

Standing Building Recording Survey & Archaeological Observation

Barn to south of
Green Farm
Preston-on-Wye
Herefordshire

NGR: SO 38427 41509
SMR No: 44552

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1. Non Technical Summary

The standing building recording survey carried out on a Grade II Listed barn of 15th century date at Green Farm, Preston on Wye, revealed evidence of three phases of construction, namely:

1/ The principal construction phase dated to the 15th century, represented by the southernmost four bays of the barn. Internal evidence suggested that the original function of the building was domestic rather than utilitarian, indicated by the smoke-blackened central truss implying the existence of a centrally placed hearth (although no archaeological evidence of a hearth feature was encountered).

2/ A secondary building phase represented by the northernmost bay of the barn, which appeared to be a late 17th/early 18th century addition.

3/ A tertiary phase of building activity dating to the 19th/early 20th century evidenced by the corrugated iron roof, the reconstruction of the flooring of the barn and the substantial repair in brick of the plinths carrying the timber-framed structure.

The archaeological observation of groundworks carried out within and immediately outside the barn revealed evidence of extensive 19th century refurbishment to the structure; in particular, an intact cobbled floor surface inlaid with brick drain channels in the northernmost bay of the barn.

No definite archaeological evidence of medieval occupation was found during the groundworks, apart from an earthen floor surface in the SW corner of the central portion of the structure, although this may have dated from its later use as a stable building

2. Introduction

Border Archaeology was instructed by Mr & Mrs K. F. Williams to undertake structural recording of a Grade II Listed barn located 5m S of Green Farmhouse (NGR: SO 38427 41509) to RCHME Level 2 and to carry out archaeological observation of the principal groundworks relating to the conversion of the barn.

Julian Cotton Esq., Archaeological Advisor, Herefordshire Council, in a letter dated 23rd January 2006 (DCSW/2005/3500/F), stated that an archaeological watching brief would be required during the principal groundworks 'to include also the structural recording to RCHME Level 2 (photographs and drawings) of any items of standing building fabric of historical interest that will be destroyed or substantially altered by the development'.

Copies of this report will be submitted to Mr & Mrs Williams, Herefordshire Council and the Herefordshire Archaeology Sites & Monuments Record.

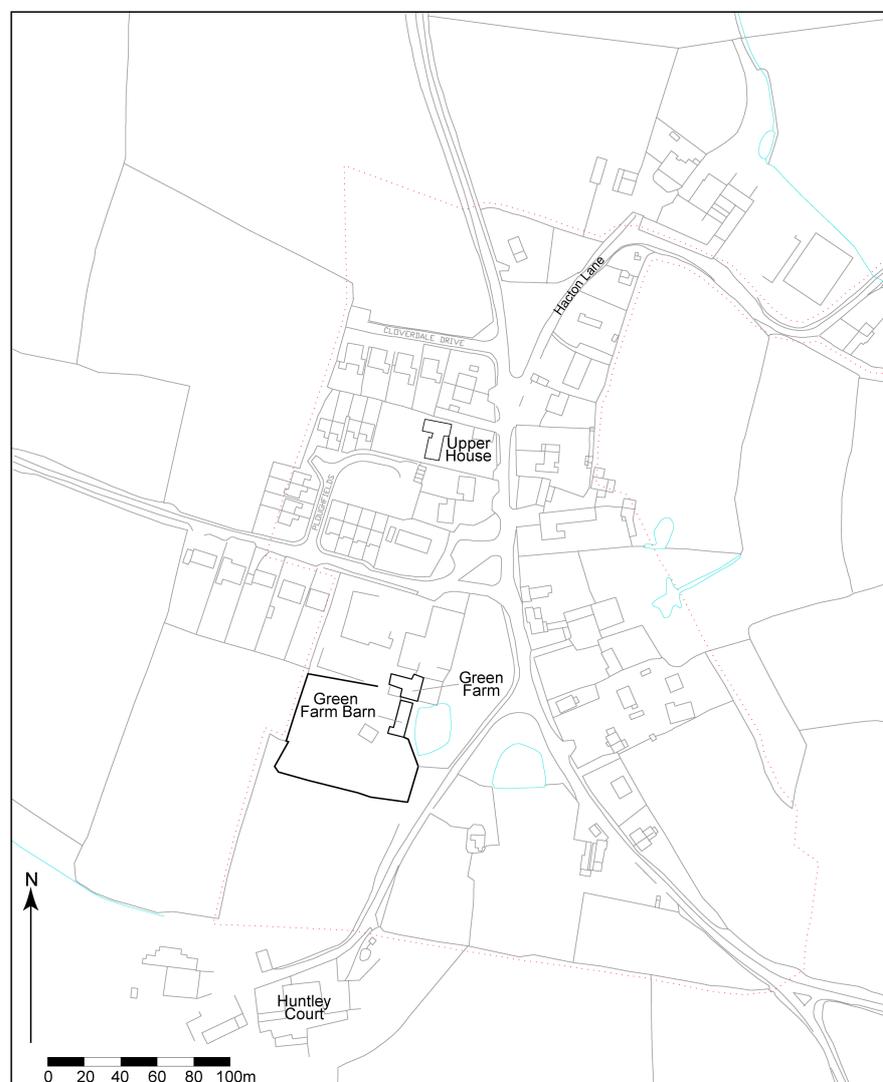


Fig. 1: Site location plan

2.1 Soils & Geology

The predominant soils in the vicinity of the site are typical argillic brown earths of the ESCRICK 1 series (571p), consisting of deep well-drained reddish coarse loamy soils, similar soils with slowly permeable subsoils and slight seasonal waterlogging and slowly permeable seasonally waterlogged reddish fine silty soils with an underlying reddish till (SSEW, 1983).

3. Brief Historical & Archaeological Background

Green Farm (NGR SO 3843 4152) is situated in the hamlet of Ploughfield, about 0.5km to the S of the centre of the small village of Preston on Wye, an historic settlement first recorded as *Prestretune* in the Domesday survey of 1086, when it was held by the canons of Hereford Cathedral (Thorn & Thorn 1983).

Archaeological evidence of human activity has been found in the locality dating back to the prehistoric era; a perforated stone pick of Neolithic date was found at Lower Farm, approximately 100m to the NE of Green Farm (SMR Ref. 1079; NGR SO 3870 4150).

The origins of the existing village of Preston on Wye may be traced back to the medieval period. The earliest focus of settlement appears to have been situated in the vicinity of the parish church of St Lawrence (SMR Ref. 6879) and the adjacent manor house of Preston Court (SMR Ref. 9110), both of which contain medieval fabric (Pevsner, 1963, 273; RCHME, 1931). To the N of Preston Court, a series of possible medieval house platforms has been identified, which may represent evidence of a shrunken medieval settlement (SMR Ref. 1084).

The hamlet of Ploughfield appears to have developed during the 13th century as an outlier to the S of the original settlement. The earliest specific reference to Ploughfield (*Ploufeld*) occurs in an account of the Chapter Estates of Hereford Cathedral in 1273, in which it is described as a borough (*burgus*) with bailiffs, a weekly market and an annual fair (Noble, 1964, 68). It appears that the canons of Hereford attempted to establish a 'proto-urban' settlement here during the mid 13th century, receiving a grant of a market and fair from Henry III in 1253 (O'Donnell, 1971, 193). The lack of references to the borough in later medieval documents, and the fact that the boundaries of the medieval urban tenement plots are extremely difficult to identify, suggest that Ploughfield had a relatively short lifespan as an urban settlement (Buteux, 1995, 3-4).

The presence of two late medieval cruck-built hall houses at Green Farm and immediately to the N at Upper House, together with two other 15th century houses at Hacton, suggests that Ploughfield remained a settlement of some local importance until the 15th century (Bismanis, 1975, 306-12). However, it had apparently ceased to be regarded as a borough by the early 16th century (Buteux, 1995, 2-3). It has been suggested that the triangular area to the E of Green Farm may have formed the site of the medieval market place (Buteux, 1995, 3).

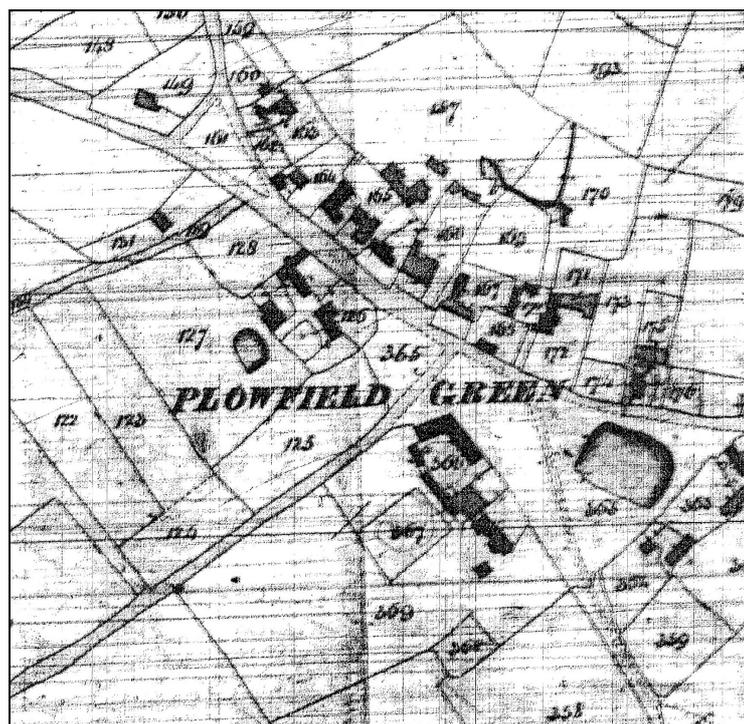


Fig. 2: Extract from Preston on Wye tithe map of 1844
 (Reproduced by courtesy of the Herefordshire Record Office)

Green Farm (SMR Record No. 9112) comprises a Grade II Listed, L-shaped, timber-framed farmhouse with a roughcast exterior, mostly of late 17th century date, with some mid 19th century alterations (RCHME, 1931, 220). Immediately NNE of the farmhouse is a long rectangular courtyard, enclosed on the W side by a long, rectangular outbuilding range and on the N and E sides by an L-shaped range of outbuildings. Immediately S of the farmhouse is a rectangular, timber-framed building of four bays aligned N-S, which is also Grade II Listed. The RCHME originally described this structure as being of 17th century date, contemporary with the farmhouse; however, more recent analysis has identified it as incorporating the fabric of a 15th century hall house of 'quite high status' (Buteux, 1995, 5).

Green Farm appears originally to have been known as Ploughfield Farm and is mentioned in the will of Nicholas Philpott of Hereford, dated 1681, who left the farm to his grand-daughter. The earliest specific reference to Green Farm occurs in an early 18th century document, when it is recorded as 'Plovill Green Farm', then held by a Mr Philpott. Green Farm subsequently became part of the estate of the Lee-Warner family of Tyberton Court and is described in the Preston on Wye tithe apportionment of 1847 as belonging to Rev. Daniel Lee-Warner of Tyberton Court and occupied by a farmer named Thomas Williams. The farm was leased to a succession of tenant farmers until it was eventually sold off with other portions of the Tyberton Court estate in 1878.

Comparison between the tithe map of 1844 and the OS 2nd edition map of 1904 indicates that a number of changes had been made to the ground plan of the barn during the intervening 60 years. Specifically, the 1844 map shows two wings projecting W at the N and S ends of the barn (**Fig. 2**). By 1904, however, the N wing had been demolished, leaving only the southern extension with its distinctive catslide roof, which still survives today (**Fig. 3**).

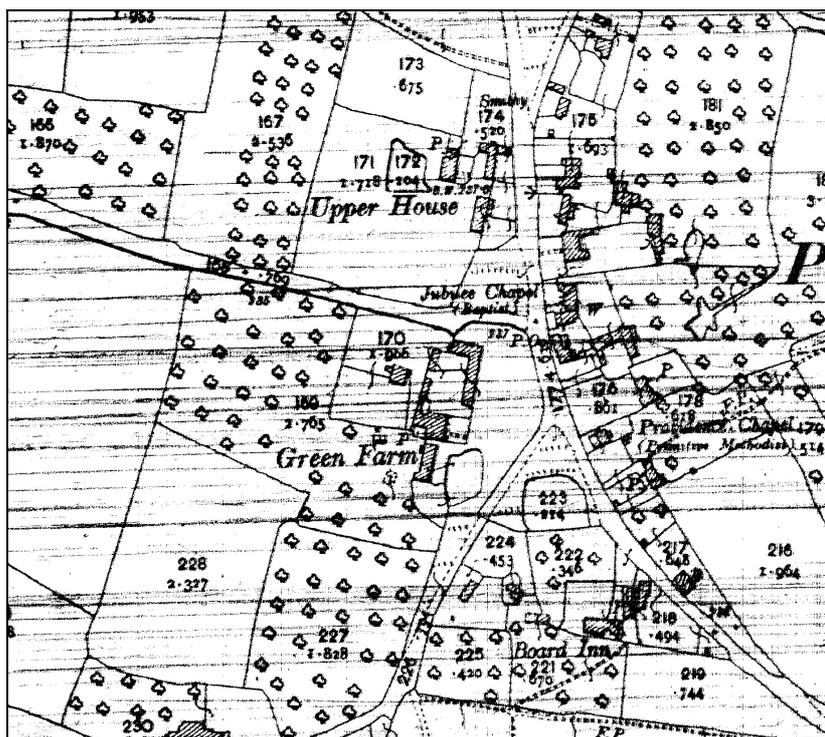


Fig. 3: Extract from OS 2nd edition 25 inch map of 1904 showing the barn SSW of Green Farm
 (Reproduced by courtesy of the Herefordshire Record Office)

4. Standing Building Recording Survey

4.1 Methodology

The recording was carried out under the terms of *Standard and Guidance for the archaeological investigation and recording of standing buildings or structures* published by the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA) in September 1996 (rev. September 2001). Border Archaeology adheres to the revised *Code of Conduct* issued by the IFA in September 2002 and the revised *Code of Approved Practice for the Regulation of Contractual Arrangements in Field Archaeology* (September 2002).

The aim of the programme of standing building recording was to allow for the preservation by record of all standing building fabric of historical interest that will be destroyed or substantially altered by the development. Primary and secondary sources (where readily available) have been used in order to assess the historic importance of the structure. Building phases were established prior to the photographic recording of the building, with each phase being discussed in detail.

Following guidelines set out within Planning Policy Guidance (PPG) 15 and standards defined by the RCHME in *Recording Historic Buildings: A Descriptive Specification* (3rd ed. 1996) and English Heritage in *Understanding Historic Buildings: A guide to good recording practice* (2006), Border Archaeology carried out a building survey programme to RCHME Level 2, combining a written, drawn and photographic record of all standing fabric likely to be affected by the proposed development.

This included a written description of original features and a photographic survey of all significant internal and external features (including all door and window openings and external elevations). A photographic record was made using 35mm colour film and a digital camera of 5.0MPX capacity.

4.2 General Building Plan

The barn (formerly used as a stable), located approximately 5m S of Green Farmhouse, is a gabled, rectangular structure, measuring 18.8m (N-S) × 6.4m (E-W), two storeys in height and five bays long aligned N-S with a rectangular extension with catslide roof projecting from the SW end of the W-facing elevation, measuring 5.26m (N-S) × 2.3m (E-W).

The barn is of timber-framed construction, formerly clad with butt-edged weatherboarding and standing upon an irregularly coursed sandstone plinth (extensively repaired in brick) under a modern corrugated steel roof.

The northernmost bay is of box-framed construction (probably representing a late 17th-early 18th century extension) while the remaining four bays are cruck-framed and presumably relate to the original construction of the building, dated to the 15th century.

Significant evidence of 19th/20th century repair and refurbishment was noted throughout the barn.

4.3 Development

Investigation revealed that the barn is a composite structure with evidence of three major phases of construction and rebuilding.

1/ The principal construction phase, probably dating from the 15th century and represented by the southernmost four bays of the barn, which are cruck-framed. Internal evidence suggests that the original function of the building was probably domestic, rather than utilitarian, indicated by the smoke-blackened central truss.

2/ A secondary building phase represented by the northernmost bay of the barn, of box-framed construction, which appears to be of late 17th/early 18th century date.

3/ A tertiary phase of building activity dating to the 19th/early 20th century, evidenced by the corrugated iron roof, the reconstruction of the flooring of the barn and the substantial repair in brick of the plinths carrying the timber-framed structure.

4.3.1 External Description

The barn is located approximately 5m S of the S gable end of the farmhouse

The principal, W-facing elevation comprised a wide central entrance for carts at ground floor level, measuring approximately 3m wide and 2m high, surmounted by a wooden lintel. Located 0.9m above the entrance was a gabled dormer set into the corrugated iron roof providing access to the upper storey of the barn, which previously served as a hayloft (**Plate 1**).



Plate 1: View E showing central two bays with entrance for carts in W-facing elevation of barn

To the left of the central entrance was another, slightly smaller opening, measuring 2.2m wide and 2m high set into the northernmost bay, while to the right of the entrance was a small doorway with a wooden lintel, 0.8m wide and 1.5m high. It was noticeable that the stone foundation plinth to the right (S) of the central entrance was more regularly coursed and stood slightly higher than the plinth immediately to the left (N) of the entrance, which was more roughly coursed.

At the southernmost end of the W-facing elevation, a lean-to extension (formerly weatherboarded) measuring 5.26m (N-S) × 2.3m (E-W) had been added to the main structure of the barn with a distinctive catslide roof (**Plate 2**). The lean-to structure was presumably intended to function as a shelter for livestock; it is shown on the tithe map of 1844 together with a corresponding lean-to building at the N end of the W-facing elevation. However, by 1904 the lean-to structure at the N end of the barn had been removed.



Plate 2: View SE showing extension to S end of W-facing elevation with catslide roof, following removal of weatherboarding



Plate 3: View W showing E-facing elevation of barn and internal timber-framing following removal of weatherboarding

The E-facing elevation of the barn was similarly clad with weatherboarding (prior to its removal) with three doorways of slightly varying sizes inserted at ground-floor level

(Plate 3). These doors appeared to be later insertions, not contemporary with the original construction of the building, and were presumably inserted when the structure was converted for use as stabling.

The smallest of the three doorways, giving access to the central bay of the barn, consisted of a plank-and-batten vertically hinged door surmounted by a wooden lintel. Two other plank-and-batten doors were inserted into the northernmost and southernmost bays of the E-facing elevation.



Plate 4: View N showing S-facing external elevation of barn following partial removal of weatherboarding

The S-facing gable elevation measured 6.4m × 7m, excluding the lean-to structure projecting to the W (**Plate 4**). Most of the weatherboarding had been removed prior to recording (excepting the apex of the gable), exposing the internal framing of the S gable with its tapering cruck blades.

The N-facing gable elevation (**Fig. 4**) was formerly clad in weatherboarding and comprised a centrally placed rectangular entrance with a vertically hinged plank-and-batten door, immediately to the right of which was a small, four-light window with wooden mullions. Set into the apex of the gable above the central doorway was a small plank-and-batten hatch giving access to the hayloft at first-floor level.

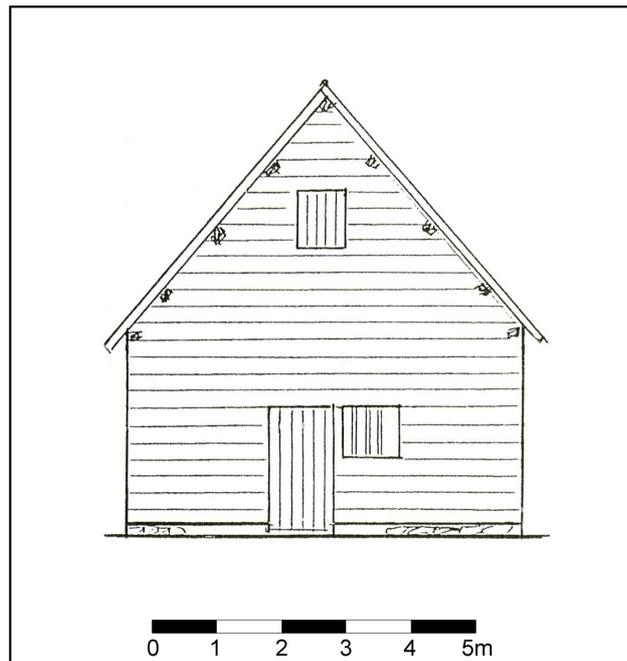


Fig. 4: View N showing N external elevation of barn prior to removal of weatherboarding

4.3.2 Internal Description

The removal of the weatherboard cladding at an early stage in the building works permitted a clear impression to be gained of the internal construction of the barn. Internally, the barn was divided into five bays, the roof framing (proceeding from N to S) consisting of a box-framed truss at the N gable end of the barn, followed by four regularly spaced full cruck trusses extending to the S gable end. Three tiers of trenched purlins and a ridge purlin extended along the entire length of the roof (**Plate 5**).



Plate 5: Internal view W showing roof framing comprising a series of cruck trusses with three tiers of trenched purlins and a ridge purlin



Plate 6: View looking N showing interior of southernmost bay of the barn and cruck framing

The open cruck truss at the S gable end of the barn comprised two smoothly curved, tapering cruck blades measuring approximately 0.15m thick and firmly linked to the wallposts by two sets of cruck spurs, one at wallplate level and the other some 0.3m below. However, the following truss to the N was differently constructed, consisting of two tapering cruck blades connected by a collar with a yoke at the apex of the truss and linked to the wallposts by a single set of spurs at wallplate level (**Plate 6; Fig. 5**). A low tie beam, 0.3m below the level of the wallplate, connected the cruck blades to the wallposts on either side, below which was a plank-and-batten partition wall with close studding, resting on a standard gauge red brick plinth three courses in height (**Plate 10**).

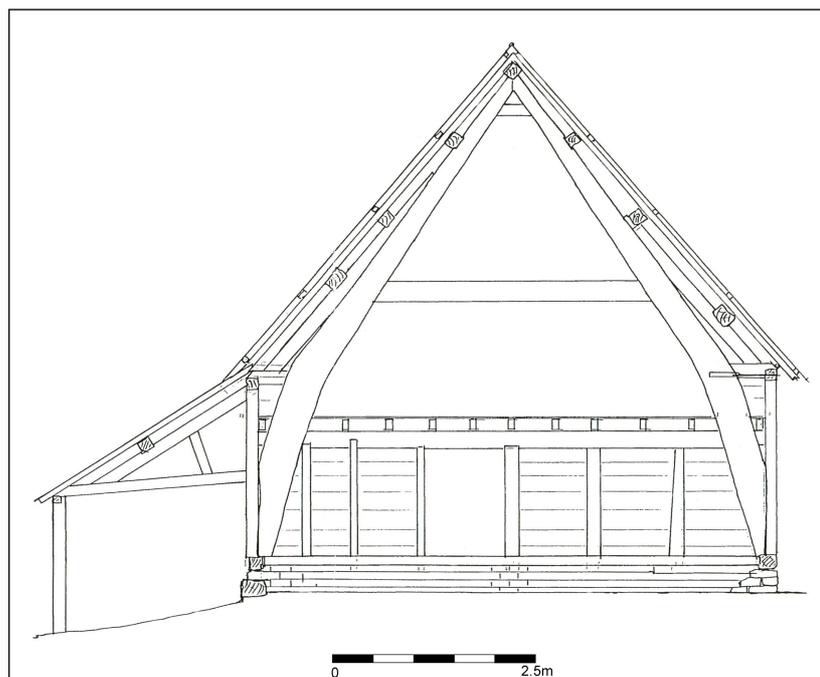


Fig. 5: View showing collared cruck truss and partition wall in southernmost bay of barn

The following truss to the N, representing the central truss of the barn, was markedly different in construction from its predecessor, comprising two sharply elbowed cruck blades connected by a finely carved, arch-braced collar with a yoke at the apex of the truss. The thickness of the cruck blades was noticeably greater than those of the other cruck trusses, measuring 0.4m. The quality of the carpentry exhibited by this particular truss was in marked contrast to the roughly hewn character of the majority of the roof framing (**Plate 7; Fig. 6**).

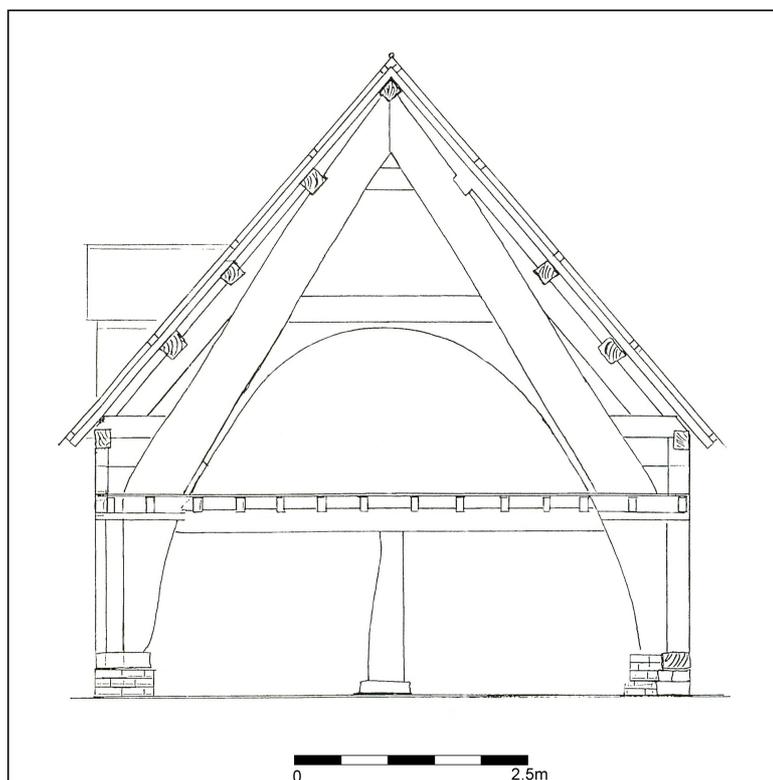


Fig. 6: View looking N showing arch-braced cruck truss in central bay of barn

This truss was also noticeably smoke-blackened, compared to the other cruck trusses, implying the presence of a central hearth, and on this basis it has been convincingly suggested that this formed the central truss of a medieval open-hall house. However, no further structural evidence, in the form of a central hearth or louvre (a centrally placed opening in the roof to allow smoke to escape), was found to confirm this hypothesis. The cruck blades were joined to the wallposts by a single set of cruck spurs at wallplate level and were connected by a low tie-beam, which, in turn, was supported by a centrally placed, roughly hewn wooden post resting on a stone plinth.

The next roof truss to the N exhibited significant evidence of alteration (**Fig. 7**). Although ostensibly an open cruck truss with a yoke at the apex of the truss, the evidence of slots inserted in the upper part of the cruck frame indicated that it was originally a collared cruck frame. The cruck blades were joined to the wallposts by two sets of cruck spurs at wallplate level and below. A close-studded plank-and-batten partition wall, resting on a stone foundation plinth repaired in brick, demarcated this bay from the northern two bays of the barn. The N gable truss was of typical box-frame construction, with a tiebeam at wallplate level and a collar above, both of which were connected to the principal rafters by angled braces.



Plate 7: View SE showing smoke-blackened central truss of barn with arch-braced collar

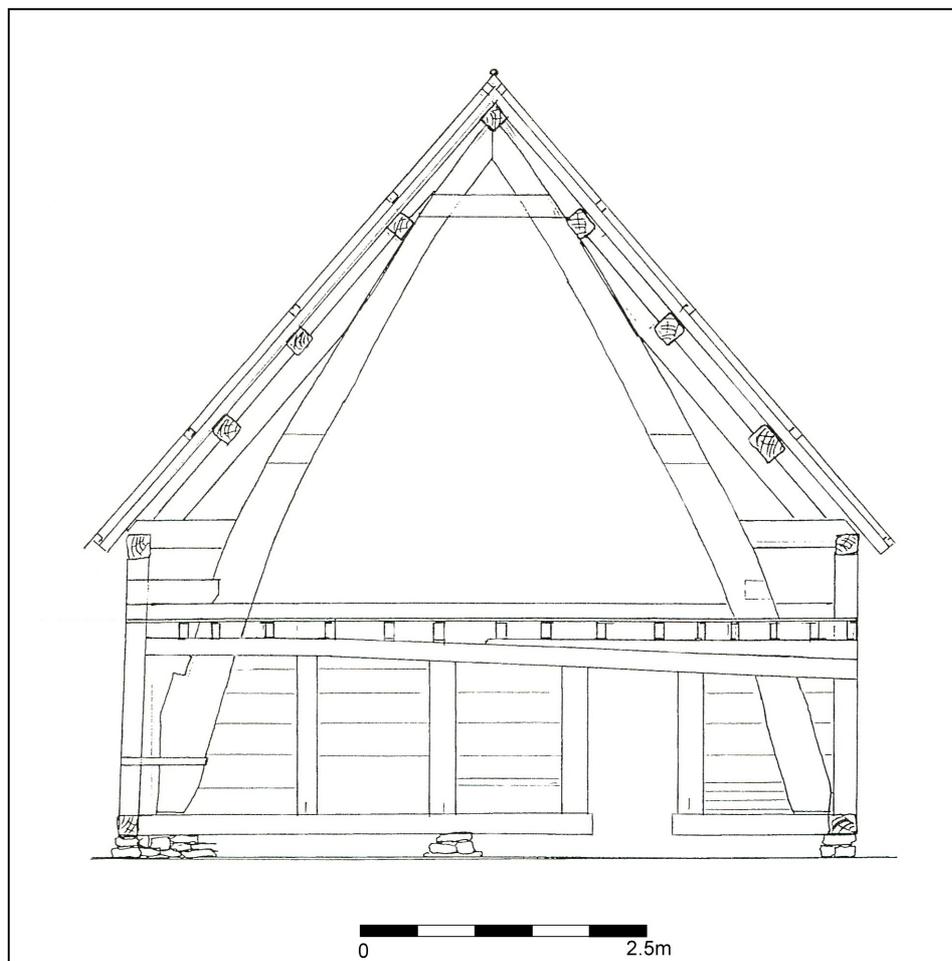


Fig. 7: View N showing open cruck truss (originally collared) with wooden partition wall resting on stone plinth



Plate 8: Internal view N showing roof framing of northernmost bay of barn



Plate 9: Internal view SE showing panels with curved braces to right of centre doorway in E-facing elevation

The wall framing of the barn exhibited evidence of significant alteration and rebuilding. The framing of the internal E-facing elevation was composed of a series of regularly spaced vertical studs extending from sill to wallplate level, interrupted by two tiers of rails. There was a noticeable difference between the carpentry of the studs (which were squared timbers) and the roughly hewn rails. Of particular interest were the two panels to the right of the centre doorway in the E-facing elevation, with a central stud flanked by two curved braces, which appeared to be reused timbers, connecting the studs on either side to the wallplate (**Plate 9**).



Plate 10: Internal view N showing interior of southernmost bay of barn with collared cruck truss and wooden partition standing upon a 19th century red brick plinth



Fig. 8: Internal view showing N gable elevation, of box-framed construction

The framing of the W-facing internal elevation, which appeared to have been heavily truncated prior to recording, consisted of a series of regularly spaced vertical studs from sill to wallplate level, with a single tier of roughly hewn rails. Evidence of a mullioned window frame, concealed by the weatherboarding, was identified in the central bay of the elevation (**Plate 11**). Remnants of infilling comprising a series of split-oak pales woven around vertical oak staves were visible in the upper part of the framing in the southernmost bay of the elevation (**Plate 12**). The wall framing of the N gable consisted

of a series of closely spaced studs resting on an irregularly coursed stone plinth partly rebuilt in brick and standing to two courses in height (**Fig. 8**).



Plate 11: View looking E showing wall framing of W-facing elevation with partial remains of window frame



Plate 12: Internal view W showing infilling consisting of split-oak pales woven around vertical oak staves in upper framing of southernmost bay of barn

4.3.3 Conclusions

The standing building recording survey revealed evidence of three phases of construction, namely

1/ The principal construction phase dated to the 15th century, represented by the southernmost four bays of the barn. Internal evidence suggests that the original function of the building was probably domestic, rather than utilitarian, indicated by the smoke-blackened central truss.

2/ A secondary building phase represented by the northernmost bay of the barn, which appeared to be a late 17th/early 18th century addition.

3/ A tertiary phase of building activity dating to the 19th/early 20th century evidenced by the corrugated iron roof, the reconstruction of the flooring of the barn and the substantial repair in brick of the plinths carrying the timber-framed structure.

5. Archaeological Observation

5.1 Methodology

Archaeological observation was carried out under the terms of *Standard and Guidance for an archaeological watching brief* published by the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA) in October 1994 (rev. September 2001). Border Archaeology adheres to the revised *Code of Conduct* issued by the IFA in September 2002 and the revised *Code of Approved Practice for the Regulation of Contractual Arrangements in Field Archaeology* (September 2002).

Archaeological observation commenced on June 21st 2006 and was completed on March 15th 2007 with groundworks being carried out intermittently during this period in order to allow for the wooden structure to be raised and propped whilst a new foundation trench was excavated and a new plinth constructed.

The groundworks comprised a reduction in floor level to a depth of 0.6-0.7m across the entire area and the excavation of a trench system and pits to allow for the complete replacement of the foundation plinth and to allow for the installation of new interior structural elements. All deposits were removed under archaeological supervision using machines equipped with toothless grading buckets or with hand tools.

Full written and drawn records were made in accordance with archaeological practices set out by the Institute of Field Archaeologists. All identified archaeological deposits were recorded in plan at a scale of 1:20 or 1:50 (as appropriate). All features and structures within the excavated area were photographed using high-resolution digital and colour print formats. A detailed stratigraphic record was made using a context numbering system.

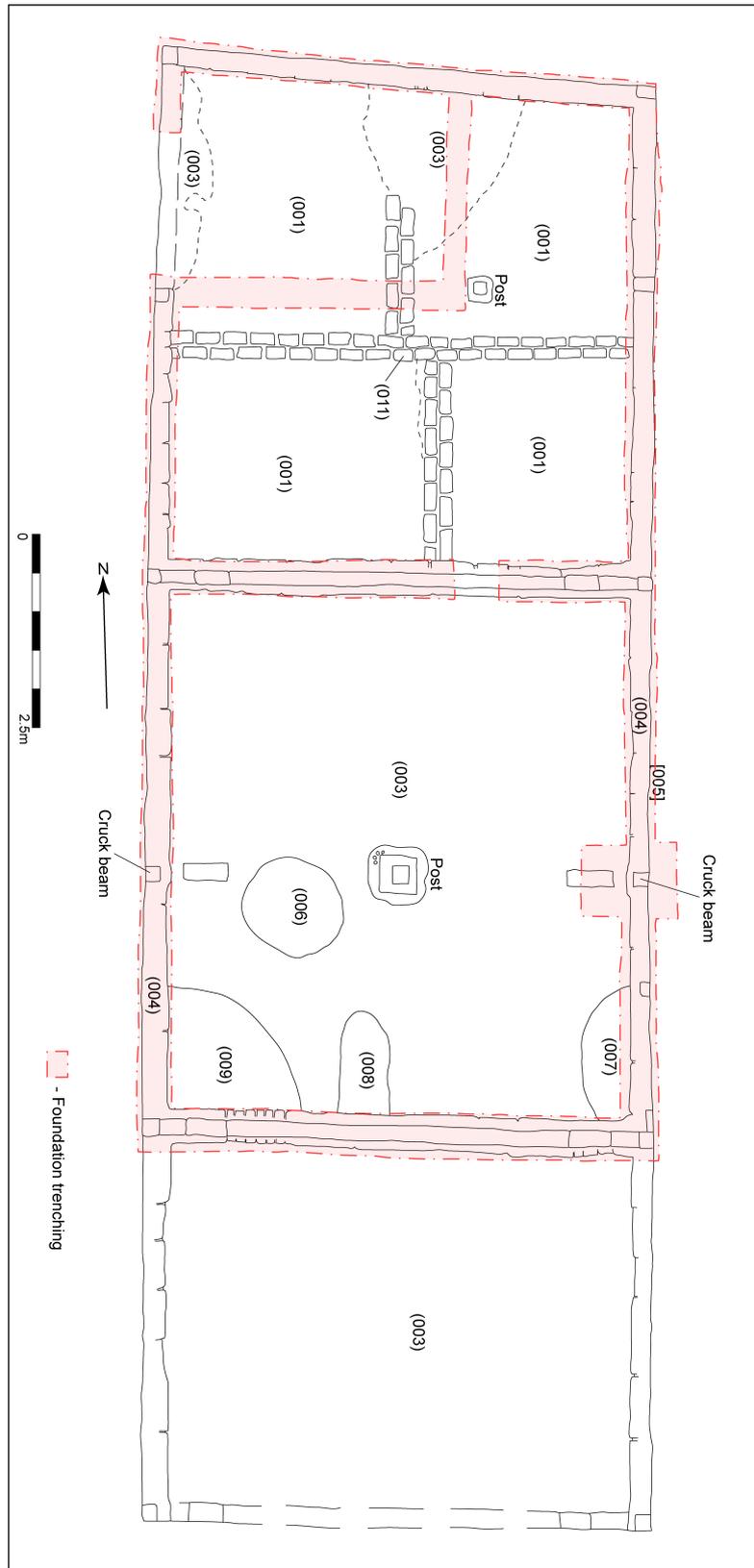


Fig. 9: Plan showing archaeological features revealed within interior of barn during observation of foundation trenching

5.2 Archaeological Observation

A total of 11 contexts were identified during the archaeological observation of groundworks (**Fig. 9**), the uppermost of which was a cobbled surface (001) extending across the northernmost two bays of the barn measuring 6.4m (N-S) × 5.4m (E-W) × 0.2m, with frogged red brick channels (011), two courses in width and bonded with cement, extending E-W and N-S across the centre of the cobbled surface (**Plate 13**).



Plate 13: View looking N showing cobbled surface (001) with brick channels (011) at N end of barn

The cobbled surface appeared to be contemporary with the construction of the N extension in the 17th/early 18th century while the brick channels appeared to be a later insertion. The bricks bore the stamp of the Holmer Brickworks at Hereford, which is known to have been in operation from the 1830s onwards.

Underlying cobbled surface (001) was (003), a sterile subsoil deposit consisting of firm light reddish-brown silty clay containing frequent sandstone rubble fragments of various sizes, extending across the northern two bays of the barn to a maximum visible depth of 0.6m. This same deposit was also observed in the central part of the barn extending to a depth of 0.7m. No finds were recovered from this deposit.

Revealed in section, cutting into (003), was [005], the foundation cut for the outer wall of the barn, measuring 0.35m wide and 0.3-0.4m deep, with a sharp break of slope at the top, vertical sides and a flat base (**Plate 14**). The outer wall itself (004), measuring 0.35m wide and 0.6m in high, was constructed of roughly worked, randomly coursed sandstone blocks with extensive repairs in frogged red brick bonded with a lime mortar. It was extremely difficult to determine which parts of the extant sandstone masonry related to the original construction of the barn or to subsequent rebuilding work that took place in the 17th/18th century.



Plate 14: Internal view looking W showing foundation plinth (004) cutting into subsoil deposit (003)

Identified in section in the extreme NE corner of the barn, cutting into (003) and underlying the foundation plinth (004), was [010], the cut for a pit of indeterminate function measuring 1.9m × 0.62m, with a gradual break of slope at the top, gently sloping sides and a concave base (**Plate 15**). [010] was filled by (002), a moderately compacted mid brown sandy clay with frequent charcoal flecking. No finds were recovered from this deposit.



Plate 15: View looking E showing pit feature [010] in NE corner of barn

The groundworks within the central two bays of the barn revealed a series of deposits underlying a thin layer of concrete, measuring 0.1m in thickness, representing the modern floor surface in this part of the barn. Immediately W of the central truss post, a soft, light brown fine sandy clay with moderate small angular stones (006) was identified

in plan, its visible extent measuring 1.3m × 1.2m × 0.3m. Also identified in plan and section within the SE corner of the central two bays was (007), a moderately compacted, dark brown humic silty clay layer, measuring 1.2m × 0.55m × 0.25m, which appeared to have accumulated against a wooden structure (presumably a feeding trough) which had formerly been attached to the outer wall of the barn. A number of 19th century china sherds were recovered from (007), implying that this accumulation of material occurred during this period.

Revealed in section abutting the S partition wall was (008), a firm light brown sandy clay with very frequent sandstone rubble fragments measuring 1.3m × 0.6m × 0.6m and interpreted as a demolition rubble deposit. Extending E for 2.5m from the SW corner of the central two bays and partially overlying (008) was a weakly cemented mid brown silty clay with moderate small stone inclusions (009), measuring 0.1m in thickness and interpreted as the remains of a rammed earthen floor surface (**Plate 16**). Underlying (006), (007), (008) and (009) was sterile subsoil layer (003) extending site-wide to a visible depth of 0.7m.

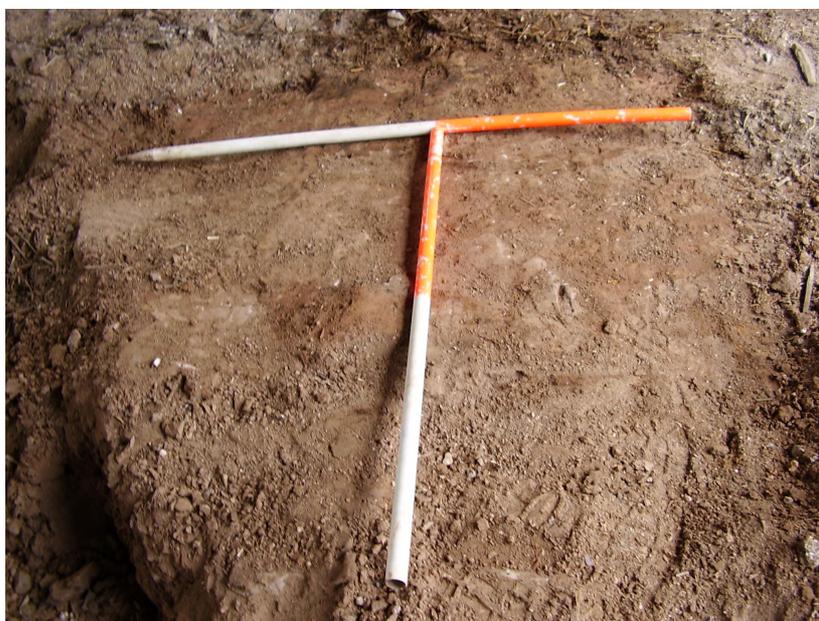


Plate 16: View S showing remains of rammed clay floor surface (009) in SW corner of barn

6. Conclusion

The archaeological observation of groundworks carried out within and immediately outside the barn revealed evidence of extensive 19th century refurbishment; in particular, an intact cobbled floor surface inlaid with brick drain channels in the northernmost bay of the barn.

No definite archaeological evidence of medieval occupation was found during the groundworks, although an earthen floor surface was identified in the SW corner of the central portion of the structure, which may have been contemporary with the original construction of the barn.

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9. Cartography

(All maps were obtained from the Herefordshire Record Office unless otherwise stated)

Preston on Wye Parish Tithe Map (1844)

OS 1st edition 6-inch map Herefordshire 32 SE (1887)

OS 2nd edition 25-inch map Herefordshire 32.11 (1904)

OS provisional edition 6-inch map Herefordshire 32 SE (1948)

10. Appendix 1: Context Register

Context	Description
(001)	Large angular and subangular cobbles bonded with earth mortar (5.4m x 6.4m x 0.2m maximum visible extent). Overlies (003).
<i>INTERPRETATION:</i>	<i>Post-medieval cobbled floor surface in N section of barn with brick channels</i>
(002)	Moderately compacted light / mid brown silty clay with charcoal flecking. Visible extent 1.9m x 0.62m. Underlies (004). Fills [010].
<i>INTERPRETATION:</i>	<i>Fill of feature [010] in NE corner of the building observed in outermost section of foundation trench under wall</i>
(003)	Firm light reddish-brown silty clay, frequent sandstone rubble inclusions extending site wide. Underlies (001), (006), (007), (008), (009). Cut by [005], [010].
<i>INTERPRETATION:</i>	<i>Sterile subsoil deposit with evidence of partial redeposition</i>
(004)	Sandstone masonry wall of roughly worked & randomly coursed stone blocks, extensive brick repairs bonded with lime mortar, measuring on average 0.35m wide x 0.3-0.4m deep. Overlies (002), (003). Fills [005].
<i>INTERPRETATION:</i>	<i>Outer wall of barn supporting timber-framed structure of barn, extensively repaired in C19 brick</i>
[005]	Cut, measuring 0.35m wide x 0.3-0.4m deep, sharp break of slope at the top, vertical sides and flat base. Filled by (004).
<i>INTERPRETATION:</i>	<i>Foundation cut for outer wall of barn</i>
(006)	Soft light brown fine sandy clay, moderate small angular stones (1.3m x 1.2m x 0.28m). Overlies (003).
<i>INTERPRETATION:</i>	<i>Deposit excavated in central section of barn</i>
(007)	Moderately compacted dark brown humic silty clay, C19 china fragments, organic material (1.2m x 0.55m x 0.25m). Overlies (003).
<i>INTERPRETATION:</i>	<i>Accumulation of detritus against C19 wooden structure feeding trough attached to N wall of barn</i>
(008)	Firm light brown sandy clay, frequent sandstone rubble inclusions (1.3m x 0.6m x 0.6m). Overlies (003).
<i>INTERPRETATION:</i>	<i>Rubble deposit excavated in central section of barn</i>
(009)	Weakly cemented mid brown silty clay, moderate subangular stones (2.5m x 0.1m). Overlies (003).
<i>INTERPRETATION:</i>	<i>Remains of rammed clay floor surface</i>
[010]	Cut measuring 1.9m x 0.62m, gradual break of slope at top, gently sloping sides, gradual break of slope at base. Filled by (002). Cuts (003). Underlies (004)
<i>INTERPRETATION:</i>	<i>Cut for pit of indeterminate function</i>
(011)	Frogged red brick channels, two courses (0.3m) in width, extending 5.4m N-S and 6.4m E-W across cobbled surface in N section of barn, bonded with cement. Overlies (003).
<i>INTERPRETATION:</i>	<i>C19 drainage channels inserted in N section of barn, the bricks bearing the stamp of the Holmer Brickworks</i>

10.1 Summary

Report Name & Title	Standing Building Survey & Archaeological Observation: Barn to S of Green Farm Preston on Wye Herefordshire	
Contractor's Name and Address	Border Archaeology Chapel Walk Burgess Street Leominster Herefordshire HR6 8DE	
Site Name	Barn to S of Green Farm Preston on Wye Herefordshire	
Grid Reference	SO 38427 41509	
Planning Application Number	DCSW/2005/3500/F	
SMR Number/s of Site	44552	
Date of Fieldwork	June 2006 - March 2007	
Date of Report	May 2007	
NUMBER AND TYPE OF FINDS		
Type	Period	Quantity
Pottery	Post-medieval	Not retained
CBM	Post-medieval	N/A
Clay pipe	None	N/A
Animal bone	None	N/A
Metal finds	None	N/A
Other	None	N/A
NUMBER AND TYPE OF SAMPLES COLLECTED: None		
Summary:		
<p>The standing building recording survey carried out on a Grade II Listed barn of C15 date at Green Farm, Preston on Wye, revealed evidence of three phases of construction, namely</p> <p>1/ The principal construction phase dated to the C15, represented by the southernmost four bays of the barn. Internal evidence suggested that the original function of the building was probably domestic, rather than utilitarian, indicated by the smoke-blackened central truss.</p> <p>2/ A secondary building phase represented by the northernmost bay of the barn, which appeared to be a late C17/early C18 addition.</p> <p>3/ A tertiary phase of building activity dating to the C19/early C20 evidenced by the corrugated iron roof, the reconstruction of the flooring of the barn and the substantial repair in brick of the plinths carrying the timber-framed structure.</p> <p>The archaeological observation of groundworks carried out within and immediately outside the barn revealed evidence of extensive C19 refurbishment: in particular, an intact cobbled floor surface inlaid with brick drain channels in the northernmost bay of the barn.</p> <p>No definite archaeological evidence of medieval occupation was found during the groundworks, apart from an earthen floor surface in the SW corner of the central portion of the structure, although this may have dated from its later use as a stable building.</p>		