

# HOUSE AT SLACKWOOD FARM, SILVERDALE, LANCASHIRE

## Archaeological Building Recording



Client: Adrian Waddingham

NGR: SD 47444 74589

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## Non-Technical Summary

Prior to the application for Listed Building consent to renovate the Grade II\* Listed former farmhouse at Slackwood Farm, Silverdale, Lancashire, an archaeological recording of the structure was requested by the Planning Officer at Lancashire County Council, Doug Moir. This work was carried out by Greenlane Archaeology in February 2011. The former farmhouse at Slackwood is thought to be a very early (late 17<sup>th</sup> century) example of a double-pile yeoman farmer's or statesman's house.

There is relatively little detailed documentary evidence regarding the origins and early history of the farmhouse and the earliest maps of the site show considerable discrepancy, making interpretation and phasing of the site difficult. Slack-wood is mentioned as early as 1632, however, later documentary sources suggest that an earlier farmstead on the site was replaced in the early 18<sup>th</sup> century and it seems likely that the extant farmhouse originates from this rebuilding.

The farmhouse was thought to comprise an unusually early example of a double pile plan house of late 17<sup>th</sup> century date, but it is likely, based on the evidence in the documentary sources, that it was actually constructed in the early 18<sup>th</sup> century, although material from an earlier building, such as the numerous mullion windows could have been re-used. Evidence for extensive early modification to the house is not plentiful, although it is possible that a row of large windows in the south elevation were a later addition, something that should be revealed following the removal of the external render. Outshuts to the west and north-west of the farmhouse appear to be later and probably date from the late 19<sup>th</sup> or 20<sup>th</sup> century. Various other minor alterations were also carried out internally to the farmhouse during the mid to late 20<sup>th</sup> century.

## Acknowledgements

Greenlane Archaeology would like to thank Adrian Waddingham for commissioning the project. Thanks are also due to Ray Griffin and his colleagues for their help on site, and Elaine Blackett-Ord, Blackett-Ord Conservation Architecture, for providing a copy of the survey of the building, which was undertaken by James Brennan of James Brennan Associates (they retain copyright of the drawings). Additional thanks are due to Doug Moir, Planning Officer (Archaeology), Lancashire County Council, for approving the project design. Further thanks are due to Rod Ireland for providing access to the research carried out by Jane Lambert in 1976.

The building recording was carried out by Dan Elsworth and Tom Mace, who also produced the report and illustrations. Medium format photographs of the building were taken by Jonathan Ratter. The report was edited by Jo Dawson, and the project managed by Dan Elsworth.

# 1. Introduction

## 1.1 Circumstances of the Project

1.1.1 Prior to the application for Listed Building consent to renovate the former farmhouse at Slackwood Farm, Silverdale, Lancashire (NGR SD 47444 74589), Adrian Waddingham (hereafter 'the client') commissioned a programme of archaeological building recording. The farmhouse at Slackwood is Grade II\* Listed, and following discussions with the architect, Elaine Blackett-Ord at Blackett-Ord Conservation Architecture, and Doug Moir, Planning Officer (Archaeology), Lancashire County Council, it was confirmed that an English Heritage Level-2/3 type building recording was appropriate (English Heritage 2006). A project design was produced by Greenlane Archaeology outlining the manner in which the work would be carried out and the onsite work was carried out on 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> February. This followed on from an earlier desk-based assessment carried out for the entire site (Greenlane Archaeology 2009a) and recording of the barn associated with the farmhouse prior to its conversion into a dwelling (Greenlane Archaeology 2009b). It is anticipated that further investigation of the house will be carried out during renovation work, in particular following the removal of the external render, which will further enhance the understanding of the building. The results of this work as well as an earlier archaeological watching brief carried out during work associated with the redevelopment of the barn will be presented in a subsequent report.

1.1.2 The Listed Building information indicates that the farmhouse is late 17<sup>th</sup> century in date and comprises an unusually early example of a double pile plan house (English Heritage 2007). It is illuminated by numerous mullion windows, but considered to have been evidently been modified, especially in the south elevation, which has a series of much larger windows with timber mullions and transoms (*ibid*).

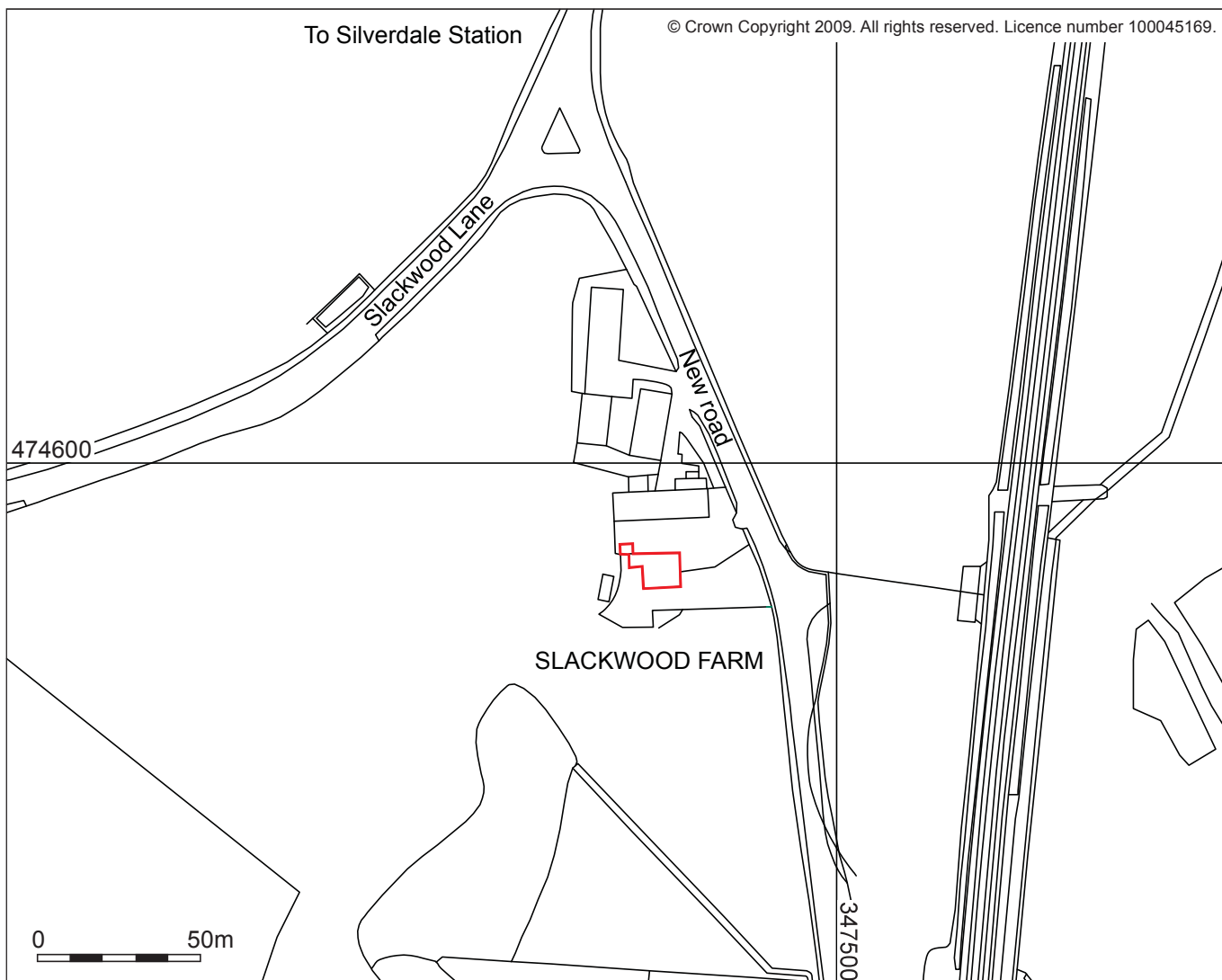
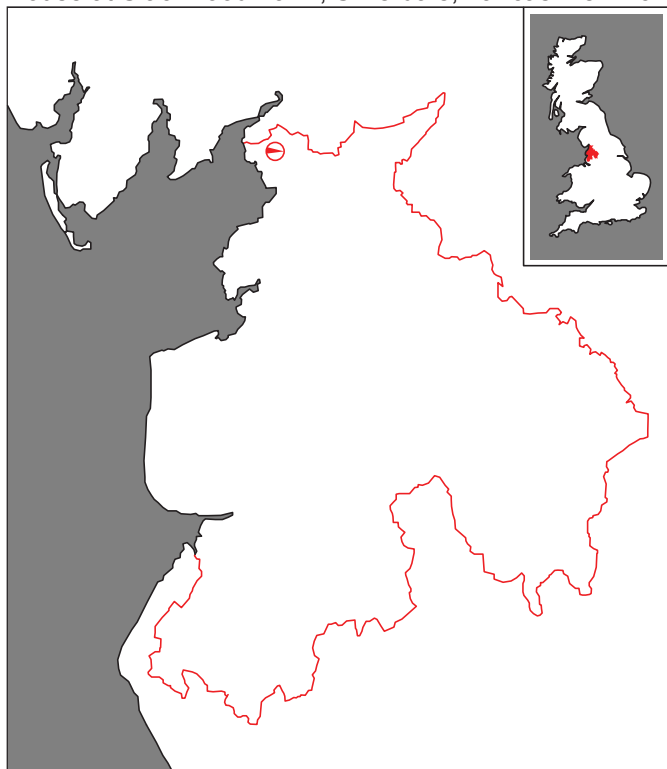
## 1.2 Location, Geology, and Topography

1.2.1 Slackwood Farm is situated in the parish of Warton and on the west edge of Leighton Moss. The Lancaster to Barrow-in-Furness railway line passes just to west of the site (see Figure 1). Approximately 1km north-west is the hamlet of Silverdale Green, and Slackwood Farm is within the Arnside-Silverdale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty which is part of the Morecambe Bay Limestone area (Countryside Commission 1998, 69).

1.2.2 The underlying solid geology is dominated by carboniferous limestone (Moseley 1978, plate 1). The solid geology is overlain by glacially derived boulder clay (Countryside Commission 1998, 72).

1.2.3 Although the area generally consists of undulating coastal pasture, there is woodland to the west of the site and moss lands to the east (*op cit*, 71). The site lies approximately 15m above sea level (Ordnance Survey 2002).





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Figure 1: Site location

## 2. Methodology

### 2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 The building investigation comprised three separate elements intended to provide a suitable record of the structures in line with English Heritage standards (English Heritage 2006) and the guidelines of the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA 2008). Relevant elements of the desk-based assessment (Greenlane Archaeology 2009a), which was carried out prior to the building recording, are incorporated into this report (see *Sections 3.1-3.4*).

### 2.2 Building Recording

2.2.1 The site comprised the farmhouse, including two outshuts located immediately to its west and north-west side (Outshut 1 and Outshut 2 respectively; see Figure 4). For ease of description the rooms were numbered sequentially on each floor and these are referred to throughout this report. A brief examination was also undertaken of a ruined outbuilding located to the south-west of the farmhouse. The house was recorded to English Heritage Level-2/3 type standards (English Heritage 2006). This is a largely descriptive investigation, but with a more detailed level of interpretation of the phasing and use of the building, making use of the available documentary information. For each building, the recording comprised several parts:

- **Written record:** descriptive records of all parts of the building were made using Greenlane Archaeology *pro forma* record sheets;
- **Photographs:** photographs in 35mm black and white print, black and white medium format print, and colour digital format were taken of the main features of the building, its general surroundings, and any features of architectural or archaeological interest. A selection of the colour digital photographs is included in this report, and the remaining photographs are in the project archive;
- **Drawings:** drawings were produced by hand-annotating 'as existing' drawings provided by the architect. The drawings produced included:
  - i. 'as existing' floor plans of the building at 1:100;
  - ii. 'as existing' elevations of all accessible external aspects at 1:50;
  - iii. three cross-sections at 1:50.

### 2.3 Archive

2.3.1 A comprehensive archive of the project has been produced in accordance with current IfA and English Heritage guidelines (Brown 2007; English Heritage 1991). The paper and digital archive and a copy of this report will be deposited in the Lancashire Record Office in Preston on completion of the project. A copy of this report will be deposited with the client, one with the client's architect, one with the Lancashire County Historic Environment Record (HER), and one will be retained by Greenlane Archaeology. In addition a record of the project will be made on the OASIS scheme.

### 3. Summary of the Desk-Based Assessment

#### 3.1 Background History

3.1.1 **Introduction:** a fuller account of the historical background to the site of Slackwood Farm is presented in the desk-based assessment previously carried out for the whole site (Greenlane Archaeology 2009a). The following information has been extracted from this as it is relevant to understanding the development of the farmhouse.

#### 3.2 Owners and Occupiers of Slackwood Farm

3.2.1 **Owners:** details of the early owners are very scarce; the deeds, the primary source of this kind of information, unfortunately do not provide any details prior to 1917. It is likely that the earliest named occupiers, the Walling family, were also the owners, especially as William Walling was said to have rebuilt the house in the early 18<sup>th</sup> century (see *Section 3.2.2* below), but this is by no means certain. They are mentioned in connection with the property from as early as 1632 and most probably owned it from at least this date. The earliest owner recorded with any certainty is a Howard Thomas Nelson, who is listed in the tithe schedule of 1848 (LRO DRB 1/195 1848). An estate map held at Leighton Hall (Leighton Hall Archives 1857) shows that it had become part of their estate between 1848 and 1857. The deeds indicate that the Slackwood was held by the Gillows and Reynolds of Leighton Hall until the recent sale to the client in February 2009, during which time it evidently was mortgaged at least once and held in trust for a considerable period of time during the early 20<sup>th</sup> century.

3.2.2 **Occupiers:** the earliest documentary evidence to identify the occupiers of Slackwood is from 1632 when the burial of Jennet Walling '*of the Slack Wood*' is recorded in the parish registers for Warton (Lancashire Online Parish Clerks n.d.). This is presumably the same Jennet Walling whose will of that year left 40 shillings to her servant Issabel Cornthwaite (Mourholme Local History Society 1998, 110). It is evident from other entries in the parish registers that a number of other families were also connected to the property during the later 17<sup>th</sup> to early 19<sup>th</sup> centuries, although the Wallings predominate throughout the early part of that period. It would appear that at times more than one family was resident at Slackwood but there is in general a clear transition of occupancy from the Walling family to the Huttons by the 1770s, with perhaps one family in between for a short time. The Huttons seem to have remained until at least 1845, although they are not apparently named as the residents in the census of 1841.

3.2.3 In c1707 it is reported that damage was done by travellers to the property of William Walling at Slack-wood although the nature of this is not clear (LRO QSP/954/6 c1707). More importantly, John Lucas, writing in his *History of Warton Parish*, compiled between 1710 and 1740, states that:

*'William Walling, Gent; whose estate is contiguous... [with Flegarth, and] ...bears the Name of Slack-wood... has pull'd down the Old Habitation of his ancestors, and built a neat House on the same Ground'* (Ford and Fuller-Maitland 1931, 49).

3.2.4 Lucas goes on to say that William Walling was the Chief Constable of the Hundred in c1700 (*ibid*), and he was clearly a man of some importance in the local area. Anecdotally it has been suggested that the builder of the present house, which on the evidence presented above would have almost certainly been William Walling, owed his wealth to smuggling in the area (Lambert 1976, 16), but this seems unlikely and an unnecessary explanation. His will, dated 1754, describes him as a 'gentleman' (LRO WRW/R496b/100 1754), although in a document of 1742 he is referred to as a 'yeoman' (LRO DDC 105 1742). His estate was passed to his son, Thomas, who seems to have acquired additional property in the area in 1742 (*ibid*) and 1759 (LRO DDC 115 1759). He appears to have died in 1763 leaving his estate to his brother William, residing in London, and a Henry Wilson of Over Kellet (LRO WRW/R500/23 1763). Details (dated 1769) added to a document dated 1759 confirm that Thomas was deceased and mention his only daughter Mary Walling, who appears to be married to a Richard Salisbury by 1769 (LRO DDC 115 1759). It is not clear at what point the Walling family's connection with the property ended, although it may have been following Mary's remarriage or its passing to Thomas's brother. The 1848 tithe schedule (LRO DRB 1/195 1848) lists the occupier as a Thomas Parkinson, and a long list of other families are named as at least occupiers following the Wallings, not least the Huttons.

A will of 1787 states that John Jackson, a weaver and resident of Slackwood, died intestate (LRO WRW/R505/35 1787); it is recorded in the parish registers that he drowned but it is not clear what his connection with the property was.

3.2.5 During the 19<sup>th</sup> century the census provides the most detailed account of the occupiers: the full details are presented in Appendix 2 of the desk-based assessment report (Greenlane Archaeology 2009a). The 1841 census does not identify the property by name but by 1851 it is recorded that William Croft and his wife occupy Slackwood, though it is unclear whether they are owners or tenants. The family is still resident in 1861; by 1871 they have seven children, and they are still recorded as running the farm in the 1881 census. The census for 1891 shows that the farm is now occupied by John Longmire and his family; he is still resident in the 1901 census. Kelly's Directory lists Longmire as still being resident at Slackwood in 1913 (Kelly 1913, 976). By 1918 Samuel Hodgkinson is resident at the farm (Kelly 1918, 905), and he is there until at least 1924 (Kelly 1924, 994).

3.2.6 Slackwood was occupied by a number of other tenants while owned by Leighton Hall, including Douglas Fishwick, who was at Slackwood from at least 1952 and was preceded at the site by his father. Douglas and his wife, Barbara, were married in 1952 and remained at Slackwood until his death in 1976. An account of Barbara's recollections of Slackwood is presented in its entirety in Appendix 3 of the desk-based assessment report (Greenlane Archaeology 2009a); it reveals that although some additions were certainly made while she was resident, they were largely minor and the farm was evidently still quite basic at this time. There was no electricity when she moved in - other than an old Lister engine in the 'provy' house (provender store - unfortunately, it is unclear from this account where this was located). The stone building (the 'bothy') by the farmhouse door (presumably Outshut 2) was a wash house and had a boiler with a flue and was also used as a store for the milk bottles when they ran their own milk round. They had a 'back kitchen' in the lean-to (Outshut 1) and had a Rayburn stove in the fireplace in the main kitchen (Ground Floor Room 3). There was a passage from the front door to the hall in their day (from Ground Floor Room 4 to Ground Floor Room 5), and the main sitting room (Ground Floor Room 4) had a wooden floor laid on top of the stone floor and the beams were boxed in (these were exposed at the time of the current survey). There was a door from the hall (now the east side of Ground Floor Room 4) into the dining room (Ground Floor Room 6) where there is now a deep recess on the east side. Mrs Reynolds changed the fireplace in the main room (Ground Floor Room 4) a couple of times and the pantry (Ground Floor Room 7) had the stone shelving all around the room in their day and there was gauze on the windows to stop flies getting in. The cellar was used for coal. The bathroom (presumably First Floor Room 2) was added by them; before which it had been a bedroom. The children used to get banished to the second floor whenever there were paying bed and breakfast guests, although they hated the 'scary rooms' on the third floor (Third Floor Rooms 1 and Third Floor Room 2) and never went there, except of course when playing hide and seek. Curiously neither of the two bedrooms on the south side (Second Floor Room 2 and Second Floor Room 4) had ceilings in their day - both were open to the rafters (Second Floor Room 2 remains open to the rafters). There was a stone built pig sty and hen house on the concrete base to the south of the farm, but this has now gone. The stone building (described as the 'aviary'), which seems to correspond to the ruined outshut to the south-west of the house was not there in their time. This was built by the following tenant, and many alterations were made during the ownership of Leighton Hall (Richard Reynolds pers comm.). A plan of 1976 gives some idea of the probable arrangement of the house at this time; the passage from the front (south) door is still intact, the porch to the south is not shown, the south-west ground floor room is said to have provided accommodation for farm workers, and the outbuilding immediately to the west is labelled 'bake house wash house' (Lambert 1976, 16). From 1977 onwards a falconer was housed at the site who reputedly kept his birds in the small building adjacent to the north-west corner of the house (Outshut 2) (Richard Reynolds pers comm.).

3.2.7 Following the death of Douglas Fishwick a planning application was submitted in 1977 with the intention to divide the house into two dwellings but apparently this was never carried out (see *Section 3.4* below). More recently Slackwood was left vacant and became derelict; in 2005 proposals were made for the Arnside and Silverdale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty to make use of the building in order to provide new office space, educational facilities, and craft workshops (Arnside and Silverdale AONB 2006, 2007). This, however, never occurred (Arnside and Silverdale AONB 2007) and by at least 2009

the site was placed on the *Heritage at Risk Register* (English Heritage 2009), prior to its sale to the current owner.

### 3.3 Map Regression

3.3.1 **Hennet 1830:** although Hennet's map is not very detailed (Plate 1) it does name the site and shows two buildings, which might correspond to the farmhouse and the barn to the north. A further building is shown to the south-east and there are what appear to be access tracks from the north-west and south.

3.3.2 **Tithe map of 1846:** the tithe map (LRO DRB/1/195 1846) shows the positions of the farmhouse and outbuildings in detail (Plate 2). It also shows additional features for the first time, such as associated outbuildings to the east and west of the house, an area of woodland (perhaps the orchard listed in the accompanying schedule (LRO DRB/1/195 1848)) to the south, and a lane providing access to the south, which is only hinted at on Hennet's plan. Curiously the barn and house appear strangely proportioned compared to their present arrangement. The barn seems much wider on this map and the house appears to be rectangular in plan rather than square as it is now. However, it is not certain if this is an accurate representation.



Plate 1 (left): Extract from Hennet's map of 1830

Plate 2 (right): Extract from the Tithe map of 1846

3.3.3 **Ordnance Survey 1848:** this is the first Ordnance Survey map and, although its scale means that Slackwood is very small, it clearly shows the house (with what is presumably a garden attached) and barn, plus a small outbuilding to the east of the house and what might be another to the west (Plate 3). It is notable that, in comparison to the slightly earlier tithe map, the barn and house appear to have taken on their present proportions – that is the barn seems much thinner compared to the house, and the house is more square in plan. There also appears to have been some reorganisation of the outbuildings to the west shown on the tithe map – one appears to now be roofless, while the other seems to have become incorporated into the adjoining field boundary.

3.3.4 **Leighton Hall Archives Estate Map 1857:** this map clearly includes Slackwood Farm within the estates held by Leighton Hall, demonstrating that they owned it by this date (see *Section 3.2.1* above). The map is relatively detailed, but shows the buildings in much the same way as they appear on the tithe map; indeed, they are so similar that the estate plan may in fact be partially if not completely copied from it. As a result the house appears quite narrow while the barn appears very wide, unlike the way in which they are depicted on the first Ordnance Survey map (Plate 3).

3.3.5 **Ordnance Survey 1891:** this is the earliest map to show the site in great detail. The house and barn are depicted clearly and there is even an internal division shown within the barn (Plate 4). The house is clearly square in plan and the barn is rectangular - the outshut at the west end of the barn is not evident but it may have simply not been depicted. An outshut to the west side of the farmhouse is clearly depicted as is a second outshut to the north of this. The outshut adjacent to the west side of the

farmhouse extends to the retaining wall, the alignment of which more closely approximates its current position. There are two smaller structures shown to the south of this outshut, which are no longer present. The outshut to the north side appears to butt the retaining wall, which extends to the south-west.



Plate 3 (left): Ordnance Survey map of 1848

Plate 4 (right): Ordnance Survey map of 1891

### 3.4 Conclusion

3.4.1 Documentary evidence indicates that there has been a dwelling at the site from at least 1632, and that an earlier farmhouse, or perhaps the entire farmstead, was replaced in the early 18<sup>th</sup> century. The earliest detailed maps of the area certainly show that the farmhouse was present as early as 1830 although this is considerably later than the rebuilding that took place in the 18<sup>th</sup> century, and so the cartographic sources are more useful in exploring the building's later development. Of interest is the depiction of the retaining wall and the outshuts to the west of the farmhouse, which is not consistent on the various maps that are available, but suggests that the current arrangement was in place by the time of the Ordnance Survey map of 1891. At this time the outshuts to the west and north-west of the farmhouse extended as far as the retaining wall to the west. The outshut adjacent to the west side of the farmhouse has seen further alteration since this time and another outbuilding, which incorporated part of the retaining wall, was constructed to the south-west some time after 1976 and had become ruinous by the time of the current survey. Various small alterations to the interior carried out during the 20<sup>th</sup> century are also recorded.

## 4. Building Recording

### 4.1 Arrangement and Fabric

4.1.1 The farmhouse was essentially square in plan, with outshuts located on the west and north-west sides (Outshut 1 and Outshut 2 respectively; see Figure 2, Figure 3, and especially Figure 4). A retaining wall extended along the line of these two outshuts to the west of the farmhouse and returned to the south. There was a ruined outbuilding located to the south-west of the farmhouse built onto this retaining wall. The farmhouse had a green slate roof and externally the walls were mostly finished with roughcast concrete render, but where the stonework was exposed the main build was roughly dressed limestone. Details such as the mullions and lintels were in pale yellow sandstone. The stonework of the outshuts was entirely exposed, with rough pointing and limestone detailing for the lintels. Internally, the walls of the rooms were typically finished with plaster, which was probably early or original in many cases. The timber was typically neatly hand-finished but some later machine-cut timbers had also been used. The farmhouse itself was divided over three storeys plus a small attic and cellar (see Figure 4, Figure 5, and Figure 6).

### 4.2 External Detail

4.2.1 **Farmhouse – north elevation:** the ground floor had a three-part mullion window on the west side (right side of Plate 5), each part with six-lights and plain mullions with a rhomboid section. There was a two-part mullion window on the east side of the elevation, which was boarded over. Between these two windows there was a lower level one-part mullion window, which was also boarded over, that led into the cellar (see *Section 4.3.1*), and another window, with a sloping sill and plain surround, that had originally been a doorway but the lower part had been blocked. The whole wall had a slight plinth at the base. Approximately midway between the ground and first floor there was a further three-part mullion window onto the stair landing, each part of the mullion window housing a six-light casement. The first and second floors had a single similar window, both of which were slightly off centre. This elevation of the house had been extended to the west (Plate 6) with a very plain mono-pitch outshut (Outshut 1), with a single doorway with a modern surround and door, before returning to the north as the gable of the adjoining outshut (Outshut 2). The far west end of this elevation was formed by the side of the second outshut (Outshut 2), which was constructed from large roughly dressed quoins at the corners and had a central two-light window, with a sandstone sill and a limestone lintel with two iron bars between and holes for two more (Plate 7). There was a low concrete block wall against the east side with the remains of what was presumably an iron pump attached, which had the marks “JAPY” and “IRON” (?) cast into it. The west end had a limestone gatepost against it.

4.2.2 **Farmhouse – east elevation:** this formed the gable end of the house (left side of Plate 5). There was a single window on the ground floor, with a plain surround, which had been boarded over. There was a timber gatepost attached to the wall which had a modern metal gate and an opposing limestone gate post. The first floor had a three-part six-light mullion window on the north side. There were two windows on the second floor; the south window was a two-part mullion window each with six lights, the north window had plain surrounds and two four-light casements with mullion dividing. There were scrolled kneelers at either end of the elevation and a central chimney stack with three ceramic pots. There were various projecting throughstones visible through the render. The elevation was extended to the north by the gable end of an outshut located at the west side of the house (Outshut 2). There was a doorway with a heavy limestone lintel on the south side of the east elevation of this outshut where it butted against the wall of the house. The doorway had a beaded timber surround and housed a tongue and groove plank door. This elevation of the outshut had large dressed quoins to the north and was extended by a concrete block wall with a pump attached (see description in *Section 4.2.1* above) but it was otherwise plain. There were two concrete steps up to the yard to the north.



Plate 5: North and east external elevations of the house and outshuts



Plate 6 (left): North elevation of Outshut 1 and north and east external elevations of Outshut 2

Plate 7 (right): North external elevation of Outshut 2

4.2.3 **Farmhouse – south elevation:** the ground level was raised slightly to the east relative to the western end of the elevation and there was a slight plinth evident below the render along the base of the wall (Figure 3). There were two plastic vents on the east side of the ground floor at ground level. The ground floor had four tall windows, with stone sills and lintels (Plate 8). The east and west lintels were both cracked. Located fairly centrally on this side of the house there was a projecting timber porch which had a slate roof and glazed sides on a concrete block base. The first floor had two windows in the same style as those on the ground floor level. (The outer garden wall to the south had a gate with rebated dressed sandstone quoins). The elevation had plastic rain water goods and scrolled kneelers at either end of the eaves. The west end of this elevation was formed by the south wall of Outshut 1 (Plate 9). The south elevation of the outshut had a single boarded window with a limestone lintel and a concrete sill that comprised several parts.





Plate 8 (left): South external elevation of the farmhouse



Plate 9 (right): South elevation of Outshut 1

4.2.4 **Farmhouse – west elevation:** the north end of the west elevation was extended by the gable of Outshut 2 and there were large quoins behind the gatepost on the north side (see Plate 7). The west wall of Outshut 2 butted against a tall retaining wall on the south side (Plate 10), which formed part of a general retaining wall. The retaining wall returned to the east and within this section there was a low opening with a limestone lintel, and was butted by Outshut 1, which had a mono-pitch roof (Plate 11). The west elevation of this outshut was plain except for a ceramic vent and some concrete re-pointing. There was a timber barge board attached and quoins at the south-west corner. To the south of where the wall of Outshut 1 butted against the main wall of the house the house had a small one-light window, with a chamfered stone surround, and below this there was a plinth along the length of the wall (Figure 3). The first floor of the house had a central tall narrow three-light modern casement window, which was probably inserted, the surround for which was concreted over. The second floor had two two-part mullion windows, each with a later single or two-light casement in each part. There was a further blocked single-light window on the south side at the level of the attic, which had a chamfered surround. There were scrolled kneelers at either end of the elevation and a central chimney stack with three ceramic pots and the remains of a drip course.



Plate 10 (left): Retaining wall at the south end of the west external elevation of Outshut 2



Plate 11 (right): West external elevation of the farmhouse and Outshut 1

4.2.5 **Ruined outbuilding – north elevation:** the outbuilding had a shallow mono-pitch roof, which sloped down to the east and was partially collapsed; the felt roof was largely collapsed into the room below (Plate 12). The building was evidently of mixed construction with some obviously re-used dressed blocks of stone.

**4.2.6 Ruined outbuilding – east elevation:** the north end of the east elevation was continuous with and sat on top of the retaining wall (Plate 13) and there were some very large boulders in its base. The doorway to the south of centre had a concrete lintel and the remains of a timber frame and a plank door with a single light. There were three windows, two with one-light and one with a four-light fixed casement, all of which had little in the way of a lintel (possibly just an iron strap covered with concrete). The south window had dressed stones in the south jamb but extended on an irregular line to the ground. All of the windows had concreted sills and there were dressed quoins at the south end of the elevation adjoining the boundary wall.

**4.2.7 Ruined outbuilding – south elevation:** this elevation was plain (Plate 14). It was stepped out at the east end and had been rebuilt to the west. There were quoins at the east end and the possible remains of similar quoins at the west end, albeit largely collapsed. There was a large low-level aperture at the east end with a heavy stone lintel, effectively below ground level.

**4.2.8 Ruined outbuilding – west elevation:** the west elevation appeared to have been heavily rebuilt and there was lots of concrete used along the top (Plate 15). There were three windows on this side of the building which matched those on the east elevation (see Section 4.2.6 above), but there were two four-light and one one-light casement window on this side. There were the remains of quoins at the north end, which were largely obscured by spoil.



**Plate 12 (left): North external elevation of the ruined outbuilding**

**Plate 13 (right): East external elevation of the ruined outbuilding**

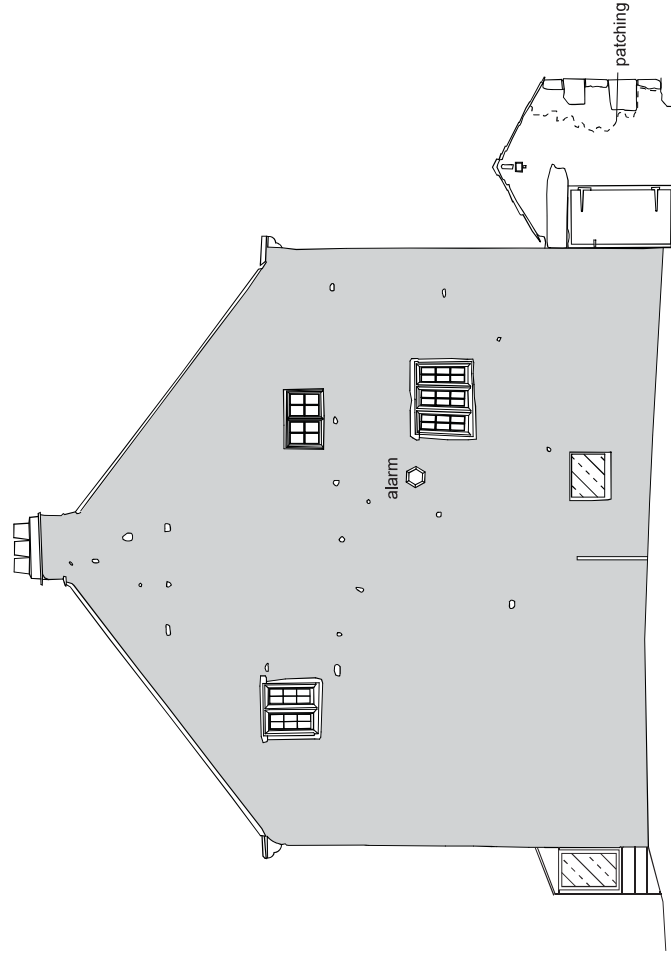
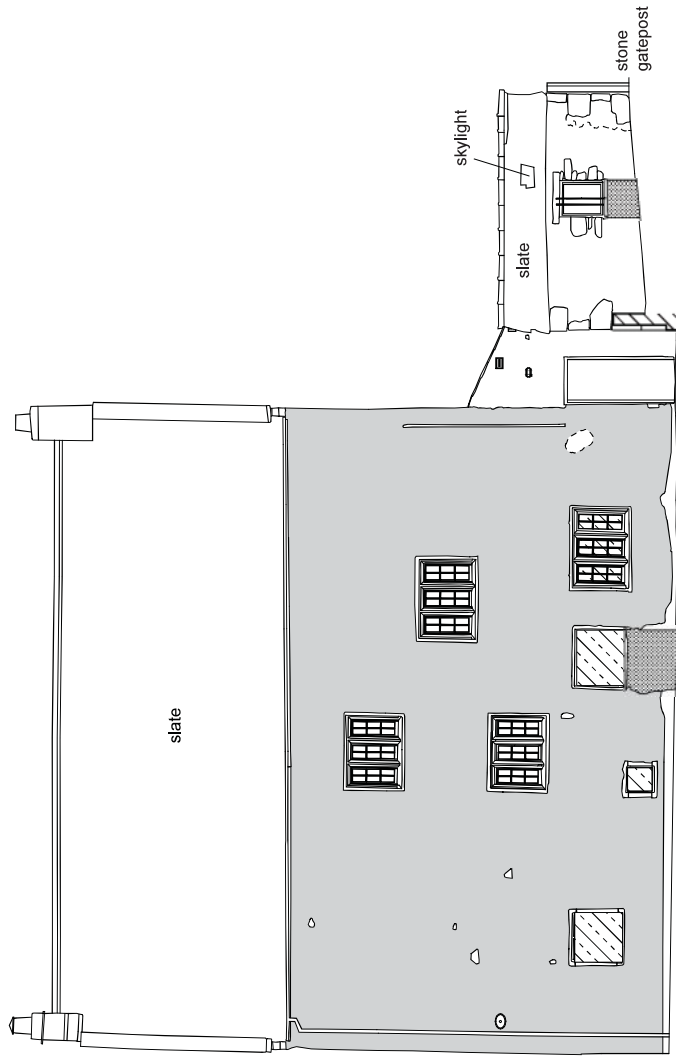


**Plate 14 (left): South external elevation of the ruined outbuilding**

**Plate 15 (right): West external elevation of the ruined outbuilding**

NORTH ELEVATION

EAST ELEVATION



Farmhouse

Outshut 1

Outshut 2

Farmhouse

Outshut 2

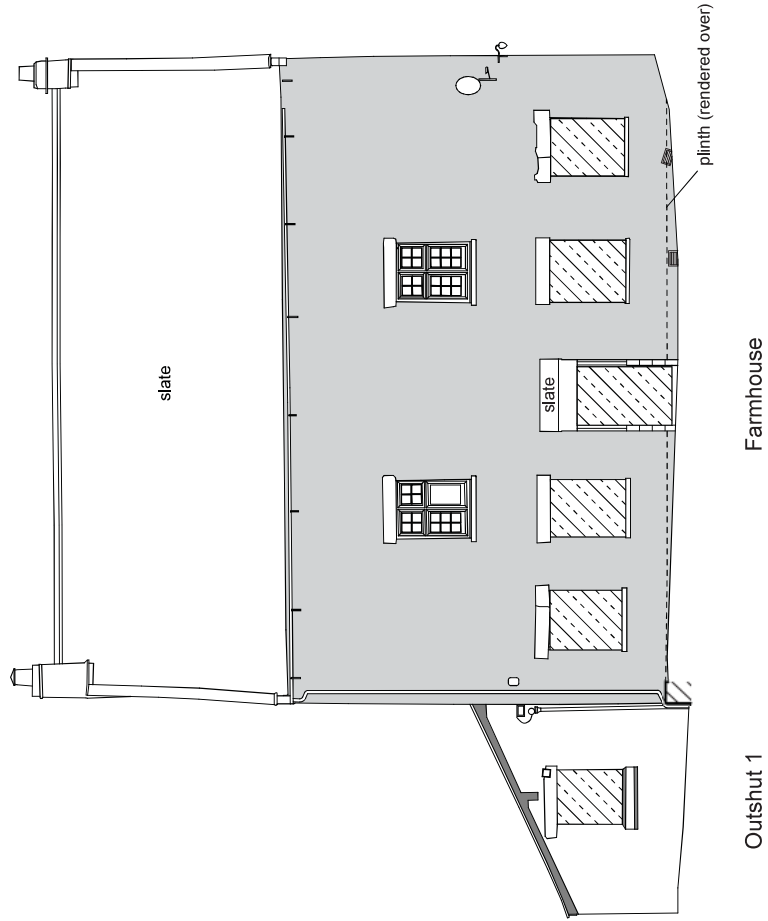
Key:

- concrete
- render
- cross-sectional wall
- boarded
- blocked feature

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Figure 2: North and east external elevations of the farmhouse and outshuts

### SOUTH ELEVATION



### WEST ELEVATION

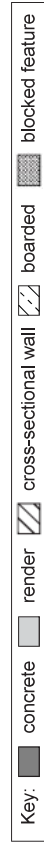
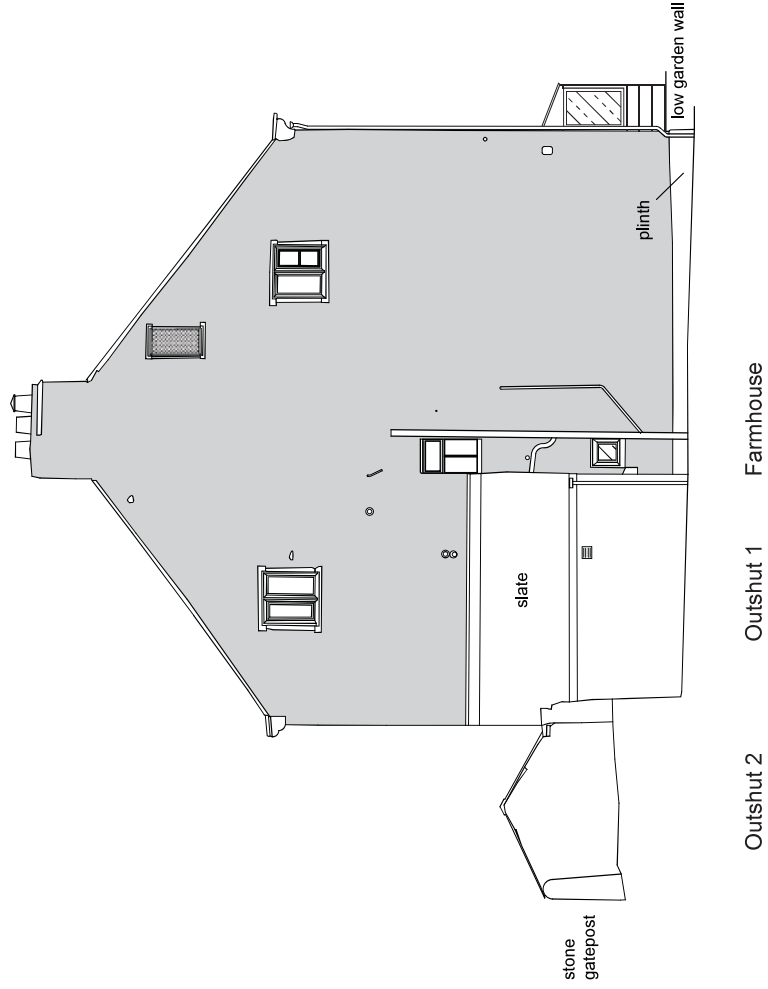


Figure 3: South and west external elevations of the farmhouse and outshuts

### 4.3 Internal Detail

4.3.1 **Cellar:** this room was accessed from ground floor Room 5, to the south, by a short flight of three steps (Figure 7). These steps were constructed from a mixture of red machine-made frogged brick and concrete, the top and bottom ones being concrete and the one in between being brick. The rest of the floor was finished with cobbles. There was no ceiling as such, only the underside of the staircase, which comprised floorboards on the north side and sloping hand-finished timbers supporting the planks of the stairs to the south, to which a few pieces of early newspaper (one including the date 1890 amongst the text) were attached. This was evidently a local newspaper as the content included references to Lancaster, Kendal, and Ulverston and had a chart of tide times. The north elevation of the room was finished with plaster and whitewash, and had a rough plinth at the base. There was a small window in it with a modern timber board forming a hatched cover and incorporating a cat flap (Plate 16). The window had a timber lintel and splayed jambs. The east elevation was plain. The south elevation had a doorway on the east side at the top of the steps, with a plain surround (Plate 17). To the west the elevation was formed by the underside of the stairs (Plate 18), which were sat on a timber rail on top of a low wall. The west elevation continued this low wall, which supported a lathe and plaster stud partition wall and had further structural timbers supporting the stairs (Plate 19).



Plate 16 (left): North elevation of the cellar



Plate 17 (right): Doorway in the south elevation of the cellar



**Plate 18 (left): Underside of the stairs from in the cellar**

**Plate 19 (right): The west elevation of the cellar**

4.3.2 **Ground Floor – Room 1:** this room formed the north-west outshut (Outshut 2) and was possibly originally a pigsty, although it was being used as a store at the time of the survey. It had a concrete floor and the roof was exposed on the south side. The roof comprised machine cut rafters and had a wall plate, which projected slightly, along the south wall (Plate 20). There was also a ridge plank. The north side of the room was covered with asbestos sheeting but had a small single-light skylight. All the walls were finished with a concrete skim. The north elevation had a two-light casement window with a stone sill and lintel (Plate 21). The east elevation had a doorway on the south side with a modern plank and batten door in an earlier surround with pintels on the south side and it was hinged on the north side and had a hand-finished timber lintel. The south elevation was plain apart from some graffiti, which read “IWH”, on the east side. The west elevation had a large crack in it, but was otherwise plain.



**Plate 20 (left): Machine cut rafters along the south wall of Ground Floor Room 1**

**Plate 21 (right): North elevation of Ground Floor Room 1**

**4.3.3 Ground Floor – Room 2:** this room formed the mono-pitch outshut against the west side of the house. It had a concrete floor, which was covered with vinyl tiles in the lobby, and was subdivided with modern stud walls to form toilets, a lobby, and a bathroom. The ceiling was finished with suspended plasterboards and had a hatch on the north side. All the walls were plastered and painted. The north elevation had a door to the exterior on the east side, which had a plain surround and door. The door on the north side on the east elevation led into the house. It had a timber lintel and a beaded frame and a beaded plank door. There was a slight plinth along this wall. The south elevation was plain and had modern toilet fittings. There was a blocked aperture with a projecting sill in the centre of this elevation which was boarded up. The west elevation had modern fittings for the toilet and bath and had a sloping roof.

**4.3.4 Roof space above Ground Floor Room 2:** the roof space comprised machine cut timbers used in the mono-pitch roof, although this was whitewashed. The north elevation was entirely rebuilt in concrete block, with electrical fittings attached, and included a ceramic vent block. The south elevation was plain apart from a vent block. The east and west elevations were also plain apart from a purlin to the west and a smaller one against the east elevation.

**4.3.5 Ground Floor – Room 3:** this room had a polished concrete floor and was finished with vinyl tiles. It had a plastered ceiling with three hand-finished and stained north/south beams. The beams had some stop chamfer and the centre one had meat hooks attached. The walls were plastered and painted. The south elevation and the south side of the west elevation were covered by kitchen units and were partially tiled. The north elevation had concrete skirting and two windows (Plate 22). The west one was a three-part mullion window and it had a long hand-finished timber lintel and a concrete sill. The east window was boarded over and was a more plain ovolo-moulded timber mullion with a timber sill. The east elevation had a beaded rail at mid height and a doorway on the south side, with a moulded surround, which housed a beaded plank and batten door (Plate 23). The door had early hinges and a

latch and a small hinged section in the top left corner. This elevation was a stud wall and had beaded skirting. The south elevation had concrete skirting to the east and was covered by modern fittings. It was recessed at the west end where it was a stud wall and there was a kitchen sink and other attached fittings in this corner of the room (Plate 24). There was a small window with splayed jambs and a stone surround above the sink. The chimney breast projected fairly centrally on the west elevation and was exposed stone at the top and there was an exposed timber lintel (Plate 25). The fireplace had a dressed stone lintel with a slight arch (Figure 8) and beaded moulding on corbels over the hearth and there were bolts in the north side of the corbel possibly for an earlier crane (Plate 26). The hearth itself had been in-filled with modern stone-effect brick to form a smaller fireplace and there was a brick fender round the base. The doorway to the north of the chimney breast had a beaded plank and batten door with early strap hinges and a modern lock and an ornate latch (Plate 27).



**Plate 22 (left): North elevation of Ground Floor Room 3**

**Plate 23 (right): Doorway at the south end of the east elevation of Ground Floor Room 3**



**Plate 24: South-west corner of Ground Floor Room 3**





**Plate 25 (left): Chimney breast on the east elevation of Ground Floor Room 3**

**Plate 26 (centre): Bolts in the north corbel of the fireplace, possibly for a crane**

**Plate 27 (right): Doorway on the east elevation of Ground Floor Room 3**

**4.3.6 Ground Floor – Room 4:** this room had a sandstone flag floor and there were two north/south beams across the plaster ceiling. The east beam was hand-finished and had a slight chamfer and there were additional pieces scarf-jointed and bolted to the south end and in the wall. The other beam was much more even and had been sawn. The walls were all plastered and painted and had beaded skirting throughout. The north elevation was plain and had a doorway on the east side (Plate 28) with a beaded plank and batten door, with a plain surround, modern hinges, and the scars from hinges on the opposite side. The east elevation was plain. It had the scar of a blocked doorway in the centre, with a different skirting board across the gap. The south elevation had a tongue and groove door on the east side (Plate 29), with late hinges and handle. This door led to a porch which was not accessible from the inside. To the west of this porch there were two further windows (Plate 30). These were both mullion and transom and had two four-light and two six light swivelling timber casements, a timber sill, and a cover over the curtain rail. The west elevation was plain except for the chimney breast (see Figure 8), which had a stone lintel, a beaded edge and corbels, and moulded jambs (Plate 31). The fireplace had a tiled hearth and back and loops and pintel on the south side for the original crane. The interior was plastered to the top, with a round hole, and was presumably for a wood burning stove. From the outside it was possible to see that the porch had a concrete step and red earthenware tiles to the south. There were single-light windows to the east and west and a plain plank and batten door to the south, which was modern. The windows and door had stone lintels.



Plate 28 (left): Doorway in the north elevation of Ground Floor Room 4

Plate 29 (right): Doorway in the south elevation of Ground Floor Room 4



Plate 30 (left): Windows in the south elevation of Ground Floor Room 4



Plate 31 (right): Fireplace in the east elevation of Ground Floor Room 4

4.3.7 **Ground Floor – Room 5:** the hall and stairs were centrally located on the north side of the house. The hallway had a sandstone flag floor at ground level and was slightly raised relative to Ground Floor Room 3 to the east, where there was a timber threshold. The timber staircase had a half-hexagonal hand rail, turned balusters, and a newel post with a beaded fascia board on the west side, and was panelled on the east side (Plate 32). Above the landing on the north elevation there was a

three-part mullion window, with widely splayed jambs, each with six lights (Plate 33). There was a doorway on the lower level to the east of the stairs, which had a plain surround and housed a beaded plank and batten door, with modern “Gothic” strap hinges and possibly the original sliding timber lock (Plate 32). The east elevation was plain except for the beaded plank and batten door on the south side, which had an early latch and a plain surround that was pegged together. The south elevation had two doorways to the east and west of a dividing wall (Figure 9). The east doorway had a plain surround, the tongue and groove plank and batten door for which was loose in Ground Floor Room 5. This door had a later latch and hinges. The west door had a stop chamfered surround and pegged joints and was a beaded plank and batten type with a modern latch.



**Plate 32: Composite photograph of the stairs, viewed from the ground floor**



**Plate 33: Window above the landing between ground and first floor level**

**4.3.8 Ground Floor – Room 6:** this room had modern floorboards and a plastered ceiling with one north/south beam, which was stop-chamfered at the north end and had a row of empty joist holes, conceivably for a stud partition wall, on the east side. The south end had two steel braces attached in the centre with bolts. The walls were all plastered and painted and there was beaded skirting throughout. The north elevation had a door on the west side with a rounded edge to the surround. There was a chimney breast central to the east elevation, which had the original dressed stone lintel with a flanged top with some inserted stone work below this and a raised tiled hearth on top of the possibly original stone or concrete hearth stone (Plate 34). The later stonework extended to the south to form a low shelf (Figure 7) with a slate top above which timber shelves were attached. The south elevation had two windows (Plate 35) which were the same as those in Ground Floor Room 4 (see *Section 4.3.6* above); these possibly had pegged joints and were ovolo-moulded. The west elevation was plain except for an alcove, which was filled with modern shelves, formed in a former doorway (Plate 36).



**Plate 34 (left): Fireplace in the east elevation of Ground Floor Room 6**



**Plate 35 (right): South elevation of Ground Floor Room 6**



**Plate 36: Cupboards on the west elevation of Ground Floor Room 6**

**4.3.9 Ground Floor – Room 7:** this room had a painted concrete floor and plaster ceiling with a single north/south beam, which was hand-finished with a rough chamfer. The walls were plastered and painted and had received a considerable amount of patching. There was a two-part mullion window, with three two-light boded casements and splayed jambs, to the east of centre on the north elevation (Plate 37). The east elevation had lots of modern fittings and a heavy sandstone bench, below which the flags had evidently survived; the rest must have been below the concrete floor. There was a long window to the south side of the elevation, which was partially blocked and had splayed jambs and a later eight-light hinged casement on the south side (Plate 38). The west elevation had a doorway on the south side which had a beaded plank and batten door and modern hinges and a plain pegged surround and a heavy sawn timber lintel. To the north of this door there was a cupboard built into the wall with a moulded surround (Plate 39). The cupboard was in two sections the upper section was taller and housed three shelves while the lower section was smaller and only had one shelf. Only one door remained on

the lower section but both sets of doors had strap hinges, modern handles, and a beaded surround. There was another modern cupboard and more shelving to the north of the built-in cupboard.



**Plate 37 (left): North and east elevation of Ground Floor Room 7**



**Plate 38 (right): Window in the east elevation of Ground Floor Room 7**



**Plate 39: Cupboard in the west elevation of Ground Floor Room 7**

4.3.10 **Ruined outbuilding**: the floor was assumed to be concrete but was covered with debris from the collapsed roof. The rafters from the mono-pitch roof remained and there was some internal timber and mesh walling. The walls were all finished with a concrete skim and painted. The north elevation had a deep plinth and a low level shelf (Plate 40). There were three windows and a doorway on the east elevation and this elevation had a lot of concrete along the top. There was a stepped plinth and the wall was thickened at the south end. The south elevation had lots of concrete added and had an attached timber and mesh wall and a post in the south-west corner (Plate 41). The west elevation was thickened on the south side and had three windows to the north of this and a slight step out at the north end.



**Plate 40 (left): General view of the ruined outbuilding, looking north**



**Plate 41 (right): General view of the ruined outbuilding, looking south**

**4.3.11 First Floor – Room 1:** this room had relatively wide north/south floorboards, which were in bad condition in places. The ceiling was plastered and there were two boxed beams aligned north/south across it, one of which was against the east elevation. The walls were plastered and finished with flock wallpaper. A smaller room and a cupboard were formed at the west side of the room by stud walls (Plate 42). The west side of the north elevation was inside this smaller room. To the east of this partition was a large three-part mullion window (each part with a six-light casement), with a timber sill and a moulded possibly beaded edge (Plate 43). The east elevation was plain. The south elevation was a late stud wall with a doorway on the east side with two lights over (Plate 44). The doorway housed a single-panel door with moulding and possibly an early 20<sup>th</sup> century lock. The west end of the elevation was within the cupboard at the west side of the room. The cupboard had two brackets for a shelf and the floor was raised slightly inside (Figure 8). The west elevation was essentially covered by cupboards with a void of uncertain function in the centre against the chimney breast. The north end of the elevation was plain but there was some earlier lattice and plaster stud walling with a strange sloping face on the return wall to the east (to the north of the chimney breast).



**Plate 42 (left): Smaller room and cupboard to the west side of First Floor Room 1**



**Plate 43 (right): The north elevation of First Floor Room 1**



**Plate 44: Doorway in the south elevation of First Floor Room 1**

4.3.12 **First Floor – Room 2:** this small room formed the toilet. The floorboards were early and fairly wide and some were covered with hardboard. The plaster ceiling was finished with flock wallpaper and there was a boxed lower section on the west side and a boxed north/south aligned beam to the east. The walls were all finished with painted flock wallpaper. The north elevation was all stud walls with an additional projecting section on the west side. The east elevation was also a stud wall with a door the same as that to First Floor Room 1 from First Floor Room 4 (see *Section 4.3.11* above). The south elevation was a solid wall with an alcove at the west end which was formed by a stud wall that blocked an opening, which was presumably originally a doorway through to First Floor Room 3. The west elevation had a single three-light hinged casement window with splayed jambs and a moulded sill.

4.3.13 **First Floor – Room 3:** this room had early, wide, north/south floorboards and a hearth stone on the west side. The plaster ceiling had two boxed north/south beams and the walls were plastered and painted and there was a plain skirting throughout (Plate 45). The north elevation had a small blocked doorway within the stud wall at the west end where the scar of the surround was visible. The doorway at the east end had a beaded plank and batten door (Plate 46), with an early latch and strap hinges, and plain surround with pegged joints. The east elevation was plain. The south elevation had a single mullion and transom window with splayed jambs above a timber sill but it did not extend to the sill (Plate 45), and there was evidence for hollow areas within the wall to the east and west of this that might represent further blocked windows but the full extent of these could not be ascertained (Figure 5). The west elevation was plain and had a hole for a vent or flue in the position of the chimney and sink fittings to the north.

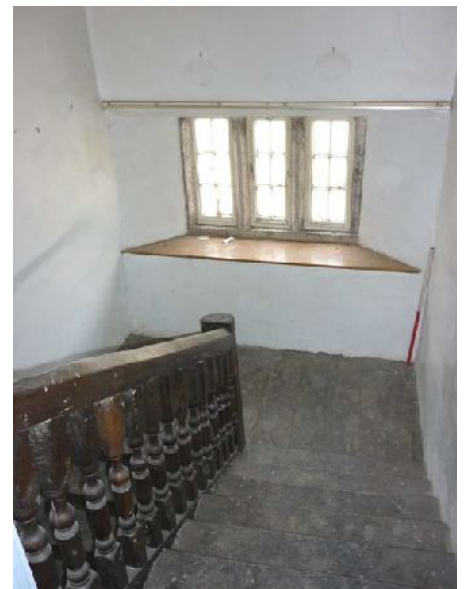




**Plate 45 (left): Window on the south elevation of First Floor Room 3**

**Plate 46 (right): Doorway on the north elevation of First Floor Room 3**

4.3.14 **First Floor – Room 4:** this room had wide north/south aligned floorboards and a plastered and painted ceiling. The stairs on the north side had turned balusters and a beaded post (Plate 47). Some of the balusters were missing and there was a much plainer post on the landing (Plate 48). The north elevation had a wide three-part mullion window on the landing (each with a six-light casement), with splayed jambs and a timber sill (Plate 49). The wall on the south side of the upper part of the stairs was formed by beaded planks. The east elevation was plain apart from a doorway on the south side, which housed a beaded plank and batten door that had an early latch and a chamfered surround. There were two doorways on the south elevation (Plate 48), which were essentially the same as the one to the east. The west elevation had a doorway into a small lobby between First Floor Rooms 1, 2, and 3, which was formed by stud walls. This doorway had a plain surround but was earlier than the walls to the west.



**Plate 47 (left): Beaded post**

**Plate 48 (centre): Plain post**

**Plate 49 (right): Window above the landing between first and second floor level**

4.3.15 **First Floor – Room 5:** the north/south floorboards in this room had been repaired and extra pieces had been added against the south elevation. The ceiling was plastered and there was a boxed north/south beam across it. The walls were all painted and plastered and had angled skirting. There was a hearth stone on the east side. The north elevation had a doorway on the west side which had a beaded plank and batten door with an early latch and hinges. The east elevation had a central fireplace and a modern timber shelf on brackets for a mantle (Figure 7) below which there was a stone lintel which had two holes drilled into it and a splayed hearth, with later brick infill used to form a narrower hearth (Plate 50). A mixture of yellow and orange bricks was used. The south elevation had an alcove to the east side, which was formed within a blocked window (Plate 51), with a rough timber lintel which had a later piece nailed to the underside. The timber sill of this window was lower than the window located further to the west, which had a timber mullion and transom like the others on this side of the house. The east elevation was plain.



**Plate 50 (left): Fireplace in the east elevation of First Floor Room 5**

**Plate 51 (right): Alcove and window on the south elevation of First Floor Room 5**

4.3.16 **First Floor – Room 6:** this room had wide north/south aligned floorboards and a plaster ceiling with an exposed north/south beam. The beam had a decorative chamfer at the north end. The walls were all plaster and paint finished. The north elevation was plain. The east elevation had a wide three-part mullion window, each with six-lights, with a timber sill. There was a fireplace to the south which had a cast iron possibly Victorian surround, with floral decoration and geometric patterns, and a small grate, which was perhaps Edwardian. The south elevation was plain. The west elevation was plain apart from a doorway on the south side which had a beaded plank and batten door with early hinges.



**Plate 52: Fireplace in the east elevation of First Floor Room 6**

4.3.17 **Second Floor – Room 1**: this room had tongue and groove floorboards and a plastered ceiling which sloped down on the north side and had a lowered section on the east side. The base of the truss was visible on the east side of the north elevation, but it was boxed and finished with Artex. The sloping underside of the stairs to the attic occupied the south-west corner of the room (Plate 53). The entrance to the stairs had a possibly 19<sup>th</sup> century plank door, with later stud work built against the projecting chimney breast. The stairs had turned balusters and a moulded post and stud wall along the east side and newer timber steps. All the walls were plastered and had remnants of wallpaper. The north elevation was plain except for the truss end. The east elevation had a doorway on the south side, with an early door, possibly constructed from re-used panelling, with L-shaped hinges and an early latch (Plate 54). The south elevation (see Figure 9) was plain and was partially overhung by the return of the stairs, below which was a small cupboard which had a very simple plank and batten door on the east side within a fairly plain surround. The timber inside the area below the stairs was typically very rough and hand-cut. The space under the stairs had evidently been in a serious fire as the timbers were very charred and so too was the wall to the south. The north elevation had a single two-light mullion window, with wide splayed jambs and a timber lintel.



Plate 53 (left): Stairs in the south-west corner of Second Floor Room 1



Plate 54 (right): Doorway in the east elevation of Second Floor Room 1

4.3.18 **Second Floor – Room 2**: this room had a very rough board floor and was open to the roof (Plate 55); the end of the truss came down to the top of the south elevation and had a tie beam at ceiling height (Plate 56; for a description of the roof structure see Section 4.3.22 below). All of the walls were roughly plastered and whitewashed and the scar from the line of the earlier ceiling was visible around the room. There was a door to the east side on the north elevation, which had early hung hinges and a later latch and a plain pegged surround (Plate 57). The east and south elevations were plain. The west elevation had a small two-light window with very wide splayed jambs, a timber sill, and an overlong rough timber lintel.



**Plate 55 (left): General view of the north and west elevations of Second Floor Room 2**

**Plate 56 (right): Truss visible above Second Floor Room 2**



**Plate 57: Door in the north elevation of Second Floor Room 2**

4.3.19 **Second Floor – Room 3:** the ceiling of the room was plaster. The north elevation had an early stud wall and was partially built from tongue and groove beaded planks to the south side of the stairs (Plate 58). There was one spindle remaining on the west side of this partition, so the stairs were presumably open with the banister originally. The board floor and steps were relatively early. The doorway through to the stairs (to the east of this partition) had a plain surround and a tongue and groove door with a modern latch. The door to the east side on the south elevation also had a plain surround but had a beaded plank door with an early latch (Plate 59). The door in the west elevation also had a plain surround and a similar latch, but was constructed from possibly re-used pieces of panelling with moulded rails (Plate 59).



**Plate 58 (left): Tongue and groove beaded planks to the west side of the stairs viewed from**



**Plate 59 (right): South-east corner of Second Floor Room 3**

4.3.20 **Second Floor – Room 4:** there was chipboard over the original floorboards in this room and the ceiling was plastered and sloped down on the south side. There was a single north/south beam near the centre of the room and the south end of the truss was also visible to its south side (Plate 60). All of the timbers were sawn and bolted together. The walls were all plastered and painted. The north elevation had a doorway on the west side, which housed a beaded plank door with early an early latch and strap hinges. The east elevation had a two-part mullion, with two six-light casements, splayed jambs, and a timber sill with daisy wheel and circular motifs scored into it (Plate 61). The south and west elevations were plain.



**Plate 60 (left): South and east elevations of Second Floor Room 4**



**Plate 61 (right): Daisy wheel motifs scored into the window sill in Second Floor Room 4**

4.3.21 **Second Floor – Room 5:** this room had narrow tongue and groove floorboards and the walls were plastered and painted and had a plain skirting. The plaster ceiling sloped down to the north and apart from where the end of the truss projected the north elevation was otherwise plain. The east elevation had a wide window with two four-light casements, splayed jambs, and a timber sill (Plate 62). The south elevation was plain. The west elevation had a doorway on the south side with a modern tongue and groove plank door.



**Plate 62: East elevation of Second Floor Room 5**

4.3.22 **Third Floor – Room 1:** this room comprised the timber steps up to Third Floor Room 2 and was open to the roof. To the side of the stairs there was a large rough east/west beam and smaller joists to the north and there was a similar beam to the south, which had slots for the joists but no joists attached. The south beam sat on top of the tie beam of the truss, which spanned the central ‘spine’ wall that effectively divided the house north/south. The roof structure comprised two large king post trusses (Figure 8), with raised tie beam principles, sitting on the walls, and upper collar and angled braces, one either side (see Plate 63 and Plate 64). The north side wall of the stairs was a stud partition, facing the solid spine wall to the south. The west elevation had a projecting chimney breast, with corbels for the stack on the south side of the spine wall. The top of the stack looked to have been truncated by comparison and there was a recessed area between the north stack and the spine wall, with a neatly dressed stone lintel (Plate 65; to the left of the stairs on Figure 8). The purlins to the north and south were all hand finished and scarf jointed at the trusses and had diagonally set ridge purlins. There was a higher level blocked window in the west elevation with a timber lintel (Figure 8) and an angled lintel up to the stack (Plate 66). To the east there was a six-panel door to Third Floor Room 2 (Plate 63).



**Plate 63 (left): King post truss and upper collar**

**Plate 64 (right): Angled braces of the truss above Second Floor Room 2**



**Plate 65 (left): Chimney breast to the north of the 'spine' wall**

**Plate 66 (right): Blocked window to the south of the chimney breast on the third floor**

4.3.23 **Third Floor – Room 2:** this room was formed by a modern stud walling against the truss and on the spine wall. The truss had carpenter's marks at the junction of the principle and king post; "II" on the south side and "I" on the north. The roof space to the east of the second truss was accessible through a break in the partition wall of Third Floor Room 2 and had the same basic style as the truss above Third Floor Room 1; however, it was made from different timber and was neatly sawn. There were purlins on the north side and another one the same to the south. Many were marked "7 x 7 BODDY" and one was marked "JB" in chalk. There was more evidence of fire on the south side, where there were some early purlins. There was a blocked, presumably originally mullion, window on the east elevation.



**Plate 67 (left): Entry to the roof space to the east of Third Floor Room 2**

**Plate 68 (right): Blocked window on the east elevation of the roof space to the east of Third Floor Room 2**



**Plate 69: Composite photograph of the truss in the roof space to the east of Third Floor Room 2**



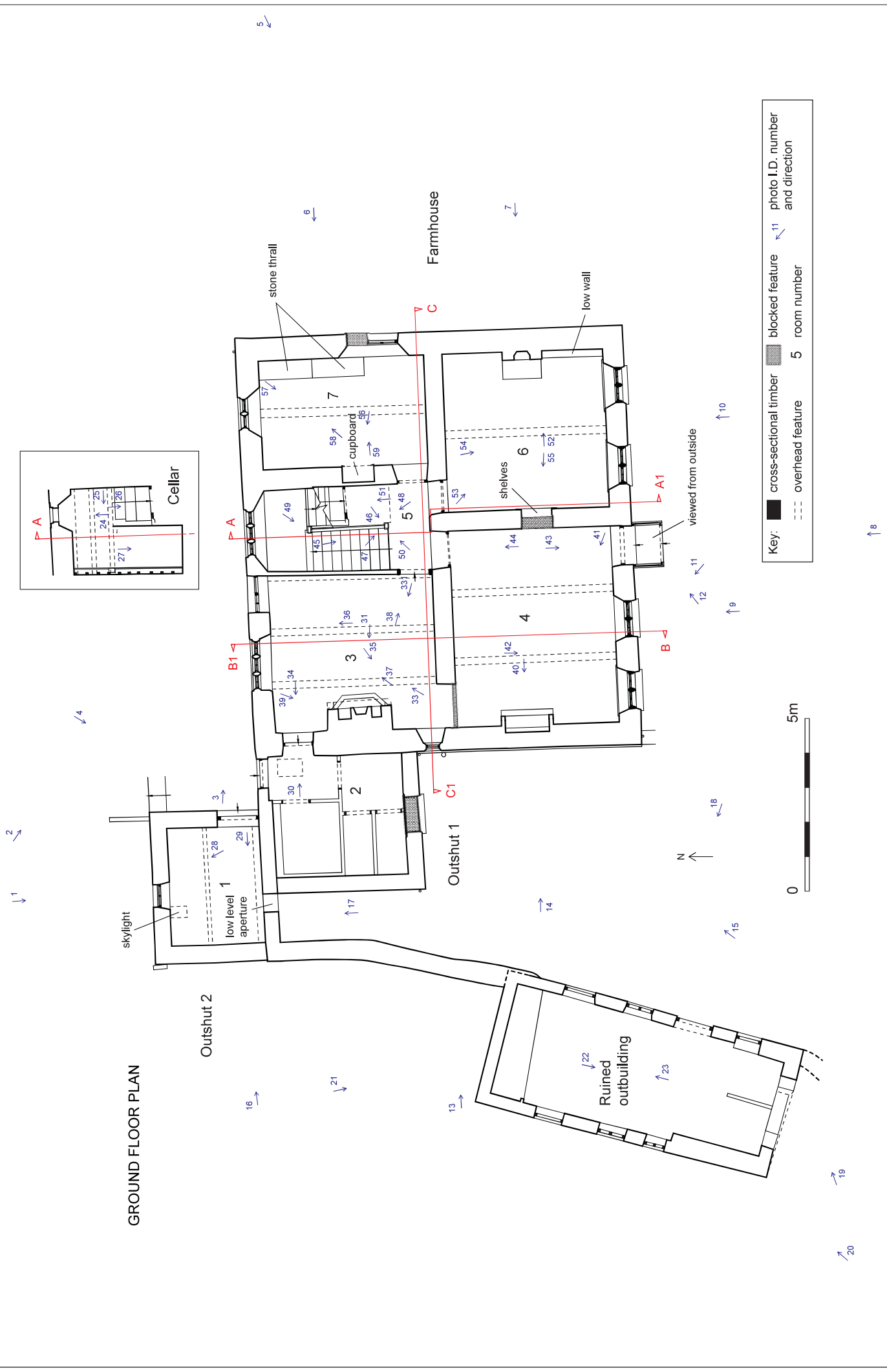
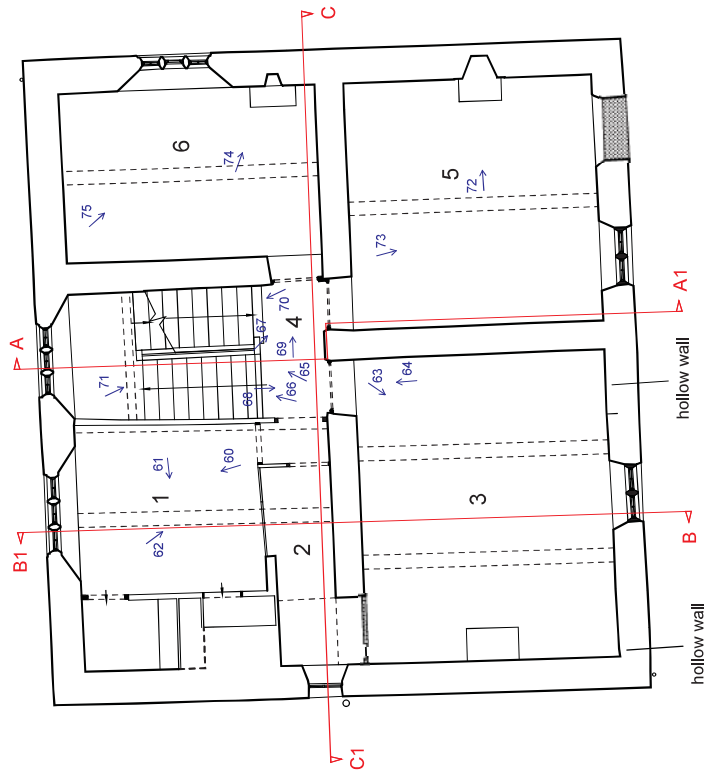


Figure 4: Ground floor and cellar plan

FIRST FLOOR PLAN

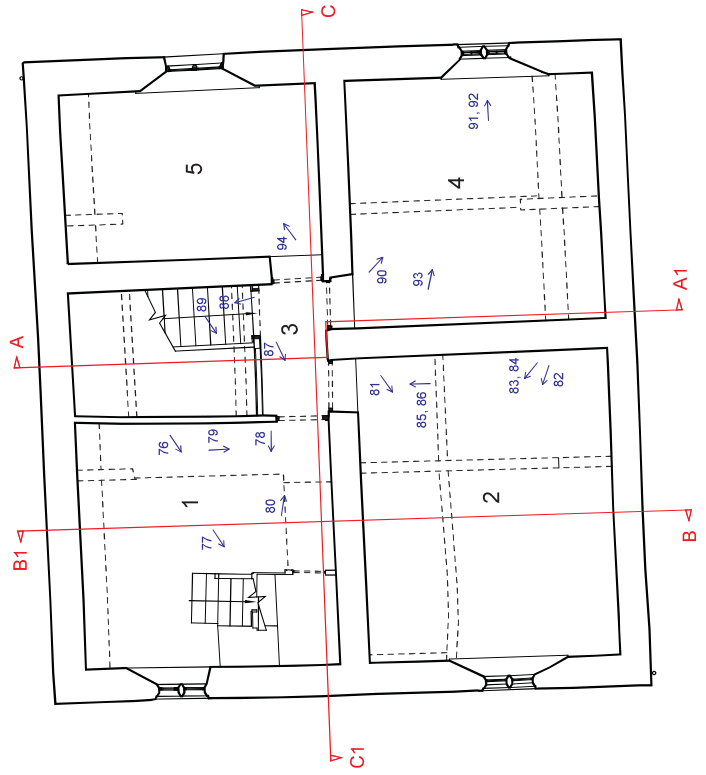


Key:

- cross-sectional timber
- ▒ blocked feature
- ↙ photo I.D. number and direction
- overhead feature
- 5 room number



SECOND FLOOR PLAN

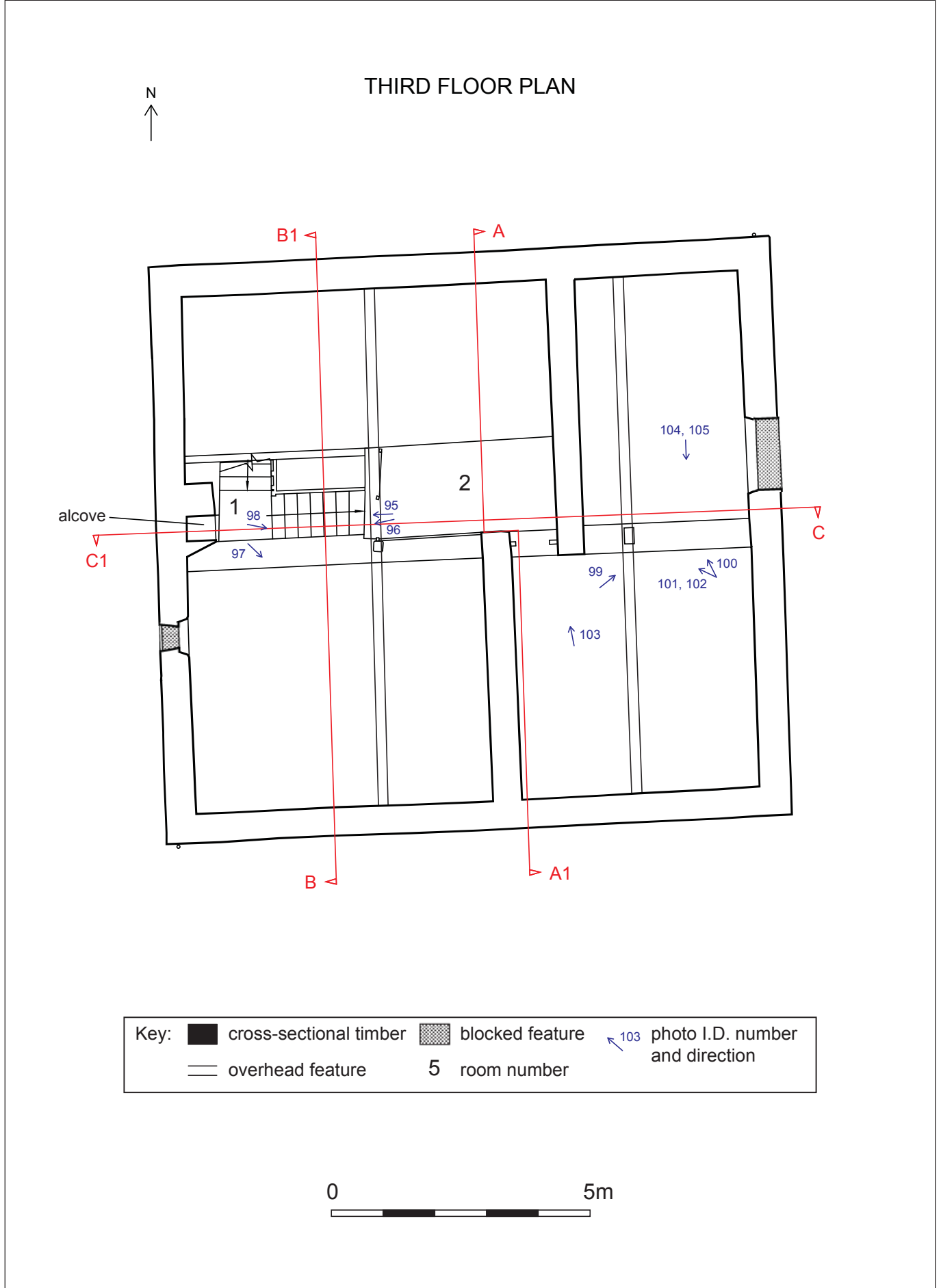


Key:

- cross-sectional timber
- ▒ blocked feature
- ↙ photo I.D. number and direction
- overhead feature
- 5 room number



Figure 5: First and second floor plans

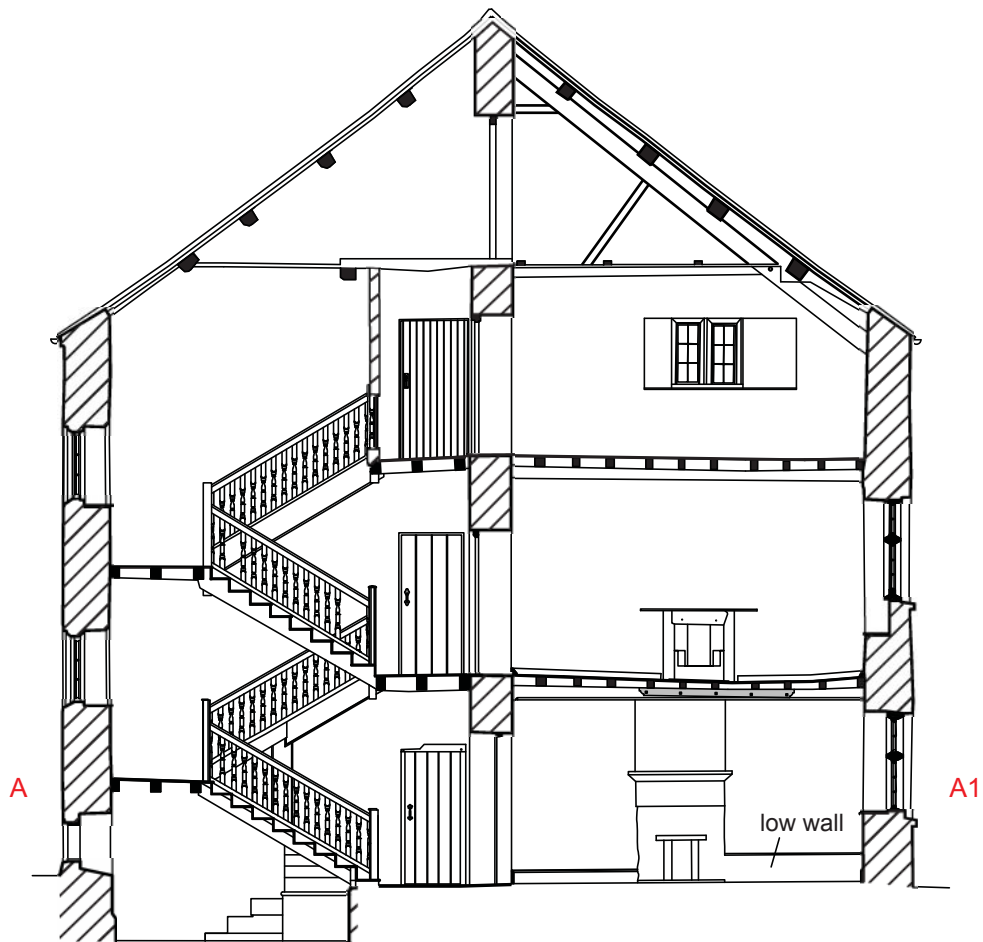





Client: Adrian Waddingham

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Figure 6: Third floor plan

### WEST-FACING CROSS-SECTION A-A1

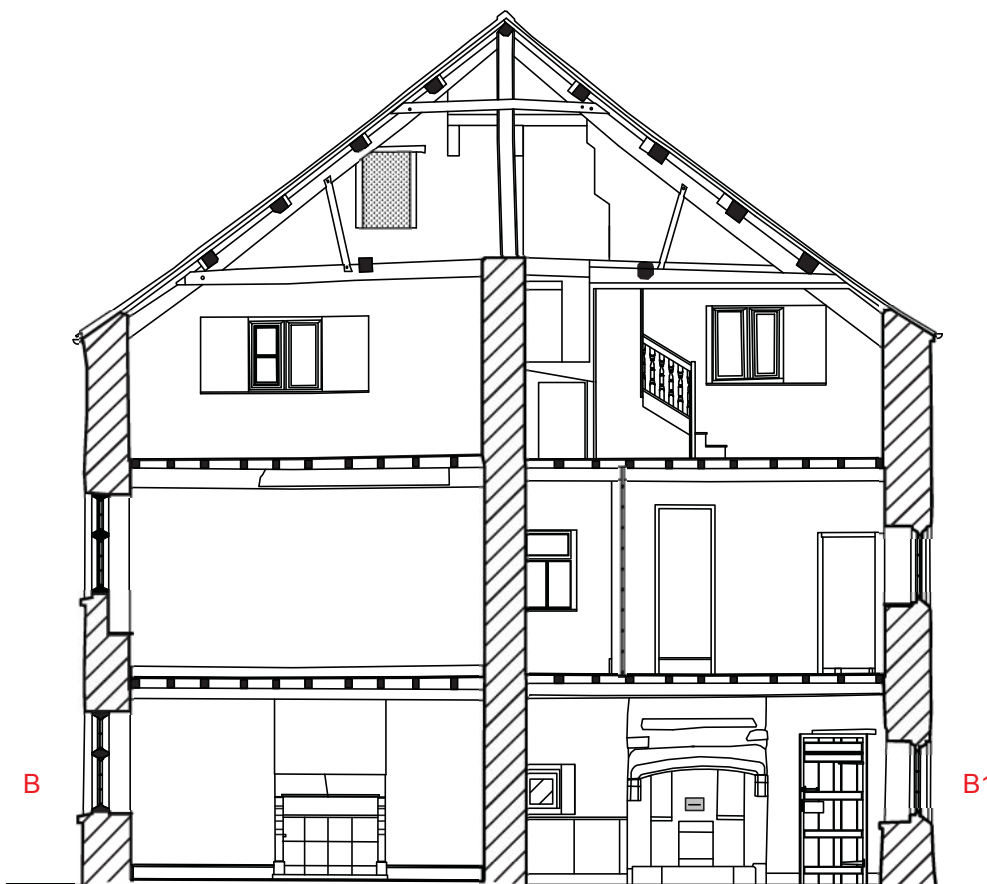


Key:  iron  cross-sectional timber  cross-sectional wall

0  5m

Figure 7: West-facing cross-section A-A1

### EAST-FACING CROSS-SECTION B-B1

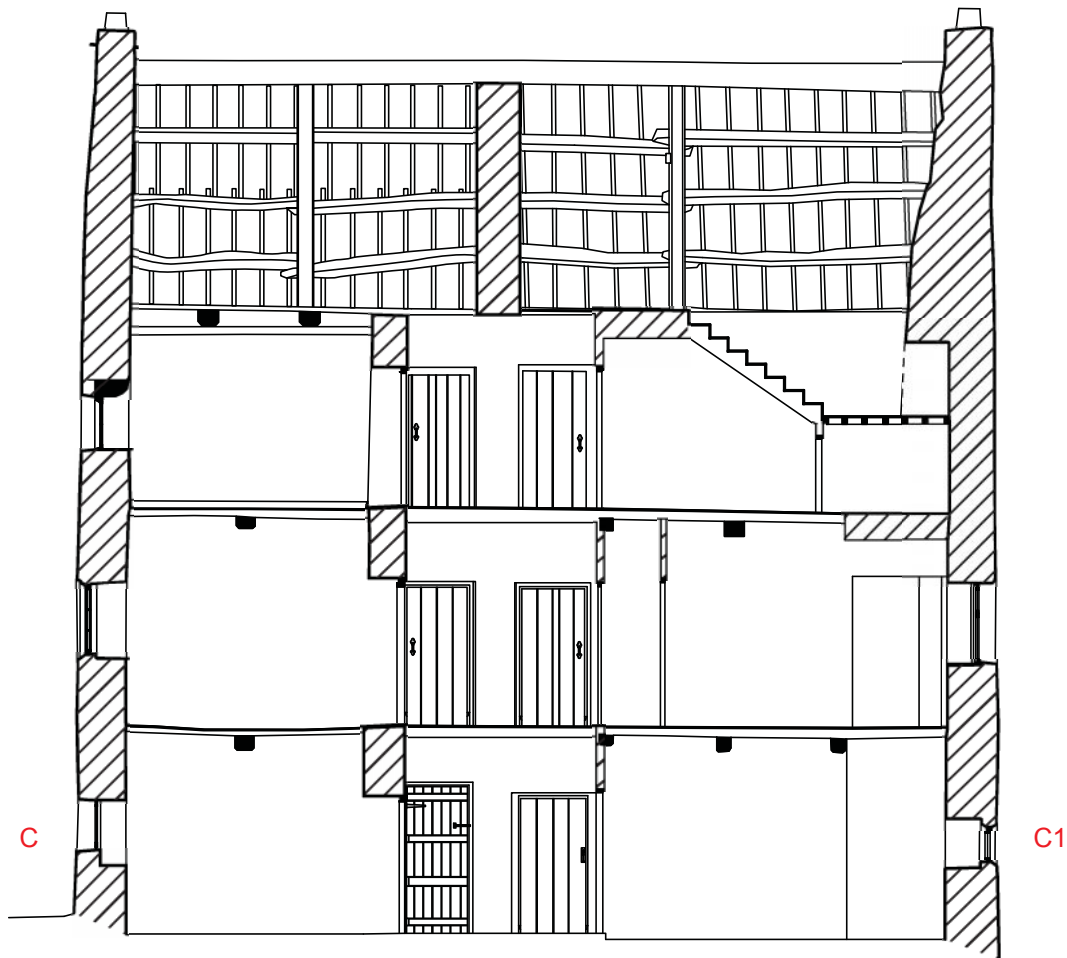





Key: iron cross-sectional timber cross-sectional wall  
 boarded blocked feature



Figure 8: East-facing cross-section B-B1

### NORTH-FACING CROSS-SECTION C-C1



Key:  iron  cross-sectional timber  cross-sectional wall

0  5m

Figure 9: North-facing cross-section C-C1

## 5. Discussion

### 5.1 Phasing

5.1.1 **Introduction:** some of the phases of construction at the site can be connected to recorded periods of alteration, but this is not possible for the earliest phases, which will have occurred long before the first maps were produced. The earliest maps are often lacking in detail and show considerable discrepancy, making interpretation difficult.

5.1.2 **Phase 0 (17<sup>th</sup> century):** documentary evidence indicates that there has been a dwelling at the site from at least 1632, however, it seems likely that an earlier farmhouse, or perhaps the entire farmstead, was replaced during the rebuilding that took place in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. Remains relating to any building pre-dating the extant house are not apparent, although it is possible that material could have been re-used within it. Indeed, the assumed late 17<sup>th</sup> century date of the building as proposed when listed (see *Appendix 1*) could be a result of elements such as the mullion windows or even the staircase having been re-used from an earlier building (both of these elements are 17<sup>th</sup> century in style), although there is no particular evidence that this is the case. The re-used doorway at the west end of Second Floor Room 3/east side of Room 1 is possibly constructed from re-used panelling, the style of which suggests a late 17<sup>th</sup> century date (Alcock and Hall 2002, 51) while the L-shaped hinges are more likely to be early 18<sup>th</sup> century (*op cit*, 25).

5.1.3 **Phase 1 (early 18<sup>th</sup> century):** this comprises the main phase of building, which resulted in the vast majority of what remains of the extant house, with its essentially square yeoman or statesman farmer's style house plan. Such double pile plans are typically thought to be of later 18<sup>th</sup> century date (Denyer 1991; Brunskill 2002). Stylistically many features indicate that the house at Slackwood is late 17<sup>th</sup> century; hence this date is given in the listing (see *Appendix 1*). However, the documentary sources indicate that it was built in the early 18<sup>th</sup> century, and it is therefore likely that many of the dateable features were simply 'old fashioned' when the house was constructed. As mentioned above it is also possible that elements were re-used from an earlier building on site or that this phase incorporates parts of an earlier building, but there is little evidence that either of these suggestions is in fact the case. The modification of earlier buildings into 'double pile' types also undoubtedly occurred at a number of sites, and is recorded, for example, at Limefitt in Troutbeck near Ambleside (Tyson 1982). It would seem likely that the large non-mullion windows in the south elevation of the farmhouse at Slackwood were a later addition, perhaps part of an enlargement of the building from a rectangular to a square plan, as suggested by the different depiction on the tithe map and Ordnance Survey map (compare Plate 2 and Plate 3) but this seems to be contradicted by the physical evidence of the building itself; the building had pairs of mullion windows effectively either side of this divide on both the east and west elevations and no butt joints were visible, and this suggests that the earlier map is inaccurate. Earlier maps, including Hennem's map of 1830 (Plate 1), seem to show the farmhouse as more square in plan and although it is possible that areas of rebuild may be covered by the external render, it seems more likely that the current building was built on a square plan, which is how it is shown on the Ordnance Survey map of 1848 (just two years after the tithe map) (Plate 3). If indeed it was extended from an earlier east/west rectangular shape then this will likely be revealed once the external render has been removed. This phase of alteration would then potentially be very closely dateable (to around 1845-1846). It is also possible that any alterations to the south elevation, assuming these were not carried out in this initial phase of construction, may relate to the use of this side of the house in cottage industry, requiring improved lighting, such as weaving (see *Section 5.2* below).

5.1.4 **Phase 2 (19<sup>th</sup> century):** the depiction of the retaining wall and the outshuts to the west of the farmhouse on the early maps is, unfortunately, inconsistent; it approximates the current arrangement by the time of the Ordnance Survey map of 1891 (Plate 4), at which time the outshuts to the west and north-west of the farmhouse extended as far as the retaining wall to the west. The existing outshuts clearly postdate the farmhouse and butt against the east/west section of this retaining wall, which appears to continue the line of the north elevation of the farmhouse, however, there was no physical relationship between the two outshuts. The outshut adjacent to the west side of the farmhouse (Outshut 1) has seen further alteration since this time (and possibly been replaced). It is likely that some more minor internal

alterations were also carried out during this period, as some of the door fittings indicate an early 19<sup>th</sup> century date, such as the cupboard in Ground Floor Room 7, but these modifications are most likely to represent essentially cosmetic changes, perhaps replacing existing features.

**5.1.5 Phase 3 (20<sup>th</sup> century):** numerous repairs and minor cosmetic alterations were carried out inside the farmhouse, including the blocking of various windows and doorways, the covering of the external elevations in concrete render (perhaps in part to hide some of the other alterations), and the creation of a bathroom by the addition of stud partition walls on the first floor (which is known to have been between 1952 and 1976), as well as opening up the passageway on the ground floor and the addition of a porch to the south elevation. It is also apparent that some repair and replacement – of the eastern truss and some of the purlins on the east side of the building - was carried out to the roof, most probably during this period, apparently as a result of at least one serious fire. Another outbuilding, which incorporated part of the retaining wall, was also constructed to the south-west of the farmhouse some time after 1976, although some effort seems to have been made to construct it in a style that was largely sympathetic with the house, perhaps a result of its listing in 1968. In addition, the toilets and bathroom within Outshut 2 must have been created within this phase, apparently quite recently. Many of these alterations fell within the period during which the building was being used for employees of the Leighton Hall estate, and they appear to have been specifically intended to provide more suitable accommodation for them.

## 5.2 Discussion

5.2.1 The recording of the house at Slackwood Farm has provided a rare opportunity to examine a building of this type, in this case one that was considered to be an unusually early example. The recording has revealed that it is almost certainly not as early as previously thought, but that it is likely to be slightly earlier than such buildings have typically been thought to be. It is also remarkable in having a number of well-preserved features and fittings such as the staircase, numerous doors, and at least some of the fireplaces, although some of these have been altered and/or replaced. Of interest are the geometric 'daisy wheel' motifs scored into the windowsill of second floor Room 4; the purpose and meaning of these is uncertain but they may have been connected to some form of ritual or attempts to explain Vitruvian geometry to an apprentice (Meeson 2005). The number of examples in the local area is not certain, but they have been recorded scratched into plaster in the 16<sup>th</sup> or 17<sup>th</sup> century stables at Levens Hall (OA North 2005) and carved into a door at the Castle Dairy, Kendal with the date '1564' carved into it (Greenlane Archaeology 2010).

5.2.2 The recording of a farm building with a very similar layout to this one at Black Beck Hall, in Ayside near Cartmel, revealed evidence suggesting that part of it was being utilised for weaving (Greenlane Archaeology 2006). Timber pegs in one of the beams in the southern hall were interpreted as having been utilised for the warping of thread to be used in weaving (*ibid*, 43); the use of pegs driven into walls, beams, and even floors for this purpose has been recorded elsewhere (Pidcock 2000, 33; Winterbotham 1998, 29). Pegs of a similar form driven into beams are recorded at similar farmhouses, such as at Newland Bottom outside Ulverston, the occupiers of which were certainly engaged in weaving during the mid 18<sup>th</sup> century (LRO(P) R366b/8 1749). Weaving was a domestic activity carried out at a large number of farms and houses in the area, regardless of their status (Pidcock 1995; 2000), since linen was a very important element of the local economy during the 17<sup>th</sup> to early 19<sup>th</sup> centuries (Robinson 1998), and while spinning and dressing the raw material was often carried out in the home, weaving was more likely to be 'put-out' to a larger operation (*op cit.*, 56-57). The occupants of Black Beck Hall initially appear to have combined farming and weaving, later reaching something closer to yeoman farmer status (Greenlane Archaeology 2006, 44), and this model of development could prove a useful comparison in the local and regional area, although there is still a large amount of research required to fully appreciate the evidence for weaving at sites like this.

5.2.3 Although there is little specific evidence to suggest that the farmhouse at Slackwood was utilised in the same fashion, the single documentary source describing a weaver as resident in 1787 might suggest that it was, coupled with the arrangement of very large windows on the south side of the building, although it is unclear whether these were later additions or included in the initial phase of construction. Further examination following the removal of the render should reveal this.



## 5.3 Conclusion

5.3.1 The farmhouse is considered to be an unusually early example of a double pile plan house, thought to date to the late 17<sup>th</sup> century (English Heritage 2007). The documentary evidence indicates that there has been a dwelling at the site from at least 1632, but it seems likely that an earlier farmhouse, or perhaps the entire farmstead, was replaced during the rebuilding that took place in the early 18<sup>th</sup> century, as recorded in Lucas's *History of Wharton*. More detailed dating the phases of construction and alteration to the farmhouse is hampered by a lack of consistency between the early maps of the farmhouse that are available. It is possible that the alterations to the south elevation relate to the need for improved lighting along this side of the house for weaving, a cottage industry that was carried out at a large number of farms in the area. The outshuts and ruined outbuilding to the west of the farmhouse are probably late 19<sup>th</sup> or 20<sup>th</sup> century additions. These later additions butt against the retaining wall, which is depicted on its current alignment by the time of the Ordnance Survey map of 1891.

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## Appendix 1: Listed Building Details

(From English Heritage 2007)

Location: SLACKWOOD FARMHOUSE, NEW ROAD, SILVERDALE, LANCASTER, LANCASHIR

Date listed: 02 May 1968

Date of last amendment: 02 May 1968

Grade II\*

SD 47 SE SILVERDALE NEW ROAD 3/196 Slackwood Farmhouse 2. 5. 1968 II\* House, late C17th. Rendered rubble with slate roof. Deep double-pile plan of unusually early date, with gable stacks. 2 storeys with attics. South wall altered in C19th, of 2 bays with windows having wooden mullions and transoms and a central doorway with plain reveals. East gable faces road, with a ground floor window having plain reveals, a 3-light rebated and chamfered mullioned window on the 1st floor, and a similar 2-light window to the attic. Also lighting the attic is a horizontal sliding sash with glazing bars and plain reveals. West gable has a 1-light chamfered window on the ground floor, a window with plain reveals to the 1st floor and 2 2-light rebated and chamfered attic windows. High up under the eaves is a blocked ?-light chamfered window. North wall retains its rebated and chamfered mullioned windows, with one of 2 light to the left, one of 3 lights to the right and a later window with plain reveals between, with a coal hole to the cellar having chamfered sides. On the 1st floor there is a 3-light window at the right-hand side with 2 3-light windows in the centre, one above the other, lighting the stairs. Gables have copings and kneelers.

## Appendix 2: Photographic Register

Photo ID No.	Area	Description	Medium format	Black and white	Colour digital
1	North elevation	North elevation, Outshut 2		02-02	01-02
2	North elevation	North elevation		02-01	01-01
3	North elevation	North elevation, detail of the window		02-03	01-03
4	East elevation	East elevation, Outshut 2		02-04	01-04
5	East elevation	Main elevation		02-05	01-05
6	East elevation	North window detail		02-06	01-06
7	East elevation	South window		02-07	01-07
8	South elevation	General view		02-08	01-08
9	South elevation	First floor, west window		02-09	01-09
10	South elevation	Ground floor, east windows		02-10	01-10
11	South elevation	Ground floor, west windows		02-11	01-11
12	South elevation	Ground floor, porch		02-12	01-12
13	West elevation	General view		02-13	01-13
14	West elevation	South windows		02-14	01-14
15	West elevation	Junction with outshuts		02-15	01-15
16	West elevation	North end; Outshut 2		02-20	01-23
17	West elevation	North end; Outshut 2, return		02-21	01-24
18	Outbuilding	East external elevation		02-16	01-16
19	Outbuilding	South external elevation		02-17	01-17
20	Outbuilding	West external elevation		02-18	01-18
21	Outbuilding	North external elevation		02-19	01-19
22	Outbuilding	Internal, south end		02-22	01-25
23	Outbuilding	Internal, north end		02-23	01-26
24	Cellar	Window		04-25	01-87
25	Cellar	Stud wall		04-26	01-88
26	Cellar	Door and stairs		04-27	01-89
27	Cellar	Under stairs		04-28	01-90
28	Ground floor	Room 1, north elevation		04-08	01-70
29	Ground floor	Room 1, roof on south side		04-09	01-71
30	Ground floor	Room 2, door to Room 3		04-10	01-72
31	Ground floor	Room 3, fireplace		04-01	01-63
32	Ground floor	Room 3, west elevation	2-004		
33	Ground floor	Room 3, north elevation	2-005		
34	Ground floor	Room 3, door to the east		04-02	01-64
35	Ground floor	Room 3, window to the east		04-03	01-65
36	Ground floor	Room 3, windows to the north		04-04	01-66
37	Ground floor	Room 3, beams		04-05	01-67
38	Ground floor	Room 3, door to the east	2-012	04-06	01-68
39	Ground floor	Room 3, side of chimneybreast		04-07	01-69
40	Ground floor	Room 4, fireplace		04-11	01-73
41	Ground floor	Room 4, west elevation	2-003		
42	Ground floor	Room 4, windows		04-12	01-74
43	Ground floor	Room 4, door to the south		04-13	01-75
44	Ground floor	Room 4, door to the north		04-14	01-76
45	Ground floor	Room 5 from the north	2-006		
46	Ground floor	Room 5, doors to the south-west		04-15	01-77
47	Ground floor	Room 5, doors to the south-east		04-16	01-78
48	Ground floor	Room 5, stairs		04-17	01-79
49	Ground floor	Room 5, detail of the stair post	2-014		
50	Ground floor	Room 5, stairs and door to the cellar	2-015		
51	Ground floor	Room 5, door to the cellar	2-013	04-18	01-80
52	Ground floor	Room 6, fireplace		04-19	01-81
53	Ground floor	Room 6, south-east corner	2-001		
54	Ground floor	Room 6, windows		04-20	01-82
55	Ground floor	Room 6, alcove / door		04-21	01-83
56	Ground floor	Room 7, cupboard		04-22	01-84
57	Ground floor	Room 7, south-west corner	2-002		
58	Ground floor	Room 7, window and shelf / bench	1-015	04-23	01-85
59	Ground floor	Room 7, window		04-24	01-86

Photo ID No.	Area	Description	Medium format	Black and white	Colour digital
60	First floor	Room 1, window	1-010	03-23	01-51
61	First floor	Room 1, west elevation		03-24	01-52
62	First floor	Room 1, door to the south		03-25	01-53
63	First floor	Room 3, south elevation	1-013	03-26	01-54
64	First floor	Room 3, door		03-27	01-55
65	First floor	Room 4, stairs and post		03-28	01-56
66	First floor	Room 4, stairs and window	1-009		
67	First floor	Room 4, doors to the east side		03-29	01-57
68	First floor	Room 4, door to the west side		03-30	01-58
69	First floor	Room 4, view of the doorway to Room 6	2-011		
70	First / Second floor	Room 4, Stairs	1-012	03-34	01-62
71	First / Second floor	Stairs		03-22	01-50
72	First floor	Room 5, fireplace		03-31	01-59
73	First floor	Room 5, windows	1-011	03-32	01-60
74	First floor	Room 6, fireplace		03-33	01-61
75	First floor	Room 6, south-east corner	1-014		
76	Second floor	Room 1, south-west corner, stairs, etc.	1-003	03-08	01-36
77	Second floor	Room 1, detail of the stairs	2-010		
78	Second floor	Room 1, stairs		03-09	01-37
79	Second floor	Room 1, door opened and viewed from the north in Room 1	2-007		
80	Second floor	Room 1, door	2-009	03-35	01-91
81	Second floor	Room 2, south-west corner	1-004		
82	Second floor	Room 2, north-west corner		03-11	01-39
83	Second floor	Truss from Room 2	1-005	03-12	01-40
84	Second floor	Room 2, floorboards		03-13	01-41
85	Second floor	Room 2, door	2-008	03-14	01-42
86	Second floor	Room 2, door hinge		03-15	01-43
87	Second floor	Room 3, doors, west end	1-007	03-10	01-38
88	Second / Third floor	Stairs	1-008	03-20	01-48
89	Second / Third floor	Top of the stairs; panelling		03-21	01-49
90	Second floor	Room 4, south-east corner	1-006	03-16	01-44
91	Second floor	Room 4, symbols in window sill (daisy wheels)		03-18	01-46
92	Second floor	Room 4, symbols in window sill (circles)		03-19	01-47
93	Second floor	Room 4, window			01-92
94	Second floor	Room 5, window		03-17	01-45
95	Third floor	West elevation chimneybreast	1-001	02-24	01-27
96	Third floor	West elevation chimneybreast; upper part		03-01	01-28
97	Third floor	West truss, south end	1-002	03-02	01-29
98	Third floor	West truss, centre		03-03	01-30
99	Third floor	East elevation, blocked window		03-04	01-31
100	Third floor	East truss, north end		03-05	01-32
101	Third floor	East truss, centre		03-06	01-33
102	Third floor	East truss, top of centre			01-34
103	Third floor	Door in the dividing wall		03-07	01-35
104	Third floor	Roof space; lower section			01-93
105	Third floor	Roof space; upper section		04-29	01-94
-	Outbuilding	Baltic marks on loose timber			01-20
-	Outbuilding	Carpenter's marks on loose timber			01-21
-	Outbuilding	Carpenter's marks on loose timber			01-22

### Appendix 3: Archive Index

<b>Project name:</b>	House at Slackwood Farm, Silverdale, Lancashire		
<b>Project Code:</b>	G1114	<b>Site Code:</b>	SF11
<b>Description</b>	<b>Material</b>	<b>Size</b>	<b>Quantity</b>
Report	Paper	A4, Comb-bound	28 pages, double-sided
Record sheets	Paper	A4	22 sheets, double-sided
Photo record sheets	Paper	A4	5 sheet, double-sided
Site drawings	Paper	A4	19 sheets, single-sided
Black and white prints	Photographic gloss prints	6 inches x 4 inches	88 prints
Negatives	Negative film	6 inches x 1 inch (approx)	26 strips
Negatives	Negative film	Medium format	30 sheets
Digital archive index	Paper	A4	1 sheet, single-sided
Digital archive	CD	-	1