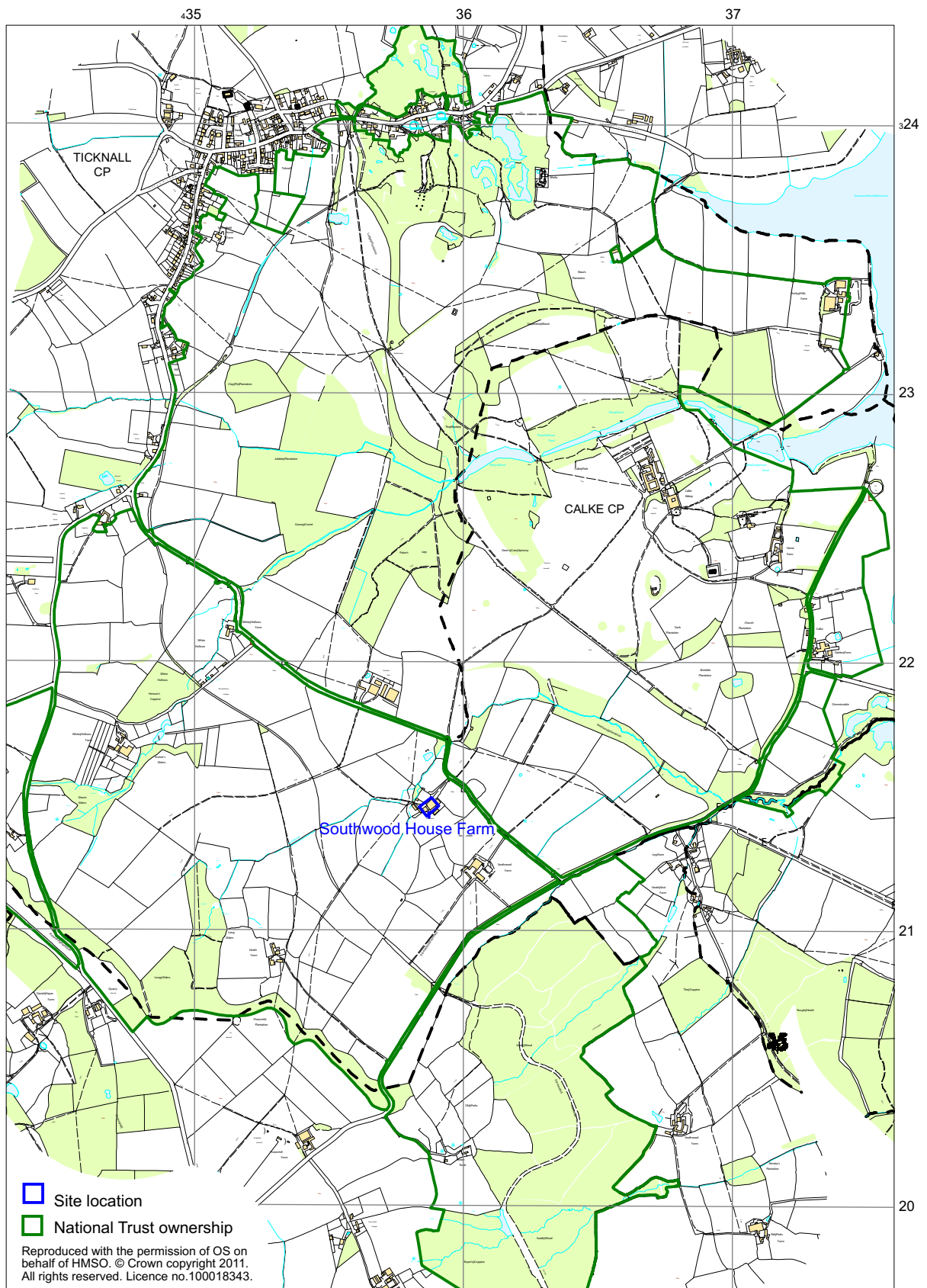
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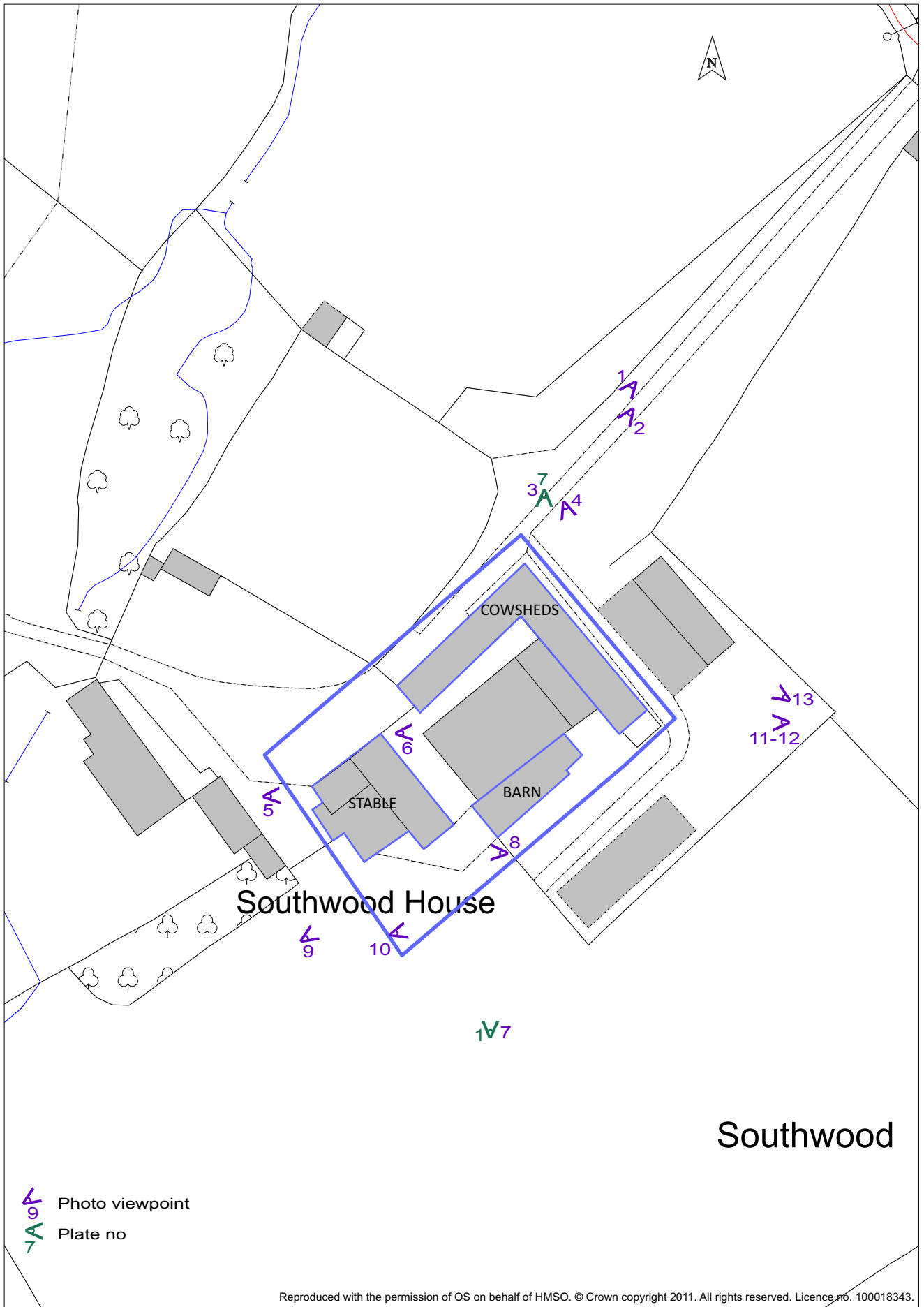
Walker, K. 1990. *Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long-term Storage*. London: UKIC (United Kingdom Institute for Conservation).

### Historic maps

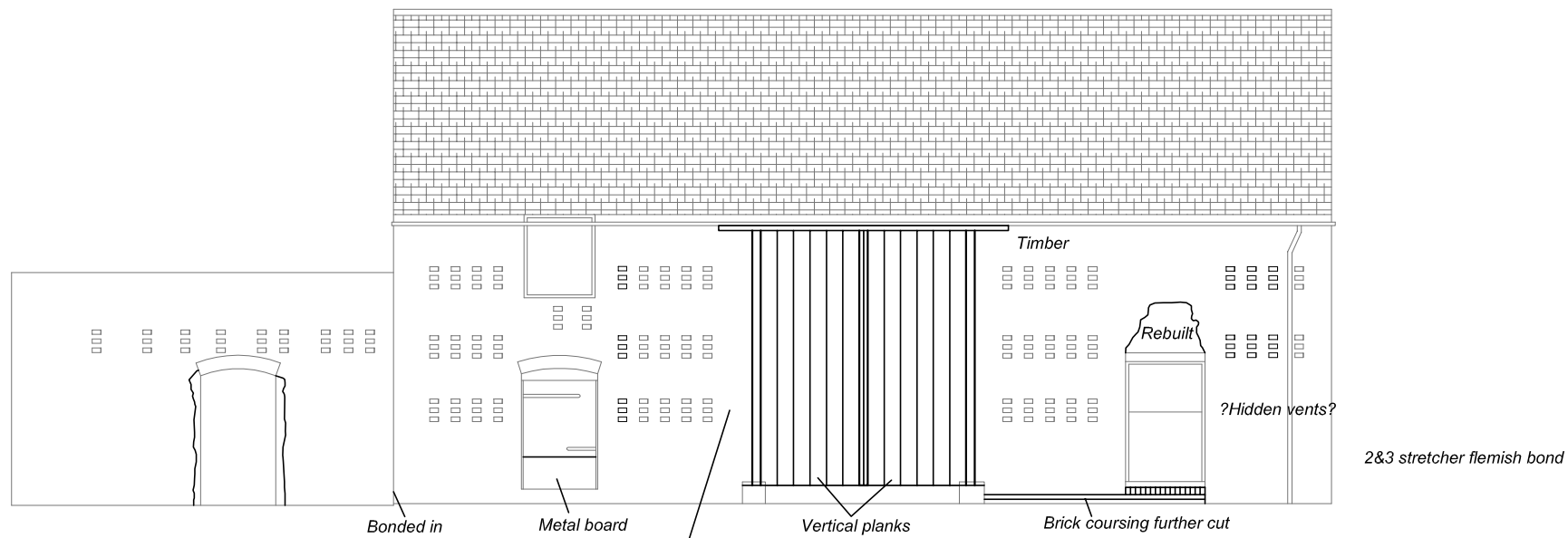
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## 9 FIGURES

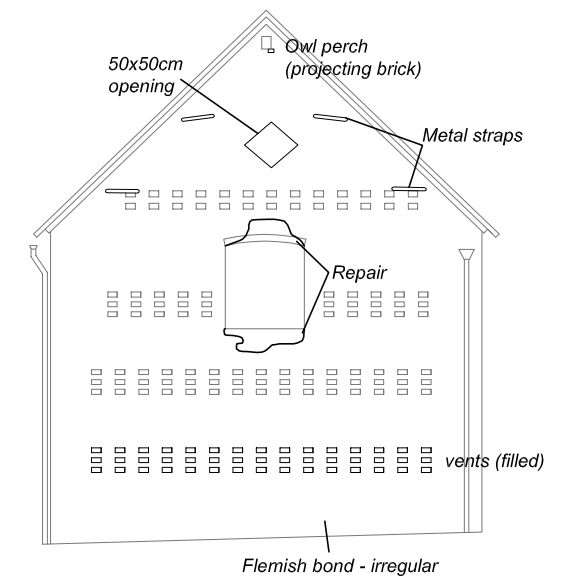




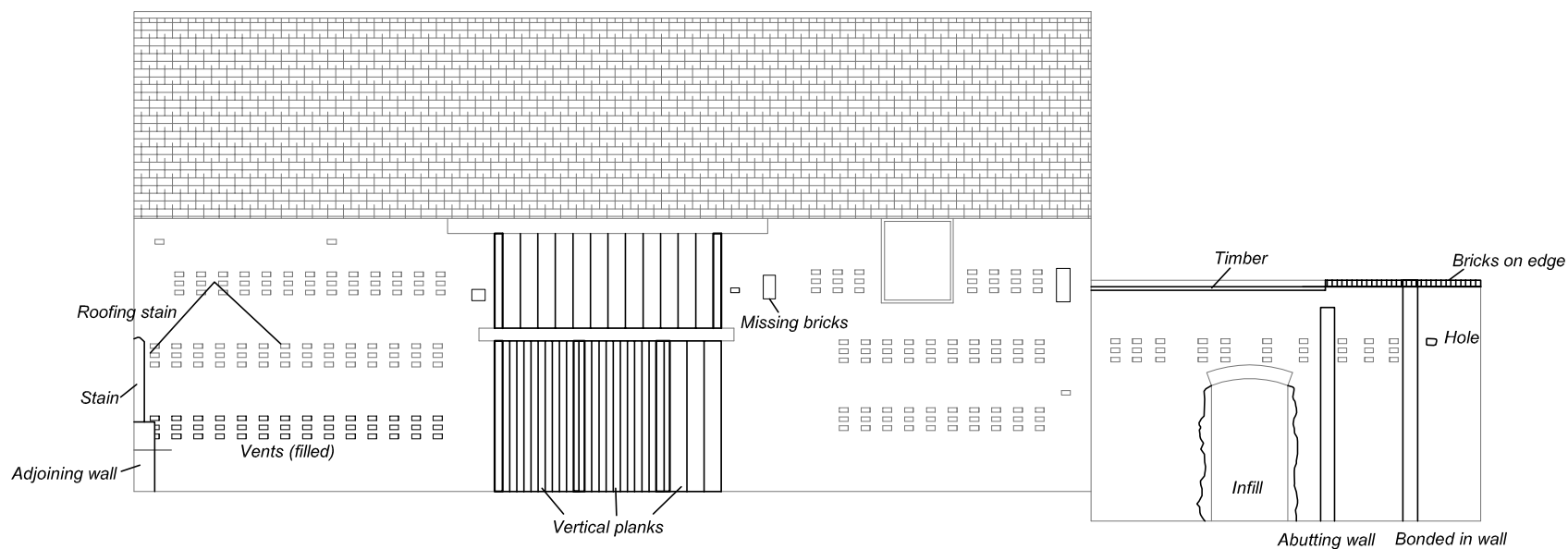




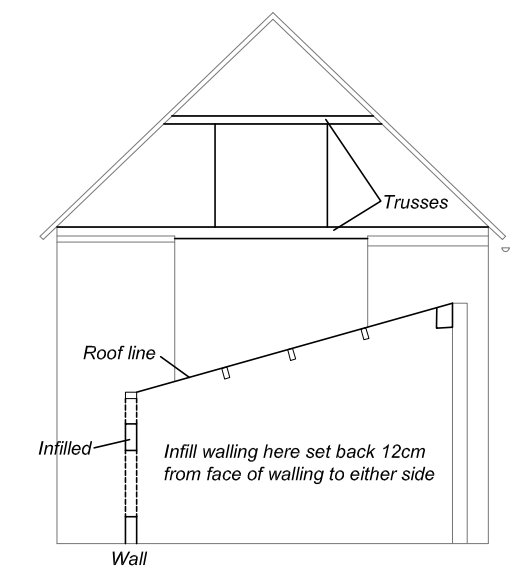
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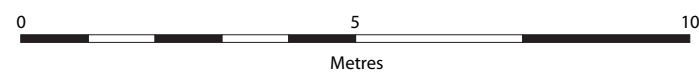
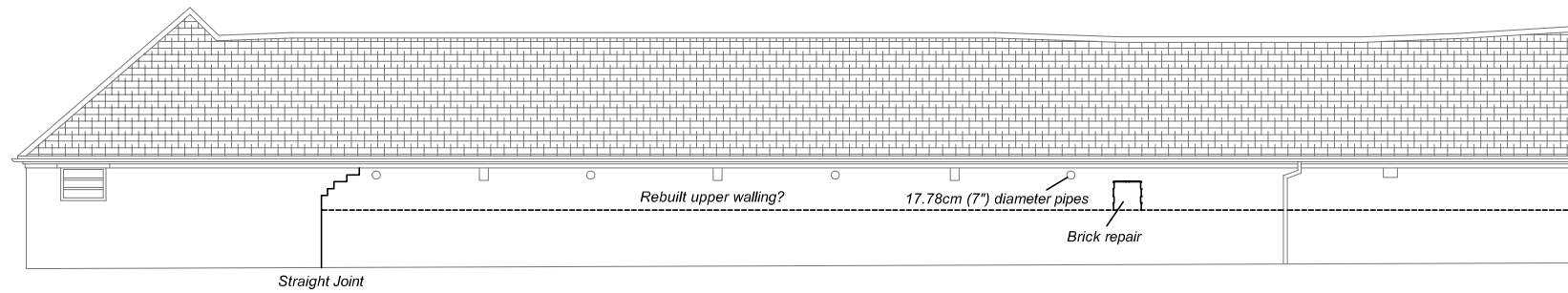
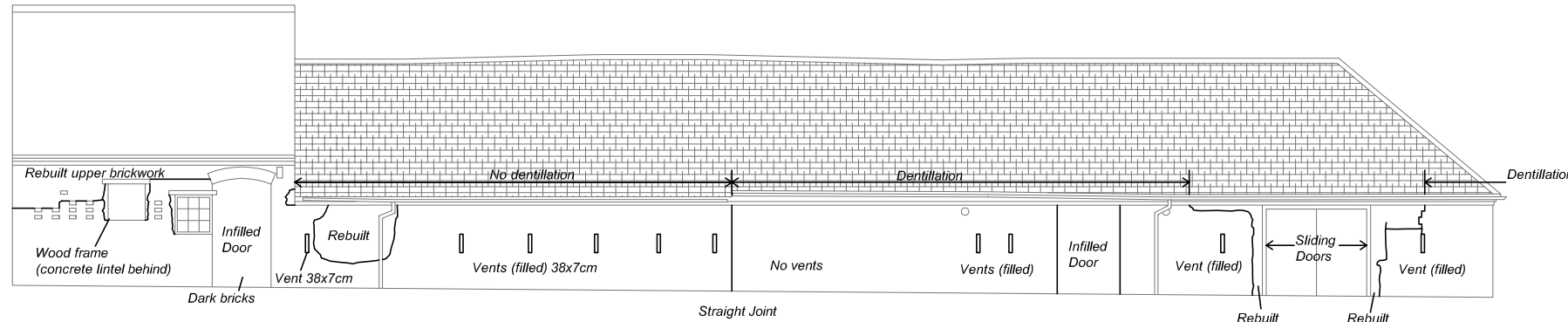




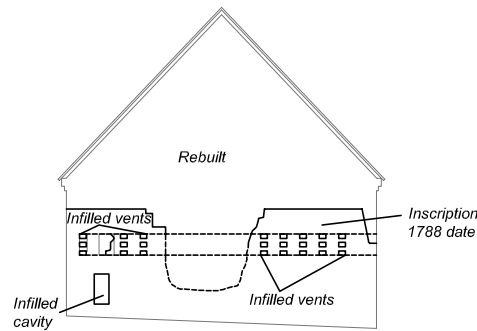
Figure 4: Plan of barn and cowsheds



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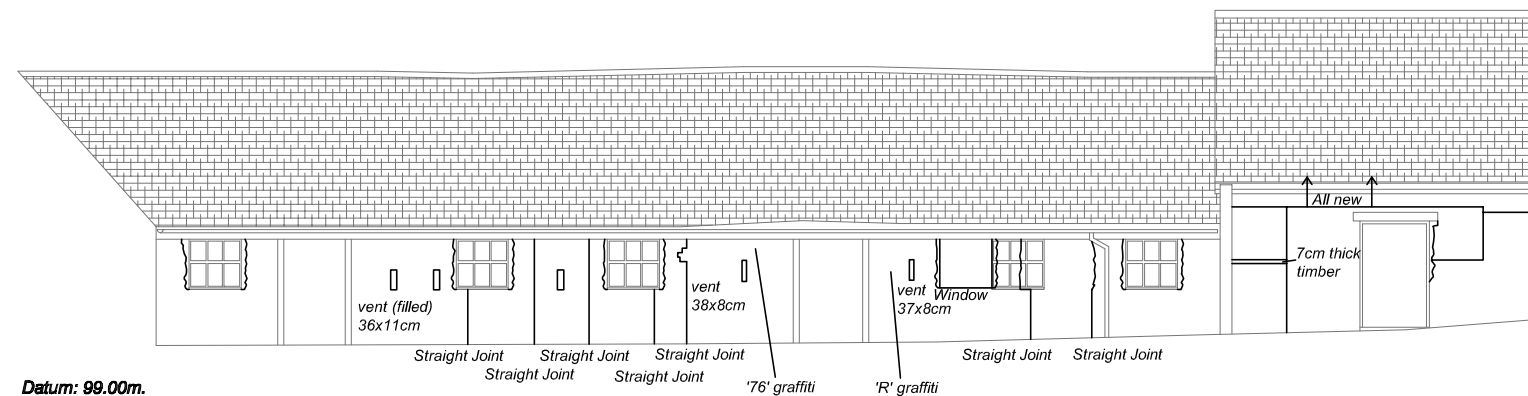
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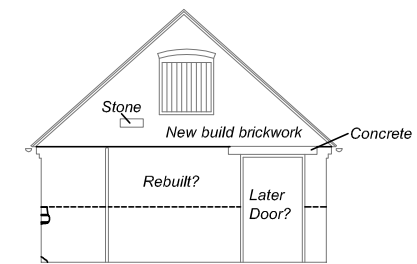
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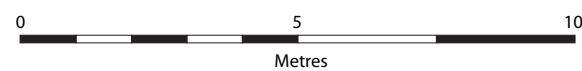
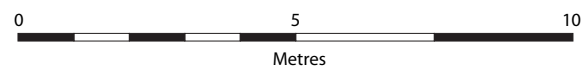
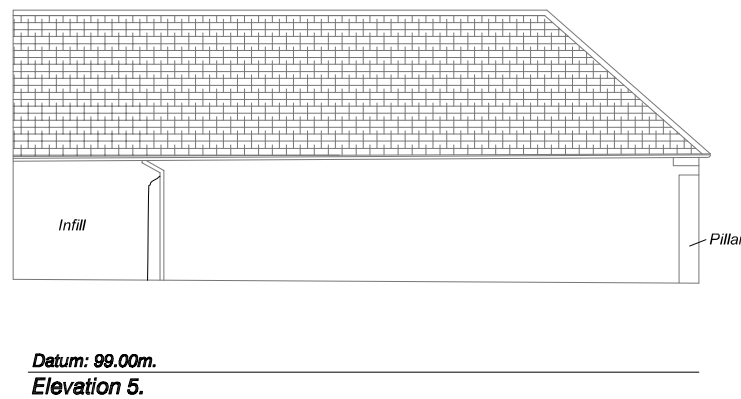
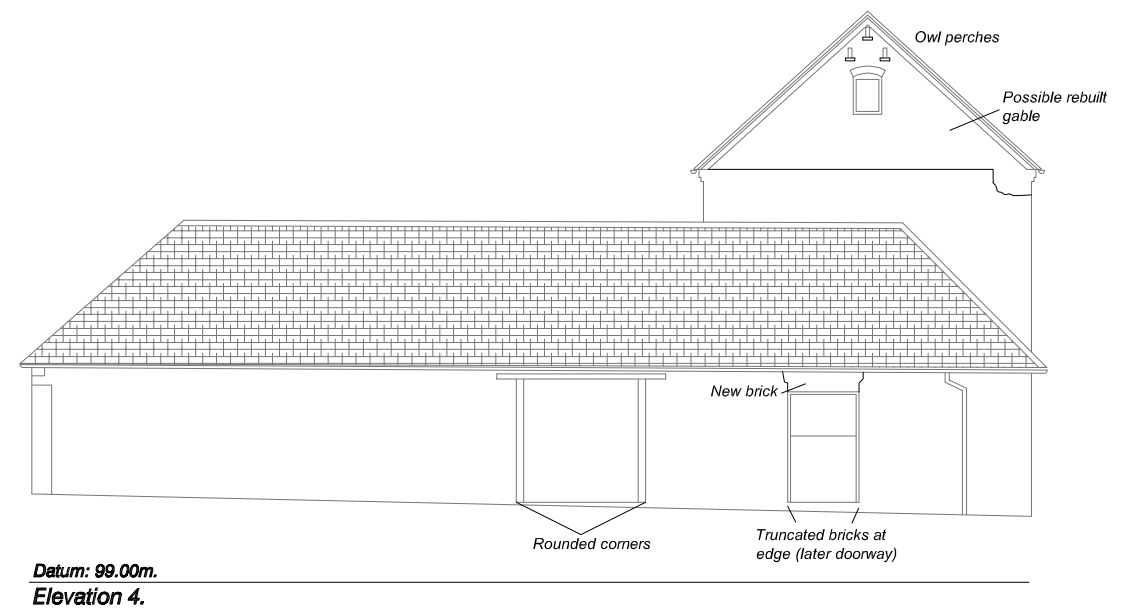
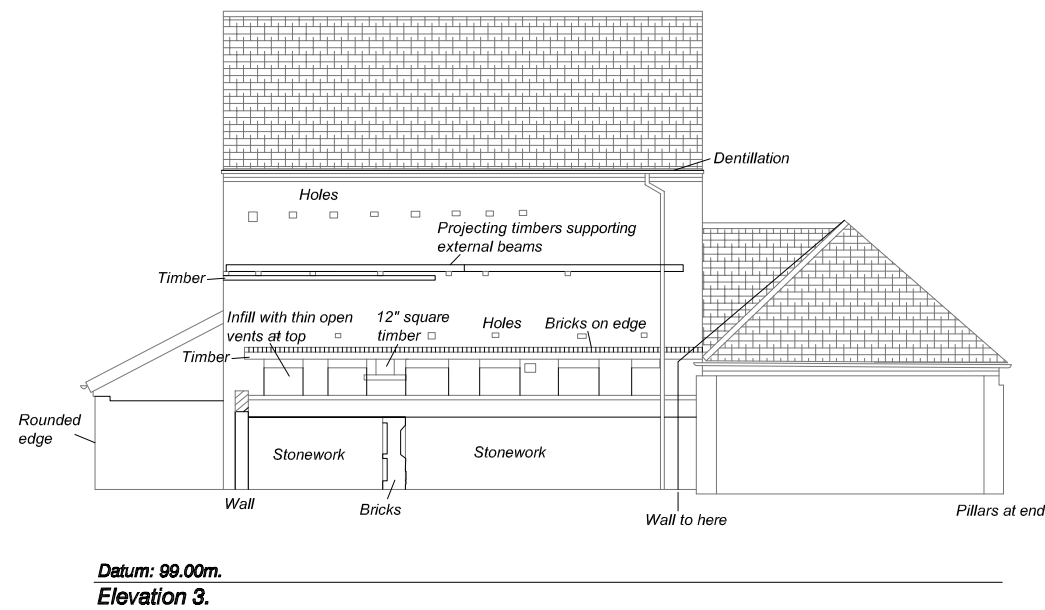
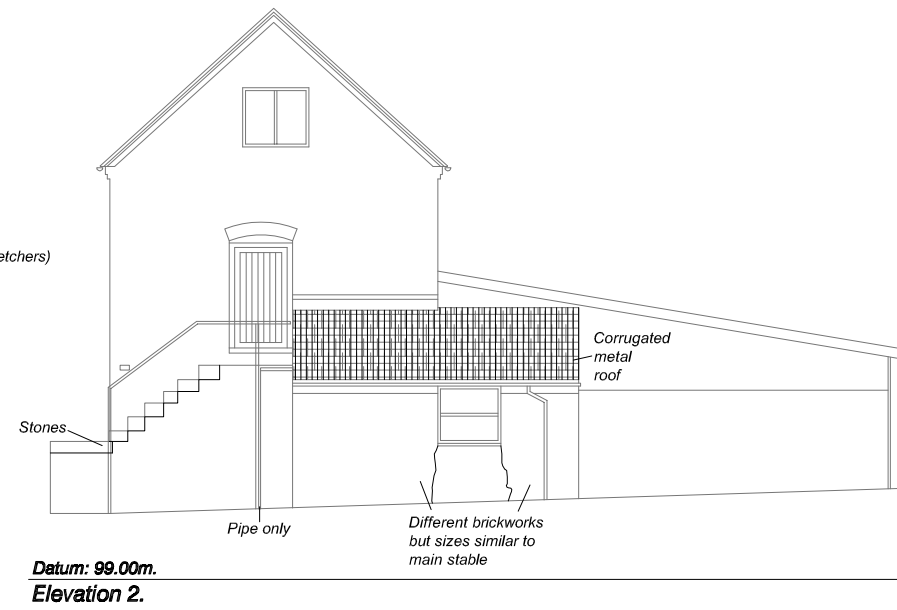
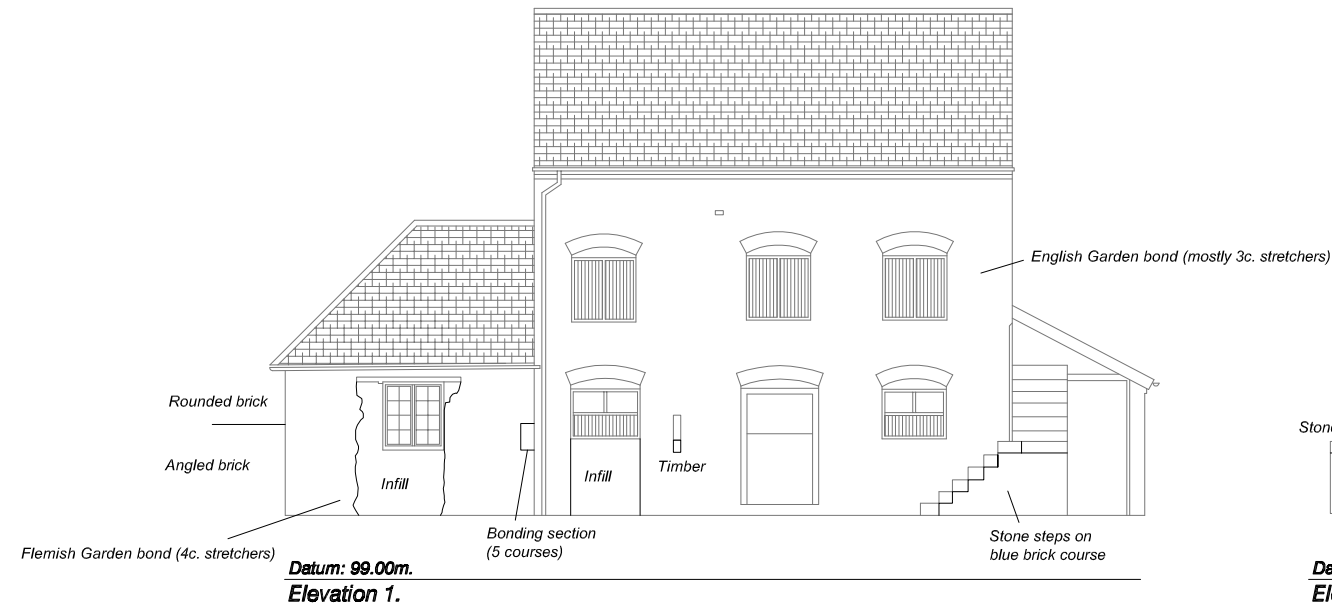
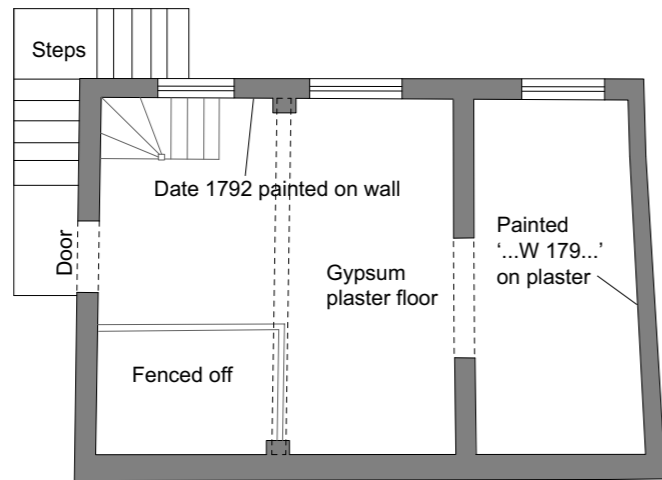


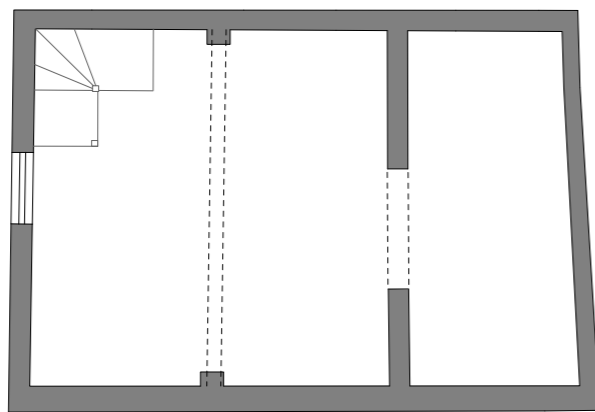


Figure 6: Plan of the barn and cowsheds showing photo viewpoints





FIRST FLOOR



SECOND FLOOR

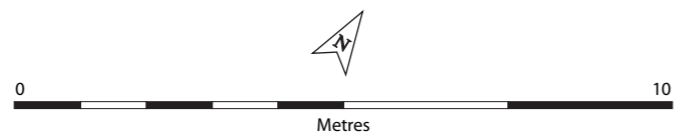
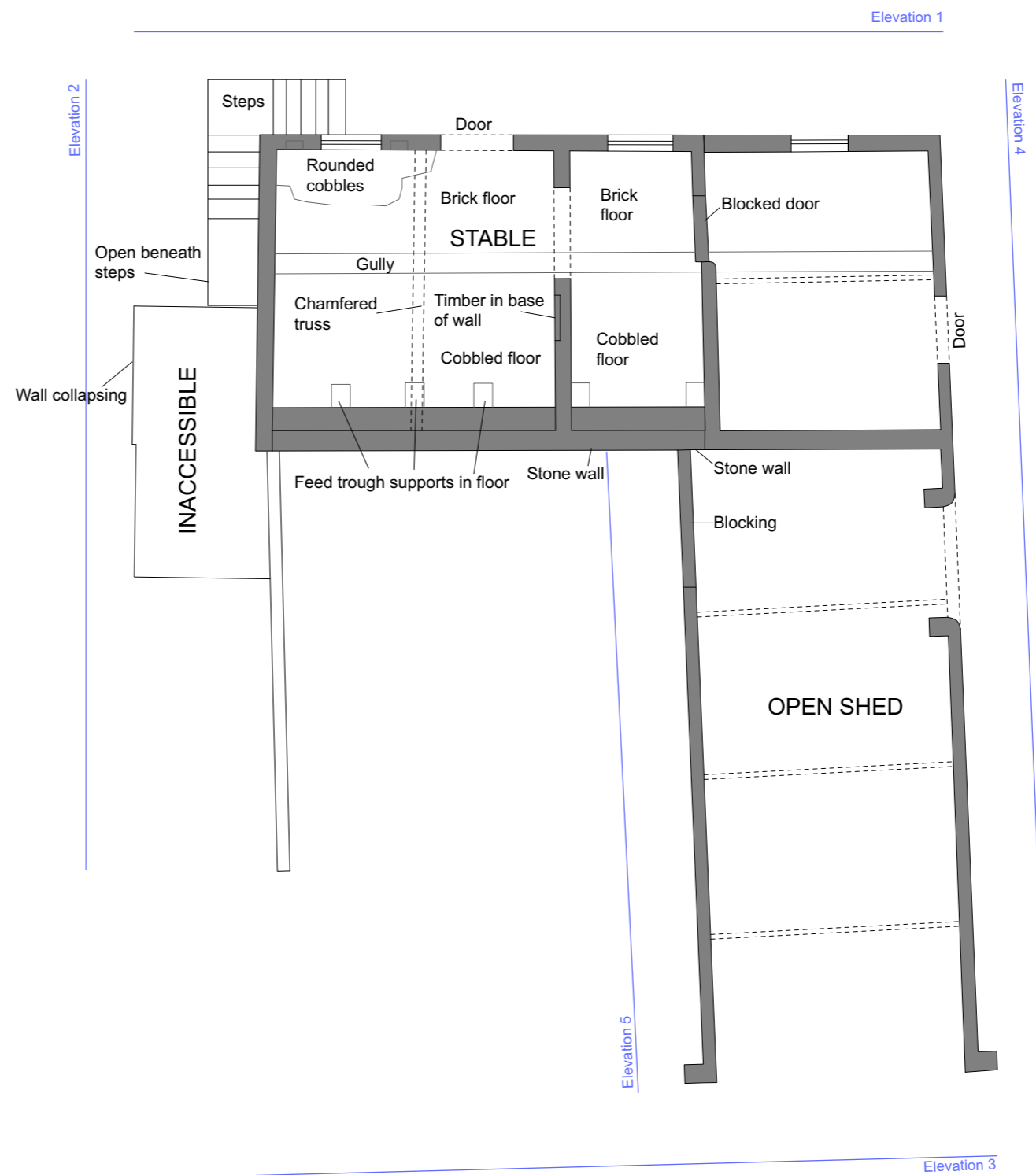
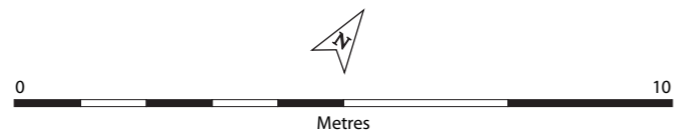




Photo viewpoint  
 Plate no



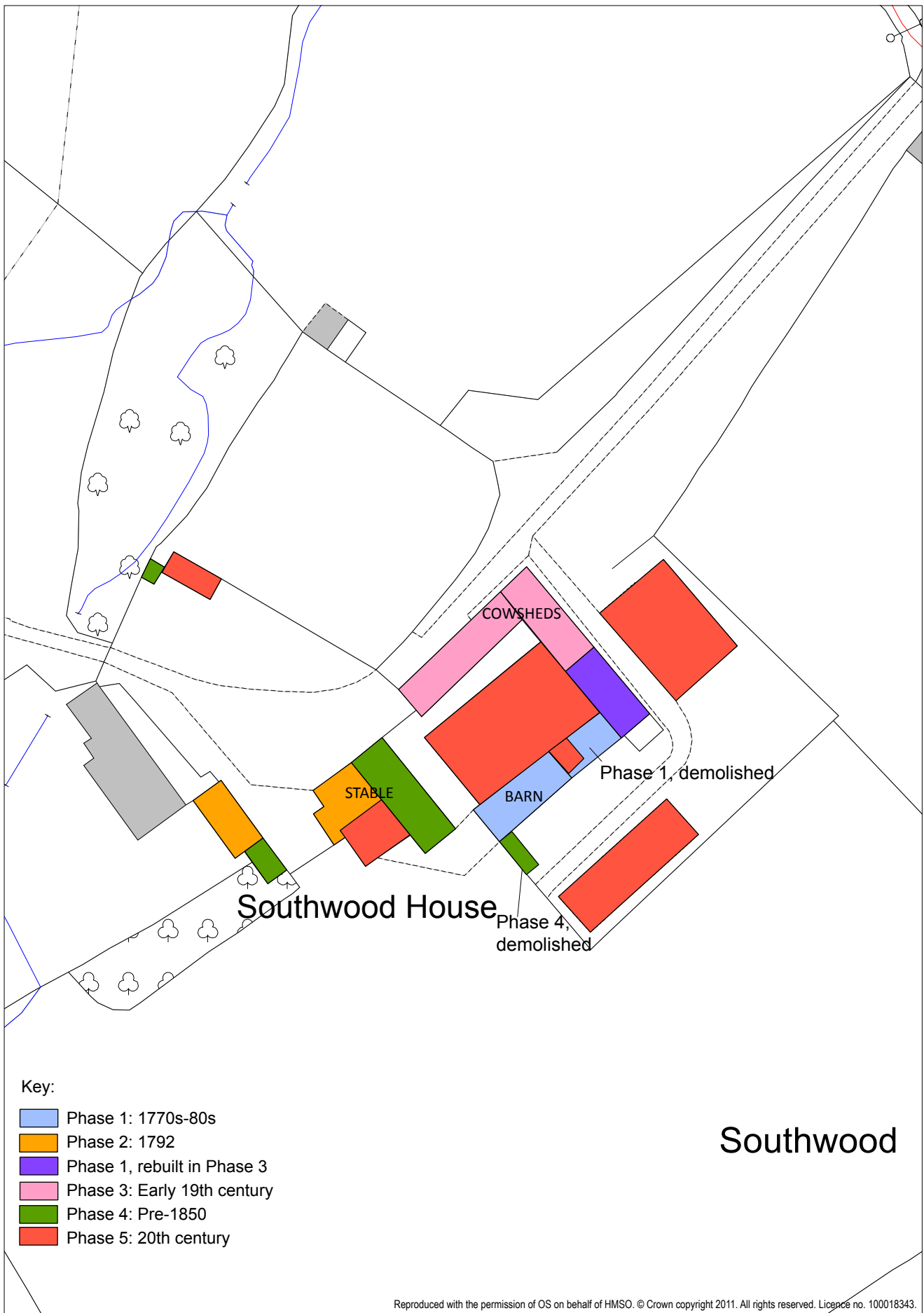
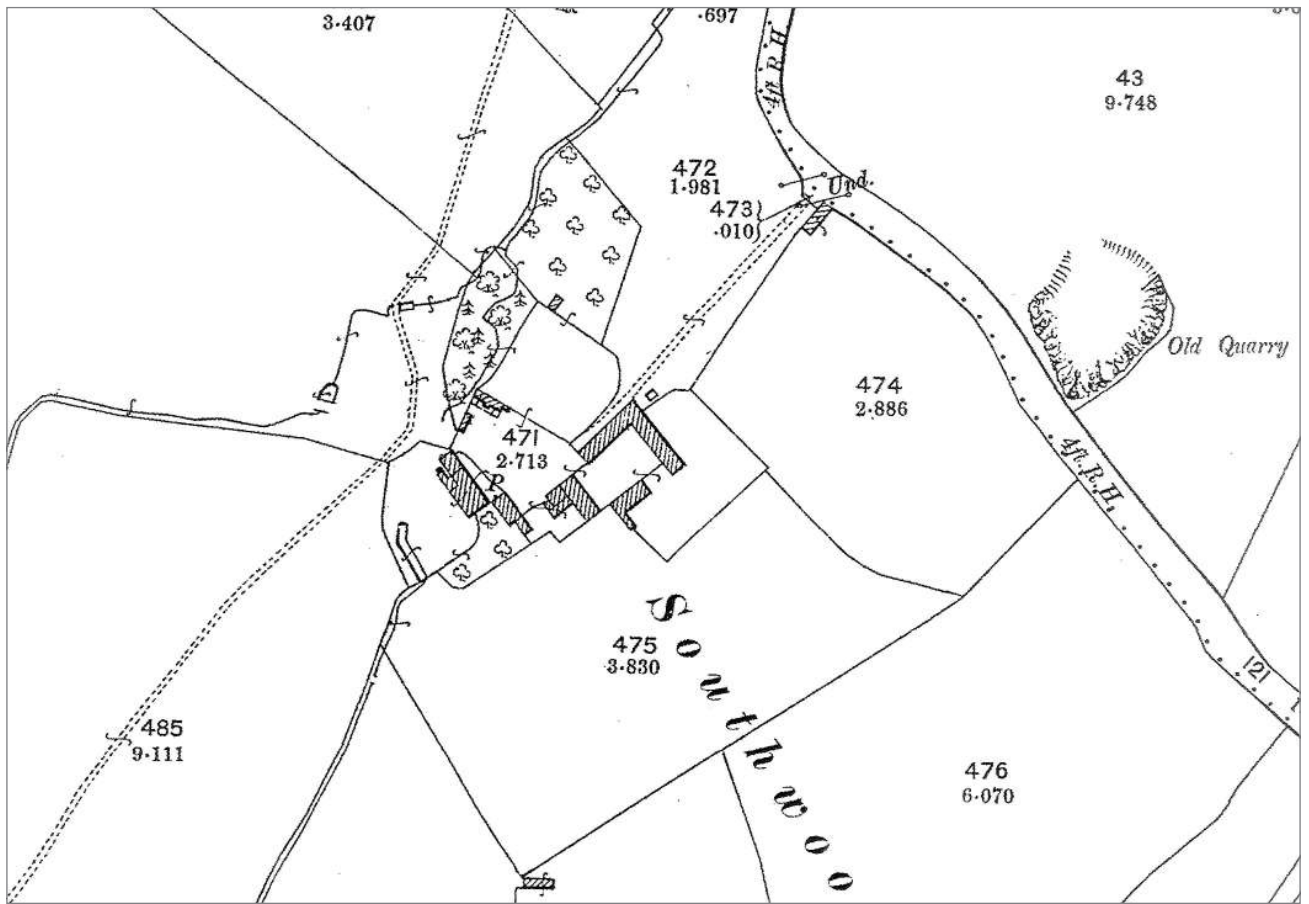


Figure 10: Site plan showing construction phases





10 PLATES



Plate 1: View north towards outbuildings, barn on right, stable on left, cowsheds to rear



Plate 2: Southeast face of barn, with roof scar to left, viewed facing northwest





**Plate 3: View along interior of barn showing spur walls, facing northeast**



**Plate 4: Part of west wall of Barn 2, viewed facing north**



**Plate 5: North face of barn showing former roof line of Barn 2, viewed facing southwest**



**Plate 6: East end of cowshed range 2, showing walling remnant of Barn 2, viewed facing west**





**Plate 7: Northeast and northwest faces of cowsheds and barn, viewed facing south**



**Plate 8: East face of cowshed range 1, viewed facing north**





**Plate 9: Exterior of the middle 7-bay section of cowshed range 2, viewed facing northwest**



**Plate 10: Plain roof trusses to east of straight joint in cowshed range 2, viewed facing east**





**Plate 11: Queen post trusses to west of straight joint in cowshed range 2, viewed facing southeast**



**Plate 12: East end of cowshed range 2, southwest face, showing blocked entrance**





**Plate 13: Redundant staircase in east end of cowshed range 2, viewed facing northwest**



**Plate 14: Northwest face of stable, viewed facing southeast**





**Plate 15: Southeast face of stable, showing stone wall at base, viewed facing northwest**



**Plate 16: Interior face of the back wall of the stable, ground floor, viewed facing east**





**Plate 17: Chamfered beam and joists supporting first floor of stable, viewed facing northeast**



**Plate 18: Reused timber plate at base of cross-wall in stable, with a possible head carved at right end, viewed facing northeast**





**Plate 19: First floor of stable, viewed facing northeast**



**Plate 20: Initials 'WW' and date '1792' painted in the stable interior, viewed facing northeast**





**Plate 21: Open-ended shed to east of main stable, with blocked-in side, viewed facing north**



**Plate 22: Numerals '1784' carved into a brick on the northwest face of the barn**

**APPENDIX 1 – INDEX TO ARCHIVE**

Item	Number of items
Photographic register	1
Annotated drawings	23
Digital plans and elevations	1
Digital photographs	3 CD-ROMs
Written Scheme of Investigation	1
Report	1

**Table 1 Index to archive**

## APPENDIX 2 –PROJECT BRIEF

### PROJECT BRIEF: HISTORIC BUILDING SURVEY (Survey Level 2)

#### Barns at Southwood House Farm, Calke Abbey Estate, Derbyshire

(Prepared by National Trust)

Planning Applications:	Pre-planning
Client:	National Trust
National Grid Reference:	435891 321481
Date:	24th August 2011

#### 1.0 Summary

To inform a future planning application for the adaptation and reuse of the farm outbuildings at Southwood Farm House, Calke Abbey, Derbyshire a programme of Historic Building Survey and Recording has been proposed by National Trust. The aims of the survey are to record the farm outbuildings as they currently stand, to understand their development and changes over time and to assess the buildings historical significance.

The Historic Building Survey and Recording will conform to current national guidelines, as outlined in English Heritage 'Understanding Historic Buildings. A Guide to Good Recording Practice' (EH 2006).

#### 2.0 Site location and description

Southwood House Farm lies on farmland within the Calke Abbey Estate approximately 1.5km to the south-east of Calke Abbey and approximately 2.5km south east of the village of Ticknall and 16km south of Derby (Figure 1). The underlying geology has been mapped by the British Geological Survey of Great Britain as comprising Carboniferous Limestone.

The farm outbuildings covered by the proposed survey are (Figure 2):

- L-shaped single storey barn (positioned along northern and western edge of the courtyard)
- Two storey barn (positioned along eastern side of courtyard)
- Two storey barn with extension (positioned to south of the courtyard)

Southwood House Farm itself is thought to date from between 1549 and 1563 and was built by Gilbert Thacker. It was subsequently subject to alterations and additions, with major alterations between 1760 and 1770. Both the house and its associated farm buildings are now in the care of the National Trust

By 1775 the land around the farm had been enclosed and was in the occupation of William Woodward. Ridge and furrow ploughing to the S and W of the farm (SMR no 61,213) points to an early date for its establishment, probably before 1709 when Richard Woodward was farming on Southwood.

The Farm includes a two storey brick built farmhouse with tiled roof, a brick-built smithy and bakery which bears the inscription 'WW 1772' on the brickwork, and a brick hay loft and stables also bear the same date and initials, although this time painted on the interior plaster walls. These three buildings appear on Crabtree's 1820 plan. Attached to the stables is a single storey livestock shed, and to the S of this is a large brick-built threshing barn. Facing the livestock shed is an L-shaped range of brick cattle sheds, which together with the livestock shed and threshing barn forms a virtual quadrangular enclosure. Attached to the S end of the cattle sheds is a second, smaller, two storey threshing barn or chop house which is linked to an exterior horse gin, suggested by a circular mark on the W wall where the drive shaft penetrated the building.

The farm also incorporates a large rectangular garden enclosed by a rough sandstone wall with flat capstones, which appears on Crabtree's 1820 plan. The wall incorporates a range of brick-lined bee

holes. Facing the farmhouse are a range of single storey brick piggeries, now used as a stable. The brick-lined cellars incorporate a stone well and appear to relate to a previous house on the site, also including are several flights of stairs made redundant through later alterations (Marshall, G. 1988: 121, Vol 1).

### **3.0 Historic Building Survey and Recording**

The Historic Building Survey and Recording should be undertaken to English Heritage Guidelines Level 2 criteria. In addition to this the reporting should include an assessment of significance for the buildings.

The objective of the building recording is to provide a fully comprehensive record of the Farm Outbuildings with detailed reference made to the surviving structural evidence indicating its previous use, chronological development of the structure, how it would have functioned within the wider estate yard and country house setting, and it's relationship to the adjacent structures through drawn, written and photographic recording.

A full set of measured architect's drawings are in currently in preparation for the buildings. These drawings will be made available to the successful contractor in digital Auto CAD format, and can be reproduced within the report with annotations. The contractor should note that these drawings may not record all historical features within the fabric of the building and as such should be viewed as a base plan to be amended. The amended/annotated drawings will be incorporated into the final report and fully cross-referenced to a written narrative that will describe the appearance and construction of the building.

The report will include a phased discussion of the farm outbuildings. Phased drawings are to be included within the report in order to support the discussion.

Any maps or historical illustrations referred to in the report should be included as a series of figures within the report.

A detailed digital photographic survey is required of the farm outbuildings in order to support the narrative. The photo survey should include views of all elevations (interior and exterior), architectural detail, its relationship to adjacent buildings and general views of the structure's setting.

All aspects of the Building Recording should be carried out according to the guidelines in 'Recording Historic Buildings' published by the Royal Commission on the Historical Monuments of England (1996) and 'A Guide to Good Recording Practice' by English Heritage 2006.

### **5.0 Curatorial monitoring**

Throughout the works the National Trust Archaeologist should be kept fully informed developments and progress during the works.

### **6.0 Archive**

The documentation and records generated by the archaeological monitoring will be assembled in accordance with the UK Institute for Conservation guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long-Term Storage (Walker 1990). The site archive will be maintained by the National Trust. Digital copies of the archive will be appended to the National Trust's Sites and Monument Record.

Copies of the final report will be deposited with the Derbyshire Historic Environment Record (HER), The National Monument Record, National Trust HBSMR and Calke Abbey.

Following the completion of the work an OASIS online record recording the project will be completed.

### **7.0 Variations to the proposed scheme**

Variations to the proposed scheme will only be made following written confirmation from the National Trust Archaeologist.

## **8.0 Health and Safety**

All work will be carried out in a way that complies with the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 and its related regulations and codes of practice.

The Contractor will be fully responsible for developing and operating a safe system of working. A full site specific Risk Assessment must be in place and approved by the National Trust prior to commencement of any work. A copy of the successful Contractor's Health and Safety Policy should be submitted to the National Trust prior to undertaking the works, unless previously provided.

## **9.0 General**

The Contractor will observe National Trust bye-laws at all times when on site. A full copy of this document will be sent to the appointed Contractor, and this is to be signed and returned prior to the commencement of work on site.

The Contractor will liaise fully with the Property Staff regarding access and agreed times of work on time.

## **10.0 Copyright**

The Contractor will note that the National Trust will retain copyright over the material and paper archive from this investigation, whilst fully acknowledging the originators rights of recognition.

## **11.0 Bibliography**

2006, Understanding Historic Building: A Guide to Good Practice. English Heritage