

Chestnut Barn, Gate Farm Bourton on Dunsmore Warwickshire

BUILDING RECORDING AND WATCHING BRIEF



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Archaeology Warwickshire Report No 19143
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*Working for
Warwickshire*

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SUMMARY

A programme of historic building recording was undertaken in advance of conversion works on a series of agricultural buildings at Gate Farm, Bourton on Dunsmore, on behalf of Liz Pittman. The buildings included a threshing barn and in-line cow house, a former shelter shed, and a two-storey building with an ash-lime floor at first floor level. The majority of the farm buildings is indicated on mapping of 1813, suggesting they date from the late 18th or early 19th century. The buildings showed evidence of being remodelled over time, with the western gable of the cow house being rebuilt in its entirety.

After the building recording an archaeological watching brief was carried out during the groundworks associated with the conversion of the buildings. Below the existing paved floors, a number of walls and postholes represented an earlier arrangement of rooms, albeit not closely datable.

No evidence for medieval, or earlier, occupation was recorded during the work.

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Planning permission has been granted by Rugby Borough Council for the conversion of farm buildings for residential use at Gate Farm, Main Street, Bourton on Dunsmore, Bourton and Draycote, CV23 9QX (Planning ref R18/0338). The historic farm buildings lie within the supposed extent of the medieval settlement of Bourton.
- 1.2 A condition of the planning permission required the applicant to secure the implementation of a programme of archaeological work which was detailed in a brief supplied by John Robinson, Planning Archaeologist, Warwickshire County Council.
- 1.3 Archaeology Warwickshire were commissioned to carry out the programme of work in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation approved by the Planning Authority. This report presents the results of that work.
- 1.4 The project archive will be stored at the Warwickshire Museum under Site Code BDC18.
- 1.5 The work was carried out in accordance with Historic England's *Understanding Historic Buildings, A Guide to Good Recording Practice* (2016) and the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists Standards and Guidelines for a watching brief (2014) and historic building recording (2019).

2 SITE LOCATION

- 2.1 The application area is centred on National Grid Reference SP 4348 7071 in the village of Bourton on Dunsmore, in the parish of Bourton and Draycote.
- 2.2 The site is located at Gate Farm, on the northern outskirts of the village (Fig 1). It forms part of a complex of largely 19th- and 20th-century buildings. The planning application covers an area of 3700 square metres.
- 2.3 The underlying bedrock geology of the site is Rugby Limestone Member – Mudstone and Limestone. The recorded superficial deposits are Dunsmore sand and gravels which have been laid down through glacial processes (British Geological Survey 2018).

3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

- 3.1 No verifiable prehistoric sites are recorded on the Historic Environment Record (HER) for Warwickshire within the 500m search area (Fig 1). However, a number of undated cropmarks have been plotted from aerial photographs (English Heritage National Mapping Programme; EWA 9109) taken of the area. The nearest to the application site are in the adjacent field to the north (MWA 3601) and includes two circular enclosures and two sides of a large enclosure. A further group of enclosures and linear features is indicated in fields to the north (MWA 5395, 3328, 5396, 5397), whilst another more questionable cropmark feature, located some 500m to the south-west of the application site (MWA 3175), is likely a geological feature.
- 3.2 At *Domesday* (1086) the *Count de Meulan* held five hides at Bourton. It was a relatively small settlement having thirteen villagers and eleven smallholders (MWA 9495). The earliest fabric in the parish Church of St Peter (MWA 3321) is a blocked 13th-century doorway. The church was almost entirely rebuilt in the 14th century and it was restored in the 19th century.
- 3.3 Earthworks to the east of Bourton Hall (MWA 3327) may represent abandoned parts of the medieval village although some of the earthworks may relate to garden enclosures associated with Bourton Hall, or an earlier high status building (MWA 3327).
- 3.4 Bourton Hall lies 260m to the south-east of the application site and once had extensive parklands and estate plantings within the parish (MWA 12629). The house dates from the 18th century with some 19th-century additions. Lovie, during a Review of Warwickshire's Historic Parks and Gardens (1997; EWA 9504) reported the presence of informal pleasure grounds, with walks and shrubberies and a kitchen garden with glasshouses. Bourton Hall and attached Roman Catholic chapel (MWA 3319) are today Grade II Listed Buildings (National Heritage List for England Ref: 1034968).
- 3.5 There is no record for the site of the original medieval manor at Bourton, although an entry on the HER (MWA 3320) describes the 18th- or 19th-century site of Bourton Manor. The site is described as a 'Rectory' by the time of the publication of the Ordnance Survey 1st edition mapping of 1887.

- 3.6 Within the village was a blacksmiths workshop, recorded on the Ordnance Survey 2nd edition mapping of 1905 (MWA 3325; EWA 10438; 10890), a thatched and timber-framed cottage (MWA 29623), and the site of a former WWII transmitting station (EWA 10240; MWA 10230).
- 3.7 Gate Farm, although now contiguous with the rest of the built-up area of Bourton on Dunsmore, formerly lay outside of the village envelope.

Previous Archaeological Work

- 3.8 Previous archaeological work has contributed little to the understanding of the medieval and earlier development of the settlement. Negative watching briefs were carried out in advance of development at Angel Cottage in 2005 (EWA 7567) and at Spinney Cottage, Main Street in 2010 (EWA 9384).

Map Regression

- 3.9 The Ordnance Survey mapping of 1813 shows buildings in the area of the main barn but does not appear to show the cart shed, suggesting it is of later 19th-century date. The farm is indicated on the 1834 One Inch to One Mile map. The 1847 Tithe map does not show this part of the village, merely indicating the road 'To Coventry' (WRO CR569/46). Gate Farm is recorded on the First Edition Ordnance Survey mapping of 1887 with buildings on three sides of a rectangular yard, a separate yard to the rear and an orchard bordering the road to the west. All the buildings recorded for the purpose of this report are shown on the 1887 map (Fig 2). The Second Edition Ordnance Survey mapping of 1905 shows a similar arrangement although with a new outbuilding on the south side of the yard. This arrangement is essentially unaltered at the time of 1:2500 National Grid A5 edition of 1966, although with a new building within the orchard enclosure.
- 3.10 Aerial photographs from 1999 onwards, viewable on Google Earth (earth.google.com), show large, modern farm buildings in the north of the farmstead complex but with the traditional farm buildings in the footprint shown on the First Edition mapping (1887) remaining intact.

4 AIMS AND METHODS

- 4.1 The main aim of the work was to record the buildings to be affected before any conversion work was undertaken and to record any significant archaeological deposits revealed or disturbed by the development, to collate the fieldwork records into an archaeological archive and present the results of the fieldwork in this report for dissemination.
- 4.2 The work undertaken involved the examination of early map evidence as well as records of archaeological remains in the area and local historical journals and other publications.
- 4.3 A programme of building recording was carried out in February 2019, ahead of conversion work, and in accordance with Historic England Level 2 recording, as described in *Understanding Historic Buildings, A Guide to Good Recording Practice* (2016). It consisted of photographic recording using a high resolution digital camera (Nikon D3400) and traditional black and white photographs using an SLR camera, with film being professionally processed by Ilford. A descriptive record of the buildings was undertaken and the architects plans and elevation were checked and annotated.
- 4.4 An experienced archaeologist was present for each period of ground disturbance when notified by the client in accordance with WSI. Where potential archaeological deposits were encountered, the supervising archaeologist assessed and recorded them before they were disturbed.

5 RESULTS

BUILDING RECORDING

- 5.1 Three buildings on the site were previously subject to an ecological survey, and the designation of the buildings (A, B and C) will be followed in this report (Fig 3).

Barn and cow house A (Figs 4 and 5)

- 5.2 The barn is a traditional brick-built threshing barn with a pitched roof covered with clay tiles (Photos 1-2). The corrugated iron lean-to on the north side of the building was in a state of collapse at the time of recording. The barn has an in-line cow house at the western end. The building runs west-east with double doors on the north side, and a single door on the south side; the areas surrounding the doors are weather-boarded. It is likely that the weather-boarded openings represent the original height and width of the threshing doors, which would have been the height of the eaves. Such large doors are typical of brick-built threshing barns of the 18th and 19th centuries and are in some instances split so that the upper or lower part could open independently, or had a smaller door inset within the threshing door. The present double doors on the north side are c.2.5m high (Photo 3) with long strap hinges (Photo 4) while on the south side the present door is central, and slightly shorter than those on the north side (see Photo 8).
- 5.3 The north and south walls are pierced at intervals with two rows of ventilation slots (Photos 2, 5 and 6). The red bricks measured 235mm x 115-120mm x 65mm. The brick bonding is not uniform, but appears to be a mix of English Garden Wall bond either side of the threshing door openings and Flemish Garden Wall bond higher up the walls, elsewhere the bricks are in Mixed Garden Wall bond. Some of the changes in brickwork may be explained by former openings being blocked, although this is not certain. Two modern glazed 'windows' have been inserted into the eastern gable, which is largely constructed in Flemish Garden Wall Bond (Photo 7). The exterior of this gable is partly painted white and it is clear that there was formerly a lean-to in the corner between buildings A and B. A square pitching window exists high in the gable with a rowlock course in alternating dark and light bricks (Photo 8). The cow house, at the west end of the barn has a single two-part door and two small, shuttered windows either side of it, and a larger square, shuttered, window lighting the first-floor level (Photo 9).

- 5.4 The recent use of the empty barn (Room 1) is unknown (Photos 10 and 11) but it had an internal ceiling above the level of the upper part of the threshing doors. However, the roof trusses have raking struts between the tie-beam and principal rafters and carpenter's marks on the trusses. The central threshing floor area is of blue engineering bricks running north-south, with a stretch of more worn red bricks to its east, possibly the remnant of the original threshing floor (Photo 12). In the bays either side of the threshing floor the bricks run west-east and appear older than the blue bricks of the threshing floor, suggesting that the central area of brick floor, which would have been subject to the greatest wear from carts etc, had been replaced. The lower part of the brick walling is 0.38m wide, stepping back to 0.23m above a height of c.1.80m (Photo 13). It is unclear whether this represents a thickening of the lower part of the walls or a rebuild of the upper part. The doorway in the south-east corner is a modern insertion to link with the building to the south (B).
- 5.5 On the west side of the barn is a cow house with a two-part door and two very small windows at ground floor level, and a square pitching window to the first floor (Photos 14-17). Although it appears that the barn and cow house were constructed as one build, there is a change in brickwork at first floor level between the two. The walling is in Flemish Garden Wall Bond.
- 5.6 Internally the building (Room 3) has a floor of brick pavers, with a drainage channel running west-east (Photo 18). A brick plinth against the north wall appears to have supported a (later) wooden stepladder, which has now broken and collapsed (Photo 19). No access was available to the first floor, but a visual inspection into the roofspace suggested that the south side of the roof, at least, had been re-built.
- 5.7 Between the barn and the cow house is a small, unlit, space with a shelved wall (Photo 20). This space (Room 2) was floored with brick pavers and its purpose is unknown, although there appears to have been a chute from the first floor level above Room 2, into this space. The area above Room 2 had been boarded as an open mezzanine floor, accessed by a stepladder.

Building B (Figs 4 and 5)

- 5.8 Building B is an L-shaped brick structure on the south-east side of the barn originally separated from it by c.0.85m, but now linked, and the former gap bricked up on the west side, and accessed via a door on the east. Doors had been inserted into the

eastern end of the southern wall of the barn, and the west end of the north wall of Building B, to allow access between the two buildings.

- 5.9 Externally the building has a pitched, clay tile roof (Photos 21-22). The brickwork is Flemish Garden Wall Bond. There is currently a single external door, on the east side (Photo 23), although a former door on the south-side of the W-E part has a partly blocked doorway, turned into a window (Photo 24). The northern part of the building is of two stories, with windows in the gables lighting the first floor and the southern part single storey (Photos 22, 25, 26). The latter was originally open fronted on its western side, probably a shelter shed, with the roof supported on wooden posts, although this front has largely been infilled with corrugated iron (Photo 27). The poor lighting within the building has been ameliorated by the substitution of overlapping panes of glass for roof tiles in the central part of the roof on the eastern side. The south gable is plain (Photo 28).
- 5.10 Internally Building B is divided into three linked rooms at ground floor level. The north-western room (Room 4) has a concrete-covered floor and a brick-built manger along the north wall, partly truncated after the insertion of the door to access the barn (Photo 29). The manger has brick arches, allowing storage below. A wooden stair allows access to the first floor (Photo 30). The underside of the ceiling is painted white and the central beam has chamfered edges (Photo 31). Above Rooms 4 and 5 is a first floor level, with the floor of the two rooms made up of lime-ash over closely set slats (Photos 32-33). The eastern room (Room 5) has a sloping brick floor, down to a north-south drainage channel, with a concrete trough on the east wall with brick sides (Photos 34-35). The trough area is divided into two stalls by a metal rail.
- 5.11 The southern part of Building B (Room 6) is a former shelter shed, evidenced by the originally open west side and roof supported on timber uprights on this side (Photo 36). A brick and concrete trough had been constructed against the east wall, formerly divided into stalls by metal railings. At the north end of the structure, directly against the west-east wall, is a king-post roof truss (Photo 37), while the other roof trusses are hidden by the ceiling. The trusses can be seen to tie in to the timber uprights on the west side of the building (Photo 38). The arrangement of roof trusses suggest that the shelter shed was constructed against the pre-existing two-storey structure.

Building C

- 5.12 This building is not part of the present planning application but has been recorded as the remaining historic building on the site; it was also covered by the ecological survey. Building C is a large brick-built cart-shed with a hipped roof covered with clay tiles, open at the north and south sides and an additional low lean-to on brick pillars on the western side (Photo 39). It is more common for cart sheds to be aligned west-east than north-south. The bricks are a lighter colour than the barn and other buildings. Bull-nosed bricks have been used on the wall corners and the engaged buttresses along the centre of the west and east walls (Photo 40). An extended form of Flemish Garden Wall bond has been used, with 5-6 stretchers separating the headers on a course, and the bricks measure 230mm x 110mm x 70mm, bonded with lime mortar.
- 5.13 Internally the structure has four bays and roof trusses with V-struts (Photo 41). The roof trusses all bear carpentry marks with Roman numerals (Photo 42). The material appears to be pine and is in good condition.

WATCHING BRIEF (Figs 6 and 7)

- 5.14 The watching brief was undertaken after the brick flooring within the barn and other buildings had been lifted and the roofs of the barn and other buildings removed, along with the majority of the barn's eastern gable, and the internal walls that formerly separated Rooms 1 and 2. The roof and western side of the shelter shed were also removed, and its southern gable wall partly demolished, before new footings were excavated.
- 5.15 Internal ground reduction work began in the western end of the cow house and progressed through the barn, removing the upper 0.10m of material using a mini-excavator, exposing a large number of features below the former floor level. A further 0.30m of ground reduction was subsequently carried out to achieve formation levels and then new footings were excavated along the line of the eastern gable and northern doorway of the barn. A number of service trenches were also excavated into the reduced ground in the barn and shelter shed. The ground reduction in Room 4, and part of Room 5, was carried out by hand as it was not accessible by machine.

The Barn (Rooms 1 and 2)

- 5.16 In the barn, geological natural light olive brown gravelly sand (56) was reached during the excavation of new footings along the line of the northern doorway, while the

geological natural the in east gable footing was a reddish yellow gravelly sand, contaminated by diesel (Photo 43). This was overlain by c.0.20m of iron-pan flecked sandy gravel in the majority of Room 1 (54). In the eastern bay of the barn this was overlain by a dark grey brown sandy clay loam, which produced fragments of 18th- to 19th-century pottery and glass (15). In the western part of the barn was a similar dark grey brown clayey silt (7), but in the central bay 7/15 was covered by 0.15m of yellowish brown sandy material containing large quantities of broken roof tile (12). The stone footings of the barn (3, Photo 44) overlaid layer 15, and a quantity of lustre-decorated pottery was recovered from layer 15 below the stone footing of the gable end; lusterware was produced from the early years of the 19th century.

- 5.17 Layer 7 was cut (53) by the foundation of a rough stone wall (10), 0.50m wide and 0.25m deep, dividing the western and central bays (Photo 45). This may have been the base of a plinth wall dividing the two bays. At the eastern end of the barn layer 15 was cut N-S by a 0.30m wide footing (16) running across the barn, filled with large, well-packed pebbles and light brown mortar (17), containing some pottery of 18th- and 19th-century date. Similar cuts and fills lay immediately adjacent to the south (62, 63; Photo 46) and east (64, 65) walls, while against the north wall a 0.50m wide cut was filled with a very dark grey silty clay containing fragments of broken brick and roof tile (42, 43). These all appeared to represent the footings of walls, or more probably, plinths in the eastern bay.
- 5.18 In the south-west corner of the western bay, two brick walls were uncovered (8 and 9; Photo 47) parts of which had formerly been dividing Rooms 1 and 2. The below-ground arrangement showed that there had been a square room in the south-western corner of the room. It is possible that this was a chaff house; a chaff house was a small room for storing husks from the grain crop (chaff), after it had been threshed and winnowed, for use as animal feed (English Heritage 2013, 4). Ground reduction also showed that the standing north-south brick wall, dividing the barn from the cow house, was built on a footing of stone blocks (11) in a similar manner to the external walls of the barn (Photos 48 and 49).
- 5.19 Within the central bay was a series of un-mortared east-west brick lines, apparently only one course deep. Two of these (13 and 18) ran immediately inside the thresholds and could be interpreted as the base for threshold boards, but the third (4), which was 1.63m north of the inside line of the barn did not appear to have any obvious purpose

(Photos 50, 51, 52). Another suggestion is that the original threshing floor was made up of tightly packed wooden planks, and these brick lines acted as supports for them. An additional north-south line ran between the east ends of 4 and 18 and may have extended further north (41). All of the features lay below the former brick flooring of the barn (1).

The cow house (Room 3)

- 5.20 Geological natural was not reached during ground reduction in this room, but it did reveal a similar iron-pan flecked sandy gravel (54) in the north-east part of the room to that in the barn, overlaid by c.0.30m of reddish brown sandy clay loam containing fragments of brick and tile and containing fragments of black-glazed pancheon (52). This was in turn overlaid by a reddish brown silty clay and gravel which formed the sub-floor material (2). Layer 2 was cut by three postholes (5, 31 and 33) close to the northern wall of the room (Photo 53). The largest posthole (5) was roughly square and contained a wooden post 0.56m long and 0.20m in diameter in its fill (6). Posthole 31, in the centre of the row, was roughly oval in shape and contained broken concrete in the fill (32), suggesting the post had previously been set in concrete. The western of the three postholes (33) was roughly triangular. Postholes 5 and 33 aligned with cut-off posts on the north wall, c.0.30m above former floor level, suggesting these were associated with a feed trough of some sort, that would have stood immediately west of the former plinth to the first floor stair. Ground reduction revealed the brick offset footing of the west gable wall (50); examination of the exterior of the building suggests that this wall was rebuilt; the remaining walls have stone footings (Photo 54). The postholes and layer 2 were overlaid by the former paved floor (1).

Building B (Figs 6 and 7)

Room 4

- 5.21 In Room 4 geological natural was revealed in a trench running below the north wall, but generally the lowest layer exposed during ground reduction was a very compact brown sandy silt, of which 0.25m was removed (36). This was overlain by 0.10m of a compact cobble layer with mortar silt (30), which had formerly been overlaid by concrete. Layers 30 and 36 were removed using a jackhammer (Photo 55). The ground reduction exposed projecting limestone footings of the building below the north wall (38), west gable (40) and south wall (48). Three brick supports for the former manger on the north wall were exposed (44, 45 and 46; Photo 56). The ground level in Room 4 was at a higher level to that in adjoining Rooms 5 and 6.

Building B

Room 5

- 5.22 In Room 5 the ground level was reduced by 0.45-0.50m below the level of the removed floor on the east side of the room and 0.30m on the west (Photo 57). Geological natural was not exposed and the lowest layer revealed was a dark grey brown silty loam with pebbles, which was cut into by 0.20m and may have been the former topsoil (29). Layer 29 was overlaid by a 0.20m high brick wall running north-south, parallel to the east wall (24) which was presumably the edge of a former feed trough. This was overlain by 0.27m of compact reddish brown sand with pebbles (28) which raised the floor level in the east part of the room and allowed the floor to slope to the drainage channel. Layer 28 was overlain by 80mm of dark grey brown sandy loam (26), itself overlain by yellowish brown mortar (25) for the former paved floor. The stone footings of the north wall (38) and west wall (39) were exposed.

Building B

Room 6

- 5.23 In Room 6 geological natural reddish yellow gravelly sand was exposed in the excavation of the new foundation trench (56; Photos 58, 59 and 60). The trench was cut to a depth of 0.95m in the southern end, but only 0.60m deep along the majority of its length. It was overlain by 0.45m of dark brown silt (58) in the southern part of the footing and a mixed layer of former yard soil and material spread out of Room 6 during ground reduction over the length of the trench (57). At the southern end of the new foundation trench the ground had been cut (59) for the insertion of modern plastic pipes in a fill of dark grey brown humic soil, c.0.60m deep (60).
- 5.24 Ground reduction in Room 6 took place before the foundation trench was excavated and was 0.25m deep by the east wall and 0.10m to the west. The lowest layer exposed was a dark brown sand with small pebbles (23) in the northern part of the building, which may have been the interface with the geological natural. In the eastern part of 6 the lowest level reached was a grey brown pebbly sandy silt (21), possibly an old floor level. To the west of 21 was a yellowish sand with pebbles (22). A strong brown clayey silt was exposed along the east wall of the building, brought in to raise the level at the rear of the shelter shed for a feed trough (20). These layers were overlaid by a rubble layer with concrete, brick fragments and large pebbles (19), which was the uppermost level below the former floor.

The Barn and cow house roof structure

- 5.25 As the tiled roof and former ceiling of the barn has been removed at the time of the watching brief, the opportunity was taken to record the timberwork (Photo 61). The paintwork on the brick and timbers had also been removed by this time. The exposed roof trusses have pegged, raking struts between the tie beams and principal rafters (Photo 62). In two instances there are incised marks, possibly initials or some kind of tally mark on the underside of the tie beams (Photos 63 and 64). Carpentry marks in the forms of Roman numerals were also note (Photo 65). The newly cleaned beams supporting the former hayloft above the cow house have notches for the floor joists and chamfer stops at the junction with the walls (Photo 66). A blocked window can be seen above the beam in Photo 66.

6 CONCLUSIONS

- 6.1 The nature of the group of agricultural buildings suggest that the farm, latterly a dairy farm, was previously a mixed arable and cattle-rearing farm. The presence of a threshing barn shows that crops were being processed but the emphasis appears to have been on cattle rearing, although it is not known whether this was for beef production or dairying.
- 6.2 The building recording showed changes of use of the buildings over time, with parts being rebuilt, doors blocked or opened up, windows inserted etc. During the course of the watching brief postholes uncovered below the paved floor of the cow house suggested an early stalling arrangement against the north wall.

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APPENDICES

A List of contexts

Context	Room/Area	Description	L (m)	W (m)	D (m)	Comment
1	1-6	Brick flooring				Former floor of barn etc
2	3	Layer of reddish brown silty clay			0.30+	Mixed deposit with post-med pottery
3	1	Stone wall footing		0.50		Below gable end
4	1	Brick wall footing	5.20	0.23	5.20	Internal footing parallel to south wall
5	3	Posthole	0.30	0.28	0.50	With in-situ wooden post
6	3	Posthole fill		0.20	0.55	Squared wooden post
7	1/2	Layer of dark grey brown clayey silt				West bay
8	2	Brick wall	2.09	0.23	0.30	Wall running W-E off wall dividing 2 and 3, 4 courses high
9	1/2	Brick wall	2.07	0.23		Butts south wall of barn and forms square room with 8
10	1	Rough wall footing		0.50		Rough brick and stone footing to W of threshing entrance
11	2/3	Stone wall footing	1.56	0.26	0.28	N-S below wall between 2 and 3
12	1	Sandy layer with lots of roof tile			0.15	Central bay
13	1	Brick wall 'footing'		0.23	70mm	Single brick deep, parallel with N wall of barn
14	1	Layer of dry sandy silt with brick fragments			0.10	Remnant layer after brick flooring of barn lifted
15	1	Layer of dark grey brown sandy silt				East bay of barn – former topsoil?
16	1	Linear cut in east bay		0.25-	0.22	Possible wall

		filled with pebbles		0.35		foundation cut
17	1	Fill of light yellowish brown mortar and pebbles		0.30	0.22	Concrete covered against gable end wall
18	1	Brick footing		0.24		As 13, but parallel to S wall of barn
19	6	Rubble layer below former brick floor			0.10-0.25	Contains concrete, brick fragments and large pebbles
20	6	Layer of strong brown clayey silt			0.20	Levelling layer to raise area for feed trough at rear of shed
21	6	Layer of grey brown pebbly silt				in E part of shelter shed
22	6	Layer of yellowish sand with pebbles				In W part of shelter shed
23	6	Layer of small pebbles in dark brown sand				Level reached in 6
24	5	Brick wall footing	3.46	0.24	0.20	Footings of early trough front wall
25	5	Layer of yellowish brown mortar			10mm	Bedding of former floor
26	5	Layer of dark grey brown sandy loam			80mm	Compact levelling layer
27	6	Land drain				Sectional ceramic drain south of room 5
28	5	Layer of reddish brown sand with pebbles			0.27	Compact brought in to raise level in E part of room
29	5	Layer of dark grey brown silty loam				Topsoil like material over entire room
30	4	Layer of mortary silt with pebbles			0.10	Former cobbled floor?
31	3	Roughly oval posthole	0.16	0.13	0.18	Central posthole of 3
32	3	Fill of posthole 31				Broken concrete? Formerly surrounding small post
33	3	Posthole cut, roughly	0.20	0.16	?	Contemporary with 31

		triangular				
34	3	Posthole fill				
35	1	Stone footings of north wall of barn		0.50	0.25	Rest on geological natural
36	4	Layer of brown sandy silt, very compact			0.25+	Sub-floor layer?
37	1	Stone footings below south wall of barn		0.50	0.25+	
38	4/5	Stone footing, projecting, limestone and cobbles		0.47	0.33	Cruder than barn footings
39	5	Stone footing, running N-S		0.15-20	0.20	Bricks in wall above look older than those in barn
40	4	Stone footing of W gable, running N-S		0.12-20		Rough projecting limestone footing
41	1	Brick wall footing, running N-S	c.2m ?	0.24		May have originally extended fully across building at some point
42	1	Cut parallel to N wall of barn		0.50	0.10?	Contemporary/part of 16
43	1	Very dark grey silty clay with lots of tile and brick				Fill of 42
44	4	Brick plinth	0.67	0.48	0.28	Central plinth holding former trough (arch springing)
45	4	Brick support	0.67	0.23	0.25	Eastern brick support
46	4	Brick support	0.67?	0.23?	0.25	Western brick support, not as well preserved as 45
47	Link	Layer of dark grey brown humic silt, with concrete and brick fragments	1.60	0.46	0.16+	Presumably below former floor
48	4	Stone footing, visible internally			0.17	Largely limestone footing below south wall
49	4	Stone footing				Limestone footing of

						west gable end of 4
50	3	Brick footing				Offset brick footing to west gable wall
51	3	Foundation trench				N-S cut for foundation of rebuilt gable
52	3	Layer of reddish brown sandy clay loam				
53	1	Foundation trench				N-S cut for rough footing 10
54	1 + 3	Layer of iron-pan flecked sandy gravel				Subsoil layer reached in E end of 1 and E end of 3
55	N of barn	Brick yard surface covered by concrete skim				
56	1, 4, 6	Reddish yellow or light olive brown gravelly sand				Geological natural
57	6	Mixed layer of former yard soil and material spread out of 6 during ground reduction			0.25	
58	6	Layer of dark grey brown silt			0.45	Old yard material
59	6	Modern cut at S end of new foundation trench				Contains plastic pipes and bricks, relates to storm drain
60	6	Fill of 59 – dark grey brown humic silt				Modern, wet at base
61	Ext 4	Layer of mixed dark grey brown silt and reddish brown sand and gravel			0.50	Contains a land drain running W-E parallel with building
62	1	Cut parallel to S wall of barn		0.30		As 16
63	1	Stony fill of 62				As 17
64	1	Cut parallel to E gable		0.30		As 16
65	1	Fill of 64				As 17

B List of Finds

Context	Material	Quantity	Date/Comments
3	Pottery	3	2 x feathered slipware (SLPW01, 1680-1730), 1 creamware (CRW 1740-90)
15	Pottery	10	3 x black-glazed coarseware (PMCW, 18th/19thC), 7 x MGW some floral transfer (18th/19th-century)
15	Glass	4	2 from colourless octagonal bottle, 1 milk glass small pot (perfume pot?), late 19th/early 20th century (1870s-1920s)
15 (below E gable wall footing)	Pottery	15	11 x modern glazed ware with lustre decoration, 4 x MGW cup
15 (below gable wall footing)	Glass	1	Colourless circular bottle base
17	Pottery	12	6 x black-glazed coarseware (PMCW), 4 x Creamware (CRW), 2 willow pattern Pearlware (PLW)
52	Pottery	3	Black-glazed coarseware pancheon
52	Clay pipe	1	Stem fragment



1: Barn in relation to farmhouse



2: North side of barn and dilapidated corrugated structure



3: Detail of doors on north side, surrounded by weather-boarding



4: Detail of strap hinge on iron pintle



5: Detail of brick bond and ventilation holes



6: South side of barn



7: Gable end of barn and Building B



8: Detail of pitching window opening on upper part of gable



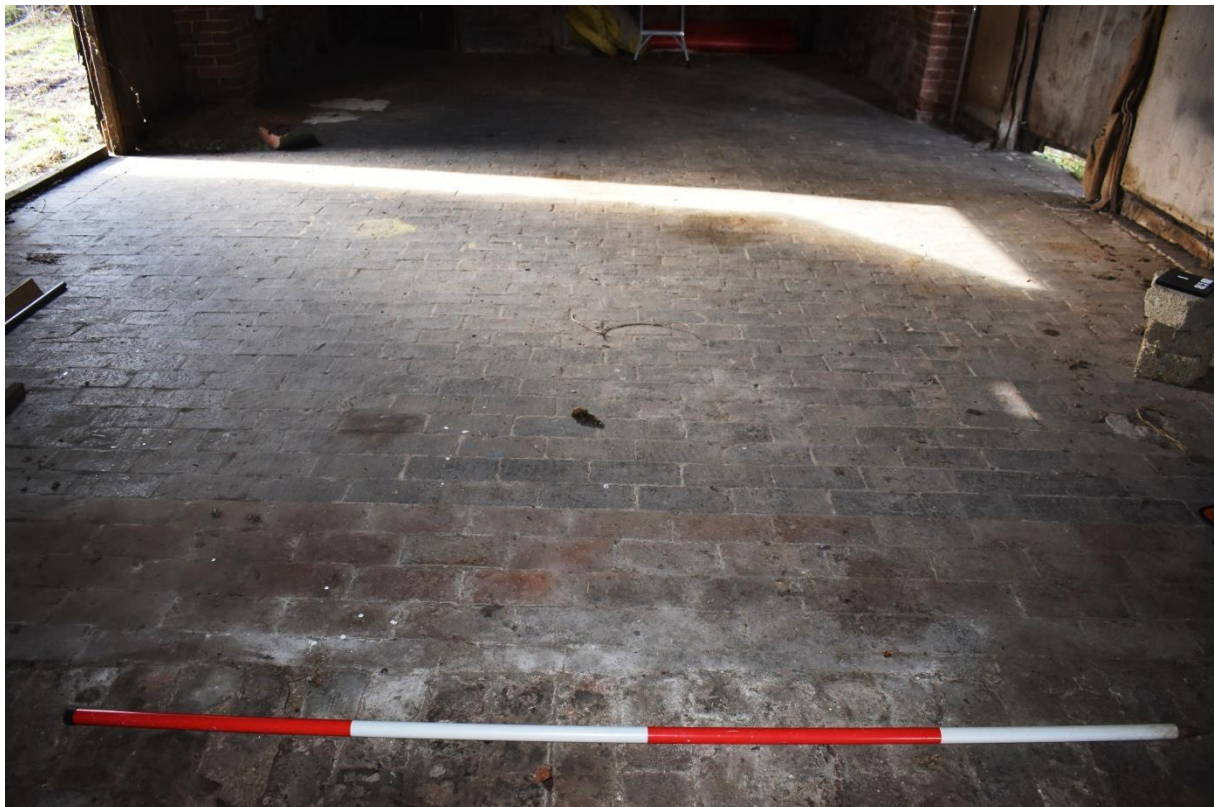
9: Barn and cow house



10: Interior of barn, looking east



11: Interior of barn, looking west



12: Detail of brick flooring



13: South wall of barn showing stepped-in brickwork and inserted door



14: South wall of cow house



15: Detail of door to cow house



16: Detail of small, barred window



17: Pitching window and change in brickwork to the right



18: Room 3, looking west



19: Room 3, looking east



20: Room 2, between barn and cow house



21: Building B, north side, paint and roof-scar of former lean-to



22: Building B, east gable



23: Building B, east wall of shelter shed



24: Building B, south wall with partly-blocked doorway



25: Building B, looking north-east



26: Building B, western gable



27: Building B, shelter shed, west side



28: Building B, south gable



29: Building B, Room 4, looking north



30: Building B, Room 4, looking south



31: Ceiling of Room 4



32: First floor of Building B



33: Building B, first-floor lime-ash floor



34: Building B, Room 5, looking north



35: Building B, Room 5, looking south into Room 6



36: Building B, Room 6, looking north



37: King-post roof truss at north end of Room 6



38: Building B, infilled front of shelter shed



39: Building C with additional lean-to on west side



40: East side of Building C, note slight buttresses



41: Roof trusses with V-struts in Building C



42: Carpentry marks (III) in Building C



43: New foundation trench at west gable of barn and service trenches



44: Stone footing 3 below brick gable wall



45: Wall 10 in foreground, brick wall 4 running east during initial ground reduction



46: Footing 62/63 against south wall of barn



47: Walls foundations 8 and 9



48: Footings 11, looking east



49: Footings 11 exposed after full ground reduction below N-S wall



50: Brick line/footing 13



51: Remnant of brick line/footing 18



52: Brick line/footing 4



53: Postholes 33, 31 and 5 in cow house



54: Stone footings to south wall and offset brick footings of re-built gable wall



55: Removal of cobbled layer 30 in Room 4



56: Brick supports 44, 45 and 46



57: Ground reduction in Room 5



58: Ground reduction in Room 6



59: Trench for new footings on former edge of Room 6



60: Stratigraphy in west side of trench



61: The barn and cow house with roof tiles removed and lean-to demolished



62: Raking struts and tie beam of roof truss



63: Incised marks on underside of one of the tie beams



64: Incised marks on the underside of beam



65: Carpentry mark (III) adjacent to wooden peg on tie beam



66: Chamfered edge of beam with blocked window above

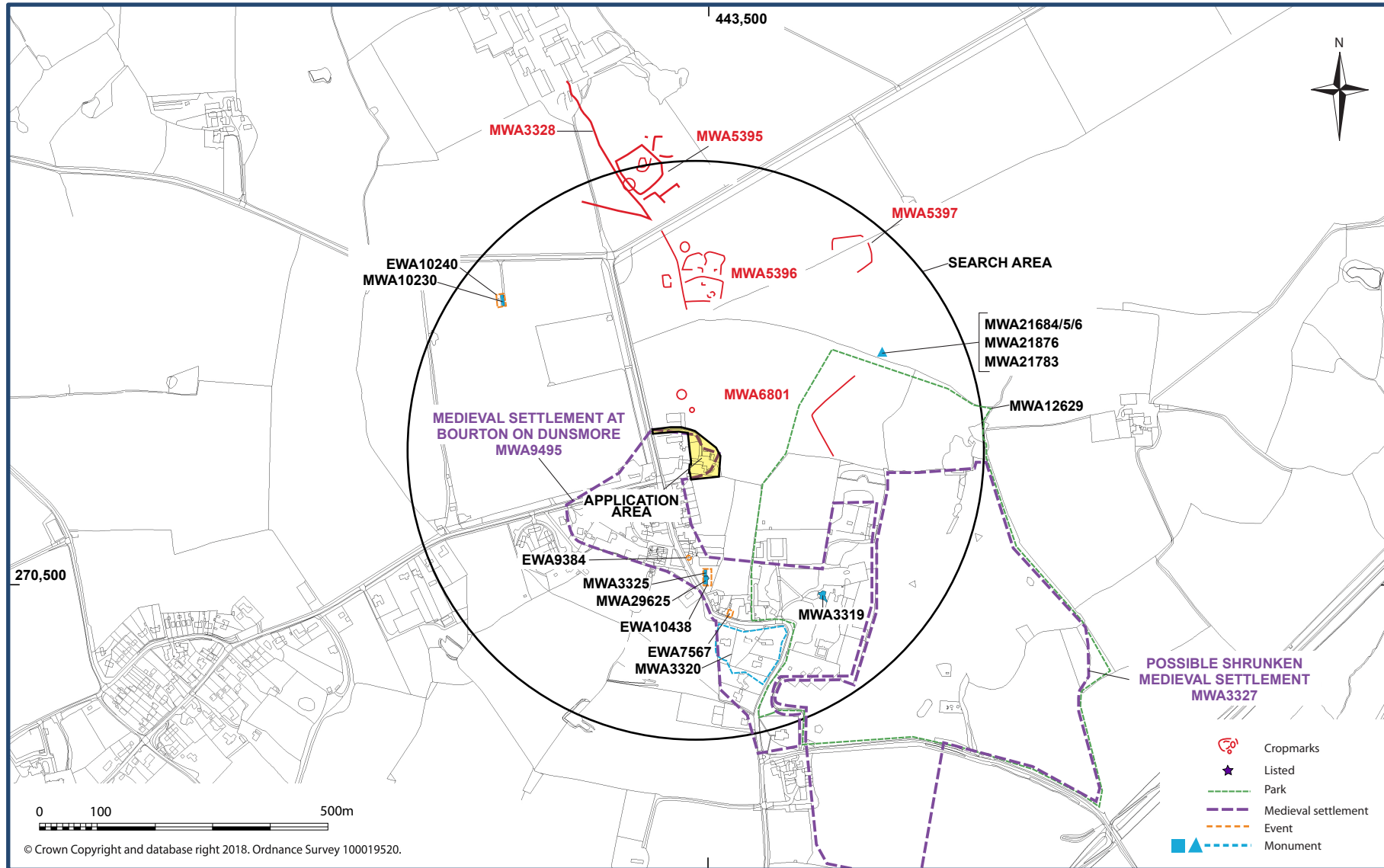
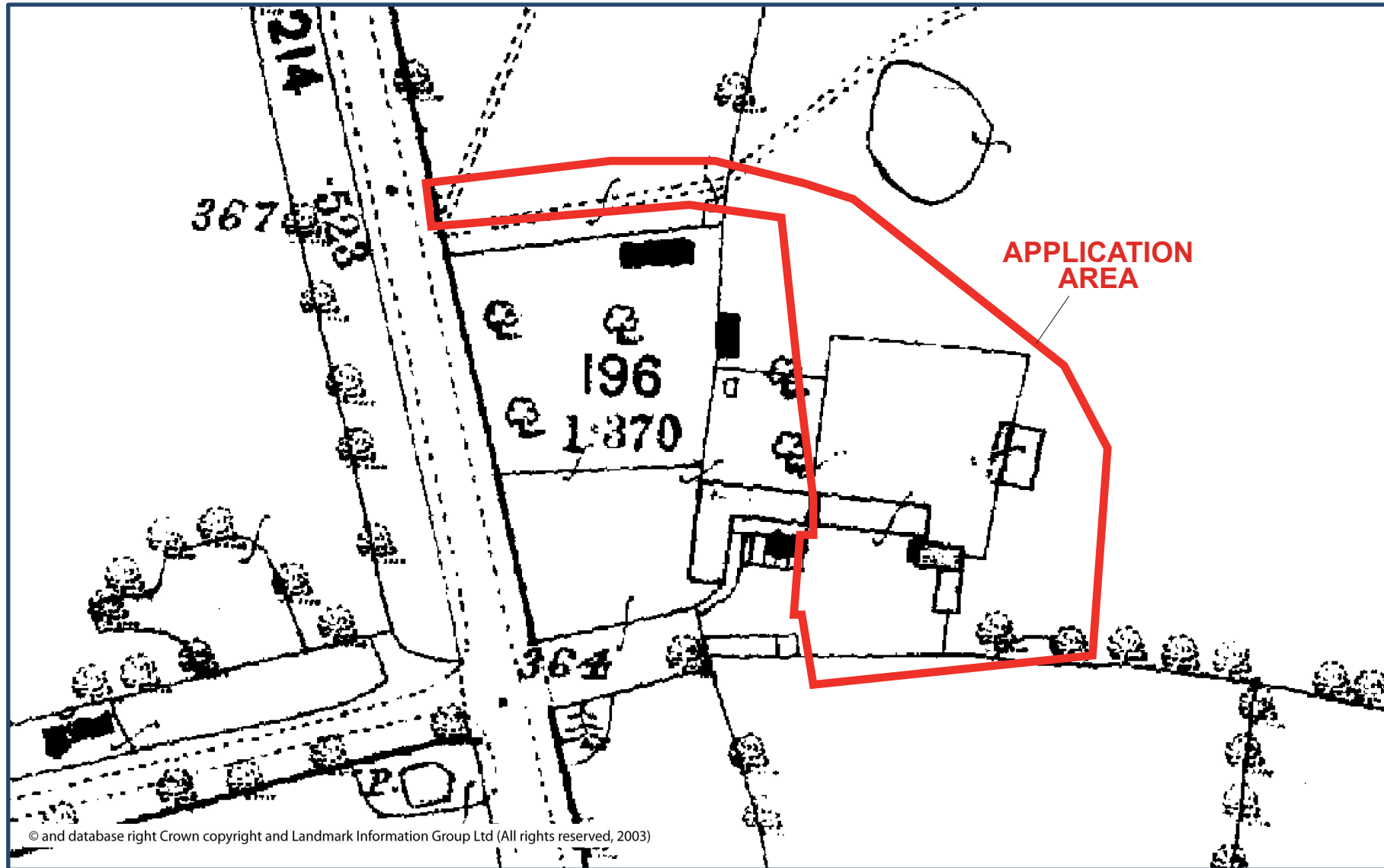


Fig 1: Location of application area and Historic Environment information



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Fig 2: Detail from First Edition Ordnance Survey mapping of 1887

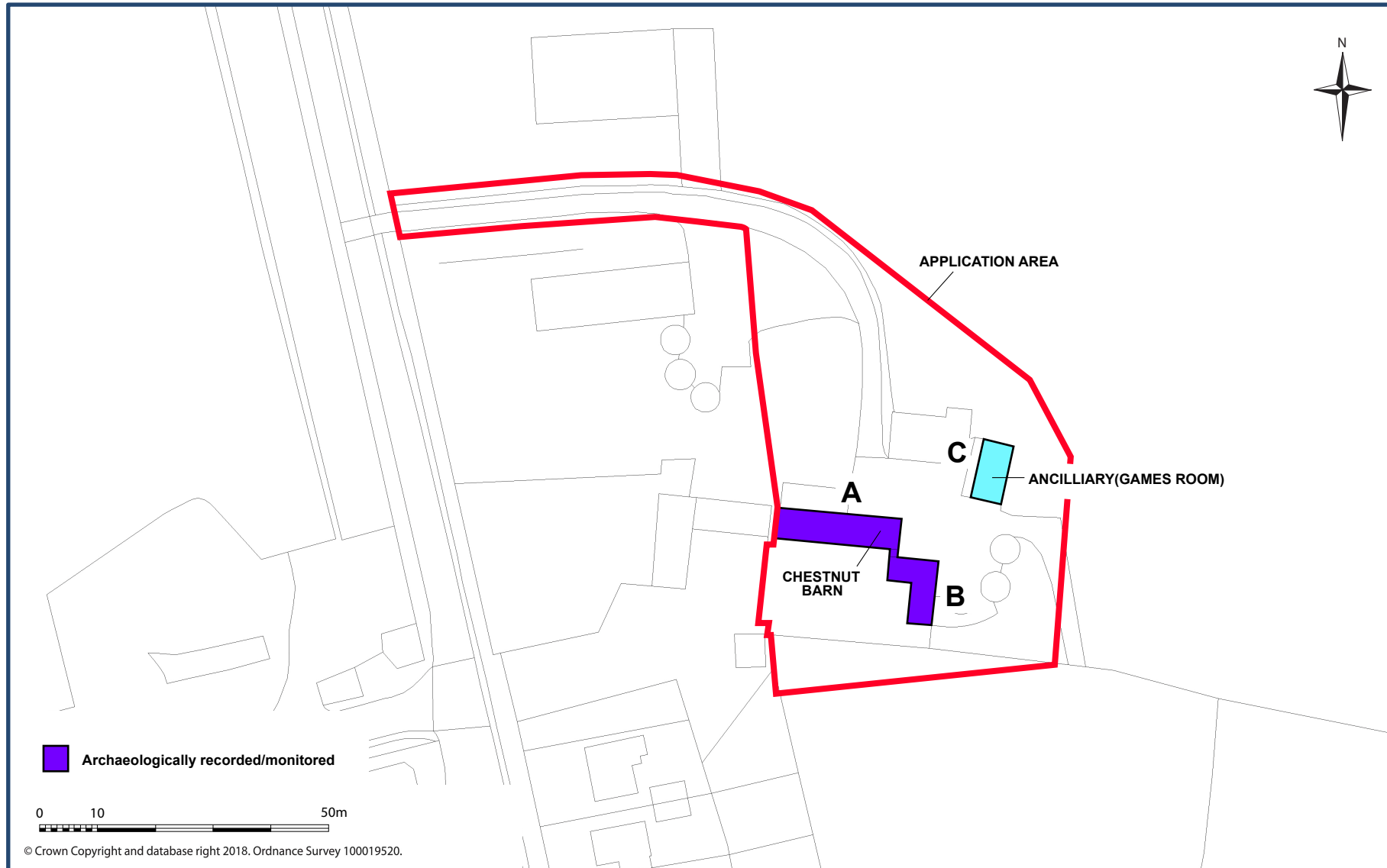


Fig 3: Location of Chestnut Barn

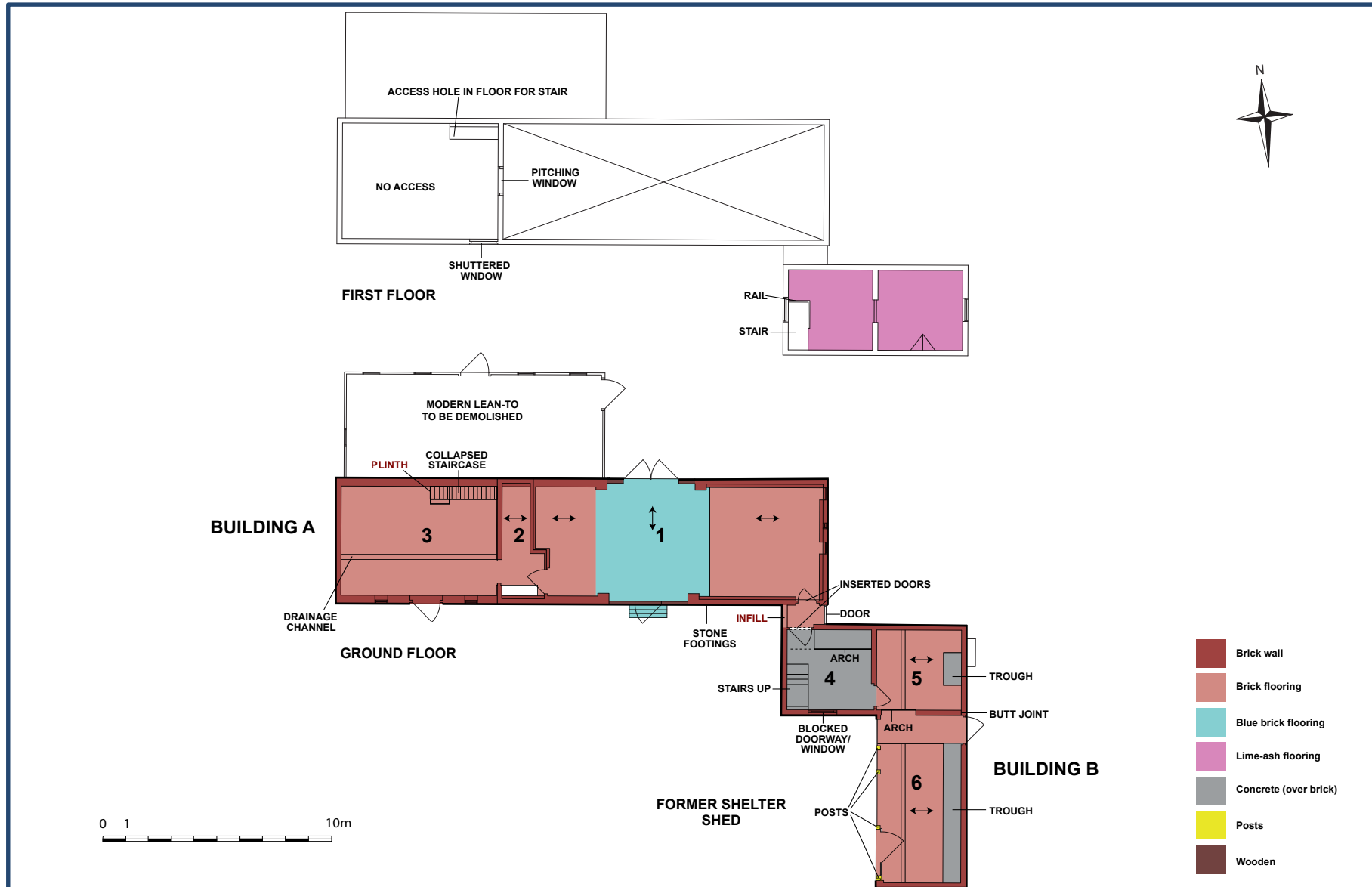


Fig 4: Ground and first floor plans, Buildings A and B

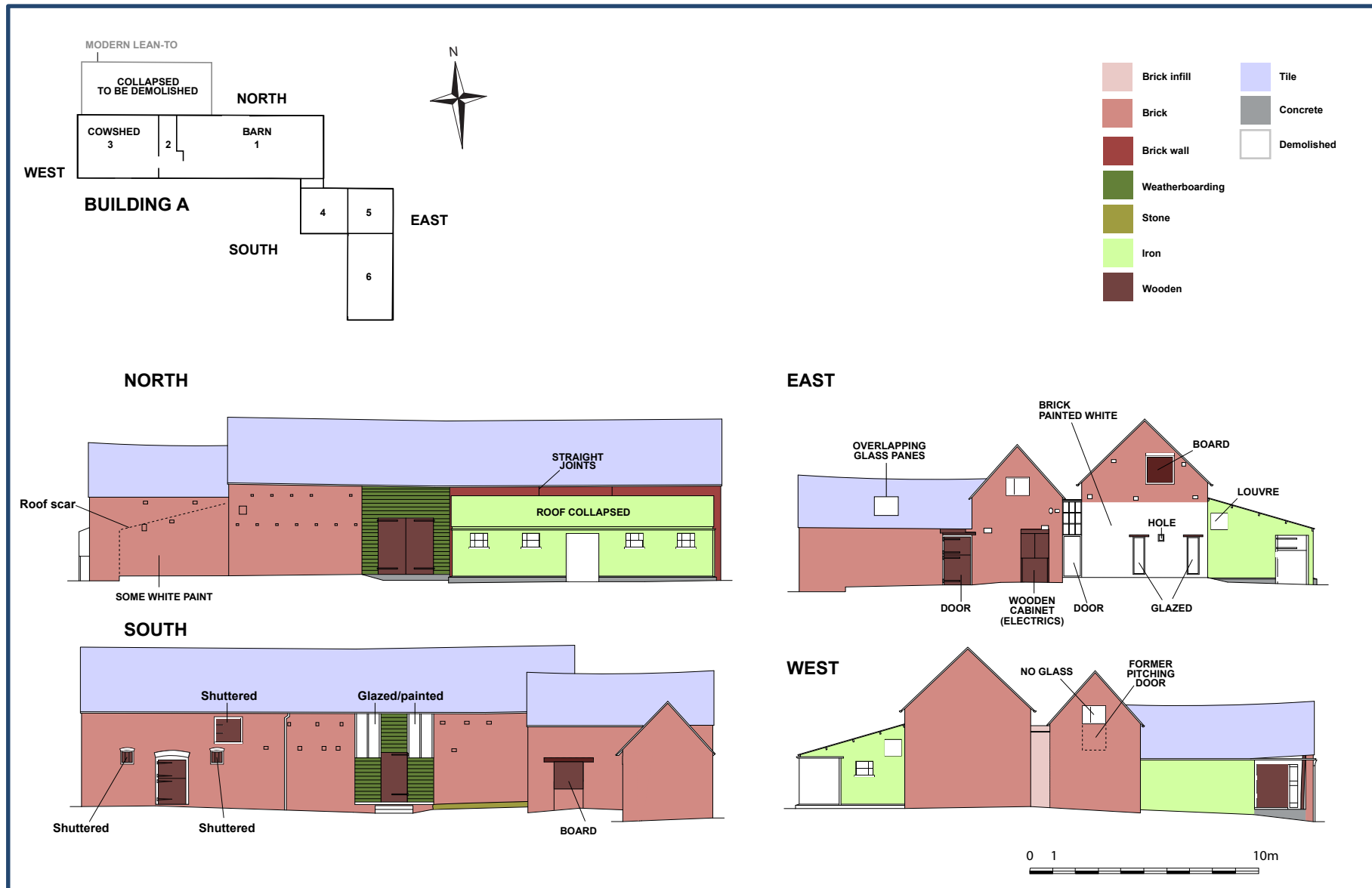


Fig 5: Elevations

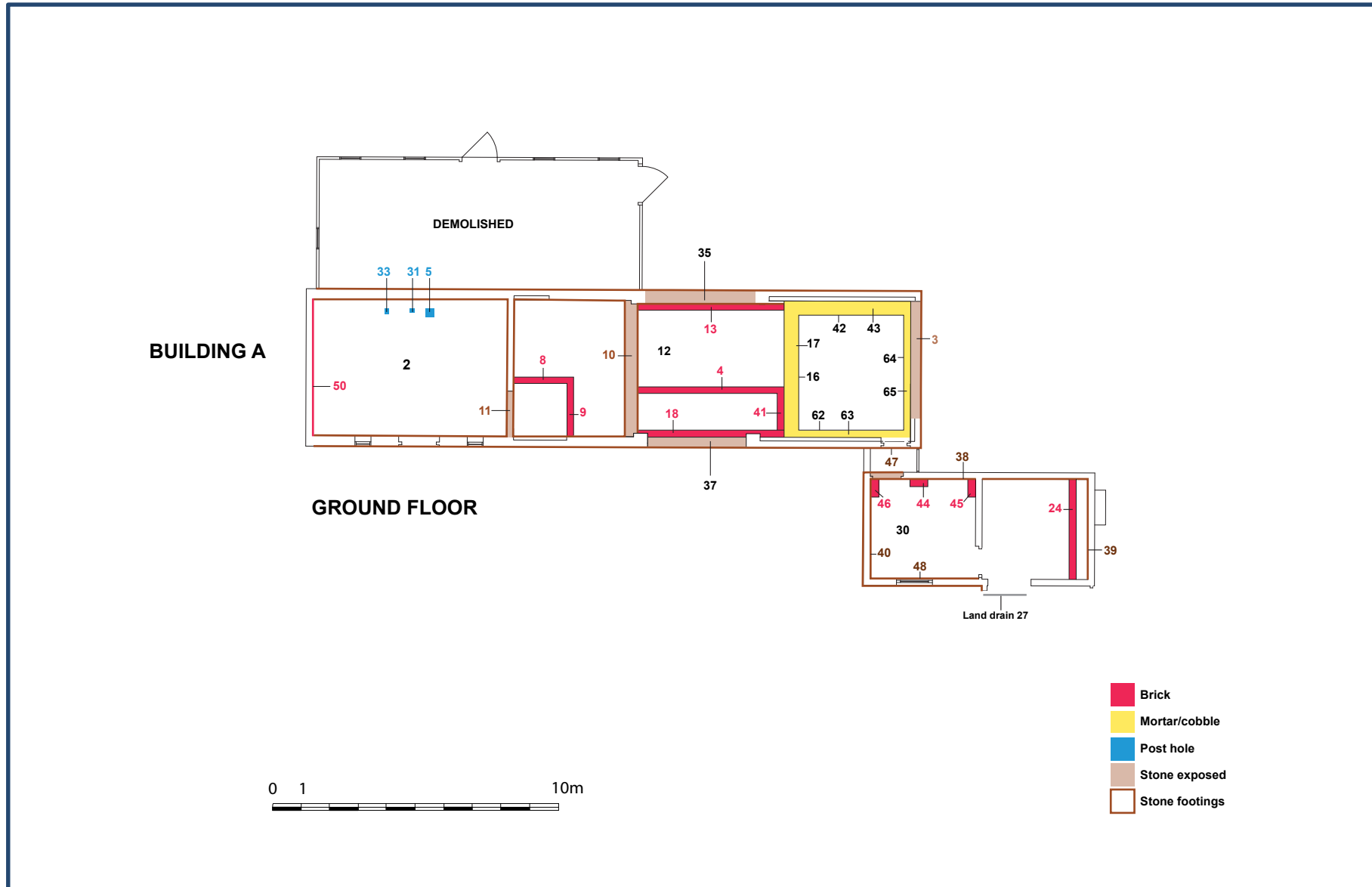


Fig 6: Features recorded

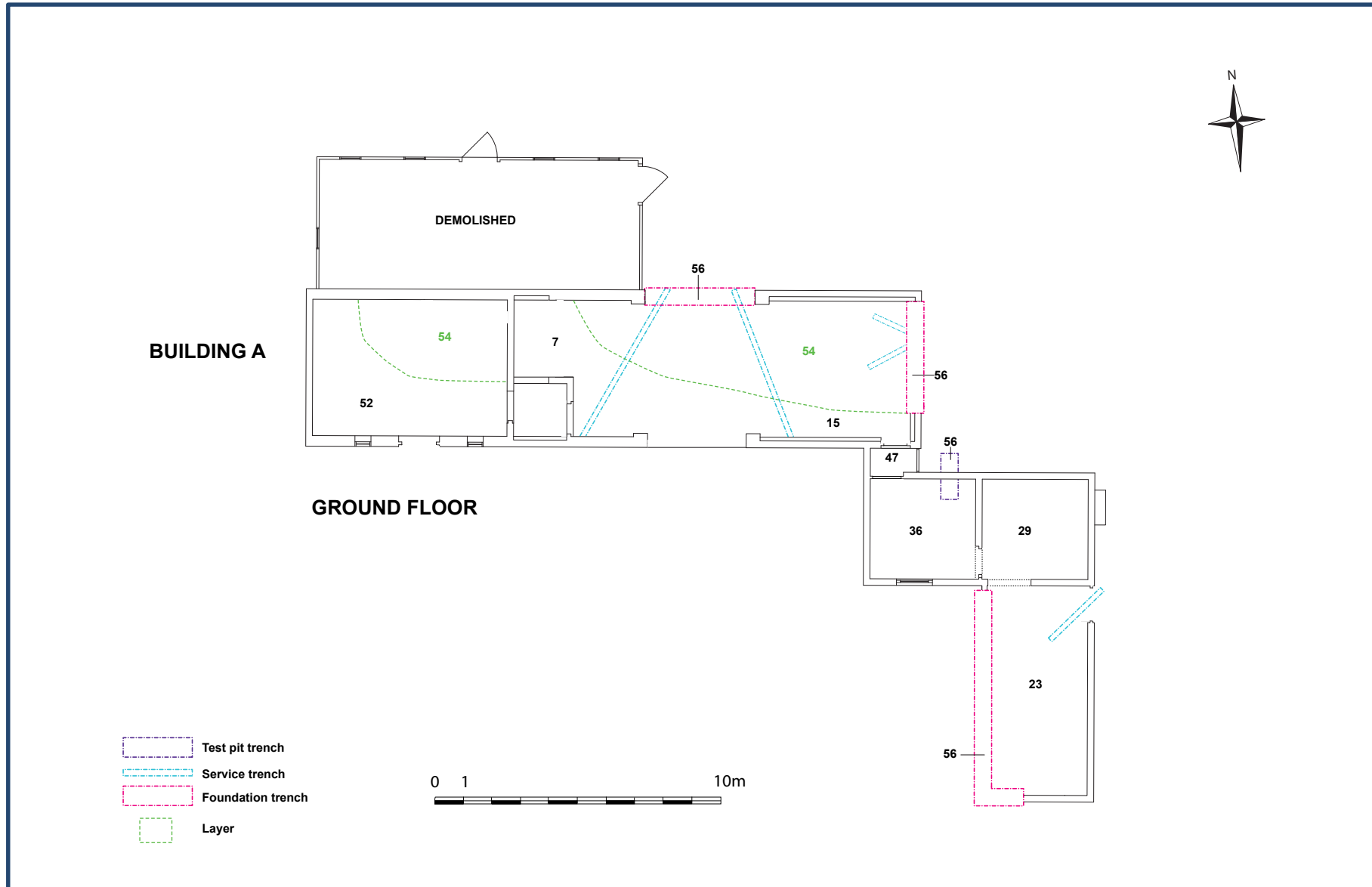


Fig 7: Groundworks observed