

Barn at Higher Green Hill Farm
Salterforth, Lancashire:
Archaeological Building Recording



October 2006

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SUMMARY

Archaeological building recording was carried out for Mr Howard Bradley in September 2006 at a barn at Higher Green Hill Farm, Salterforth, Lancashire (NGR: SD 886450), before its conversion to holiday cottages. The barn is stone-built and five bays long, of uncertain date but largely rebuilt in the nineteenth century and altered in the twentieth; it adjoins a two storey building containing a former farm office, as well as other buildings at the rear. The records made include floor plans, a section and photographs, as well as a written account.

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BARN AT HIGHER GREEN HILL FARM, SALTERFORTH, LANCASHIRE:

ARCHAEOLOGICAL BUILDING RECORDING

LIST OF PHOTOGRAPHS INCLUDED IN THIS REPORT

Photo	Subject
1	View of the farmhouse and barn range, from the west
2	The barn, from the south-west
3	The barn and office, from the north-west
4	Front elevation of the barn, from the west
5	Front elevation of the barn (south part), from the west
6	Front elevation of the office end, from the west
7	The office and barn, from the north
9	North gable of the office and detail of steps, from the north-east
11	The barn and office range, with rear lean-tos, from the north-east
12	Rear elevation of the barn and lean-tos, from the north-east
13	The barn and office range, with rear lean-tos, from the south-east
14	South gable of the barn
18	Barn interior: north-west corner, from the south-east
19	Barn interior: view from north end towards south end
21	Roof truss in north end of barn, from the south
22	Ground floor room below office, from the north
25	Fireplace and window in office, from the south-east
26	Detail of fireplace in office, from the south-east
27	Roof truss in office, from the north

A complete set of photographs forms part of the project archive (see Appendix 1)

BARN AT HIGHER GREEN HILL FARM, SALTERFORTH, LANCASHIRE:

ARCHAEOLOGICAL BUILDING RECORDING

1 Introduction

- 1.1 This report presents the results of archaeological building recording at a barn at Higher Green Hill Farm, Salterforth, Lancashire, carried out in September 2006. The work was commissioned by the owner and developer Mr Howard Bradley, to fulfil a condition of planning consent from Pendle Borough Council for the conversion of the building to holiday cottages.
- 1.2 The date at which the barn was built is unclear but it was largely rebuilt in the nineteenth century, and has been altered subsequently. At the north end a former farm office of early nineteenth century date adjoins the building, and to the rear are various other structures. Records made include floor plans, a section drawing, photographs, and a written account.
- 1.3 The recording was carried out in accordance with the standard specification for recording agricultural buildings issued by the Lancashire County Archaeology Service. This report will be submitted to the client, the planning authority, the County Archaeology Service and the English Heritage National Monuments Record, while the project archive will be deposited at the Lancashire Record Office.

2 Location and current use

- 2.1 Higher Green Hill Farm stands on the east side of Salterforth Lane about 400m south-west of its junction with the B6383 Kelbrook Road, in the civil parish of Salterforth, between Colne and Barnoldswick (Figure 1). Historically, the site lay in the West Riding of Yorkshire.
- 2.2 Buildings at the farm include the house (dated 1768) and to its south-west the barn range, which faces west onto Salterforth Lane (Figure 2). Most of the other buildings within the group are of modern date. The barn is now used for storage and stabling horses, but until recently part of it served as a milking parlour and cow housing.

3 Planning background

- 3.1 The barn is not listed as having special architectural or historic interest. Planning permission was granted by Pendle Borough Council on 7 July 2005 for its conversion to three holiday cottages (application no: 13/05/0363P), and condition

no 3 attached to the consent requires a detailed record of the building to be made before development, which this report is intended to be.

4 Historical background and architectural interest

- 4.1 Traditional farm buildings are of historic interest because they contribute to an understanding of the vernacular architecture and past farming systems of the region. As a group they are under threat due to redundancy and neglect, as well as their potential for conversion, and records of them can help provide an understanding of this diminishing and irreplaceable stock.
- 4.2 Little is known of the history of Higher Green Hill Farm but Ordnance Survey maps contribute to an understanding. The first edition 6" to the mile map, published in 1853, shows the farm named "Higher Green Hill", and the barn appears to have an L-shaped plan, with the north end wider than the south (Figure 3), unlike the present arrangement. The depiction on the 1896 map shows the building with a changed outline, the south end now wider than the north (Figure 4). A larger scale 1:2500 map of 1909 shows it similarly but in more detail (Figure 5); by this date the main building (barn and office) seems to have reached its present extent, although the rear lean-tos have been added subsequently.
- 4.3 As noted above the farmhouse is dated to 1768, the prominent datestone also bearing the initials:
- W
I E
- but it is not known to whom these refer.

5 Recording methodology

- 5.1 The archaeological building recording took place on 7 September 2006, and in accordance with the specification provided by the Lancashire County Archaeology Service. It involved the production of floor plans and a cross-section drawing of the building, showing all significant archaeological detail, and employing conventions based on those specified by English Heritage¹. The plans are based on a survey by David Hill.
- 5.2 A photographic record was also made, using a medium format camera with shift and other lenses, and black and white film for the sake of archival permanence. External and internal photographs were taken, in most cases using either a 1m or 2m ranging pole marked with 0.5m graduations as a scale, and their locations are shown on copies of the site and floor plans. The photographs have been printed to a size of 7" x 5", and a selection are copied in this report, where they

¹ English Heritage 2006 *Understanding Historic Buildings: A guide to good recording practice*

are referred to by numbers in bold. A small number of 35mm colour slides was also taken.

6 Building description

Exterior

- 6.1 The barn range is a large stone-built structure which faces west immediately onto Salterforth Lane (**1**), the barn the south part and the office the north part (**2,3**). It has an overall length of 27.2m and the barn measures 12.2m wide, the office 7.4m wide, but the rear lean-to continues further to the east.
- 6.2 The front elevation of the barn (**4**) is built from random gritstone rubble, with rock-faced quoins at the south-east corner, and moulded terracotta gutter brackets. This wall is noticeably thinner than the rear wall of the barn (460mm as opposed to 670mm), and suggests a later date, which is most likely to be accounted for by rebuilding. Openings in the front elevation include the large cart entrance with low segmental arch to right of centre (**5**), with punch-dressed quoins, voussoirs and keystone, and a window to the right, formerly a doorway. To the left is a forking hole with sawn stone surround, probably inserted. The roof covering to the barn is blue slate, with tile ridge, but this was put on in the second half of the twentieth century, to replace an earlier stone slate roof.
- 6.3 To the left of the barn a ragged joint at ground floor level, with a clearer straight joint above (on a different alignment), shows that the “office” to the north is not contemporary with the barn, and while it is not indisputable that one is later than the other, this does suggest that the barn is the later of the two parts, at least in the front elevation. The stonework of the office’s west elevation is roughly coursed, differing from that of the barn, and the quoins are more irregular, suggesting an earlier date. The top five courses or so appear to have been added in a heightening of the building (more clearly visible in the north gable), and it has plain stone gutter brackets, unlike those on the barn. The office building has two inserted ground floor windows with sawn stone surrounds, as well as what appears to be a blocked doorway next to the barn, and a small inserted opening at first floor level. The roof is of the same blue slate and tile ridge.
- 6.4 The north gable of the range (**7-9**) is of similar, roughly coursed gritstone rubble and there is a clear break where the roof has been raised and its pitch made more shallow, around 1m below the present eaves. The arrangement of stone steps leading to the first floor doorway, the first floor window, and the stone chimney stack all appear to be secondary to this gable, with a blocked ground floor window and doorway probably the original openings. The present doorway and window have monolithic ashlar surrounds, the doorway with a pair of

flagstones creating a canopy, and these features are probably of early nineteenth century date. The east side of the office, where visible externally, has a very poor facing to ground floor level, suggesting it is not an original external face or was rendered at one time; this might be accounted for by the removal of a modern lean-to which stood here into the mid twentieth century, but also accords with the depiction of the building on the 1853 map (Figure 3), which suggests a wing running off to the east. It also contains what may be a blocked window. The first floor window above it is not well finished and has probably been inserted or altered, and there are stone gutter brackets as on the front elevation. No features are evident in this wall within the adjoining lean-to garage.

- 6.5 The north gable of the barn itself is likewise mostly hidden by adjoining buildings, but above their roofs there is a vertical line of quoins marking a set-back of approximately 0.2m, to the left of the barn's ridge (11). This relates to a change in the size of the barn which is not fully understood, but coincides with an internal wall, which was probably the original rear wall before the building was widened.
- 6.6 The visible parts of the barn's rear elevation are confined to a low strip below the eaves (12) (which have the same terracotta gutter brackets as the front elevation), and an area to the south of the lean-tos, where the masonry is of random rubble and contains a ground floor window and first floor forking hole (13). The lean-tos themselves are not of historic interest, and are clearly of twentieth century date as they are not shown on the 1909 map (Figure 5).
- 6.7 The barn's south gable (14) is of similar appearance to the west side and probably of the same date; it has plain quoins to the rear and although some rebuilding is evident at the top of the wall, this probably results from repairs in the late C20, recalled by Mr Bradley.

Interior

- 6.8 The barn interior is divided lengthways on the ground floor by a thick spine wall which appears to have been the original rear wall, with the present rear wall apparently having been added to create a building of approximately twice the width. Otherwise there is little to indicate an earlier arrangement, as the layout has been used to create a milking parlour in the rear (16), and collecting yard in the remainder (17-19). The spine wall now supports the edge of a loft carrying cake bins over the parlour, on modern beams of both steel and timber, and continuing around the south end of the building to form an L-shape. A short cross-wall projecting from the west wall may represent another former subdivision of the barn (shown on the 1909 map). The slight dog-leg in the north side of the building, visible externally in the north gable, is also apparent within the building, and although the sequence of construction cannot be determined

clearly, it again seems likely that this arises from the extension of the barn to the east.

- 6.9 The barn roof structure consists of four large queen-post trusses of imported softwood, of considerable span and probably of mid to late nineteenth century date: the queen-posts are bolted, and have short king posts on the collars. The triangular bracing of the purlins is remedial twentieth century work (20,21).
- 6.10 In the north end of the range the ground floor has been opened up to form an extension to the barn, used for livestock housing (22); a dividing wall has been removed and replaced with steel beams, and this area is now only accessible from within the barn. The first floor is of more interest however: although essentially only a large loft (23), it contains a fireplace with dressed stone surround and grate in the north side (24-26), which give rise to its being termed in this report the "office"; however it might alternatively have formed a living space for servants, or a tack room associated with a stable, and there is also a tradition that it was used as a dance hall in the early twentieth century. The room is open to the roof, with a single king-post truss of nineteenth century character (27).

7 Conclusion

- 7.1 Higher Green Hill appears to have been a prosperous establishment when the farmhouse was built (1768), but this is not so clear from the barn range, which has undergone a great deal of alteration into the twentieth century. The barn itself is likely to have its origins in the seventeenth or eighteenth century but the only features which allow a more accurate date are those added in the nineteenth century. It seems to have begun as a narrow building, extended in the nineteenth century to the east and possibly to the south, and with the front wall having been rebuilt at a later date. The north end of the range, which formerly ran further to the east, contains the architecturally most significant features in the form of the stone steps with railings, and heated office room, which probably date to the early nineteenth century. There is also some evidence for an earlier form of this north end, although its previous function is no longer apparent.

Appendix 1: Contents of the project archive

To be deposited with the Lancashire Record Office, Preston
1 file, containing:

- a copy of the report text & figures
- full set of labelled photographs
- photographic negatives
- 35mm colour slides
- site notes (annotated plans etc)

Complete list of photographs taken, in film order

Photo	Film	Frame	Subject
2	1	1	The barn, from the south-west
4	1	2	Front elevation of the barn, from the west
5	1	4	Front elevation of the barn (south part), from the west
7	1	5	The office and barn, from the north
3	1	6	The barn and office, from the north-west
6	1	7	Front elevation of the office end, from the west
1	1	9	View of the farmhouse and barn range, from the west
8	1	10	North gable of the office
9	1	11	North gable of the office and detail of steps, from the north-east
10	1	12	East side of the office
11	1	13	The barn and office range, with rear lean-tos, from the north-east
12	1	14	Rear elevation of the barn and lean-tos, from the north-east
13	1	16	The barn and office range, with rear lean-tos, from the south-east
14	1	17	South gable of the barn
16	1	18	Barn interior: modern milking parlour
15	2	1	Barn interior: view into rear doorway, from the east
17	2	2	Barn interior: south end, from the south-east
18	2	4	Barn interior: north-west corner, from the south-east
19	2	5	Barn interior: view from north end towards south end
20	2	6	Roof trusses in south end of barn, from the north
21	2	7	Roof truss in north end of barn, from the south
22	2	8	Ground floor room below office, from the north
23	2	10	Interior of office (on first floor), from the north
27	2	11	Roof truss in office, from the north
24	2	12	Fireplace and doorway to office, from the south
25	2	13	Fireplace and window in office, from the south-east
26	2	14	Detail of fireplace in office, from the south-east

LIST OF COLOUR SLIDES

Slide Subject

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 | View of the farmhouse and barn range, from the west |
| 2 | The barn, from the south-west |
| 3 | The barn and office, from the north-west |
| 4 | Front elevation of the barn, from the west |
| 5 | North gable of the office and detail of steps, from the north-east |
| 6 | The barn and office range, with rear lean-tos, from the north-east |

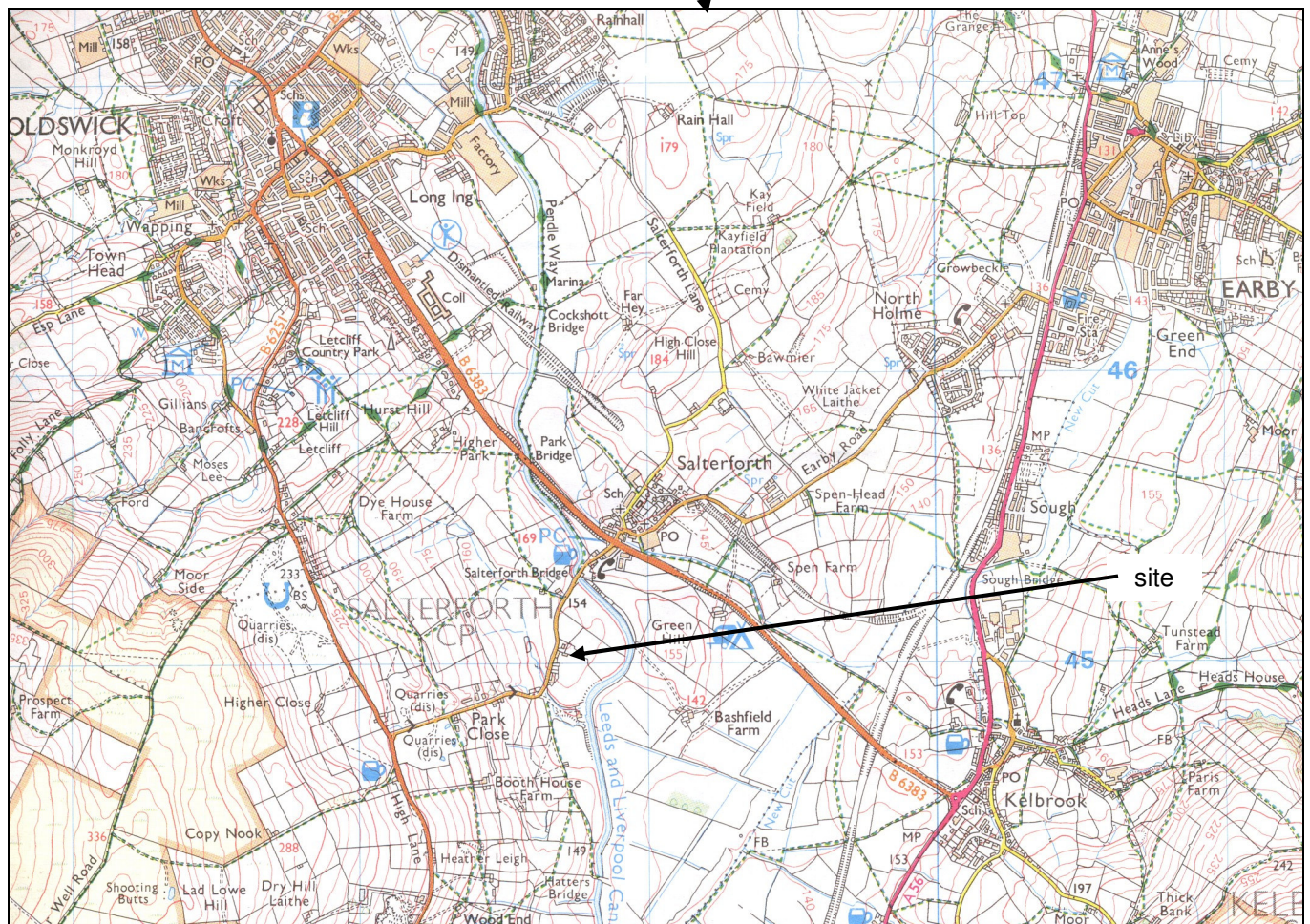
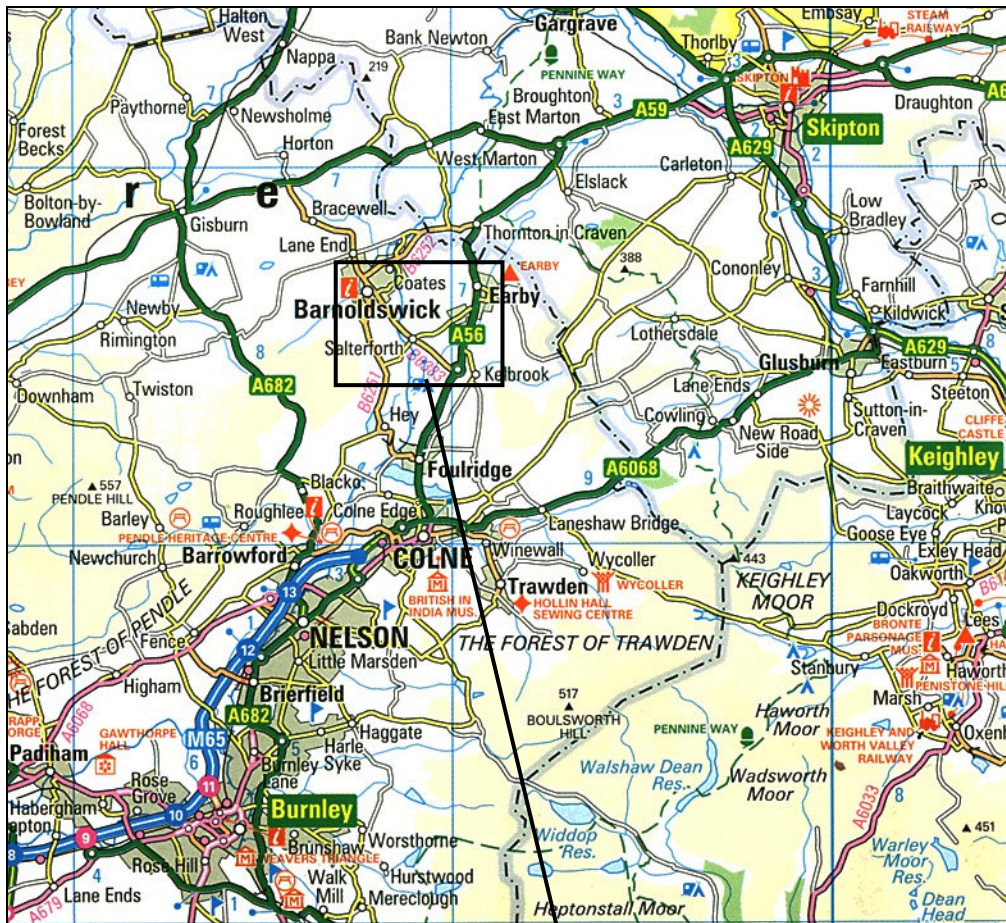
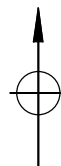
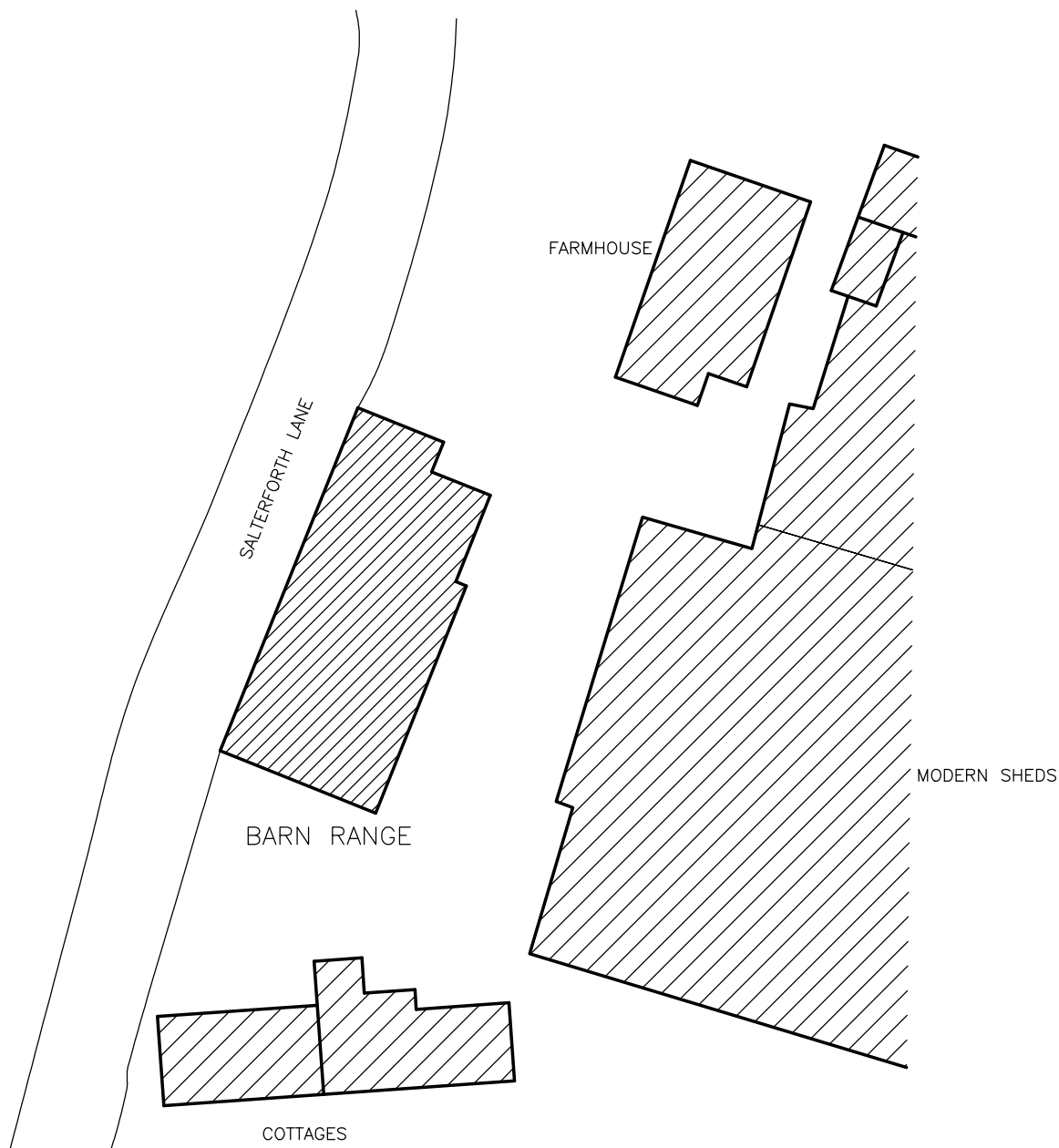


Figure 1: Location maps

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BARN AT HIGHER GREEN HILL FARM
SALTERFORTH
LANCASHIRE (NGR: SD 886450):
ARCHAEOLOGICAL BUILDING RECORDING

FIGURE 2:
SITE PLAN

SCALE: 1:500

DATE OF SURVEY: SEPTEMBER 2006

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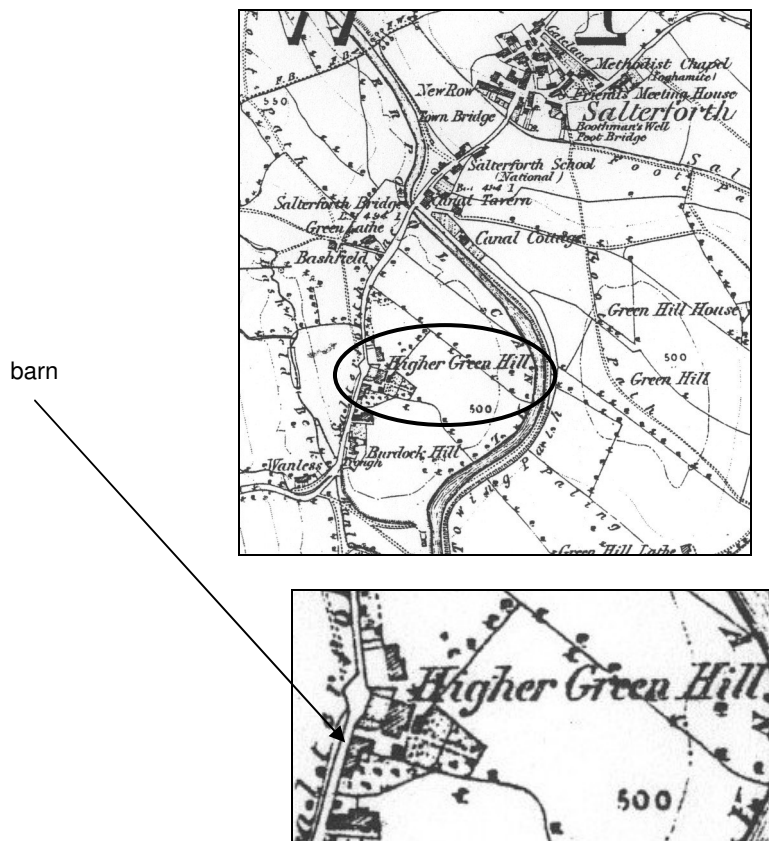


Figure 3: Extract from Ordnance Survey 1853 6" to mile map (surveyed 1848-50)
Sheet no: Yorkshire, 184

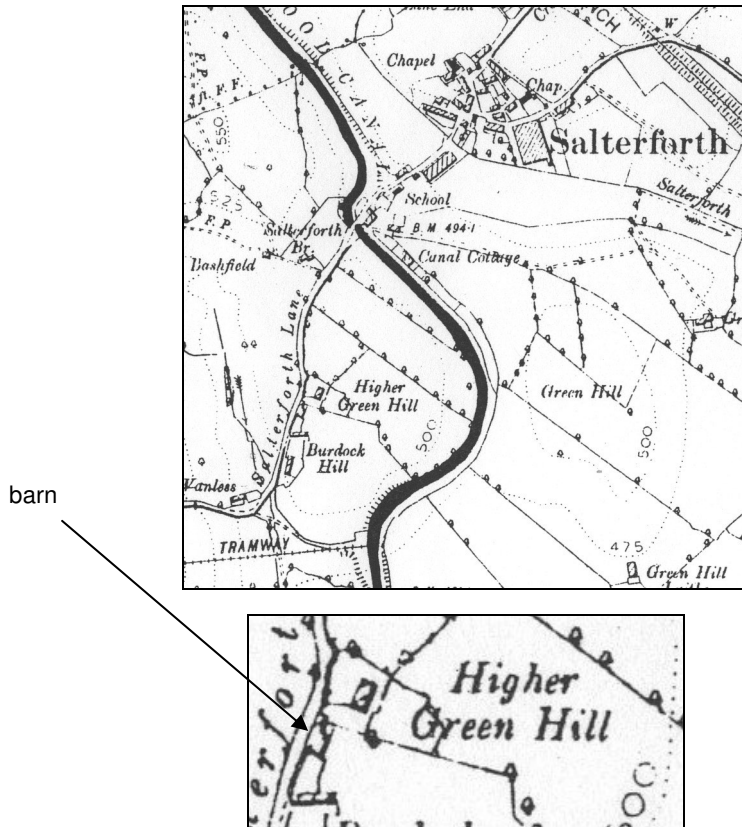


Figure 4: Extract from Ordnance Survey 1896 6" to mile map (re-surveyed 1892)
Sheet no: Yorkshire, 184NW

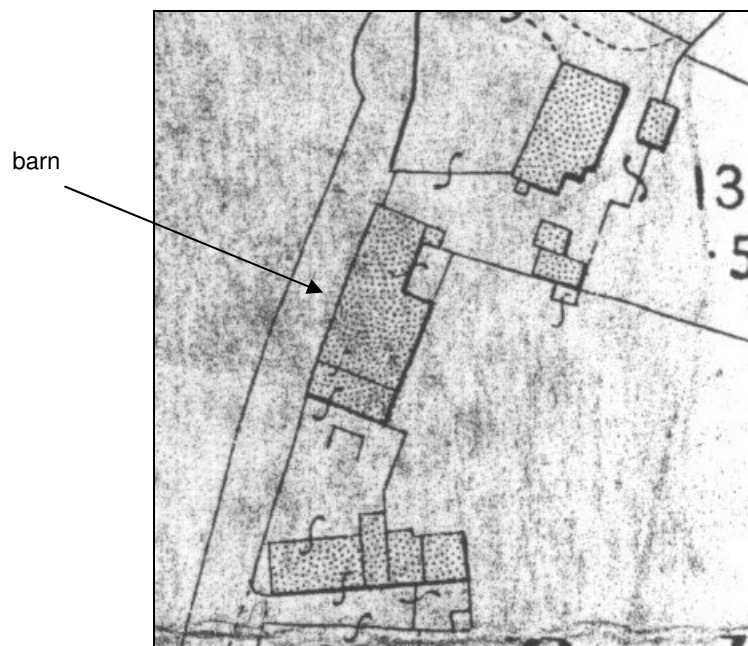
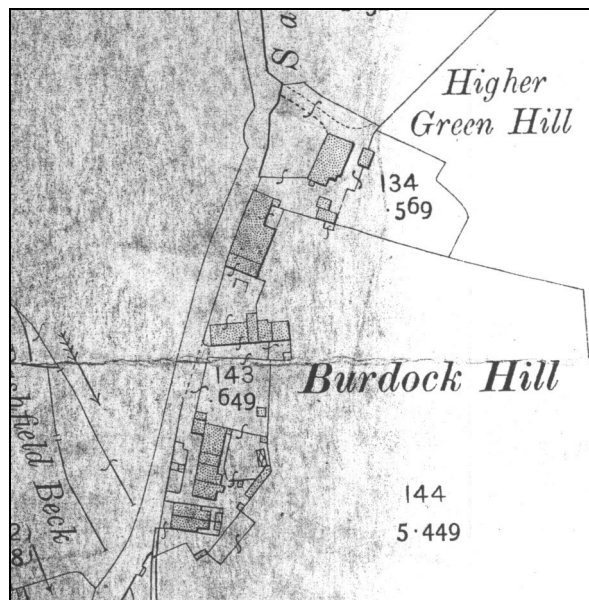
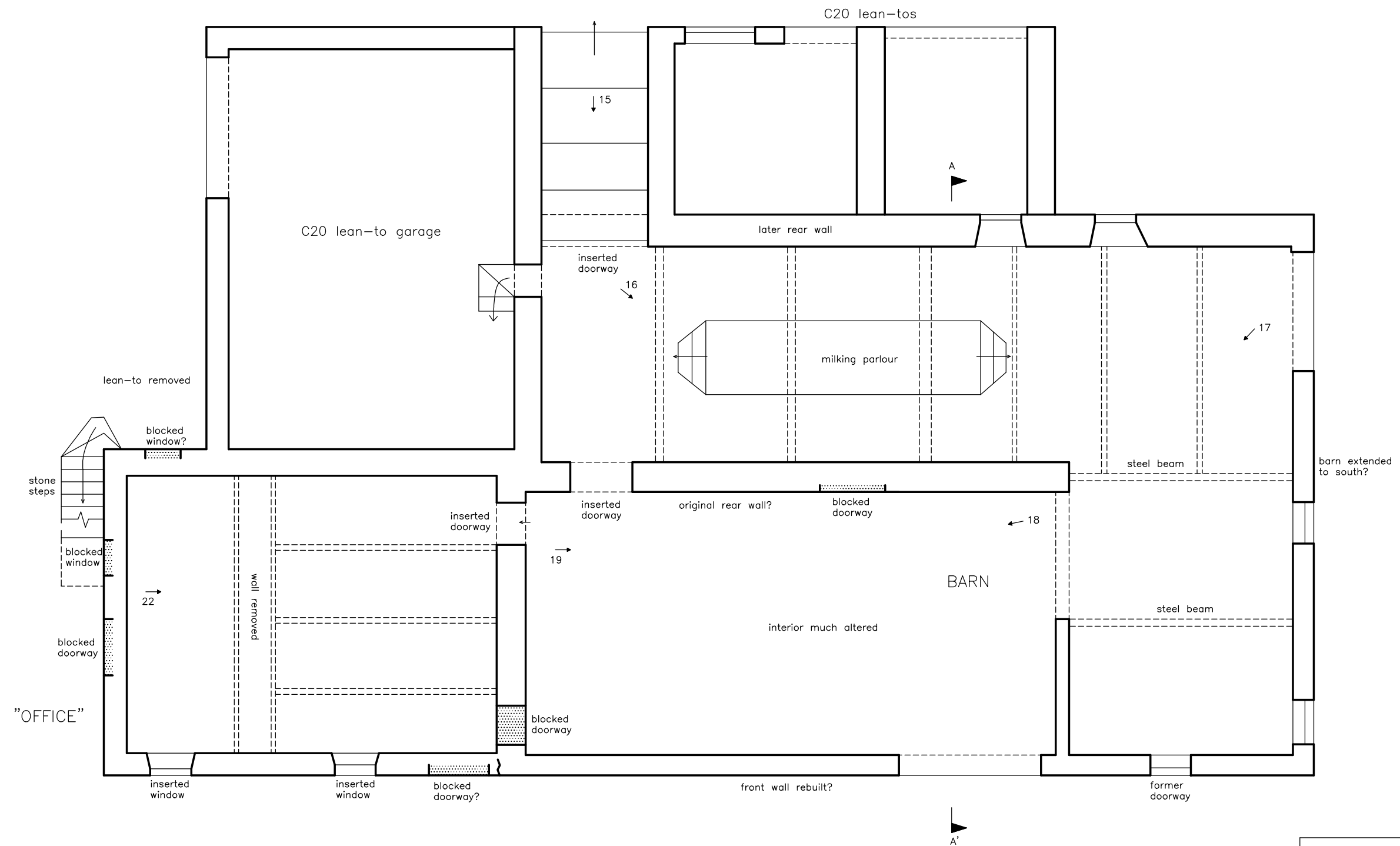


Figure 5: Extract from Ordnance Survey 1909 1:2500 map (revised 1906-7)
Sheet no: Yorkshire, 184.5



SALTERFORTH LANE

BARN AT HIGHER GREEN HILL FARM
SALTERFORTH
LANCASHIRE (NGR: SD 886450):
ARCHAEOLOGICAL BUILDING RECORDING

FIGURE 6:
GROUND FLOOR PLAN

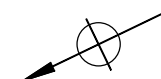
SCALE: 1:100

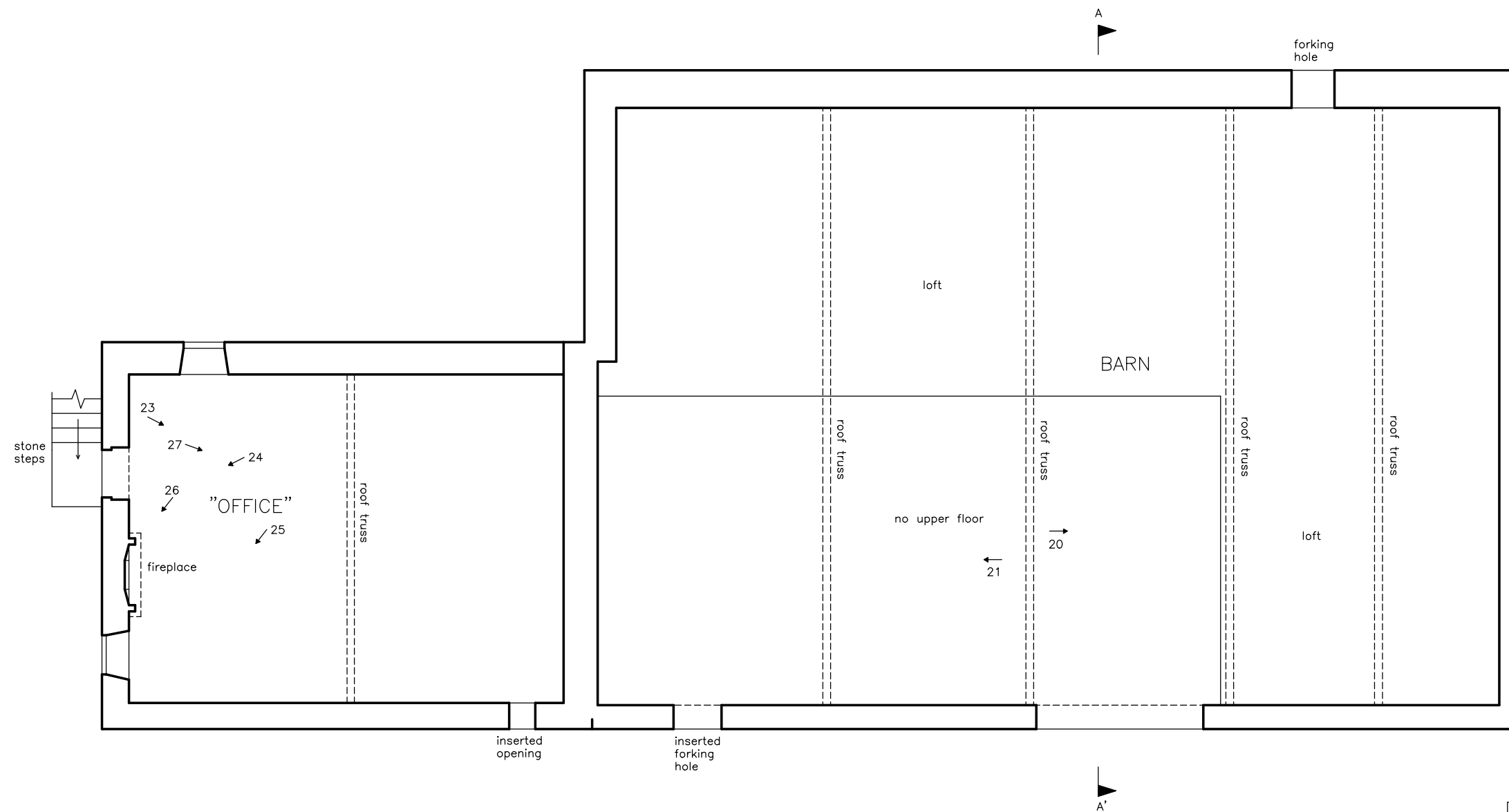
DATE OF SURVEY: SEPTEMBER 2006

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→ 1: photograph direction and number (black & white)
S1: colour slide

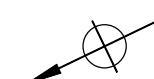
10m





→ 1: photograph direction and number (black & white)
 S1: colour slide

10m



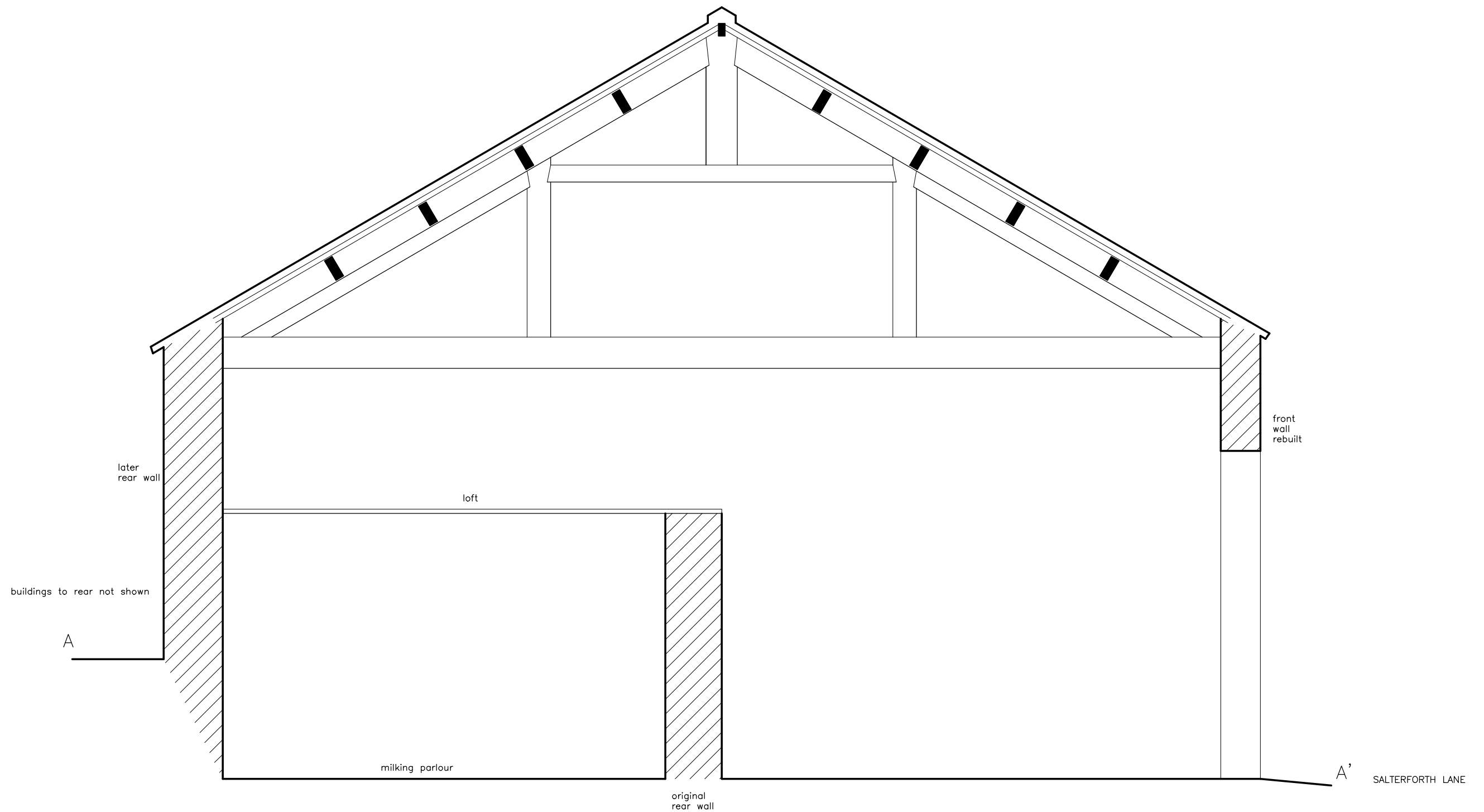
BARN AT HIGHER GREEN HILL FARM
 SALTERFORTH
 LANCASHIRE (NGR: SD 886450):
 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BUILDING RECORDING

FIGURE 7:
 UPPER FLOOR PLAN

SCALE: 1:100

DATE OF SURVEY: SEPTEMBER 2006

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5m

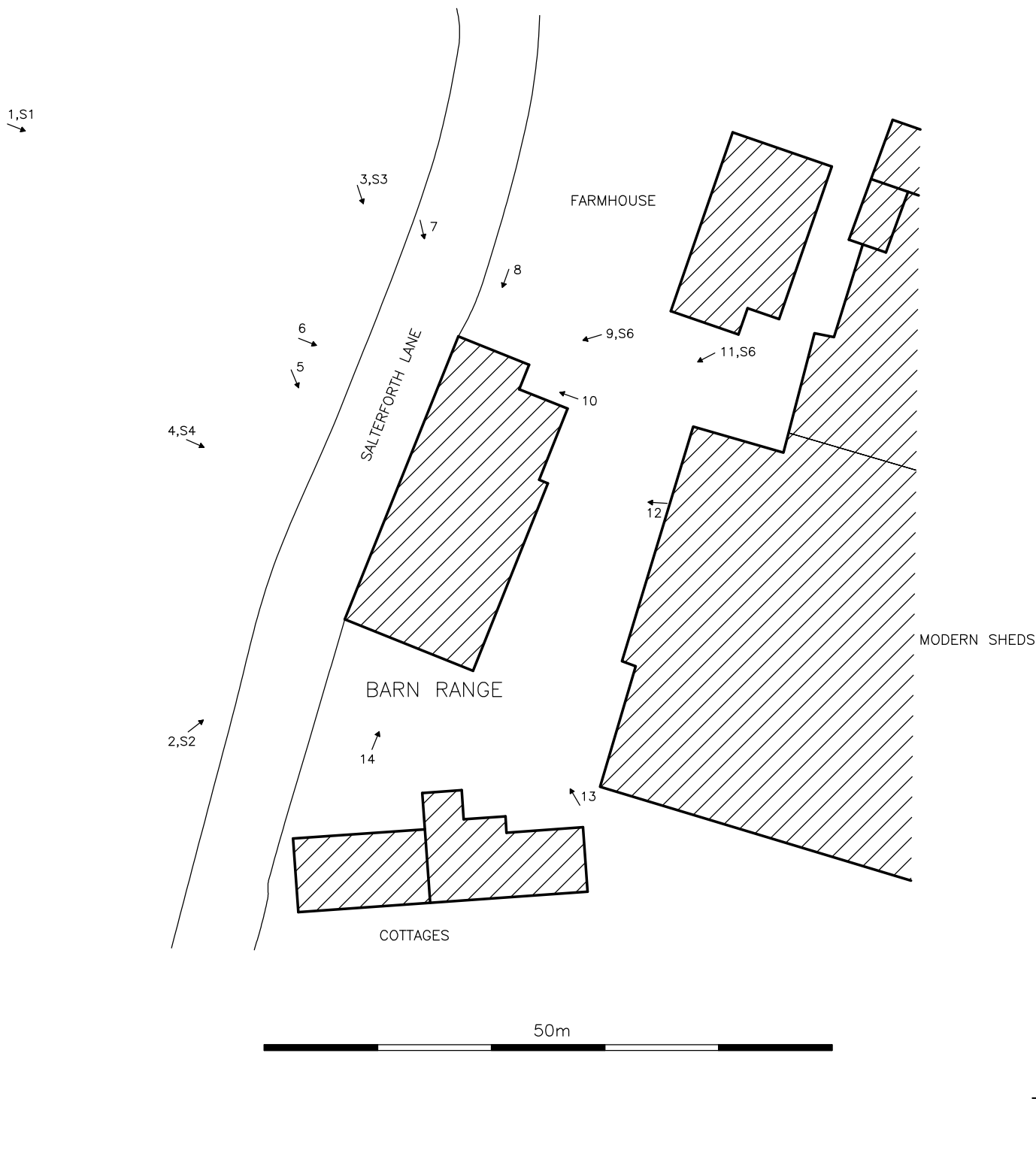
HIGH LAITHE
NEAR BROCK THORN
TOSSIDE
LANCASHIRE (NGR: SD 75865519):
ARCHAEOLOGICAL BUILDING RECORDING

FIGURE 8:
CROSS-SECTION

SCALE: 1:50

DATE OF SURVEY: SEPTEMBER 2006

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→ 1: photograph direction and number (black & white)
S1: colour slide

HIGHER GREEN HILL FARM
SALTERFORTH
LANCASHIRE (NGR: SD 886450):
ARCHAEOLOGICAL BUILDING RECORDING

FIGURE 9:
SITE PLAN
WITH KEY TO PHOTOGRAPHS

SCALE: 1:500

DATE OF SURVEY: SEPTEMBER 2006

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Photo 1: View of the farmhouse and barn range, from the west

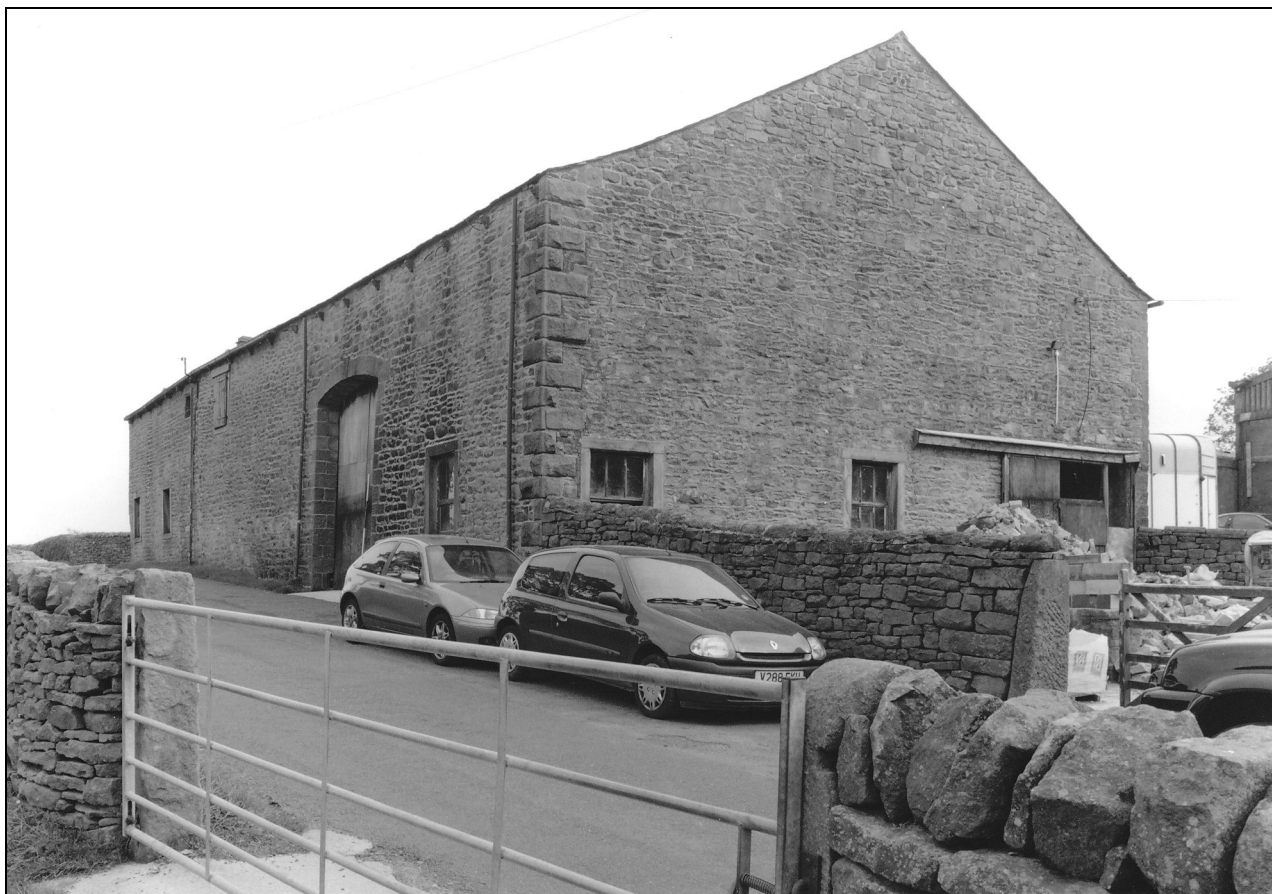


Photo 2: The barn, from the south-west



Photo 3: The barn and office, from the north-west

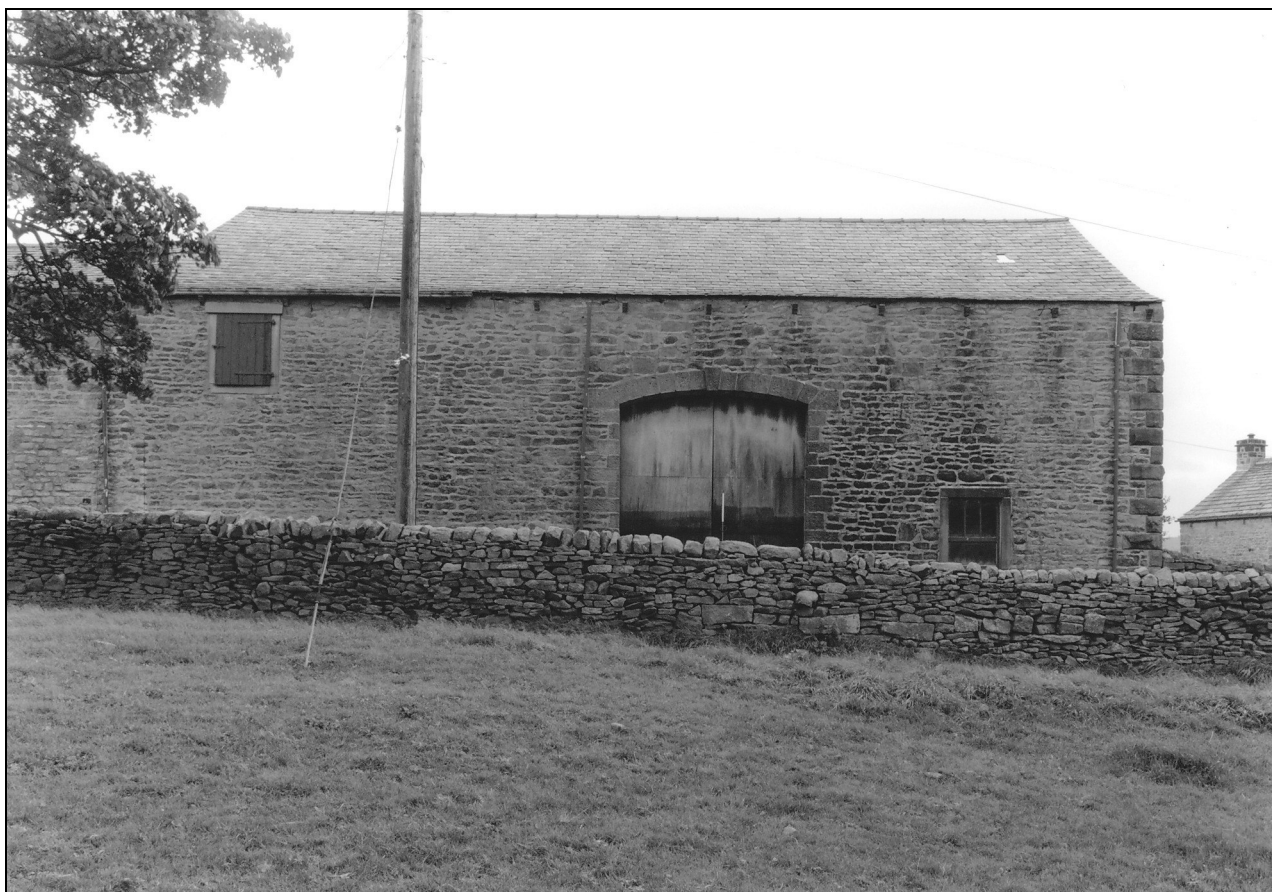


Photo 4: Front elevation of the barn, from the west

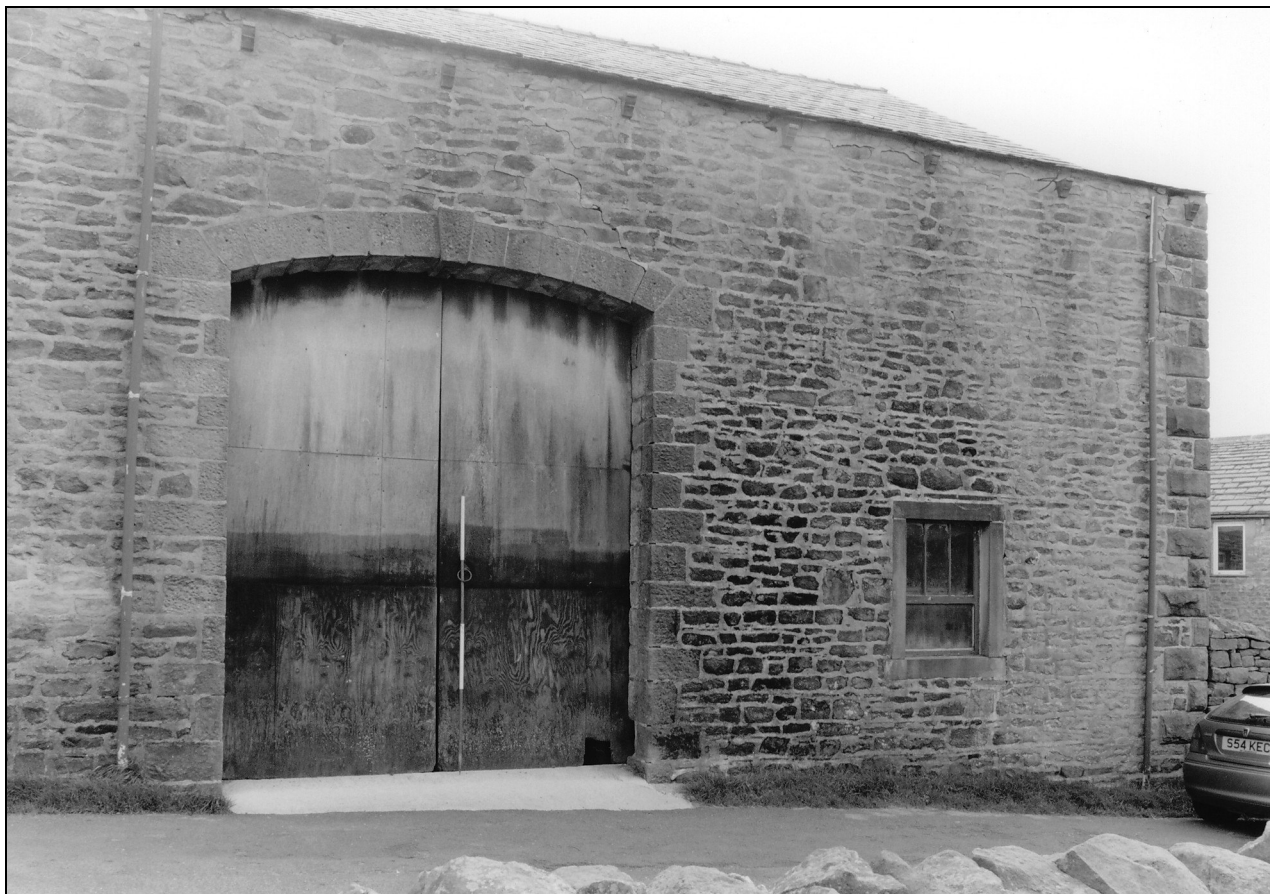


Photo 5: Front elevation of the barn (south part), from the west

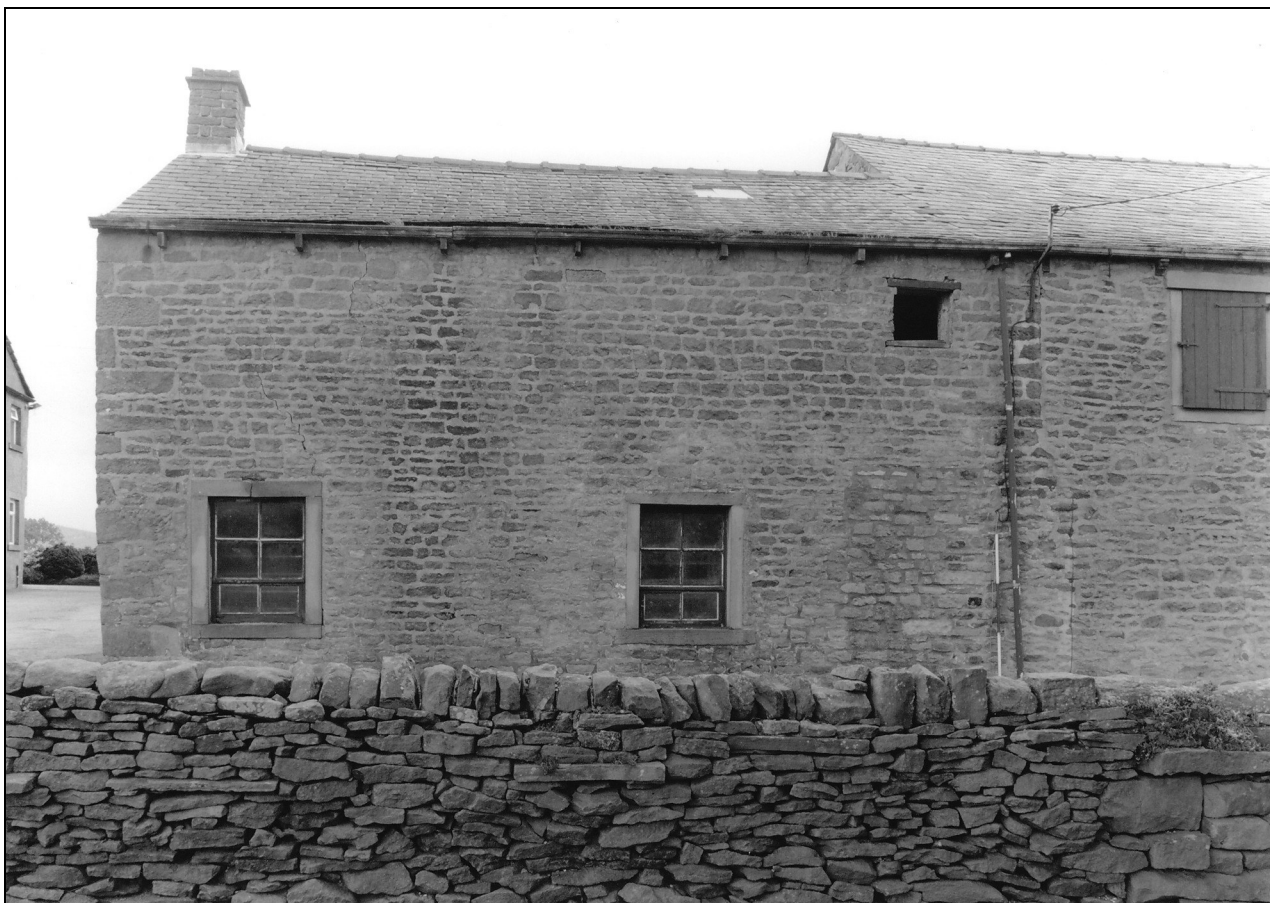


Photo 6: Front elevation of the office end, from the west

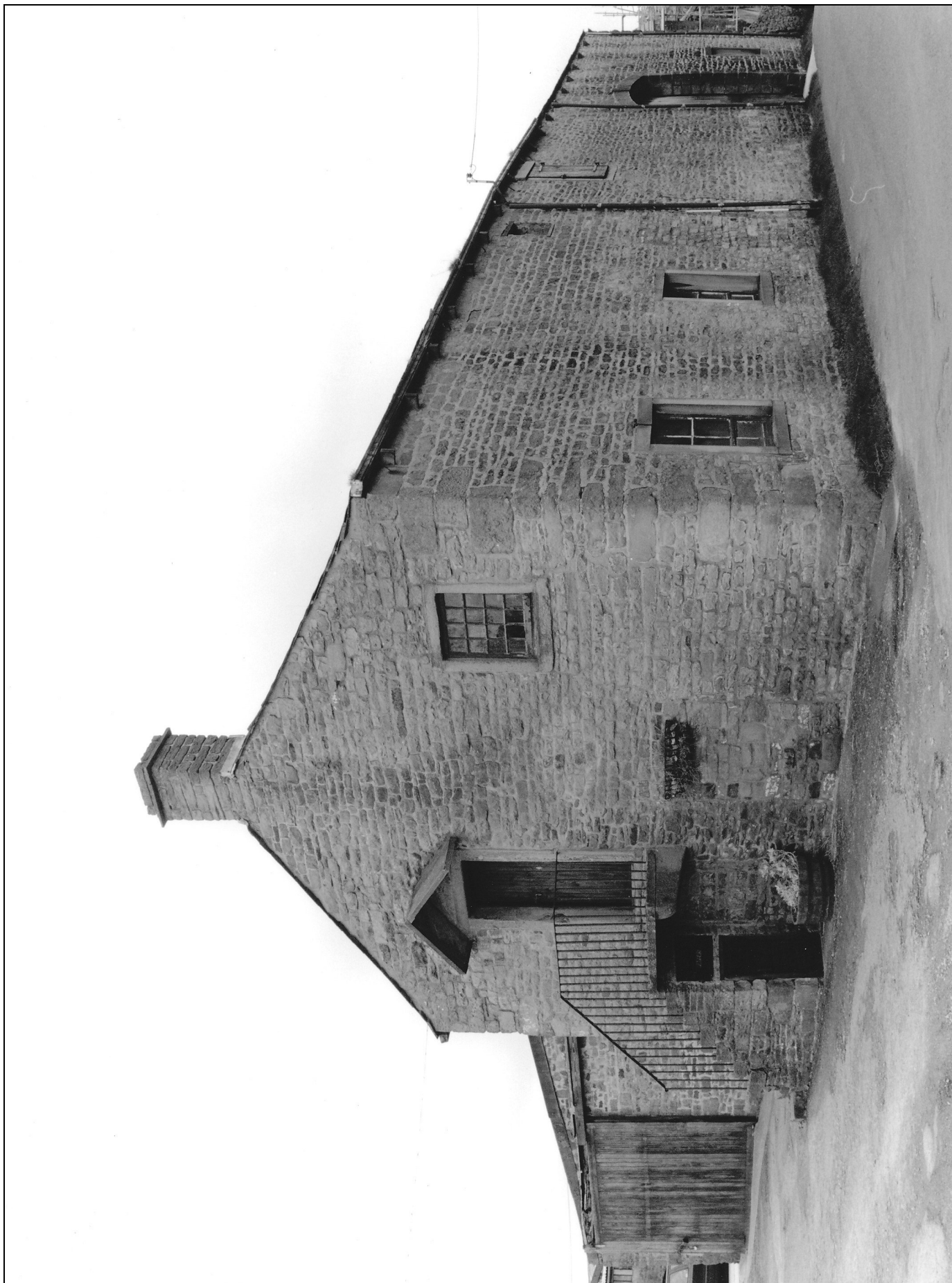


Photo 7: The office and barn, from the north



Photo 9: North gable of the office and detail of steps, from the north-east



Photo 11: The barn and office range, with rear lean-tos, from the north-east



Photo 12: Rear elevation of the barn and lean-tos, from the north-east



Photo 13: The barn and office range, with rear lean-tos, from the south-east



Photo 14: South gable of the barn



Photo 18: Barn interior: north-west corner, from the south-east



Photo 19: Barn interior: view from north end towards south end



Photo 21: Roof truss in north end of barn, from the south



Photo 22: Ground floor room below office, from the north



Photo 25: Fireplace and window in office, from the south-east



Photo 26: Detail of fireplace in office, from the south-east



Photo 27: Roof truss in office, from the north