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Summary

Post-dating Glencoe the cottage next door, the study building was a utilitarian barn, of little architectural pretension that probably dates from the mid 19th Century. A number of functional structural changes had occurred that made minor amendments to the buildings fabric.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project origins

Cumbria County Council's Historic Environment Service (CCCHES) was consulted by Allerdale Borough Council regarding a planning application for the conversion of a barn for domestic use at Glencoe, Torpenhow, (NY 1999 3964), Planning Application No. 2/10/0300.

The scheme has the potential to affect the character and appearance of a building of special architectural and historic interest. The proposal will affect the character and appearance of the buildings and, as a result, a condition has been placed on planning consent requiring a programme of archaeological building recording to be undertaken prior to the conversion taking place

In order to ascertain the historical and archaeological merits affected by this development, the brief issued by the curatorial authority requires investigation of known historical records through a rapid desk-based assessment and the survival of extant buildings via a programme of building recording equivalent to Level 2 as described by English Heritage *Understanding Historic Buildings A Guide to Good Recording Practice, 2006*.

The desk-based assessment included visits to Carlisle Library and The Cumbria Record Office, Carlisle. The objective of this exercise was to collate sufficient detail to identify the issues and potential for academic research, provide a series of questions for targeted archaeological enquiry and outline, if any, possible mitigation response.

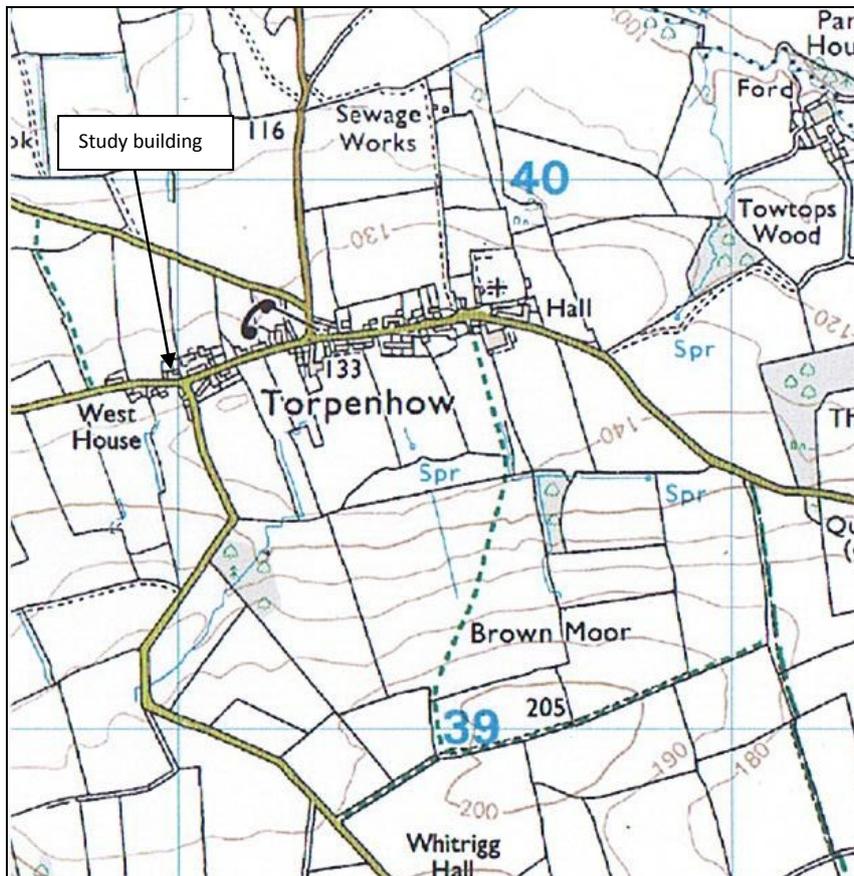


Figure 1. Location of survey. (OS copyright licence no. 100044205).

2 METHODOLOGY

2.1 Project Design

In response to a request by Cumbria County Council Historic Environment Service, Gerry Martin Associates Ltd submitted a project design (Written Scheme of Investigation) for the archaeological recording of extant buildings. This document outlined the contractors' professional suitability, a brief historical summary of the study area, general objectives required of the project, the methodology and the resources needed for the successful implementation of this work.

The project design on being accepted by the curatorial body, Gerry Martin Associates Ltd was commissioned to undertake the desk-based assessment and the archaeological survey by the client Mr Thurston Watson.

The following report has been assembled to the relevant standards and protocols of the Institute of Field Archaeologists, combined with accepted best practice and in accordance with the brief prepared by the curatorial authority.

Fieldwork took place on February 25th 2011.

2.2 Desk-based assessment

In accordance with the Design Brief, the desk-based assessment investigated primary and secondary historical sources, maps and other literature in order to set the survey results into their past cultural, historical and topographic context.

The study area centred on (NY 1999 3964) comprising a 500m radius from the development. The desk-based assessment comprised a search of three archival repositories.

Carlisle Library provided sources for published works including newspaper articles, archaeological and antiquarian reports, photographs and journals.

Cumbria Record Office, Carlisle was sought for the earliest tithe map for the parish, details of landowners and occupiers and cartographic evidence.

The Historic Environment Record, online, provided the Sites and Monuments Record describing previous archaeological observations and electronic media showing the spatial distribution of these findings

2.3 Walk-over survey

A walkover of the study area on February 25th 2011 did not suggest any upstanding monuments such as derelict buildings, walls or tofts existed.

2.4 Archive

The archive has been compiled in accordance with the project design and the guidelines set out by English Heritage (1991) and the Institute of Field Archaeologists (1994, 2007 and 2008).

The archive will be deposited with an appropriate repository and a copy of the report donated to the County Sites and Monuments Record, as requested by the curatorial authority.

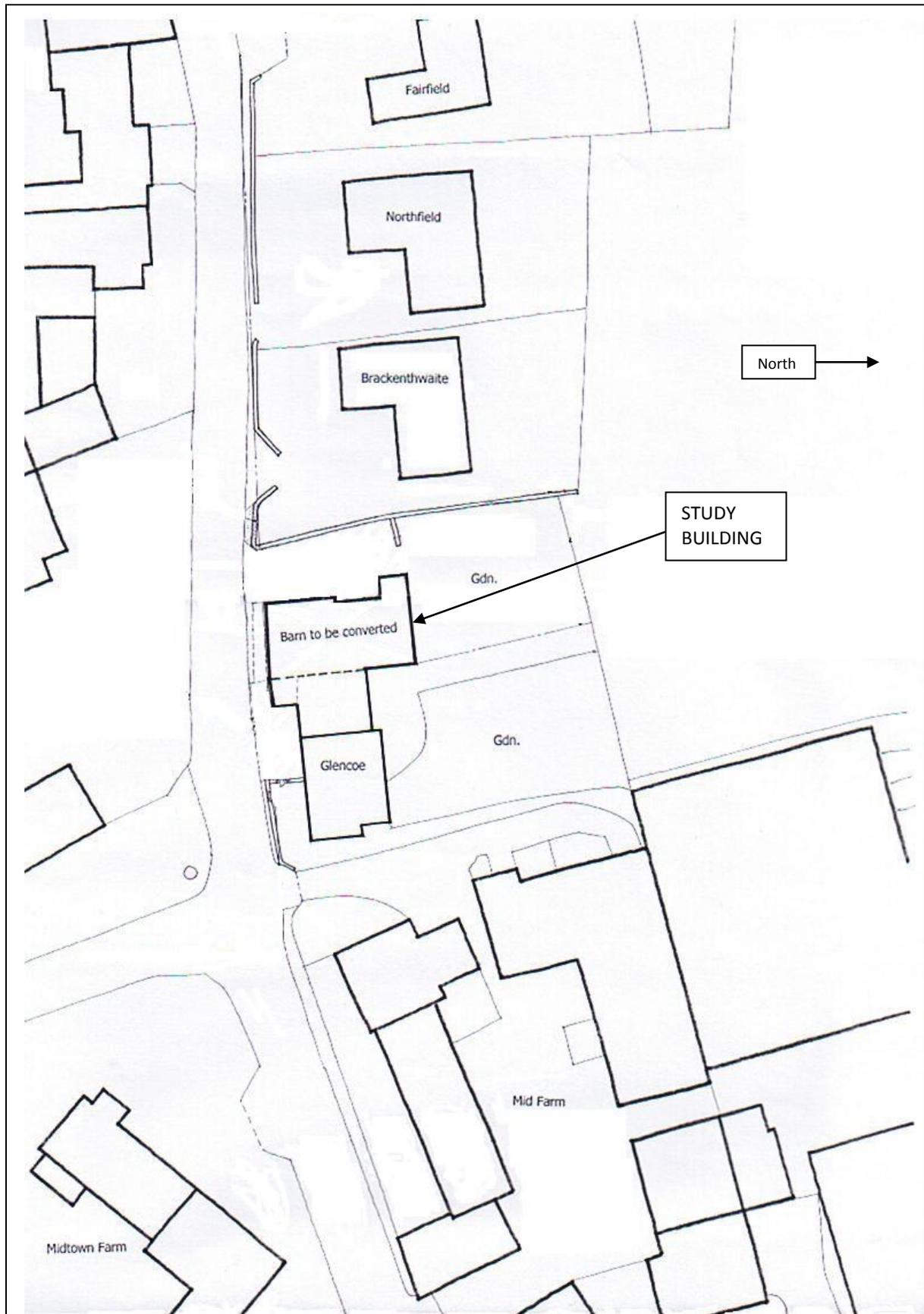


Figure 2. Location of property forming the development

3 BACKGROUND

3.1 Location, topography and geology

The study area (NY 1999 3964) lies in undulating countryside, on the fringes of the Lake District and is farmed as pasture at a height of approximately 133m OD.

Reference to the geological map of the area indicates that the underlying geology of the area comprises Permian and Triassic sandstones, overlain by boulder clay and morainic drift deposits.

4 HISTORICAL CONTEXT

4.1 Historical background

The Manor of Torpenhow, at the time of the Conquest, appears to have been a demesne of the barony of Allerdale, but soon after was given by Alan, son of Waltheof, in marriage with his sister to Ughtred, son of Fergus, lord of Galloway. The manor was afterwards held successively by the de Valonais, Stutvilles, Mulcasters, Tilliols, Moresbys, and the Colvilles, from whom it passed by purchase to Sir George Fletcher and Thomas Salkeld, Esq., the latter having for his moiety the customary lands, the park, and mill.

The Church of Torpenhow, dedicated to St. Michael, dates from the 12th Century. It underwent thorough restoration in 1882, at a cost of £900 and once again in 1913 when the architect believed he had discovered signs of a Saxon building.

In carrying out the work of restoration, several phases of the Church's development were uncovered.

The first wall of the church was built of small square stones possibly taken from the neighbouring Roman camp of Old Carlisle, and in the jamb of the north-east chancel window a stone existed still bearing Roman carving.

Some additions appear to have been made about the reign of Henry III (1216-1272). At the juncture of the chancel and nave, a small chantry chapel was cut out of the solid wall.

The church of Torpenhow was given by Sabilla de Valonais and Eustachius Estoteville to the prioress and convent of Rosedale, in Cleveland ; and, in an award made in 1290 by Bishop Irton, the glebe, &c., of Torpenhow, together with the great tithes of Torpenhow, Threapland, Aldersceugh, Applewray, Snittlegarth, Bellasis, and Bewaldeth were assigned to the vicar for the maintenance of three priests and one sub-deacon, who should assist him in his ministerial duties, and say mass daily for the prosperity of the Bishop and his successors, and for the dead. It is valued in the King's Books at £33 4s. 10d.

At the enclosure, which was undertaken in 1808, about 650 acres were allotted in lieu of all tithes; those of Torpenhow and Bewaldeth townships belong entirely to the vicar, for which he possessed about 329 acres, *viz.*, 240 for the former, and about 80 for the latter (Harding 2002).

The village of Torpenhow is described on the Saxton 1576 map as "Torpenny".

On the Ford 1839 map (figure 3), buildings are illustrated approximately where the study took place.



Figure 3. Ford 1839 map showing a possible building located within the study area

The 1868 Ordnance Survey map (figure 4), depicted the barn at Glencoe.

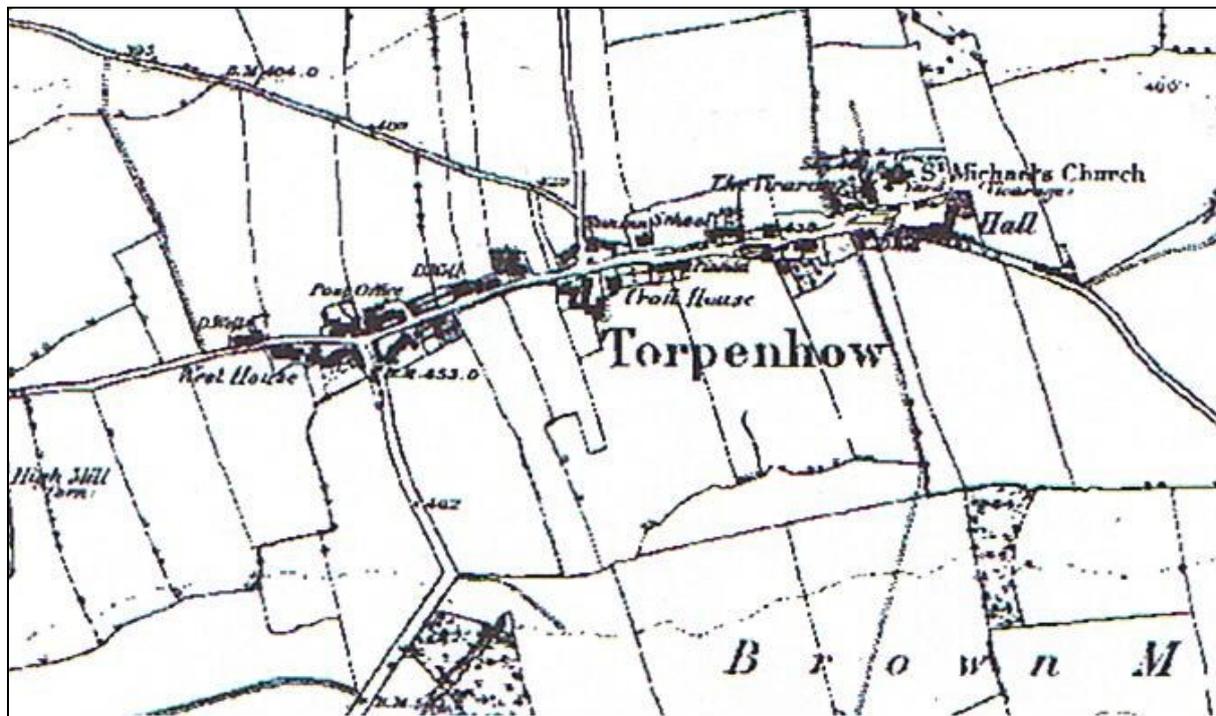


Figure 4. First Edition Ordnance Survey map 1868.

In 2008, an archaeological evaluation took place at 2 High Mains, Torpenhow approximately 500m east of the study area. The results of the evaluation confirmed that there was no medieval development within this area of the village and that the field had served as either pasture or as a stockyard for the farm for at least the last 240 years.

The Historic Environment Record lists the following entries within 1km of the study building. These entries are as follows:

HER 4490 The 12th Century Church of St Michaels; the architect who carried out renovations in 1913 believed he had discovered traces of a Saxon building.

HER	4888	Prehistoric axe hammer find
HER	4922	Roman coin find; Severan period
HER	6831	Torpenhow Park; Medieval estate
HER	10661	High Mills corn mill and water mill; Post-Medieval
HER	40803	School Square and Cottage Barn; Victorian cart shed and stables
HER	41856	Garthside House; a Medieval midden and Post-Medieval outbuildings, smithy and workshop

5 DISCUSSION

5.1 Academic merit

Past cultural settlement in Cumbria has been predominantly rural, where agriculture has been the main economic driver and product. Increasingly, those features associated with past farming technique have been lost or converted for domestic use or for local tourism.

A challenge to historians, archaeologists and other researchers is to compile a record of those rural buildings that indicate past agricultural practice and social conditions before their industrial, agricultural and historic context is lost.

6 RESULTS

6.1 Methodology

The buildings in the study area were surveyed on February 25th 2011 by Gerry Martin assisted by Gina Gomersall using a Disto measuring device and hand-held GPS equipment.

The buildings were fully accessible, although natural light was restricted within the study buildings, requiring flash photography.

The survey comprised of scaled photographic recording of the interiors and elevations of all the buildings, with detailed photography of any worthy architectural elements.

Using the architectural plans, notations were undertaken regarding the characteristics of these farm buildings, including metrical data, thresholds, materials and building techniques employed.

The corpus of the following report is formed from these notes and photographs. The following report describes each room within the study building (figure 5).

6.2 Survey results; the barn (interior)

Room 1

The internal area of Room 1 consisted of a rectangular plan room measuring 4.36m in width and 13.05m in length with an internal height of 5.92m to the ridge in the roof space.

The cobble floor was overlain by a cement render. The stone rubble walls were 0.56m in thickness standing to a height of 4.18m and finished in white lime-wash.

The roof consisted of re-used timber roof trusses, supporting wooden purlins that maintained a slate roof (figure 12). A single skylight was located in the roof at the centre of the barn.

North elevation

The north elevation displayed two filled air vents measuring 0.20m x 0.35m, offset 0.80m from the respecting east and west walls and approximately 3.50m above the ground. No other architectural features were present.

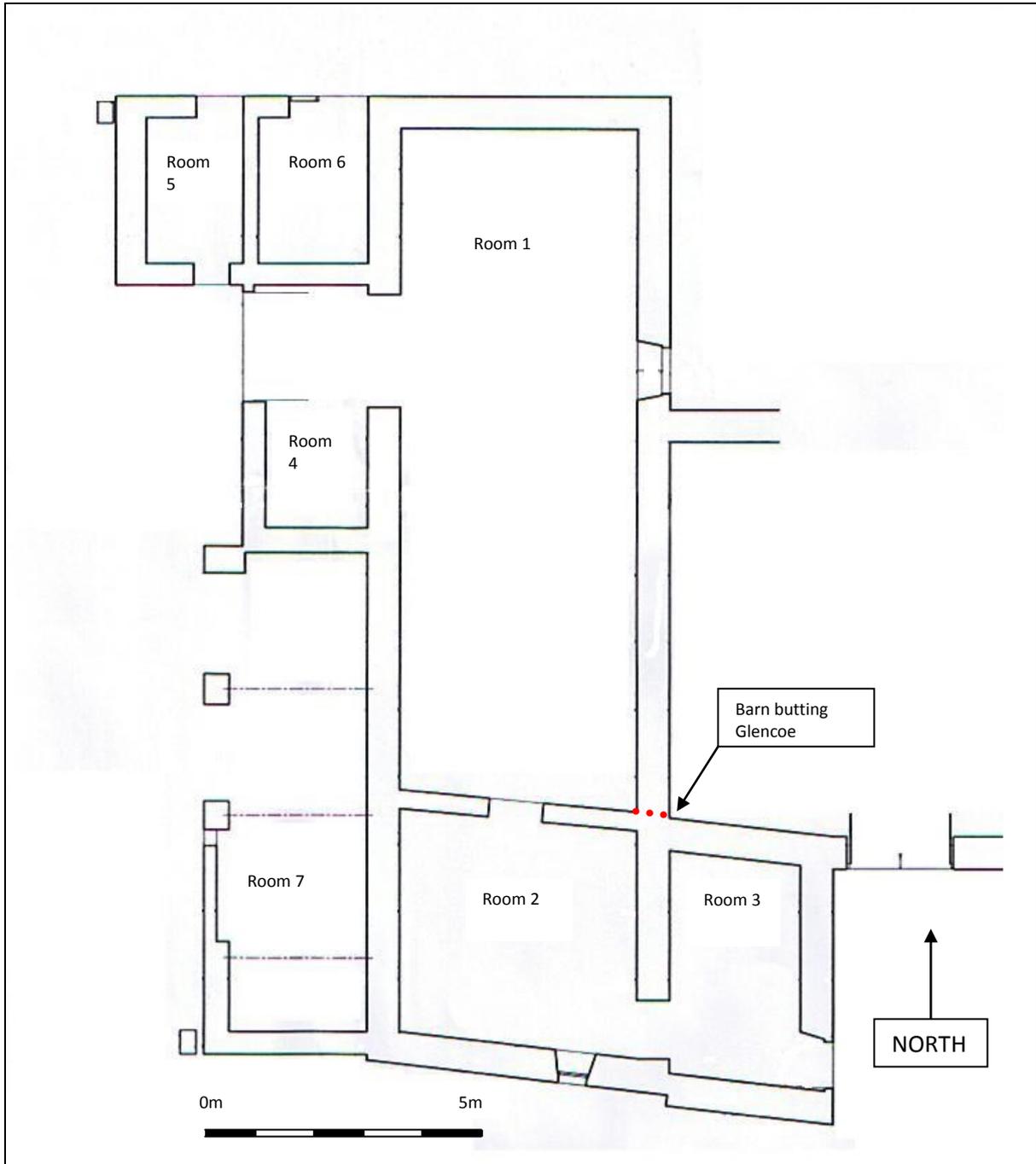


Figure 5. Plan of the study barn Glencoe, Torpenhow

East elevation

The east elevation possessed a doorway measuring 1.05m x 1.70m with a hand crafted stone surround and re-used timber lintels.

The eastern door was a triple-planked design with cast iron hinges resting above a stone step measuring 1.00m x 0.30m that dropped 0.20m into the barn.



Figure 6. Eastern elevation with vents, Room 1



Figure 7. Stone brake near eastern door, Room 1

Four filled air vents (figure 6) of varying sizes were present on the north-eastern end of the eastern elevation approximately 3.10m above the ground.

Beside the door were two rounded, stone plinths with flat tops measuring 0.66m x 0.26m x 0.12m in height whose function was unknown but could represent some form of brake for a cart (figure 7).

The barn fabric butted the western gable end of the cottage denoting that the barn was a later adjunct (figure 11).

A rectangular window filled by breeze blocks (figure 10) and measuring 1.06m x 1.38m was present in the gable end of the cottage. It possessed a badly decayed timber sill and a wooden lintel above which was a rectangular recess measuring 0.50m x 1.10m that accommodated a timber roof truss.

Southern elevation

The southern wall (figure 8) comprised a crudely coursed rubble stone wall that formed a later partition wall 4.31m in length and standing to a height of 2.20m.

A central doorway was 1.03m in width and 1.80m in height surmounted by a timber beam. The door surround was modern and machine-cut with a small step up to the threshold approach.



Figure 8. Southern partition, Room 1



Figure 9. Western elevation, Room 1

Western elevation

The western elevation (figure 9), a crudely coursed stone rubble wall, possessed three filled air vents south of the original doorway and one air vent to the north. The air vents were not evenly spaced and were approximately 0.20m x 0.50m in size and approximately 2.70m above the ground.

The original doorway was 2.10m in width and 3.80m in height, built from small, sandstone blocks and comprised three hand-made but re-used timber lintels.

A timber joist from an outshut, was visible to the north of the doorway.



Figure 10. Filled window, Room 1



Figure 11. Outline of eastern gable from cottage

Room 2

The internal area of Room 2 measured 4.17m x 4.42m and stood to a height of 2.20m and consisted of a randomly coursed, rubble stone wall.



Figure 12. Roof trusses within the barn



Figure 13. South elevation of Room 2

The room was divided into two levels; the lower level was finished in white lime-wash and possessed a concrete floor, the upper level separated by two hand-made and re-used timber beams. The rubble walls were left as rough hewn stone, standing to 2.20m in height and 0.62m in thickness.

The eastern elevation maintained a doorway (figure 14) without a surround measuring 1.82m x 1.10m.



Figure 14. Doorway, Room 2



Figure 15. Conjunction of gable and Room 2

The southern elevation (figure 13) illustrated a rectangular window 0.82m from the doorway and 1.12m above the ground that measured 0.78m x 0.68m. This window narrowed to a smaller aperture on the outside wall (0.60m x 0.48m).

On the upper level, 2.20m above the ground was a modern timber, tongue-and-groove door measuring 1.80m x 1.00m beneath a timber lintel.

The southern part of the wall within Room 2 was observed to conjoin the original stonework for the cottage (figure 15).

Room 3

Room 3 was a rough hewn stone lean-to, with an internal area measuring 2.97m x 4.60m and 2.20m in height. However, access was inhibited by a lack of natural light and clutter.

On the eastern elevation was a doorway 1.10m x 2.00m in height with an accompanying modern, tongue-and-groove timber door.

The southern elevation possessed a filled window (figure 16) measuring 0.61m x 0.70m surmounted by a timber lintel.



Figure 16. Blocked window, Room 3



Figure 17. Interior of Room 4

Room 4

The internal area for Room 4 (figure 17) measured 4.57m x 1.90m and yielded a concrete floor. The stone rubble walls of the room formed a porch to the barn.

On the south side of the room, a small modern mezzanine floor 1.68m above the ground had been added recently.

The western elevation comprised a set of 20th Century timber planked double doors measuring 2.00m x 2.50m.

Room 5

Room 5 (2.70m x 1.80m) comprised of an extant chicken shed (figure 18), divided by a partition wall with an attached disused toilet and a timber door (figure 19).



Figure 18. Interior of Room 5



Figure 19. South elevation of Room 5

Room 6

Room 6 possessed an internal area measuring 2.90m x 2.04m with a concrete floor and white limewash walls. A northern doorway 1.50m x 1.95m was modern, the room now being used as a store.

Room 7

Room 7 was formed from the rough hewn rubble western wall from Room 1 and measured 8.84m x 3.07m and served as an outside store. It comprised an outshut from the barn, the roof comprising of slates supported by three machine-cut timber beams.



Figure 20. Filled window, Room 7

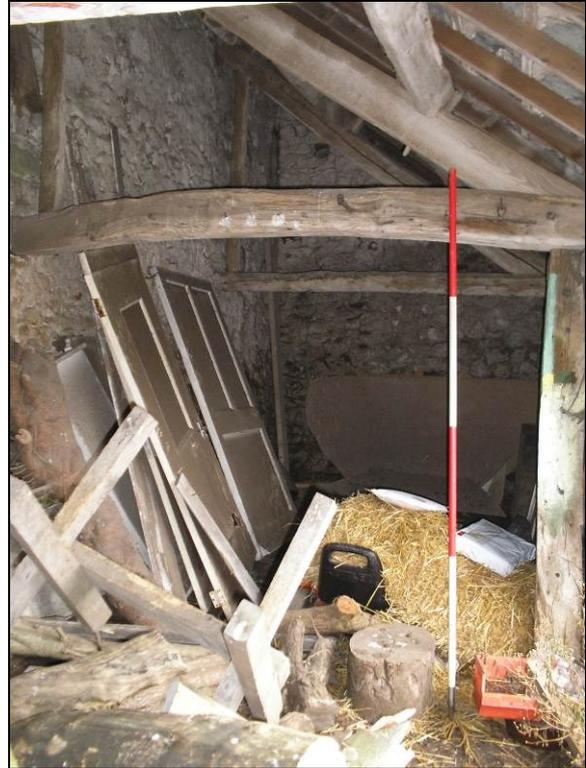


Figure 21. Interior of Room 7

The western facade, 1.90m in height, consists of a rough hewn outer stone wall originally comprising two central pillars and two end walls, whereby the space between pillars towards the south-west has been subsequently filled.

Observed on the northern elevation was a filled square window with sandstone surround (figure 20) measuring approximately 1.00m x 0.80m.

The floor was cobbled with the southern elevation finished in lime-wash, the rest of the room left as bare stone (figure 21).

6.3 Survey results; the barn (exterior)

The barn possessed a rectangular ground plan measuring 18.40m x 8.50m and standing to a height of 6.00m.

North elevation

The northern elevation (figures 22 and 24) was finished with a pebble-dash render, concealing the interface between the barn's stonework (Room 1) and the outshut (Room 6).

The outshut possessed modern timber doors within both Rooms 5 and 6



Figure 22. Northern elevation of the study barn



Figure 23. Eastern elevation of the study barn

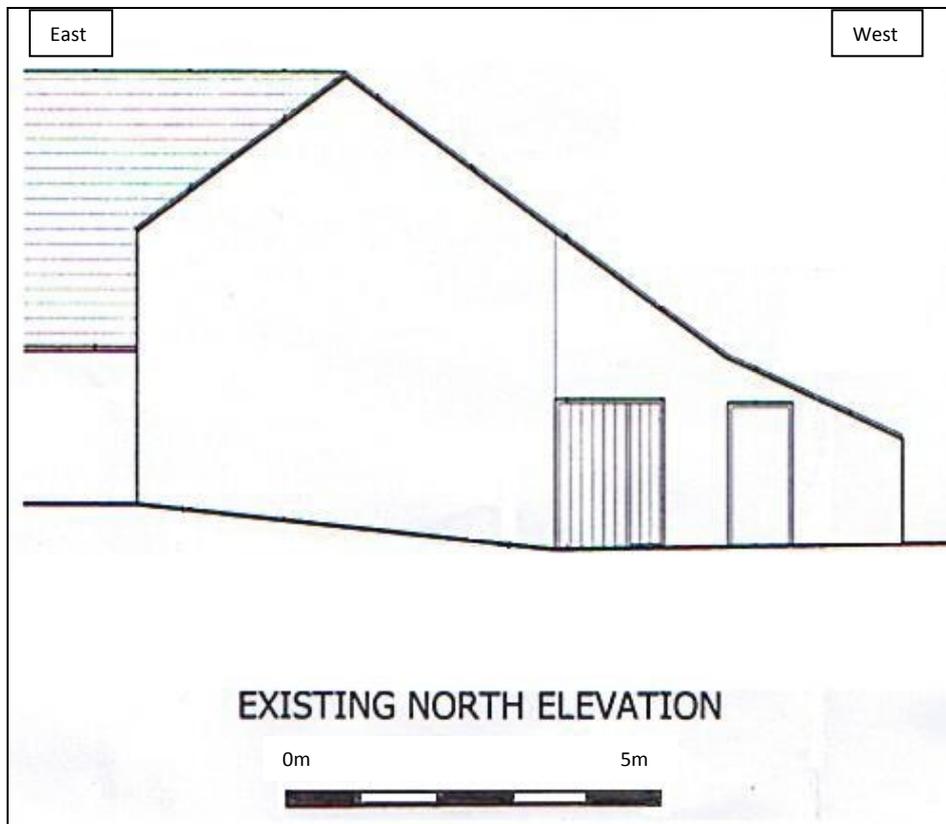


Figure 24. Drawn northern elevation

Eastern elevation

The eastern elevation (figures 23 and 25) was obscured by the presence of an extant cottage, Glencoe that was structurally earlier than the barn.

The northern part of the elevation was rendered in white lime-wash obscuring any detail within the stonework. A single doorway (figure 23) housing a relatively modern door existed beside the conjunction with the cottage.

The southern part of the original barn was concealed by a later stone lean-to that formed Room 3 and finished in white masonry paint. A machine-cut sandstone surround for the doorway was also painted white.

The pitch of the roof for Room 3 (figure 26) was at a slightly different angle than the barn indicating that Room 3 was an adjunct to the barn.



Figure 25. Drawn eastern elevation



Figure 26. Eastern outside elevation of Room 3



Figure 27. Southern elevation of the study barn

Southern elevation

The southern elevation was finished in white masonry paint (figure 27). It illustrated that Room 3, to the east was a later adjunct to the study barn as was Room 7 on the western side.

The elevation (figure 28) incorporated a doorway on the upper level suggesting that access was via a ladder, flight of steps or a raised vehicle from the outside. A small window was also present on the ground floor.

A narrow plinth or foundation was visible at the base of the facade but it was not possible to infer whether this feature belonged to an earlier structural phase.



Figure 28. Drawn southern elevation of the study barn

Western elevation

Within the facade (figure 30), three relatively modern elements were illustrated:

1. Room 5, the chicken shed
2. Room 4, the porch
3. Room 7, the outside store

The western elevation was rendered in white masonry paint (figure 29) and obscured any architectural details. The roof appeared to be a single pitch that encompassed the original barn and the later additions, Rooms 5 and 7.



Figure 29. Drawn western elevation of the study barn

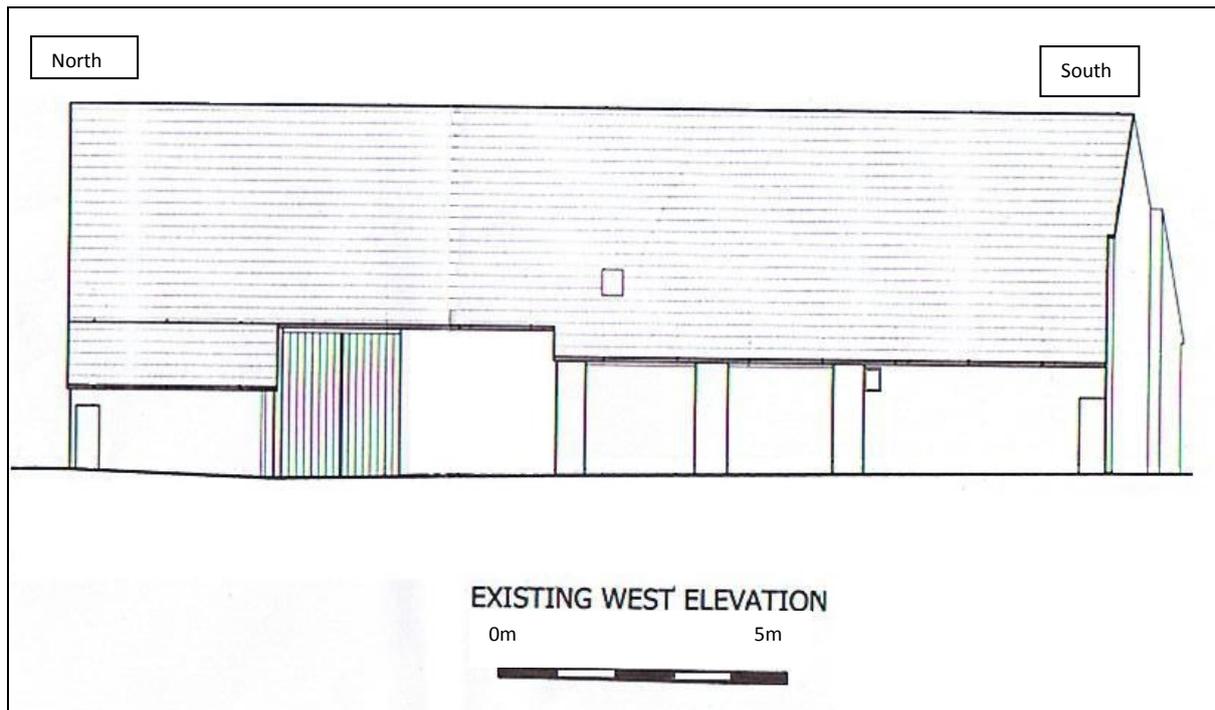


Figure 30. Western elevation showing Rooms 4, 5 and 7

6.4 Survey results: Discussion

Phasing

The probable structurally phasing (figure 31) for this study building was as follows:

- Phase 1, construction of Glencoe Cottage (green outline)
- Phase 2a, construction of the barn, Rooms 1 (red outline)
- Phase 2b, partition of the barn forming and insertion of a door, Room 2 (brown outline)
- Phase 3, widening and extension of the porch, Room 4 (yellow outline)
- Phase 4, construction of a lean-to, Room 3 (blue outline)
- Phase 5, addition of a store, Rooms 5 and 6 (violet outline)
- Phase 6a, extension of the roof to form a store, Room 7 (light grey outline)
- Phase 6b, infilling of the phase 6a facade (dark grey outline)

The study barn was structurally later than the extant cottage (Phase 1), incorporating the western gable end of Glencoe, into the eastern wall of the barn.

The original ground plan for the barn (Phase 2a) measured 18.40m x 5.40m with a main entrance on the western elevation where a small porch may have existed, then later enlarged (Phase 3).

The barn was probably constructed during the mid 19th century (Phase 2a) and then altered with the construction of a partition wall (Phase 2b) to form Rooms 1 and 2. This led to the formation of an first floor accessed via an upper door through the southern wall.

Probably, the porch was widened shortly after construction (Phase 3) with a new room (Room 4) available to the south.

Thereafter, the physical order that Phases 4-6b occurred at are not certain as these elements lacked stratigraphic security as they merely butted an existing structure.

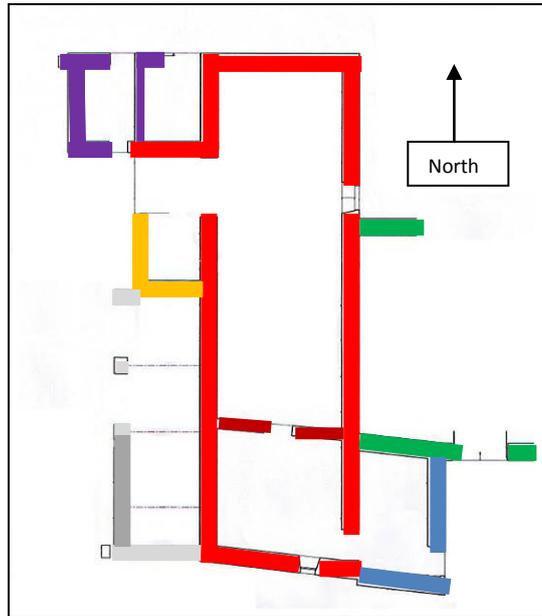


Figure 31. Glencoe Barn development; Structural phases

Two rooms (Rooms 5 and 6) were added (Phase 5) within the northern salient between the porch (Phase 3) and the barn (Phase 1).

An open outshut (Room 7) was added (Phase 6a) within the salient between the porch (Phase 3) and the barn (Phase 1). The open facade was partially filled (Phase 6b) to enclose this space.

Historic context

The study building appears to belong to a period of investment in farm buildings initiated during the later 18th Century that lasted to about 1880. This period reflected three distinct phases:

- The second half of the 18th Century when demand increased from industrialising communities and transport improvements facilitated long distance trade
- The Napoleonic War 1793-1815, when there was nationally, a large rise in agricultural production and where protectionism maintained high prices
- 1815-1880 when increased mechanisation and scientific methods increased the efficiency of the Cumbrian farm (Brunskill 2002, 27-28)

Development was enhanced by the effects of enclosure that rationalised farm holdings and scientific improvements in farming that lead to greater productivity and efficiency. This evolution was reflected in the farm buildings where basic forms developed into specialised structures, culminating in designs of some ingenuity with architectural pretensions and at a considerable cost (Brunskill 2002, 95).

The barn was designed for the storage and conversion of grain. The crop was first stored and during the winter winnowed, the threshed grain then transported to a mill or fed to cattle. The process required a tall open space, outward-opening doors for light and access and a porch for protection against the rain. Storage as with silage was best undertaken in a tall building with limited ventilation through narrow air vents or slits (Brunskill 2002, 96).

By the late 19th Century and during the 20th Century, Dutch barns, silage pits and on-site storage made specialised storage buildings superfluous.

The study barn at Glencoe probably belongs to the third phase of agricultural improvement (1815-1880) and would have been used for grain storage and for threshing. Most probably the barn was constructed during the early to mid 19th Century as it is featured on the First Edition Ordnance Survey map.

Subsequently, as agriculture declined in importance, the barn took on other uses, mainly for storage of non-agricultural items and for private use.

7 ARCHIVE

The archive for this project will be deposited with the appropriate archaeological curator, Tullie House, Carlisle. This archive has been assembled in accordance within the protocols of Management of Archaeological Projects (MAP2).

8 ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I am grateful to Mr Thurston Watson for his assistance with the report and commissioning the work. I would also like to thank Jeremy Parsons for his help and guidance with the archaeological brief and reviewing my provisional draft of this report; the staff of Carlisle Library with my research into the local history of the area and the staff of Cumbria Record Office, Carlisle with the map regression and other documentary research.

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