


**An Historic Building Photographic Survey  
at Narborough Wood House,  
Desford Road, Enderby, Leicestershire.  
(SK 520 010)**

**Gavin Speed**

**For: James Bailey Planning**

**Checked by Project Manager**

**Signed:** ..  **Date:** 12.04.07.

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**Summary**

*An historic building photographic survey was undertaken at Narborough Wood House, Desford Road, Enderby, Leicestershire, in March 2007 by the University of Leicester Archaeological Services (ULAS) on behalf of James Bailey Planning. The group of structures appear on the first edition of the Ordnance Survey map, and have retained the form of a courtyard complex since the late nineteenth century. The survey follows recommendations from the Senior Planning Archaeologist, as advisor to the planning authority, who had requested the preparation of a historic building record of the structures in their current state, prior to alteration. The archive will be held by Leicestershire County Council, Sites and Monuments Record, under accession number XA.50.2007.*

**1. Introduction**

The site is situated at Narborough Wood House, Desford Road (SK 520 010) at a height of c.108m above OD (figures 1 & 2). The buildings proposed for alteration are part of a complex of outbuildings associated with Narborough Wood House. Under planning permission 06/0022/1/PX, the proposed alterations include a single story extension to create ancillary residential accommodation.

The Senior Planning Archaeologist at Leicestershire County Council has advised the planning authority that a historic building record of the structures should be undertaken in their current state, prior to alteration (Brief LCC 23.2.2007).

The requirement for the assessment was in accordance with PPG 16 “Archaeology and Planning” and PPG 15 “Planning and the Historic Environment”. The purpose of the work was to create an adequate record prior to alteration to allow future interpretation of the buildings within their current and original context.

**2. Historical and Archaeological background**

The outbuildings at Narborough Wood House affected by the planning permission are shown on the 1<sup>st</sup> edition of the Ordnance Survey map (appendix 2), and appear to have retained their original shape to the present day. Advisors to the planning authority note that “The original design of traditional farmyard buildings is frequently lost through demolition, alteration and conversion, thus making understanding of the buildings’ history harder to discern” (LCC brief 23/02/07).

No known archaeological work has previously been carried out on the buildings.

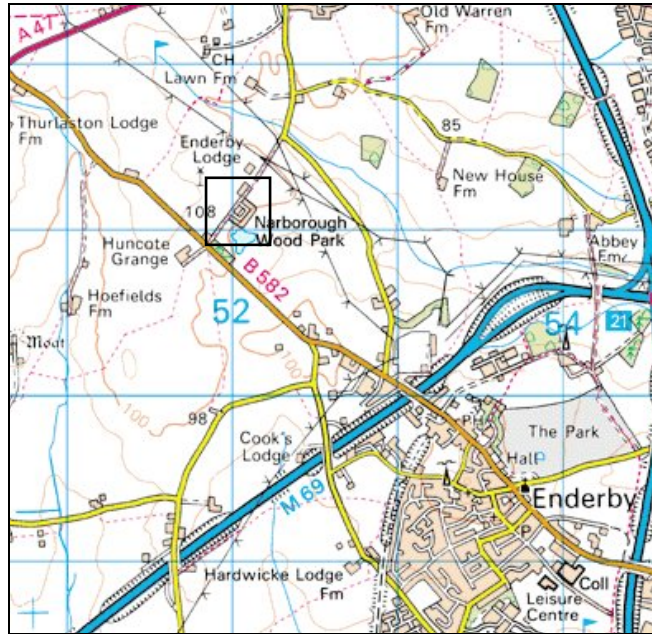


Fig. 1. Site location. Scale 1:50000

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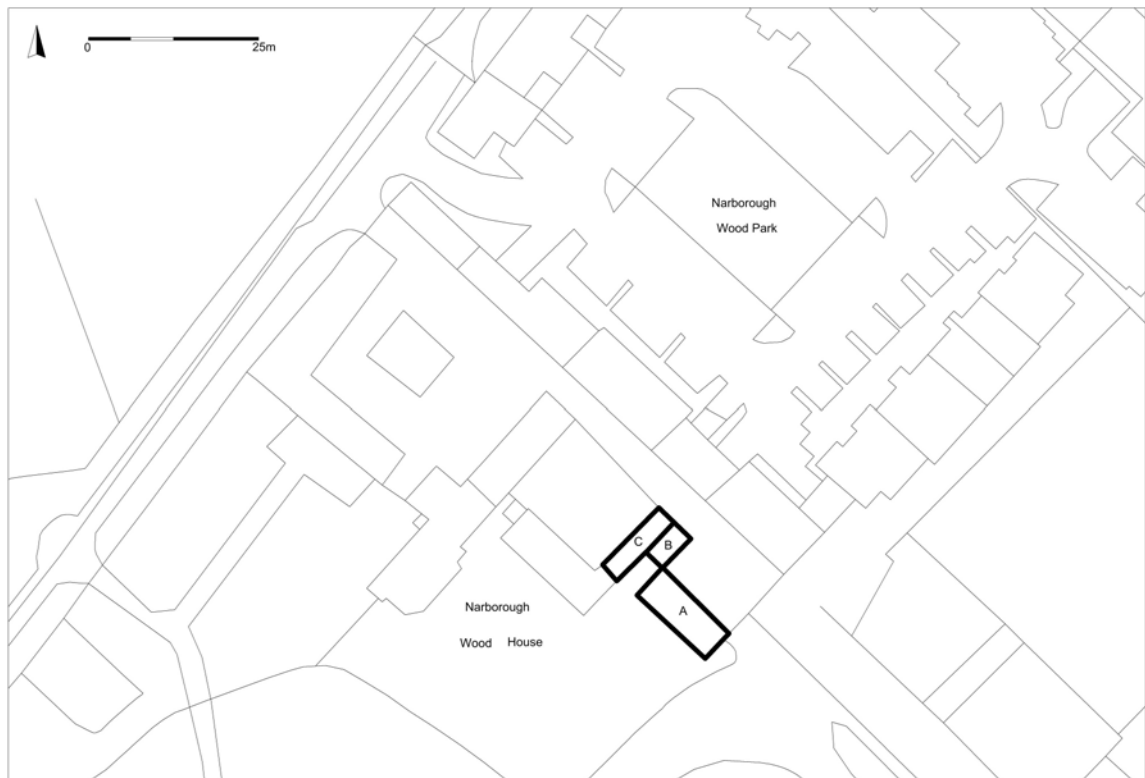


Fig. 2. Site location.

### 3. Objectives

The objectives of the building assessment work were:

- To create a written account of the building's plan, form, function, age and development sequence.
- To create a photographic record of the internal and external features of the buildings and their general setting.
- To create a drawn record of the affected buildings.
- To ensure the long-term preservation of the information through deposition of the record and a summary written report with an appropriate depository.

### 4. Methodology

The historic photographic building survey will provide a descriptive record of the historically and/or architecturally significant structure(s) affected by the proposal. This will be accompanied by a brief written and drawn record in accordance with guidance offered in *Understanding Historic Buildings* (King (ed.) 2006). The specific levels of detail required includes a written account of items 1-3, and photography of 1 to 9.

The written account should include:

- The precise location of the building, by name or street number, civil parish, town, etc, and National Grid reference.
- A note of any statutory (listing, scheduling or conservation area) and non-statutory (historic park and garden registration, etc.) designation(s).
- The date when the record was made, the name(s) of the recorder(s) and the archive content/character and location.

The photographic survey should include:

- General view or views of the building(s) in its setting or landscape.
- The building's external appearance. Typically a series of oblique views will show all external elevations of the structure and give an overall impression of size and shape. Where an individual elevation embodies complex historical information or have been conceived as formal compositions, views at right angles to the plane of the elevation may also be appropriate.
- Further views may be desirable to indicate the original design intentions of the builder or architect.
- The overall appearance of principal rooms and circulation areas;
- Any external or internal detail, structural or decorative, which is relevant to the building's design, development and use and which does not show adequately on general photographs;
- Any machinery or other plant, or evidence for its former existence;
- Any dates or other inscriptions, signage, makers' plates or graffiti which contribute to an understanding of the building or its fixtures or contents.
- Any building contents or ephemera which have a significant bearing on the building's history.
- Copies of maps, drawings, views and photographs, present in the building and illustrating its development/use, or that of its site.

The drawn record will include:

- An annotated plan(s) of the development showing the position and direction of key reference photographs.

All work will follow the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA) Code of Conduct and adhere to their *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Investigation and Recording of Standing buildings or Structures*. In addition, Leicestershire County Council's *Guidelines and Procedures for Archaeological Work in Leicestershire* will be adhered to. The work followed the approved design specification (Appendix 3).

Photographs were taken in 35mm monochrome negative and colour positive (slide) formats, as well as digital photos taken on a Nikon CoolPix E5700. The survey was carried out on 20<sup>th</sup> March 2007.

## **5. Description of the building**

The group of three buildings stand to the east of Narborough Wood House at c.108m above O.D (figure 3).

### *Building A*

The building consists of a single-story brick-built former stable-block, and despite being converted for office use in 1985 (Mr Boddy pers. comm.), still retains much of the original fabric of the building.

The front (north) elevation (figure 7) has two original brick-arch stable doors (one blocked-now converted to a window, still retains original door clips, figure 10), and three (original) brick-arch windows. The brickwork is laid in Flemish garden wall bond, each brick measuring 235 x 70 x 115mm. The brickwork on the south elevation is worn and eroded in parts. The welsh slate roof is supported by king post trusses (only three visible, figure 11). The purlins are also visible, but the remaining areas of the timber roof structure are hidden by modern wood panelling and bricks in the gable-ends. As part of the 1980s development three small rooms were inserted between trusses 2 and 3 (a kitchen and two toilets). The partition walls conceal truss 2. Two tethering rings, original stable fittings, are attached to the inside of the west wall (figure 13).

### *Building B*

The small lean-to brick-built outhouse has been built up against buildings A and C (figure 8). It is constructed in English garden wall bond (figure 8); with each brick measuring 235 x 70 x 115mm. It is roofed in slate, and has a brick tile floor. It is accessed by doors in the north and south elevations, three brick steps lead up into building C.

### *Building C*

The building consists of a single-story brick-built former stable-block. The building has been built against an earlier 210mm high mixed granite/brick wall (figure 15) on the east elevation (bricks measure 225 x 12 x 65mm). The west elevation was then added, and the stone wall raised by 650mm in a mixed garden-wall bond brick (each brick measuring 235 x 70 x 115mm), thus forming a courtyard complex. The buildings were used as a stable

block, and the original feeding troughs survive on the west elevation (figure 16), the building retains its original brick floor. The west elevation has three doors (one blocked), and four diamond-shaped brick ventilators (now blocked, figure 17). The building has since been sub-divided into three rooms, each with a modern skylight inserted into the slate roof. There is a small brick-built coal store attached to the east elevation.

## **6. Discussion**

Building A was probably originally built in the nineteenth century and would have been a stable block. Various alterations to the fabric are apparent in building A, from the building work carried out in the 1980s. Building C has been added onto an earlier boundary wall, and retains many original features (such as the feeding troughs). Building B, is a small 'in-fill' outhouse, added between the two earlier buildings.

## **7. Archive**

The site archive consists of site notes, sketches, annotated building plans (supplied by client), black and white negative contact sheets, colour slide photos, digital photos (on CD), A4 photo index sheet, and an unbound copy of this report. It will be held by Leicestershire County Council under accession number XA50.2007.

## **8. Publication**

A summary of the work will be submitted for publication in the local archaeological journal *Transactions of the Leicestershire Archaeological and Historical Society* in due course. The report has been added to the Archaeology Data Service's (ADS) Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS) database.



## 9. Bibliography

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- MGC 1992 *Standards in the Museum Care of Archaeological Collections 1992* (Museums and Galleries Commission)
- Morriss, R. 2000 *The Archaeology of Buildings*. Tempus: Stroud.
- RFG/FRG 1993 *Guidelines for the preparation of site archives*. Roman Finds Group and Finds Research Group AD 700-1700.
- SMA 1993 *Selection, retention and Dispersal of Archaeological Collections. Guidelines for use in England, Wales and Northern Ireland*. Society of Museum Archaeologists.

## 10. Acknowledgements

The fieldwork was undertaken by Gavin Speed. The project was managed by Richard Buckley.

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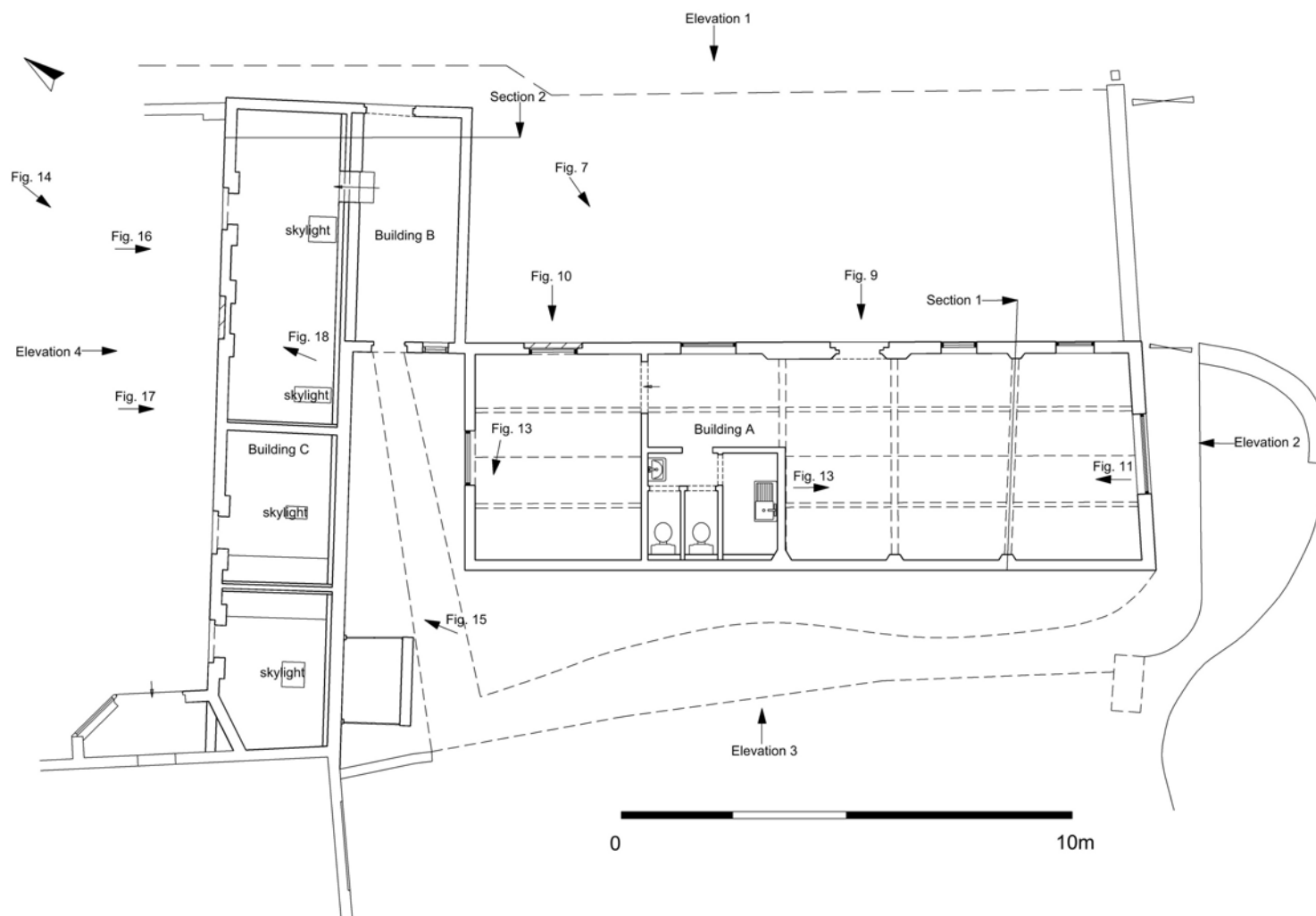
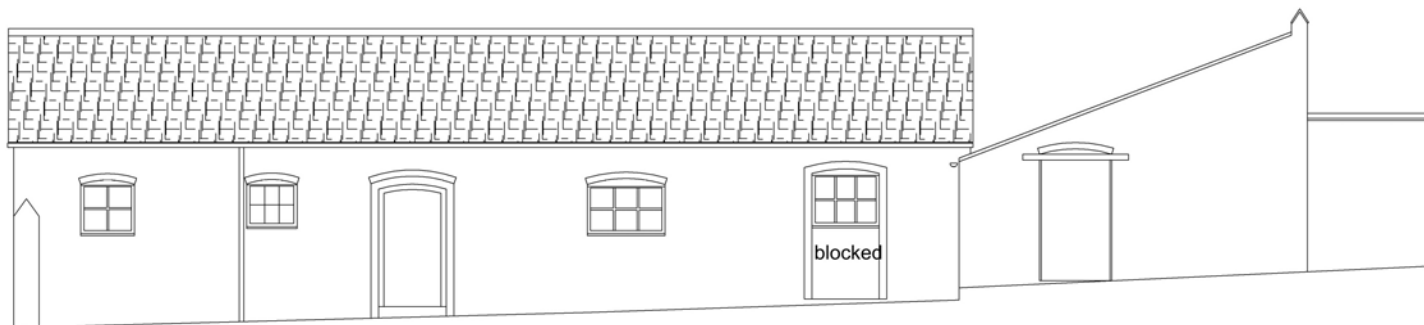
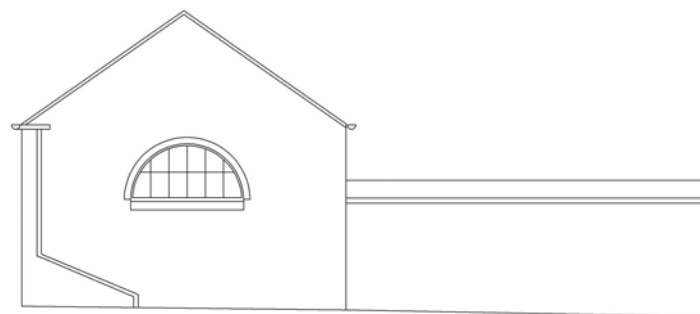


Fig. 3. Building plan showing direction of key reference photos and location of elevations and sections

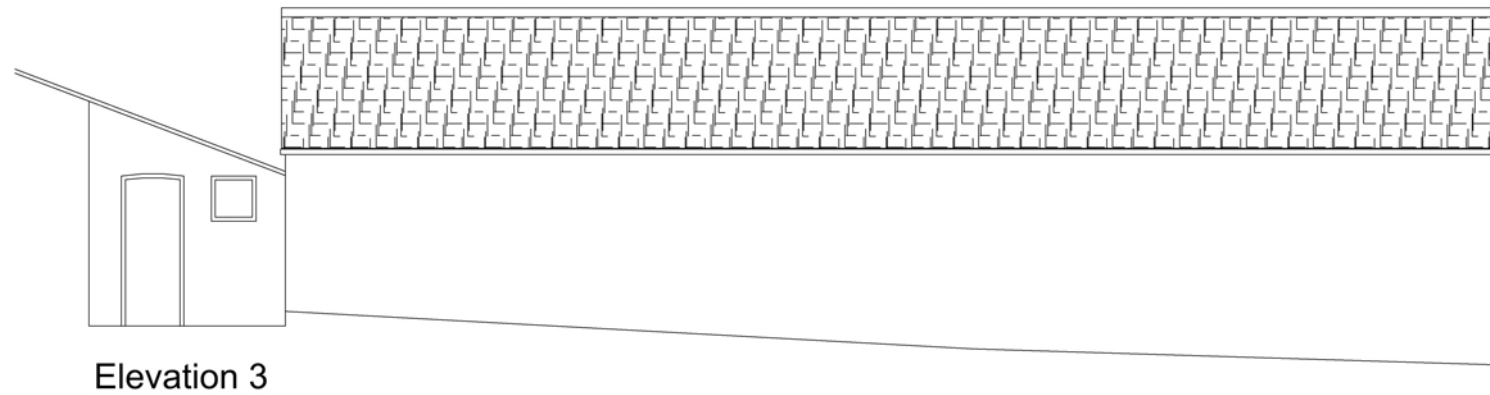


Elevation 1



Elevation 2

Fig. 4. Elevation 1 (building A and B, north facing), and elevation 2 (building A east facing)



0 10m

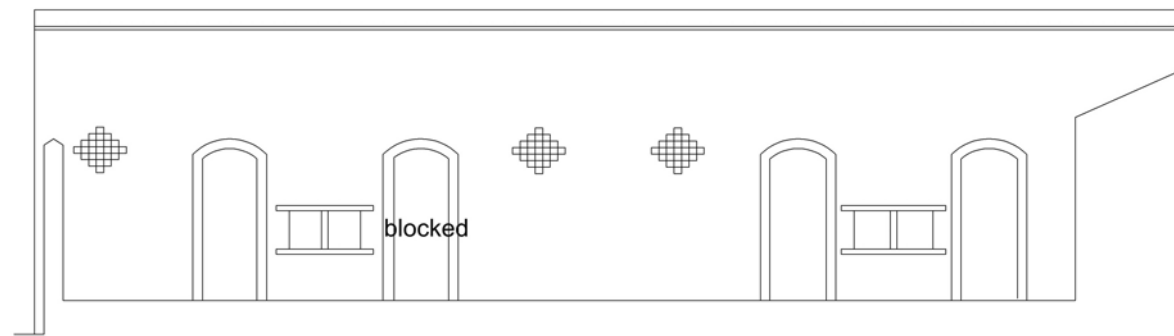


Fig. 5. Elevation 3 (building A and B, south facing), and elevation 4 (building C west facing)

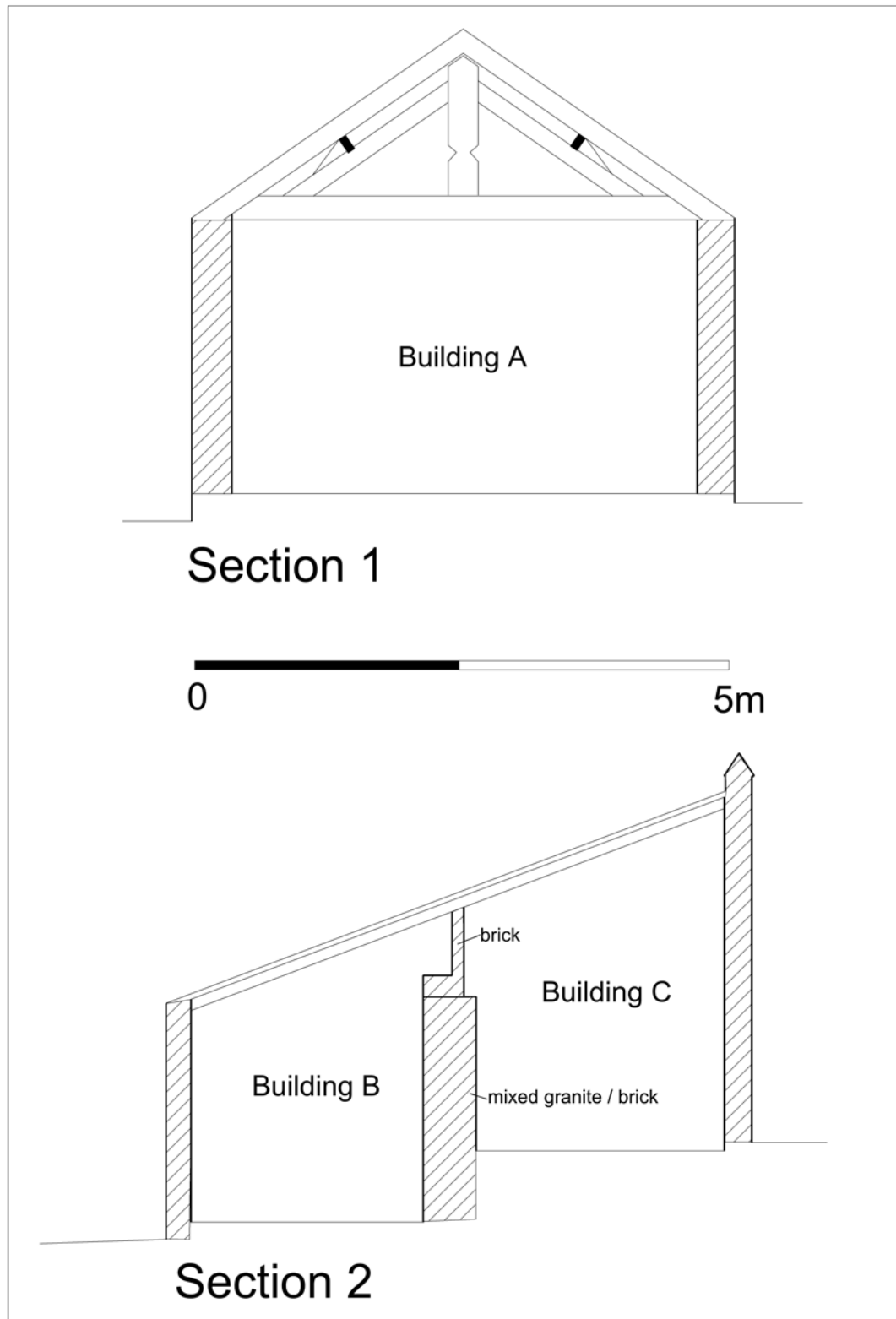


Fig. 6. Section 1 (building A), and section 2 (buildings B & C)

## APPENDIX 1: Survey photos



Fig. 7. North elevation of building A.



Fig. 8. North elevation of building B.





Fig. 9. Central door on north elevation of building A.

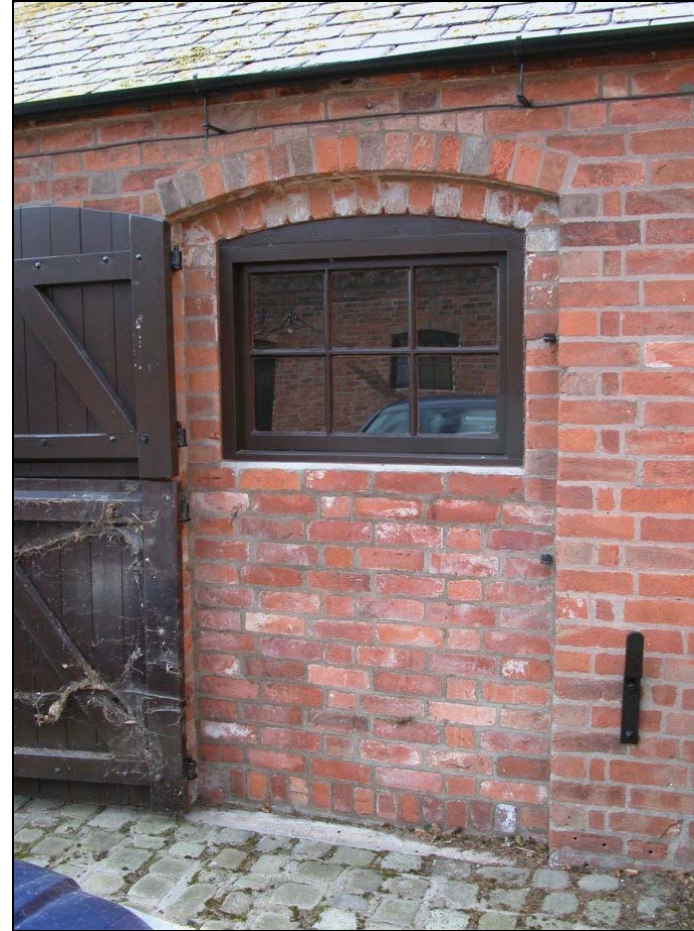


Fig. 10. Blocked door on north elevation of building A.



Fig. 11. King-post trusses within building A.



Fig. 12. East gable-end, building A.





Fig. 13. Preserved stable fittings from building A.



Fig. 14. West elevation, building C.



Fig. 15. East elevation, building C.



Fig. 16. West elevation, building C.



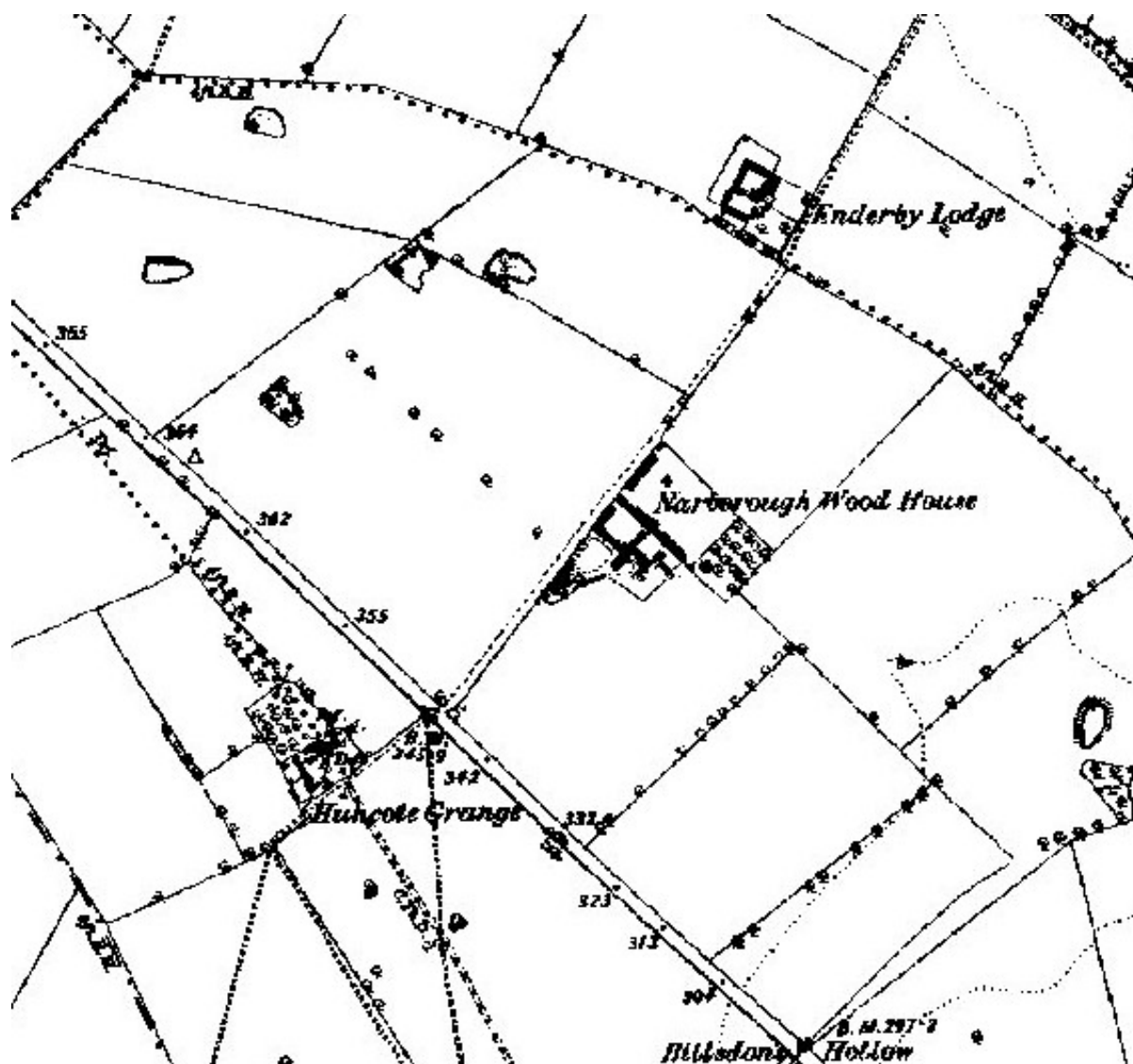


Fig. 17. West elevation, building C.



Fig. 18. Internal elevation, building C.

## APPENDIX 2: OS first edition



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## APPENDIX 3: Design Specification

### UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES

#### Design Specification for Historic Building Photographic Survey:

Narborough Wood House, Desford Road, Enderby, Leicestershire

National Grid Reference: SK 520 010

Client: James Bailey Planning

Planning Application Reference: 06/0022/1/PX

## 1 Definition and scope of the Specification

- 1.1 This document is a Design Specification for Historic Building Recording of former outbuildings at Narborough Wood House, Enderby, prepared by University of Leicester Archaeological Services (ULAS) on behalf of the Client. It has been produced in response to the Brief for Historic Building Photographic Survey issued by Leicestershire County Council.
- 1.2 The Design Specification provides details of how ULAS will meet the objectives set out in the Brief and includes proposed methods of working on site, subsequent reporting and archiving procedures, standards, timetable, staffing, health and safety considerations and insurance details.
- 1.3 The result of the project will be a permanent record of the building, prepared to standards set out in the English Heritage guidelines *Understanding Historic Buildings: A guide to good recording practice* for a level 2 survey (English Heritage 2006).

## 2 Background and context of the project (taken from the Brief)

- 2.1 Consent has been granted by Blaby District Council for the conversion of a complex of outbuildings at Narborough Wood House, a group of structures which appear on the First edition of Ordnance Survey maps and which appear to have retained the form of a courtyard complex for over 120 years. The advisers to the planning authority note that 'the original design of traditional farmyard buildings is frequently lost through demolition, alteration and conversion, thus making understanding of the buildings' history harder to discern'.
- 2.2 The Senior Planning Archaeologist, as adviser to the planning authority, has requested the preparation of a Historic Building Record of the structures in their current state, prior to alteration.

## 3 Objectives

- 3.1 The objectives of the Historic Building Recording programme, are:
  - To obtain an adequate record of the character, extent, state of preservation and date of the various structural components of the building.
  - To ensure the long-term preservation of the information through deposition of the record and a summary written report with an appropriate depository.

## 4 General methodology and standards

- 4.1 All work will follow the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA) Code of Conduct and adhere to their *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Investigation and Recording of Standing Buildings or Structures*.
- 4.2 English Heritage's guidelines *Understanding Historic Buildings: A guide to good recording practice* (2006) has been used as a basis for defining levels of recording. The requirements of the Historic Building Survey, as detailed in the Brief, equate with a 'Level 2' survey.
- 4.3 The site-based element of the Historic Building Recording programme will involve the use of existing measured survey drawings and the compilation of photographic and written records and the preparation of a summary report, suitably illustrated. An ordered archive will be compiled for deposition with an appropriate body and an Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS) record completed.

## 5 Specific methodology

### 5.1 *Survey Drawings*

5.1.1 The brief requires annotated plans of the development showing the position and direction of key reference photographs.

### 5.2 *Written record*

5.2.1 A written record will be maintained on site in the form of field notes and annotations on survey drawings.

5.2.2 The written components of the report will include, in accordance with the requirements of the Brief, the following (numbers equating to EH Guidelines):

1. The precise location of the building, by name or street number, civil parish, town etc and national Grid Reference
2. A note of any statutory designation
3. Date of the record, name of the recorder and location of the archive.

### 5.3 *Photographic record*

5.3.1 A photographic record of the investigations will be maintained using 35mm format SLR cameras with black and white print and colour transparency films. The photographic record will comprise, in accordance with the requirements of the Brief, the following (numbers equating to EH Guidelines):

1. General views of the building in its setting or landscape
2. The building's external appearance
4. The overall appearance of the principal rooms and circulation areas.
5. Any internal or external detail, structural or decorative which is relevant to the buildings' design, development and use which does not show adequately on general photographs
6. Any machinery or other plant, or evidence of its former existence
7. Any dates or other inscriptions, signage makers' plates or graffiti which contribute to an understanding of the building or its fixtures or contents.
8. Any building contents or ephemera which have a significant bearing on the buildings' history
9. Copies of maps, drawings, views and photographs present in the building and illustrating its development/use, or that of its site.

The location and orientation of photographs taken will be cross referenced to the survey drawings.

## 6 **Report & Archive**

6.1 A brief report incorporating the written, drawn and photographic elements detailed above will be prepared.

6.2 A draft copy of the report will be submitted to Blaby District Council for approval prior to the start of work on site. The final report will take into account any comments made on the draft report.

## 7 **Publication and dissemination of results**

7.1 A summary of the results of the project will be submitted to the local archaeological journal, *Leicestershire*.

7.2 The report will be added to the Archaeology Data Service's (ADS) Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS) database.

## 8 **Copyright**

- 8.1 The copyright of all original finished documents shall remain vested in ULAS and ULAS will be entitled as of right to publish any material in any form produced as a result of its investigations.

**9 Timetable and staffing**

- 9.1 Work is due to commence on 7 March 2007 and will be undertaken by Gavin Speed under the supervision of Neil Finn (Project Officer) who has over ten years experience in Historic Building Recording in the Midlands on buildings of all types.
- 9.2 The project archive will be compiled within 6 months of the completion of the fieldwork.

**10 Health and Safety**

- 10.1 A Risks Assessment form will be completed prior to work commencing on-site and updated as necessary during the site works.

**11 Insurance**

- 11.1 All ULAS work is covered by the University of Leicester's Public Liability and Professional Indemnity Insurance. The Public Liability Insurance is with St Paul's Travellers Policy No. UCPOP3651237 while the Professional Indemnity Insurance is with Lloyds Underwriters (50%) and Brit Insurances (50%) Policy No. FUNK3605.

**12 Monitoring arrangements**

- 12.1 Unlimited access to monitor the project will be available to the Client and his representatives, and Blaby District Council's representatives and advisers, subject to the health and safety requirements of the site. Notice will be given before commencement of the fieldwork in order that monitoring arrangements can be made.
- 12.2 Internal monitoring procedures will be undertaken by the ULAS project manager to ensure that professional standards are being maintained and project targets met.
- 12.3 All monitoring shall be carried out in accordance with the IFA *Standard and Guidance for Investigation and Recording of Standing Buildings or Structures*.

**13 Bibliography**

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

Brief 2006. Brief for Historic Building Photographic Survey at Narborough Wood House, Enderby Historic and Natural Environment Team, Leics. County Council

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## APPENDIX 1

### **Draft Project Health and Safety Policy Statement:**

**Narborough Wood House, Desford Road, Enderby, Leicestershire  
National Grid Reference: SK 520 010**

*A risks assessment will be produced by on-site staff, which will be updated and amended*

**1. Nature of the work** during the course of the evaluation.

1.1 The work will involve internal and external photographic record of the existing building.

**2 Risks Assessment**

**2.1 Working within a derelict building.**

Precautions. University of Leicester Archaeological Services has been led to believe that it is safe to enter the building.

The archaeological building recorder will only enter rooms that they feel are safe. It is ULAS' understanding that they will be initially escorted around the building by someone who knows the structure.

**2.2 Other risks**

Precautions. If unforeseen hazards are encountered e.g. pigeon guano or other contaminants or hazards are identified, such areas will not be entered, and the client will be informed of the risk.