

Report and Documentary History for
**6 & 8 (Candle Cottage) Pound Street, Wendover,
Buckinghamshire**

Site Code: WEN-A

from

The Medieval Peasant House in Midland England

by

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Fig. 1. View from the south.

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Oxbow Books

WEN-A: 6 & 8 (CANDLE COTTAGE) POUND STREET, WENDOVER, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

Grid reference: SP 8672 0776 Survey Date: 13 March 1989 By: D. Miles

Illustrations:	Page
1. View	1
2. Ground floor plan	2
3. Section of truss T3	3

Information on Candle Cottage (not inspected) was provided by R. W. Evans.

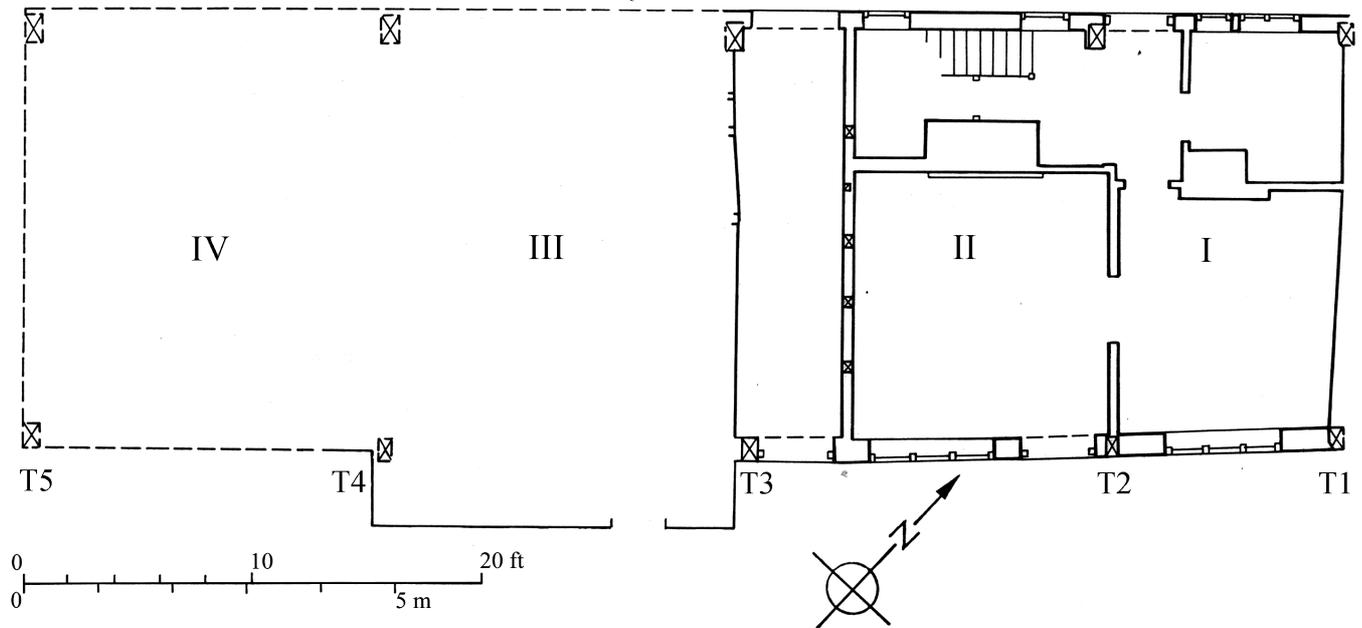


Fig. 2. Plan, showing truss and bay numbering.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

SUMMARY AND HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT

PHASE 1: No. 6 Pound Street, Wendover together with Candle Cottage, no 8, comprises a four-bayed cruck building; only the north-east bays comprising no. 6 were available for study. The original plan is not clear, but bay II is floored with lodged joists running axially, which are probably original. The house is likely to have had an open hall in bays III and IV (now contained within no. 8), and perhaps a service room in bay I. All the crucks have truncated blades (type 'W' apexes). The timbers could not be dated, but the early sixteenth century seems likely by comparison with other Buckinghamshire cruck houses.

LATER PHASES: Probably during the seventeenth or eighteenth centuries, the property was divided into half, and two stacks inserted into no. 6.

STRUCTURAL FEATURES

PHASE 1: All the three crucks visible in no. 8, (trusses T1 - T3), have gently curved cruck blades which measure about 11in wide by 9in thick, and are boxed heart. In T3, a section of sill beam extends five feet from under the rear cruck towards the front cruck. The tiebeams are 8in high, and the collars are cranked (about 7in high). The tiebeam at T3 has peg holes for two studs below, and three studs run between the tie and the collar; one of these has a hewing mark on its north-east face. It was not possible to confirm whether these three struts were originally framed in as the positions of the peg holes in the collar are obscured. Wattle and daub survives above the collar. Above the tiebeam are cruck spurs which like the tiebeam and collar are trenched in on the south-west face. The purlins measure 5½in thick and are trenched onto the backs of the blades; they sit in seatings cut in the extended ends of the collars. Some curved windbraces survive. The rafters average 2½ x 4½in, but vary considerably in size. Heavy joists measuring 7in wide by 6in high are lodged on the tiebeams at 20-22in centres.

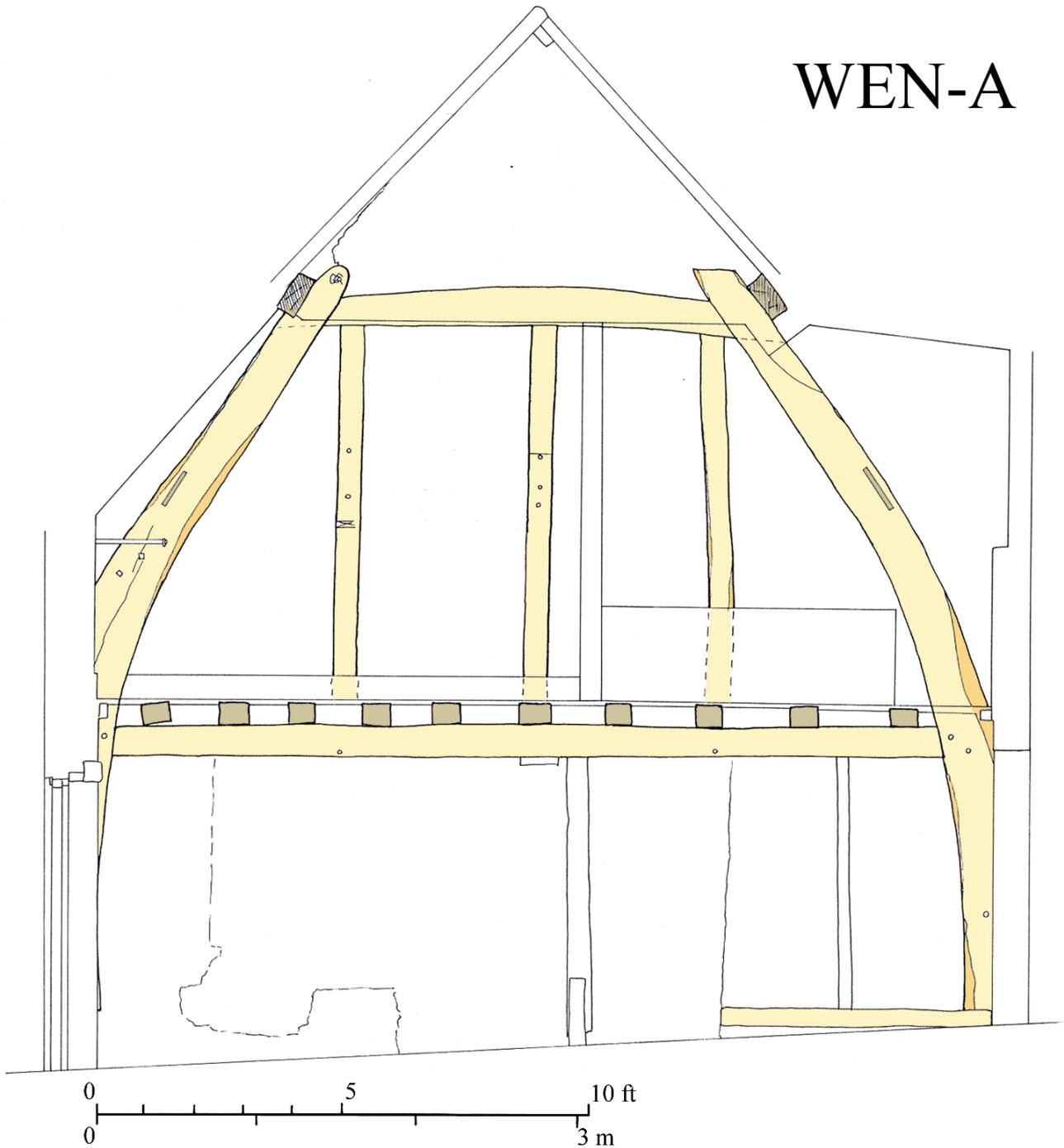


Fig. 3. Section of truss T3.

DENDROCHRONOLOGY

For dendrochronology abbreviations see page facing Introduction.

Sampling Comments: Eight samples were obtained through coring by Robert Howard on 13 March 1989. Two samples, one being the rear cruck of T1, and the other being the purlin above, matched to form a sequence of 71 rings. However, neither this nor the longer individual samples, could be matched against the master reference chronologies.

TREE-RING SAMPLE RECORD AND SUMMARY OF DATING

Sample Code	Sample Location	Total Rings	Sapwood Rings	FMR Date	LHR Date	LMR Date	Date Cat
WEN-A01	Front cruck blade truss T3	40	HS	—	—	—	—
WEN-A02	Rear cruck blade truss T3	44	02	—	—	—	—
WEN-A03	Rear cruck blade truss T2	64	14	—	—	—	—
WEN-A04	Rear cruck blade truss T1	69	HS	—	—	—	—
WEN-A05	Rear purlin bay I	40	HS	—	—	—	—
WEN-A06	Front cruck blade truss T2	77	14	—	—	—	—
WEN-A07	Joist 8 from street bay II	45	24	—	—	—	—
WEN-A08	Joist 4 from street bay II	44	HS	—	—	—	—

Not dated.