

Archaeological Building Recording Services

**An Archaeological Standing Building Survey.
The Red Lion,
Thornby,
Northamptonshire.
(NGR SP 67046 75662)**

On Behalf of Safeguard Ltd



ABRS Report No 2013-RLTN

An Archaeological Standing Building Survey

The Red Lion,

Thornby,

Northamptonshire.

(NGR SP 67046 75662)

On Behalf of Safeguard Ltd

November 2013

**Planning Permission No
DA/2013/0325**

ABRS Project No 2013-RLTN

Archaeological Building Recording Services (ABRS)

40 Winfield Street
Rugby
Warwickshire
CV21 3SJ

Tel 07423813638

email: gerwyn.richards@archbuildservices.co.uk

An Archaeological Standing Building Survey of an Outbuilding at The Red Lion Public House, Thornby, Northamptonshire (NGR SP 67046 75662).

Summary

1.	Introduction	1
2.	Aims and Methodology	8
3.	Description of the Building	9
4.	Conclusion	10
5.	Archive and Publication	11
6.	Bibliography	11
7.	Colour Plates	13

Figures

Figure 1	Site Location.	2
Figure 2	Tithe Map, Thornby Parish. (1840)	3
Figure 3	First Edition Ordnance Survey (1885).	4
Figure 4	Second Edition Ordnance Survey (1900).	5
Figure 5	Thornby Hall Estate Map (1911).	5
Figure 6	1948 Planning Application Drawing.	6
Figure 7	The Red Lion Photographed in 1932.	7
Figure 8	The Red Lion Photographed c.1955-1965.	7
Figure 9	Aerial Photograph of Red Lion (believed to be post 1963).	7
Figure 10	Plan of the proposed development area (in Red) Recorded Building in Green. (Provided by client. Not to Scale).	8
Figure 11	Principal Elevation (Looking North West).	13
Figure 12	Rear Elevation (Looking South East).	13
Figure 13	Western Gable (Looking North East).	14
Figure 14	Eastern Gable (Looking South West).	14

Figure 15	Detail of Blocked Window (Principal Elevation).	15
Figure 16	Detail of Blocked Pitching Hole (Principal Elevation).	15
Figure 17	Early Roofline Visible on Eastern Gable.	16
Figure 18	General View, Internal (Looking East - South East).	16
Figure 19	Roof Structure & Bridging Beam (Looking East – North East).	17
Figure 20	Blocked Joist Holes on Western Gable Wall.	17
Figure 21	Cobbled Floor & Brick Gullies.	18
Figure 22	Brick Surface in Front of Building.	18
Figure 23	Ground Floor Plan.	19
Figure 24	Profile.	20
Figure 25	Elevations.	21
Figure 26	Locations of Photographs Included in Report.	22

An Archaeological Standing Building Survey of an Outbuilding at The Red Lion Public House, Thornby, Northamptonshire (NGR SP 67046 75662).

Gerwyn Richards

Summary

This document is an archaeological standing building survey of an outbuilding at The Red Lion Public House, Thornby, Northamptonshire (SP 67046 75662), commissioned from Archaeological Building Recording Services (ABRS) by Safeguard Ltd in advance of the proposed conversion of the building to non residential Bed & Breakfast use.

The Red Lion, Thornby potentially dates to the early 17th century, the outbuilding recorded by this historic building recording most likely dates to the early 19th century when the pub was operated alongside the landlords farming. The building began as part of a larger linear range of agricultural buildings, most probably a cow hovel or milking parlour. When, in the mid to late 19th century the pub operated as a standalone inn the building was most likely converted to stabling with a coach house within the westernmost bay. In the 20th century, documentary evidence indicates that at least part of the building reverted to being a cow shed.

Physical evidence observed during the site visit including floor surfaces and the likely location of feeding troughs confirms the agricultural origins of the building. Extensive evidence of alterations and re-building was also recorded.

The archive will be retained by ABRS under the temporary site code 2013-RLTN until deposition with Northamptonshire County Council can be arranged.

1. Introduction

Archaeological Building Recording Services (ABRS) were commissioned by Safeguard Ltd to undertake an archaeological standing building survey of an outbuilding at The Red Lion Public House, Welford Road, Thornby, Northamptonshire (SP 67046 75662 (*Figures 1 & 2*)). Planning permission has been granted for the conversion of the outbuilding to non-residential bed & breakfast use. The building is a traditional farm building, believed to date from the mid 19th century, and located adjacent to The Red Lion. The Assistant Archaeological Advisor, Northamptonshire County Council, as advisor to Daventry District Council has recommended that an archaeological standing building survey to English Heritage Level 2 as defined in *Understanding Historic Buildings: A guide to good recording practice* (English Heritage 2006) be carried out prior to any proposed works being carried out. The Red Lion is Grade II Listed, the outbuilding is curtilage listed.

The project was completed in accordance with the *Brief for a Programme of Archaeological Building Recording at The Red Lion Public House, Welford Road, Thornby, Northamptonshire* (October 2013) as issued by the Assistant Archaeological Advisor and followed the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) *Code of Conduct*, and adhered to their

Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Investigation and Recording of Standing Buildings or Structures (2008).

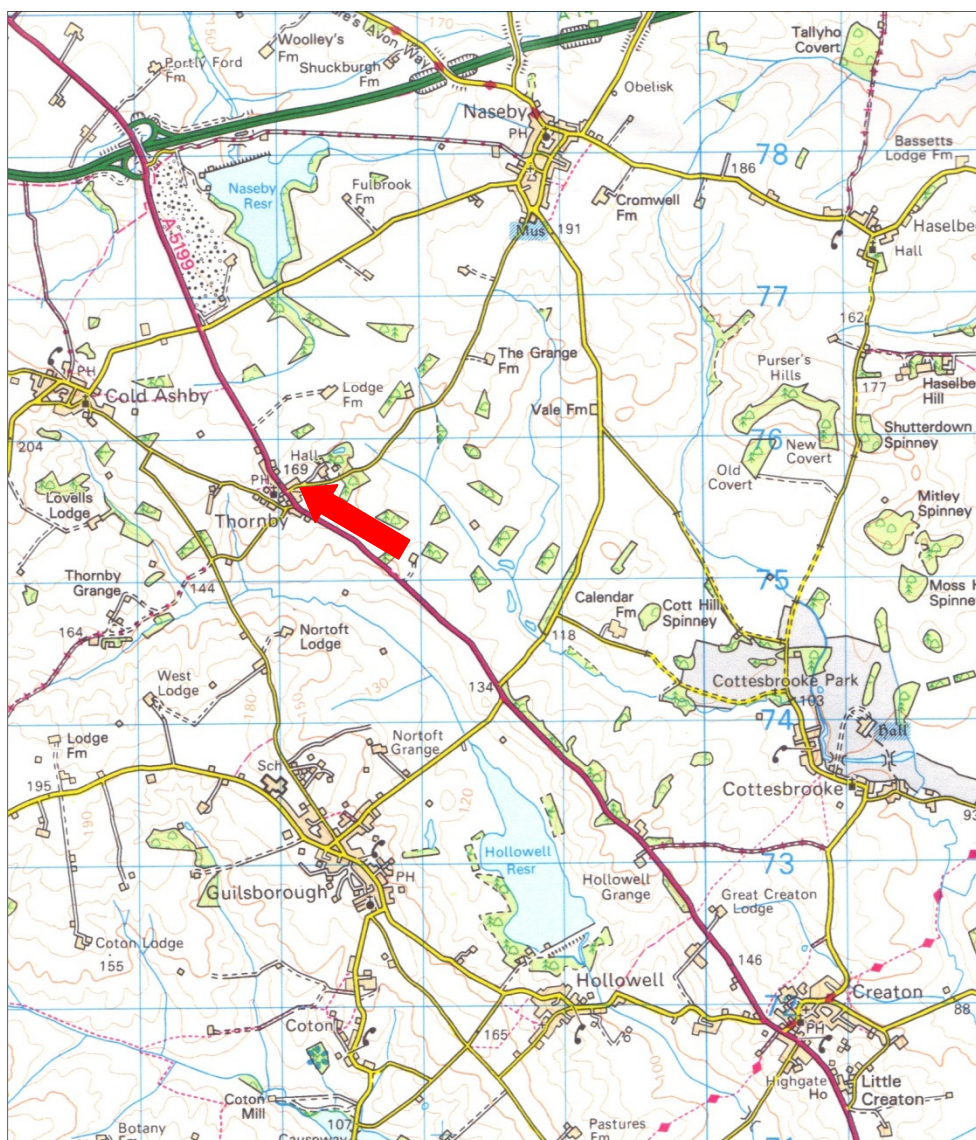


Figure 1
Site Location

Reproduced from 1:50000 map by permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationary Office.
©Crown Copyright 1990. All rights reserved. Licence number 100053136.

The Red Lion Public House dates from the mid 18th century with 19th and 20th century alterations. The building was listed in 1985 (ID No 403309). The listed building description describes it thus:

Public house. Mid C18. Probably rendered cob and lias. 3-unit plan. 2 storeys, 3-window range of casements with glazing bars. 4-panelled door to right of centre. Brick gable parapets. Brick stacks at ridge and end. Interior has some chamfered ceiling beams and remains of an open fireplace.

An examination of the pub building itself at the invitation of Simon Cottle allowed the photographing of a beam in the cellar inscribed 1602, which potentially increases the age of the building by some 150 years.

The modern parish of Thornby has Saxon origins and is recorded in The Domesday Book as *Torneberie*. The parish church of St Helens (SMR Ref No MNN108743) is believed to have 13th century origins and is Grade II* listed (ID No 1228640). There is extensive evidence of medieval occupation within the village including the site of a medieval or post medieval windmill mound (SMR Ref No MNN8710) identified by aerial photography to the north of the Red Lion. Further evidence of medieval occupation is the possible Medieval or Post Medieval Tofts (SMR Ref No MNN131622) again identified by aerial photography to the south east of the village. The Manor House (SMR Ref No MNN108733) is located on Naseby Road, north east of the Red Lion, although the current house is mid 18th century in date; it is possible that the medieval manor house occupied the same location (SMR Ref No MNN141316). The Manor House is Grade II listed (ID No 1228651). Another possible location for the medieval manor house is the moated site (SMR Ref No MNN164203) located adjacent to Thornby Hall.

Historical research carried out by a Dylan Jones of Collingtree in 1979 and on display within the Red Lion indicates that the pub has been in existence since 1719 when Thomas Tarry de Thornby is recorded as the innkeeper, along with his wife, Elizabeth, guaranteed by Thomas and Richard Brett. Tarry was also the Churchwarden. In 1766 Hannah Wright, the niece of Thomas Brett became the innkeeper. In 1772 James Bird became the innkeeper. In 1789 the Red Lion lost its licence and remained closed as a public house until 1800 when James Turner became the landlord. Between 1824 and 1847 the pub was again without a licence. In 1847 John Watts, a farmer became the landlord, his tenure of the property however began earlier than this and he is recorded by the 1840 Tithe Map (*Figure 2*) as occupying the property.



Figure 2 Tithe Map, Thornby Parish (1840).

The map and its accompanying apportionment (NRO Ref T.212) clearly record the public house building as well as the building subject to this historic building recording. The apportionment describes the plot as a house, garden and a close, which at the time was under pasture. The plot was tenanted by John Watts and owned by William Gee. Watts also tenanted a further 6 large fields within the parish. The first reference to John Watts as landlord occurs in *Kellys Directory of Northamptonshire* 1847; John Watts is listed as “farmer & Red Lion”.

Although no key is apparent attached to the map, domestic buildings appeared to be coloured red while out buildings are coloured yellow. The building subject to this building recording is shown as an outbuilding. The building appears to be larger than it currently stands, extending some distance to the east.

In 1866 Edward Dexter became the landlord and is listed by *Kellys Directory* in 1869, remaining there until 1874, when George Chapman took over the tenancy. In 1877 William Nicholls began his long tenancy of the pub, remaining until 1920. One advertisement quoted by Jones (original source unknown) lists the Red Lion as having “Good loose boxes for hunters”. It is almost certain the loose boxes referred to are those within the recorded building. Nicholls is again listed in multiple editions of *Kellys Directory*. In 1885 the first edition Ordnance Survey (Sheet XXX.2 (*Figure 3*)) records the village and the pub in some detail. Again, the building is shown extending further to the east than the current building; it is also clearly recorded as consisting of two un-equal bays, the smaller being located to the west and likely to be the current building.

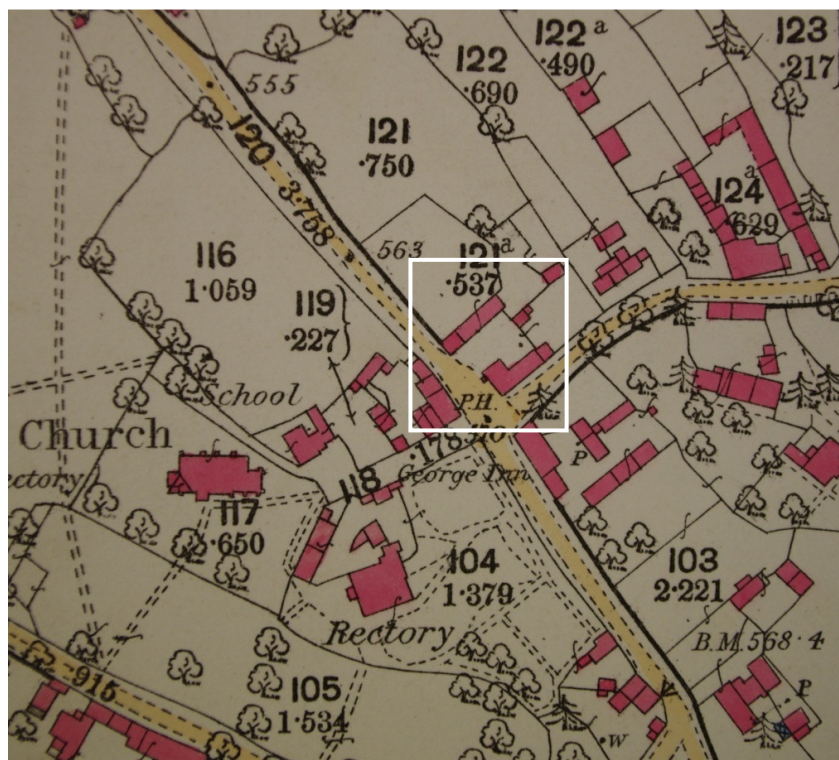


Figure 3 First Edition Ordnance Survey (1885).
1:2500 Sheet XXX.2

By the time of the second edition Ordnance Survey, published in 1900 a small extension has been added to the rear of the building (*Figure 4*).



Figure 4
Second Edition Ordnance Survey (1900).
1:2500 Sheet XXX.2



Figure 5
Thornby Hall Estate Map (1911).

The Thornby Hall Estate map produced in 1911 (NRO Ref ZB1158/71 (*Figure 5*)) again records the small northern extension. The map also confirms that the pub was not the property of the Hall at this time.

In 1920 William Dexter becomes the landlord; he is followed by Elizabeth Dexter in 1931, both of whom are listed in the respective Kellys Directories.

Elizabeth Dexter was replaced by William and Lavinia Ashby, Kellys Directory of 1936 lists Lavinia as the landlady. The couple remained at the pub through the Second World War and departed in 1947, replaced by William Buckley. In 1948 a planning application was submitted to construct toilets to the rear of the pub building, while the pub was under the ownership of Phipps Brewery the accompanying drawings (NRO Ref LG21/1/460 (*Figure 6*)) recording both buildings in great detail.

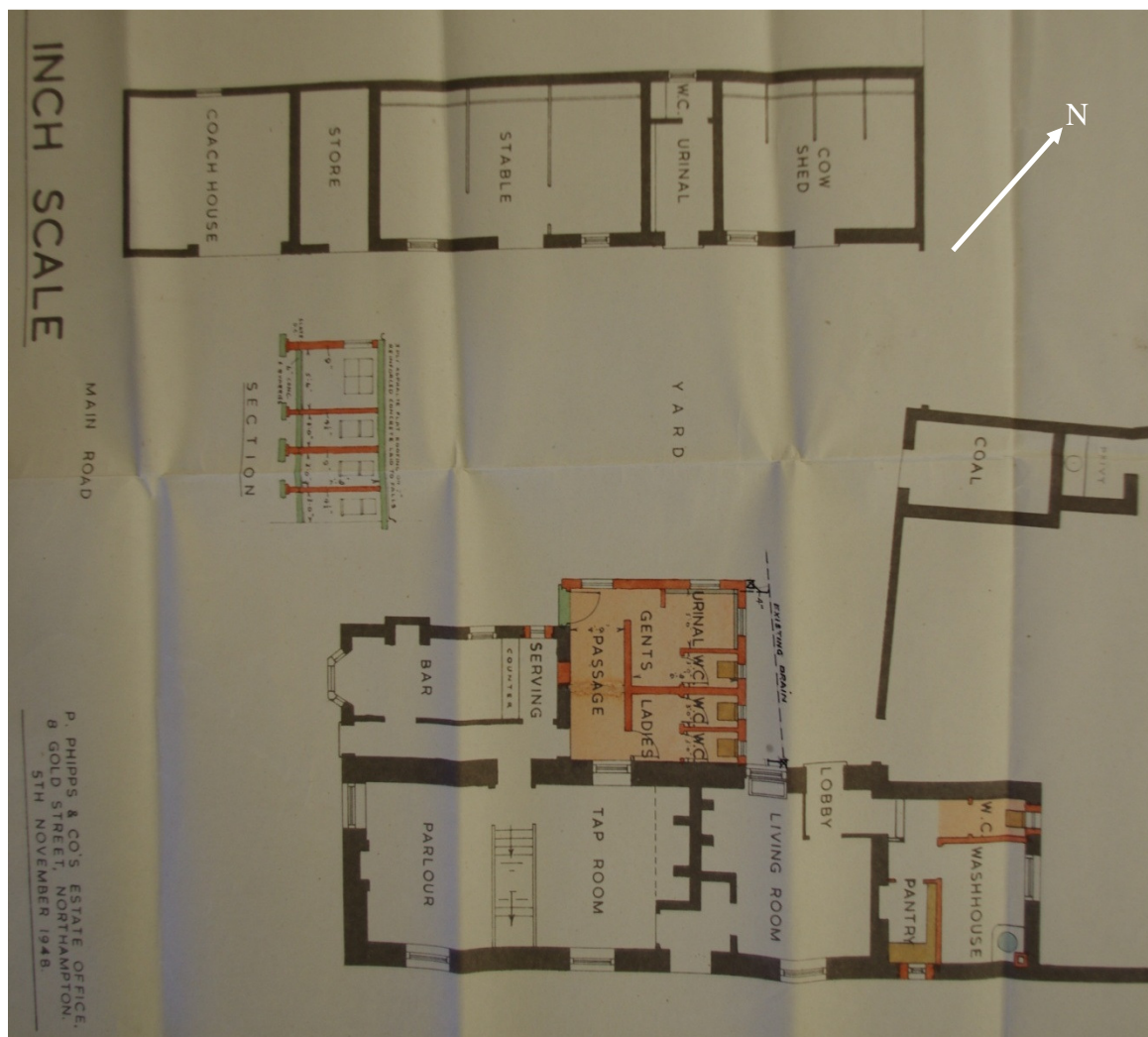


Figure 6
1948 Planning Application Drawing.

The drawing was produced in 1948, but in all likelihood records the building in a near to original layout, with only minor differences. The building is a linear range of 5 bays, the central bay is stabling, to the east is a cowshed and a urinal (probably originally another store room) and to the west there is a coach house and store. It is unlikely that the urinal is original, that is most likely a 19th or 20th century alteration. There is stabling for six horses and four stalls for cows in the eastern bay. There is room for one coach in the coach house, the two smaller bays were most likely tack-rooms or feed stores. There is no evidence of the rear projecting wing seen on earlier maps (*Figures 4 & 5*).



Figure 7

The Red Lion Photographed in 1932.



Figure 8

The Red Lion Photographed c.1955-1965.

A number of photographs survive of the Red Lion and its environs, most, however focus on the pub itself. Only two (*Figures 7 & 8*) show the recorded building in any detail. In a photograph taken in 1932 (NRO Ref 1008-1010 (*Figure 7*)) part of the recorded building can be seen to the left, unfortunately this is likely to be the part of the building which no longer exists. In the second photograph (on display in The Red Lion (*Figure 8*)) the building is largely obscured by a preserved steam traction engine; however some detail of the building can still be seen. The building consists of two bays, the easternmost (since demolished) and originally the cowshed, as expected is lower. There is a pitching hole just visible to the left of the traction engine driver suggesting there was a loft within the building. The 'S' shaped tie plates can also be seen. The gable end fronting the road appears to have a steeper pitch than the current building, suggesting it has undergone some rebuilding.



Figure 9

Aerial Photograph of Red Lion (believed to be post 1963).

An aerial photograph (on display in The Red Lion (*Figure 9*)), and believed to date to post 1963 shows the Red Lion and the recorded building. Very little detail is apparent, but the now demolished eastern bay is clearly visible as is the change in roof levels between the two bays.

In the post war period there were a number of landlords including a father and son; Frank and Brian Sparrow in the 1960s. In 1972 Phipps Brewery sold the pub to Justin McCarthy, an American who turned the inn into a freehouse.

The current landlords are Simon and Louise Cottle who took over the pub in 2011.



Figure 10
Plan of the proposed development area (in Red) Recorded Building in Green.
(Provided by client. Not to Scale).

2. Aims and Methodology

The specific objectives of the standing building survey were as follows:

- To provide a written, drawn and photographic record of the building prior to its permitted conversion.
- To ensure the long term preservation of the information through deposition of the record and a summary written report with an appropriate depository.
- The site based element of the Historic Building Recording programme involved the production of measured survey drawings and the completion of photographic and written records.
- Desk-based research included the analysis of readily available documentary and cartographic sources including Northamptonshire Historic Environment Record (HER) & Northamptonshire Records Office.

Orientation: The long axis of the building is orientated approximately east-north east to west-south west (*Figures 10 & 23*), for ease of description this is taken hereafter to be east to west with the principal elevation, facing the Red Lion to the south. Where the terms ‘left’, ‘right’, ‘front’ and ‘back’ etc are used in the report, this is in relation to this principal elevation as viewed from the Red Lion.

All historic maps are reproduced with north to top of page, following Ordnance Survey standard unless indicated otherwise with appropriate north arrow and key.

As far as is known, no previous historic building recording has been undertaken of the building.

The site visit was carried out by Gerwyn Richards on November 19th 2013.

3. Description of the Building

The building is located to the north of The Red Lion, forming part of what would have originally been a working farmyard. The building is aligned east - west, the principal elevation (*Figure 11*) faces the south towards the rear of The Red Lion.

The building itself is single storey, brick-built with a Welsh Slate roof. The current brickwork is painted, but where visible, the bricks are red; the bricks themselves are 9inch x 2 ¾inch x 4inch laid in a Flemish Garden Wall bond (3 stretchers to 1 header in each course). The painted finish prevented a closer examination of the pointing.

Externally there are two door openings in the principal elevation, one of which is a large double door, to the west along with a pedestrian door to the east. It is likely that the double door is the original coach house door recorded by the 1948 drawing (*Figure 6*). Although a timber lintel two courses above this coach door (*Figure 11*) suggests this may not be the original layout, the current lintel appears to be deal and likely therefore to be late 19th or 20th century in date. The lintels above the other openings all appear to be well weathered hardwood, however, only the easternmost opening is recorded on *Figure 6*, so it is possible that these are inserted openings and the lintels are re-used timbers.

There is evidence of two blocked openings on the principal elevation also (*Figures 15, 16, 23 & 25*), one of which is the pitching hole seen in *Figure 8*; the other is smaller blocked window adjacent to the eastern door. On the east gable there is a second double door (*Figures 14 & 23*), this is almost certainly a later insertion as it has a rolled steel joist (RSJ) lintel. Above this door a faint trace of an earlier roofline can be seen (*Figures 17 & 25*), this is likely to be evidence of the shorter cow shed bay recorded on *Figure 6*.

Both the western gable wall and the northern rear wall are plain brick with no significant features visible. The “S” shaped tie plates seen on the principal elevation are mirrored on the northern elevation.

Internally the building consists of a single bay. The roof is modern consisting of a tie beam carrying two short struts supporting the purlins. Below the tie beam there are two further beams, the exact purpose of which is unclear. Both are deal and are built into the long elevation walls, approximately 700mm below the eaves. It is possible that these two beams relate to an earlier roof structure, *Figure 8* appears to show a steeper pitched roof than

currently exists and these beams are earlier tie beams. Below both these deal tie beams is a third beam (*Figure 19*), this time an oak bridging beam. Measuring approximately 200mm by 200mm, the beam is chamfered and has open joist holes at approximately 400mm (16inch) intervals on each face. The chamfered finish suggests the beam may be re-used as it would be unlikely that such a finish would be used within an agricultural building. On the west gable there is evidence of blocked joist holes (*Figure 20*), again at approximately 400mm intervals, the same as those seen on the bridging beam. It is likely, therefore that the bridging beam is a remnant of a loft, evidence of which can be seen with the pitching hole on the principal elevation.

There are a further three blocked joist holes on the northern end of the east gable. It is possible that the remainder were concealed when the large door was inserted. There is also possible evidence of a blocked opening visible off centre on this gable, which is not visible externally, again possible evidence of structural alterations.

The floor consists of a cobbled surface with red brick gullies (*Figure 21*); the bricks themselves are handmade 2 ½inch x 4inch, probably early 19th or even late 18th century in date. The same bricks are laid along the front of the building, forming a level surface approximately 1100mm wide (*Figure 22*). The cobbles are laid in a herring bone pattern. Along the rear wall there is a modern poured concrete slab, approximately 480mm wide, possible evidence of troughs along the rear wall. There is another area of poured concrete along the east gable, approximately 1600mm wide. The change in flooring here may represent the small store bay recorded by Figure 6, the partition wall having been demolished.

These changes in flooring suggest the building was originally for animals, possibly stabling, a cow hovel or even a milking parlour. The brick surface along the southern wall along with evidence of troughs along the rear wall suggests it is more likely to be a cow hovel or milking parlour. Cows were commonly tethered with their heads to the rear wall with a corridor at their hind quarters to allow the farmer to pass. In which case, the small building which appears on the second edition Ordnance Survey (*Figure 4*) may have been a dairy; dairies were frequently located facing north to help regulate the internal temperature.

4. Conclusion

The outbuilding associated with The Red Lion undoubtedly began as an agricultural building, most likely a cow hovel in the late 18th or most likely early 19th century. The Red Lion itself dates to as early as early 17th century, there is, however no evidence that the recorded building dates to this period. There is significant evidence of demolition, rebuilding and alteration visible within the building.

Documentary evidence indicates that during the mid 19th century the Red Lion operated as both a farm and as an Inn, common practice for the period. It is likely that as the Inn became more important than the farming and the landlord was a publican, first and foremost, the outbuilding was altered to meet this change in use. A landlord from the late 19th century advertised the Red Lion as having “*Good loose boxes for hunters*”, suggesting by this time outbuilding was used solely for stabling. It is possible that it was at this time that a coach house was incorporated in the western bay and the door enlarged to accommodate coaches.

A drawing produced in 1948 records part of the building as being a cow shed, it is possible that this reflects the changes brought about by the Second World War with a decrease in hunting and a greater need for beef.

The outbuilding and the Red Lion pub is a good example of the changing nature of inns and public houses in more rural areas during the 19th century. Beginning initially as a farmer and publican, the landlord was eventually able to operate the pub as a standalone venture, the turn of the 20th century however saw a limited return to agriculture, probably as a result of the social changes and the Second World War.

5. Archive & Publication

The site archive consists of

- 1 A3 paper sheet containing annotated plans, elevations, profile & notes
- 1 A4 sheet containing site notes
- DVD containing 48 digital images
- 2 A4 contact sheets
- 48 Black & White negatives and contact prints
- 2 A4 photo record sheets
- 1 Unbound copy of this report

The archive will be held by ABRS under the temporary site 2013-RLTN until deposition with Northamptonshire County Council can be arranged.

A version of the summary (above) will be submitted to the editor of the local journal for inclusion in the next edition.

6. Bibliography

Alycock, N.W & Hall, L. 2007 *Fixtures and Fittings in Dated Houses 1567-1763*. Ripponden.

Brunskill, R.W. 1993 *Traditional Buildings of Britain An Introduction to Vernacular Architecture*. Over Wallop.

English Heritage, 2006 *Understanding Historic Buildings: A guide to good recording practice*. London: English Heritage.

English Heritage, 2006 *The Conversion of Traditional Farm Buildings: A guide to good practice*. London: English Heritage

Hall, L. 2004 *Period House, Fixtures & Fittings 1300-1900*. Newbury

Kellys Directory of Northamptonshire 1847-1940 Northamptonshire Records Office

M^cKay, W.B 1945 *Building Craft Series, Brickwork*. Longmans, Green & Co.

Peters, J.E.C., 2003 *Discovering Traditional Farm Buildings*. Shire Books.

'Thornby', An Inventory of the Historical Monuments in the County of Northamptonshire, Volume 3: Archaeological sites in North-West Northamptonshire (1981), pp. 187-188.
<http://www.british-history.ac.uk/>

7. Colour Plates



Figure 11
Principal Elevation (Looking North West).



Figure 12
Rear Elevation (Looking South East).



Figure 13
Western Gable (Looking North East).



Figure 14
Eastern Gable (Looking South West).



Figure 15
Detail of Blocked Window (Principal Elevation).



Figure 16
Detail of Blocked Pitching Hole (Principal Elevation).



Figure 17
Early Roofline Visible on Eastern Gable.



Figure 18
General View, Internal (Looking East - South East).



Figure 19
Roof Structure & Bridging Beam (Looking East – North East).



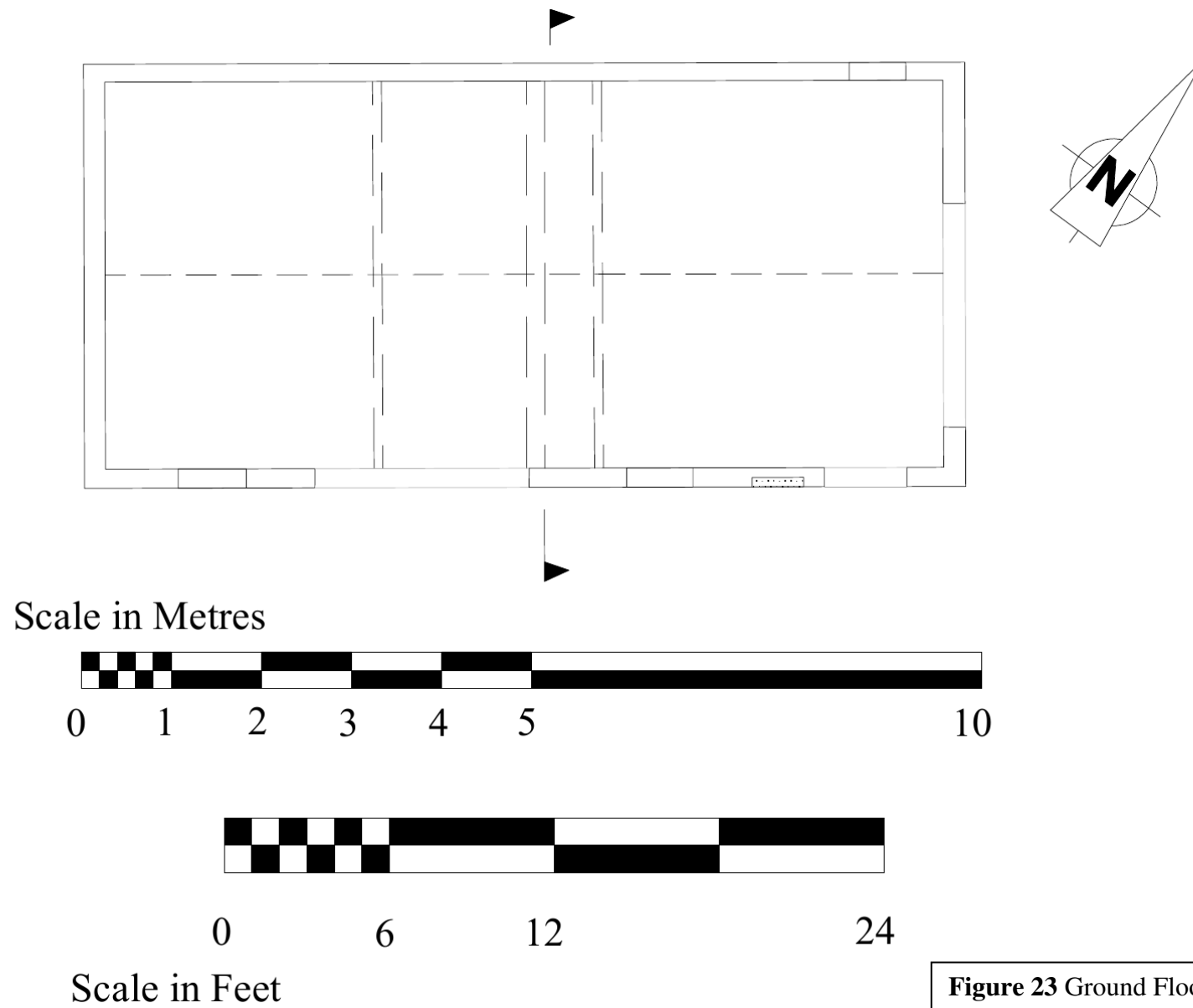
Figure 20
Blocked Joist Holes on Western Gable Wall.

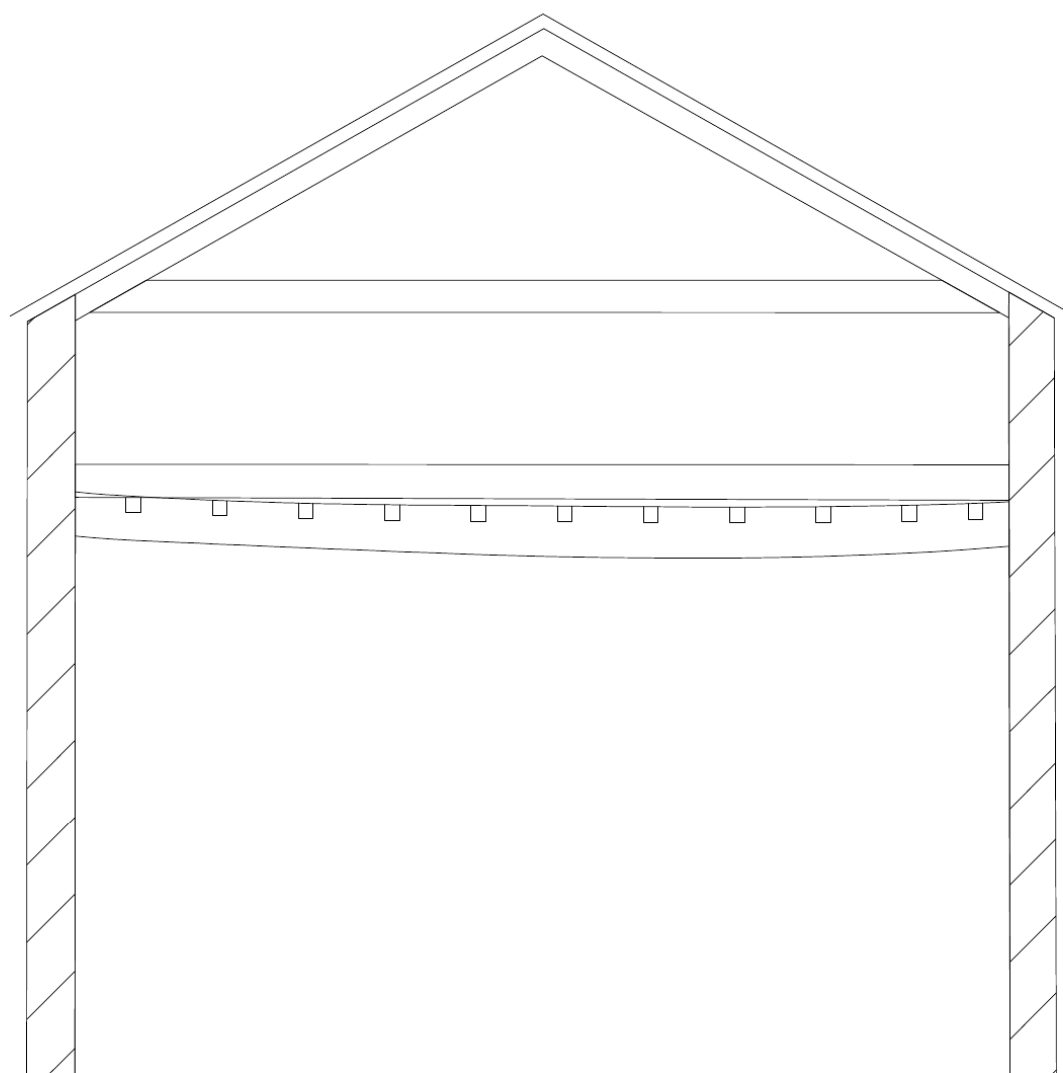


Figure 21 Cobbled Floor & Brick Gullies.

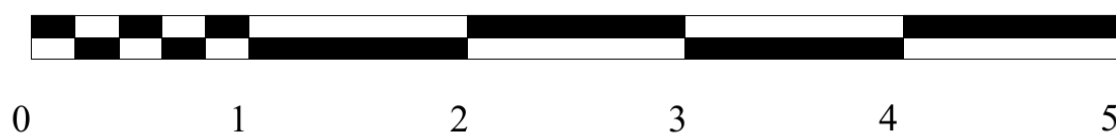


Figure 22
Brick Surface in Front of Building.



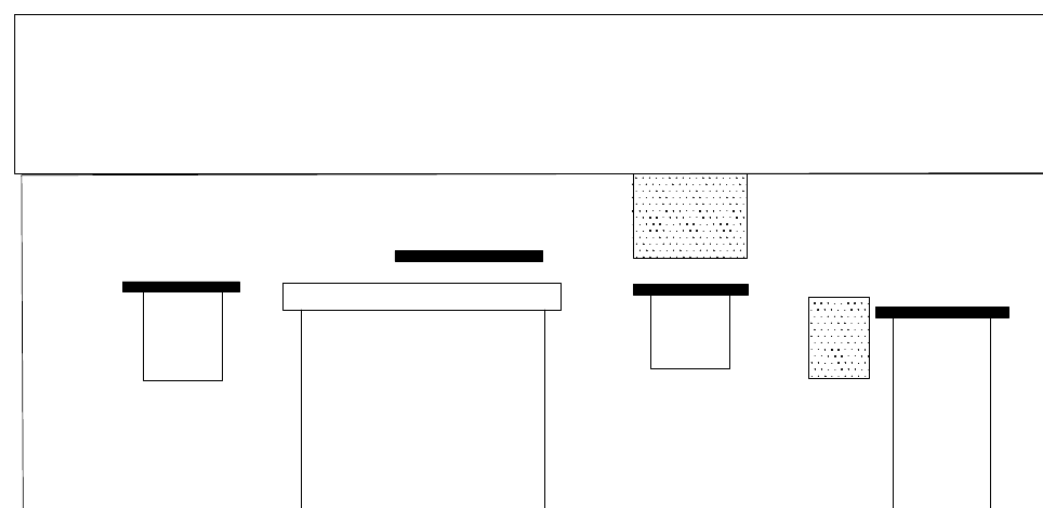


Scale in Metres

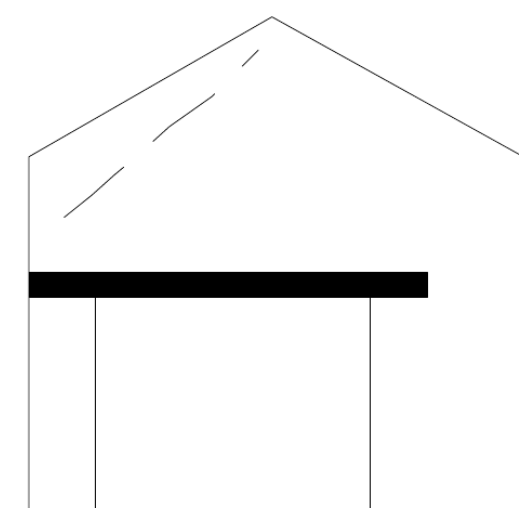


Scale in Feet

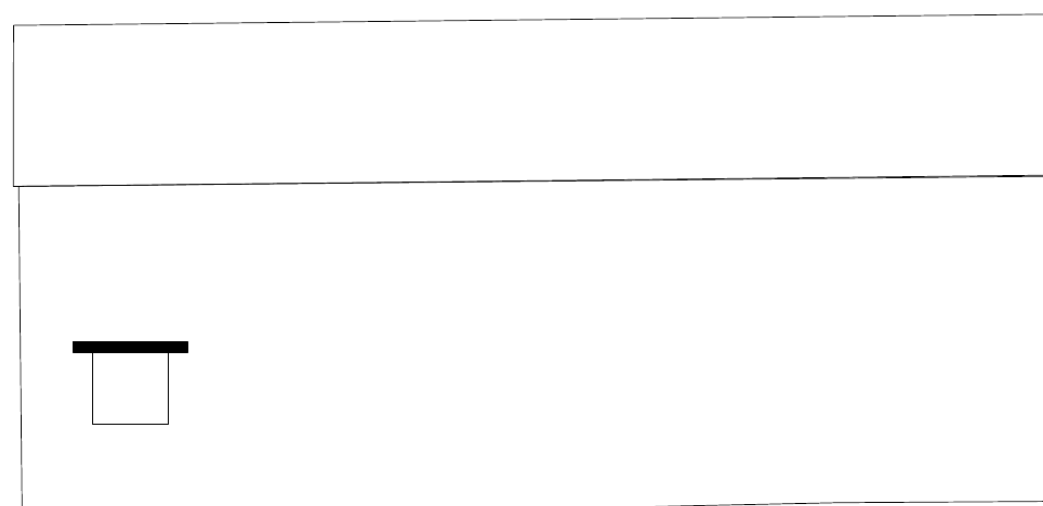
Figure 24 Profile.



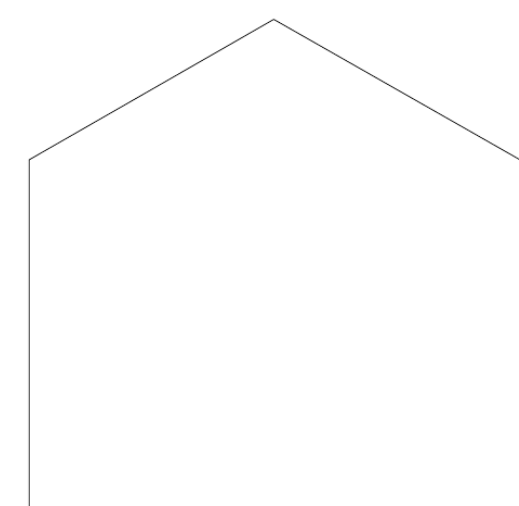
Principal Elevation (South)



East Gable

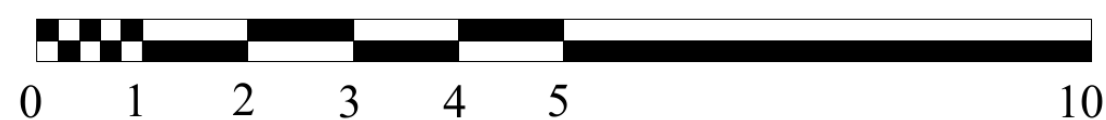


Rear Elevation (North)



West Gable

Scale in Metres



0 6 12 24

Scale in Feet

Figure 25 Elevations.

Fig. 12

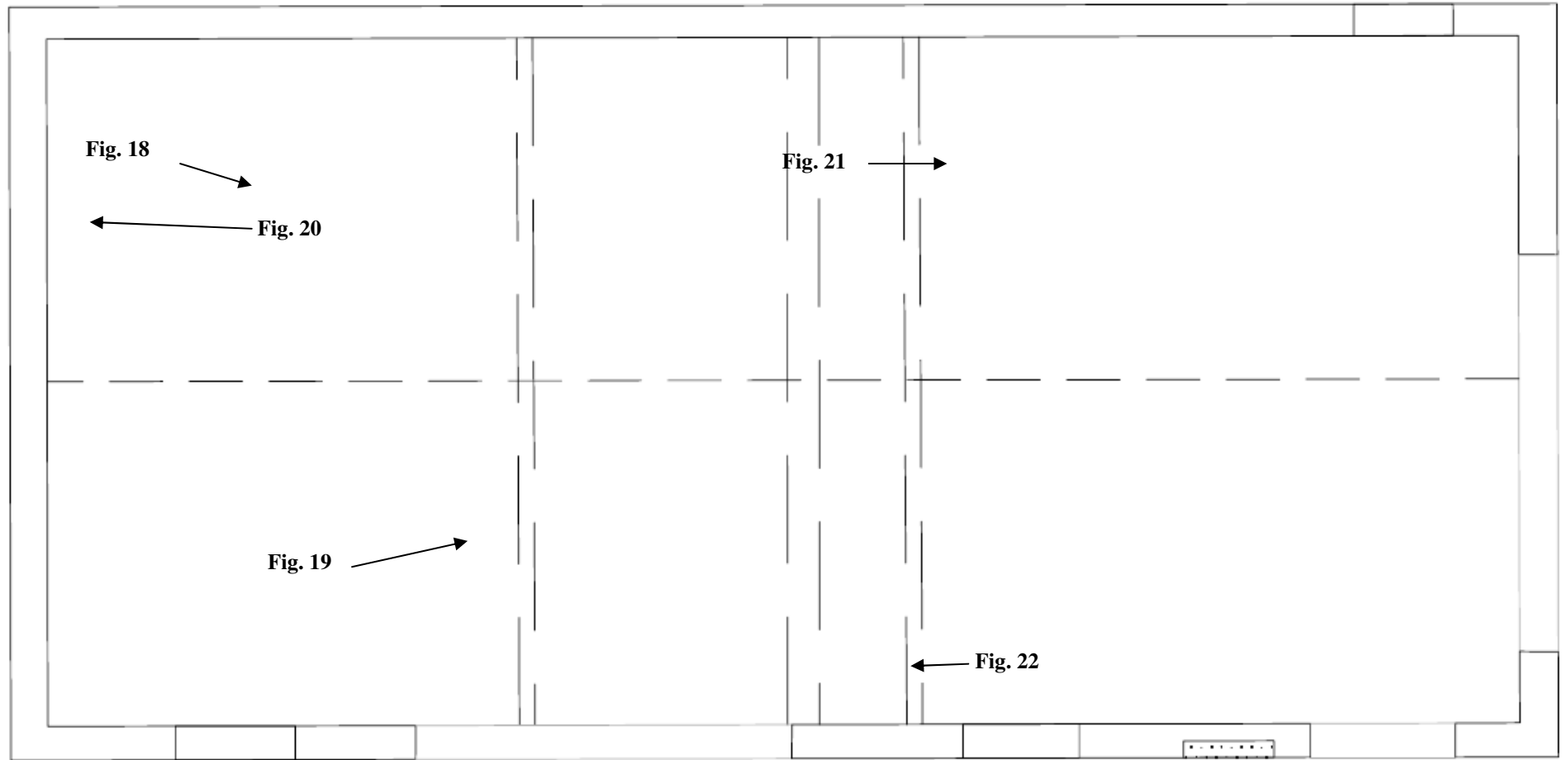


Figure 26 Locations of Photographs Included in Report.

Fig.11



Fig. 16



Fig. 15



Archaeological Building Recording Services (ABRS)

40 Winfield Street
Rugby
Warwickshire
CV21 3SJ

Tel 07423813638

email gerwyn.richards@archbuildservices.co.uk