



aeon archaeology

**Hield House Barn,  
Aston By Budworth, Cheshire,  
CW9 6LP.  
January 2017  
V 1.0**



Level 2 Historic Building Record  
Project Code: A0103.1  
Report no. 0114



aeon archaeology

---

**Hield House Barn,  
Aston By Budworth, Cheshire,  
CW9 6LP.**

**January 2017  
V 1.0**

Report no. 0114 v1.0

Level 2 Historic Building Record

Aeon Archaeology  
25, Mold Road  
Broughton  
Chester  
CH4 0PQ

Written by: Richard Cooke BA MA MCIfA

Checked by: Josh Dean BA ACIfA



---

Project Code: A0103.1  
Date: 11/01/2017  
Client: Jay Ashall Partnership Ltd  
[info@aeonarchaeology.co.uk](mailto:info@aeonarchaeology.co.uk)

# Figures

**Figure 01:** Location of Hield House, Aston By Budworth, Cheshire. Scale 1:20,000 at A4.

**Figure 02:** Location of Hield House, Aston By Budworth, Cheshire. Scale 1:2,500 at A4.

**Figure 03:** Existing ground floor plan of Hield House, Aston By Budworth, Cheshire showing location and orientation of photographs. Scale 1:200 at A4.

**Figure 04:** Existing first floor plan of Hield House, Aston By Budworth, Cheshire showing location and orientation of photographs. Scale 1:200 at A4.

**Figure 05:** Development phases of Hield House, Aston By Budworth, Cheshire. Scale 1:200 at A4.

# Plates

**Plate 01:** West facing external elevation, from the west-southwest. Scale 1.0m.

**Plate 02:** South facing external elevation (outbuilding), from the south. Scale 1.0m.

**Plate 03:** West facing external elevation, from the west. Scale 1.0m.

**Plate 04:** North facing external elevation, from the north-northwest. Scale 1.0m.

**Plate 05:** North and east facing external elevations, from the northeast. Scale 1.0m.

**Plate 06:** East facing external elevation, from the east. Scale 1.0m.

**Plate 07:** East and south facing external elevations, from the southeast. Scale 1.0m.

**Plate 08:** South facing external elevation, from the south-southeast. Scale 1.0m.

**Plate 09:** Barn 1, from the south. Scale 1.0m.

**Plate 10:** Barn 1, from the north. Scale 1.0m.

**Plate 11:** Barn 2, from the south. Scale 1.0m.

**Plate 12:** Barn 2, from the north. Scale 1.0m.

**Plate 13:** Outbuilding, from the east. Scale 1.0m.

**Plate 14:** Outbuilding, from the west. Scale 1.0m.

**Plate 15:** Barn 3, from the southwest.

**Plate 16:** Barn 3 showing truss, from the south.

**Plate 17:** Barn 3, from the north.

**Plate 18:** Barn 4, from the north.

**Plate 19:** Barn 4 showing trusses, from the northwest.

## Contents

1.0 INTRODUCTION .....	1
2.0 REQUIREMENTS .....	2
2.1 Building Record .....	2
3.0 METHOD STATEMENT .....	3
3.1 Level 2 Record .....	3
3.1.1 Written Account .....	3
3.1.2 Photographs .....	3
3.1.3 Drawings .....	3
3.2 Processing data, illustration, report and archiving .....	3
4.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL RECORD .....	4
5.0 BUILDING DESCRIPTION .....	5
5.1 External description of Hield House Barn (plates 1-8) .....	5
5.2 Internal description of Hield House Barn (plates 9 - 19) .....	7
6.0 CONCLUSION .....	10
7.0 SOURCES .....	11

## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

Aeon Archaeology was commissioned by Jay Ashall Partnership to produce a level 2 historic building record of a barn at Hield House, Hield Lane, Aston By Budworth, Cheshire CW9 6LP (centred on **NGR SJ 67280 77634**) in advance of conversion.

The archaeological recording was completed as part of a planning condition (Planning Reference: **15/5619M**). Planning permission has been secured by the client for the conversion of the existing agricultural building to provide ancillary accommodation. The following archaeological condition was assigned to the permission:

### Condition 11

*No development shall take place within the area indicated until the applicant, or their agents or successors in title, has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted by the applicant and approved in writing by the local planning authority. The work shall be carried out strictly in accordance with the approved scheme.*

### Reason

*To be in line with the guidance set out in Paragraph 141, Section 12 (Conserving and Enhancing the Historic Environment) of the National Planning Policy Framework (2012).*

The Cheshire Archaeology Planning Advisory Service did not prepare a mitigation brief for this project, but requested that a level 2 historic building survey be undertaken of the building prior to alteration.

The use of such a condition is in line with the guidance set out in Paragraph 141, Section 12 (Conserving and Enhancing the Historic Environment) of the National Planning Policy Framework (2012), published by the Department for Communities and Local Government and Managing Significance in Decision-Taking in the Historic Environment, Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning: 2 (Historic England 2015).

This design and all subsequent mitigation will conform to the guidelines specified in English Heritage 'Understanding Historic Buildings: a guide to good recording practice' (2016) & Standard and Guidance for the Archaeological Investigation and Recording of Standing Buildings or Structures (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2014).

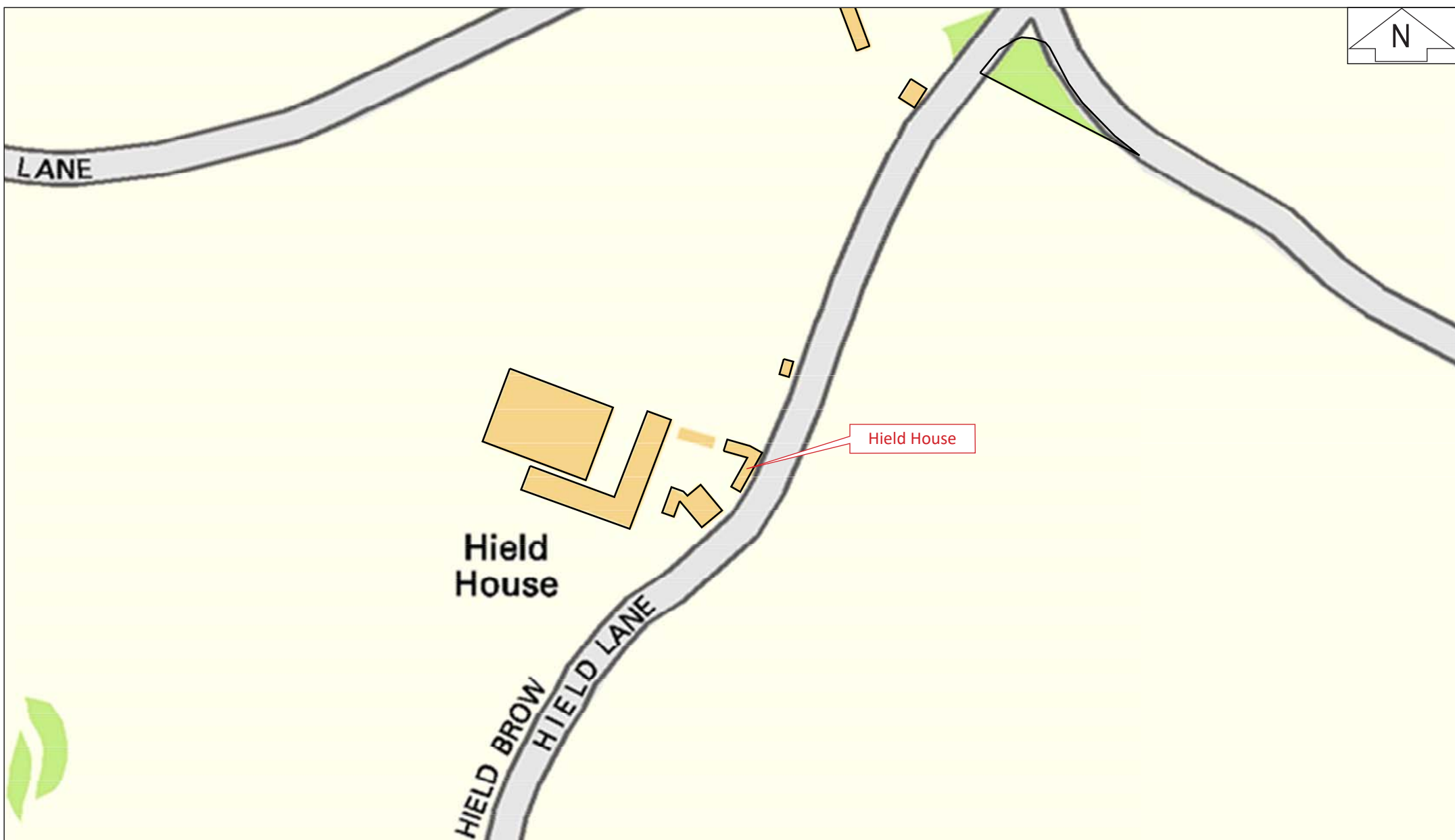




Figure 01: Location of Hield House, Aston By Budworth, Cheshire. Scale 1:20,000 at A4.



**Aeon Archaeology**  
 Richard Cooke BA MA MCIFA  
 25 Mold Road, Broughton, Chester CH4 0PQ  
 Tel: 07866925393 / 01244 531585  
[www.aeonarchaeology.co.uk](http://www.aeonarchaeology.co.uk)



Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2017



Figure 02: Location of Hield House, Aston By Budworth, Cheshire. Scale 1:2,500 at A4.

**Aeon Archaeology**  
Richard Cooke BA MA MCifA  
25 Mold Road, Broughton, Chester CH4 0PQ  
Tel: 07866925393 / 01244 531585  
[www.aeonarchaeology.co.uk](http://www.aeonarchaeology.co.uk)

## 2.0 REQUIREMENTS

### 2.1 Building Record

The requirements were for an archaeological building record of the farm building at Hield House prior to the alteration and refurbishment work, however should observations or desk-based research suggest the potential for significant features to be encountered during the renovation and site clearance/ground work, the archaeological contractor should make arrangements to undertake any appropriate supplementary recording work during the development. The Cheshire Archaeology Planning Advisory Service had requested that the building record be roughly commensurate with the English Heritage '*Understanding Historic Buildings: a guide to good recording practice*' (2006) **Level 2**.

Both the exterior and the interior was viewed, described and photographed. The record presents conclusions regarding the building's development and use, but does not discuss in detail the evidence on which these conclusions are based.

The detailed photographic record consisted of English Heritage '*Understanding Historic Buildings: a guide to good recording practice*' (2016) elements:

- written account: 1-3, 6
- drawings: sometimes 1, sometimes one or more of 2-7
- photographs: 1,2,4



### **3.0 METHOD STATEMENT**

#### **3.1 Level 2 Record**

##### **3.1.1 Written Account**

The written account included:

- The building's precise location as a National Grid Reference and address form;
- A note of any statutory designation and non-statutory designation;
- The date of the record, name(s) of the recorder(s) and archive location;
- A summary of the building's form, function, date, and sequence of development.

##### **3.1.2 Photographs**

The photographic record included:

- A general view or views of the building;
- The building's external appearance. Typically a series of oblique views will show all external elevations of the building and give an impression of its size and shape;
- The overall appearance of the principal rooms and circulation areas.

A Digital SLR (Canon 600D) set to maximum resolution was used throughout.

##### **3.1.3 Drawings**

The drawn record included:

- A site plan showing the location and orientation of photographs. This will label all room spaces and indicate any architectural features of note.

#### **3.2 Processing data, illustration, report and archiving**

Following completion of the record as outlined above, a report was produced incorporating the following:

- A copy of the design brief and agreed specification
- A site location plan
- A plan illustrating the location and direction of photographs
- Basic background and relevant historical, descriptive or analytical detail
- A full bibliography of sources consulted
- Illustrations, including plans and photographs, will be incorporated within the report.

#### **4.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL RECORD**

The L-shaped barn proposed for conversion is shown on the Great Budworth parish tithe map of c.1840 as a rectangular building orientated north to south, and lying to the immediate west of Hield Lane. By the production of the first edition County Series 25" Ordnance Survey map of 1877 the barn had been extended to include an east-west L-shaped range on the southern part of the western elevation, and is shown in this plan on the second and third edition 25" maps of 1898 and 1910 respectively. The date of the barn is unknown however its brick-built construction would suggest a date of the early 19<sup>th</sup> Century.

The period 1750-1880 has been recognised as the most important period of farm building development in England (Historic Farmsteads: Preliminary Character Statement – North West region, English Heritage 2006, p. 6); the Council for British Archaeology's 'An Archaeological Research Framework for North West England: Volume 2, Research Agenda and Strategy' (Brennand 2007) has indicated that farm buildings are "an important historical research resource" (p. 140), that "there is an urgent need for all local authorities to ensure that farm buildings undergoing adaptation are at least considered for recording" so that "a regional database of farm buildings can be derived and variations across the region examined." (ibid.)

## **5.0 BUILDING DESCRIPTION**

### **5.1 External description of Hield House Barn (plates 1-8)**

The Barn at Hield House is located to the immediate west of Hield Lane and forms part of a complex of farm buildings known collectively as Hield House. The barn lies approximately 840.0m east of Great Budworth, centred on **NGR SJ 67280 77634** and will be referred to as the barn throughout this section of the report.

The principle range of the barn is a two-storey rectangular structure orientated north to south and measuring 22.5m in length by 6.5m in width. It has a double-pitched roof of grey asbestos sheet with grey asbestos ridge tiles. The walls are all of unfrogged red-brick bonded by mortar, although different brick types are used and denote clear phases of construction which are discussed below.

The barn has an outbuilding extension on its western elevation at the northern end creating an L-shaped range overall.

#### ***Barn southern elevation***

The southern gable elevation has a single projecting sandstone block at first floor level. This lies above a centralised window opening with radiating red-brick voussoirs, sandstone sill, and without frame and glass, at ground level.

#### ***Barn eastern elevation***

The eastern elevation has four equally spaced window openings at first floor level, all with radiating red-brick voussoirs and without frames and glass. There are a further four window openings at ground floor level, all located within the southern two-thirds of the elevation. The three right hand most windows are equally spaced but the left hand most window is offset to the left. All have radiating red-brick voussoirs and sills, and retain parts of their wooden frames but are without glass.

The northern one-third of the elevation is constructed for the most part of a hand-made unfrogged red-brick, darker in fabric to the rest of the elevation and clearly of an earlier date. At either end of this northern one-third two clear red-brick pillars can be seen within the masonry, suggesting that this part of the barn was originally an open pillared barn which was later bricked-up to form an enclosed building.

#### ***Barn northern elevation***

The northern gable elevation has a closed king-post truss visible at first floor level, beneath which is a single wooden board door in wooden frame with sandstone step, also at first floor level. At the left end is a three pane single-glazed window in unpainted wooden frame.

Beneath these and at ground floor level is a single wooden board door with wooden lintel and frame at the right end, and a boarded-up window opening with wooden lintel and brick sill at the left end.

#### ***Barn western elevation***

The western elevation has a black PVC gutter directly beneath the roof pitch with two downpipes of the same at either end. There are three window openings at first floor level, all spaced ad-hoc and all with radiating red-brick voussoirs and wooden frames. The central and

left most windows have sandstone sills; the right most window is slightly longer and has a slate sill.

At ground level there are two small window openings at the left end, with radiating red-brick voussoirs and sandstone sills and covered with modern Perspex. Between these two windows a single doorway with wooden board door and black-painted wooden frame is located that permits access into Barn 1.

At the centre of the elevation a double door with iron-rail lintel permits access into Barn 2 but has been boarded-up. Two further single doorways permit access into Barn 2 and are equally spaced to the right of the double door. These both have radiating red-brick voussoirs; the left doorway has been boarded-up with a wooden ventilation door; the right has a red-painted wooden frame and ply-wood board door.

### ***Outbuilding***

A rectangular building orientated east-northeast to west-southwest with a double-pitched roof of grey slate with ridge tiles of the same. Two equally spaced red ceramic vents are located over the ridge tiles. The walls are all of unfrogged red-brick bonded by mortar which butts onto the western elevation of the barn building and is not keyed into the masonry there, showing that it is of a later date.

The southern elevation has four pillars of unfrogged red-brick bonded by mortar creating three equally sized entrance bays.

The western elevation is featureless.

The northern elevation has two equally spaced ventilation holes but is otherwise featureless.

The eastern elevation comprises the western elevation of the barn and is described above.



Reproduced by kind permission of Jay Ashall Partnership Ltd



Figure 03: Existing ground floor plan of Hield House, Aston By Budworth, Cheshire showing location and orientation of photographs. Scale 1:200 at A4.

**Aeon Archaeology**  
 Richard Cooke BA MA MCifA  
 25 Mold Road, Broughton, Chester CH4 0PQ  
 Tel: 07866925393 / 01244 531585  
[www.aeonarchaeology.co.uk](http://www.aeonarchaeology.co.uk)



**Plate 01:** West facing external elevation, from the west-southwest. Scale 1.0m.





**Plate 02:** South facing external elevation (outbuilding), from the south. Scale 1.0m.



**Plate 03:** West facing external elevation, from the west. Scale 1.0m.



**Plate 04:** North facing external elevation, from the north-northwest. Scale 1.0m.





**Plate 05:** North and east facing external elevations, from the northeast. Scale 1.0m.



**Plate 06:** East facing external elevation, from the east. Scale 1.0m.





**Plate 07:** East and south facing external elevations, from the southeast. Scale 1.0m.





**Plate 08:** South facing external elevation, from the south-southeast. Scale 1.0m.

## **5.2 Internal description of Hield House Barn (plates 9 - 19)**

### **Ground floor**

#### ***Barn 1***

A rectangular room measuring 10.5m in length by 5.6m in width orientated north to south. The northern half of the room has four sawn wooden timber beams running east to west and supporting the floor above. The southern half of the room has a single sawn timber beam running north to south, also supporting the floor above. All of the beams are supported by three upright iron columns.

The walls are all of exposed red-brick painted white. The northern elevation has a single doorway with wooden board door and wooden frame at the left end that permits access to the outside of the property. There is a single window opening at the right end now boarded-up.

The eastern elevation has a centralised projecting red-brick pillar that runs into the roof space – visible at this point due to removed ceiling boards. This pillar supports a king-post truss in Barn 3 and described separately below, but was originally one of four columns marking the corners of a pillared barn. A boarded-up window opening is located at the right end.

The southern elevation is featureless aside from a centralised projecting red-brick column that helps support the first floor dividing wall between barns 3 and 4.

The western elevation has a centralised red-brick column that supports the other end of the king-post truss in barn 3 and originally formed the south-western column of the pillared barn. At the left end is a single doorway with wooden board door and frame that permits access to the rear of the property, with two small window openings either side covered with modern Perspex.

The floor at the northern end of the barn is of laid red-brick, and at the southern end is of laid stone blocks.

#### ***Barn 2***

A rectangular room measuring 11.3m in length by 6.0m in width, orientated north to south. There are four sawn wooden beams supporting the floor above and running east to west, all of which are supported on projecting red-brick columns within the east and west elevations. The walls are all of exposed red-brick painted white in the upper half and black beneath.

The eastern elevation has three equally spaced windows all boarded-up, in between four equally spaced projecting red-brick columns that support the ceiling beams.

The southern elevation has a centralised window with wooden lintel and sill but now boarded-up.

The western elevation has a single doorway in the centre and at the left end, both with radiating red-brick voussoirs and red-painted wooden frames. A double doorway with wooden board door is located at the right end, all of which lead to the rear of the property.

The northern elevation is featureless and the floor is of poured concrete throughout.

### ***Outbuilding***

The outbuilding is rectangular in shape and measures 12.0m in length by 5.4m in width, orientated east-northeast to west-southwest. The room is open to the ceiling and has two

equally spaced common trusses of sawn wooden timber supporting two purlins also of sawn timber.

The northern elevation is featureless aside from two equally spaced vent holes.

The eastern elevation is that of the western elevation of the barn, and is as described above.

The southern and western elevations are featureless.

The floor is of a centralised concrete pad, and to the west of which are the remnants of a cobbled surface.

### **First floor**

(This part of the building could not be accessed at the time and as such photographs included within the report have been provided by The Client and descriptions taken from them)

#### ***Barn 3***

A rectangular room measuring 10.5m in length by 5.6m in width, orientated north to south. The room is open to the roof space and there is a single centralised king-post truss of hand cut timber supported on two red-brick columns with four hand cut purlins running north to south. A second closed king-post truss, also of hand cut timber, is located in the northern gable wall. The walls are all of exposed red-brick with the remnants of white paint.

The northern elevation has a single doorway at the left end of dark-brown stained wooden board and wooden frame, to the right of which is a three pane window in wooden frame now boarded-up. These all lie beneath the truss within the gable wall.

The eastern elevation has two equally spaced window openings, both with radiating red-brick voussoirs but without frames and glass.

The southern elevation has a single projecting red-brick column above which is a single window opening with radiating red-brick voussoirs and wooden frame. The masonry above the column appears to be newer and may represent a later phase of repair. A single doorway opening at the left end permits access into Barn 4.

The western elevation is featureless aside from a single window at the left end with radiating red-brick voussoirs but without frame and glass.

The floor is of wooden boards.

#### ***Barn 4***

A rectangular room measuring 11.3m in length by 5.9m in width, orientated north to south. The barn is open to the ceiling space and has two equally spaced king-post trusses of sawn timber and supporting four purlins, also of sawn timber and running north to south. The walls are all of exposed red-brick.

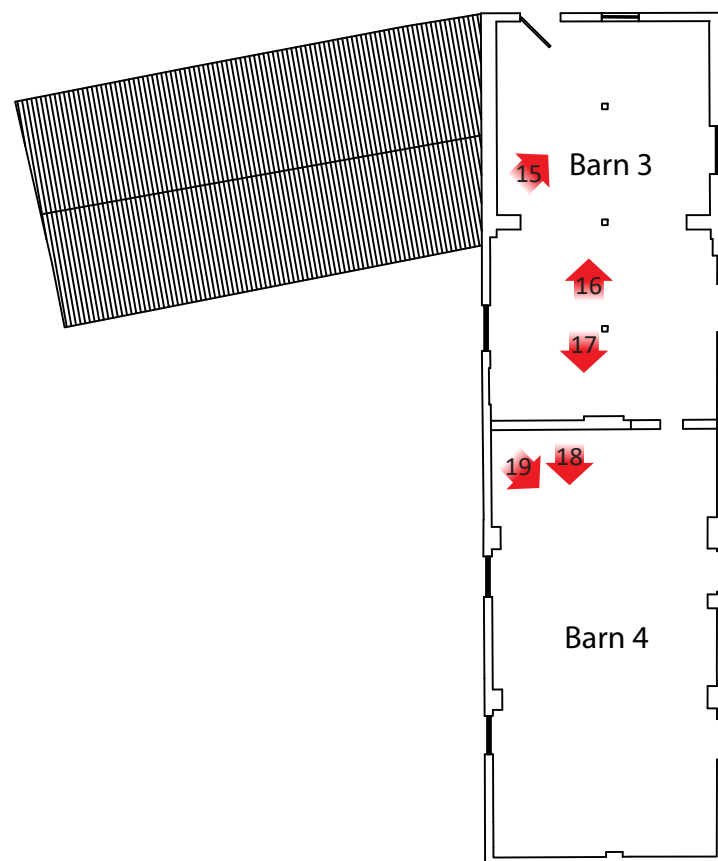
The northern elevation has a single centralised window opening at head-height with the remnants of a wooden frame. At the right end is a single doorway opening permitting access into Barn 3.

The eastern elevation has two equally spaced window openings both with radiating red-brick voussoirs but without frames and glass.

The southern elevation is featureless aside from a single centralised red-brick column.

The western elevation has two equally spaced window openings both with radiating red-brick voussoirs but without frames and glass.

The floor is of wooden boards.



Reproduced by kind permission of Jay Ashall Partnership Ltd



Figure 04: Existing first floor plan of Hield House, Aston By Budworth, Cheshire showing location and orientation of photographs. Scale 1:200 at A4.

**Aeon Archaeology**  
Richard Cooke BA MA MCifA  
25 Mold Road, Broughton, Chester CH4 0PQ  
Tel: 07866925393 / 01244 531585  
[www.aeonarchaeology.co.uk](http://www.aeonarchaeology.co.uk)





**Plate 09:** Barn 1, from the south. Scale 1.0m.





**Plate 10:** Barn 1, from the north. Scale 1.0m.



**Plate 11:** Barn 2, from the south. Scale 1.0m.



**Plate 12:** Barn 2, from the north. Scale 1.0m.





**Plate 13:** Outbuilding, from the east. Scale 1.0m.



**Plate 14:** Outbuilding, from the west. Scale 1.0m.





**Plate 15:** Barn 3, from the southwest.





**Plate 16:** Barn 3 showing truss, from the south.



Plate 17: Barn 3, from the north.

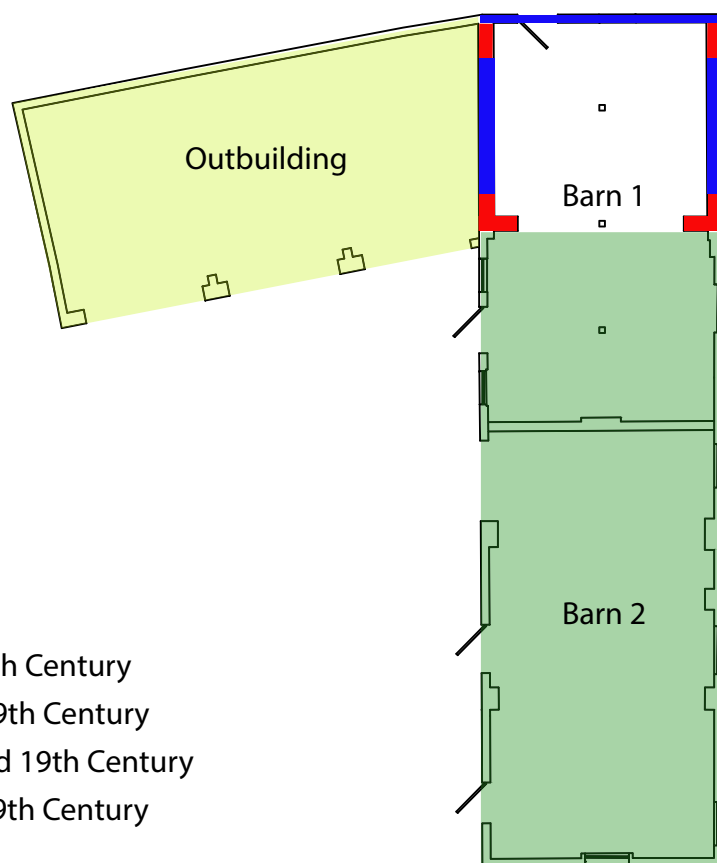






**Plate 18:** Barn 4, from the north.





**Plate 19:** Barn 4 showing trusses, from the northwest.



-  Pillared Barn c.mid 18th- early 19th Century
-  Enclosed Barn c.late 18th- early 19th Century
-  Rectangular Barn c.early 19th- mid 19th Century
-  Outbuilding constructed c. late 19th Century

Reproduced by kind permission of Jay Ashall Partnership Ltd



Figure 05: Development phases of Hield House, Aston By Budworth, Cheshire.  
Scale 1:200 at A4.

**Aeon Archaeology**  
Richard Cooke BA MA MCifA  
25 Mold Road, Broughton, Chester CH4 0PQ  
Tel: 07866925393 / 01244 531585  
[www.aeonarchaeology.co.uk](http://www.aeonarchaeology.co.uk)

## 6.0 CONCLUSION

The Council for British Archaeology's '*An Archaeological Research Framework for North West England: Volume 2, Research Agenda and Strategy*' (Brennand 2007) has specified that farm buildings are "an important historical research resource" (p. 140), and that "there is an urgent need for all local authorities to ensure that farm buildings undergoing adaptation are at least considered for recording" so that "a regional database of farm buildings can be derived and variations across the region examined." (ibid.).

The building is a long narrow barn with two haylofts on the upper floor above two rectangular barns. The structural evidence suggests that the barn originated as a four brick-pillared barn forming what is now the northern third of the building. This phase likely dates to the mid-18<sup>th</sup> to early 19<sup>th</sup> Century. At some point later, probably around the late 18<sup>th</sup> to early 19<sup>th</sup> Century the pillared barn was bricked-up to form a relatively small enclosed outbuilding, possibly a storage building.

By the production of the tithe map in c.1840 the building is represented as a long rectangular structure orientated north to south, suggesting that the southern two-thirds of the building had been constructed by this point in time. Upon the production of the first edition 25" Ordnance Survey map in 1877 an outbuilding had been added to the northern part of the western elevation thus creating the L-shaped range that now exists.

The historic building record can be seen as having fulfilled the spirit and intent of the archaeological condition and as such it is recommended that the condition now be discharged.



## 7.0 SOURCES

### *Maps.*

Tithe Map and Schedule of Great Budworth 1840.

Ordnance Survey 1<sup>st</sup> edition 25 inch map 1877.

Ordnance Survey 2nd edition 25 inch map 1898.

Ordnance Survey 3rd edition 25 inch map 1910.

### *Secondary Sources*

Brennand, 2007. The Council for British Archaeology's 'An Archaeological Research Framework for North West England: Volume 2, Research Agenda and Strategy'

Historic Environment Record online gateway

English Heritage, 2006. Historic Farmsteads: Preliminary Character Statement – North West region

English Heritage: Understanding Historic Buildings: a guide to good recording practice (2006)

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2014: Standard and Guidance for the Archaeological Investigation and Recording of Standing Buildings or Structures



aeon archaeology

---

**Hield House, Hield Lane,  
Aston By Budworth, Northwich  
CW9 6LP.**

**Written Scheme of Investigation  
for Level 2 Historic Building Record**

**Planning Ref: 15/5619M**



Archaeological WSI  
Project Code: A0103.1

---

1.0 PROJECT BACKGROUND .....	1
2.0 HISTORICAL BACKGROUND.....	2
3.1 Building Record .....	3
4.0 METHOD STATEMENT.....	3
4.1 Level 2 Record .....	3
4.1.1 Written Account.....	3
4.1.2 Photographs.....	3
4.1.3 Drawings .....	4
4.2 Processing data, illustration, report and archiving .....	4
5.0 DISSEMINATION AND ARCHIVING .....	4
6.0 PERSONNEL .....	4
7.0 MONITORING AND TIMING.....	4
8.0 HEALTH AND SAFETY .....	4
9.0 INSURANCE.....	5
10.0 GENERAL.....	5
11.0 SOURCES CONSULTED .....	5

## 1.0 PROJECT BACKGROUND

Aeon Archaeology has been asked by Jay Ashall Partnership to provide a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for carrying out a level 2 historic building record of a barn at Hield House, Hield Lane, Aston By Budworth, Cheshire CW9 6LP (centred on **NGR SJ 67280 77634**) in advance of conversion.

The archaeological mitigation is being completed as part of a planning condition (Planning Reference: 15/5619M). Planning permission has been secured by the client for the conversion of the existing agricultural building to provide ancillary accommodation. The following archaeological condition has been assigned to the permission:

### Condition 11

*No development shall take place within the area indicated until the applicant, or their agents or successors in title, has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted by the applicant and approved in writing by the local planning authority. The work shall be carried out strictly in accordance with the approved scheme.*

### Reason

*To be in line with the guidance set out in Paragraph 141, Section 12 (Conserving and Enhancing the Historic Environment) of the National Planning Policy Framework (2012).*

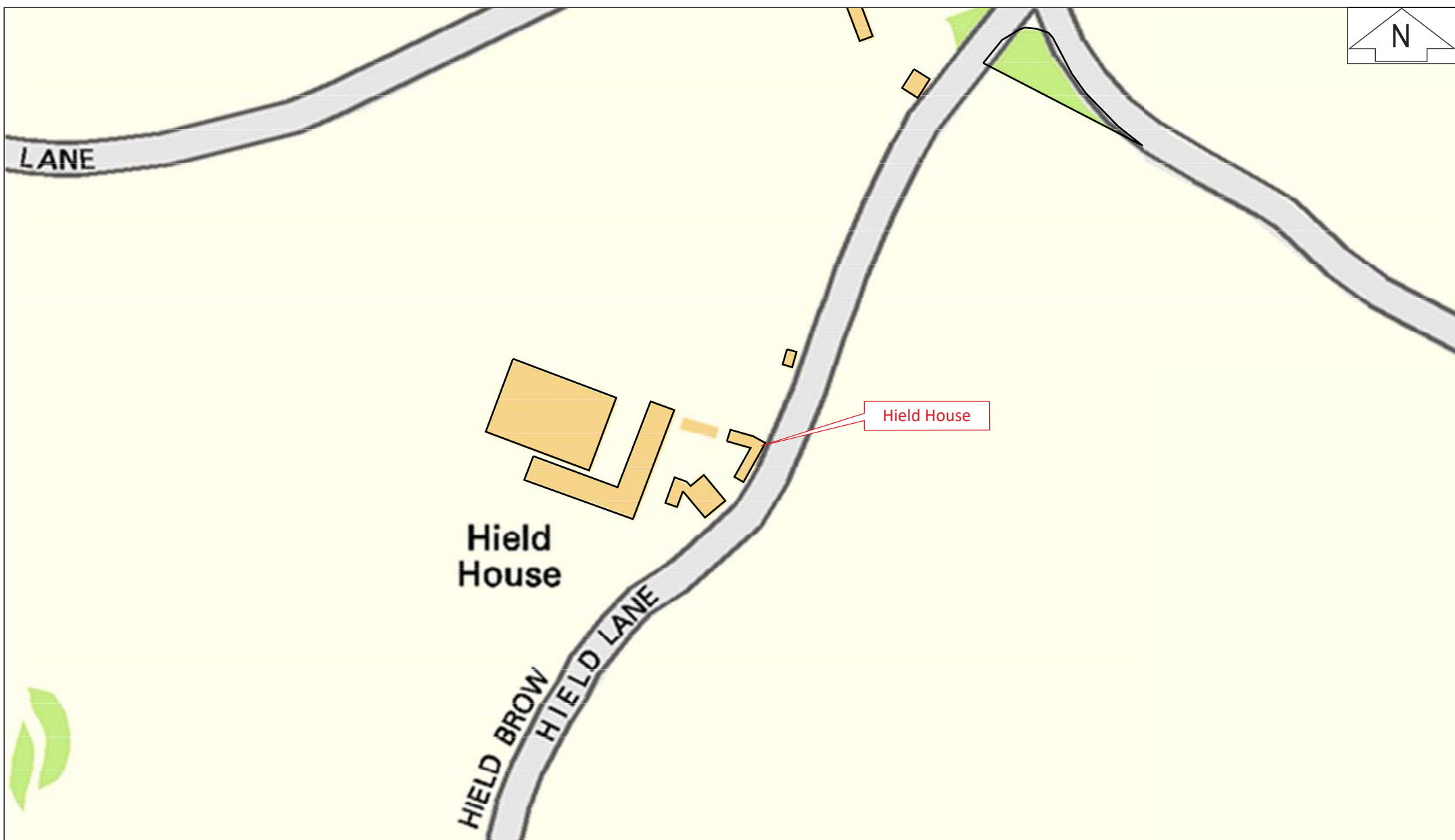
The Cheshire Archaeology Planning Advisory Service has not prepared a mitigation brief for this project, but has requested that a level 2 historic building survey be taken of the building prior to alteration.

The use of such a condition is in line with the guidance set out in Paragraph 141, Section 12 (Conserving and Enhancing the Historic Environment) of the National Planning Policy Framework (2012), published by the Department for Communities and Local Government and Managing Significance in Decision-Taking in the Historic Environment, Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning: 2 (Historic England 2015).

This design and all subsequent mitigation will conform to the guidelines specified in English Heritage 'Understanding Historic Buildings: a guide to good recording practice' (2006) & Standard and Guidance for the Archaeological Investigation and Recording of Standing Buildings or Structures (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2014).



Figure 01: Location of Hield House, Aston By Budworth, Cheshire. Scale 1:20,000 at A4.



Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2017



Figure 02: Location of Hield House, Aston By Budworth, Cheshire. Scale 1:2,500 at A4.

**Aeon Archaeology**  
Richard Cooke BA MA MCifA  
25 Mold Road, Broughton, Chester CH4 0PQ  
Tel: 07866925393 / 01244 531585  
[www.aeonarchaeology.co.uk](http://www.aeonarchaeology.co.uk)



## 2.0 HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The L-shaped barn proposed for conversion is shown on the Great Budworth parish tithe map of c.1840 as a rectangular building orientated north to south, and lying to the immediate west of Hield Lane. By the production of the first edition County Series 25" Ordnance Survey map of 1877 the barn had been extended to include an east-west L-shaped range on the southern part of the western elevation, and is shown in this plan on the second and third edition 25" maps of 1898 and 1910 respectively. The date of the barn is unknown however it's brick-built construction would suggest a date of the early 19<sup>th</sup> Century.

The period 1750-1880 has been recognised as the most important period of farm building development in England (Historic Farmsteads: Preliminary Character Statement – North West region, English Heritage 2006, p. 6); the Council for British Archaeology's 'An Archaeological Research Framework for North West England: Volume 2, Research Agenda and Strategy' (Brennand 2007) has indicated that farm buildings are "an important historical research resource" (p. 140), that "there is an urgent need for all local authorities to ensure that farm buildings undergoing adaptation are at least considered for recording" so that "a regional database of farm buildings can be derived and variations across the region examined." (ibid.)

### 3.0 REQUIREMENTS

#### 3.1 Building Record

The requirements are for an archaeological building record of the farm building at Hield House prior to the alteration and refurbishment work, however should observations or desk-based research suggest the potential for significant features to be encountered during the renovation and site clearance/ground work, the archaeological contractor should make arrangements to undertake any appropriate supplementary recording work during the development. The Cheshire Archaeology Planning Advisory Service has requested that the building record be roughly commensurate with the English Heritage '*Understanding Historic Buildings: a guide to good recording practice*' (2006) **Level 2**.

Both the exterior and the interior will be viewed, described and photographed. The record will present conclusions regarding the building's development and use, but will not discuss in detail the evidence on which these conclusions are based.

The detailed photographic record will consist of English Heritage '*Understanding Historic Buildings: a guide to good recording practice*' (2006) elements:

written account: 1-3, 6

drawings: sometimes 1, sometimes one or more of 2-7

photographs: 1,2,4

### 4.0 METHOD STATEMENT

#### 4.1 Level 2 Record

##### 4.1.1 Written Account

The written account will include:

- The building's precise location as a National Grid Reference and address form;
- A note of any statutory designation and non-statutory designation;
- The date of the record, name(s) of the recorder(s) and archive location;
- A summary of the building's form, function, date, and sequence of development.

##### 4.1.2 Photographs

The photographic record will include:

- A general view or views of the building;
- The building's external appearance. Typically a series of oblique views will show all external elevations of the building and give an impression of its size and shape;
- The overall appearance of the principal rooms and circulation areas.

A Digital SLR (Canon 600D) set to maximum resolution will be used throughout.

#### **4.1.3 Drawings**

The drawn record will include:

- A site plan showing the location and orientation of photographs. This will label all room spaces and indicate any architectural features of note.

#### **4.2 Processing data, illustration, report and archiving**

Following completion of the record as outlined above, a report will be produced incorporating the following:

- A copy of the design brief and agreed specification
- A site location plan
- A plan illustrating the location and direction of photographs
- Basic background and relevant historical, descriptive or analytical detail
- A full bibliography of sources consulted
- Illustrations, including plans and photographs, will be incorporated within the report.

### **5.0 DISSEMINATION AND ARCHIVING**

A full archive including plans, photographs, written material and any other material resulting from the project will be prepared. All plans, photographs and descriptions will be labelled, and cross-referenced, and lodged in an appropriate place within six months of the completion of the project.

Upon completion of the project copies of the report will be sent to the regional HER and Development Control Archaeologist (The Forum, Chester, CH1 2HS), as well as being archived with the Oasis online database.

### **6.0 PERSONNEL**

The work will be managed and undertaken by Richard Cooke BA MA MCIfA, Archaeological Contractor and Consultant at Aeon Archaeology. Full details of personnel involved, with *curricula vitae*, can be supplied upon request.

### **7.0 MONITORING AND TIMING**

Monitoring visits can be arranged during the course of the project with the clients and with the appropriate Development Control archaeologist.

### **8.0 HEALTH AND SAFETY**

Aeon Archaeology has a Health and Safety Policy Statement which can be supplied upon request. Furthermore, site-specific Risk Assessments and Method Statements are compiled and distributed to every member of staff involved with the project.

## 9.0 INSURANCE

### *Liability Insurance – Insignia Underwriting Policy 347002*

- Employers' Liability: Limit of Indemnity £10m in any one occurrence
- Public Liability: Limit of Indemnity £2m in any one occurrence
- Legal Defence Costs (Health and Safety at Work Act): £250,000

The current period expires 07/09/17

### *Professional Indemnity Insurance – Insignia Underwriting Policy 347002*

- Limit of Indemnity £500,000 any one claim

The current period expires 07/09/17

## 10.0 GENERAL

All project staff will adhere to the *Code of Conduct of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists*.

The project will follow the requirements set down in the *Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Investigation and Recording of Standing Buildings or Structures (2014)* prepared by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists.

A Method Statement and Risk Assessment will be prepared prior to the commencement of fieldwork and circulated to all staff concerned.

## 11.0 SOURCES CONSULTED

Brennand, 2007. The Council for British Archaeology's 'An Archaeological Research Framework for North West England: Volume 2, Research Agenda and Strategy'

Historic Environment Record online gateway

English Heritage, 2006. Historic Farmsteads: Preliminary Character Statement – North West region

English Heritage: Understanding Historic Buildings: a guide to good recording practice (2006)

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2014: Standard and Guidance for the Archaeological Investigation and Recording of Standing Buildings or Structures

