

SOWERBY HALL FARM, BANK LANE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS, CUMBRIA

Archaeological Building Recording



Client: Mr and Mrs Curtis
Planning Ap. Ref.:
B06/2007/1005 and
B15/2007/1006
NGR: SD 19862 72467

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Non-Technical Summary

Following an application to convert the former farm buildings at Sowerby Hall Farm, Bank Lane, Barrow-in-Furness, a request was made for an archaeological building recording to be carried out on the structure, which is Grade II* Listed, and an adjacent outbuilding which is not Listed. Sowerby Hall forms part of the ancient settlement of Sowerby, and is situated in a landscape with evidence of human activity extending over 6000 years. The earliest reference to Sowerby is in the Domesday Book and it is evident that Furness Abbey was connected to the area from at least the 14th century, when it was granted hunting rights in the woods, which were emparked at this time. The history of the site has become confused with a settlement named Soler or Solergarth, due to antiquarians in the 19th and early 20th century assuming they were in the same place. This seems to have largely come about because of a reference connecting Soler and Sowerby Lodge in 1509, but otherwise their association seems tenuous. It is not known when the buildings at Sowerby Hall were first constructed, and while there are apparently references distinguishing it from Sowerby Lodge from the 17th century onwards, earlier investigations of the barn have suggested an early 16th century origin.

The investigation of the building revealed that the earliest structure was a large threshing barn with a remarkably intact and complex raised cruck roof structure supported by angled knee braces and wind braces. The site was later enlarged with the addition of several outshuts and a separate building to the east, which was eventually used as a dairy. As the emphasis at the site changed during the 19th and early 20th centuries to one based on the keeping of cattle more buildings were added, including a large shippon, which was attached to the north end of the barn. As a result of these alterations a large number of doorways were added to the barn, and these changes, combined with general deterioration, led to movement in its south wall. The collapse of part of the east wall of the dairy was probably due to similar causes.

The barn is an extremely important structure and represents a rare survival of such an early and architecturally impressive building. There are few directly comparative examples in the immediate area, although a barn at Park House Farm at Heversham has an almost identical roof structure; its origins are uncertain, although it seems unlikely to pre-date 1362 and is also considered to be of 16th century date. The shippon is also a significant building for the complex at Sowerby Hall, as it represents the peak of its development as a cattle farm, while the majority of the other structures are historically and architecturally much less significant.

Acknowledgements

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The documentary research and building recording was carried out by Daniel Elsworth and Sam Whitehead, who also wrote the report and produced the illustrations. The project was managed by Jo Dawson, who also edited the report.

1. Introduction

1.1 Circumstances of the Project

1.1.1 Following the submission of an application by Mr and Mrs Curtis (hereafter 'the client') to convert a group of farm buildings into four dwellings at Sowerby Hall Farm, Bank Lane, Barrow-in-Furness, Cumbria (Planning application nos. B06/2007/1005 and B15/2007/1006; NGR SD 19862 72467; Fig 1), a programme of archaeological recording was recommended by Barrow Borough Council to provide supporting information for the application. Following consultation with the Assistant Archaeologist at Cumbria County Council Historic Environment Service (CCCHES), together with the Historic Buildings Officer at the Council for British Archaeology (CBA), this was confirmed as a Level 3 recording of the main barn and Level 2 of the former dairy. The main barn at Sowerby Hall is Listed Grade II*, the farmhouse is Listed Grade II, and the former dairy is in their curtilage (see *Appendix 1*) and so the whole site is considered to be of historical and archaeological importance. A project design was produced by Greenlane Archaeology and after this was accepted by the CCCHES the on-site recording of the buildings was carried out between the 26th and 30th November 2007, following the completion of the first part of the desk-based assessment.

1.2 Location, Geology and Topography

1.2.1 Sowerby Hall Farm is situated on the northern edge of the Furness peninsula, just to the north of Barrow (Fig 1). Sowerby is made up of two farms; Sowerby Hall Farm and Sowerby Lodge, which are separated by the A590, with Sowerby Hall Farm on the uphill side, on Bank Lane and the north edge of the Ormsgill Estate (Fig 2). The site is approximately 35m above sea level (Ordnance Survey 2002).

1.2.2 The underlying solid geology is dominated by the Triassic Sherwood sandstone group and is just north and east of an area of Mercian Mudstones (Moseley 1978, plate 1). The solid geology is overlain by glacially derived boulder clay (Countryside Commission 1998, 72). The immediate landscape is typical of the west Cumbrian coastal plain, in this area made up of small to medium fields with rocky limestone outcrops on the higher ground.

2. Methodology

2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 The building investigation comprised three separate elements intended to provide a suitable record of the structures, in line with English Heritage standards (English Heritage 2006), the guidelines of the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA 2001), and guidelines prepared by the Association of Local Government Archaeological Officers (ALGAO 1997). In addition a desk-based assessment was carried out in accordance with the project design (*see accompanying CD*), and a suitable archive was compiled to provide a permanent paper record of the project and its results in accordance with English Heritage and IFA guidelines (English Heritage 1991; Ferguson and Murray n.d.).

2.2 Desk-Based Assessment

2.2.1 A desk-based assessment was carried out prior to the fieldwork. This principally comprised an examination of early maps of the site, which could demonstrate the basic phasing and development of the buildings, but additional primary and secondary sources relating to the site were also examined, and more general histories were utilised in order to put the buildings in their historical and archaeological context. A number of sources of information were used during the desk-based assessment:

- **Cumbria Record Office, Barrow-in-Furness (CRO(B))**: this was visited in order to examine early maps of the site, and other primary and secondary sources;
- **Lancashire Record Office (LRO)**: as the site was formerly situated within Lancashire there are a number of relevant records deposited here, in particular wills of some of the occupiers and documents relating to the Cavendish family, whose ancestors owned the property;
- **Lancaster University Library**: this was visited in order to consult journals and other secondary sources which could provide information on comparative examples of buildings with similar roof structures to that in the main barn at Sowerby Hall Farm, and information about structures relating to monastic sites;
- **Greenlane Archaeology**: additional secondary sources held in Greenlane Archaeology's library, used to provide information for the site background, were also examined.

2.3 Building Recording

2.3.1 The building recording was carried out to English Heritage Level-3 type standards for the grade II* Listed barn, which includes the attached shippon, and to Level-2 type standards for the dairy that is not Listed (English Heritage 2006; Fig 2). These are largely descriptive investigations, with only a limited level of interpretation of the phasing and use of the buildings, which in the case of Level 3 incorporates evidence compiled during the rapid desk-based assessment. The recording comprised several parts:

- **Written record**: descriptive records of all parts of the buildings were made using Greenlane Archaeology *pro forma* record sheets;

- **Photographs:** photographs in both 35mm colour print and colour digital format were taken of the main features of the buildings, their general surroundings, and any features of architectural or archaeological interest. A selection of the colour digital photographs is included in this report, and the remaining photographs are presented on the accompanying CD;
- **Drawings:** drawings were produced by hand-annotating 'as existing' illustrations of the buildings drawn by the client's architect, who provided them in digital form at a scale of 1:1. These comprised:
 - i. 'as existing' ground and first floor plans, at 1:100;
 - ii. 'as existing' elevations of all external aspects, at 1:100;
 - iii. 'as existing' cross-sections through the shippon, the north-east outshut attached to the barn, and the dairy;
 - iv. in addition, for the grade II* Listed barn, 12 cross-sections, two for each of the trusses (one of each face) and a plan of the roof structure were produced using a combination of instrument survey, utilising a reflectorless total station connected to a portable tablet computer operating AutoCAD LT, and hand measured survey techniques.

2.4 Archive

2.4.1 A comprehensive archive of the project has been produced in accordance with the project design (*see accompanying CD*), and current IFA and English Heritage guidelines (Ferguson and Murray n.d.; English Heritage 1991). The paper and digital archive and a copy of this report will be deposited in the Cumbria Record Office in Barrow-in-Furness on completion of the project. Three copies of this report will be deposited with the Cumbria Historic Environment Record, one with the client, one with the client's architect, and one will be retained by Greenlane Archaeology. In addition, a digital copy will be offered to the NMR and a record of the project will be made on the OASIS scheme.

3. Desk-Based Assessment

3.1 History of Sowerby and Area

3.1.1 The area around Sowerby has been one of considerable interest to historians and archaeologists since at least the late 19th century and, as a result, there is a considerable amount of information relating it. Much of this is connected to the supposed site of the lost village of Selligarth (or Solergarth), which was destroyed under the orders of Furness Abbey in 1516 and is thought to have been located near Sowerby, but there are a number of other references to medieval activity that also make the area of importance.

3.1.2 **Prehistoric – Early Medieval:** while there is no direct evidence for prehistoric settlement in the area a relatively large number of Neolithic polished axes have been found in the general vicinity (Spence 1937; Stables and Gabbatt 1939; Robinson 1985; Headland Archaeology 1999a). None of these have been found in connection with any structures or other features, however, so their significance and the circumstances under which they were deposited remains uncertain. Other finds from the area include a Roman coin or coins found in Sowerby Woods (Barnes 1968, 12), but these again do not positively identify any structures of this period in the area. The earliest reference to Sowerby is in the Domesday Book, which suggests some form of settlement existed here prior to 1086 (Ekwall 1922, 203). The name itself is of Norse origin, and means a farm by muddy or marshy ground (*ibid*).

3.1.3 **Medieval – Post-Medieval:** as mentioned above, Sowerby is first recorded in the Domesday Book and was rated as having three carucates of land (Barnes 1968, 19) (one carucate was the amount that could be ploughed by a team of eight oxen in a year, and therefore varying between 60 and 180 acres depending on soil quality (Richardson 1989, 10)). Following this there are frequent references to the woods at Sowerby: in 1336 Furness Abbey was given free warren within them, allowing the keeping and hunting of game (Richardson 1881, 43), and in 1338 this right was extended with the granting of a licence to impark the woods at Sowerby (Barnes 1968, 35). During the medieval period the history of Sowerby becomes entangled with that of Soler, a grange of Furness Abbey listed as early as 1194 (*op cit*, 19). Soler is repeated mentioned in this context, again in 1247 (Beck 1844, 208) and then in 1292 (*op cit*, 231). In 1336 it is described as a demesne holding of the Abbey (Barnes 1968, 26). In 1509, however, a list of properties expected to provide troops in defence of the Abbey and its lands lists 'Solergarth with Sowerby Lodge' (West 1805, 132-133; Beck 1844, 304; Barnes 1968, 36). This has led to the conclusion that Sowerby and Soler or Solergarth were one and the same, a suggestion first made by Thomas Beck who considered a reference in 1292 to Soler to be a mis-transcription of Sowerby (Beck 1844, 231n). This theme was further developed in the late 19th century by Richardson, who considered Sowerby Hall to be '*anciently called Solergarth*' (Richardson 1881, 42). During the early 20th century tombstones were apparently uncovered during ploughing north of Sowerby Hall (within the present golf course), and these were considered to be remains from Solergarth (CRO(B) Z227/1 c1904; CRO(B) BAMH 2/52 1954).

3.1.4 More recently opinion on the matter has changed a little, however. James Melville considered Solergarth's position to be close to the western gateway of Furness Abbey, in proximity to a field named '*Sellar Butts*' (Hobbs 1950a; Rollinson 1963b, 165; this field is just visible on a plan of the Abbey from 1775, reproduced in Wood 1998, 31). The destruction of Selligarth, as it is referred to at that time, in 1516 (recorded in Fishwick 1896, 68-69), was probably carried out as part of an enclosure movement intended to provide more grazing for sheep (Rollinson 1963b,

164). It was, however, an illegal act and may have resulted in the establishment of Hawcoat and Newbarns to house the displaced tenants (*op cit*, 165). The position of Soler/Solergarth/Sellergarth has still not been confirmed, however, and the most recent studies have been cautious in attempts to locate it (see Rollinson 1963a). The fact remains, however, that the only document that links it to Sowerby is a single line from 1509 (and this specifically refers to Sowerby Lodge), while the supposed archaeological evidence remains unsubstantiated. Further evidence following the Dissolution of the Abbey and relating to the sale of some of its lands to the Earl of Salisbury in 1607 suggests that Solergarth was situated near the Abbey. At this date a piece of pasture named Solergarth was said to be '*at the west gate of the Abbey*' and within the walls, while another account of about the same date states that it was '*placed on the east side [of the Abbey] within the walls*' (Farrer and Brownbill 1914, 312n). This, perhaps, provides conclusive evidence that Solergarth and Sowerby are not the same place.

3.1.5 There are several references to Sowerby during the 16th century: at the Dissolution Sowerby Meadow is listed as held by Furness Abbey (Barnes 1968, 30), a subsequent survey of woods in 1567 includes those at Sowerby (*op cit*, 55), and the woods are also specifically named and highly valued in an Abbey rental (CRO(B) ZK205 n.d.). In 1607 the herbage of Sowerby Woods was granted to John Preston (Richardson 1881, 43), further demonstrating that it was the woods at Sowerby that were considered most important. There are several further references to their management during the 16th and 17th centuries as a source of coppiced wood for producing charcoal for use in the iron industry (Fell 1908, 118 and 121), and they are considered to be one of the last surviving remnants of the once extensive medieval woods that must have existed in the area (*op cit*, 100). During the 19th and early 20th centuries they continued to provide coppiced wood (Evans 1982). In most other respects the general area was relatively unremarkable during the post-medieval period. A Civil War skirmish is thought to have been fought at nearby Hawcoat, but this has never been confirmed, despite the presence of a cannon ball found in a garden there (Hobbs 1950b). The biggest development in the area, prior to the 20th century, was the construction of the Park Loop section of the Furness railway between 1876 and 1882, albeit on the line of an earlier mineral railway (immediately east of the site; Andrews 2003, 63-65), which contributed to the development and growth of Barrow-in-Furness during the later 19th century (Barnes 1968, 89). During the 1930s and 1940s the development of new housing in Ormsgill left Sowerby Hall isolated on its northern edge, while the development of industrial premises along Park Road have left it on the edge of what had become a relatively developed area (Trescaheric 1985, 119).

3.1.6 **Previous archaeological work:** several archaeological investigations have already been carried out in the area around Sowerby Hall. These include desk-based assessments and walkover surveys (Headland Archaeology 1999a; 1999b; Headland Archaeology 2000) and an evaluation (OA North 2003). Little of any archaeological interest has been discovered as a result of this work, however, although a possible settlement site is recorded a short distance to the north of Sowerby Lodge (Headland Archaeology 1999a). A brief investigation of Sowerby Hall was carried out by members of the Barrow Naturalists' Field Club, however, who gave the following description:

'Here is a magnificent barn, previously overlooked, which from its buttresses, roof trusses and general construction, appears to be workmanship of the 16th century or earlier... tradition ascribes it to monkish erection. Arrangements are being made for an expert examination' (Anon 1948, 14).

3.1.7 It is not known if a more detailed examination was carried out although notes made by JJ Hobbs indicate that some further work was done, and these provided a slightly more detailed description:

'77 feet long, 25ft wide, 14'-6" tall walls, Total height 28'-0" walls c2'-4" Thick 6 buttresses against W. wall.

The beams & woodwork of the interior are impressive. Date unknown – local tradition asserts the barn to be late monastic work.' (CRO(B) Z1506/1 1951).

3.1.8 As mentioned above (Section 3.1.3) previous investigations into the area have concentrated on its supposed connections to the medieval grange of Soler. During the investigations into the apparent discovery of tombstones to the north of Sowerby Hall in 1904, the farm itself was also examined:

'He [Mr Allen, the tenant farmer] also pointed out the site of another ancient road which came from Raike Moor to Sandscale. Under the yard at Sowerby Hall at a depth of 18" was found pavement of the old road' (CRO(B) Z227/1 c1904; CRO(B) BAMH 2/52 1954).

It is not known how reliable this account is or exactly what these remains related to.

3.2 Sowerby Hall Farm

3.2.1 As has already been shown, the earliest reference to Sowerby is found in the Domesday book, and this is followed by records relating to the woods from the 14th century onwards. It is difficult to be certain which structures are being referred to during the medieval period; the earliest reference to specifically name one property is the list of tenants from 1509 that names Sowerby Lodge. It is not clear, therefore, whether the earlier references to just Sowerby are meaning Sowerby Hall, Sowerby Lodge, or both. The parish registers (see Table 1 below) demonstrate that 'Sowerby' (in a variety of spellings) was used into the 18th century, while 'Sowerby Lodge' continued to be used independently, apparently from 1509 onwards (Greenlane Archaeology 2007, 8-9). The term Sowerby Hall, by comparison, does not seem to be used until the early 18th century (see Table 1). It could, therefore, be argued that early references to Sowerby relate to what became Sowerby Hall, and that Sowerby Lodge was an entirely unrelated structure, built in association with the hunting rights granted to Furness Abbey, hence the name. Following the Dissolution of Furness Abbey it is likely that Sowerby, perhaps including both Sowerby Hall and Sowerby Lodge, passed to the Preston family, who acquired the abbey site and much of the associated property at the end of the 16th century (Farrer and Brownbill 1914, 311). A document from the late 17th century demonstrates that a descendant, Sir Thomas Preston, owned various properties in the area, including a messuage at 'Sarby' (NA E 134/33Chas2/Mich28 1681).

Date	Name	Event	Location	Source
1694	Robert Ranforth	Baptism of daughter	Sawrby	Anon n.d. a
1700	Isaac Pearson	Baptism of daughter	Saurby	Anon n.d. a
1736	Thomas Sharp	Baptism of son	Sarby Hall	Anon n.d. a
1742	James Hunter	Baptism of daughter	Sarby	Anon n.d. a
1746	John Johnson	Baptism of sons	Sarby Hall	Anon n.d. a
1747	Thomas Dixon	Baptism of son	Sawrby	Anon n.d. a
1753	Nicholas Smith	Baptism of daughter	Sowerby Hall	Anon n.d. a
1770	Henry Wilkinson	Baptism of son	Sowerby	Anon n.d. a
1772	Henry Wilkinson	Baptism of daughter	Sowerby Hall	Anon n.d. a
1773	Thomas Garner	Burial of daughter	Sowerby	Anon n.d. a
1777	Henry Wilkinson	Baptism of daughter	Sowrby Hall	Anon n.d. a
1778	James Nicholson	Burial of wife	Sowerby Hall	Anon n.d. a
1779	Henry Wilkinson	Baptism of daughter	Sawrby Hall	Anon n.d. a
1779	James Nicholson	Burial	Sarby Hall	Anon n.d. a

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Date	Name	Event	Location	Source
1781	William Lancaster	Baptism of son	Sowerby Hall	Anon n.d. a
1781	William Lancaster	Burial of son	Sarby Hall	Anon n.d. a
1781	Henry Wilkinson	Burial of daughters	Sarby Hall	Anon n.d. a
1782	Henry Wilkinson	Burial of sons (drowned near Lowsy Point)	Sowerby Hall	Anon n.d. a
1784	Thomas and Elizabeth Fisher	Baptism of daughter	Sowerby Hall	Anon n.d. b
1786	Thomas and Elizabeth Fisher	Baptism of daughter	Sowerby Hall	Anon n.d. b
1801	James and Margaret Hartley	Baptism of daughter	Sowerbyhall	Anon n.d. b
1802	Thomas and Mary Butler	Baptism of son	Sowerby Hall	Anon n.d. b
1806	Bridget Fisher	Baptism of daughter	Sowerbyhall	Anon n.d. b
1810	William and Sarah Hunter	Baptism of son	Sowerbyhall	Anon n.d. b
1811	William and Sarah Hunter	Baptism of daughter	Sowerby Hall	Anon n.d. b
1816	William and Sarah Hunter	Baptism of daughter	Sowerby Hall	Dunn 1987
1828	Robert and Agnes Coward	Baptism of daughter	Sowerby Hall	Dunn 1987

Table 1: Occupiers of Sowerby Hall recorded in the parish registers

3.2.2 There are further references to Sowerby Hall in relation to several of these occupiers (and others not recorded in the parish registers), and although many of these do not provide any particularly relevant information about the site and its buildings, they at least give some indication of the type of activities taking place on the farm. A series of leases between 1690 and 1720, which are mainly concerned with land, include half of the house and outhouses, with a barn or barns being specifically named in many cases (LRO DDCA 10/80 1690; LRO DDCA 10/81 1710; LRO DDCA 10/82 1713; LRO DDCA 10/83 1720). The naming of the site 'Sarby Herdwicke' in three of these documents is particularly revealing: the term is Norse in origin and was used by the monks of Furness Abbey to denote a sheep farm before being applied to the particular breed of sheep (Rollinson 1997, 79). The will of Nicholas Smith gives a good account of the rooms present within the house, including: middle room upstairs, house loft, parlour loft, buttery, and house, and also lists a shippon and barn as well as cattle, horses, and sheep amongst the stock (LRO WRW/R367a/26 1754). A schedule of the goods belonging to Henry Wilkinson that were seized in lieu of rent in 1781 also gives some information about the buildings as it lists cows and horses amongst his property and specifically names a 'cow house' (LRO DDCA 10/85 1781). In 1811 it is recorded that a cow having '*lingered all Winter*' died, and when she was cut open '*a Hagworm or adder was found inside her 16 inches long*' (Rollinson 1986, 17), and in May 1825 a William Raven was hired to William Hunter of 'Sourby Hall' for one year (Rowntree 2004, 61).

3.2.3 A series of surveys also exists for the Preston (later Lowther and Cavendish) family's estates in Low Furness, many of which provide information about Sowerby Hall. The earliest, from 1765, names James Nicholson as the tenant but only describes various fields and a homestead (LRO DDCA 21/12 1765). A subsequent survey from 1806 mentions a barn and stack yard as separate from Sowerby Hall with its gardens (LRO DDCA 21/17 1806). A valuation from 1826 (LRO DDCA 21/25 1826) does not appear to list the buildings at all, but in the accompanying notes there is a revealing comment:

'It has been proposed to take down and rebuild the House. If that be decided upon another situation should be chosen, and probably one near to the Barn (now 300 yards distant) would be the best for the purpose, the present house is nearly on the outside of the land.

Mr Websters Estimate amounts to £300 for the House and £60 for repairs'

Frustratingly there is a reference to an accompanying plan, which is not included. It is not certain who Mr Webster is, although a likely possibility is George Webster of Kendal, who was certainly working in the area at the time and was responsible for remodelling Holker Hall, the Cavendish family home, between 1838 and 1841 (Martin

2004, 98). It would appear that the house was not rebuilt at this time, but the suggestion that it should be was clearly a precursor of what was later to come (see *Section 3.3*).

3.2.4 The available details of the occupiers of Sowerby Hall increases considerably, with the advent of directories, newspapers, and the census (see *Appendix 2*), and it is apparent that the building was being utilised as a farm from this point onwards at least. The earliest directory to cover the area demonstrates that Sarah Hunter was still present at Sowerby Hall in 1829, her husband having presumably died (Parson and White 1829, 711). She is still present by the time of the first census and was evidently running the farm with the assistance of her children and hired labourers (*Appendix 2*). By 1849 the farm evidently had new occupiers as John Thompson is listed in a directory of that date (Mannex 1849, 418). A marriage notice of November 1848 names a William Robinson of Sowerby Hall (Anon 1848, 3), however, so there may have been another tenant between the Hunters and John Thompson or more than one family living at the site at the time, as would appear to be the case at various times from the evidence of the parish registers (Table 1) and the census (*Appendix 2*).

3.2.5 In November 1852 Sowerby Hall was advertised to let, although it is described only as '*All that ESTATE or Farm... consisting of a good Farm House and suitable Buildings, and about 187 Acres of Arable, Pasture and Meadow Land, now in the occupation of Mr. John Thompson*' (Anon 1852, 1). Whether a tenant was found is uncertain, however, as the next occupier in the census, William Waiting, is described as a farm bailiff (*Appendix 2*). Throughout the 1850s and into the 1860s large areas of grassland at Sowerby Hall were regularly let and even sold (Anon 1856; 1857; 1858a; 1859a; 1860a; 1860b; 1860c; 1861a; 1862), wheat was sold (Anon 1858b), and cattle were taken into pasture (Anon 1859b), which might suggest that the farm was only partially operational. Throughout this period it is clear that the lessors were the Holker Estates, which belonged to the Cavendish family, who had clearly inherited property, with the other Furness Abbey estates, from the Prestons (see *Section 3.2.1* above). In September 1861 there was a large sale of stock and farm equipment (Anon 1861b) further indicating that the farm was not being directly utilised by its owners. The sale included more than 70 sheep, 8 horses, and equipment described as:

'Threshing Machine by Williamson of Kendal, Skim Plough, by Hill and Smith; Double-row turnip and Manure Drill, for ridge or flat, by Homes & Son of Norwich; 3 Carts and Cart Harness, 3 pairs of Harrows, 1 iron Roller, 1 Dressing Machine, 1 large Chaff Cutter, by Richmond and Chandler; 1 Oilcake Crusher, Weighing Machine and Weights, &c., &c' (ibid).

3.2.6 By 1871 it is evident that the farm had taken on a new tenant, John Danson (*Appendix 2*). The census returns suggest that the property included two dwellings at this time and earlier in 1861, but as the original house has since been demolished, it was situated some distance from the farm buildings under investigation (see *Section 3.3.3*; Plates 1-2), and they did not form part of the present farm, this is of no additional relevance to the understanding of the site. In 1881 the census shows the occupier to be Thomas P Tyson (*Appendix 2*), and he is also listed in a directory of the following year (Mannex and Co 1882, 144). It is perhaps noteworthy that from 1881 onwards there is only a single family listed in the census at Sowerby Hall and, when compared with the map evidence, this would appear to be due to the demolition of the original farm and several associated buildings and construction of the present house. In addition, Thomas Tyson's household included both a joiner and a wheelwright, which might suggest some form of small-scale industrial process associated with this was taking place on site, and this might explain the mysterious

circular building shown on the Ordnance Survey map of 1891 (see *Section 3.3.7* below).

3.2.7 Later records, particularly the census, continue show that the site continued to be used as a farm and was evidently successful. The tenants regularly changed, however, with a Thomas Allen listed in 1910 (Bulmer c1910, 163). He is also listed in the Inland Revenue valuation of the same year as occupying buildings, a dwelling and land at Sowerby Hall (CRO(B) BT/IR 1/10 1910). Following Thomas Allen the farm was occupied by the Curtis family who are listed in several directories and other sources between 1948 and 1960 (Anon 1948, 14; Barrett's Publications Ltd 1960, S70; Barrow News and Mail Ltd 1950, 243), and are the present owners.

3.3 Map and Image Regression

3.3.1 Several early maps of the site were examined, and were able to reveal a number of pieces of information about its development. The property does not appear on a tithe map, and was therefore probably not subject to tithe.

3.3.2 **Plan 1775:** several copies exist of a plan of 1775, which was apparently provided to Harper Gaythorpe by the Holker estates in 1904 during his investigations into Soler (CRO(B) Z227/2 1904; CRO(B) BAMH 2/52 1954; see *Sections 3.1.3-3.1.8*). This map was subsequently reproduced by William Rollinson in 1963 (Rollinson 1963b; Plate 1 – the modern 'Sowerby Woods Road' has been added by Rollinson) during his discussion of lost villages in Furness. This does not provide any additional information about the present Sowerby Hall; in fact it does not show it all. Its main use is in identifying field names and the presence of other early buildings not apparently connected to Sowerby Hall.

3.3.3 **Ordnance Survey 1851:** this is the earliest map to depict the site in any detail and it is significant because it demonstrates that the presumed farmhouse (Sowerby Hall) is detached from the outbuildings and situated a short distance to the north-west, on the east edge of Sowerby Woods (Plate 2). By this date the outbuildings have taken on much of their present form, with the majority of the dairy evident, and the north-east, south-east, and south-west outshuts on the barn clearly in place. The scale of this map makes it difficult to be certain of the details however, although it is evident that the outbuildings are contained within a regular rectangular enclosure. It is also noticeable that the present A590 (Park Road) is apparently in the process of being constructed at this time, and is approaching the site of Sowerby Hall from the south.

3.3.4 **Ordnance Survey c1873:** this is an additional map produced between the two standard editions due to the rapidly increasing size of Barrow-in-Furness at this time. This shows much of the same information as the previous map, but in more detail, with the divisions between the different parts of the buildings shown (Plate 3). Again, the road is still approaching the site from the south, and has apparently progressed very little in the intervening 20 years.

3.3.5 **Undated Estate Plan (CRO(B) BDX 64/80 n.d.):** although not a detailed map this does provide some interesting information. Both the original Sowerby Hall and the outbuildings are shown but by this time the road, which is named 'Cinder Road', has been constructed as has the railway (Plate 4). This means that this plan must date to between 1873 and perhaps 1876, when construction of this section of the railway began (see *Section 3.1.5*). Intriguingly the original farmhouse is still present at this time, and the new one has yet to be built.

3.3.6 **Undated plan of Lands at Sowerby (LRO DDCA 21/37 n.d.):** this plan appears to be partially based on the previous Ordnance Survey map. It is not detailed and therefore of little additional use in understanding the site. The original

house appears to still be present, the new house has not been built, and the outbuildings are shown, however the road has been completed. The map is marked up into lots but it is not clear what these refer to.

3.3.7 Ordnance Survey 1891: this shows much the same detail as the previous Ordnance Survey map of the site, and while it shows many of the same features as the earlier one, there are several noticeable differences and additional information is provided (Plate 5). The original Sowerby Hall has been demolished to accommodate Park Road; as a result the present house has been built. In addition, a circular structure (perhaps a stock pound or horse engine house?) has been added to the north-west corner of the outshuts on the south-west side of the barn. A small outshut has also been added to the south end of the dairy and in the corner between the barn and the north-east outshut. It would also appear that the south-east outshut was open-fronted at this time.

3.3.8 Ordnance Survey 1913: by this date the outbuildings, as the site as a whole, have been enlarged considerably (Plate 6). The present shippon has been added to the north end of the barn, beyond the line of the original enclosure wall (the north-east corner of which is evident north of the dairy). A new extension has also been added to the south end and a separate building has been added to the west of the south-west outshuts and what appears be a glass house added to the west of this. The dairy has also been extended with the addition of a small outshut to the east near the centre, and the new shippon also has a small extension to the north-west corner. The extension of the site to the north has also led to a reorganisation of the field boundaries, with a new one being added to the north-east.

3.3.9 Ordnance Survey 1933: the site has changed very little by this date, and is essentially the same as the previous map (Plate 7).

3.3.10 Photographs 1955: two photographs taken in 1955 by Albert Shaw are available in the collection at the record office in Barrow-in-Furness. One shows only the farmhouse (CRO(B) BDX 404/1/12 1955) and provides little additional information. Another shows the barn from the south-west (CRO(B) BDX 404/1/10 1955). This provides some additional detail as it depicts the outshut on the south end of the barn, as well as one to the west, and also shows the detached building to the west and a glasshouse, all of which are present on the Ordnance Survey map of 1933 (see *Section 3.3.9*).

3.4 Conclusion

3.4.1 It is evident from the documentary and cartographic sources that settlement at Sowerby has ancient origins, most likely beginning prior to the Norman Conquest. Of the two properties now comprising Sowerby, Sowerby Lodge was clearly held by Furness Abbey, while there is no direct evidence that Sowerby Hall was. The apparent association between properties at Sowerby and the Abbey appears to have been caused by its confusion with Sellergarth/Solergarth, a settlement that was destroyed in 1516 and was most likely situated close to the abbey. There are many mentions of 'Sowerby' in connection with Furness Abbey, from the 14th century to after the Dissolution, but these are always concerned with the woods rather than a settlement, and it is not how Sowerby Hall was connected to the Abbey. The earliest specific references to Sowerby Hall by name are not found until the 18th century, although it is clear that a 'messuage' existed as early as 1681, and the connections with the Preston family would suggest that it had been part Furness Abbey's estates. From at least the early 19th century it is evident that the site was occupied by a variety of tenants engaged in mixed arable and pastoral farming, although some idea of the type of activity undertaken and the buildings present on the site is indicated during the 17th and 18th centuries. By the late 19th century reorganisation of the roads

led to the demolition of a large part of the original Sowerby Hall, presumably an earlier farmhouse, and the construction of the present one, while the farm buildings, which already formed a relatively large complex of associated structures by the mid-19th century, continued to expand in the 20th century.

4. Building Recording

4.1 Arrangement and Fabric

4.1.1 The outbuildings being recorded at Sowerby Hall Farm effectively comprise three buildings arranged in two linear blocks either side of a courtyard; the former dairy to the east, and the barn with adjoining shippon at its north end to the west (Fig 2; Plates 8-10). The farmhouse is positioned a short distance to the south of the barn (Fig 2). Both blocks are aligned approximately north/south and both are largely single storey but with two storey elements. The former dairy is mainly built from sandstone in roughly squared blocks, some of which are evidently dressed (and may be re-used), particularly those forming quoins, which are situated at the corners and around the doorways. Some smaller pieces of grey slate have been used for levelling and for lintels, and modern additions are constructed from concrete blocks. The roofs are finished with graduated grey slate with v-shaped sandstone ridge tiles, except for the more recent additions, which are finished with corrugated concrete sheeting, and there are plastic rainwater goods throughout. Internally the roof structure is mainly constructed from timber, although iron beams have been used in several places. The building forms a long narrow structure, with a slight projection towards the south end, which has been raised in height, and is butted by a later building at the south-east corner. Internally it is divided into five rooms on the ground floor, with another on the first floor.

4.1.2 The shippon is also built from sandstone, laid in rough courses with some dressed stones picking out details such as the quoins at the doorways, windows, and corners. Later alterations have also been carried out in brick and concrete. The roof is again finished in graduated courses of grey slate with ceramic bonnet ridge tiles and incorporates louvers and small single-light skylights. Plastic rainwater goods are attached throughout and internally the roof structure is entirely constructed from timber, with iron forming additional structural support.

4.1.3 The barn is also built from sandstone, but in much more random courses and typically of small rough pieces, with very rough quoins only visible at the corners and in the later additions. Some evidently re-used dressed pieces of sandstone are present within the building, although these are entirely confined to later additions, and modifications and later building has also been carried out in brick and concrete blocks. The roof is again finished with graduated grey slate with v-shaped sandstone ridge tiles, and has plastic rainwater goods throughout. Internally the roof structure is constructed from timber. The building forms a large rectangular structure with various small outshuts attached to the east and west sides, and is butted by the shippon at the north end.

4.2 External Detail – Dairy (Figs 3-4; Plates 11-15)

4.2.1 **North elevation:** the majority of this is largely covered by a later extension built of concrete blocks (forming Room 1; see *Section 4.5.1*), and comprises its gable end. It is slightly uneven, although this is perhaps largely due to its poor condition, with a significant amount of collapse on the east side. The ends of round timbers, probably former telegraph poles forming the purlins, project through the wall, as do thick beams at either end, which form the wall plates. A small amount of red brick has been utilised at the base of the wall although it is otherwise plain. The gable of the earlier building to the south is raised above the modern extension, and is built of sandstone. It has been patched with concrete around the eaves and there is a blocked aperture evident in the centre, attached across which is a post for a telephone cable. Further south there is a further gable raised slightly above the

sections to the north in sandstone, which has been raised in height again with concrete blocks (with some red brick) to form a first floor area. Again the ends of former telegraph poles forming the purlins project through the wall below the eaves and there are other heavy boards forming the wall plates.

4.2.2 East elevation: the north end of this is entirely rendered with a thin skim of concrete, and has been clad with or built of concrete blocks forming the west side of a large silage tank. This returns to the east towards the south end, and a large part of the wall of the dairy is obscured at this point by silage and piles of tyres. The wall projects slightly to the east after this at the point where it is extended to two storeys, although the upper floor is stepped back slightly from the lower. There is a doorway on the ground floor within this section, which appears to have been inserted as there are evidently bricks in the north jamb. It has no door as such, just a loose metal sheet stood against it, and it has a slate lintel. The tops of the sandstone wall are finished with concrete leaving a large 'plinth', on top of which the concrete block extension has been added; this has a low doorway on the south side with a tongue and groove plank door and machine cut timber frame, and below the eaves there is a timber barge board. The wall returns to the west south of this, and there is a short section of wall projecting to the east, which supports a pair of large granite slabs that rest on the main wall to the north. The south end of the east elevation evidently butts the rest and is relatively plain. It is butted by a more recent structure at the south end, which is orientated east/west. The north elevation of this has a fragmentary render over mid reddish-orange brick, with two single-light windows, a plastic gutter, and iron downpipe. The east elevation is similarly finished, the brick evidently laid in English Garden wall bond, with the chamfered ends of the purlins projecting through the wall and a small aperture in the centre filled with slatted timber. On the south side it returns to accommodate a small outshut on the south-west corner of the building, but this is largely obscured by vegetation, rubble, and the sloping ground.

4.2.3 South elevation: the east side of the south elevation is continued by the later addition, although it is lost behind the vegetation. This too is evidently constructed from brick finished with a cement render. A short length of wall projects from the west side of this building to the south. It has a very mixed build comprising brick and dressed red sandstone, and against the west side there is a low concrete platform housing two oil tanks. The south elevation of the dairy proper is obscured by this later extension; it forms a low gable with some render repairs along the eaves and a small doorway on the west side with quoins and a slate lintel. There is an iron downpipe, and a ceramic pipe projects through the wall. To the north the raised section of the building is built of concrete blocks and has the ends of the purlins projecting from it.

4.2.4 West elevation: beyond the main part of the building the west elevation of the adjoining structure is roughly rendered and painted white, with the ends of chamfered purlins projecting through the wall below the eaves. There is a large garage door on the north side with modern chipboard doors and a modern surround, but an earlier sawn lintel. There is a smaller doorway to the south with a tongue and groove plank door with ovolo-moulded surround. The south end of the dairy proper butts the main part of the building and is constructed from noticeably smaller stone. It has a doorway on the south side, which is probably rebuilt or inserted, as, although the south jamb is quoined, the north incorporates bricks at the top. It has a machine cut timber lintel and a sliding door constructed from corrugated metal. To the north there is another doorway with quoined jambs, immediately south of which the wall has been cut into to incorporate a plastic downpipe and a cement skim has been added over this. The lower part of the door has been blocked with concrete blocks and the upper with sandstone, and it has a slate lintel. Above this the wall has been raised in height with concrete blocks, with areas of red brickwork presumably

denoting the position of the beams supporting the first floor; the end of one of these, an iron I-beam, is visible.

4.2.5 The central section of the elevation has three doorways; the lower part of the southernmost has been blocked with red brick and the upper with sandstone (perhaps suggesting it had been converted into a window), while the central one has been partially blocked with stone to form a slatted window, and the northern one has been part blocked with brick leaving a similar window. All of these apertures have slate lintels and the northern one has evident rebuilding in brick around the lintel and the end of the truss, which partially projects through the wall. To the north of these apertures there are two larger doorways, both apparently original but clearly modified. The southern one has a former rail sleeper forming its lintel while the north's lintel is evidently re-used, and the doorway has been partially filled with interlocking concrete panels and a tongue and groove plank door. The very north end is extended with a concrete block wall with a tall doorway with a corrugated metal doorway.

4.3 External Detail – Shippon (Figs 5-6; Plates 16-20)

4.3.1 **North elevation:** the east of this is largely obscured by the attached modern farm building, and it has generally been heavily altered. On the east side there is a large inserted doorway with iron beams forming the lintel and jambs. West of this is what was apparently another large opening, which has clearly been inserted through an earlier aperture, the lintel of which remains *in situ*. This has been blocked with brick, leaving two narrow windows filled with slatted timber. Above is a roughly central aperture with a sandstone lintel and sill, and below the eaves the chamfered ends of the purlins project through the wall. On the west side the gable scar of an attached building is present, within which is a window with a hand-finished re-used timber lintel and dressed sandstone sill. To the west is a doorway with an over-long machine cut timber lintel and quoins in the east jamb. It has been blocked with concrete blocks while the west jamb is formed by what appears to be the boundary wall, which extends some distance to the north before becoming ruinous. This evidently extended further north originally and its remains have been incorporated into a more recent shippon situated to the north.

4.3.2 **East elevation:** this butts the north side of the north-eastern outshut attached to the barn (Fig 6) at its south end. A low concrete wall forms a trough against the entire elevation, excepting the areas in front of the southern doorway. There is a wide doorway at the south end, which has rebuild incorporating bricks in the northern jamb, suggesting it is inserted or at least enlarged. There are three windows; those either side of the centre are original while the one in the centre is a former doorway, partially filled with stone. They all have sloping concrete sills; the southern has a timber night-vent surround but no surviving glazing, while the central and northern have slatted casements made from re-used pallets. The central aperture has dressed quoins with a tooled band and rusticated panels and the concrete sill has been inserted. There is a further doorway at the north end, which is blocked with brick forming a shelf or step, and has a machine cut timber lintel. The jambs comprise dressed quoins with a run-out stop chamfer at the top and bottom. The top part is formed by a brick with the corner simply knocked off, and the jambs have scars indicating the position of the door frame. The south-east corner is finished with dressed quoins with a neatly finished band and rusticated panels.

4.3.3 Across the whole elevation the ends of the tie beams project to a point flush with the face of the wall, where they have been covered by bricks and rest on slates. The jambs and lintel are finished with concrete and it has been blocked with brick leaving two narrow windows that are covered by tongue and groove boards. Above

this is a high level pitching doorway with a sandstone lintel and sill and below the eaves the chamfered ends of the purlins project through the wall. The gable scar of an earlier outshut is evident on the east side and within it there is a window blocked with brick and with a hand-finished timber lintel, sandstone sill and roughly quoined jambs, and a doorway blocked with concrete blocks with an over long timber lintel and quoins on the east side. The west wall forms its west jamb and this is continuous through the doorway and runs some distance to the north until it becomes ruinous. It appears that the shippon is built onto this, and so it may be earlier, and it is evident that it is also incorporated into later outbuildings to the north.

4.3.4 **West elevation:** this could not be fully examined due to the presence of a large slurry pit against the building, which was surrounded by a fence. The wall of the shippon evidently butts against the north-west corner of the barn, and the roof is constructed in the same style, with louvers but no sky lights. There are three windows, the two to the north are partially blocked with brick leaving a single-light casement while the southern one has a two-light casement partially filled with slatted timber. They all have sloping concrete sills as per the east elevation.

4.4 External Detail – Barn (Figs 5-6; Plates 21-33)

4.4.1 **North elevation:** the majority of this is obscured by the shippon and later buildings, but part of it is visible above this. It is essentially plain except for a small window, probably inserted, on the west side of the upper part. It has a slate lintel and sill and a fixed three-light casement.

4.4.2 **East elevation:** the north end is covered by a two storey extension. The east elevation of this forms the gable and is built of rough courses of sandstone, with evident re-pointing below the eaves. The first floor has a large aperture with a slate sill and lintel and irregular quoins, which may be inserted as there is some evidence for rebuilding. On the ground floor there is a low doorway with a rough timber lintel and large quoins and the end of the gable is also finished with quoins. The return of the extension to the west is entirely rebuilt in concrete blocks, which extend around the south-east corner. There is a doorway at first floor level on the west side with a chamfered machine cut surround and tongue and groove plank door. A small section of the main wall of the barn is visible between the north-east outshut and a further outshut to the south. This is largely filled by a tall wagon doorway, which has evidently been raised in height, the lower part containing large but irregular quoins and the upper incorporating a piece of dressed reused stone with ovolo moulded decoration, perhaps part of a plinth or mullion. Both jambs have iron I-beams set upright and forming posts against them, the northern of which is butted by a low concrete block wall. To the north of this doorway there is a high level ventilation slot, beneath which is a small aperture with a slate lintel and sill, which has been blocked with brick leaving an alcove and has dressed stones (presumably re-used) in its jambs.

4.4.3 To the south of the wagon doorway the elevation returns to form a monopitch outshut. The north wall of this is brick built with six rows of stretchers to one row of alternating headers and stretchers. Curiously, one brick has the letter 'B' inscribed into its side; this appears have been scratched into the brick prior to being fired. Beneath the eaves the chamfered ends of the purlins project through the wall. The east elevation of the outshut has three doorways, all of which have concrete lintels and two of which have corrugated metal doors. There is some evidence for repair and/or rebuild around the doors, and the southern jamb of the southern door is formed by stone walling with large quoins, which continues into the south elevation of the barn.

4.4.4 **South elevation:** the east side is an extension, forming the south end of the monopitch outshut attached to the south-east corner of the barn, with large quoins at the east end and the ends of chamfered purlins projecting through below the eaves. There is evidently some re-used stone as several dressed blocks are present within this section and there is also a piece decorated with a chevron and rhomboid design incorporating a four-petal flower(?). To the west of the outshut is the steeply pitched gable end of the barn proper. This has an owl hole below the apex and three square vents in a row below this, as well as another one below this to the east. There is re-pointing below the eaves on the west side and an exposed batten beneath the slates on the east. On the ground floor there is a small window, probably inserted, east of centre, with a nine-light casement with mesh over, a sandstone lintel, and a grey sandstone sill. Immediately west of this a ceramic pipe vent has been inserted. West of centre is a large doorway blocked with stone with a slate sill, and immediately west of this is a large stepped buttress built from concrete blocks with iron I-beams set into it against the wall. The wall in this location has evidently moved considerably to the south-west, and the buttress has been added to try to arrest this. At the south-west corner there is a wall stub built of concrete blocks and sandstone forming the jamb of a small gate; the opposite side being formed by the wall of the garden adjoining the house.

4.4.5 **West elevation:** the south-west corner is finished with some good quoins, relative to the rest of the building, and the remnants of an iron downpipe are attached beneath a plastic gutter. The remains of a small monopitch outshut, with the roof missing, are attached at the south end; the south elevation of which has a small doorway with a slate lintel and slightly projecting quoins on the east side. The west elevation has a small window with a sandstone sill and lintel although the north side evidently butts the north elevation. This is relatively plain, although it is capped with concrete where the roof used to be and butts against a buttress at the east end. This has chamfered plinths on at least two levels and incorporates several neatly dressed pieces of presumably reused stone, including one with crude chevrons carved into it and another with a chamfered edge. The buttress appears to be keyed into the wall of the barn at the base, but not at the top.

4.4.6 To the north of the small outshut there is a tall and narrow ventilation slot in the wall and a further buttress to the north of this. This too appears to be keyed in at the base but not at the top and also incorporates dressed and reused stone, including a double-chamfered piece, perhaps a mullion, and another chamfered piece, again perhaps part of a plinth. The upper part of the buttress has evidently been rebuilt and incorporates several pieces of dressed limestone, similar to those used in the stable to the north (see below), and the rebuild has led to additional plinths being incorporated. North of the second buttress the end of one of the cruck blades (see *Section 4.7.1* below) is visible where it has been forced out of the wall during movement in the building. It evidently has a tenon joint, which attaches it to a beam in built into the wall. Beneath this is a projecting block of stone, perhaps added to 'catch' the exposed cruck, and there has evidently been some rebuilding in this area as further blocks of dressed sandstone are incorporated into the wall.

4.4.7 Immediately north of this is the southern jamb of a wagon doorway blocked with stone with the beginnings of a rounded stone arch evident. This doorway has been partially obscured by the addition of a monopitch outshut forming a stable. The south elevation of this is built in a mix of sandstone, forming the lower part, and reused dressed blocks of limestone, forming the upper. The chamfered ends of the purlins project through the wall below the eaves where there is a barge board and wall plate, and the south-west corner is finished with quoins. The west elevation of the stable is built in a similar style to the south, and has a doorway on the south side with quoined jambs and a split tongue and groove board door. The north elevation of

the outshut was impossible to access on account of the adjoining slurry pit, but it too was evidently built in a similar style. It also butted against a buttress on the east side (see internal description (*Section 4.7.11*)). The remainder of the main wall of the barn continues to the north beyond this, where it incorporates another high level tall narrow vent slot and two small, probably inserted, low level windows both with slate lintels and grey sandstone sills. The northern of these has a six-light casement, while the southern has none, and both are blocked internally with brick. Immediately north of the southernmost window is a tall scar or patch of re-pointing, most likely denoting the position of a former buttress.

4.5 Internal Detail – Dairy (Figs 7-9; Plates 34-40)

4.5.1 **Room 1:** the floor, although obscured, is evidently constructed from concrete and has a dung channel orientated east/west edged with timber; apparently former railway sleepers. There are timber stalls on the north and south sides constructed from former pallets with associated wire mangers attached to the walls. A large limestone gatepost is situated in the south-east corner and has an iron pintel inserted into it. The roof structure comprises two purlins and a ridge purlin, all constructed from former telegraph poles, and there are thick planks forming the wall plates on the east and west side. The north and east elevations are finished with a concrete render and the north is in a poor condition. The south elevation is built of courses of sandstone, although this too is collapsing at either end, and there is a central aperture blocked with stone slightly west of centre. The west elevation is finished with concrete and has a central doorway.

4.5.2 **Room 2:** this too has a concrete floor, although it is largely obscured by straw, with a dung channel orientated east/west. The roof structure comprises sawn purlins, one per pitch, and a double ridge purlin. There are rafters on the west side only and a random selection of timber boards supporting slates, while the east side is finished with corrugated panels incorporating a fibreglass skylight only. There is a single narrow beam orientated east/west, perhaps part of a basic truss, which is snapped at the east end and has a pair of angled braces attached between it and the purlins. The north elevation has a blocked aperture below the eaves with a timber lintel, and there is a metal trough attached to the wall in the north-east corner marked 'SELF...'. The east elevation has a blocked central aperture with a rough timber lintel. The south elevation butts the east and has evidently moved a considerable distance from it. There is a possible blocked aperture at a high level within the centre. The west elevation has a wide doorway on the south side, which is partially filled with interlocking concrete panels and has a re-used timber lintel and quoins in the north jamb.

4.5.3 **Room 3:** this forms a much larger room extending to the south. The floor is largely obscured by rubble from the collapse of the east wall but is evidently concrete, and has a large slurry pit at the north end with a slatted concrete cover. The roof is supported by three trusses each a basic tie-beam type with notch jointed principals and with a slot cut into the upper side of the tie beam of unknown function. There is a single purlin per pitch, which over lap at the trusses, and a double ridge purlin. As with Room 2 there are rafters and a random selection of boards supporting the slate on the west side and just corrugated concrete sheets to the east. All of the walls are finished with concrete render. The north elevation is relatively plain, the upper part is whitewashed, however, rather than rendered. The east elevation has largely collapsed with the south end and centre gone and exposing the concrete block wall beyond that forms the side of the external silage pit. The south elevation has a doorway on either side with plain surrounds and one of the trusses is positioned almost directly against it. The west elevation has a wide doorway on the north side with a machine cut lintel. To the south there are two windows, both of

which have sloping sills, rough, perhaps re-used, timber lintels, and slatted timber casements.

4.5.4 **Room 4:** this has a concrete floor with a large rectangular pit orientated north/south and with steps and upright iron posts at each end in the centre. There is a lower ceiling on the north side of the room, corresponding with the room above (Room 6) while the southern part is open to the roof. The ceiling is supported by four iron I-beams to the north and two timber beams to the south, one of which has numerous Baltic timber marks scored into it. These in turn support timber joists and a chipboard floor, and there are various plastic pipes attached that connect to the room above (Room 6). The north end has a single tie beam truss, similar to those in Room 3, but with an added light-weight king post; the truss in turn supports a brick and concrete block wall forming the north side of Room 6. There are two purlins on the west side and one on the east, plus a ridge purlin and all are sawn, as are the rafters and wall plate, which is double thickness on the east side. The walls are all finished with concrete render. The north elevation is plain and does not extend to full height leaving an open section below the eaves. There are two doorways, one on either side, which share a single long timber to form a lintel. The east elevation has evidently been substantially rebuilt in concrete blocks. There is a small window on the north side, which has subsequently been filled with concrete blocks, although a small hole has been broken through, and there are several pipes attached. To the south is a doorway, which is possibly inserted or at least modified as its north jamb is rebuilt in brick. It has a hand-finished timber lintel and the wall is double thickness as a result of being rebuilt on the west side. The south elevation has a doorway on the west side with plain surrounds, a sawn timber lintel, and a sliding metal door. The west elevation is largely plain although there is a recessed area along the top where the building has been extended to form the first floor and this houses the iron beams supporting the floor. There is a doorway on the south side with plain surrounds and a sloping lintel.

4.5.5 **Room 5:** this is a small room, divided into two parts by a north/south wall. The east side has an earth floor, the west a concrete floor leading to a flight of two steps leading down to Room 4. The roof is shared between both parts and forms an irregular gable with a purlin on the east side and a ridge purlin. The purlins and the rafters are all apparently hand finished, almost round wood, and probably therefore original. All of the walls are rendered. In the eastern part the lower section of the north elevation is rendered while the upper is exposed stone, and there are tongue and groove boards over the roof on the west side. The east elevation is similar to the north, although it butts against it and has a timber shelf attached. The south elevation is also only rendered on the lower part, while the upper is whitewashed, and the west elevation (the wall dividing Room 5) is plain, with a doorway on the south side. The north elevation of the western room comprises a door to Room 4 at the bottom of the steps, with a sloping lintel covered with a sheet of asbestos. The east elevation is the partition wall, which is plain except for the doorway to the south with a sliding door. The south elevation has some of the original stonework exposed and has a doorway on the west side with a slate lintel and quoined jambs to the east. The west elevation is plain and finished with render.

4.5.6 **Room 6:** this has a board floor, divided by a modern timber partition on the south side orientated east/west forming a corridor to the doorway in the south-east corner. There is a row of small square lined holes in the floor along the east and west sides of the room. The roof is supported by two machine cut purlins, one per pitch, with diagonal braces sat on top of the partition wall to the south. The walls are all built from concrete blocks and are plain. There is a doorway on the south side of the east elevation with a sawn timber lintel formed by the wall plate plus a machine cut surround and plank door with chamfered battens.

4.5.7 **Later outshut to south-east of dairy:** although not part of the main building this was briefly examined internally. It has a concrete floor, with gridded iron blocks leading to the doorway on the west side. It has a corrugated concrete roof supported by a single purlin per pitch and a doubled ridge purlin, all of which are machine cut, and there is an iron I-beam orientated north/south mid-way along the building supporting some walling on top. The walls are generally plain and finished with render and white paint with numerous cables and pipes attached. The small extension to the south could not be accessed but the interior was visible through the collapsed roof and had a concrete floor and rendered walls, with dairy-related equipment attached to the north.

4.6 Internal Detail – Shippon (Figs 7-9; Plates 41-43)

4.6.1 This is divided into two halves by a low wall orientated north/south, the south end of which has two stub (perhaps partially demolished) walls running east and west forming a T-shape. The central wall is built of perforated reddish-orange brick but finished with concrete render and houses upright iron posts supporting the trusses (see below). There is a single large dung channel orientated north/south in each half of the room, which join a channel orientated east/west at the south end. This channel in turn leads to a door in the south-east corner and to a large subterranean slurry pit in the south-west corner covered by slatted concrete, which extends into the barn to the south. There are stall partitions set into the raised part of the floor along both sides of each of the north/south dung channels formed by tubular iron.

4.6.2 The roof is supported by four trusses each with a complex structure comprising a pair of queen posts with an angled strut on the outer side and angled brace on the inner, with a central collar between them at the top supporting a king post. There are chiselled carpenter's marks in the form of Roman numerals 'I', 'II', 'III', and 'X' from south to north on the south face of the tie beam at the junction with the queen posts. In addition, iron I-beam posts are situated in the centre of trusses II to X and clad within the dividing wall, each fixed to the tie beam with a horizontal iron C-shaped flange clasped round the tie beam with L-shaped brackets and providing additional support. Truss I is slightly different in that, not being positioned over the dividing wall, it has a pair of such girders, one at each end. Trusses I and X also have Baltic timber marks scored into the tie beams, Truss X has the words '...ER BENN & CO ...' stamped onto its tie beam, and all of the tie beams have slots cut into them that have been neatly filled with timber. There are three purlins per pitch, which overlap at the trusses, and a double ridge purlin with additional diagonal wind braces and diagonally set timbers forming brackets between the north wall, where they are sat on corbels, and Truss X. There are wedges added against most of the purlins where they meet the trusses and all of the timber is neatly sawn and has traces of whitewash.

4.6.3 The north elevation has a doorway on the west side with a re-used timber beam with several empty joist slots forming its lintel, and dressed quoins (probably re-used) forming the east jamb, one of which has a dressed band along the edge. There is a skim of concrete west of the centre, with what appears to be a large concrete beam, although this is probably just a thickened part of the concrete skim. There is a pair of small windows either side of the dividing wall within a recessed area and a large inserted doorway to the east with iron girders forming its surrounds and lintel. The east elevation is plain except for a concrete skim along the lower part and three windows, all of which have sloping sills. The northern and southern ones have night-vent casements, and the northern and central ones have slatted timber infilling them. There is a large doorway at the south end, the northern jamb of which is rebuilt in brick.

4.6.4 The south elevation is formed by the original north exterior elevation of the barn (forming the central and western part) and the outshut attached to the north-east elevation of this (forming the eastern part). There are large quoins at the east end and an inserted doorway with rounded jambs finished with concrete, a concrete step, and a roughly inserted pieced tongue and groove plank door and machine cut frame. To the west is a low level vent slot filled with brick beneath which is a concrete plinth with a large rectangular metal water trough on top and a smaller water trough attached to the wall. The east part butts the north-east corner of the barn proper, at which point there is a truncated buttress, the base of which is supported by an iron I-beam fixed into the wall to the east. West of this is a large inserted doorway with an iron I-beam lintel and rebuilt brick jambs. At the far west end there is a smaller blocked doorway with a heavy hand finished timber lintel, probably re-used, the western jamb of which forms a slight return.

4.6.5 The west elevation butts the north-west corner of the main barn and has a concrete skim along the base as per the east. There are three windows, none of which are evidently inserted. The southernmost of these is its original size, with splayed jambs, a sloping sill, a modern two-light hinged timber casement, and a sawn timber lintel. The other two are essentially the same, except that they have been partially blocked with brick forming a smaller single-light casement. These windows are noticeably different in style to those to the east.

4.7 Internal Detail – Barn (Figs 7-8 and 10-20; Plates 44-54)

4.7.1 **Barn:** this originally formed a large threshing barn of seven bays although it has been subsequently converted into a shippon. It has a concrete floor, which is raised against the east and west walls leaving a wide dung channel orientated north/south, which slopes down at the north end to a large subterranean slurry pit covered with slatted concrete (extending through a doorway into the shippon beyond, see *Section 4.6.1*) with a shorter branch heading east towards a wagon doorway. There are tubular iron stall partitions against the east and west walls. The roof structure comprises six raised cruck trusses, which have, for convenience, been numbered 1-6 from north to south, with collars and apex structure comprising a simple tie beam truss, with the tops of the cruck blades jointed to the base of the tie beam and supported by an angled knee brace. In addition, there are packing pieces between the crucks and the lower purlins, and spurs jointed between the crucks and the wall plates (see Alcock *et al* 2002, F6). Arched braces, which have a chamfered finish, have also been added to some of the trusses between the cruck blade and collars; these are held with iron bolts and there are other alterations and evidence for later strengthening in the form of timber blocks and timbers held by iron bolts, and the collar of Truss 1 is a later replacement in machine cut timber.

4.7.2 There are two purlins per pitch, which meet at fairly basic scarf joints at the trusses, curved wind braces between the purlins and the trusses, and the diagonally-set ridge purlin is also scarf jointed. All of the original timber is hand finished to a high standard and is held with timber pegs. There are few carpenters' marks evident on the trusses, although a punched and slightly curved 'I' and 'II' are present on the south face of Truss 1 at the junction between the collar and the cruck blade, the 'I' to the west and the 'II' to the east, and a similar mark was evident on the east side of the south face of Truss 6. Truss 4 has a short length of timber lying across the east end of its collar, which appears to be the packing piece from this side that has slipped out of place. A further horizontal timber, which is hand finished and is perhaps a re-used purlin, is situated on the east side between Trusses 3 and 4, effectively forming the lintel for the wagon doorway.

4.7.3 All of the walls have a rough render finish, although the lower part is generally covered by a concrete skim. The north elevation has an inserted doorway in the centre with an iron I-beam lintel and concrete skim over the jambs. To the west there is a horizontal timber built into the wall, which projects slightly in this location denoting the location of the blocked doorway. Above this is a small window with splayed jambs, a three-light fixed casement, and rough timber lintel. The east elevation has three tall narrow ventilation slots at a high level north of the centre, with splayed jambs and rough timber lintels. At ground floor level there is evidence for two blocked windows with rough timber lintels. Between these there is a low doorway, which has evidently been inserted, as there is brick in the northern jamb, and then blocked with concrete blocks. The bases of the crucks on this side evidently sit on a timber plate built into the wall, although this is largely disguised by later render. There is a single metal water trough attached marked 'SELFILL'. In the centre of the elevation there is a large wagon doorway, which has evidently been raised in height. Its lintel is formed from a re-used piece of timber, perhaps a purlin, although not one evidently re-used from the same building. Immediately to the south of this is another short timber, perhaps a sawn-off purlin, with an empty joint slot at its north end, the function of which is not clear. South of the wagon doorway there are five tall narrow ventilation slots with splayed jambs and rough timber lintels and the bases of the crucks are clearly sat on a timber plate built into the wall.

4.7.4 The south elevation has an owl hole at the apex with a projecting slate lintel, and there are four square ventilation slots in a row below, plus one more below these to the east and another possible blocked example to the west. The concrete skim across the lower part of the wall obscures any detail although the rough timber lintel of the window and part of the re-used timber lintel of the doorway are evident. The west elevation has two high level tall narrow ventilation slots on the south side with splayed jambs and timber lintels, the southernmost of which incorporates a perhaps re-used piece of neatly dressed stone in its north jamb. There are three cruck blades in this half, which do not appear to sit on a timber plate like those to the east and the north. The timber lintel for the blocked wagon doorway is evident however and north of this there are two further ventilation slots, the southern of which is partially blocked and both of which have splayed jambs and utilise a single piece of timber for their sill, which the neighbouring crucks also sit on. The wall height between the western cruck of Truss 1 and the north elevation is slightly higher than the rest of the elevation. There is a horizontal timber built into the wall at ground floor level and a possible stone sill, perhaps corresponding with the position of the blocked windows visible externally.

4.7.5 **North-east outshut:** this is a two-storey structure, with a possible calf pen on the ground floor and grain store on the first. The ground floor has a concrete floor, which is raised to the north and south to form a dung channel orientated east/west down the centre. There are tubular iron stall partitions on the raised areas to the north and south. The ceiling is formed by sleeper beams against the east and west elevations supported by stone corbels supported by joists orientated east/west, the majority of which have a single pair of crossed braces between them. The walls are all finished with traces of whitewash. The north elevation has a narrow ventilation slot extending from ground level with splayed jambs and a dressed stone lintel, probably re-used. There is a further re-used square block to the east with a chamfered top. There is an inserted doorway to the east with concrete covering the jambs and a concrete lintel.

4.7.6 The east elevation has a central doorway with large quoins and a hand finished timber lintel, with stone corbels on either side. The south elevation is plain and covered with a skim of concrete, with a metal trough attached to the wall in the south-west corner. The west elevation is also relatively plain, with a central inserted

doorway with concrete jambs that project slightly from the wall and partially support the sleeper beams, which have been cut through as a result of the insertion of the door. This doorway has been subsequently blocked with concrete blocks leaving a shallow alcove and a water trough is attached to the wall within this; there are corbels on either side of the doorway.

4.7.7 The first floor has a tongue and groove board floor and a simple roof structure comprising two purlins per pitch and a ridge purlin, all of which are sawn timbers. There are posts in the north-east and south-west corners with boards and old doors laid horizontally forming rough partitions. The north-east incorporates an iron mechanism for crushing grain for animal feed (Jimmy Curtis pers comm.). All of the walls have a concrete skim over the lower part and rough render over the rest. The north elevation has a small window on the west side, which has been blocked to leave a small alcove, and there are boards attached over the east side forming a small enclosure associated with the grain crusher. The east elevation has a central aperture with splayed jambs, a sawn timber lintel, and a slate sill pierced with circular holes, which was probably originally a gate stoop (Rollinson 1991, 16). The south elevation is still apparently stone built internally, despite the rebuild evident externally (see *Section 4.4.2*). There is a doorway on the west side with a machine cut frame and a tongue and groove plank door held by battens. The west elevation is plain, although there are electrical fittings including a fuse box attached on the south side.

4.7.8 **South-east outshut:** this is divided into three rooms, which were probably originally used as loose boxes. The floor of the southern of these was largely obscured by firewood but is most likely constructed from concrete and is raised on the western side. The roof is monopitch and supported by a single purlin orientated north/south with additional timber forming wall plates on the east and west sides, all of which are machine cut. The walls are all roughly whitewashed and all but the south, which is sandstone, are built of brick. The north elevation is plain, and butts the west, while the east has a doorway on the south side with a machine cut timber lintel; the southern jamb has large sandstone quoins. The south elevation is built of rough courses of sandstone with two small alcoves (perhaps bee boles?) in the centre, each with timber lintels, which have been blocked with brick. The wall butts the west elevation, which forms part of the side of the barn. There is a tall narrow ventilation slot at high level within the wall and a timber manger below attached to the wall, with an inserted ceramic pipe vent immediately above it. There are two iron rods fixed between the south side of the elevation and the west end of the south elevation, presumably acting as ties to pull the two buildings together.

4.7.9 The central room is very similar, although it appears to have an earth floor (although this too is largely obscured) and the roof is supported by a single purlin. All of the walls again have traces of whitewash and are brick built. The north and south elevations are plain, although there is a manger made of iron mesh attached to the north. The east elevation has a doorway on the south side with a concrete lintel, while the west has two tall narrow ventilation slots at a high level and an inserted ceramic pipe vent. The northern room is similarly arranged, although the floor is finished with concrete and small limestone setts, and is raised on the west side. The roof structure is the same as that to the south and all of the walls are brick built with traces of whitewash remaining. The north and south elevations are plain, while the east has a doorway on the south side with a concrete lintel. The west elevation has two tall narrow ventilation slots at a high level and another at a low level, and two brick pillars, one at either end. A timber manger is also attached to the wall and held by a rail fixed directly to it and another inserted into the north and south elevations.

4.7.10 **South-west outshut:** this apparently formed an outside toilet (Jimmy Curtis pers comm.), although it may have had a secondary function as well. It is divided into

two small rooms one to the east and one to the west. There is no proper access to the western room, although it could be entered through the window in the west elevation, and in both parts the floor is obscured by rubble and the roof is not present. Within the east room the north elevation has a clear butt joint between the buttress attached to the barn and the wall extending to the west. The buttress has two neatly chamfered plinths and lots of other pieces of dressed stone apparently re-used within it. At the junction between it and the wall of the outshut there is a considerable amount of brick incorporated into the outshut wall, and it is evident that west wall butts onto this. The east elevation forms part of the main west wall of the barn. There is what appears to be a large aperture blocked with stone, within which has been left a smaller aperture with a rough timber lintel and dressed sandstone sill that has subsequently been blocked with brick. The south elevation has a doorway on the west side with a neatly cut timber lintel and machine cut frame and it is rendered to the west of this. The west elevation is plain and constructed from a rough rubble build, although the lower part is rendered. The western room could not be properly accessed, and the majority of the walls are plain. The east and west walls butt the northern, and the eastern has a small aperture (which is presumably blocked but was obscured by rubble) with a slate lintel at ground level and a possible slot vent blocked with brick above.

4.7.11 **North-west outshut:** this forms a small stable, calf pen, or loose box. The floor is largely obscured but is evidently concrete and has a dung channel orientated north/south, with a return at the south end towards the doorway in the west elevation. The roof is supported by a single half truss comprising a tie beam and angled principal rafter that supports a single purlin with a wedge adding additional support. All of the timbers are machine cut, and the walls are finished with rough render and are evidently constructed from a large number of neatly finished blocks of sandstone. The north elevation has a rough plaster finish and there is an evident junction with the buttress on the east side, which has at least one obvious plinth but that detail is obscured. There are low brick blocks built against the wall at ground level that probably originally supported a manger or trough. The east elevation is the side of the barn and is built of rougher stone laid in more random courses. There is a window to the north with a grey sandstone lintel and sill, which is presumably inserted and has evidently been blocked internally with brick. The north side of a large wagon doorway is evident to the south, which has a sandstone arch. This has been subsequently blocked with stone to form a smaller doorway with a machine cut timber lintel, although this has subsequently been blocked with brick. The south elevation has a rough render finish and there are several neatly dressed blocks of stone evident. There is some modern graffiti on one of these blocks: 'KIDDY 1982'. The west elevation has a doorway on the south side with a machine cut timber lintel and surround and a split beaded tongue and groove board door with stop chamfer battens. The rest of the wall is plain, with numerous neatly dressed blocks.

5. Discussion

5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 The phasing and discussion of the farm buildings is largely reliant on the results of the physical investigation of the building undertaken, as the earliest maps do not provide enough information to enable the earliest phases to be easily understood. It is evident from the documentary sources that some form of settlement existed at Sowerby from at least the 11th century, but it is not certain what the relationship was between Sowerby Hall and Sowerby Lodge, specifically whether they both existed at the same time, until the 17th or even 18th century. The earliest phases can therefore only be identified within the standing buildings, while the later ones can be associated with the cartographic sources and dated quite accurately.

5.2 Phasing

5.2.1 **Phase 1:** the earliest building on the site is undoubtedly the large barn, the exact date of which is uncertain (see *Section 5.4.5*). Its elaborate style and form suggests an early origin and perhaps monastic connections (see *Section 5.4.2-3* below), and it is clearly butted by the various outshuts attached to it. The dating of this phase is uncertain (see *Section 5.4.5*), but it seems likely, based on previous opinion and the evidence from a comparable structure at Park Farm near Heversham, to be early 16th century, which would place it in the last few years of Furness Abbey's life.

5.2.2 **Phase 2:** it would appear that the three buttresses situated along the west elevation of the barn, and possibly the one attached to the north-east corner, were added to the barn, rather than being part of its original design. There are several reasons for assuming this; firstly, they are very poorly keyed into the wall in many areas with only the lower part being properly attached in most cases. Secondly, they include a large proportion of the re-used dressed and moulded stone present on the site, which, assuming it came from the most obvious local source, Furness Abbey, would mean that the buttresses are unlikely to pre-date 1537. Thirdly, the buttresses are only situated along the west elevation and, while it is apparent that some have been removed within the last 50 years or so, there is no evidence for there having been corresponding features along the east side. This might suggest that they were added as a response to a structural problem, the present movement in the south-west corner perhaps representing the eventual result of this, rather than as a designed feature, which might have resulted in a symmetrical arrangement. Although it is apparent that some have since been removed, all six that were present in 1951 were said to be situated against the west elevation (see *Section 3.1.7*). These elements are difficult to date, however, except that they are most likely post-1537, and they could easily belong to Phase 3.

5.2.3 **Phase 3:** it is evident from the cartographic sources that several alterations and additions were made to the buildings prior to 1851. These principally include the construction of the north-east, south-east, and south-west outshuts attached to the barn, and the building of the dairy. The relative dating of these structures is not certain, however, although it is clear that they took place in several stages, perhaps over a long period of time, and probably beginning in the late 18th century. The dairy was also extended to the south with an additional square section, now of two storeys, and the presence of Baltic timber marks within this section is fitting with the general dating of this phase (Greene 1995; 1996). In addition, it is probable that several of the windows and doors present within the barn were inserted during this period, although some will also have been added during Phases 4, 5, and perhaps even 6.

The angled braces bolted between the cruck blades and the collars of several of the trusses were undoubtedly also added at this time. Similar examples known from Ulverston are within a building thought to date to the late 18th or early 19th century, which again fits with this period (see *Section 5.4.4* below and Plate 56). It is tempting to see these alterations as a result of the repairs proposed in 1826, for which a Mr Webster provided costs (see *Section 3.2.3*) but this cannot be stated with any certainty. The reference from 1826 also mentions the suggestion that the house be rebuilt close to the barn, and the mention of this building alone might be taken as evidence that the dairy had not been built at this time.

5.2.4 This entire phase demonstrates an increased emphasis at the site towards the keeping of animals, particularly cattle, and a general diversification of practices, and most of the additions were probably made to facilitate this. The dairy was probably built to provide further accommodation for animals, either as loose boxes or shippens. The north-eastern outshut was perhaps used as a calf pen, with an associated hay loft above, while the south-west was, according to the cartographic sources, initially part of a much bigger structure; it may have originally served as a pig sty or poultry house. The south-eastern outshut was evidently originally open-fronted on the north and east sides, and may therefore have served as a cart shed or hay store. The alcoves in the south internal elevation may have therefore been tack stores, although the possibility that they were bee boles cannot be dismissed. Bee boles are particularly common in Cumbria (Walker and Crane 1991, 237), which has the highest density in the whole country (*op cit*, 238), and within the county the majority are found within Furness and Cartmel (*op cit*, 247; Green 1997). This is probably due to the influence of Furness Abbey, which made great use of beeswax and led to a strong tradition of bee-keeping persisting in the area (Walker and Crane 1991, 247). The majority of surviving bee boles are thought to date to the 18th century (*op cit*, 249), which would again fit within this period.

5.2.5 **Phase 4:** during the late 19th century, between 1873 and 1891, the present farmhouse was built, probably as a result of the construction of the present Park Road, which ran immediately to the west of it. The notion of moving the farmhouse had been mooted as early as 1826, however, although this seems to have been for purely practical reasons and to allow it to be closer to the farm buildings. During this phase it is also evident that the dairy was extended a short distance to south, making up the section forming Room 5.

5.2.6 **Phase 5:** between 1891 and 1913 the shippon was added to the north end of the original barn, and access was created between the two. This was evidently part of a large expansion of the site carried out at this time, which saw several additional buildings constructed and the expansion of the farm outside the original rectangular boundary shown on the earliest maps. New outshuts were also added to the buildings being recorded, but little evidence for these now remains. This phase represents part of the gradual development of the site, as the emphasis on cattle grew and new facilities were constructed to accommodate more animals. As mentioned above, it is probable that new doorways and windows were inserted into the barn as part of this general change. These alterations, combined with the great age of the barn and general deterioration of its fabric led to the movement of its south end, which may have become apparent by this date but was certainly a serious problem by the next phase.

5.2.7 **Phase 6:** after the map of 1933 was produced a number of quite major alterations and additions were made. A new building was added to the south-east of the dairy, evidently to provide space for milking equipment, and it is probable that the dairy took on its most recent function at this time, with the addition of a pit for milking, although the north end was evidently used to house animals until quite recently. The

brick walls forming the east and north elevations of the south-east outshut attached to the barn were also added during this period, and the space converted into three loose boxes or similar. The present iron stalls situated within the barn were also added at this time, but only after the western wagon doorway had been blocked, although it initially retained a smaller doorway, and the north-west outshut was built against it. At the same time it is apparent that the central buttress was repaired using some of the same limestone blocks utilised in the north-west outshut, but during this phase three buttresses must have been removed; the possible scar of one remains. The larger building to the north of the south-west outshut was removed, and this presumably became a toilet at this time. More recently, probably within the last 30 years (Jimmy Curtis pers comm.) several alterations in concrete blocks were made. These include the rebuilding of the south elevation of the north-east outshut, the addition of a first floor room extension to the north end of the dairy, and the addition of a buttress against the south end of the barn. The slurry pit to the west of the barn and shippon was also created at this time, and corresponding pits covered with slatted concrete were added to the barn/shippon and dairy. The construction of a silage store to the east of the centre of the dairy subsequently led to the collapse of part of the east wall.

5.3 Significance

5.3.1 The early history of Sowerby, the apparent connections to Furness Abbey, and its confusion with the lost village of Sellergarth make Sowerby Hall a remarkably interesting site, potentially with a very early history. The well-preserved structure of the barn and its high architectural value make Sowerby Hall an even more important group of buildings. The barn has retained much of its original form, and even several added outshuts have not affected it to a great degree. The shippon to the north, although considerably later, has also remained largely untouched, while the dairy has not only been extensively modified it has also become structurally unsound in places leading to the loss of original fabric. The buildings under investigation can be broken into four main elements, listed in order of their significance:

5.3.2 **The barn:** despite uncertainties regarding the origin and date of this building (see *Section 5.4.2* and *5.4.4* below), it is evidently of high architectural value, and represents an important and very rare structure on account of the good preservation and quality of its roof. Examples like this are extremely unusual nationally, and only one other of this type is known (see *Section 5.4.4* below). If it could be demonstrated with certainty that the barn was constructed for the use of Furness Abbey this would only increase its importance.

5.3.3 **The shippon:** although this represents a late addition to the site its virtually original condition makes it beneficial to the overall complex. It is also important as it represents the maximum expansion of the site prior to the late 20th century, when the keeping of cattle came to dominate the complex.

5.3.4 **The outshuts:** several of these are evidently of quite early origin, and were probably added to the original barn during the late 18th and early 19th century. Others were clearly added much later or were subsequently extensively modified. The addition of these structures to the considerably more significant main barn has in many cases been to its detriment, although the insertion of windows and doors during Phases 3-5 has also caused a considerable amount of damage. The presence of possible bee boles in one of the outshuts is also of interest and makes this part also of some value.

5.3.5 **The dairy:** this is clearly a relatively late addition to the site, compared to the barn, but it was certainly added before 1851. It is significant in representing the early expansion of the site during the late 18th and early 19th century, and the

corresponding change in emphasis to dairy farming, but the extensive alterations and collapse that have taken place recently have reduced its value to the site.

5.4 Conclusions

5.4.1 **Introduction:** it is evident from the results of the building recording and the assessment of significance that of all of the buildings at Sowerby Hall the barn is by far the most important element of the site, both historically and architecturally. The conclusions therefore only deal with this building, and there are several areas to be considered.

5.4.2 **Origins:** the uncertain origins of Sowerby Hall and the confusion caused by earlier research make it difficult to reach conclusions about the site. While the suggestion that the barn was built by Furness Abbey needs to be seriously considered, and there are evident connections between the two sites, its size would suggest it was not constructed to serve a grange. Evidence from one of the best comparative sites, the large Cistercian abbey at Fountains in Yorkshire shows that such buildings were often quite elaborate, isolated from the general populace, and self-sufficient, often providing all the comforts that the abbey would have enjoyed (Coppack 2003). Barns for monastic granges were often very large, the biggest examples being typically over 130ft (39.6m) in length and more than 30ft wide (9.1m) (Bond 2004, 131), and, although smaller examples are known it has been stated that '*The greatest monastic barns seem without parallels on single manors held by secular lords*' (*op cit*, 134). The barn at Sowerby Hall is 77ft (23.6m) by 25ft (7.6m), which would put it more in the typical range of a tithe barn (*ibid*).

5.4.3 The references to the site as a herdwick in the late 17th and early 18th century do, potentially, suggest a connection with Furness Abbey as this was a commonly used term by the abbey for a sheep farm, used in connection with several properties (Rollinson 1997, 79). The term was clearly still used in the post-Dissolution period; a herdwick at Lawson Park in Monk Coniston was sold by the crown in 1625 (Farrer and Brownbill 1914, 379). The lack of references to Sowerby as a grange might suggest that it was in fact used as a sheep farm by Furness Abbey, although there are no sources contemporary with the abbey to demonstrate this, and it is difficult to imagine what use a large threshing barn would be at such a site. The closest comparable building, at Park House farm near Heversham, is of uncertain origin; it is thought to be of early 16th century date (RCHME 1936, 111) but the name relates to a park created in 1362 (Smith 1967, 89; see *Section 5.4.4* below). The buildings do not appear to have any recorded connections to an abbey or other monastic establishment, but the significance of this in relation to Sowerby Hall is not certain. However, Sowerby Meadow, which is named as the field adjoining the site on later maps, is recorded as belonging to Furness Abbey (Barnes 1968, 30), so it seems likely that the land did.

5.4.4 **Architecture:** as has already been shown above, the size of the barn is unusual, assuming it formed part of a monastic grange. The form of the cruck construction is also unusual and there are no obvious comparisons in the published catalogue (Smith 1981). In effect it comprises a pair of crucks with a collar, held at the top by a massive yoke, which in turn forms the tie beam of a small 'truss', which supports the ridge purlin. The closest comparison is therefore perhaps to be found in the crucks of the Solway plain, of which many examples are recorded (Jennings 2003). These often have a lower collar, as well as packing pieces and spurs, and are held at the top by a yoke (*op cit*, 123-137). The example at Sowerby Hall is perhaps a variation on this form, adapted to cover a much wider span. While no published surveys are known that record a similar roof type an almost identical example is preserved at Park House Farm near Heversham (RCHME 1936; Plate 55). The

origins of this site are not certain, but it is situated on the edge of a park created in 1362 (see *Section 5.4.5* below). The form of the trusses at Sowerby Hall and Park House also has elements in common with base crucks, that is a pair of cruck blades not extending to the full height of the building and joined by a collar (Smith 1981, 7), although these do not tend to continue far beyond the collar, they are not attached to a yoke, and their known distribution is not thought to extend into the North West (*op cit*, 12). The added angled braces that have been bolted to some of the trusses between the cruck and the collar are not a common feature, although similar examples are known in a house at 16 Queen Street, Ulverston (Plate 56). This house is dated to the early 19th century (English Heritage 2001); although internal evidence would suggest earlier origins and this can be used as further evidence for the position of these braces in Phase 3 (see *Section 5.2.3*).

5.4.5 *Dating:* without detailed dendrochronological assessment it is impossible to be certain of the date of the barn. Barns forming part of a monastic grange can easily be as early as the date of establishment of the monastery (Bond 2004, 136-137). Dendrochronological dating of cruck-framed buildings on the Solway Plain has identified material, albeit re-used, dating from the 14th or early 15th century (Jennings 2003, 56), which shows the potential antiquity of buildings using the technique in the region. Previous, albeit limited, examination of Sowerby Hall has suggested a monastic origin and a date in the later part of the abbey's history (CRO(B) Z1506/1 1951; Anon 1948, 14). However, it has been postulated that the almost identical barn at Park House is only early 16th century in date (RCHME 1936, 111). Since this farm is named after a park created by William de Wyndesore in 1362 (Smith 1967, 89) it seems impossible that it could pre-date this, which further supports a later medieval date. A barn at Catforth in Woodplumpton (Lancashire), built in a broadly similar style but belonging to a local manor rather than an abbey, is thought on the grounds of documentary evidence to pre-date 1523 (Watson and McClintock 1995, 42), although they acknowledge that the estate saw an influx of funding with resultant rebuilding in 1523 (*op cit*, 41), so this date might be more likely. The more recent Listed Building details give a date of late 16th to early 17th century for Sowerby Hall (English Heritage 1991), and, given the various pieces of evidence, it is perhaps more likely that a later (16th century) date is most probable. If that is the case its connection with Furness Abbey becomes slightly more tenuous as it would have to pre-date 1537, when the abbey was dissolved, and only further research could establish the certainty of this.

5.4.6 *Re-used Material:* the presence of re-used dressed or moulded stone in a building associated with Furness Abbey is seemingly a common occurrence. Although the source cannot be ascertained with any certainty it would seem logical that it came from the abbey; indeed it is recorded that within days of its surrender material was being removed and either melted down, in the case of lead, or taken for use elsewhere (Barnes 1968, 50-52). Recent recording at Parkhouse Farm, immediately to the south of Furness Abbey, and Sowerby Lodge, has identified re-used dressed and moulded stone (Greenlane Archaeology 2006; 2007), the former including pieces with mason's marks. Although there is statistically little information, it might be evidence that properties formerly belonging to the abbey had 'first claim' on materials, either because of their historic connections or because of the transfer of ownership that followed the Dissolution. Re-use of materials did take place during the abbey's lifetime, however, as it grew and was remodelled, and decorative moulding incorporating rhomboid panels, similar to that present in the south elevation of the south-east outshut attached to the barn (Plate 26), was included in a 15th century rebuilding of the south transept of the original church (Plate 57). These decorative pieces are thought to have come from the original church (Harrison 1998, 8). Whether such pieces would have been taken from the abbey to be used elsewhere during its lifetime is uncertain, however, but it seems more likely that the re-used

material at Sowerby Hall was added after the Dissolution (hence the relative dating of the buttresses in Phase 2; see *Section 5.2.2*).

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Humfrey Weld.: Real and personal estate of Sir Thos. Preston, Bart. (a suspected Jesuit who went beyond seas), including (as stated by plaintiff's witnesses) the following, viz., messuages called Booth and Sarby, Gleaston, Demeasne Cort Parke, Ship Parke, Hart Mills, Sea Mills, the rectory of Dalton, and several other messuages, land, and tenements, iron oare pitts, and several fishings and hereditaments in Furnes (Lancaster), lands in the parish of Lancaster called Quarmore Parke, lands in Selleth, the two capital messuages of Nether Leavens and (Mishoergh ?), the hall and demesne of Preston Patricke, lands called Holme Parke and Hutton Parke, two tenements in Casterton, and the rectory of Burton (Westmorland), and estate in Cumberland called Bancklands in Workington, the manors, &c., of Weston and Caledon, the several estates called Nobell, Wappenbury, and Hevengham, and the rectory of Weston (Warwick), the manors of Haythorp and Glasthorp, and other lands (Northampton). Value, &c., of such possessions. The estate (as stated by defendants' witnesses), including the following, viz.,--A park called Quarmore Parke and Keele Fishing, lying in the parish of Lancaster, and several closes of land called Bank Close, Common Croft, Well Croft, Mill Croft, and the wood lying in Selleth near Kirkby Loynsdale, and one messuage and tenement lying in the parish of Bolton-by-the-Sands, and tenements in Bolton and Heysholme (Lancaster), and manors, &c., in the counties of Westmorland, Cumberland, Warwick, Northampton, and the city of Coventry, &c. Whether his estates were made over to the Jesuits, and placed in the hands of Jesuit trustees? &c., &c. [Dame Mary Preston, deceased, late wife of Sir Thos. Preston (one of the daughters of the defendant Molineux), Mary Preston and Ann Preston (daughters of Sir Thomas), Sir John Preston (elder brother of Sir Thos.), and "Madam Morgan" (grandmother of Sir Thos. Preston, Bart.), are mentioned.]: Lancaster; Cumberland; Westmoreland; Warwick; Northampton

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Appendix 1: Listed Building Details

From: English Heritage 2001

IoE Number: 388399

Barn immediately to rear of Sowerby Hall Farmhouse

Date listed: 20 December 1993

Date of last amendment: 20 December 1993

Grade: II*

Barn now cow house. Late C16-early C17 with later additions. Red sandstone rubble, graduated slate roof. Tall single storey, 7 bays; additions on east side flank a central waggon entrance. West side has stone buttress on right of another addition which encloses a blocked archway opposing the waggon entrance. Blocked slit vents. Steeply-pitched roof. INTERIOR: exceptionally complete raised-cruck roof structure with 6 pairs having tie beams set on knee braces and collars on arch braces. Double purlins with curved windbraces, oak rafters and diagonally-set ridge. OS maps show the barn served Sowerby Hall formerly situated to the north-west but demolished between 1873 and 1895 at which time the new farmhouse (qv) was built adjacent to the barn.

IoE Number: 388398

Sowerby Hall Farmhouse

Date listed: 6 May 1976

Date of last amendment: 20 December 1993

Grade: II

Farmhouse. c1880. Scored stucco with red sandstone dressings, graduated slate roof. 2 storeys, 3 bays. Raised quoins. Central boarded door with overlight under plain lintel flanked by paired 4-pane sashes with stone mullions. 1st floor: plain sashes, the central window narrower but of 4 panes. Stone end stacks. Included for group value only.

Appendix 2: Census Details

In the following table, all properties shown are listed as Sowerby Hall

Name	Age	Occupation
1841 Census (HO 107/Piece 529/Folio 16-17/Pages 2-3)		
Sarah Hunter	50	Farmer
Thomas Hunter	30	-
Elizabeth Hunter	25	-
Mary Hunter	20	-
William Hunter	20	-
Edward Miers	50	Farmer
Thomas Berry	20	Agricultural labourer
James Sprout	20	Agricultural labourer
William Clark	2	-
1851 Census (HO 107/Piece 2275/ Folio 226/Page 17)		
John Thompson	41	Farmer of 189 acres employing 5 (?) labourers
Margaret Thompson	38	-
Elizabeth Thompson	19	-
Thomas Thompson	10	Scholar
Mary Ann Thompson	10	Scholar
Richard Thompson	9	Scholar
William Thompson	7	Scholar
Agnes Thompson	6	Scholar
Margaret Thompson	4	
John Thompson	2	
Francis Thompson	5 months	
Thomas Thompson	28	Agricultural labourer
George Winder	28	Agricultural labourer
John Kendal	17	Agricultural labourer
John Pennington	19	Agricultural labourer
John Slater	16	Agricultural labourer
Hannah Berry (?)	39	House servant
1861 Census (RG 9/Piece 3169/Folio 5/Pages 4-5)		
<i>First property:</i>		
William Waiting	57	Farm Bailiff
Marion Waiting	50	-
Henry Waiting	18	Agricultural labourer
Joseph Waiting	15	Agricultural labourer
George Waiting	12	Scholar
Arthur Waiting	10	Scholar
Mary S Waiting	8	Scholar
Elizabeth Waiting	13	General servant
<i>Second property:</i>		
Edward Fenton	60	Agricultural labourer
Edward Pennington	50	Agricultural labourer
1871 Census (RG 10/Piece 4243/Folio 100/Page 15) (almost illegible)		
<i>First property:</i>		
John Danson	43	Miner and Farmer 11a
Sarah Danson	42	Farmer's wife
James Danson	14	Scholar
Dorothy Ann Danson	12	Scholar
Tho ^s Danson	10	Scholar

Client: Mr and Mrs Curtis

Name	Age	Occupation
Mary Danson	8	Scholar
Sarah Eccles Danson	8	Scholar
And ^w Dickinson (?) Danson	6	Scholar
Sarah Eccles	8	Scholar (adopted child)
<i>Second property:</i>		
John Tomlinson	41	Farm servant
Ann Tomlinson	43	Servant's wife
James Tomlinson	13	Scholar
Elizabeth Tomlinson	9	Scholar
Ann Tomlinson	7	Scholar
Tho ^s Tomlinson	2	
Eliz ^h Gardener	79	Retired (mother in law)
1881 Census (RG 11/Piece 4290/Folio 81/Page 20)		
Thomas P Tyson	41	Farmer
Hannah Tyson	40	-
James Tyson	20	Joiner
Margaret J Tyson	18	Dressmaker
John Tyson	16	Wheelwright
Mary E Tyson	15	Confectioner
Annie Tyson	12	Scholar
Thomas P Tyson	9	Scholar
Samuel A Tyson	7	Scholar
George Tyson	5	Scholar
Emily Tyson	3	-
1891 Census (RG 12/Piece 3486/Folio 34/Page 22)		
Adam Penny	45	Farmer
Agnes Penny	45	-
John Penny	21	Farmer's son
James Penny	20	Farmer's son
Mark Penny	18	Farmer's son
Clara Penny	17	Farmer's daughter
William Penny	14	Farmer's son
Alfred Penny	12	Scholar
Abel Penny	11	Scholar
Lizzie Penny	9	Scholar
Mary A Penny	7	Scholar
1901 Census (RG 13/Piece 4015/Folio 45/Page 2)		
Thomas Allen	36	Farmer (employer)
John Allen	47	Farmer (employer)
Elizabeth Allen	15	-
John P Allen	12	-
Elizabeth Allen	73	-
Hugh Parton	21	Plough man on farm (worker)
Frank Watson	16	Second plough man on farm (worker)
John Gold	30	Cattle man on farm (worker)
George Prescott	16	Second cattle man on farm (worker)
George Holdsworth	15	Milk [?] errand boy
Fanny Wrennall	22	General servant domestic

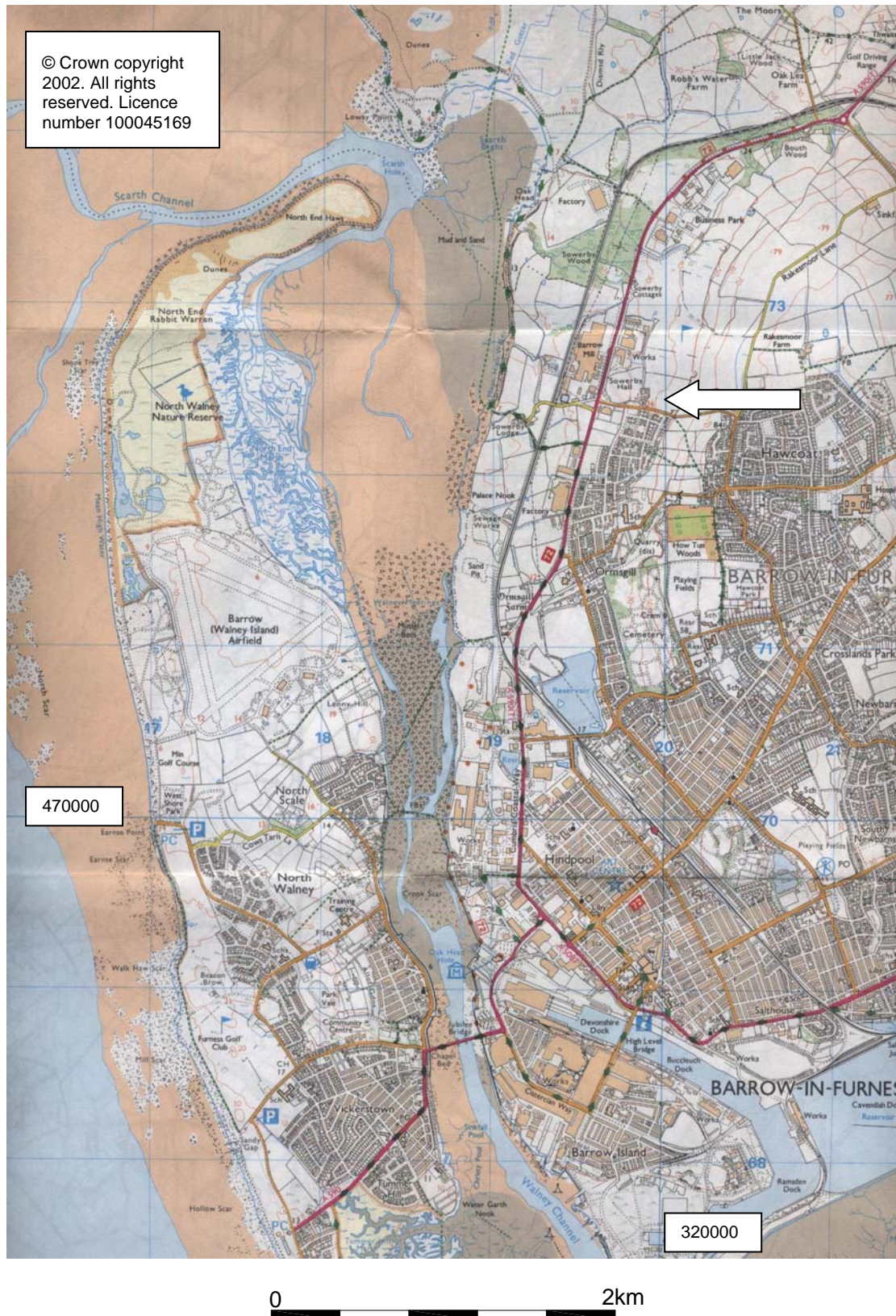


Figure 1: General site location

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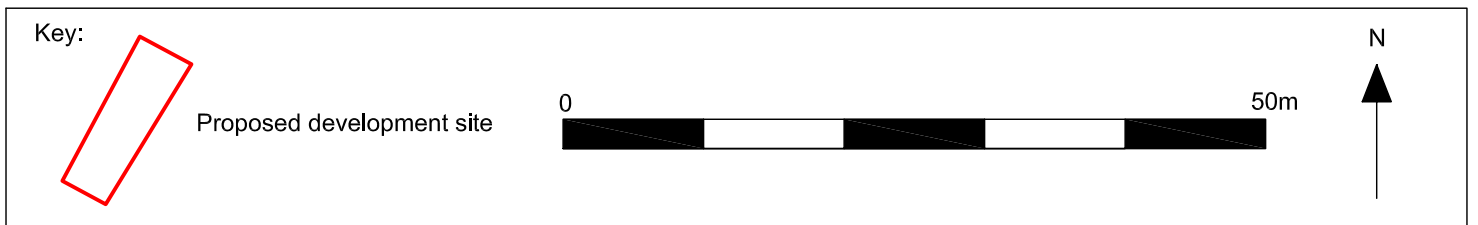
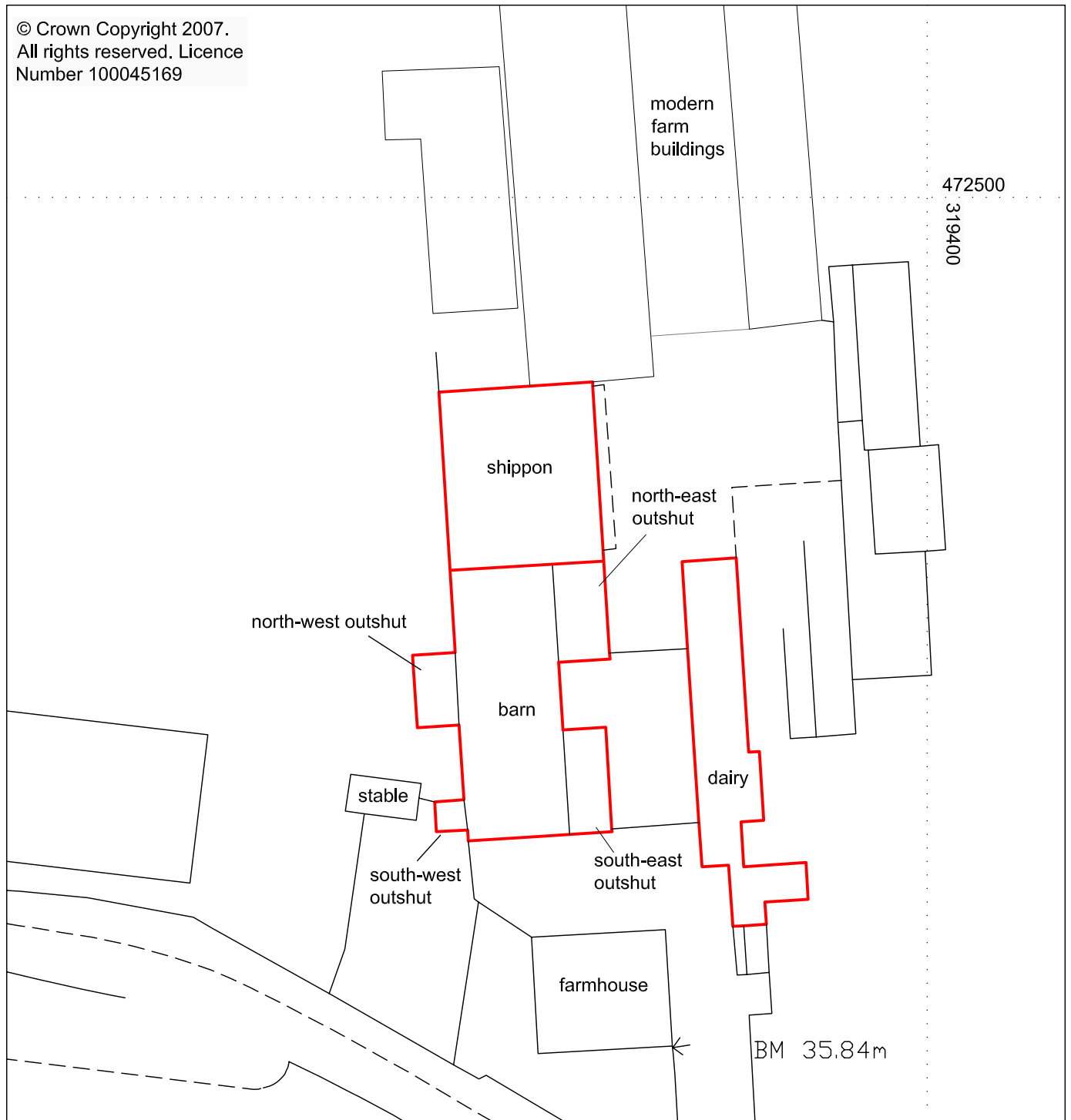
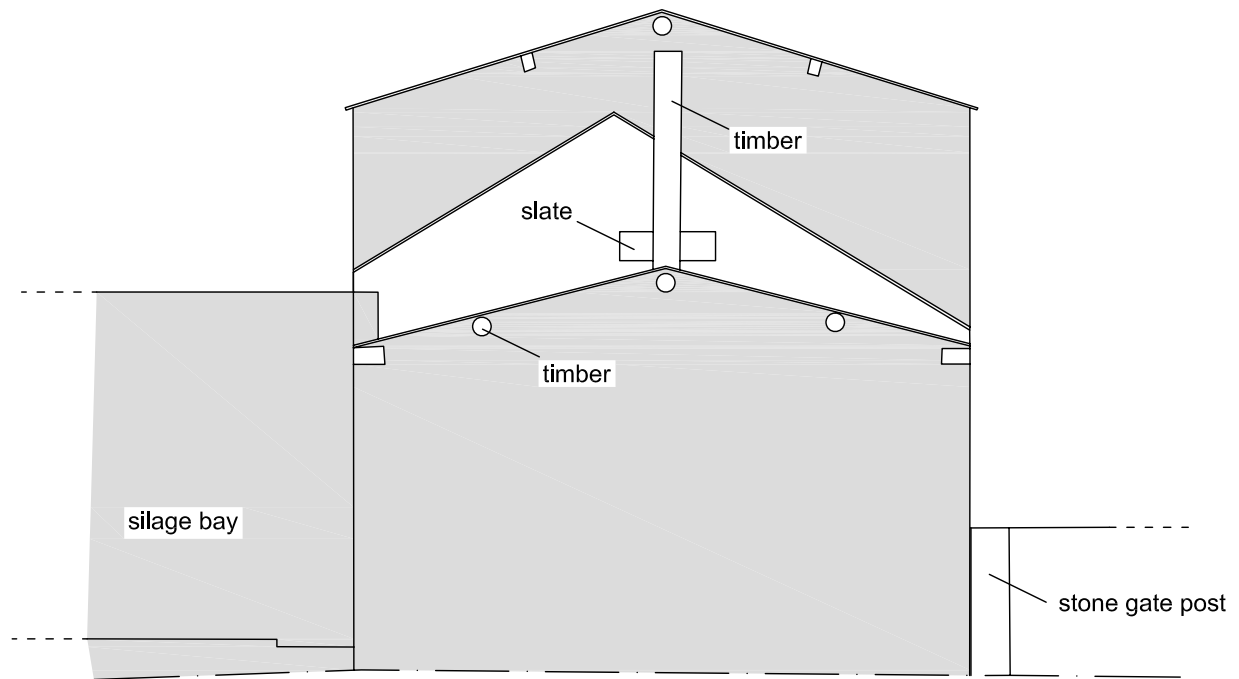
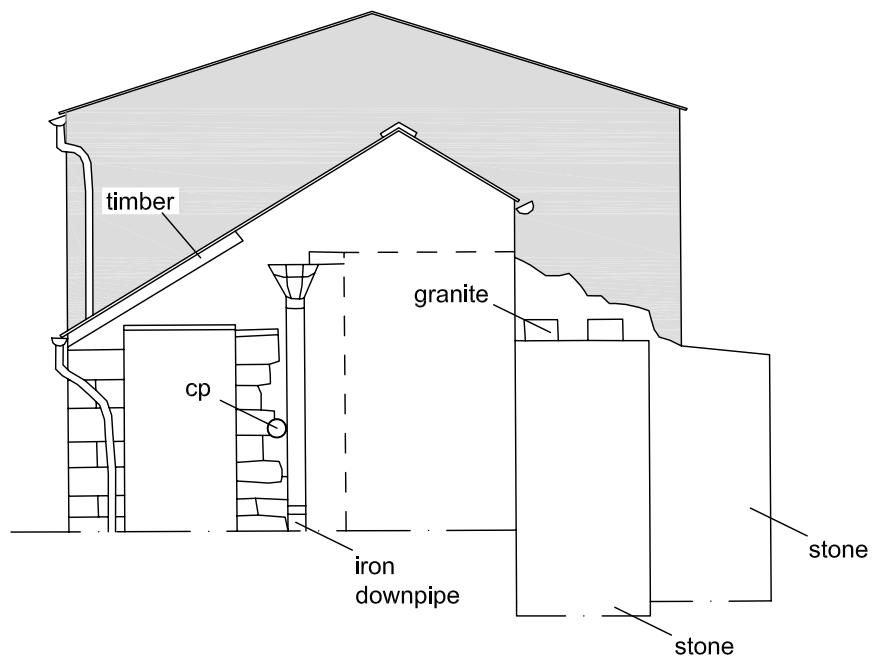


Figure 2: Detailed site location

North elevation



South elevation



Project: Sowerby Hall Farm,
Bank Lane, Barrow-in-Furness,
Cumbria

Project Code: G1066
Site Code: SH07
Date: December 2007

Key:

— — ground line

cp ceramic pipe

■ cross-sectional timber

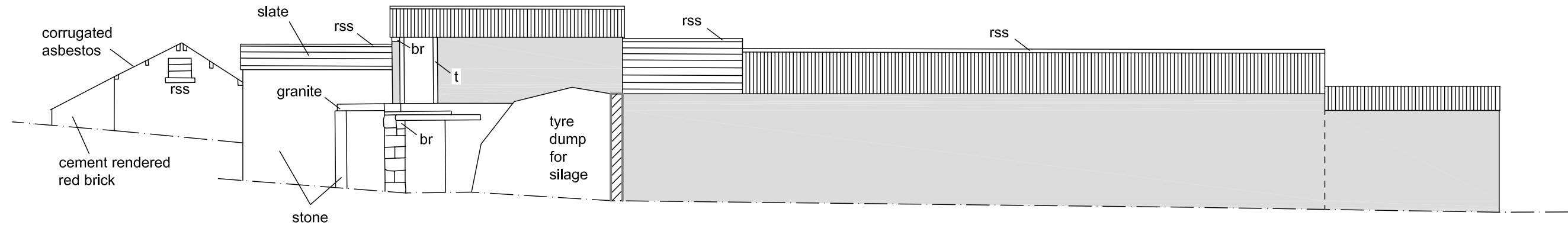
■ concrete blocks

0 2m



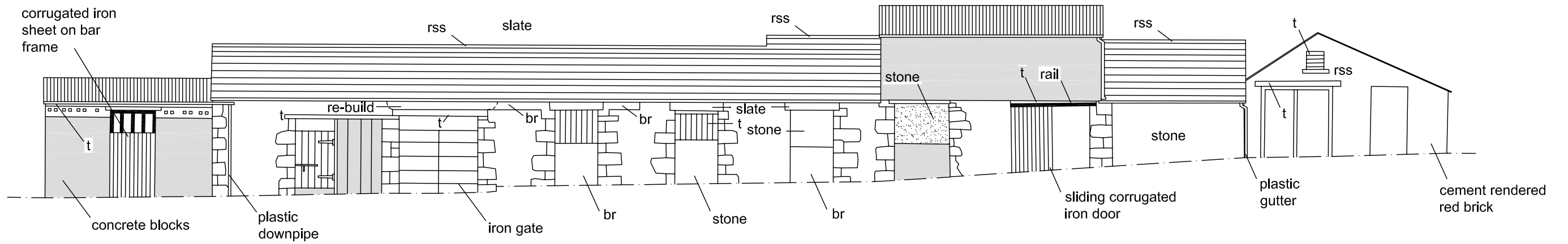
Figure 3: North and south external elevations of the dairy

East elevation



East external elevation

West elevation

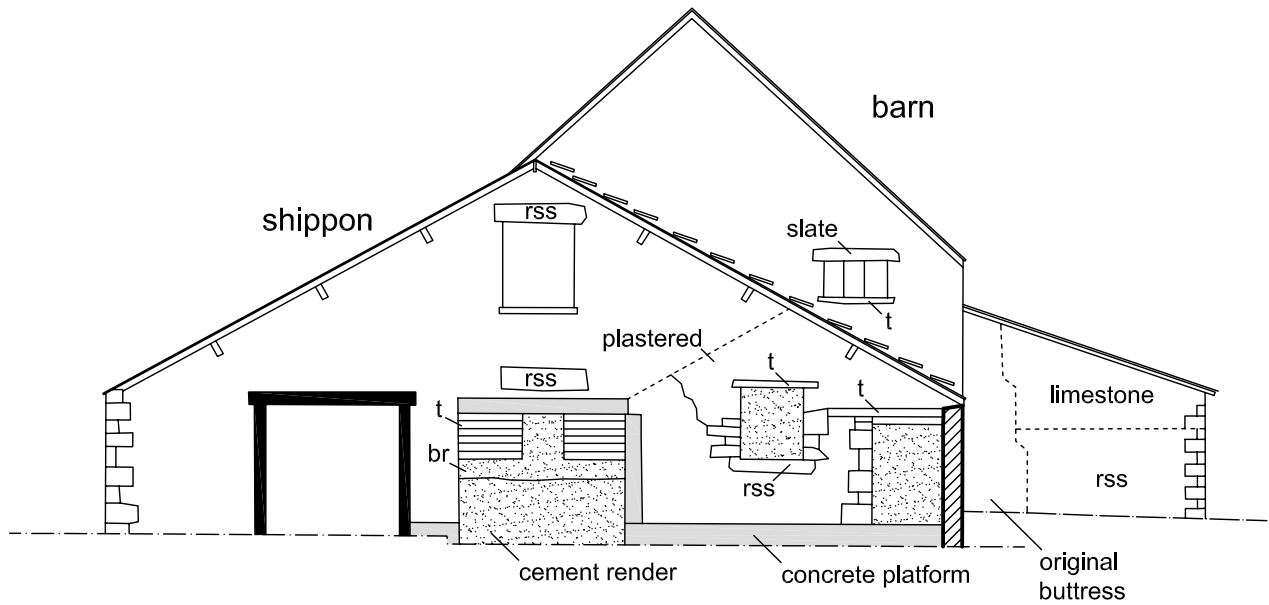


West external elevation

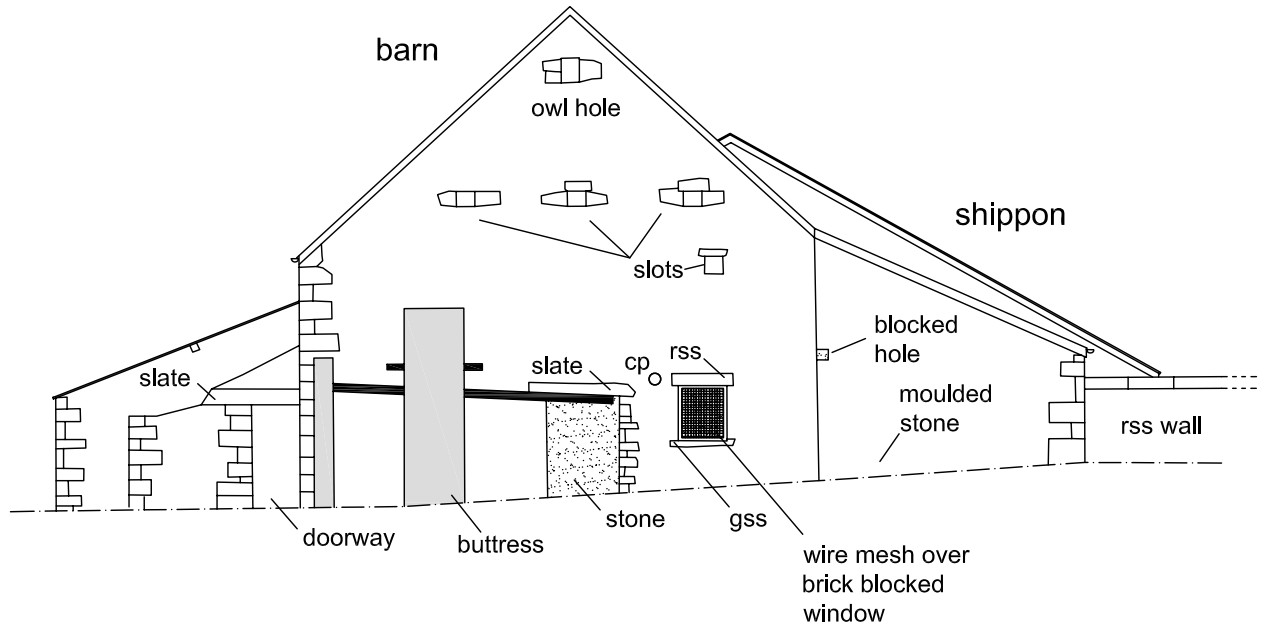
<p>Project: Sowerby Hall Farm, Bank Lane, Barrow-in-Furness, Cumbria</p>	<p>Project Code: G1066 Site Code: SH07</p>	<p>Key:</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td></td> <td>cross sectional wall</td> <td>br</td> <td>brick</td> <td>t</td> <td>timber</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>ground line</td> <td></td> <td>concrete</td> <td></td> <td>iron</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>slate</td> <td></td> <td>blocking</td> <td></td> <td>corrugated asbestos</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>red sandstone</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table>		cross sectional wall	br	brick	t	timber		ground line		concrete		iron		slate		blocking		corrugated asbestos		red sandstone						<p>Date: December 2007</p>	
	cross sectional wall	br	brick	t	timber																								
	ground line		concrete		iron																								
	slate		blocking		corrugated asbestos																								
	red sandstone																												

Figure 4: East and west external elevations of the dairy

North elevation



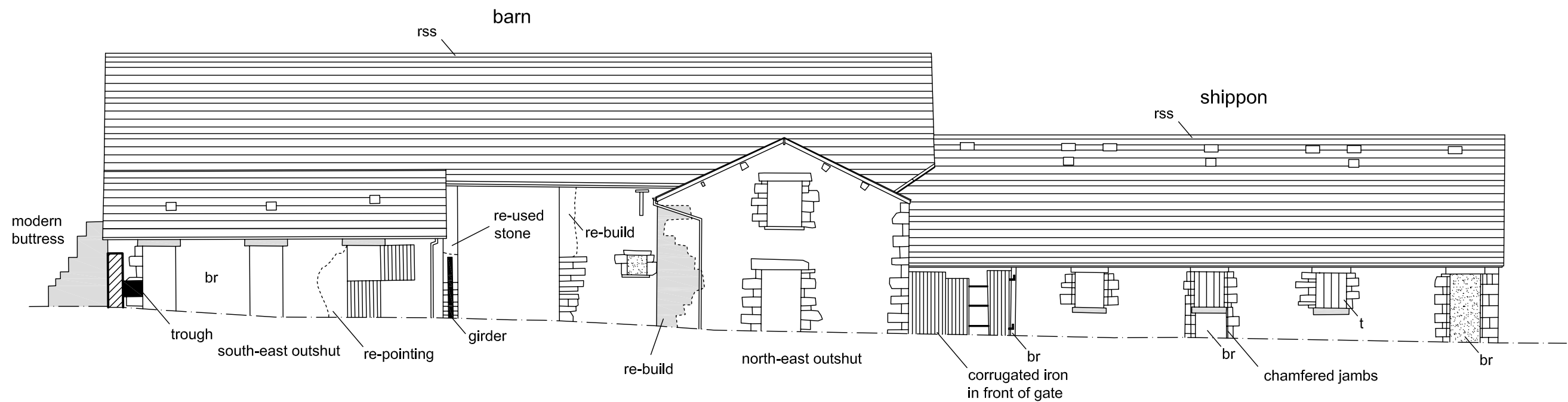
South elevation



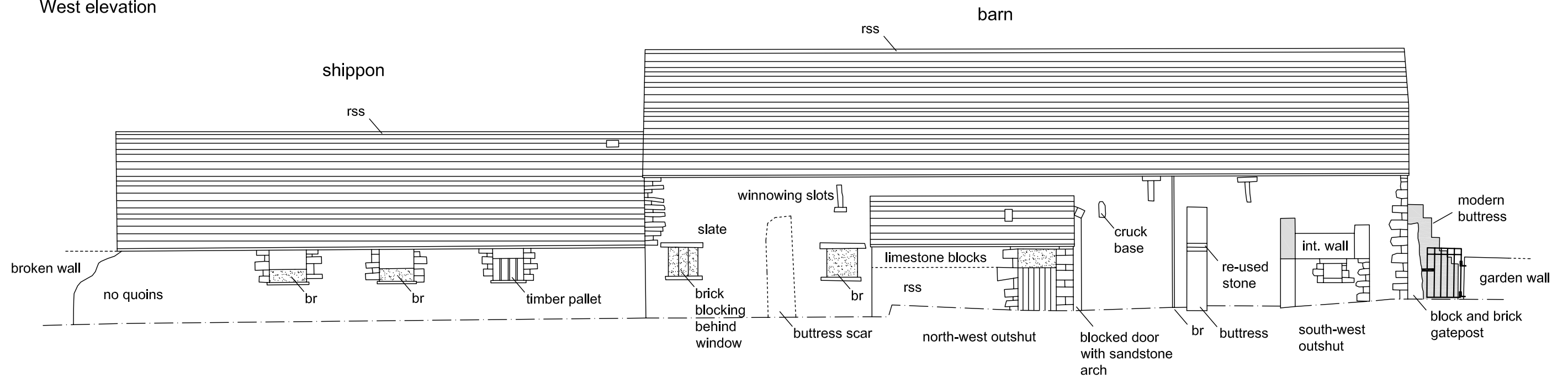
<p>Project: Sowerby Hall Farm, Bank Lane, Barrow-in-Furness, Cumbria</p>	<p>Key:</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>cp</td><td>ceramic pipe</td> <td>t</td><td>timber</td> </tr> <tr> <td>gss</td><td>grey sandstone</td> <td>br</td><td>brick</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td><td>blocking</td> <td>rss</td><td>red sandstone</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td><td>concrete</td> <td>- - -</td><td>ground line</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td><td>cross-sectional wall</td> <td></td><td>iron</td> </tr> </table>	cp	ceramic pipe	t	timber	gss	grey sandstone	br	brick		blocking	rss	red sandstone		concrete	- - -	ground line		cross-sectional wall		iron	<p>0 5m</p>
cp	ceramic pipe	t	timber																			
gss	grey sandstone	br	brick																			
	blocking	rss	red sandstone																			
	concrete	- - -	ground line																			
	cross-sectional wall		iron																			
<p>Project Code: G1066 Site Code: SH07 Date: December 2007</p>																						

Figure 5: North and south external elevations of the shippon and barn

East elevation

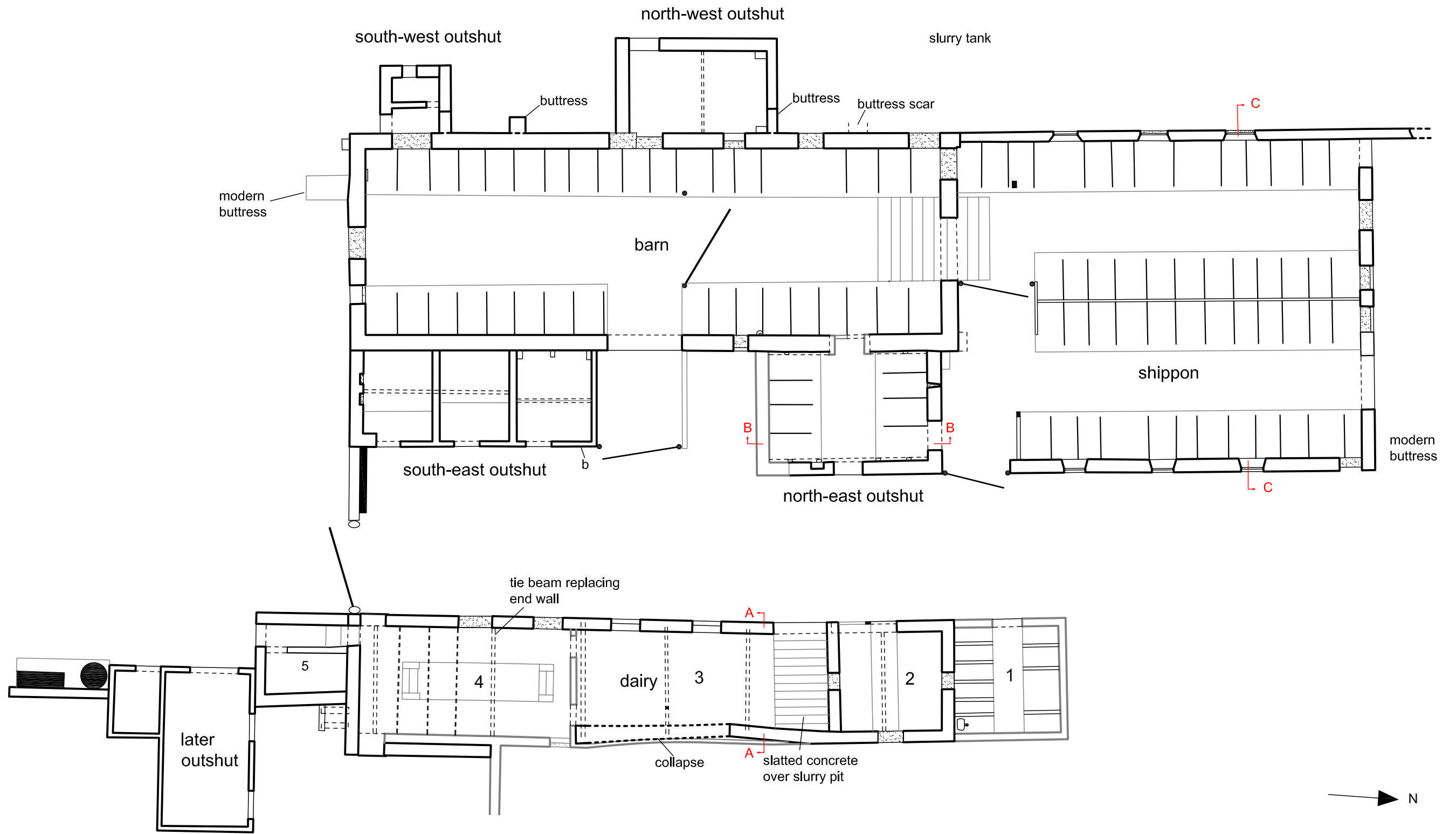


West elevation



<p>Project: Sowerby Hall Farm, Bank Lane, Barrow-in-Furness, Cumbria</p>	<p>Project Code: G1066</p>	<p>Key: cross sectional wall br brick t timber</p>		<p>Date: December 2007</p>	
	<p>Site Code: SH07</p>	<p> ground line concrete iron blocking</p> <p> slate re-build/damage yss yellow sandstone</p>			

Figure 6: East and west external elevations of the shippon and barn



Project: Sowerby Hall Farm, Bank Lane, Barrow-in-Furness, Cumbria	Project Code: G1066	Key: — section line 3 room number — main wall — concrete — blocking - - - beam over - - - projected line b brick	0 ————— 5m	Date: December 2007	
	Site Code: SH07				

Figure 7: Ground floor plans

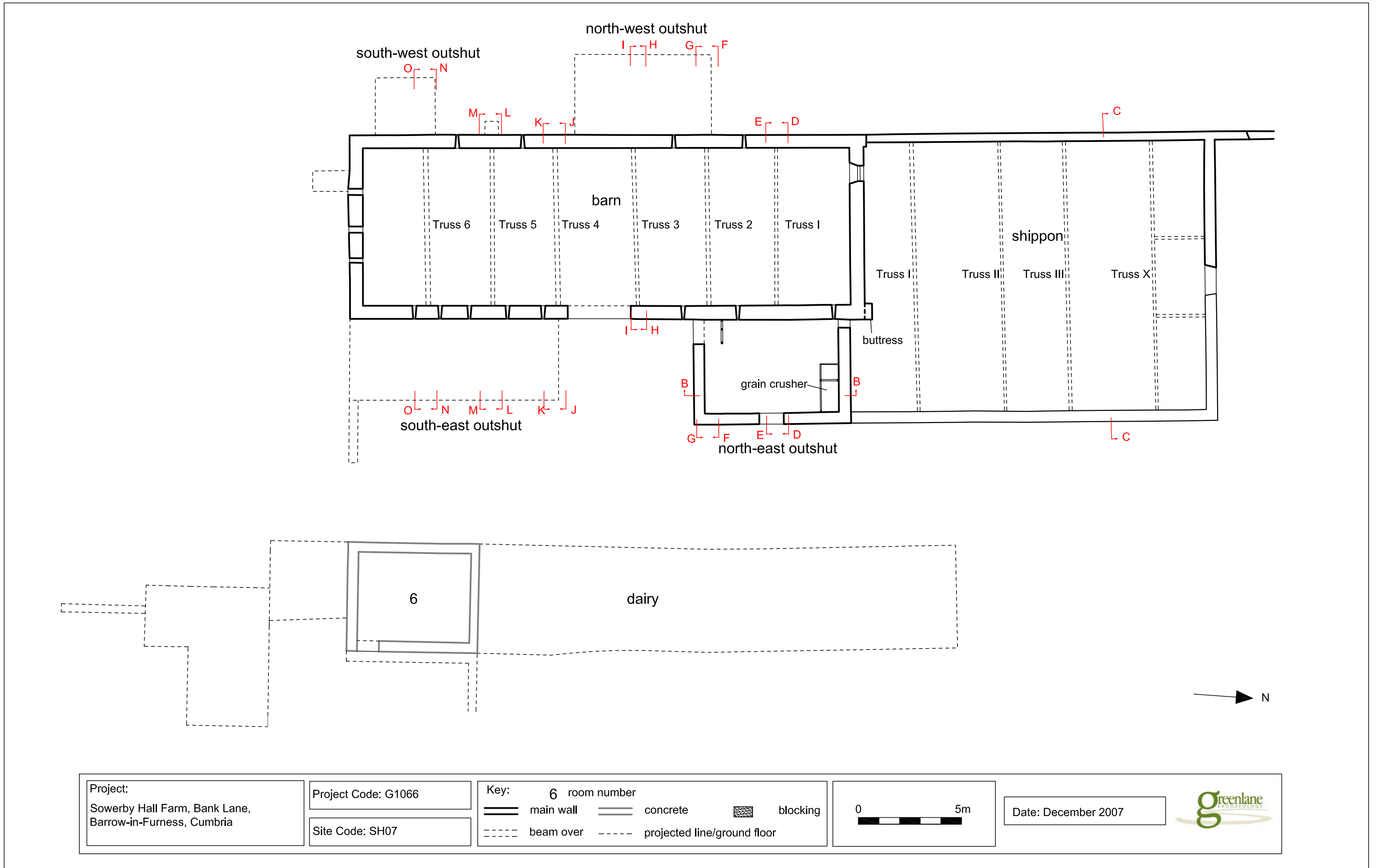
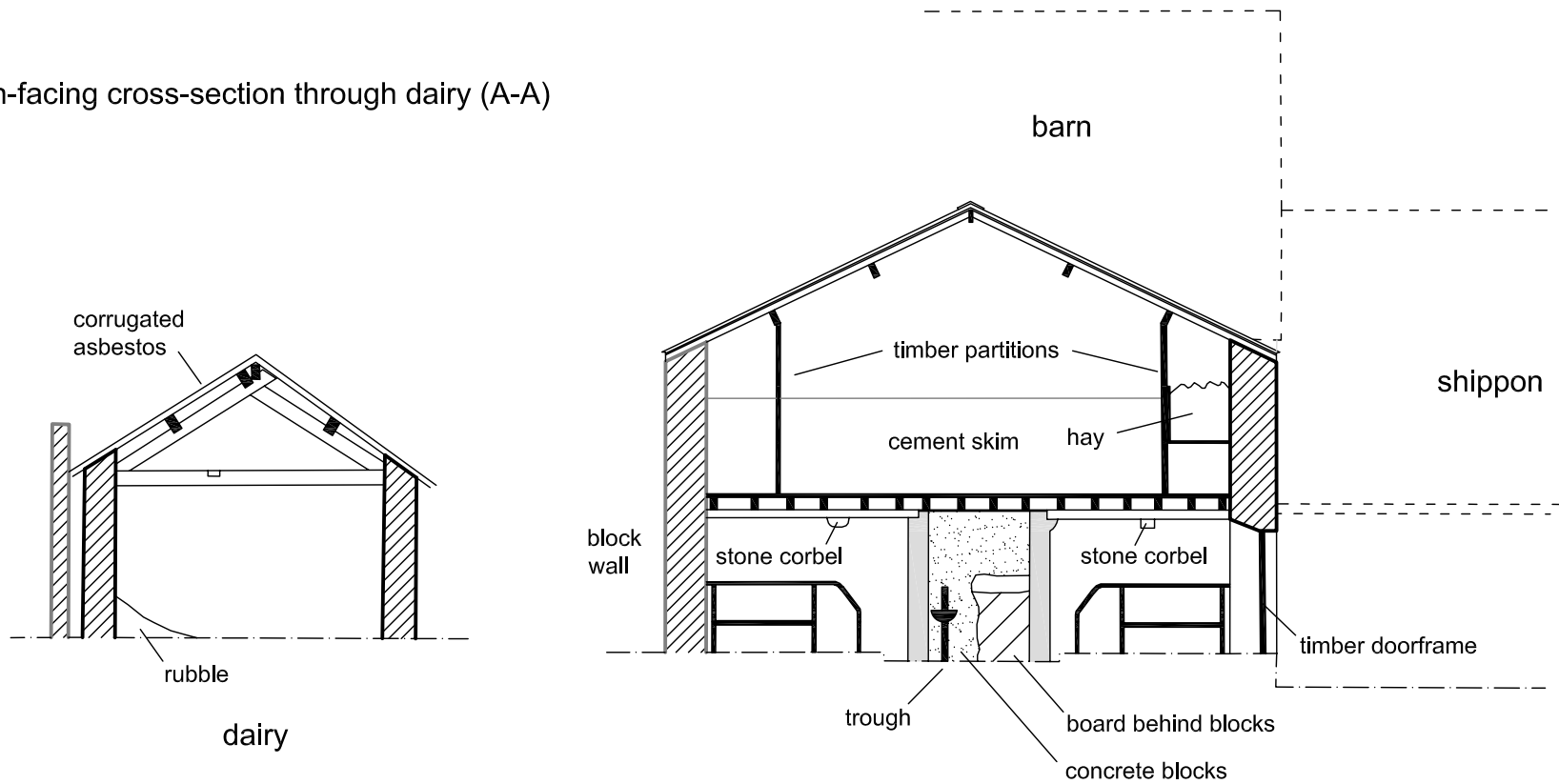


Figure 8: First floor plans

East-facing cross-section through north-east outshut (B-B)

North-facing cross-section through dairy (A-A)



Project:
Sowerby Hall Farm, Bank Lane,
Barrow-in-Furness, Cumbria

Project Code: G1066
Site Code: SH07

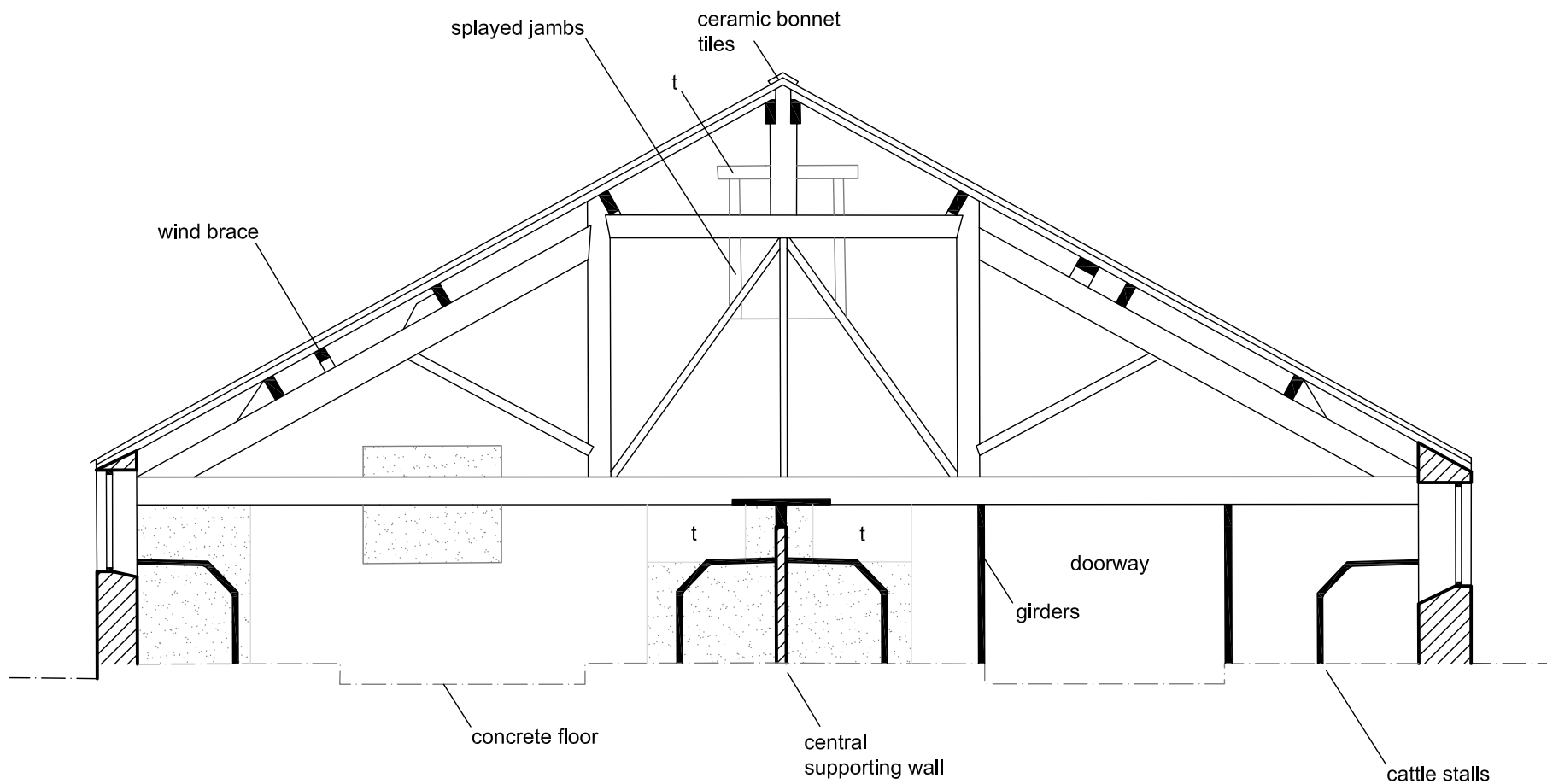
Key:

	concrete		main wall
	cross-sectional wall		ground line
	cross-sectional timber/iron		blocking



Date: December 2007

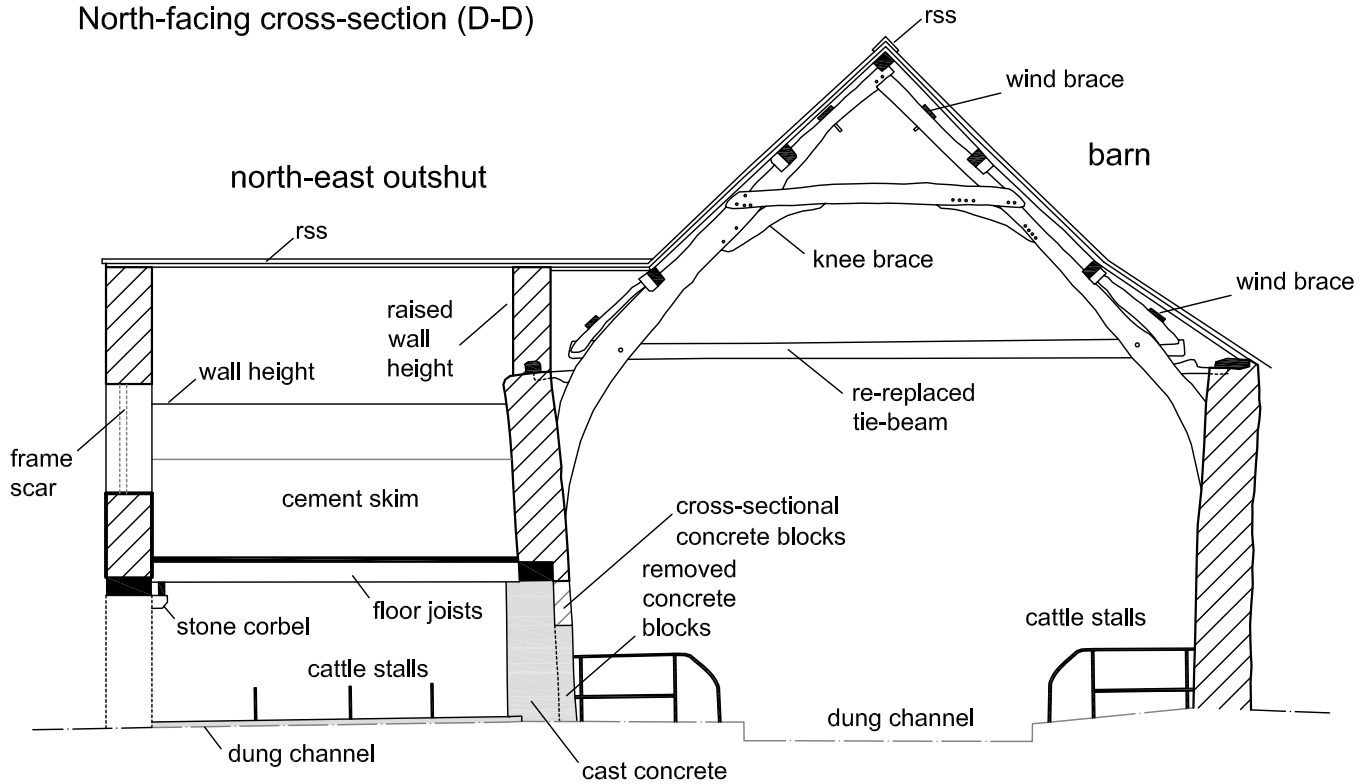
Figure 9: Cross-sections through dairy and north-east outshut attached to the barn



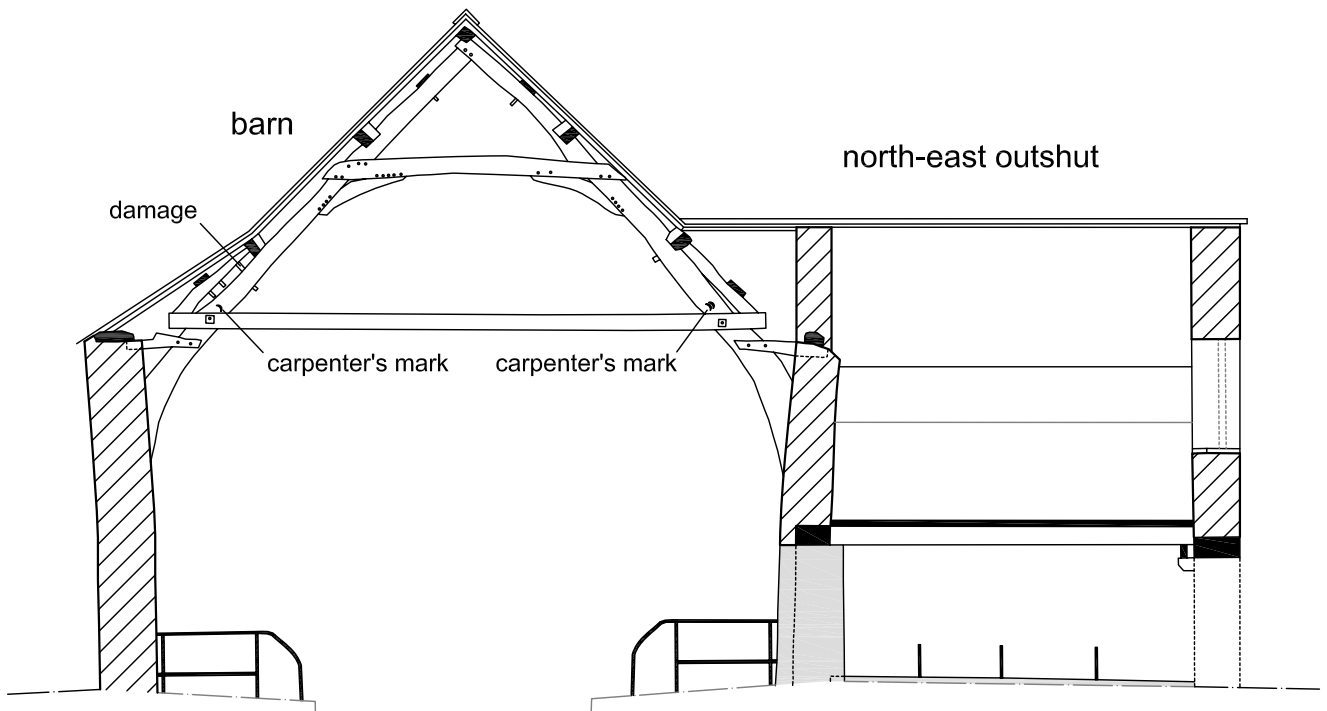
<p>Project: Sowerby Hall Farm, Bank Lane, Barrow-in-Furness, Cumbria</p>	<p>Key:</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>t</td> <td>timber</td> <td></td> <td>blocked apertures</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>main wall</td> <td></td> <td>iron / cross sectional timber</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>ground line</td> <td></td> <td>cross-sectional wall</td> </tr> </table>	t	timber		blocked apertures		main wall		iron / cross sectional timber		ground line		cross-sectional wall	<p>Date: December 2007</p>	
t	timber		blocked apertures												
	main wall		iron / cross sectional timber												
	ground line		cross-sectional wall												
<p>Project Code: G1066 Site Code: SH07</p>															

Figure 10: South-facing cross-section (C-C) through the shippon, Truss X

North-facing cross-section (D-D)

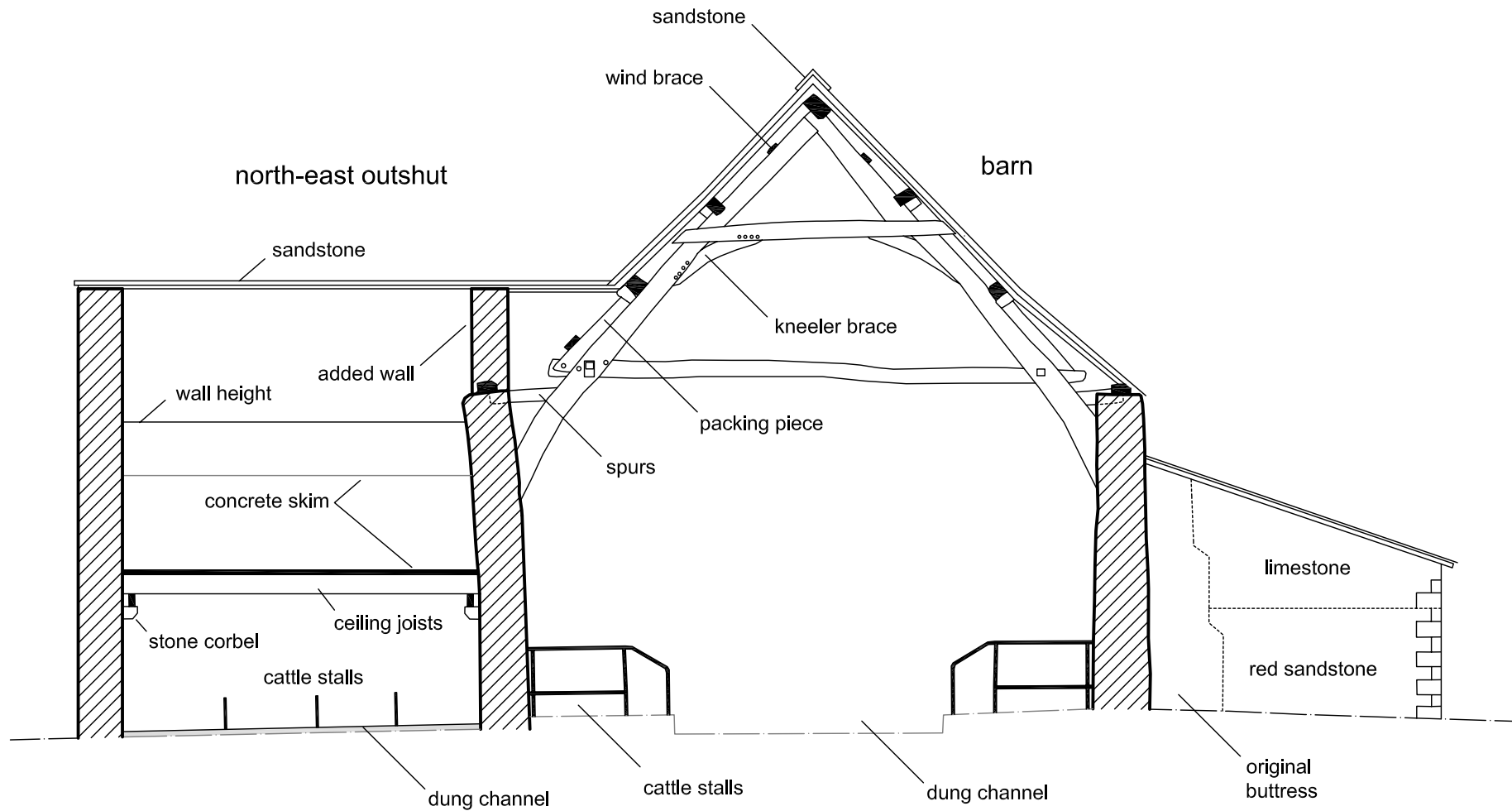


South-facing cross-section (E-E)



<p>Project: Sowerby Hall Farm, Bank Lane, Barrow-in-Furness, Cumbria</p>	<p>Key:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> main wall concrete cross-sectional wall cross-sectional timber/iron ground line yellow sandstone projected 	<p>0 4m</p> <p style="text-align: center;"></p>
<p>Project Code: G1066 Site Code: SH07 Date: December 2007</p>		

Figure 11: North and south-facing cross-sections of Truss 1



Project:
Sowerby Hall Farm, Bank Lane,
Barrow-in-Furness, Cumbria

Project Code: G1066
Site Code: SH07

Key:

.....	projected	---	ground line
====	concrete	==	main wall
▨	cross-sectional wall	■	cross-sectional timber/iron

Date: December 2007

0 3m



Figure 12: North-facing cross-section (F-F) of Truss 2

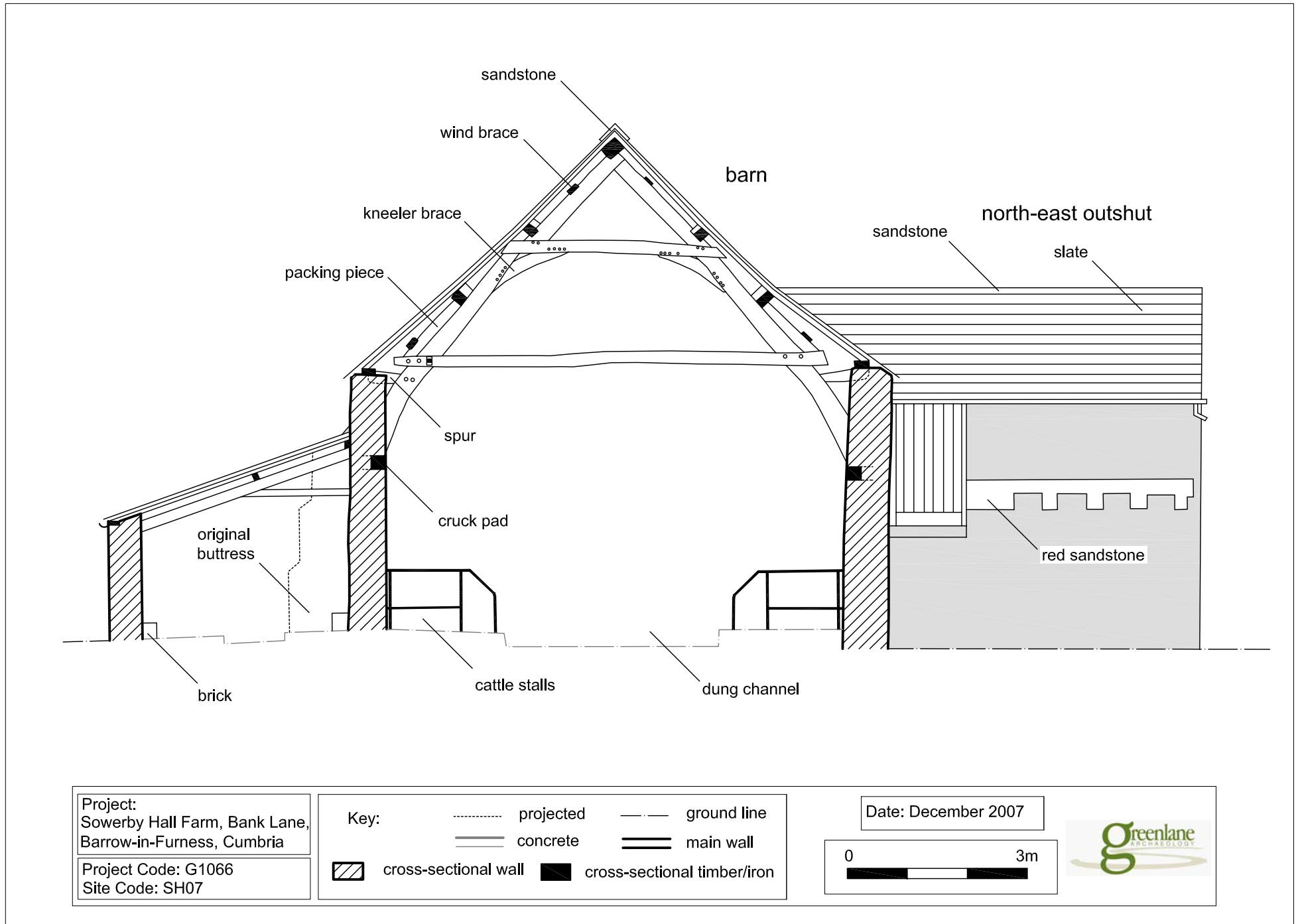
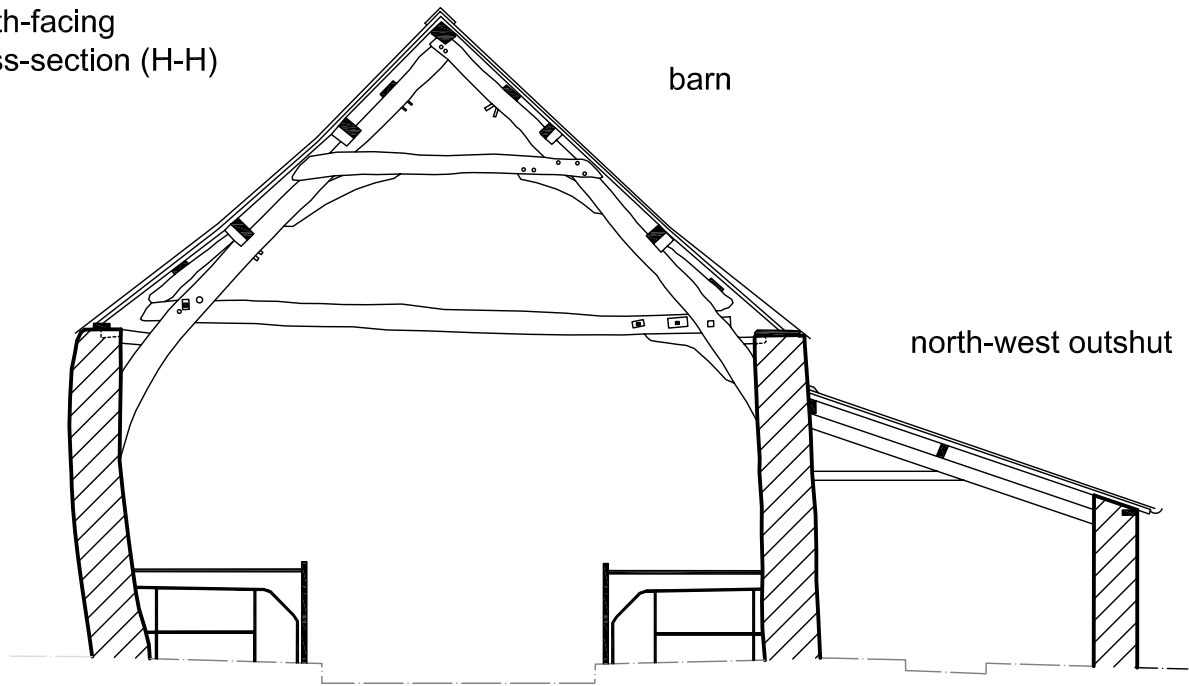
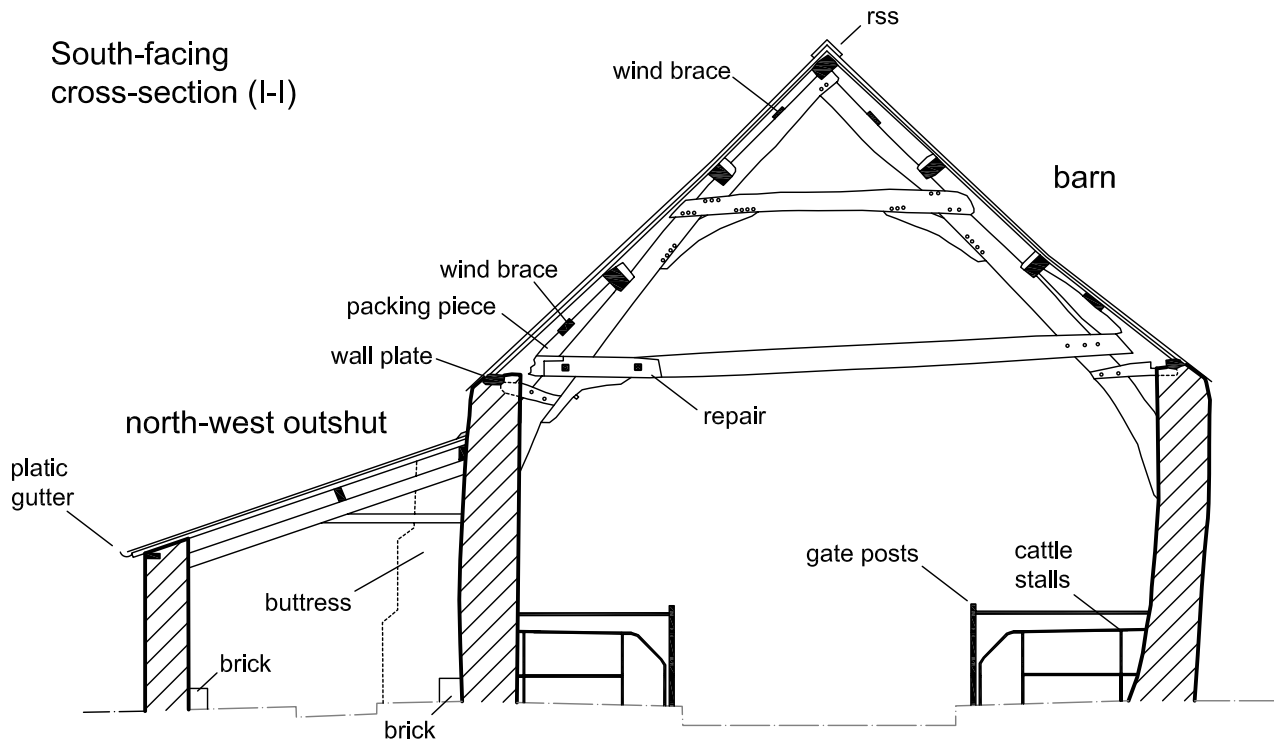


Figure 13: South-facing cross-section (G-G) of Truss 2

North-facing
cross-section (H-H)



South-facing
cross-section (I-I)



Project:
Sowerby Hall Farm, Bank Lane,
Barrow-in-Furness, Cumbria

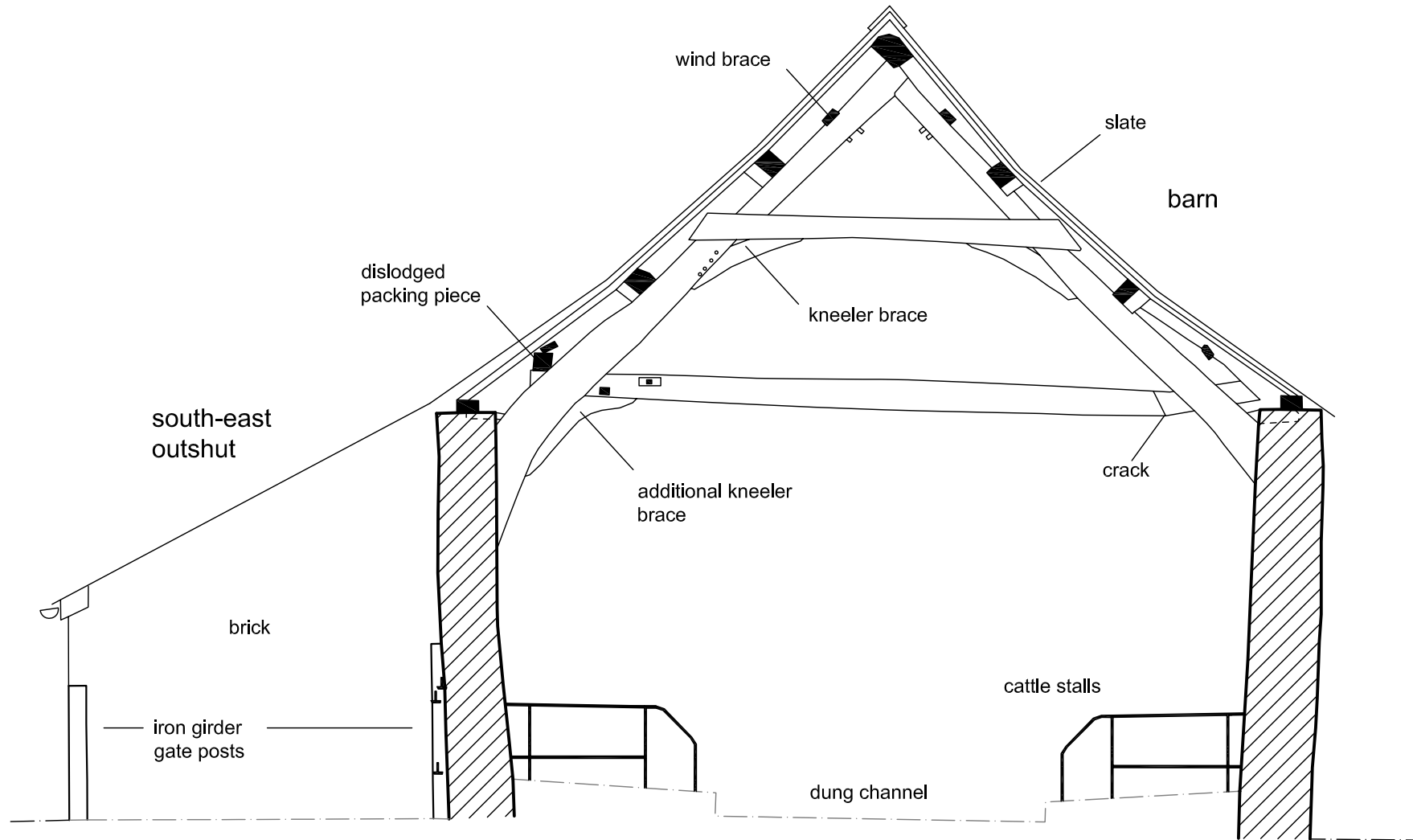
Project Code: G1066
Site Code: SH07
Date: December 2007

Key:

- main wall
- concrete
- cross-sectional wall
- cross-sectional timber/iron
- ground line
- projected
- rss red sandstone



Figure 14: North and south-facing cross-sections of Truss 3



Project: Sowerby Hall Farm, Bank Lane, Barrow-in-Furness, Cumbria	Key: - - - - - projected - - - - - ground line - - - - - concrete - - - - - main wall ▨ cross-sectional wall ▩ cross-sectional timber/iron	Date: December 2007 0 3m	
Project Code: G1066 Site Code: SH07			

Figure 15: North-facing cross-section of Truss 4 (J-J)

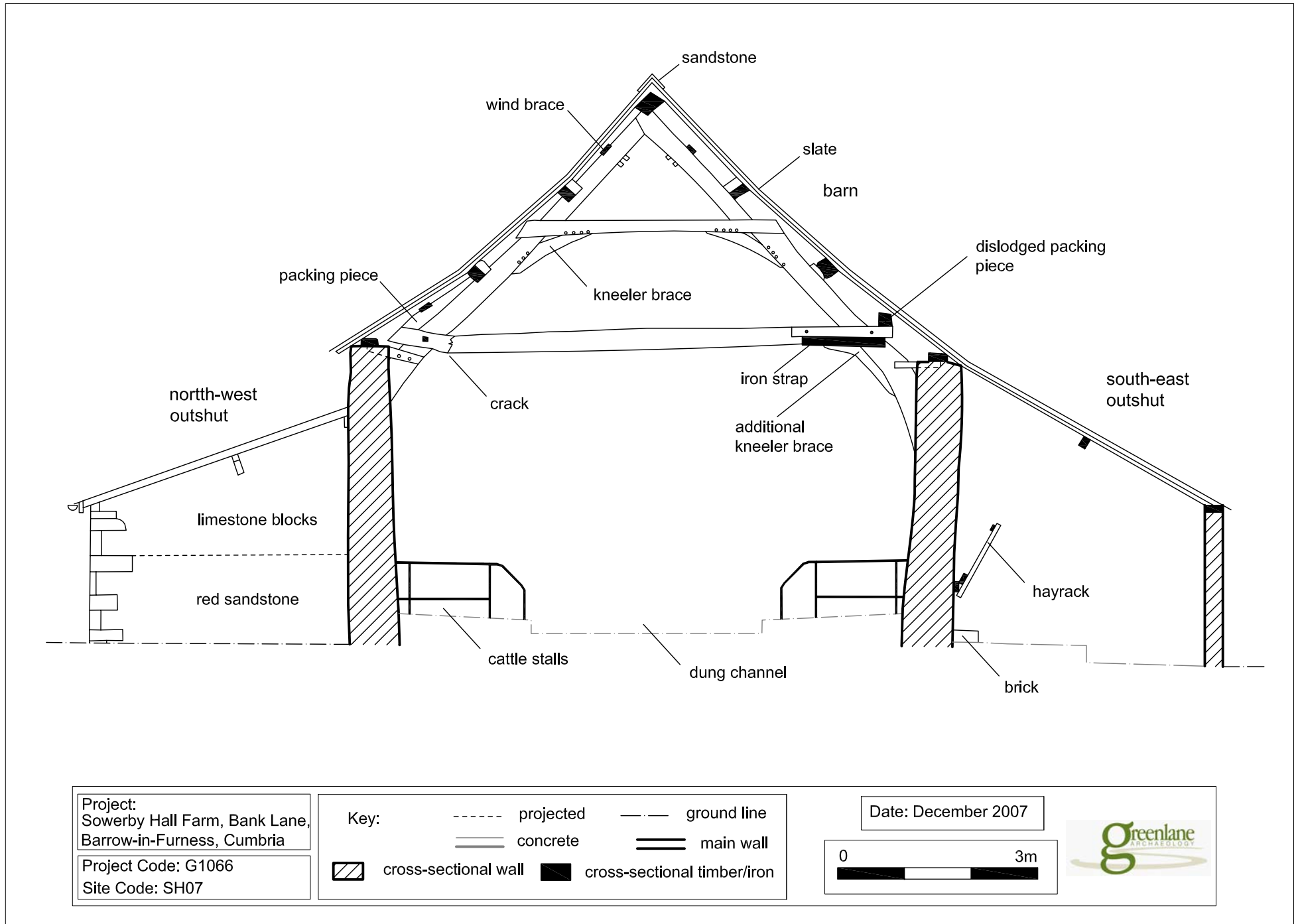


Figure 16: South-facing cross-section of Truss 4 (K-K)

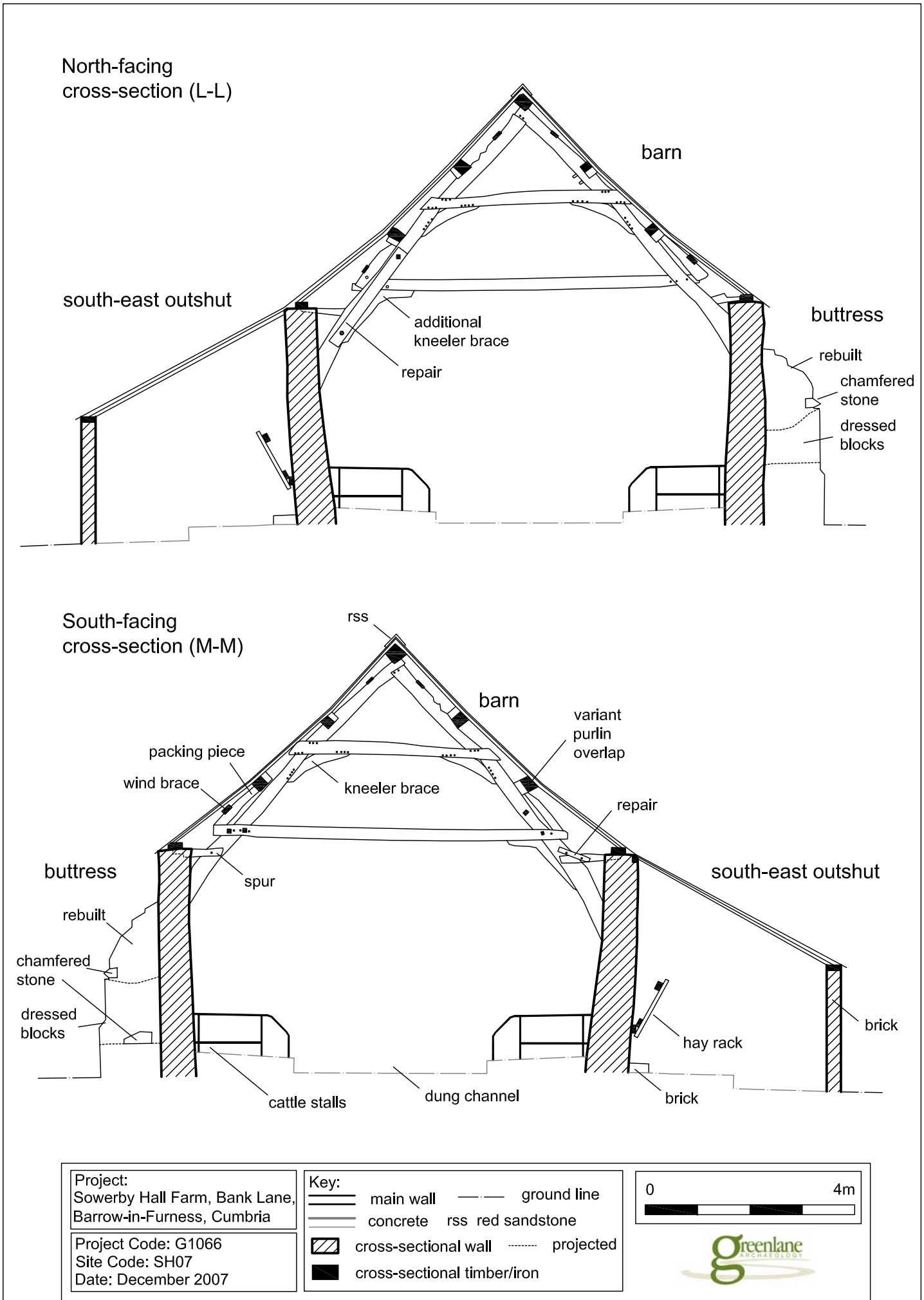
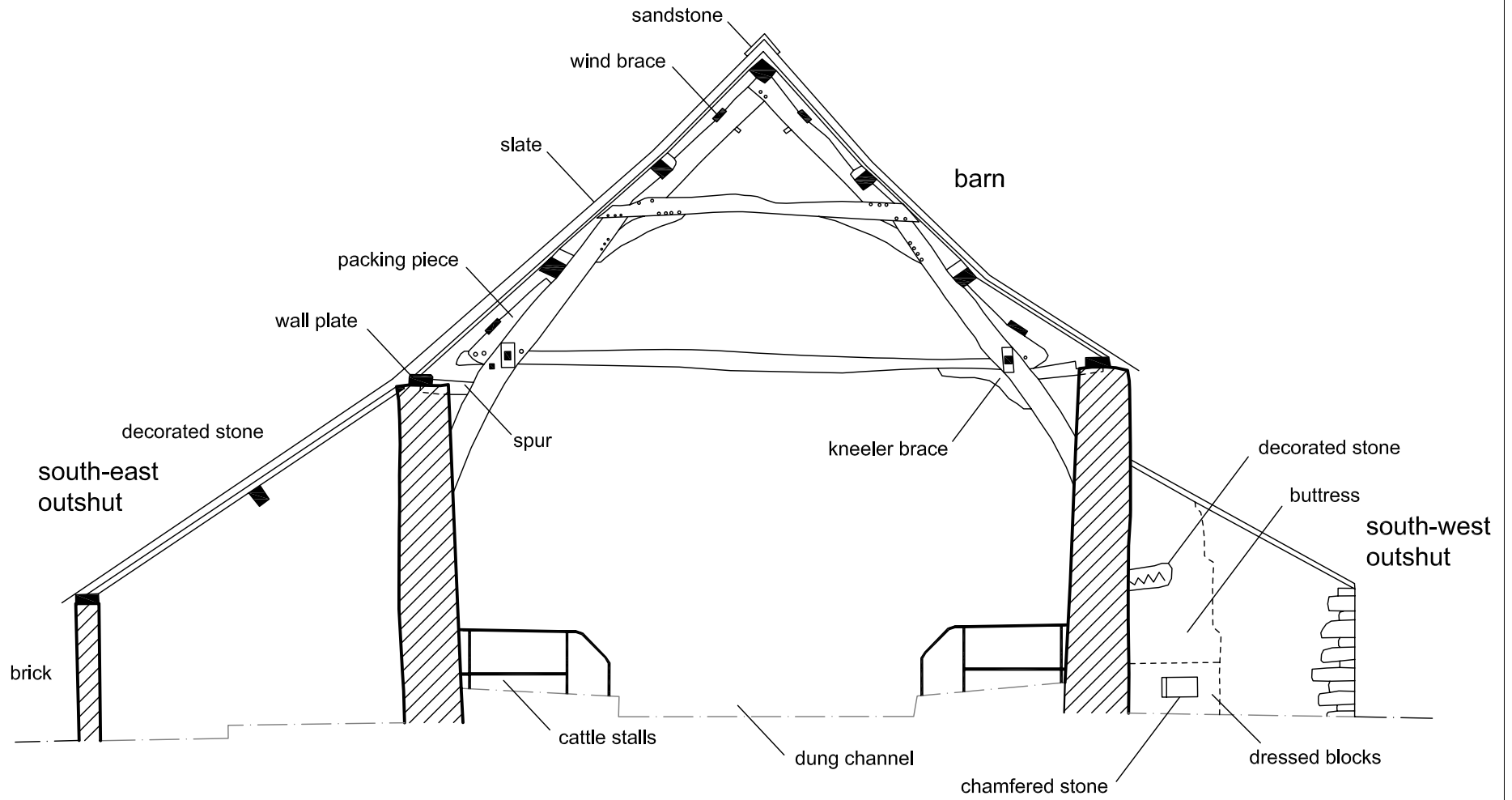


Figure 17: North and south-facing cross-sections of Truss 5



Project:
Sowerby Hall Farm, Bank Lane,
Barrow-in-Furness, Cumbria

Project Code: G1066
Site Code: SH07

Key:

- projected
- ground line
- ==== concrete
- ==== main wall
- ▨ cross-sectional wall
- cross-sectional timber/iron

Date: December 2007

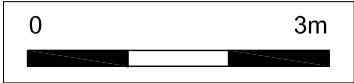
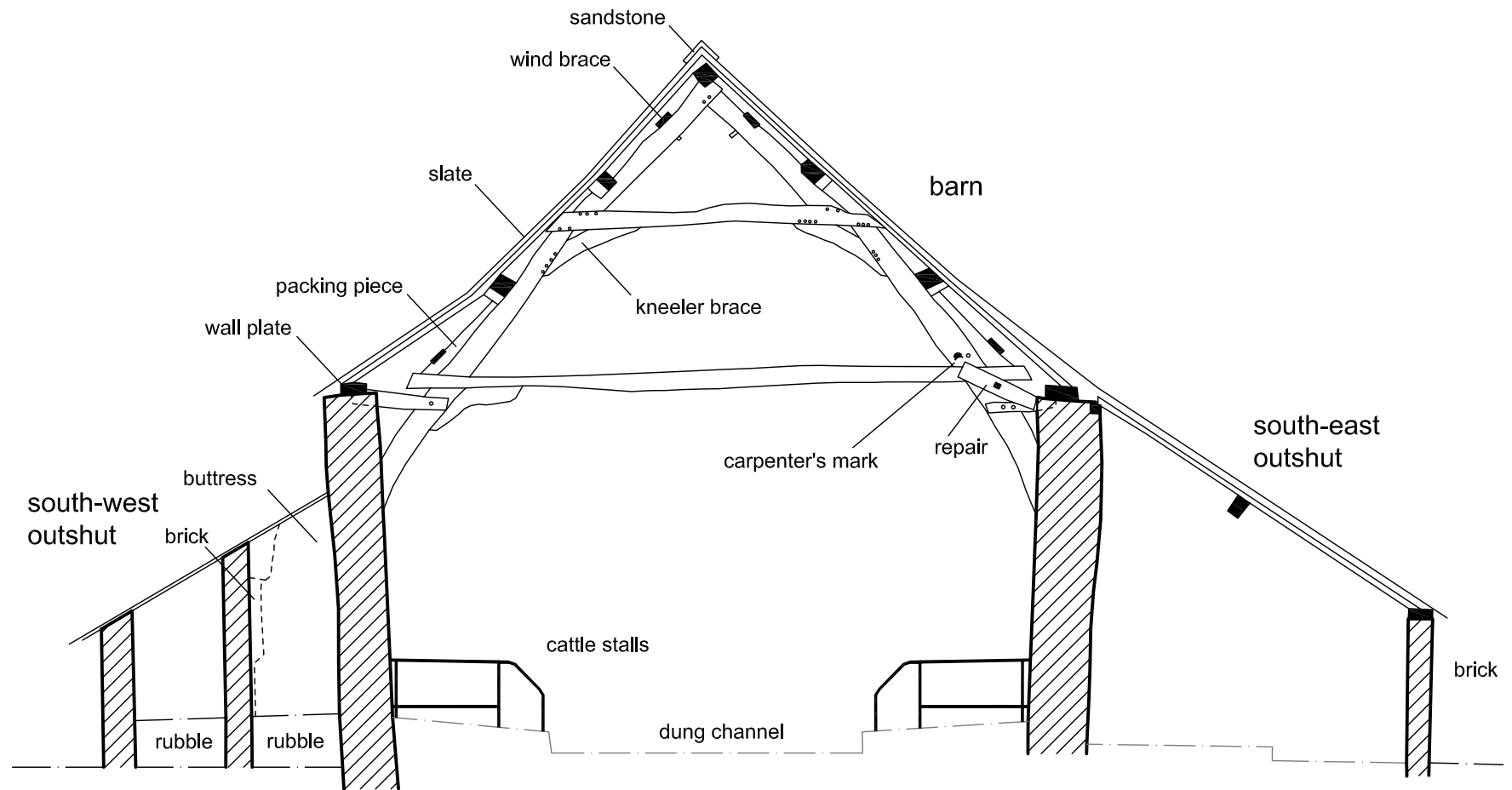


Figure 18: North-facing cross-section of Truss 6 (N-N)







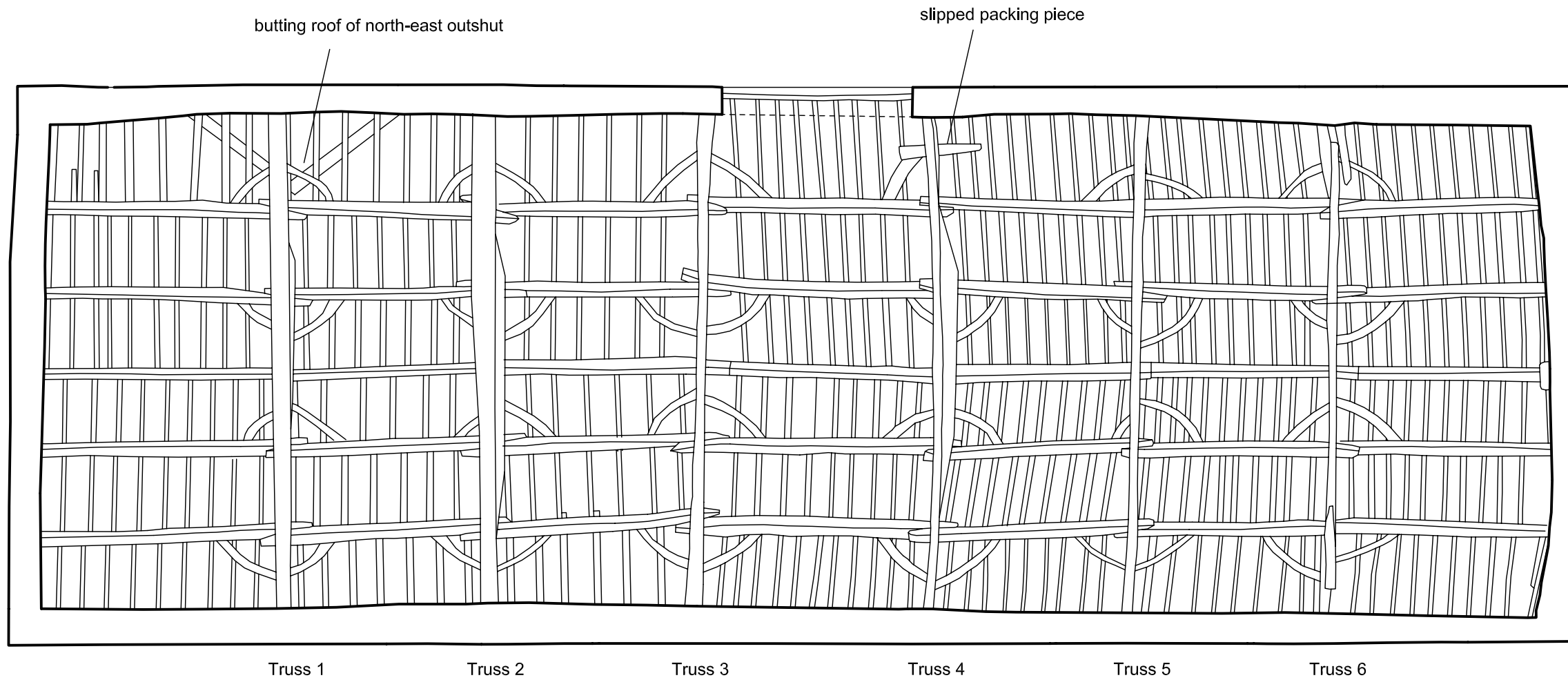
Project: Sowerby Hall Farm, Bank Lane, Barrow-in-Furness, Cumbria	Key: - - - - - projected - - - - - ground line = = = = = concrete = = = = = main wall  cross-sectional wall  cross-sectional timber/iron	Date: December 2007 	
Project Code: G1066 Site Code: SH07			

Figure 19: South-facing cross-section of Truss 6 (O-O)



<p>Project: Sowerby Hall Farm, Bank Lane, Barrow-in-Furness, Cumbria</p>	<p>Project Code: G1066</p>	<p>Key:</p> <p>==== main wall - - - projected line</p>	<p>0 2.5m</p>	<p>Date: December 2007</p>	
<p>Site Code: SH07</p>					

Figure 20: Reverse roof plan (looking up)

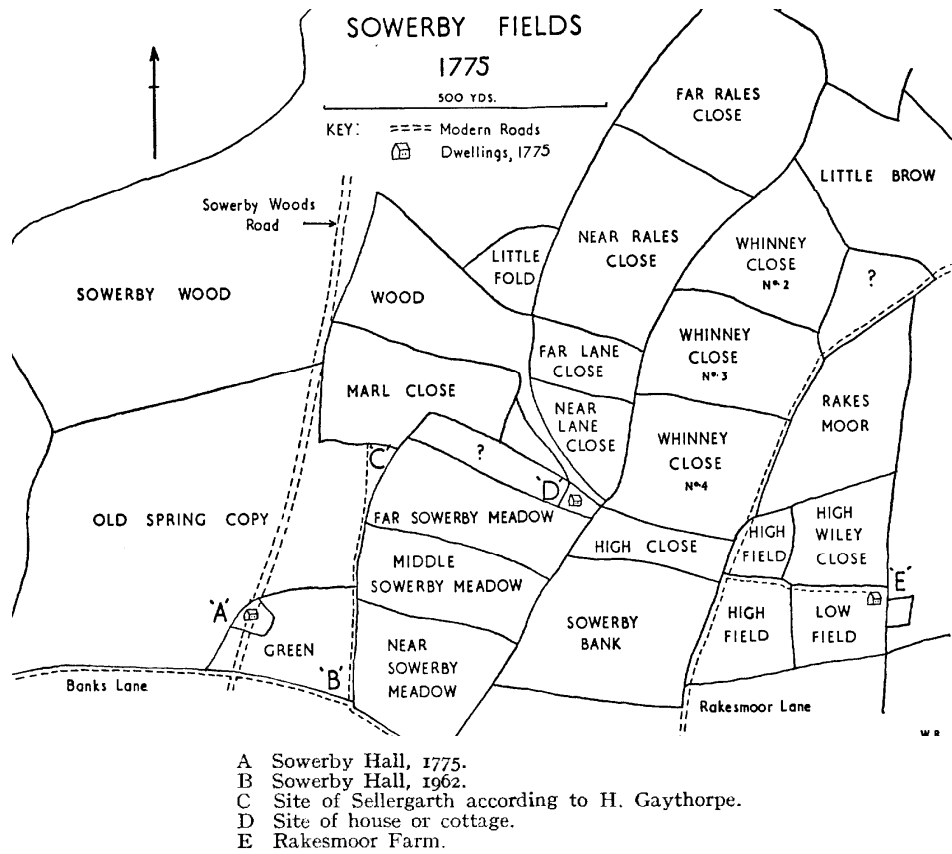


Plate 1: Transcription of a plan of 1775 showing Sowerby Fields (after Rollinson 1963)

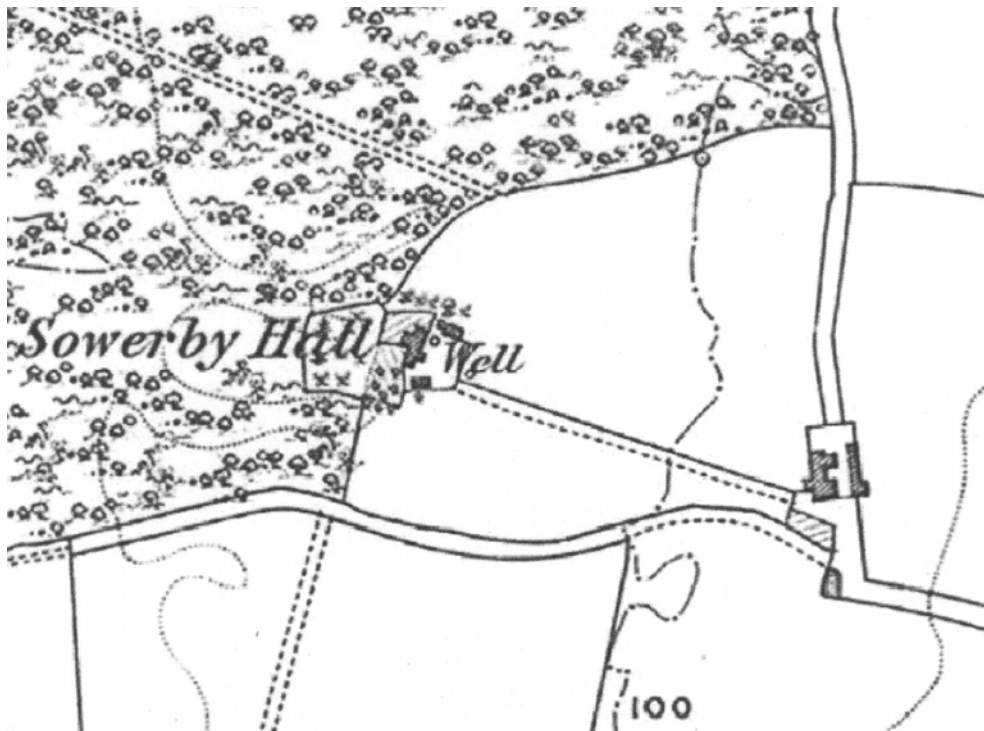


Plate 2: Part of the Ordnance Survey map of 1851 showing the original location of Sowerby Hall and the detached outbuildings



Plate 3: Part of the Ordnance Survey map of c1873 showing the original location of Sowerby Hall and the detached outbuildings



Plate 4: Part of an undated estate plan showing Sowerby Hall (CRO(B) BDX 64/80 n.d.)

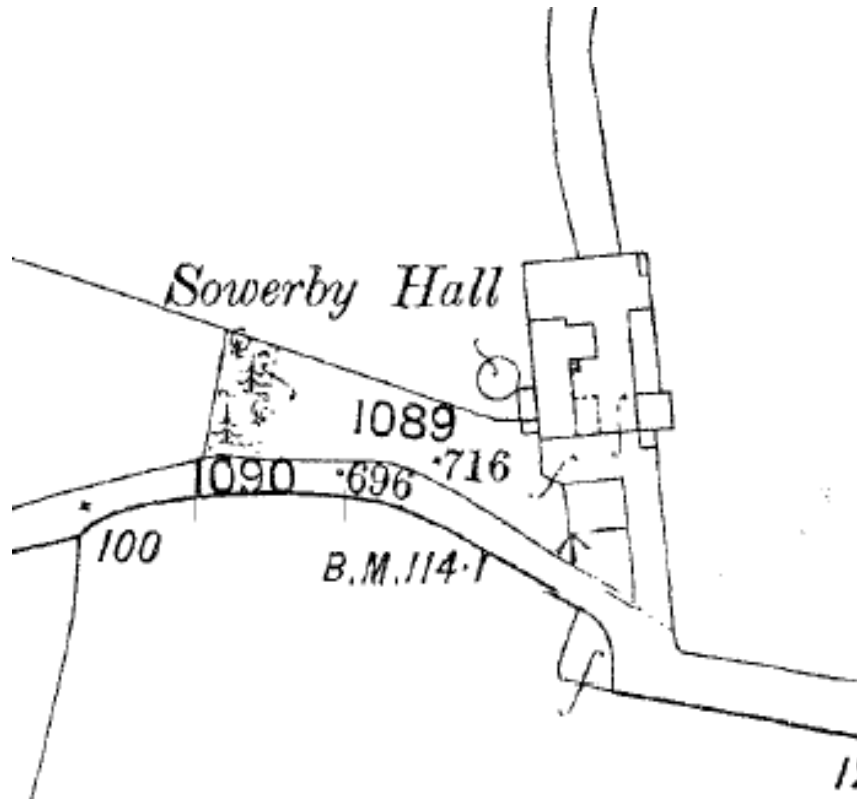


Plate 5: Part of the Ordnance Survey map of 1891 showing Sowerby Hall

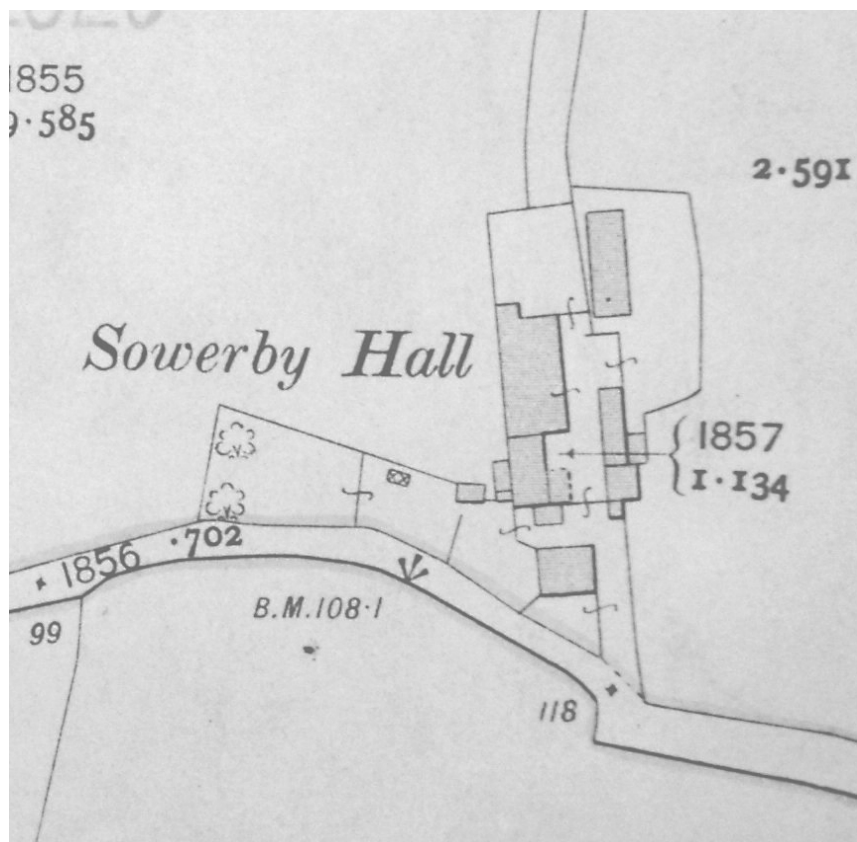


Plate 6: Part of the Ordnance Survey map of 1913 showing Sowerby Hall

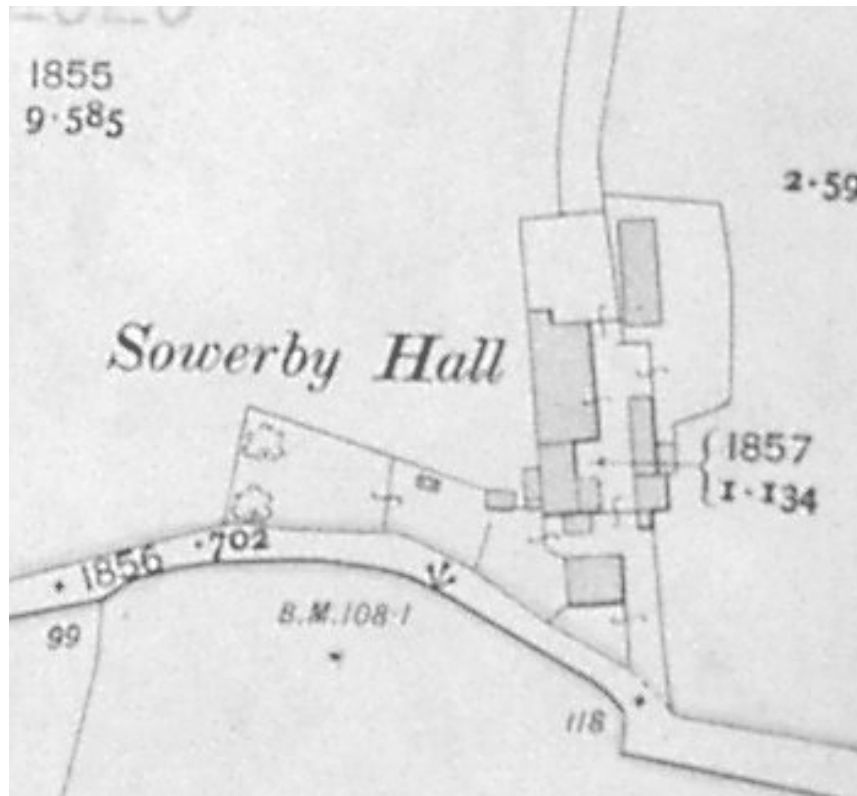


Plate 7: Part of the Ordnance Survey map of 1933 showing Sowerby Hall



Plate 8: General view of the site from the south-west showing the farmhouse and the barn to the north



Plate 9: General view of the site from the west showing the barn and attached shippon and the farmhouse beyond



Plate 10: General view of the site from the south-east showing the farmhouse and outbuildings



Plate 11: The north external elevation and the north end of the east external elevation of the dairy



Plate 12: The south end of the east external elevation of the dairy



Plate 13: The south external elevation of the dairy



Plate 14: The south end of the west external elevation of the dairy



Plate 15: The north end of the west external elevation of the dairy



Plate 16: The east side of the north external elevation of the shippon



Plate 17: The west side of the north external elevation of the shippon



Plate 18: The east external elevation of the shippon



Plate 19: Doorway at the north end of the east external elevation showing the chamfered jambs



Plate 20: The west external elevation of the shippon



Plate 21: The two storey outshut at the north end of the east external elevation of the barn



Plate 22: The wagon doorway in the centre of the east external elevation of the barn



Plate 23: The outshut at the south end of the east external elevation of the barn



Plate 24: Brick inscribed with a 'B' in the north elevation of the south-eastern outshut



Plate 25: The south external elevation of the barn



Plate 26: The re-used moulded stone decorated with petals enclosed by a rhombus in the south external elevation of the south-eastern outshut attached to the barn



Plate 27: The south-west outshut attached to the west external elevation of the barn

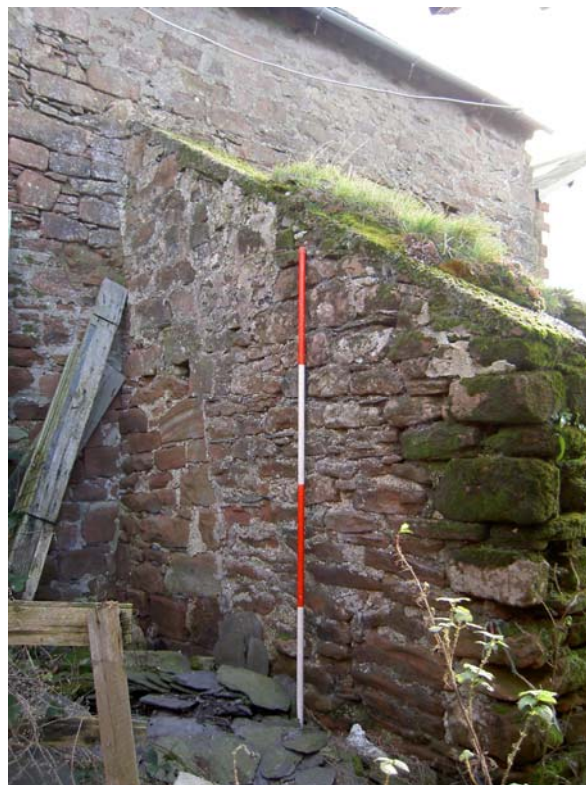


Plate 28: The north elevation of the south-west outshut attached to the west external elevation of the barn, showing the buttress



Plate 29: Re-used stone decorated with inscribed chevrons incorporated into the buttress utilised by the south-west outshut attached to the west external elevation of the barn



Plate 30: The central buttress against the west external elevation of the barn



Plate 31: Re-used chamfered stone incorporated into the central buttress against the west external elevation of the barn



Plate 32: Blocked wagon doorway and projecting cruck base in the west external elevation of the barn



Plate 33: North-west outshut attached to the west external elevation of the barn



Plate 34: Stalls constructed from re-used pallets on the south side of Room 1 of the dairy



Plate 35: General view of the south-east corner of Room 2 of the dairy showing the blocked window, the butt joint between the south and east walls, and the truss



Plate 36: General view of the south end of Room 3 of the dairy showing the collapsed wall and trusses



Plate 37: General view of the south end of Room 4 of the dairy showing the large pit



Plate 38: North side of truss within Room 4 of the dairy



Plate 39: Baltic timber marks in the ceiling of Room 4 of the dairy



Plate 40: General view of the north end of the west side of Room 5 of the dairy



Plate 41: General view of the north side of the interior of the shippon



Plate 42: Carpenter's mark on the south face of Truss III



Plate 45: North faces of Trusses 1 and 2 within the barn



Plate 46: Punched carpenter's mark 'I' on the west side of Truss 1 within the barn



Plate 47: Typical arrangement of trusses and wind braces on the east side of the roof between Trusses 1 and 2



Plate 48: West side of the ground floor of the north-east outshut attached to the barn showing the cross-braced ceiling



Plate 49: Blocked slot and re-used chamfered stone in the north wall of the ground floor of the north-east outshut attached to the barn



Plate 50: North side of the first floor of the north-east outshut attached to the barn showing the inserted walls associated with the grain crusher



Plate 51: Ventilation slots and manger in the west elevation of the northern room of the south-east outshut attached to the barn



Plate 52: Buttress incorporated into the north wall of the south-west outshut attached to the barn



Plate 53: Buttress incorporated into the north elevation of the north-west outshut attached to the barn



Plate 54: North side of the blocked wagon doorway in the east elevation within the north-west outshut attached to the barn

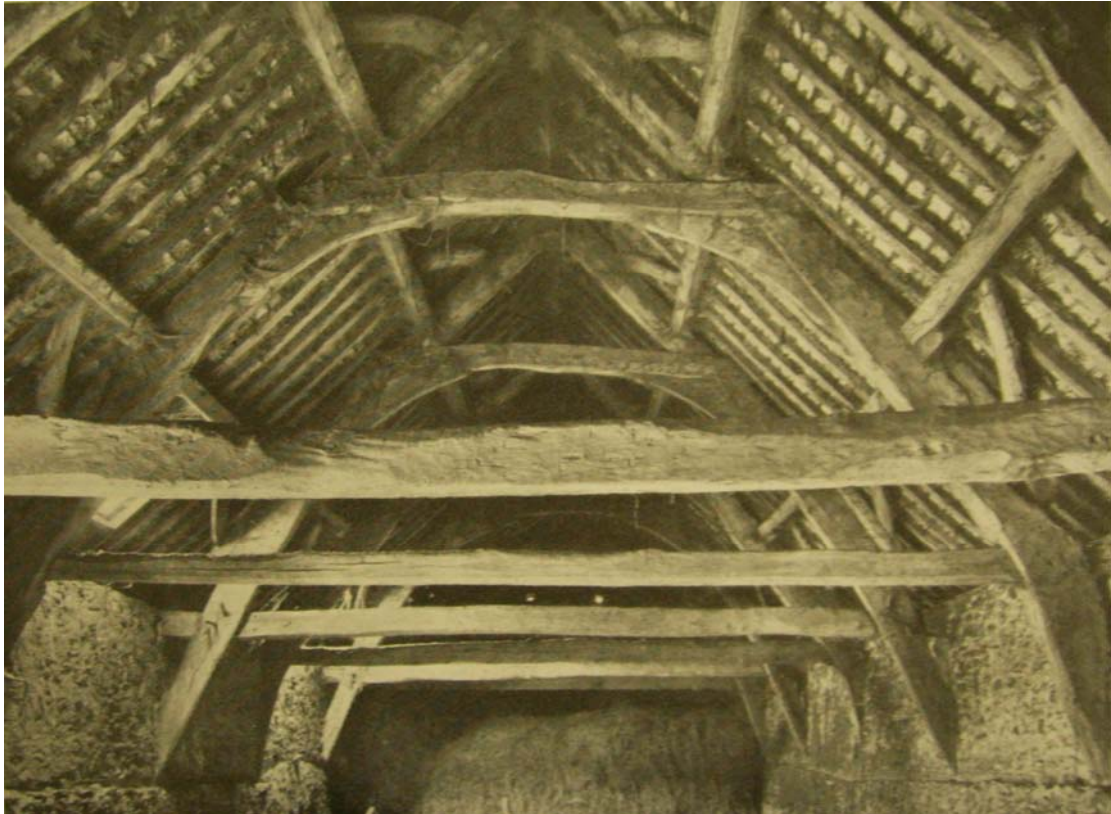


Plate 55: The roof structure of the barn at Park House Farm, Heversham (after RCHME 1936, plate 29)



Plate 56: Angled brace bolted to a truss at 16 Queen Street, Ulverston



Plate 57: Decorative stone from the original 12th century Savigniac church re-used in the 15th century remodelling of the southern transept at Furness Abbey (after Harrison 1998, 8; compare with Plate 26)

