

# **Bluestone Barn, Bluestone Lane, Mawdesley, Lancashire.**

## **An Archaeological Building Survey**

*By Archaeological Excavation Services*



**July 2008**

*Carried out on behalf of  
LMP Architectural Consultants & Thomas Mawdsley Ltd.*

Report No. 08/1

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## **Non – Technical Summary**

Lancashire County Council planning authority required an archaeological building survey of a barn at Bluestone Lane, Mawdesley (NGR SD 5037 1518) as a condition of planning consent prior to its conversion to offices. The work was carried out for LMP Architectural Consultants on behalf T. Mawdsley & Sons, by R. J. Gurney of Archaeological Excavation Services. The subject building is a detached two storey stone structure now disused. Two mid 20th century single storey brick extensions has been added to its southern elevation. The barn is first shown in its current form on the OS map of 1849 although there appears to have been an earlier stone structure. The nearby associated farmhouse has a pane of glass dated 1706, although the building appears to pre-date this by some 20-30 years and probably replaced an earlier house (Forrest & Heggie, 56). The barn is an example of a four bay/one threshing floor combination or ‘Lancashire’ barn constructed in the first half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. It demonstrates the way that farms were becoming smaller as agriculture gave way to industry resulting in the replacement of the traditional threshing barn with mixed-use buildings which also housed beasts and restricted grain storage facilities to the loft areas (Brunskill, 1987,39).

## **Acknowledgments**

Thanks are due to LMP Architectural Consultants who commissioned the survey and to the staff of Lancashire County Record Office Preston for their assistance in providing information for the documentary research. The project was carried out by Ron Gurney assisted by Steven Price of Archaeological Excavation Services.

## **1. Introduction**

- 1.1** R. J. Gurney of Archaeological Excavation Services was instructed by LMP Architectural Consultants to carry out an archaeological building recording programme of a barn at Bluestone Lane, Mawdesley, prior to its conversion to offices. Mr R. J. Gurney BA (Hons.) FRNS, PIFA is an experienced field archaeologist and finds specialist with a wide knowledge of archaeological techniques and surveying.
- 1.2** The recording programme was required by Lancashire County Council planning authority in order to create a record of the building for archive and research purposes and to inform sympathetic conversion. This condition follows the advice given by central government as set out in *Planning Policy Guidance: Planning and the Historic Environment* (PPG15) and *Planning Policy Guidance on Archaeology and Planning* (PPG16) issued by the (then) DOE. A.E.S. submitted a brief to L.C.C. Archaeological

Service setting out the work necessary to fulfil the condition (see Appendix 1) and the resultant survey and this report followed that brief.

## **2. Location of the Site**

Bluestone barn is located at the junction of Hall Lane and Bluestone Lane at the eastern end of the village of Mawdesley (NGR SD 5037 1518) see Fig.1 At this point the road follows a sharp, almost 90 degree bend with the associated Bluestone farmhouse on the opposite side of the road approximately 100m to the north-west. Mawdesley lies approx 13.5 km north-west of Wigan and 10km west of Chorley and prior to recent development consisted of an ancient ribbon development of cottages and farmhouses along Hall Lane.

- 2.2** The solid geology in this part of Lancashire consists of carboniferous coal measures with a good deal of the geology obscured in many places by glacial drift, boulder clay and sands. This area lies at the extreme western limit of the Lancashire Coalfield, and here seams in the Lower Coal Measures, laid down in the Carboniferous Period some 300 million years ago are found. There is a major geological fault, the Upholland Fault, which lies along the edge of Ashurst Beacon, Parbold Hill and Harrock Hill, some 6km south of Mawdesley. The soil type on the east side of village is fairly heavy, a clayey loam with some peat deposits. To the west and to the north the land is much lighter along Sandy Lane and on the Moss, which adjoins Croston Moss (L.C.C. 27.7.08).

## **3. Aims and Objectives**

- 3.1** Buildings are an important part of the historic environment as they often provide a unique record of earlier technology, past occupations and social structure. The alteration of such buildings may result in the removal of evidence of their past uses and occupation, creating difficulties for future researchers attempting to understand and interpret them. The aim of the historic building recording is to compile an archive of the building's structure and features, prior to any development, consisting of both written and photographic records. The results of the survey are then used to attempt an interpretation of the building and produce a report chronicling changes and development within the building; and where possible, to attach relative dates to various construction phases.

## **4. Methodology**

- 4.1** The project was carried out in accordance with the project brief at Appendix 1 of this report. The building recording was undertaken on 23rd June 2008 prior to any development work being carried out at the site. The photographic survey was carried out using 35mm monochrome and digital photography. A 2-metre scale was used where possible. Proforma Building Record Forms (which will form part of the archive) were used to record the structure and were used in combination with site notes and reference to site

photographs, to produce the final record contained within this report. The methodology adopted and the safe working conditions meant that the aims and objectives of the brief could be achieved in full and the survey was successfully completed.

## 5. Archaeological and Historical Background

- 5.1** The prefix 'bluestone' originates from a large blue coloured stone ( a glacial erratic) that lay beside Bluestone Lane. The stone, a local landmark was removed by council workmen when the lane was widened. A local resident persuaded them to bring it back, although it is no longer sited in its original position. Bluestone barn was originally associated with Bluestone Farm which is located approximately 100m to the north-west of the barn. The farm lies on the eastern edge of the village within the ancient Township of Mawdesley. The Township, recorded as Moudesley (1288). Moudeslegh (1302) and Maudsley (1327) has an area of 2,934 acres and has been closely connected with the Township of Croston, being sometimes described as a hamlet of Croston. The connection was due to the manors of the two townships having an identical history until the beginning of the 19<sup>th</sup> century (Farrer & Brownbill, 96-100).
- 5.2** The name Mawdseley appears to have originated from the name Mawde and *leah*, the old English name for a clearing within a wooded area (Harrington.78). During the reign of Edward I (1279-1307), Richard Fitton's daughter Mawde Matilda married Sir William Hesketh. The Fitton family had held the manor of Rufford since the reign of Henry I (1100-1135) and Mawde's Legh appears to have formed her dowry (Cobham 29.7.08)). In 1288 William de Ferrers died holding two oxgangs of land in Mawdesley, which were occupied by John Banastre, who rendered 40d yearly. In 1372 the moiety of the manor of Croston and Mawdesley were held by William de Lea and his wife Isolde and passed to their daughter and heir Alice, who married Thomas Ashton (Farrer & Brownbill, 96-100). The Ashton family and their successors the de Traffords along with the Heskeths were some of the most influential families in the area.
- 5.3** During the medieval period several families appear to have taken the local name, with one of these families becoming prominent in the 16<sup>th</sup> century with their residence known as Mawdesley Hall. The estate descended to the Rev. Thomas Mawdesley and was sold on his death around 1737. In the year 1600 the freeholders named in Mawdesley were Robert Mawdesley, Gilbert Nelson and William Sharples but the only landowner recorded in the subsidy roll of 1628 was William Mawdesley. In 1666 the hearth tax list records 93 hearths, the largest number belonging to a Mr Mawdesley with eleven; no other house in Mawdesley had more than six (Farrer & Brownbill, 96-100). A number of Mawdesley's inhabitants lost their property by sequestration under the Commonwealth in the mid 17<sup>th</sup> century, mostly on account of religion (Farrer & Brownbill, 96-100).

- 5.4** In the 16<sup>th</sup> century the moiety of the manor of Croston and Mawdesley were held of Sir Edward Stanley (Lord of Hornby) afterwards Lord Mounteagle by the Ashton family for the rent of half a pound of pepper. The Ashton's were avowed Roman Catholics and Richard Ashton's estates were sequestered under the commonwealth when he was accused of *recusancy* and *delinquency*. Richard's heir and daughter, Anne married John Trafford, son of Sir Cecil Trafford of Trafford. In 1717 their son John, as a 'papist' registered his estates, which included the moieties of the manors of Croston, Mawdesley, Pilling etc. and these were subsequently inherited by his son, Humphrey (Farrer & Brownbill, 96-100).
- 5.4** Around 1800 the ancient connection between the manors of Croston and Mawdesley was severed when Sir T.D. Hesketh sold his moiety of Croston, but retained Mawdesley. The Hesketh family had acquired a half share in the manor of Croston when Sir Thomas Hesketh purchased one fourth of the manor in 1558 to add to the one fourth already held by inheritance. Large areas of land in Mawdesley were sold by the Hesketh family at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century but in 1911 manor courts were still held annually in both Croston and Mawdesley, the recorded lords of the manor of Mawdesley being Sir Thomas George Fermor Hesketh of Rufford and Mr Sigismund Cathcart de Trafford of Croston.
- 5.5** Leases as early as 1347 record the land upon which the farm and barn stand, with the earliest tenant named as a 'Robert Fisher'. The Fisher family appear to retained a connection with land for several hundred years, as there are further references throughout the 16<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> and the last in 1719 when a 'Thomas Fisher' is named (Forest & Heggie, 56). The Tithe schedule of 1837 records the owner of the land upon which Bluestone Farm and barn stand, as Sir Thomas Dalrymple Hesketh Bart. The schedule describes the farm as 'a homestead, cottage and garden' and the barn as a 'barn and barncroft' with the occupier named as 'Thomas Martland', a farmer of 70+ acres of arable, meadow and pasture. The land is subject to a rent charge payable to the Rector of Croston (£1 14s 4d) and the Rector of Chorley (£10 15s 11d). Thomas Martland is also listed as occupier on the 1841 census, although the farm is listed as 'Dark Lane and farm'.
- 5.6** The census records for Bluestone farm are difficult to interpret, as the farm is not listed separately, but recorded as one of the properties on Bluestone Lane. In the 1861 census. a farmer named John Forshaw is listed in Bluestone lane as farming 64 acres (The nearest in size to Thomas Martland's farm of 1837), but by 1871, although John Forshaw is still in residence, the farm has reduced in size to 30 acres and reduces further to 8 acres in 1881. The 1891 census records John Forshaw as a retired farmer, living with his son, Thomas, now listed as the farmer, but the size of the farm is not recorded. In 1901 Thomas Forshaw is now recorded as head of the household and a farmer, but again the size of the farm is not recorded. In the early 20<sup>th</sup> century the farm passed into the Cowley family and was then purchased by the Scarisbrick family in the 1930s, who retained ownership until the mid 1990s. The farmhouse, now a private family dwelling, retains

approximately an acre of the original farmland. The barn was retained by the Scarisbrick family and sold to Thomas Mawdsley Ltd in 2007 (pers.comm. J. Scarisbrick).

## **6. Physical Description**

### **General Description**

- 6.1** The subject building comprises a rectangular elongated detached brick and stone built barn with a frontage aligned east-west and located on the opposite side of the lane to its associated farmhouse. The building is a four bay – one offset threshing floor combination barn with three north-south aligned internal brick built walls, which separate the bays. The walls and two ‘king post’ trusses carry three machine cut purlins on each pitch in the eastern half of the building and two heavier older purlins in the western half. These in turn support the double pitched roof, which although originally slated, is now clad in asbestos cement sheeting. One of the trusses in the threshing bay area has evidence of reuse (plate 1) and the heavier purlins in the western half of the building have several Baltic timber marks (plate 2). Two large modern single storey brick extensions have been added to the south elevation, either side of the central personnel door and are accessed by large openings in the rear of each. At the north-east corner of the building a low brick wall connects the barn to a small detached single story building constructed of modern machine brick (plate 3)

### **External Description**

- 6.2 Northern Elevation.** (plate 4) This elevation is the main frontage onto Bluestone Lane and is constructed with a mix of handmade, wirecut and machine made brick, laid in an English garden wall bond with lime mortar. The eastern end of the elevation appears to be constructed in older machine made brick bonded to wirecut bricks further west to the cart door. The eastern cart door pillar and a large area east of this has been repaired with modern machine made brick. At the eastern pillar the wall is rebated approximately 0.5m, and continuing westwards the remainder of this elevation is constructed in handmade brick. The elevation is characterised by three windows on the first floor, three on the ground floor and two doorways, a large off centre full height cart door and smaller cart door at the extreme east of the elevation. Located at first floor level to the west of the large cart door is a rectangular pitching window constructed with adjoining brick jambs and a sandstone slab cill. The aperture is fitted with timber frame and a batten and braced timber hatch door. A second pitching window is located at this level on the western side of the cart door of similar construction, but slightly larger. West of this window, at ground floor level, a further window is located. This window is constructed with adjoining

brick jambs and a sandstone slab lintel and cill and is fitted with a timber multi pane frame with twenty four lights and a sliding transom. Three windows are located at first floor level on the western half of the elevation, spaced equidistantly between the two doors all windows are of the same construction and comprise adjoining brick jambs, sandstone block lintels and brick header cills. All the window apertures are fitted with timber frames and a top opening transom. The main cart doorway is constructed with brick pillar jambs and a timber lintel, the doorway is fitted with a large modern timber double sliding door. The door located at the extreme west of the elevation is a smaller cart door constructed with a brick header lintel and adjoining brick jambs with four stone quoins located and shaped to support hinges. The doorway is fitted with a timber frame set in recessed brickwork and has no door. To the east of the large cart door, four slit vents are located, two at first floor level and two, blocked, directly below at ground floor level.

**6.3 Southern Elevation** (plate 2). This elevation forms the southern long wall of the building and is constructed of brick and stone. The western half is constructed of hand made brick laid in English garden wall bond, on three visible stone basal courses and the eastern half in sandstone rubble occasionally brought to course, the whole bonded with lime mortar. The original elevation is characterised by three windows at ground floor level and three doorways. Two modern extensions have been added to this elevation, (plate 5) the westerly one enclosing the three windows which have been blocked with machine made brick. The upper section of the window has been left open and a timber frame inserted. The other two windows contain a vertical opening transom with three lights. All three windows are constructed with adjoining brick jambs, brick cills and concrete block lintels. A large area between the remaining two windows has been infilled with modern brick as a repair and an iron hay rack is affixed to the wall (plate 6). A personnel doorway is located between the two extensions in the original elevation and constructed with adjoining brick jambs, a sandstone slab lintel and fitted with a timber frame and timber stable door (plate 7). The easterly extension is directly to the east of this door and butts the original elevation where the brick and stone meet in a vertical joint, which rebates 0.5m., mirroring the north elevation. Several courses of brickwork are visible above the top of the stonework raising the height of the stone wall approximately one metre. Several blocked slit ventilators are visible in the stonework, at ground and first floor level. This extension has within it, a large personnel doorway, located in the original elevation. The doorway is constructed with adjoining stone jambs, a sandstone slab lintel and is fitted with a sliding timber batten and braced door, and has a 0.43m step up to the doorway. An iron hay rack is affixed to the wall. Beyond the extension to the east the remaining original elevation is constructed of a mix of stone and old machine made brick. A personnel doorway is located here, in the original elevation and is constructed with stone and brick adjoining jambs and a stone slab lintel. The doorway is fitted with a timber frame and solid timber door (plate 8).

- 6.4 West Elevation** (plate 9). The west elevation forms one of the gable ends of the building and is characterised by a centrally located personnel doorway to a first floor granary, accessed by a sandstone slab stairway which is laid on a handmade brick plinth. The elevation is constructed with handmade brick in English garden wall bond mixed with a large area of stonework, extending either side of the stairway. The doorway is fitted with a timber frame and a solid timber door. A rear extension is keyed to the southern edge of the elevation, in which, a small window centrally located, the roof of the extension joins the original barn roofline forming an angled catslide roof.
- 6.5 East Elevation** (plate 10). This elevation comprises the other gable end of the building and is constructed of wirecut brick. The elevation is characterised by two centrally located windows and two blocked slit vents at ground floor level. At first floor level a triangular pattern of slit vents is visible rising to the apex of the gable, one of which, in the lower row, has been blocked. The windows are constructed with adjoining brick jambs, stone slab lintels and cills. The windows are fitted with timber frames with four lights and a top opening transom. A modern extension wall is rebated approximately 1.5m, the roof of which, joins the original roof (as 6.4). A window is located in the extension (as 6.4)

## **Internal Description**

### **6.6 Ground Floor**

The internal space of the barn is divided into four distinct areas (bays), with upper floors at both ends of the barn and a large offset area (8.7m x 6.7m) open to the roof (threshing area), with one bay to the east and two to the west. The threshing bay flagged floor is still in situ (plate 11) and the large cart door in the north wall has a stone set in the east door pillar with a notch for a winnowing board and a hole for a harr hung door; the opposing stone is badly damaged. Two blocked vents are also visible in the north wall and to the east, a blocked doorway with a timber lintel; this doorway is not visible on the exterior of the building (plate 12). The two blocked vents are mirrored on the south wall, which is constructed of stone. Opposite the large cart door a personnel door is located in the south wall (exiting into the eastern extension) with a small window/vent to the west. Between the door and the blocked vents a triangular brick pillar rises to the roofline (plate 13) and supports a timber truss, that spans from this pillar to the eastern cart door pillar. The east wall of the threshing bay is constructed of handmade brick with four rectangular blocked feeding holes with timber lintels, at ground level and double pitching windows (smaller above larger) with timber lintels at first floor level (plate 14). The west wall of the threshing bay is constructed of handmade brick with a doorway to the north providing access to large shippon, and a large pitching window with a brick header lintel, at first floor level. To the east of the threshing bay is a four stall shippon. Constructed of older machine made brick and some stone rubble in the south wall. The shippon (5.2m x 6.7m) is accessed by the door at the rear south-east corner of the building. The floor was obscured by hard

manure and straw at the time of the survey. The ceiling comprises timber planking and east-west running joists with cast iron stanchions attached that form the iron rail stalls. There are two windows and blocked vents located in the east wall (see 6.5) and four blocked feeding holes in the west wall. Four holes are cut in the timber ceiling above the blocked holes, suggesting a change in feeding practice. A large iron hay rack is attached to the west wall (plate 15). A large shippon (8.5m x 5.9m) is accessed from the doorway in the west wall of the threshing bay (plate 16), this area has been stripped of any original fittings and all that remains of the original purpose is a manuring channel running east-west in the concrete floor. The ceiling is constructed of timber planking supported by north-south running joists and two east-west timber beams. In the south wall two part blocked windows are visible (see 6.3) and a doorway that exits the building between the two extensions. Three windows are located in the north wall (see 6.2). Two doorways are located in the west wall at either side and these provide access to the room at the western end of the building (4.5m x 5.9m). The west wall of this area is constructed of random sandstone with all internal walls cement rendered to a height of 1.2m. (plate 17) and probably used as a stable. A part blocked window is located in the south wall (see 6.3) and the smaller cart door is located in the north wall. The ceiling is constructed as the previous area and the concrete floor contains north south running drain channel that links to the channel in the large shippon (plate 18).

## **6.7 First Floor**

The first floor consists of three rooms, the first (5.2m x 6.7m) to the east of the threshing bay is accessed via the double pitching window in the threshing bay (Plate 19). The area has a timber floor into which four holes have been cut over the small shippon. A window is located in the north wall and number of slit vents are visible in the east wall. The south wall shows evidence of the raising of the original stone roofline by approximately eight courses of brickwork (plate 20). The granary (4.5m x 5.9m) at the eastern end of the building (plate 21), is accessed by the stone steps attached to the west elevation (see 6.4). A window is located in the north wall (see 6.2) and an aperture, 1.1m wide x 1.63m high provides access to the final room, a large storage area (5.9m x 8.6m) with a window located in the north wall (see 6.2) and the large pitching window which provides access to the threshing bay. A 'king post' truss spans the area and two chains attached to the cross beam, either side of the 'king post' are attached to the floor for additional support (plate 22). The heavier and older purlins in this area exhibit several Baltic timber marks (see 6.1).

## **7. Analysis and Interpretation**

**7.1** The accurate dating of agricultural buildings is often problematic as dateable architectural features are often changed, modified or re-cycled. This tends to be more common within this type of structure than in domestic architecture. Architectural styles also take longer to appear in rural buildings, especially those reserved for animals or produce. Bluestone barn appears to be a classic example of an agricultural building that has

undergone several changes in use that have necessitated phases of alteration to the fabric of the building. The current Bluestone Farmhouse probably dates from sometime between 1670-1690 (Forest & Heggie,56) and it is possible that a stone barn stood on the present site at that time, although there are no records to support this. Certainly an earlier barn has been incorporated into the earliest brick construction phase and there is a possibility that the re-used timber came from the earlier building.. A brick and tile works were located nearby in early 19<sup>th</sup> century producing handmade red brick between 2¼ & 2½ inches wide and these were without doubt, used in the reconstruction and enlargement of the original stone barn probably in the first quarter of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. At this time the roofline was raised approximately one metre and many of the original slit vents blocked. The positioning of the slit vents is important in understanding the use of space and development of the barn. Barns were vented to allow a through draught around the stored crop and help prevent fungal growth. The blockage of vents in the original stone wall of the rebuilt barn, therefore, indicate that this area used for threshing, was, in the earlier barn, used for crop storage. The small shippon at the eastern of the barn was previously also used for crop storage as the lower vents had been blocked to prevent draughts when converted to a shippon. The upper floors in the western side of the barn however were designed for the storage of grain (granary). This confirmed by the stone stairway, which was the more practical than a ladder when moving heavy sacks of grain.

The threshing or 'thrashing' bay is where the threshing process would take place to separate the wheat from the chaff, or the grain from the stalks of the crop. This process involved thrashing the crop on the floor with hand flails. After the separation had taken place, the threshed crop would be thrown into the air to separate out the chaff. This was known as winnowing and the bay doors would be opened to allow a through draught, which would aid the process as the heavier grain would fall to the floor and the waste would be blown away. It has been logically suggested, that for this reason the barn, which was the most important building on the early farmstead, would be aligned to take advantage of the locally prevalent wind (Wade-Martins 1991, 167). The large cart door has evidence of a notch for fitting a winnowing board across the doorway, the purpose of this was twofold, stopping a gust of wind blowing the heavier grain out through the door and preventing stray hens from entering and eating the grain. Traditionally threshing barns comprised three or more bays; a central bay for use as a threshing floor and bays on either side used for storage of sheaves prior to threshing and for the threshed straw. In such cases all three bays were open to the roof (Brunskill1987, 39). However during the Industrial Revolution the increasing demand for milk and dairy products and the growing practice of storing sheaves of corn outside prior to threshing resulted in cow- houses and stables being installed in barns which may have stored hay as well as sheaves (Brunskill 1987, 68). This was the origin of the 'combination barn' one version of which was the 'Lancashire barn'. The latter, which usually had four or five bays, retained a conventional hand flail threshing barn and a full height storage bay but two bays at one end comprised a ground floor cow-house and stable with a loft over (Brunskill 1987, 111).. This appears

to have been similar to the original arrangement at Bluestone barn after its brick reconstruction.

## **8. Conclusion**

- 8.1** Originally a stone barn stood on the present site of Bluestone barn, which had presumably fallen into disrepair by the end of the 18<sup>th</sup> century. The barn was rebuilt using local handmade bricks, but the original stone south wall was retained. The height of this wall was increased with brick, and along with a portion of the west wall, were incorporated into the new building. The stone basal courses below the brick are of a different construction to the stone and appear to be contemporary with the brick rebuild. The area to the east of the large cart door, had at some point, been rebuilt with wirecut bricks, c.mid 19<sup>th</sup> century. Some time later, probably toward the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century the eastern end of the building has been re-skinned in machine made brick, hence the lack of an exterior blocked doorway, seen in the threshing bay. The easterly bay was later converted into a small shippon with two windows inserted and a loft above. In the 20<sup>th</sup> century two large extensions were added to the rear (south elevation). The western side of the large cart door and part of the wall has been rebuilt in modern brick, after a recent fatal motorcycle accident destroyed the wall and caused a fire within the barn.

## **9. Archive**

- 9.1** A copy of this report will be supplied to the Lancashire Sites and Monuments Record in Adobe Acrobat 'pdf.' format on CD-ROM on the understanding that it will become a public document after an appropriate period (six months after completion of the field work unless another date is agreed). A copy of the report will also be supplied to the Local Planning Authority responsible for the planning decision.
- 9.2** The archive resulting from the building recording will be deposited with the Lancashire County Record Office in a format to be agreed with the Archives Officer and within a timescale to be agreed with the Planning Officer. The site archive will be prepared and stored according to the UKIC Guidelines for the preparation of excavation archives for long term-storage (1990) and the Museum and Galleries Commission Standards in the Museum Care of Archaeological Collections(1992) 'Standards for the preparation and transfer of archaeological archives'.

## **10. Copyright**

- 10.1** Full copyright of this commissioned report and other project documents shall be retained by the author of the report under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988

## 11. Bibliography

### Abbreviations

IFA	Institute of Field Archaeologists
LCRO	Lancashire County Record Office
OS	Ordnance Survey

### Maps

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## **Appendix 1. Project Brief**

**A Project Brief for an Archaeological Barn Survey at  
Bluestone Barn, Bluestone Lane  
Mawdesley,  
Lancashire.**

**Project Design**

**Prepared for L.M.P. Architectural Consultants**

**June 2008**

**Archaeological Excavation Services  
Towngate Works  
Dark Lane  
Mawdesley  
Lancashire**

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## **1. Introduction and Non-Technical Summary**

- 1.1** Archaeological Excavation Services have been approached LMP Architectural Consultants on behalf of T. Mawdsley Ltd. to carry out an archaeological survey prior to conversion of a disused agricultural barn on Bluestone Lane, Mawdesley. The survey is being undertaken in accordance with an archaeological condition on outline planning permission for (Application No.) 08/00084/FUL.

## **2. Location of site**

- 2.1** The barn location is 71m north of Chase Cottage Bluestone Lane (SD 503 151) as shown on Fig. 1.

## **3. The survey will take the following form:**

- 3.1** All work shall be carried out in accordance with the Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Investigation and Recording of Standing Buildings or Structures (IFA 1996) and recorded to level 2/3 as defined in Royal Commission for Historic Monuments of England (RCHME 1996).

- 3.2** A set of the architect's measured survey drawings of the plan and external elevations and section of the existing buildings (at 1:100 or 1:50 scale) will be drawn by the surveying archaeologist. If suitable drawings are already available, upon checking accuracy, these will form the basis for annotation and phasing.

- 3.3** Additional details need to be added by the archaeological survey, such as evidence for blocking, repair, joints, fittings and fixtures, power and processing, and key architectural features.

- 3.4** An historic map regression exercise will be undertaken with a maximum of two days historic research and consultation with the Lancashire H.E.R. to aid interpretation of the site's evolution. There will be a short account of the history of the building and the group of buildings it belongs to. This includes items such as place name evidence, trade directories, tithe awards and any information derived from local history publications.

- 3.5** A written description, to include:

An analysis of the buildings' plan, form, fabric, function, age and development sequence and of the evidence supporting this analysis (illustrate with historic map sequence, reduced plans, elevations and photographs). Also a brief analysis and description of the other buildings that make up the farm complex including the farm house.

An account of the buildings' past and present use and of the uses of their parts, with the evidence for these interpretations.

An account of the fixtures, fittings, plant or machinery associated with the buildings, and their purpose.

Any evidence for the former existence of demolished structures or plant associated with the building.

Identification of areas that are currently obscured which might hold key information to inform our understanding of the buildings' origin and development and where an archaeological watching brief should be undertaken during stripping out/demolition.

Identification of any areas that might contain below-ground archaeological remains that could inform our understanding of the site's evolution and where an archaeological watching brief should be undertaken during development ground works.

**3.6 A detailed and annotated photographic record showing:**

**3.7** The buildings' external appearance.

**3.8** The overall appearance of principal rooms and circulation areas.

**3.9** Any external or internal detail, structural or decorative, which is relevant to the buildings' design, development and use and which does not show adequately on general photographs.

**3.10** For the interior, detailed views of features of especial architectural interest, fixtures and fittings, evidence of power systems, blockings or jointing relevant to phasing the building which might be vulnerable to refurbishment and demolition.

**3.11** Photographs should also be taken of other buildings that are linked to the study site, for instance in the case of a barn conversion survey it will be necessary to make a general photographic record of other outbuildings and the farm house.

**3.12** Photographs to be taken as high quality digital images and 35mm monochrome film . Show view point directions on plans.

**4 Survey report will include:**

**4.1** A summary statement of the survey's findings.

**4.2** The background to the survey including locational details (to include grid reference, reason for survey). The site should be located on a 1:50, 000 OS map or a more detailed OS map.

- 4.3 An outline of the methodology of the survey.
- 4.4 A description of the site's setting including topography and geology.
- 4.5 A short account of the history of the building and the complex it belongs to, and a brief description of the archaeological and historic interest of the site's hinterland (including relevant H.E.R. information).
- 4.6 An account of the building's past and present use and of the uses of their parts, with the evidence for these interpretations.
- 4.7 An account of the fixtures, buildings, and their purpose.
- 4.8 Evidence for the former with the building existence of demolished structures or plant associated with the building
- 4.9 A description of the significance of the site in its local and regional context.
- 4.10 The identification of areas that are currently obscured which might hold key information to inform our understanding of the buildings' origin and development and where an archaeological watching brief should be undertaken during demolition, or where a watching brief might be appropriate for ground works affecting potential buried remains of archaeological interest.
- 4.11 A catalogue of archive items, including a register of photographs and photo location plan.
- 4.12 A copy of annotated plans/elevations.

## **5. Reporting**

- 5.1 Further copies and a digital version of the report and illustrations will be provided as required within one week of the receipt of the clients comments on the draft report. (Digital text to be in Microsoft Word format and illustrations in AutoCAD and/or PDF format). Upon completion A.E.S. will submit details of the project to the HER (Historic Environment Record) via the online OASIS form at <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/>.
- 5.2 A.E.S. will submit a copy of the report to the Archaeological Officer for Lancashire for deposition in the Lancashire HER.

## **6. Confidentiality and Publicity**

- 6.1 A.E.S. will not disseminate information or images associated with the project for publicity or information purposes without the prior written consent of the client.

## **7. Copyright**

- 7.1 Copyright in all reports and documentation/images produced as part of this project to reside with Archaeological Excavation Services who retain the right to be identified as the author/originator of the material. This applies to all archaeological aspects of the project.
- 7.2 The results of the archaeological work will be submitted to the client and Lancashire County Council Archaeological Service by A.E.S. and will ultimately be made available for public access (see 5.1 ).

## **8. Resources and Timetable**

- 8.1 All archaeological personnel involved in the project will be suitably qualified and experienced professionals.
- 8.2 The timetable for the work will be dependant upon access. The archaeological officer at L.C.C.A.S. will be notified prior to the agreed date of survey.

## **9. Insurances and Health and Safety**

- 9.1 A.E.S. is covered by public and professional indemnity insurance.
- 9.2 All on site work will be carried out in accordance with the Health and Safety at Work Act, 1974 and the regulations of the *Standing Conference of Archaeological Unit Managers (SCAUM)* and identified hazards are set out in a risk assessment document, signed by all staff, prior to any work commencing. Health and Safety will take priority over archaeological issues

## **10. References**

English Heritage, 1991. *Management of Archaeological Projects*

Society of Museum Archaeologists, 1995. *Towards an Accessible Archaeological Archive* United Kingdom Institute for Conservation, 1990. Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long-term Storage

Centre for Archaeology Guidelines Institute of Field Archaeologists, 1999 *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Investigation and Recording of Standing Buildings or Structures*

RCHME 1996. *Recording Historic Buildings: A Descriptive Specification. 3<sup>rd</sup> edition*

11. Figures

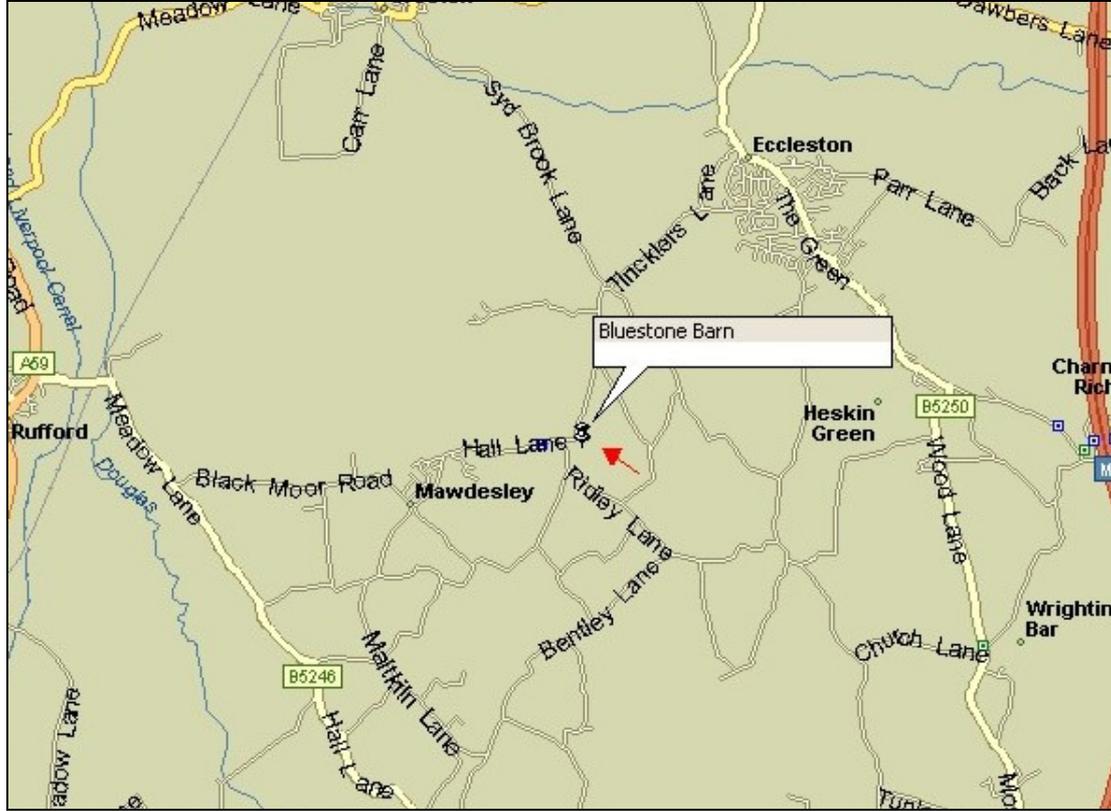


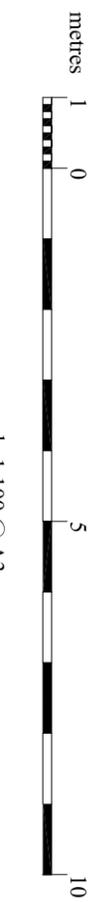
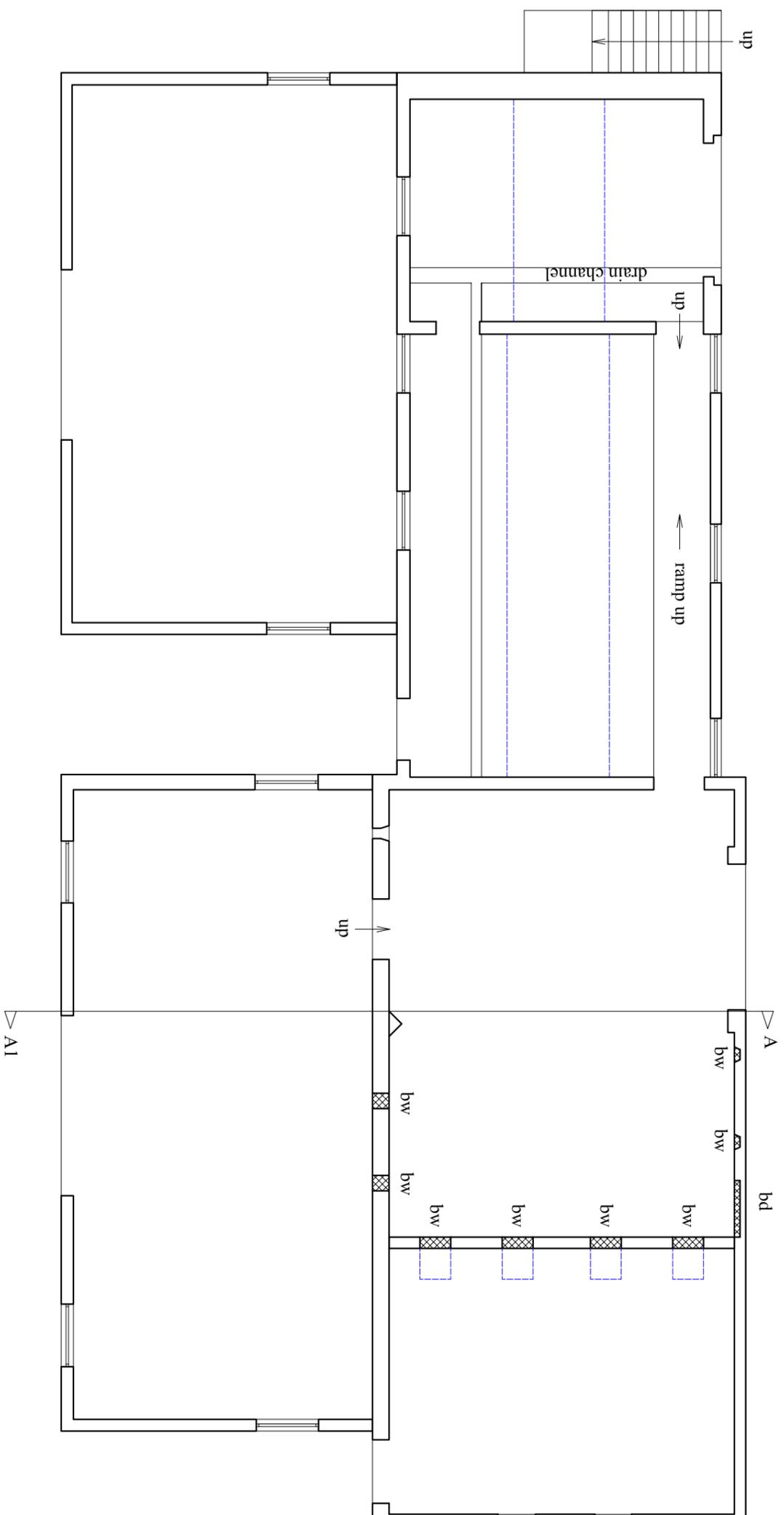
Figure 1. Location of Bluestone Barn, Mawdesley, Lancs (SD 503 151)

## Appendix 2. Figures

- Figure 1. Ground floor plan
- Figure 2. First floor plan
- Figure 3. Elevations and Cross section A – A
- Figure 4. Location of barn
- Figure 5. Aerial Photograph of area

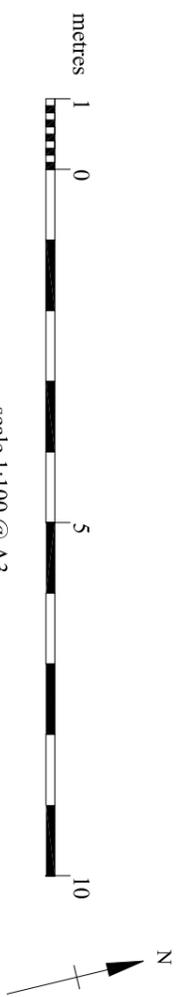
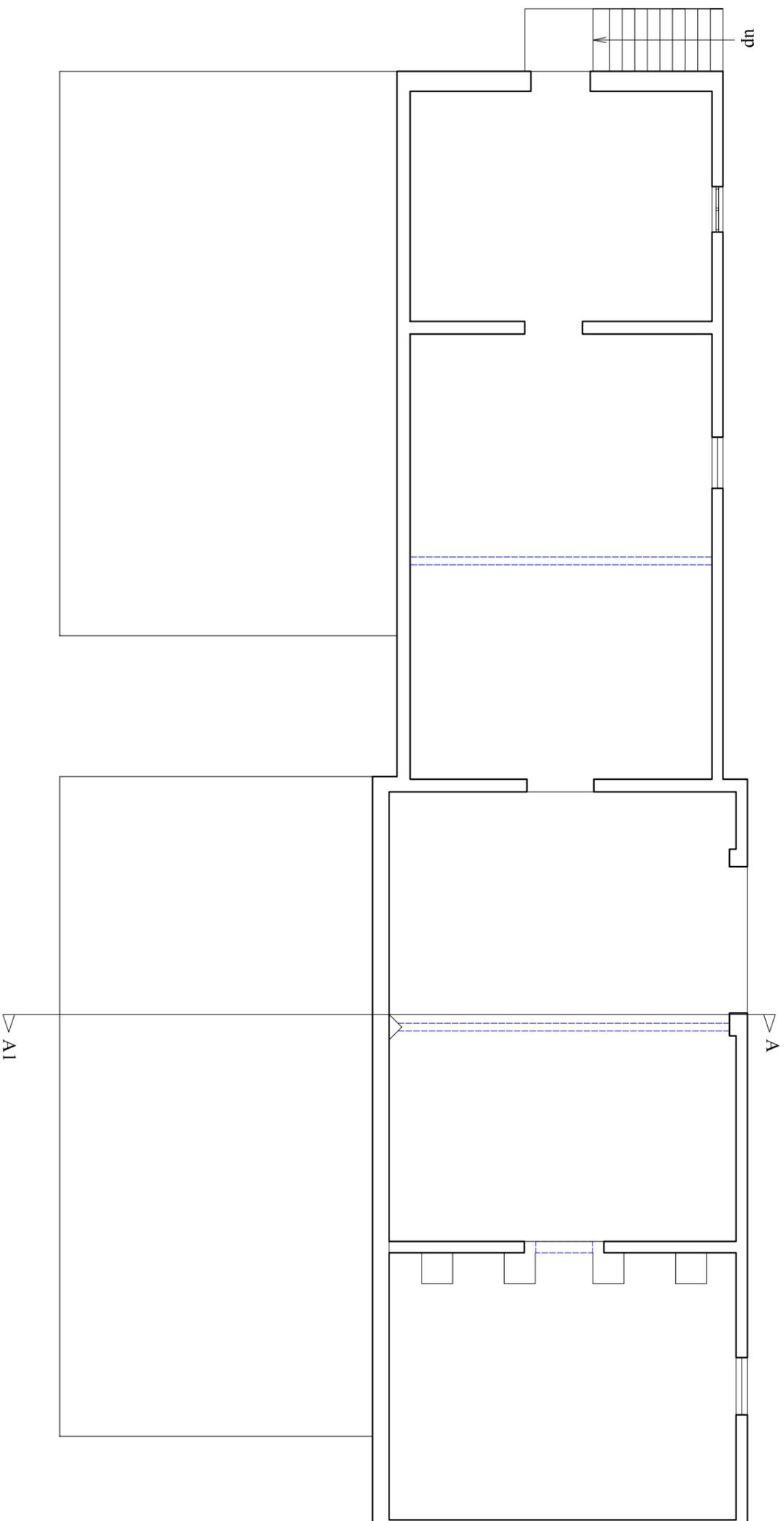
### Map Regression

- Figure 6. O.S. map 1893 1:2500
- Figure 7. O.S. map 1845-6 1:10000
- Figure 8. Copy of Tithe map of 1837
- Figure 9. Hennets map of 1829
- Figure 10. Greenwoods map of 1818
- Figure 10a. Greenwoods map of 1818 magnified
- Figure 11. Photographic Register
- Figure 12. Photograph Location Plan



scale 1:100 @ A3

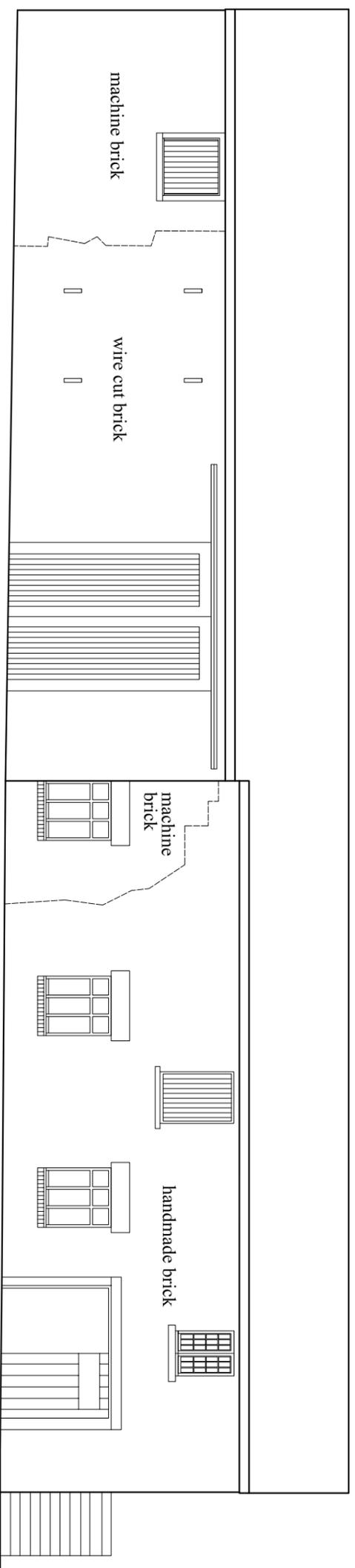




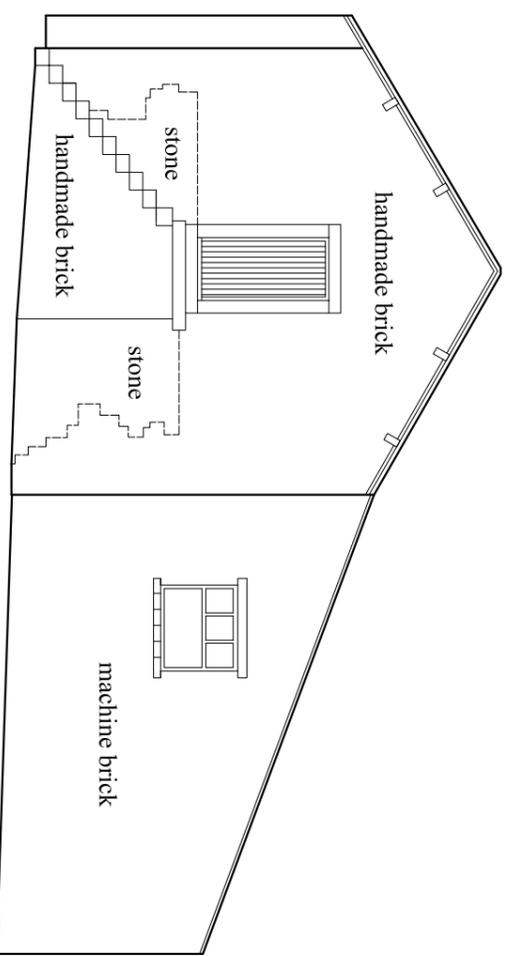
Archaeological Excavation Services

Archaeological Building Survey  
 Blue Stone Barn, Blue Stone Lane  
 Mawdesley, Lancashire

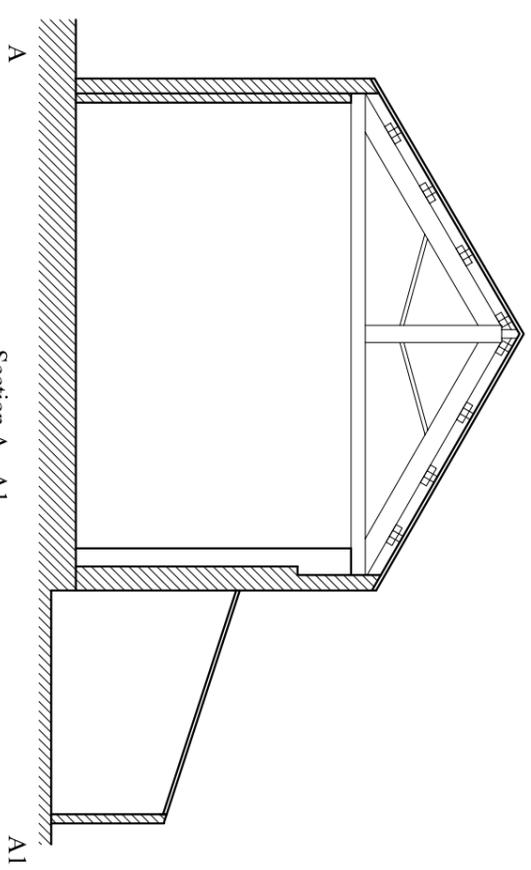
Figure No. 2  
 First Floor Plan



North Elevation



West Elevation

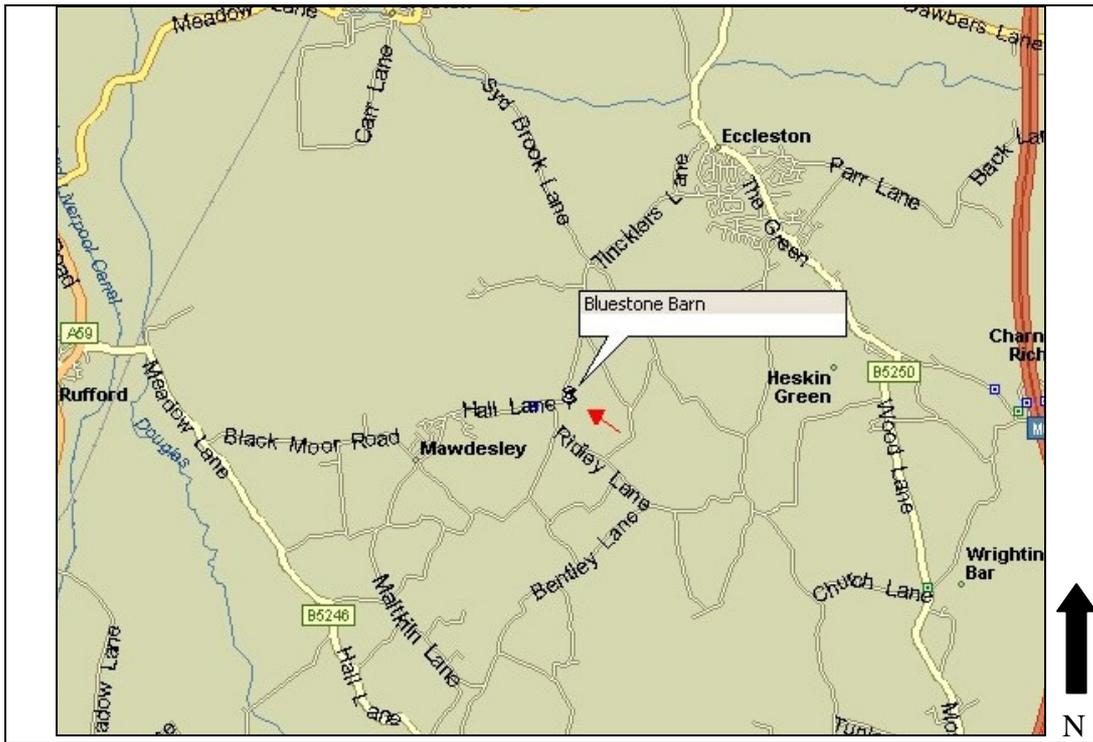


Section A - A1

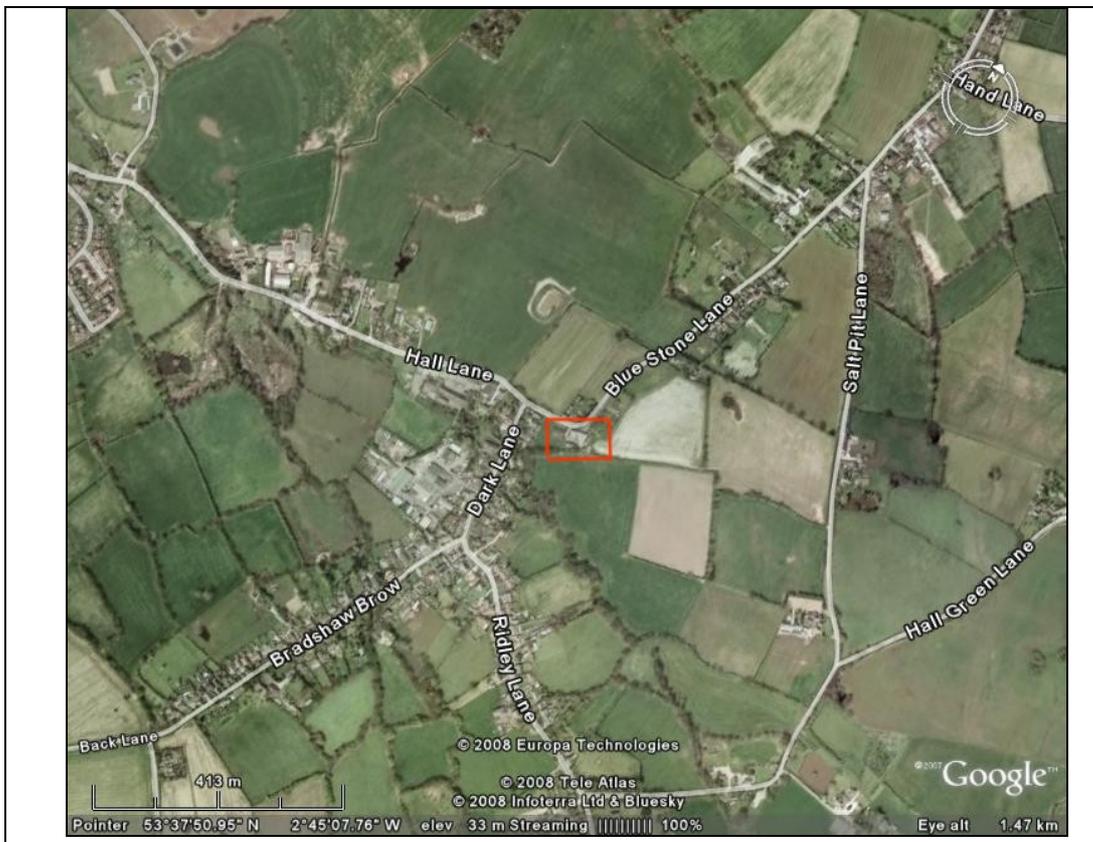
Archaeological Excavation Services

Archaeological Building Survey  
 Blue Stone Barr, Blue Stone Lane  
 Mawdesley, Lancashire

Figure No. 3  
 Elevations and Section



**Figure 4.** Location of Bluestone barn



**Figure 5.** Aerial photograph of Mawdesley. *Courtesy of Google Earth*

## Map Regression

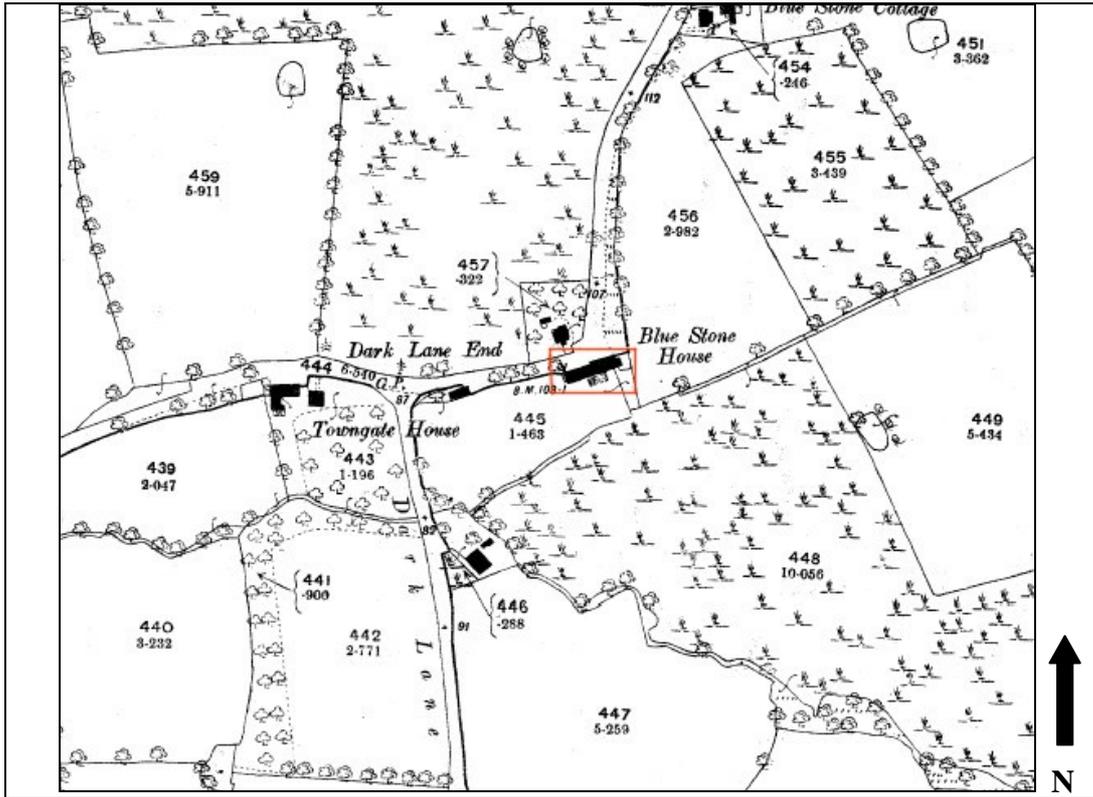


Figure 6. O.S. map 1893 1:2500

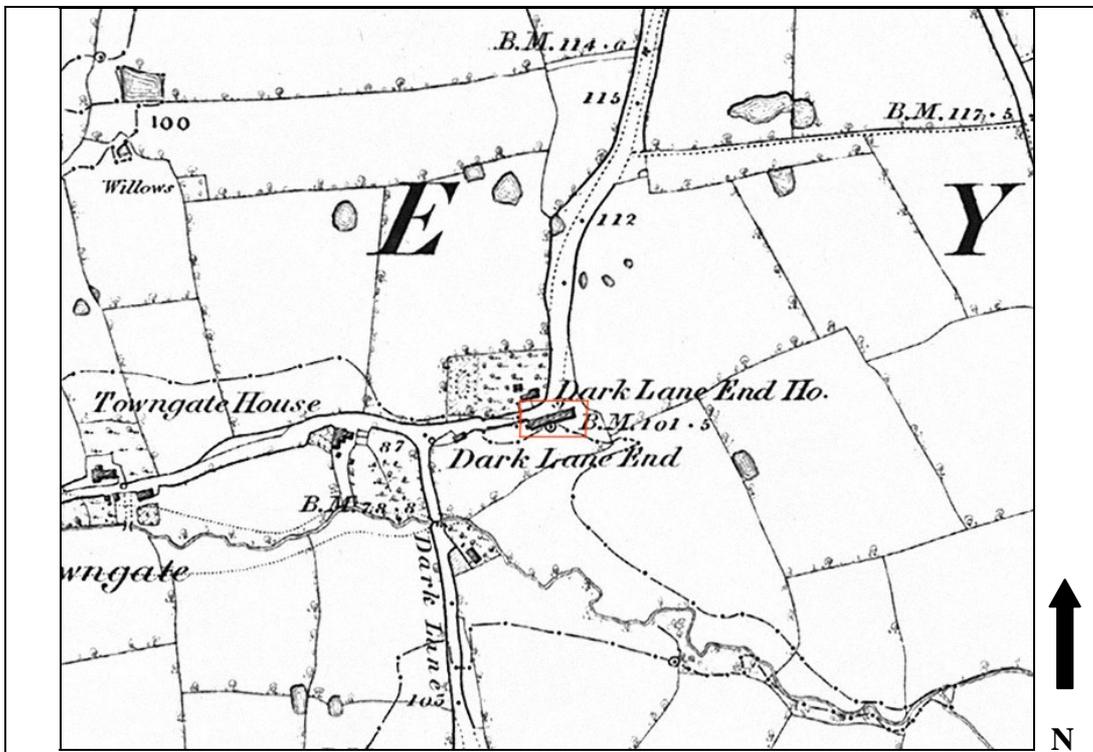


Figure 7. O.S. map 1845-6 1:10000



Figure 8. Copy of Tithe map of 1837

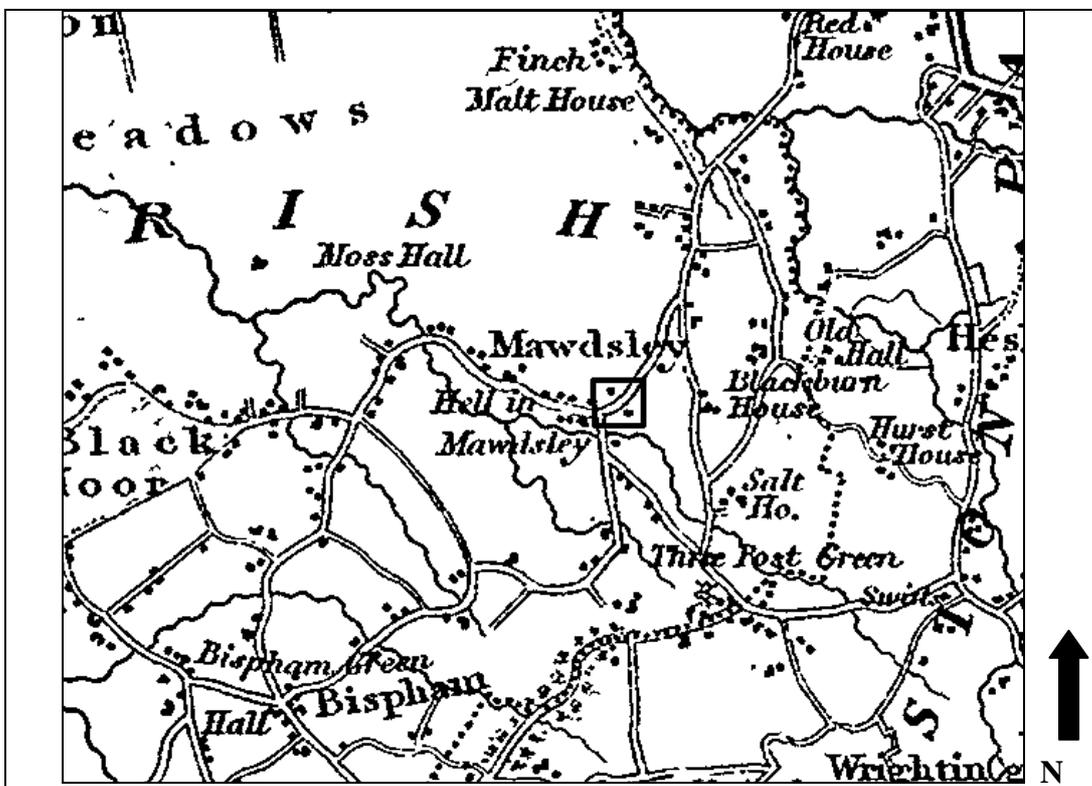


Figure 9. Hennets map of 1829

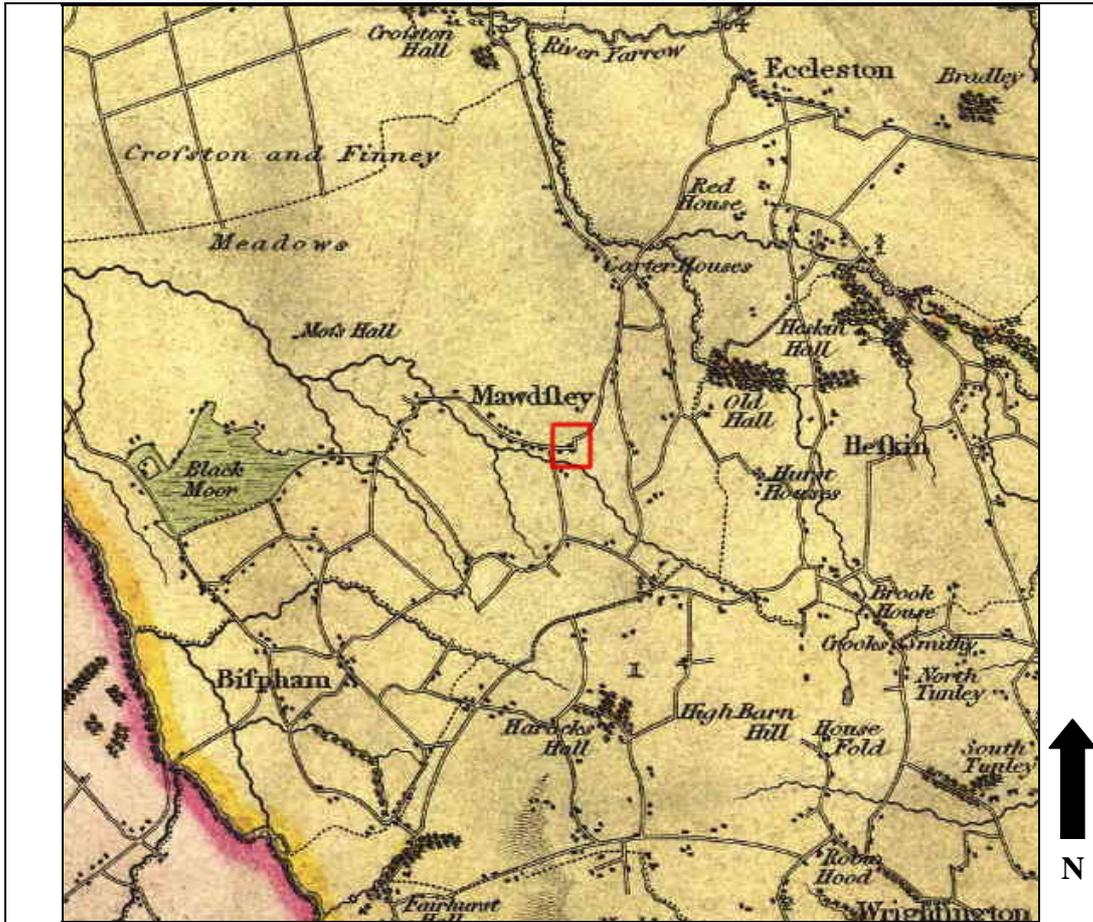


Figure 10. Greenwoods map of 1818



Figure 10a. Magnified

**Figure 11. PHOTOGRAPHIC REGISTER**

**SITE:** *Bluestone Barn, Mawdesley, LANCASHIRE (Survey- July 2008)*

<b>Date</b>	<b>Monochrome Film No/Frame No:</b>	<b>Colour Slide Film/Frame No:</b>	<b>Digital (6 Mega-pixels) File Name:</b>	<b>Description 2m scale where shown</b>	<b>View - From</b>	<b>Photographer</b>
23/6/08	Frame 1		DSCF0404 (Plate 4)	North elevation	N	R. J. Gurney
23/6/08			DSCF0405 (Plate 3)	Small building attached to barn	W	R. J. Gurney
23/6/08	Frame 2		DSCF0407	North elevation- eastern end	N	R. J. Gurney
23/6/08	Frame 3		DSCF0408 (Plate 10)	East elevation	E	R. J. Gurney
23/6/08			DSCF0409 (Plate 8)	Eastern end of south elevation	S	R. J. Gurney
23/6/08	Frame 4		DSCF0410 (Plate 5)	Rear extensions	SE	R. J. Gurney
23/6/08			DSCF0411 (Plate 6)	West extension - interior	SE	R. J. Gurney
23/6/08			DSCF0412	East extension - interior	SE	R. J. Gurney
23/6/08			DSCF0413 (plate 7)	South elevation – doorway between extensions	S	R. J. Gurney
23/6/08	Frame 6		DSCF0414	East extension - interior	SW	R. J. Gurney

23/6/08			DSCF0415	West extension - interior	SE	R. J. Gurney
23/6/08	Frame 5		DSCF0416 (Plate 9)	West elevation	W	R. J. Gurney
23/6/08			DSCF0419 (Plate 12)	North wall of threshing bay	S	R. J. Gurney
23/6/08	Frame 7		DSCF0420	South wall of threshing bay	N	R. J. Gurney
23/6/08	Frame 8		DSCF0425	West wall of threshing bay	E	R. J. Gurney
23/6/08			DSCF0426 (Plate 14)	East wall of threshing bay	W	R. J. Gurney
23/6/08	Frame 9		DSCF0427	Large shippon	NE	R. J. Gurney
23/6/08			DSCF0428 (Plate 16)	Large shippon	E	R. J. Gurney
23/6/08			DSCF0429	Detail of blocked window – south wall of large shippon	N	R. J. Gurney
23/6/08			DSCF0430	Large shippon	W	R. J. Gurney
23/6/08			DSCF0431 (Plate 17)	Stable	NW	R. J. Gurney
23/6/08			DSCF0432 (Plate 18)	Drain channel – stable floor	N	R. J. Gurney
23/6/08	Frame 10		DSCF0433	East wall of stable	NW	R. J. Gurney
23/6/08			DSCF0434	King Post truss	E	R. J. Gurney

23/6/08			DSCF0435	Detail of raised roofline – threshing bay	NW	R. J. Gurney
23/6/08			DSCF0436	Pitching window –west wall of threshing bay	E	R. J. Gurney
23/6/08			DSCF0437	Small shippon	SE	R. J. Gurney
23/6/08	Frame 11		DSCF0438 (plate 15)	Small shippon	NE	R. J. Gurney
23/6/08			DSCF0439	Rebuilt area west of cart door	SE	R. J. Gurney
23/6/08			DSCF0440	Baltic timber marks on truss	E	R. J. Gurney
23/6/08	Frame 12		DSCF0442	Western truss and first floor storeroom	E	R. J. Gurney
23/6/08			DSCF0444 (Plate 22)	First floor storeroom	W	R. J. Gurney
23/6/08			DSCF0445	First floor storeroom	SW	R. J. Gurney
23/6/08	Frame 13		DSCF0446 (Plate 21)	Granary	SE	R. J. Gurney
23/6/08	Frame 14		DSCF0447 (plate 19)	Hayloft above small shippon	SW	R. J. Gurney
23/6/08			DSCF0448	Hayloft above small shippon	NE	R. J. Gurney
23/6/08	Frame 15		DSCF0449 (Plate 1)	Detail of reused timber – eastern truss	E	R. J. Gurney
23/6/08	Frame 16		DSCF0451 (plate 20)	Detail of raised roofline in hayloft	N	R. J. Gurney

23/6/08			DSCF0452 (Plate 2)	Baltic timber marks on northern purlins – large storeroom	S	R. J. Gurney
23/6/08			DSCF0453	Baltic timber marks on northern purlins – large storeroom	S	R. J. Gurney
23/6/08			DSCF0455 (Plate 13)	Triangular pillar in threshing bay	NW	R. J. Gurney
23/6/08			DSCF0457	Threshing bay from pitching window in west wall	SW	R. J. Gurney
23/6/08	Frame 17		DSCF0463 (Plate 11)	Threshing bay floor	N	R. J. Gurney
23/6/08			DSCF0438	Detail of stonework in west wall of stable	E	R. J. Gurney

Figure 12: Photolocation Plan



### Appendix 3: Plates



Plate 1. Detail of re-used timber in truss



Plate 2. Baltic timber marks on purlins



Plate 3. Small building attached to barn from the west



Plate 4. North elevation from the north



Plate 5. Rear extensions on south elevation from the south-east



Plate 6. Interior of rear western extension from the south-east



Plate 7. Doorway between extensions – south elevation from the south



Plate 8. Eastern end of south elevation from the south



Plate 9. West elevation from the west



Plate 10. East elevation from the east



Plate 11. The threshing floor from the north



Plate 12. Blocked doorway and vents in north wall of threshing bay from the south



Plate 13. Triangular pillar in threshing bay from the north-west



Plate 14. East wall of threshing bay from the west



Plate 15. Small shippon from the north-east



Plate 16. Large shippon from the east



Plate 17. Stable from the north-east



Plate 18. Drain channel in stable floor from the north



Plate 19. Hayloft above small shippon from the north-east



Plate 20. Detail of raised roofline in hayloft from the north



Plate 21. Granary from the south-east



Plate 22. Large storeroom above large shippon from the east