

Barn at Lower Houses
Haddings Lane
Newchurch-in-Pendle, Lancashire:
Archaeological Building Recording



August 2006

STEPHEN HAIGH

B u i l d i n g s A r c h a e o l o g i s t

11 Browcliff Silsden Keighley West Yorkshire BD20 9PN
Tel/Fax: 01535 658925 Mobile: 07986 612548

Barn at Lower Houses
Haddings Lane
Newchurch-in-Pendle, Lancashire:
Archaeological Building Recording

CONTENTS

List of photographs

1	Introduction	1
2	Location and current use	1
3	Planning background.....	1
4	Historical background and architectural interest	2
5	Recording methodology.....	2
6	Site description.....	2
7	Conclusion	5
Appendix 1: Contents of the project archive		6

Figures

1: Location maps	5: Ground floor plan
2: Site plan	6: Upper floor plan
3: Extract from OS 1848 map	7: Cross-section
4i: Extract from OS 1893 map	8: Site plan with key to photos
4ii: Extract from OS 1912 map	9: Ground floor plan with key to photos
4iii: Extract from OS 1932 map	10: Upper floor plan with key to photos

Photographs

SUMMARY

Archaeological building recording was carried out in July 2006 at a barn at Lower Houses, near Newchurch-in-Pendle, Lancashire (NGR: SD 809379), for the executors of Dorothy Nutter, before the conversion of the building to residential use. The barn was originally three bays long but was extended to five bays, and has later additions; the core is likely to be of eighteenth century date. The records made include floor plans, a section and photographs, as well as a written account containing some historical information.

August 2006

STEPHEN HAIGH
Buildings Archaeologist

11 Browcliff Silsden Keighley West Yorkshire BD20 9PN
Tel/Fax: 01535 658925 Mobile: 07986 612548

**BARN AT LOWER HOUSES, HADDINGS LANE, NEWCURCH-IN-PENDLE,
LANCASHIRE:**

ARCHAEOLOGICAL BUILDING RECORDING

LIST OF PHOTOGRAPHS INCLUDED IN THIS REPORT

Photo	Subject
1	View of the farm from the south-east
2	The barn, from the south-east
3	Cart entrance in south-east elevation, between later additions
4	South-east elevation of barn, within later addition
6	North-east gable showing earlier roof-line, and modern building below
7	General view of the barn from the north-west
10	Cart entrance in north-west elevation
11	Right-hand part of north-west elevation, showing change in stonework
12	General view of the barn from the west
13	Interior of lean-to at south-west gable
15	View into threshing bay, through south-east cart entrance
18	Wall enclosing stable in south-east corner of barn
20	Stall divider in stable, from the east
22	Threshing bay and cross-wall to shippon, from the north-east
23	Threshing bay and cross-wall to shippon, from the south-east
24	Interior of main shippon, from the north-east
27	Roof trusses in barn, from the north-east
29	Lean-to along south-west gable of barn, from the west
32	Interior of early twentieth century shippon, from the north
33	Twentieth century additions to barn, from the south

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

BARN AT LOWER HOUSES, HADDINGS LANE, NEWCURCH-IN-PENDLE, LANCASHIRE:

ARCHAEOLOGICAL BUILDING RECORDING

1 Introduction

- 1.1 This report presents the results of archaeological building recording of a barn at Lower Houses, a farm near Newchurch-in-Pendle, Lancashire, carried out in July 2006. The work was commissioned by the executors of Dorothy Nutter, to fulfil a condition of planning consent from Pendle Borough Council, for the conversion of the building to residential use.
- 1.2 The barn is believed to be mainly of eighteenth century date with earlier origins, and was extended in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, but contains few historic features. Records made include floor plans, a section drawing, photographs, and a written account incorporating the evidence from historic maps.
- 1.3 The recording was carried out in accordance with a proposal approved by the Lancashire County Archaeology Service. This report will be deposited with the client, the planning authority, the County Archaeology Service and the English Heritage National Monuments Record. The project archive will be deposited at the Lancashire Record Office.

2 Location and current use

- 2.1 Lower Houses is a farmstead lying in the civil parish of Goldshaw Booth between the villages of Higham and Newchurch-in-Pendle, about 5km north-west of Burnley (NGR: SD 809379; Figure 1). The site lies in the valley of the Sabden Brook between Pendle Hill and a low ridge to the south-east, in an area of dispersed settlement and improved pasture. It is reached from Haddings Lane via a rough track.
- 2.2 There are two main buildings at the farm: the farmhouse (with a datestone of 1592 and listed as having special architectural or historic interest), and the barn to the north-west, which dates from several phases. At the time of recording it was in use mainly for storage, and its last use was agricultural.

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 5 August 2005 for its conversion to two dwellings (application no: 13/05/0488/P), and condition no 2

attached to the consent requires a detailed record of the building to be made before development, which this report is intended to fulfil.

4 Historical background and architectural interest

- 4.1 Little is known of the history of the barn but Ordnance Survey maps contribute to an understanding of its development. The first edition 6" to the mile map of 1848 (Figure 3) shows the farmhouse and barn named as "Lower Houses", with the barn depicted as an L-shaped structure. The larger scale 1:2500 map of 1893 (Figure 4i) shows the barn as a rectangular building facing a yard to its south-east, and measuring approximately 18m long and 12m wide, ie with different proportions from those shown on the earlier map. The 1912 edition shows no change (Figure 4ii) but by 1932 the building had been extended by the addition of a range along the south-west end (Figure 4iii).

5 Recording methodology

- 5.1 The archaeological building recording took place on 21 July 2006, and in accordance with a method statement approved by the Lancashire County Archaeology Service. It involved the production of floor plans and a 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 Frank Belshaw.
- 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 are referred to by numbers in bold. A small number of 35mm colour slides was also taken.

6 Site description

- 6.1 The barn forms a large irregular structure, most of it post-dating 1910 as indicated by the OS map of 1912, but with the historic (pre-1893) core comprising a five bay, two storey structure facing south-east, with its long axis running from south-west to north-east (1). There are however two earlier phases of construction within this part of the building, with changes in masonry and different roof trusses indicating that the barn was previously only three bays long, and evidence in the north-east gable which suggests that in a still earlier phase

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

the barn was narrower and had a steeper roof-line, and was probably cruck-framed. All but the most recent parts are built from gritstone rubble of varying character, with stone slate roofs.

- 6.2 The front elevation of the main part of the building is largely hidden by later accretions to either side of the arched cart entrance (2), but this side of the building has two types of masonry. Around the cart entrance, and to the right of it, the walling is of squared gritstone rubble, laid in rough courses with prominent watershot profile and with large quoins (3), with the arch itself composed of plain voussoirs. At a high level in this wall just to the left of this doorway, is a ragged joint with more regularly squared and coursed stonework to the left, which is clearly later, although in this middle bay appears to represent rebuilding rather than extension. Beneath the roof of the later shed at this end of the elevation are three ground floor doorways (4), contemporary with the more modern stonework: they appear all to have had plain monolithic jambs originally, with the middle entrance having given access to a feeding passage within a shippon, and the two flanking doorways having led into the standings which faced onto this passage. To the right of the cart entrance within the modern lean-to sheds at the other end of the building, the elevation is rendered and no features are visible, although a blocked doorway to the stable can be identified from within the barn.
- 6.3 Similarly the north-east gable of the barn is largely obscured by modern render within the adjoining lean-to, but above the roof of this (5) an earlier roof-line can be discerned, showing that the barn had a steeper roof and narrower width at one time (6), characteristic of a cruck-framed building. The earlier masonry within this gable is of coursed rubble similar to that elsewhere however, with the later stonework above being more random in nature.
- 6.4 The barn's north-west elevation faces out onto the field (7,8), and is not masked by additions; it has a similar cart entrance with segmental arch of gritstone voussoirs, which would have been central to the original three bays (9,10). To the right of this is a window opening, probably inserted, and beyond this a ragged joint representing the approximate position of the original south-west gable (11), with the masonry changing to a more evenly coursed, better squared stone comparable to that on the south-east side, and the quoins at the end are very regularly shaped. The doorway and window within this area of masonry serve the shippon.
- 6.5 The main building's south-west gable has been built against by a single storey lean-to which maps show to have been added between 1910 and 1932 (12). Within this the regular, coursed stonework of the gable is visible (13) and contains two openings, both windows or muck holes, with plain stone dressings (14). Above the lean-to roof are a forking hole and a narrow, plain owl hole.

- 6.6 The cart entrance in the south-east elevation of the barn leads into a threshing bay with the other cart entrance directly opposite (15); the floor of this area is obscured. Short cross-walls project some way into the building to create “porches”, with the doors set inside. In the south-east side the doors remain in place and are harr-hung, the hinges at the top set into a cross-beam which also supports a loft, and outside the doors, but within the porch, a chamfered door jamb indicates an earlier opening to the south-west, with a plain opening to a stable opposite. The different character of these openings suggest the cross-walls have been subject to some rebuilding. In the north-west porch the arrangement is less well-preserved, with the loft and doors having been removed (16).
- 6.7 The single bay to the north-east of the threshing bay contains a storage area open to the roof (17), with a stable at one side contained within a stone wall which also supports a hay loft (18). At one time the stable, which is for two horses, would have been accessible through the doorway in the south-east elevation. It contains a single stall divider, constructed from planed softwood and probably of early twentieth century date (19,20), as well as a wall recess and blocked breather (21).
- 6.8 On the south-west side of the threshing bay a secondary, rubble wall linking the porch walls encloses a shippon and supports the edge of a hay loft extending to the south-west gable (22,23). The wall contains a central doorway with feed holes to either side (one of them now infilled with brickwork), which suggest an earlier arrangement within the shippon of a single row of standings facing north-west towards the threshing bay. The present arrangement, which dates from the early or mid twentieth century, comprises two rows of outward-facing standings separated by concrete boskins (24-26), but these clearly replaced another layout, as indicated by the mortices for timber posts in the beams overhead. That arrangement comprised a central feeding passage with standings facing onto it, but was superseded by the present one, which was believed to be less likely to allow transmission of disease. It is thought likely that the earliest shippon layout (with a single row of standings) was used until the extension of the barn to five bays.
- 6.9 The roof structure of the three-bay barn comprised two trusses of relatively short span, running between the cross-walls next to the threshing bay (27). These are of pegged king-post form, and constructed from hardwood. The principal rafters have slightly curved profiles and halvings which suggest they are derived from crucks, and are supported by curved struts rising from the feet of the king-posts. The staggered purlins associated with these trusses are mostly also of oak, although supplemented by square-sawn softwood.

- 6.10 The two roof trusses to the south-west are clearly of more modern date and were no doubt put in at the time of the barn's extension (28). They are of queen-post form, of square-sawn softwood bolted together, with purlins of similar material. The character of these, together with the limited cartographic evidence, suggests that the addition of these two bays took place between 1844 and 1891.
- 6.11 The subsequent additions to the barn include a long narrow building along the south-west end, which according to the maps, was built between 1910 and 1932. This is built of rubble with stone slate roof, and generally poor dressings (29,30), but appears to incorporate a low wall which is shown on the earlier maps and which probably comprised a middenstead, and in fact part of the building may have continued to be used for this purpose, with a roof to preserve the value of the manure. The lean-to has two parts: the north-west end has a wide doorway opening into the field and now contains a row of concrete boskins (13), while to the south-east, the wider part forms another small shippon, originally entered from the north-east side (31) and with a low hay loft (32). This is in very poor condition and prevented entry into the area, but there do not appear to be any features of interest within the building. The addition to the east of this building, with gritstone walls and a single pitch asbestos roof, was built in the 1960s as additional cow housing and is not of historic interest (33,34).

7 Conclusion

- 7.1 The barn at Lower Houses contains evidence for several phases of building although there is little of special interest within the surviving structure. It probably began as a three-bay cruck-framed building, perhaps in the seventeenth century, which was widened perhaps in the eighteenth century, with the king-post roof trusses being constructed from the re-used crucks. In the second half of the nineteenth century the barn was extended by two bays, to create an enlarged shippon and hay loft, and in the twentieth century additional cow housing was added at various times. The continuous development of the building means that few individual historic features have survived however.

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)

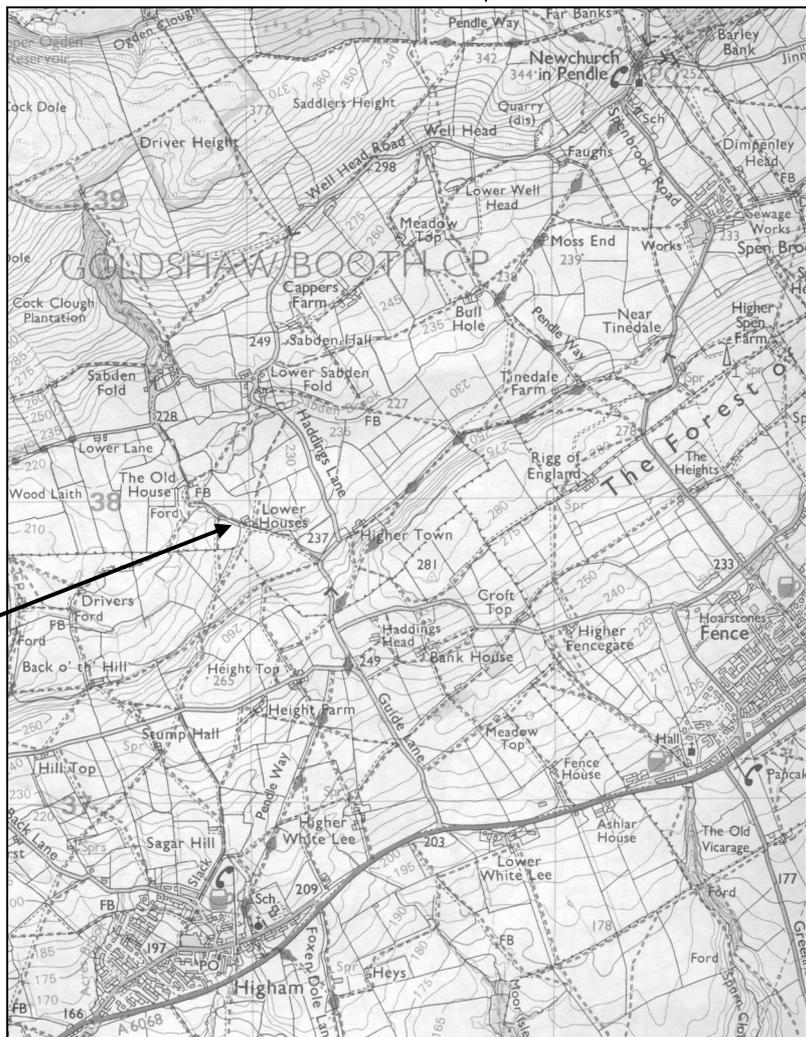
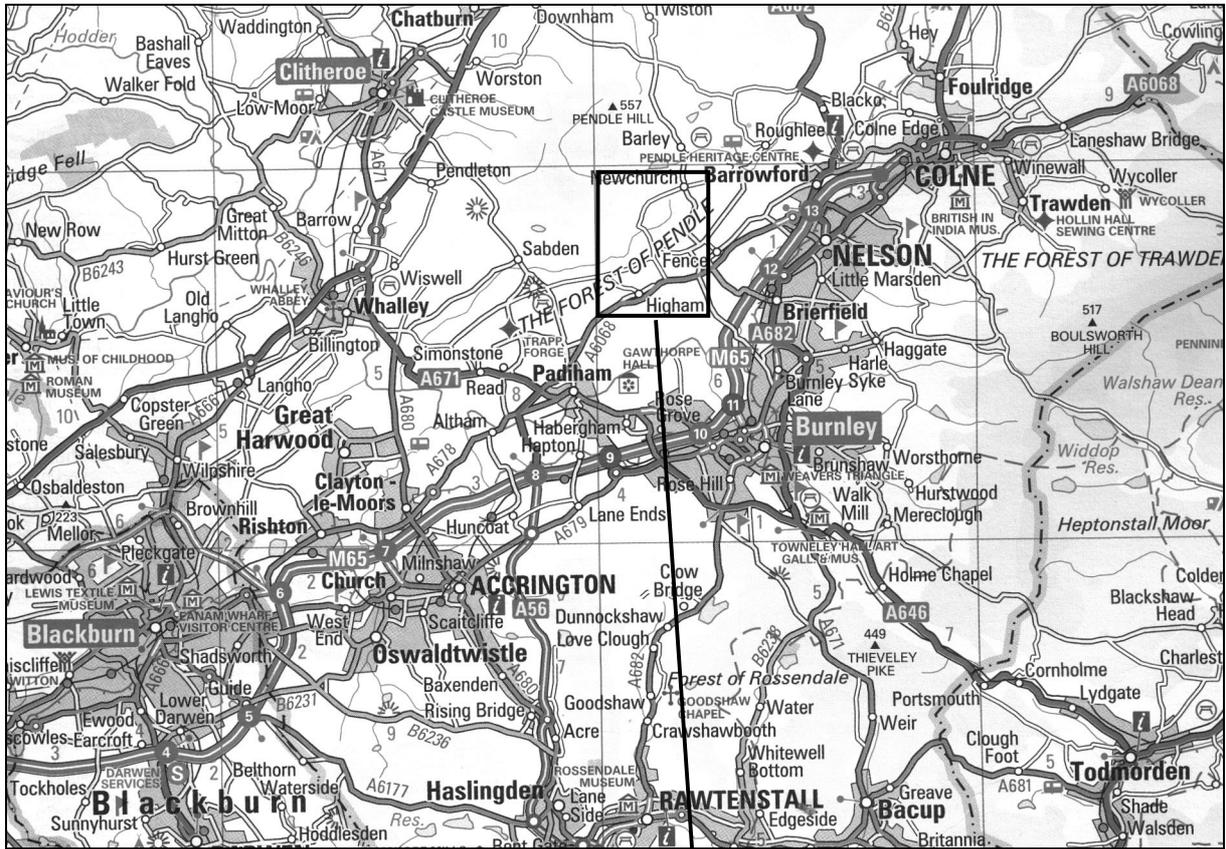
Complete list of photographs taken, in film order

Photo	Film	Frame	Subject
7	1	1	General view of the barn from the north-west
9	1	3	North-west elevation
8	1	4	General view of the barn from the north
10	1	5	Cart entrance in north-west elevation
11	1	6	Right-hand part of north-west elevation, showing change in stonework
12	1	7	General view of the barn from the west
6	1	8	North-east gable showing earlier roof-line, and modern building below
29	1	10	Lean-to along south-west gable of barn, from the west
30	1	11	Lean-to along south-west gable of barn, from the south
33	1	12	Twentieth century additions to barn, from the south
2	1	13	The barn, from the south-east
3	1	14	Cart entrance in south-east elevation, between later additions
5	1	16	The barn, from the east
34	1	17	Shippon of <i>circa</i> 1960, from the east
1	1	18	View of the farm from the south-east
31	2	1	North-east side of early twentieth century lean-to, from the north
4	2	3	South-east elevation of barn, within later addition
	2	4	Same as 2/6
14	2	5	Detail of muck-hole in south-west gable
13	2	6	Interior of lean-to at south-west gable
32	2	7	Interior of early twentieth century shippon, from the north
25	2	9	Interior of main shippon, from the north-west
24	2	10	Interior of main shippon, from the north-east
26	2	11	Interior of main shippon, from the south
15	2	12	View into threshing bay, through south-east cart entrance
16	2	13	Threshing bay and north-west porch, from the south-east
17	2	15	North-east interior of barn, from the south
18	2	16	Wall enclosing stable in south-east corner of barn
22	2	17	Threshing bay and cross-wall to shippon, from the north-east
27	2	18	Roof trusses in barn, from the north-east
23	3	1	Threshing bay and cross-wall to shippon, from the south-east
28	3	3	Secondary roof truss in barn, from the north-east
	3	4	Same as 3/5
20	3	5	Stall divider in stable, from the east
21	3	6	Recess etc in stable, from the west
19	3	7	Stall divider in stable, from the south

LIST OF COLOUR SLIDES

Slide	Subject
--------------	----------------

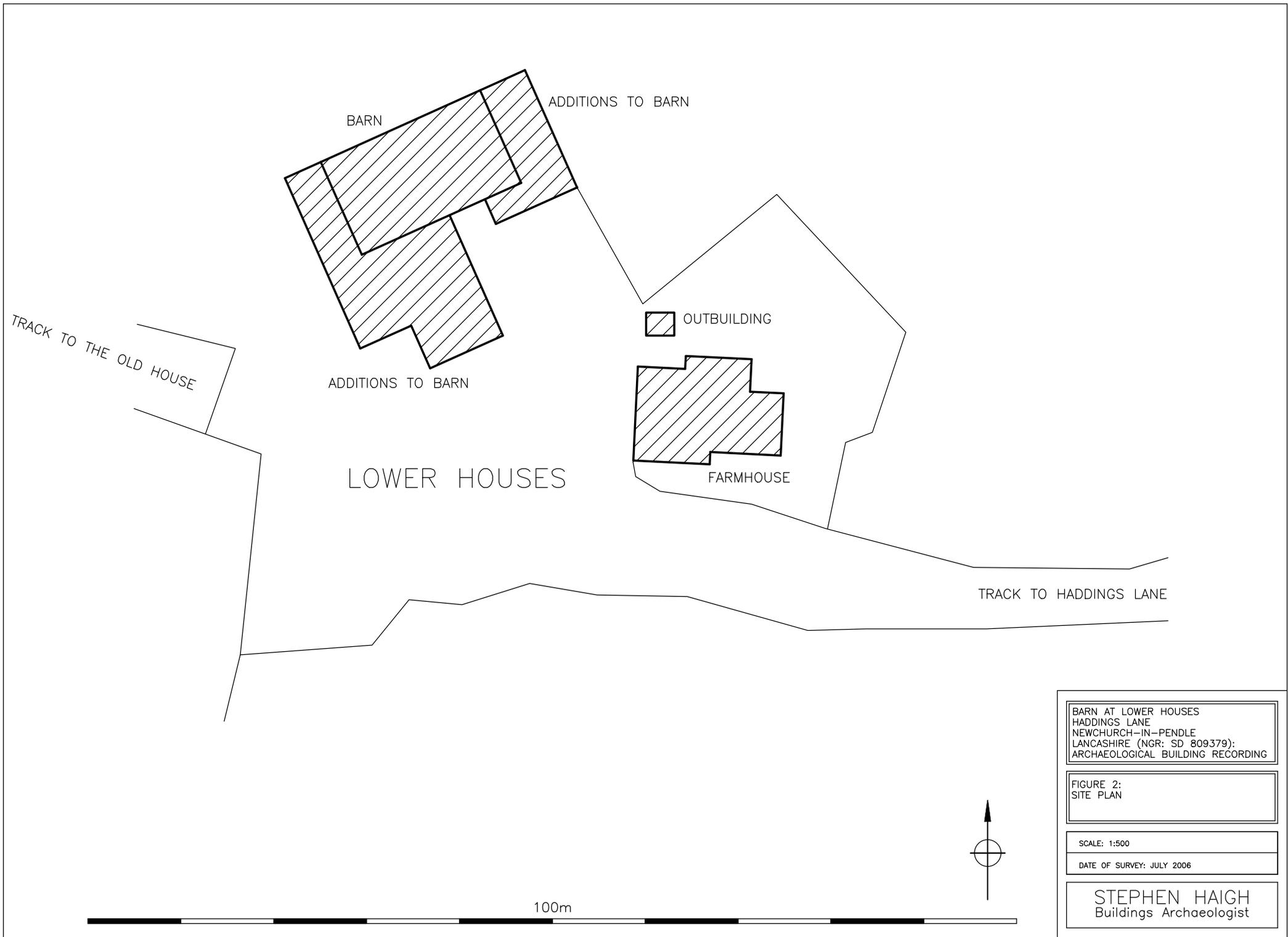
- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 | View of the farm from the south-east |
| 2 | The barn, from the south-east |
| 3 | General view of the barn from the north-west |
| 4 | General view of the barn from the north |
| 5 | North-west elevation |
| 6 | General view of the barn from the west |
| 7 | Lean-to along south-west gable of barn, from the south |
| 8 | Twentieth century additions to barn, from the south |



site

Figure 1: Location maps

Reproduced by permission of Ordnance Survey© on behalf of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office.
© Crown Copyright. All rights reserved. Licence no: AL100034008



BARN

ADDITIONS TO BARN

ADDITIONS TO BARN

OUTBUILDING

FARMHOUSE

LOWER HOUSES

TRACK TO THE OLD HOUSE

TRACK TO HADDINGS LANE

BARN AT LOWER HOUSES
 HADDINGS LANE
 NEWCHURCH-IN-PENDLE
 LANCASHIRE (NGR: SD 809379);
 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BUILDING RECORDING

FIGURE 2:
 SITE PLAN

SCALE: 1:500
 DATE OF SURVEY: JULY 2006

STEPHEN HAIGH
 Buildings Archaeologist

100m



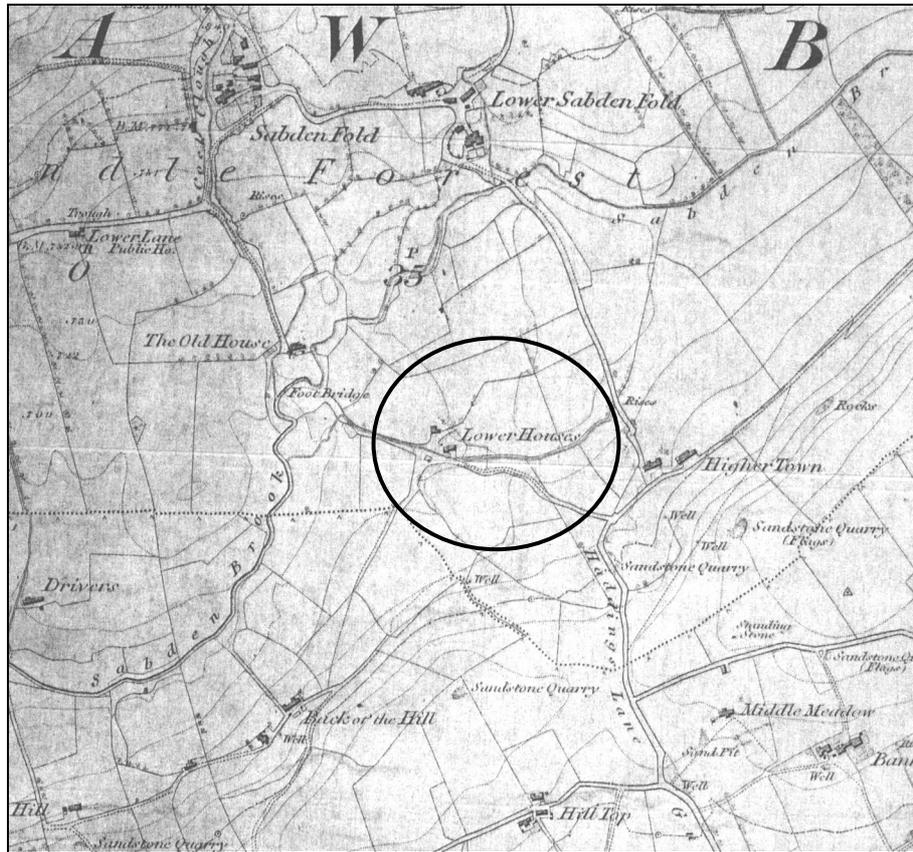
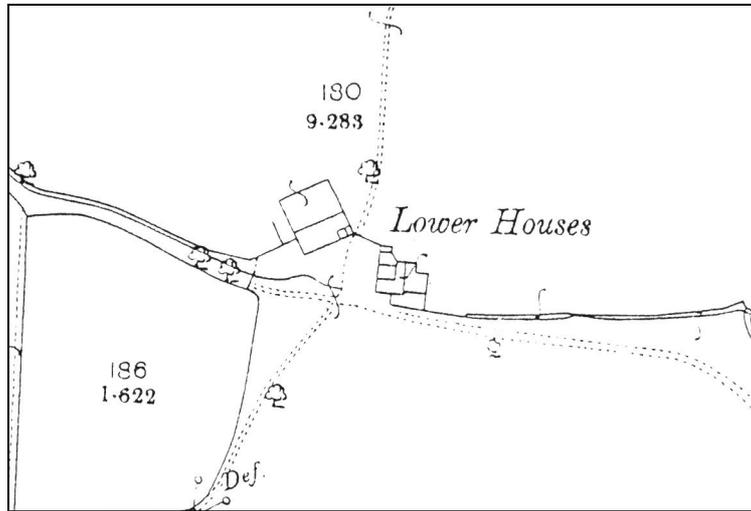
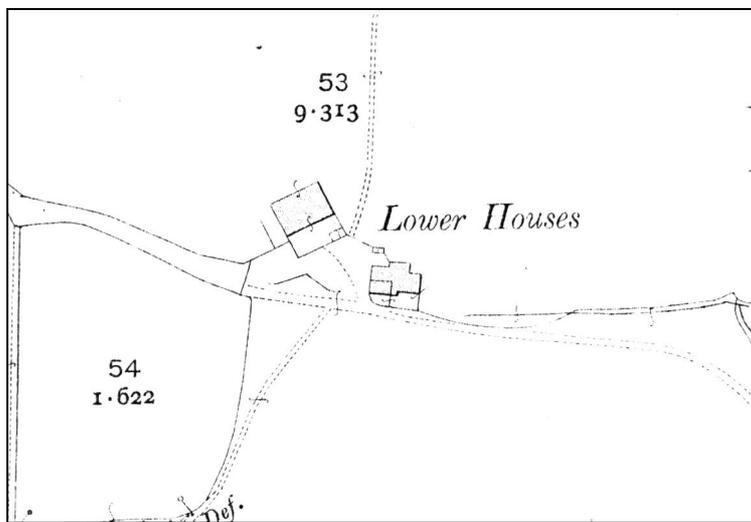


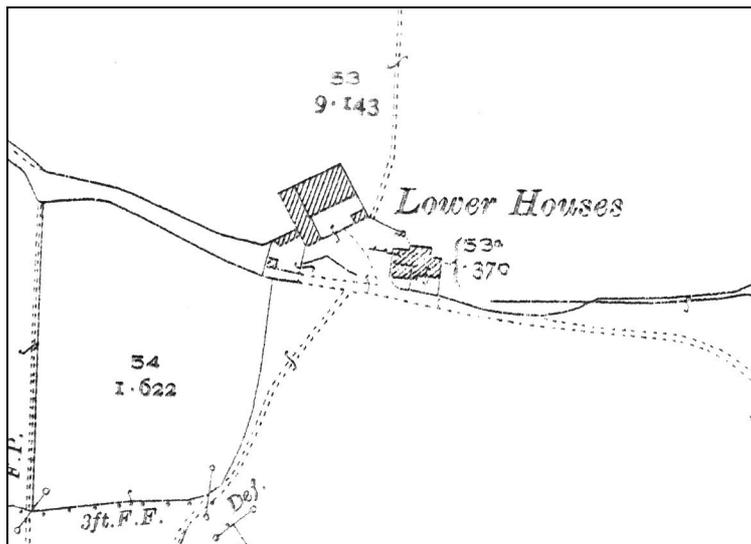
Figure 3: Extract from Ordnance Survey 1848 6" to mile map (surveyed 1844)
Sheet no: Lancashire 56



i: 1893 (surveyed 1891)

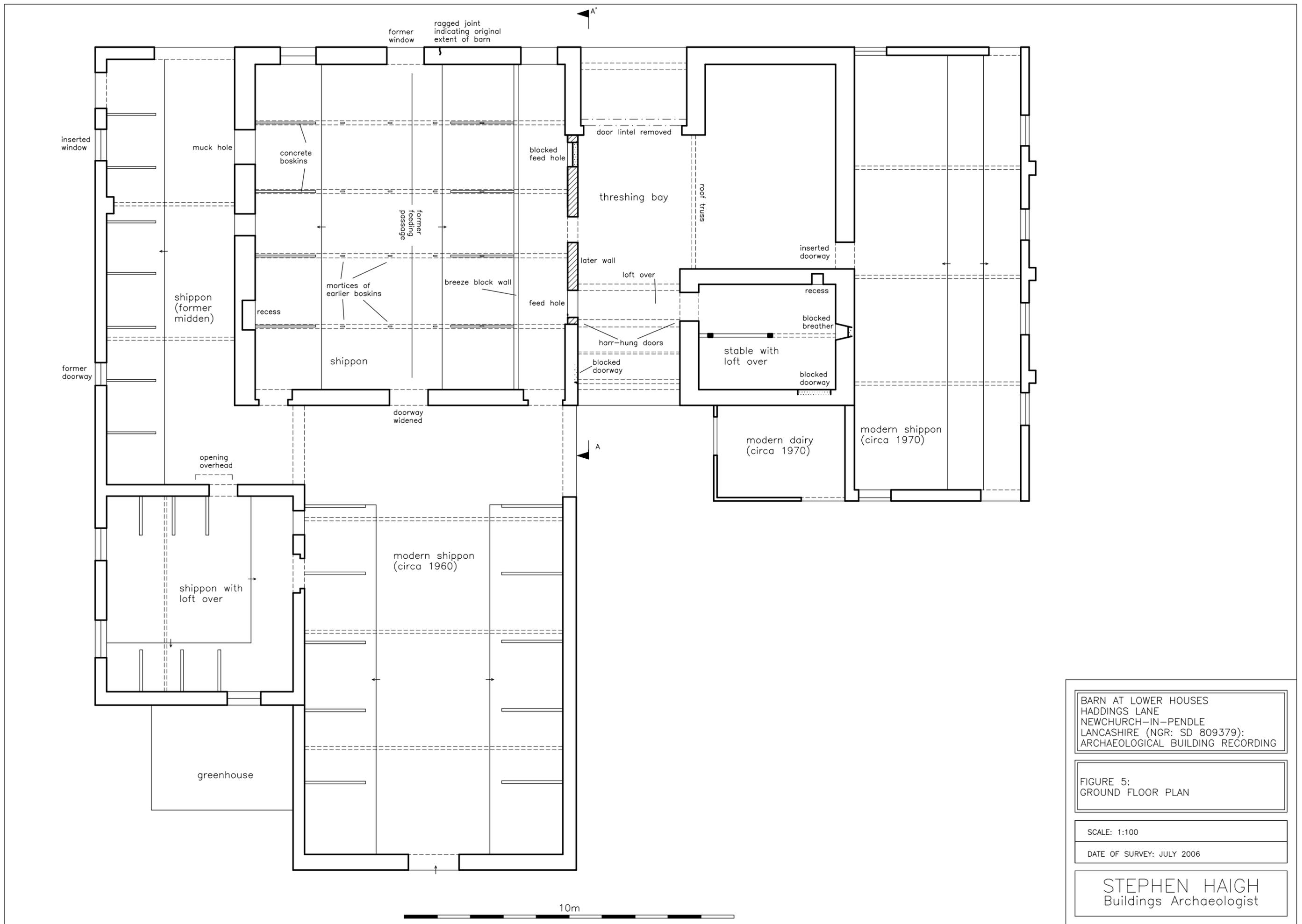


ii: 1912 (revised 1910)



iii: 1932 (revision date unknown)

Figure 4: Extracts from Ordnance Survey 1:2500 map
Sheet no: Lancashire 56



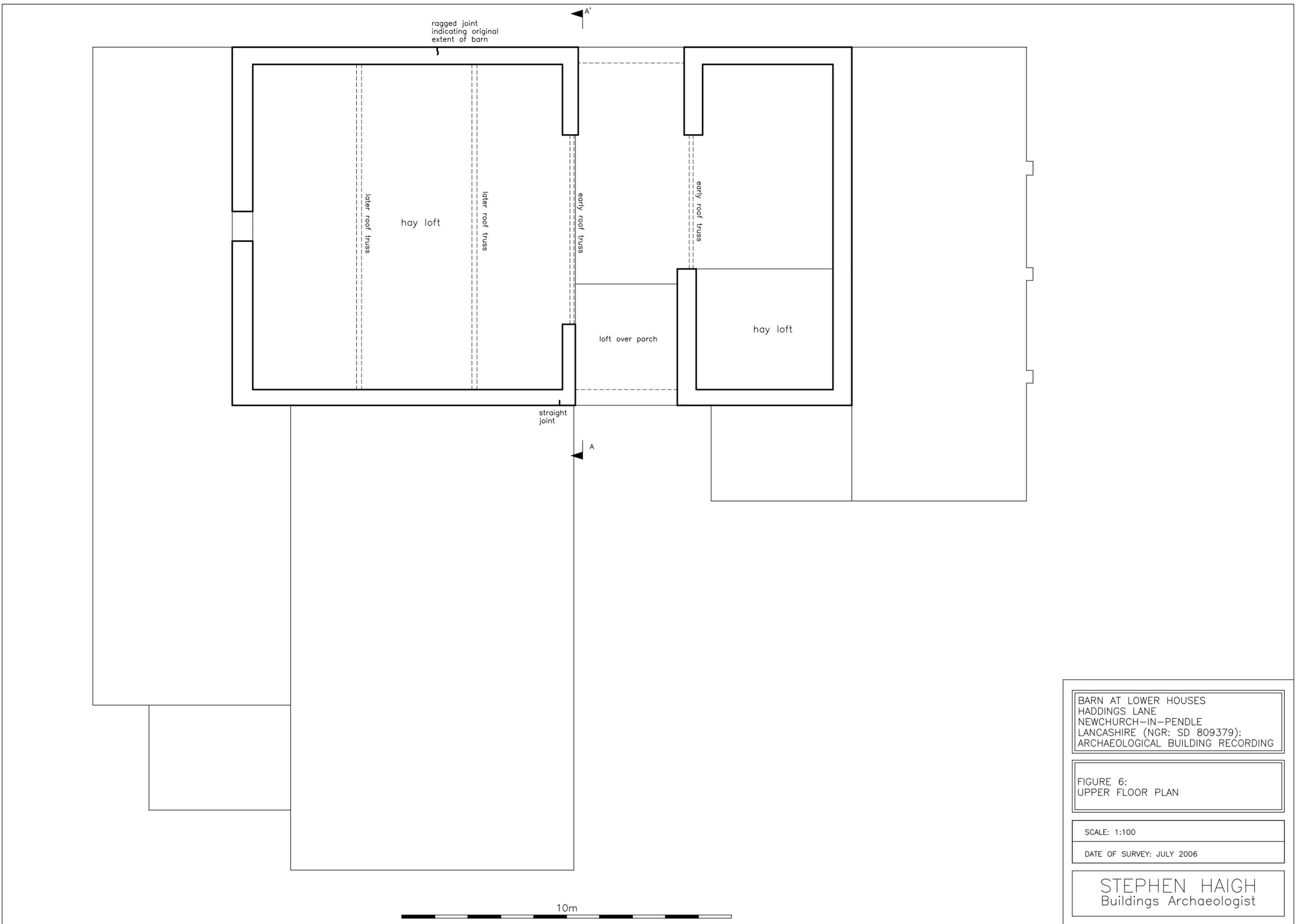
BARN AT LOWER HOUSES
 HADDINGS LANE
 NEWCHURCH-IN-PENDLE
 LANCASHIRE (NGR: SD 809379):
 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BUILDING RECORDING

FIGURE 5:
 GROUND FLOOR PLAN

SCALE: 1:100

DATE OF SURVEY: JULY 2006

STEPHEN HAIGH
 Buildings Archaeologist



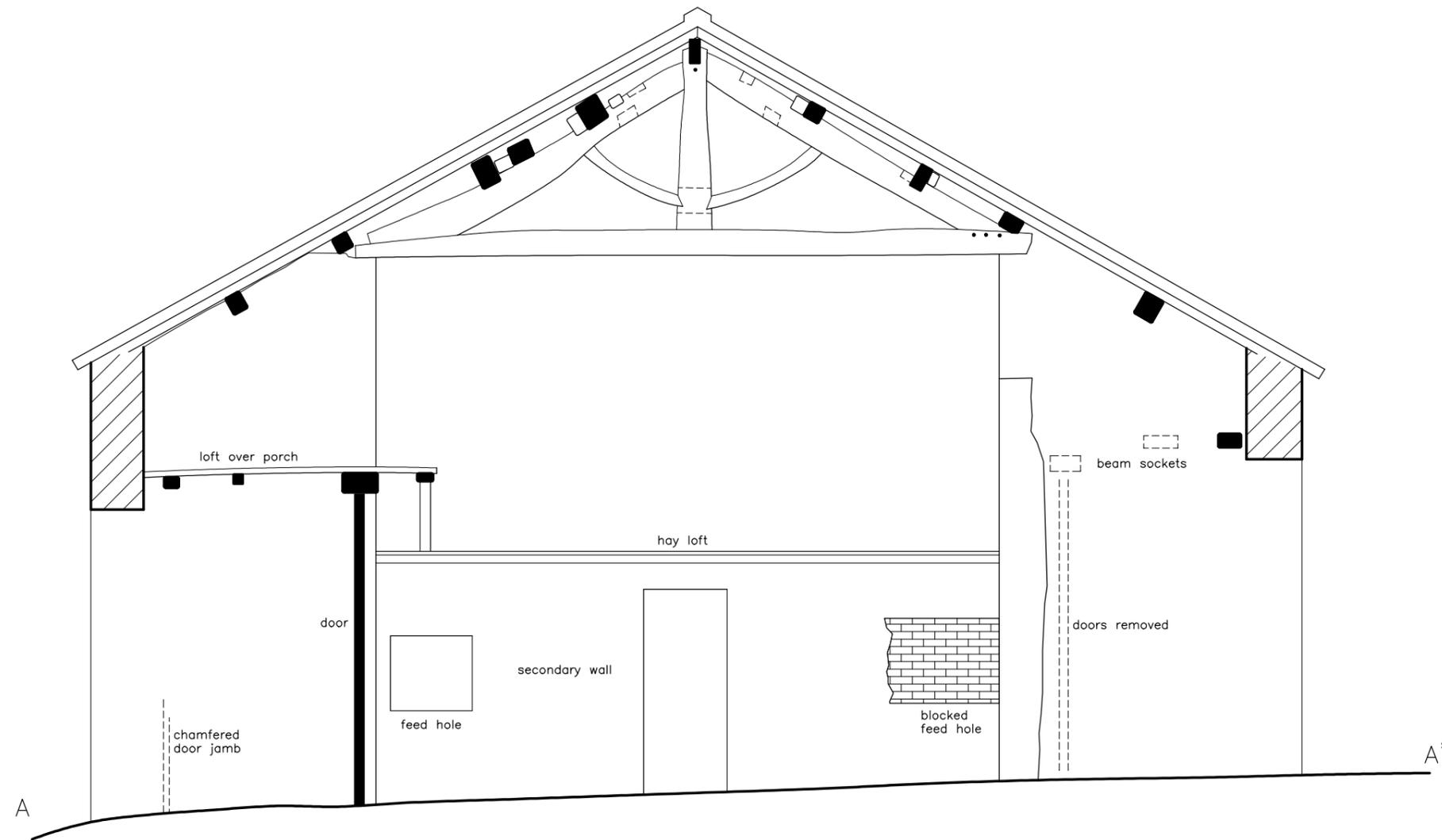
BARN AT LOWER HOUSES
 HADDINGS LANE
 NEWCHURCH-IN-PENDLE
 LANCASHIRE (NGR: SD 809379):
 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BUILDING RECORDING

FIGURE 6:
 UPPER FLOOR PLAN

SCALE: 1:100

DATE OF SURVEY: JULY 2006

STEPHEN HAIGH
 Buildings Archaeologist



5m

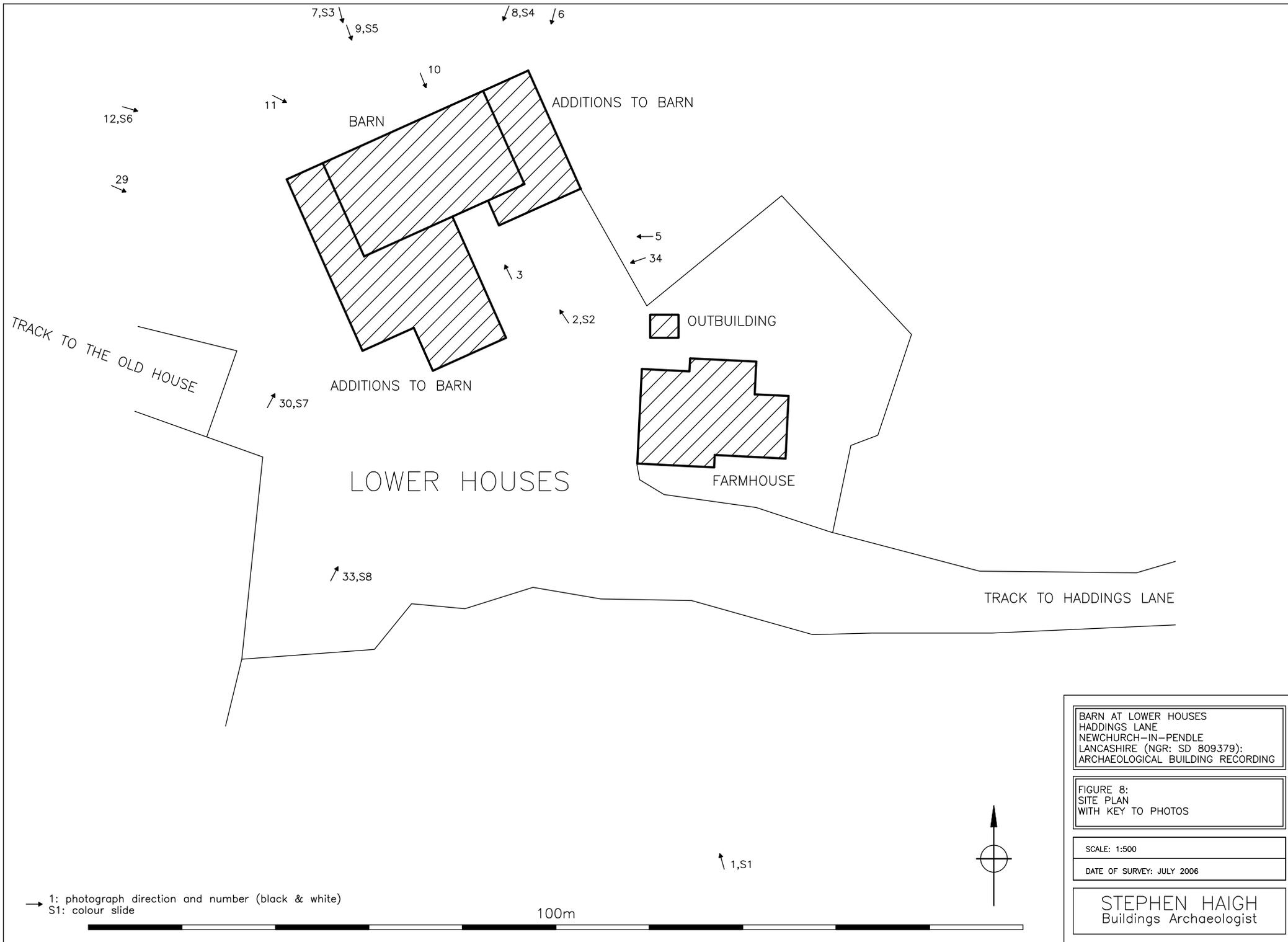
BARN AT LOWER HOUSES
 HADDINGS LANE
 NEWCHURCH-IN-PENDLE
 LANCASHIRE (NGR: SD 809379):
 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BUILDING RECORDING

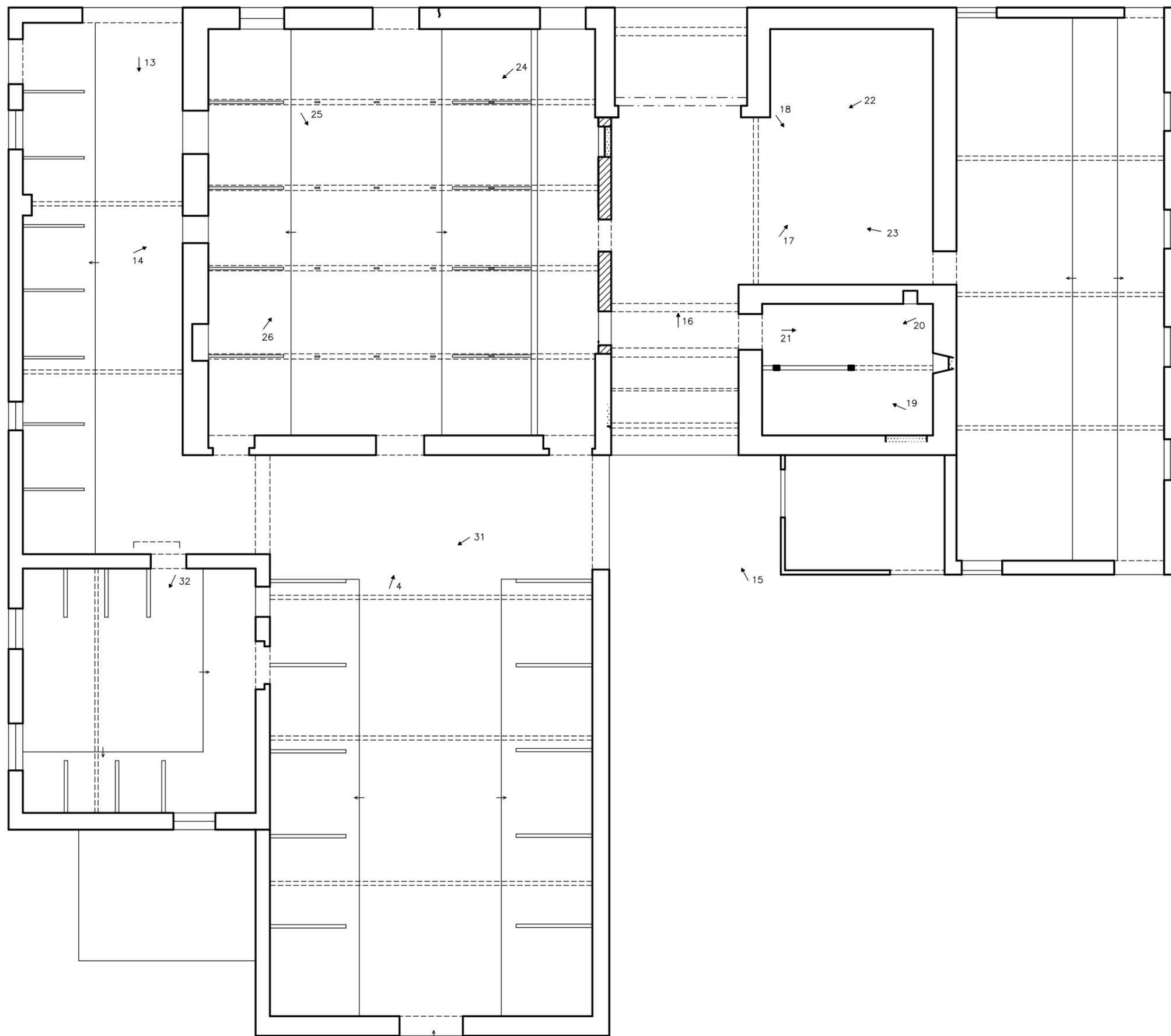
FIGURE 7:
 CROSS SECTION

SCALE: 1:50

DATE OF SURVEY: JULY 2006

STEPHEN HAIGH
 Buildings Archaeologist





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

10m



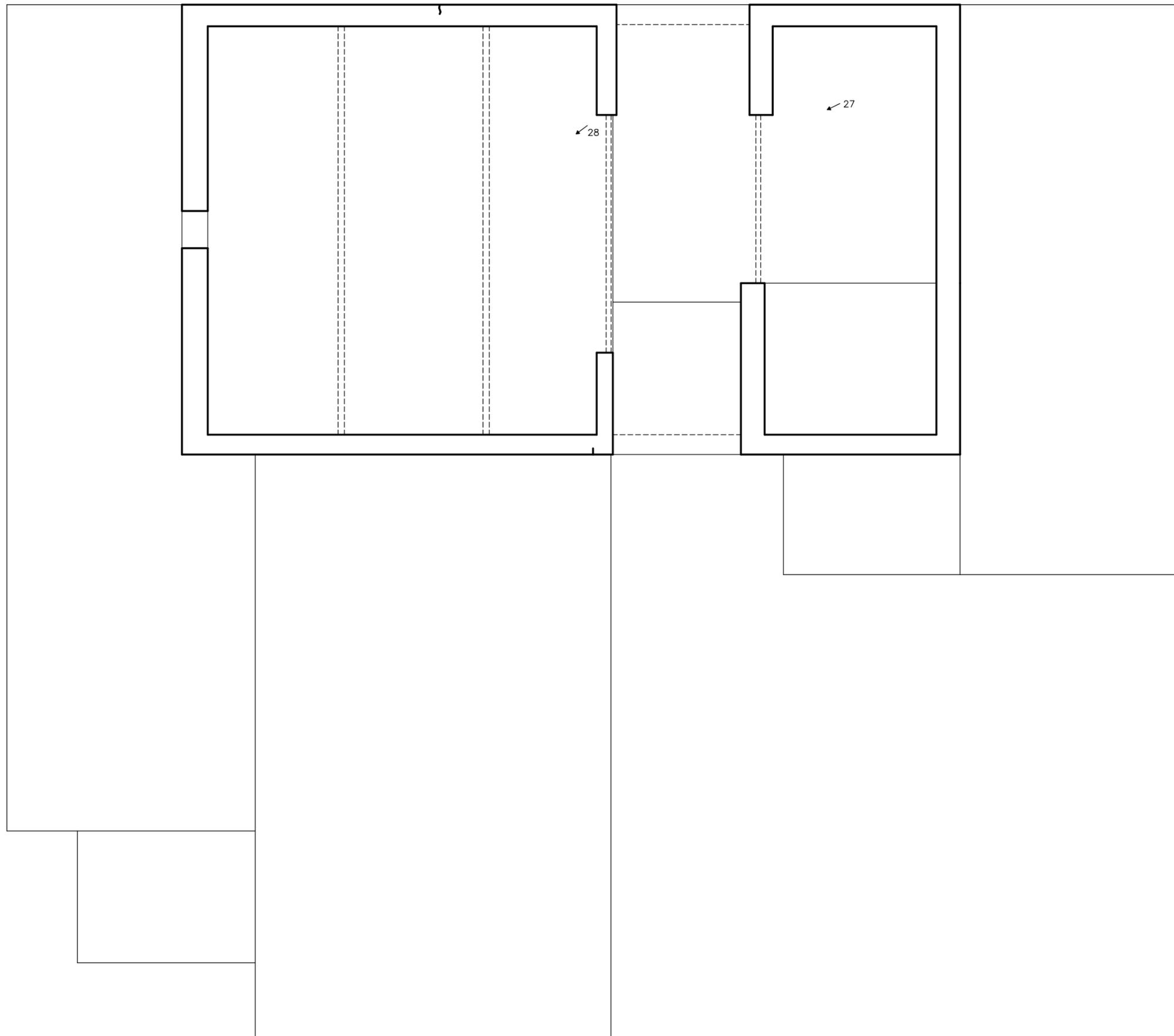
BARN AT LOWER HOUSES
 HADDINGS LANE
 NEWCHURCH-IN-PENDLE
 LANCASHIRE (NGR: SD 809379):
 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BUILDING RECORDING

FIGURE 9:
 GROUND FLOOR PLAN
 WITH KEY TO PHOTOS

SCALE: 1:100

DATE OF SURVEY: JULY 2006

STEPHEN HAIGH
 Buildings Archaeologist



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



BARN AT LOWER HOUSES
 HADDINGS LANE
 NEWCHURCH-IN-PENDLE
 LANCASHIRE (NGR: SD 809379):
 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BUILDING RECORDING

FIGURE 10:
 UPPER FLOOR PLAN
 WITH KEY TO PHOTOS

SCALE: 1:100

DATE OF SURVEY: JULY 2006

STEPHEN HAIGH
 Buildings Archaeologist



Photo 1: View of the farm from the south-east



Photo 2: The barn, from the south-east



Photo 3: Cart entrance in south-east elevation, between later additions



Photo 4: South-east elevation of barn, within later addition

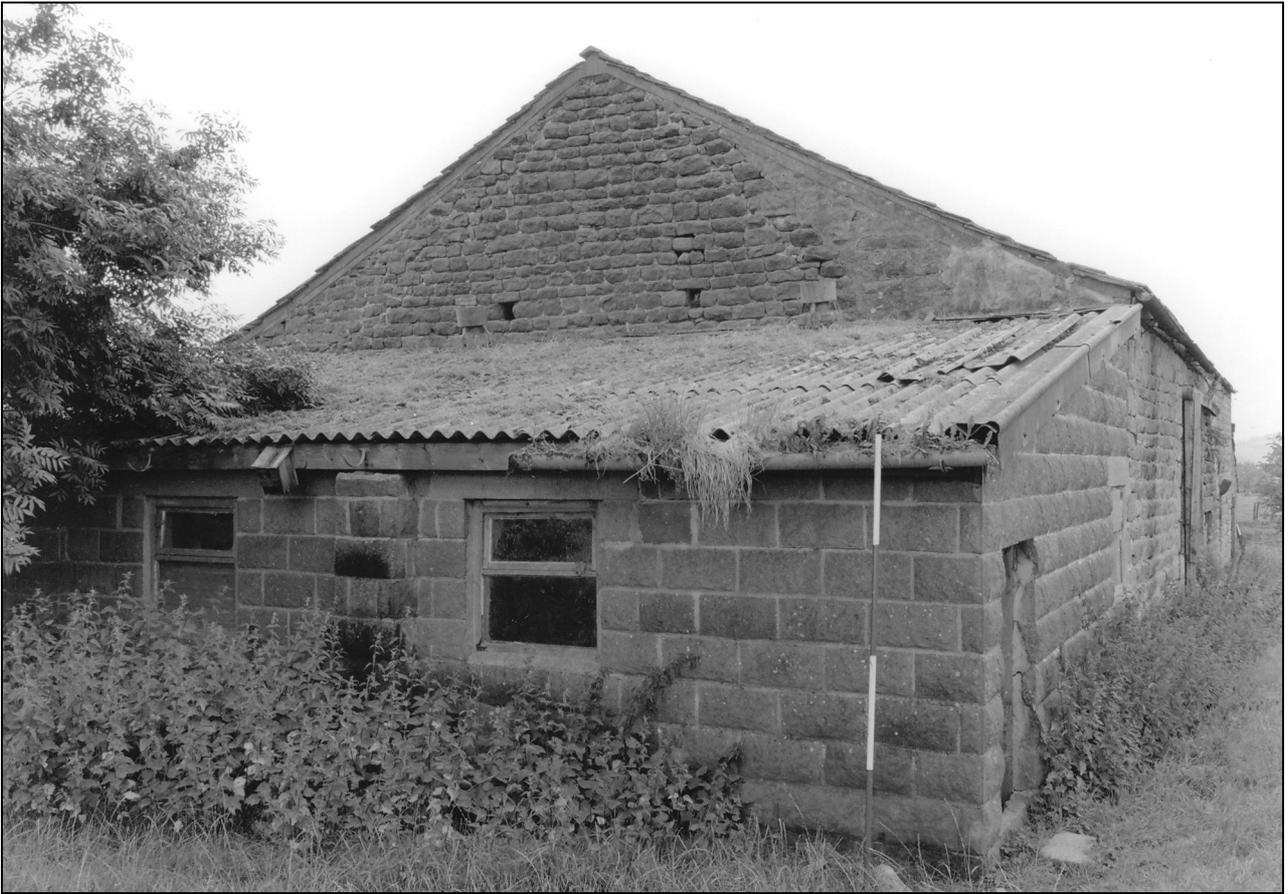


Photo 6: North-east gable showing earlier roof-line, and modern building below



Photo 7: General view of the barn from the north-west

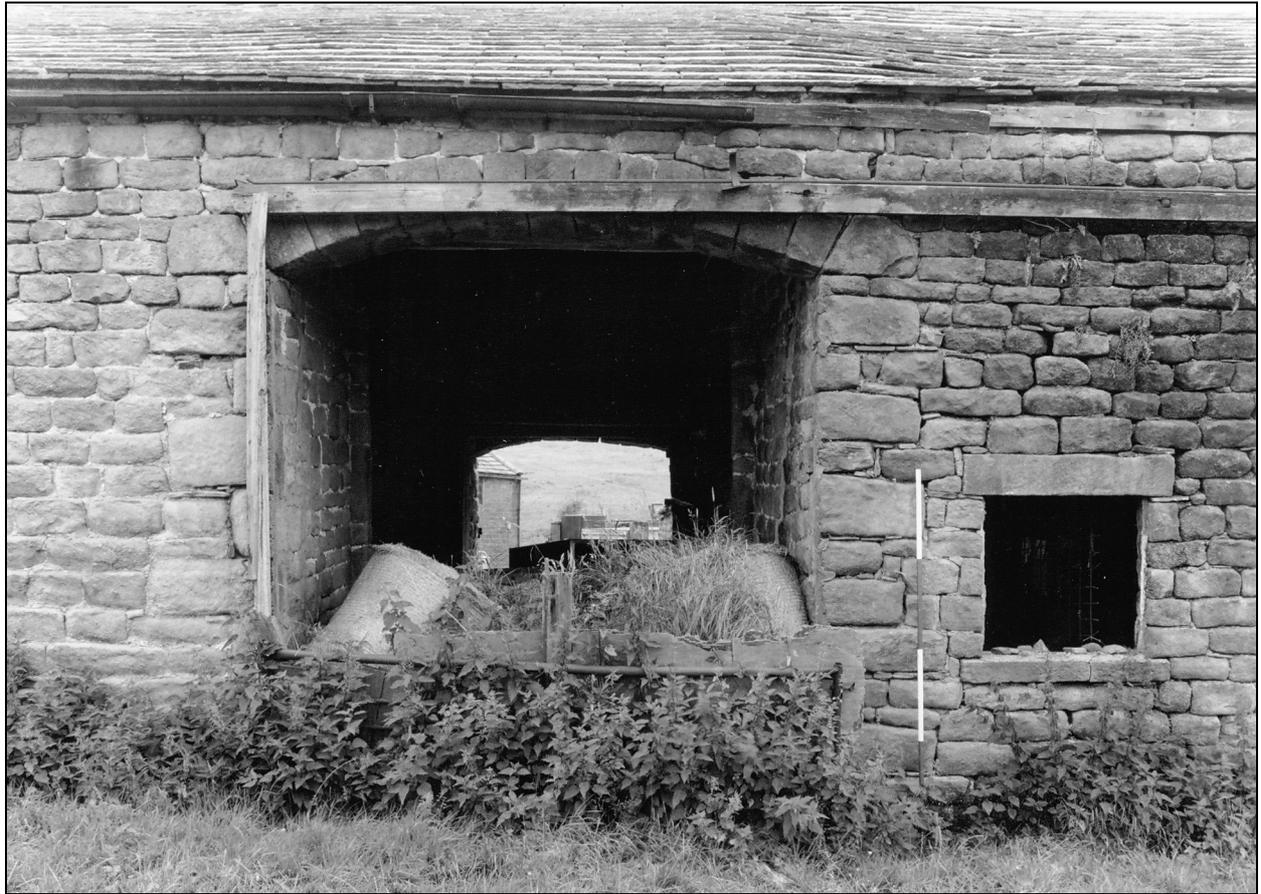


Photo 10: Cart entrance in north-west elevation



Photo 11: Right-hand part of north-west elevation, showing change in stonework



Photo 12: General view of the barn from the west



Photo 13: Interior of lean-to at south-west gable



Photo 15: View into threshing bay, through south-east cart entrance



Photo 18: Wall enclosing stable in south-east corner of barn



Photo 20: Stall divider in stable, from the east

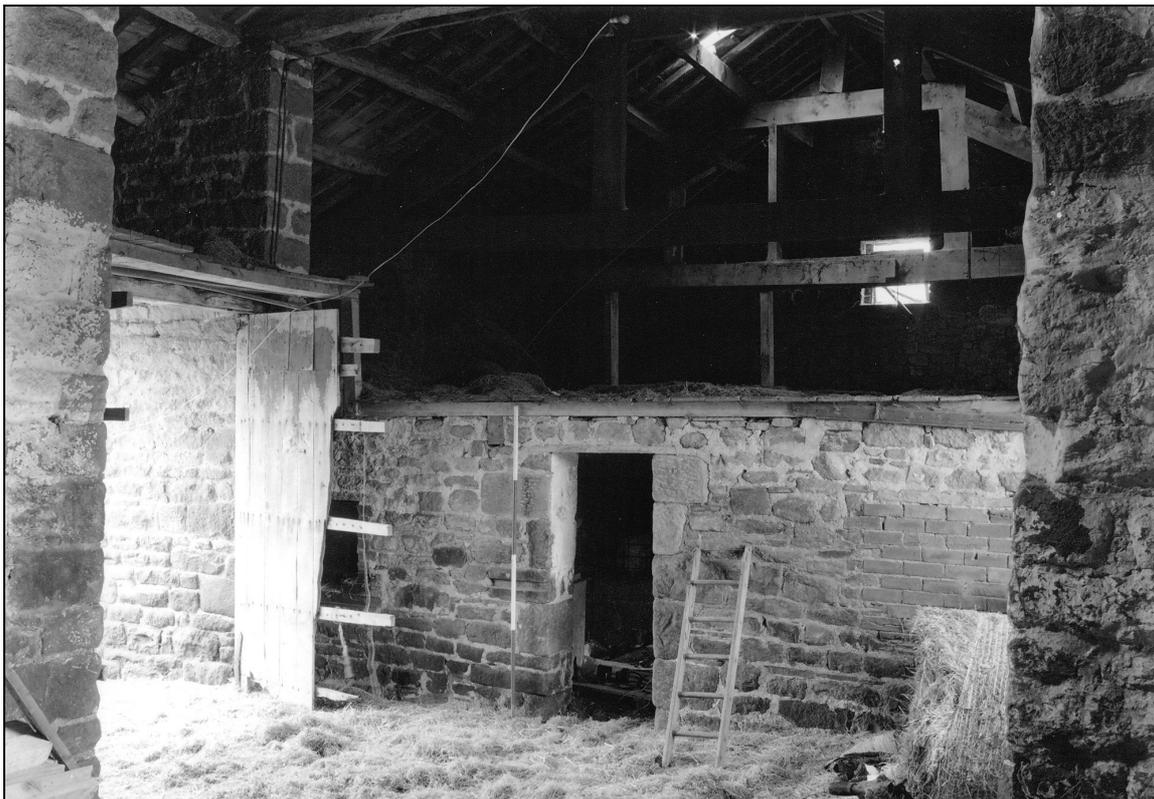


Photo 22: Threshing bay and cross-wall to shippon, from the north-east



Photo 23: Threshing bay and cross-wall to shippon, from the south-east



Photo 24: Interior of main shippon, from the north-east



Photo 27: Roof trusses in barn, from the north-east



Photo 29: Lean-to along south-west gable of barn, from the west



Photo 32: Interior of early twentieth century shippon, from the north



Photo 33: Twentieth century additions to barn, from the south