

# Standing Building Recording Survey

Woodrow Farm Barns  
Hanbury  
Worcestershire

NGR SO 96301 63662  
WSM No. 38545

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# 1. Non-Technical Summary

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*The standing building recording survey of the complex of outbuildings at Woodrow Farm, supplemented by documentary research, identified evidence of three major phases of construction and rebuilding.*

- *The site at Woodrow Farm has been occupied at least since the early 18<sup>th</sup> century and probably much earlier. A detailed plan of the manor of Hanbury dated 1731 shows a house occupying the site of the farm; however, no adjacent outbuildings are shown.*
- *The OS surveyors' drawing of 1813 and the Hanbury tithe map of 1838 show that a complex of outbuildings had been erected to the SE of the farmhouse; however, its layout bears little resemblance to the existing outbuildings, which appear to have been constructed at some time between 1838 and 1884.*
- *This initial construction phase was represented by the northern range of Barn 3, Barn 4, the small L-shaped stable block immediately N of Barn 3, Barn 5, situated immediately adjacent to and W of Barn 3, the range of pigsties and adjacent swill house (Barn 6). The consistent external detailing of this group of buildings confirms that they were constructed at about the same time.*
- *A secondary phase was represented by the construction of Barn 2, lying adjacent to the E of Barn 3 and replacing an earlier structure, which, based on cartographic evidence, appears to have been rebuilt at some time between 1884 and 1904. A small single-storey extension was added to the N of Barn 2 at some time between 1904 and 1928.*
- *The most recent phase of building activity, dating from the mid-late 1970s, was represented by the building of a brick extension to the N of Barn 2 to accommodate a workshop, together with the rebuilding of the southern range of Barn 3 and the extensive renewal of window- and door-openings in Barns 3 and 4.*

## 2. Introduction

In December 2007, Border Archaeology was instructed by Neil Shepherd Associates, on behalf of Mr P. Platt, to undertake an archaeological programme of work at Woodrow Farm Barns Hanbury Worcestershire comprising standing building recording of the existing farm buildings to RCHME Level 3, as stipulated in a brief (Ref. W/03/2005) issued on behalf of Worcestershire County Council by Mr M. Glyde.

Copies of this report will be submitted to Mr Platt, Neil Shepherd Associates, Worcestershire Archaeology Service and the Worcestershire Historic Environment Record.

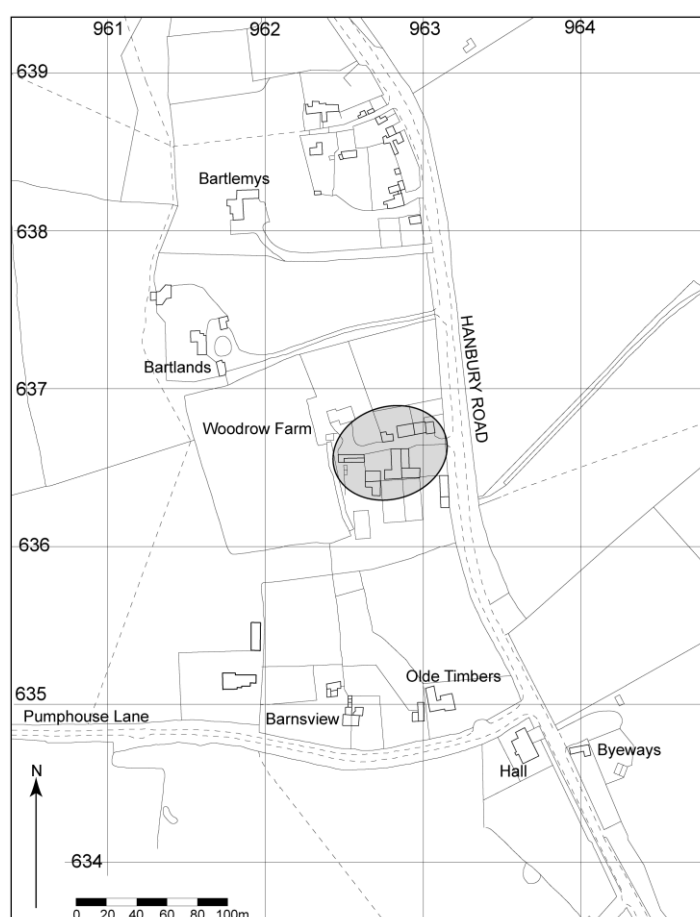


Figure 1: Site Location Plan

### 2.1 Soils and Geology

The area is characterised by stagnogleyic argillic brown earths of the MUNSLOW (572f) series, consisting of reddish fine loamy or fine silty over clayey soils with slowly permeable subsoils and slight seasonal waterlogging with some similar clayey soils on brows. The underlying geology consists of drift over Permo-Triassic and Carboniferous reddish mudstone (SSEW, 1983).

### 3. Standing Building Recording Methodology

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The programme of standing building recording was carried out in accordance with the *Requirements and Guidelines for Archaeological Projects in Worcestershire* and Border Archaeology followed the Institute of Field Archaeologists *Code of conduct* and *Code of approved practice for the regulation of contractual arrangements in field archaeology*. 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 documentary sources (where applicable) have been used in order to assess the historic importance of the building(s). Building phases were established prior to the photographic recording of the building, with each phase being discussed in detail.

Border Archaeology carried out a building survey programme to Level 3 combining a written, drawn and photographic record of all standing walls 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). This programme of building recording followed guidelines set out within Planning Policy Guidance (PPG) 15, *Standard and Guidance for the archaeological investigation and recording of standing buildings or structures* (Institute of Field Archaeologists, 1996, revised 2001) and standards defined by English Heritage/RCHME in *Understanding Historic Buildings – A guide to good recording practice* (English Heritage, 2006).

A photographic record was made using a high-resolution colour digital camera of 10.3MP capacity. Individual features were photographed as separate items and in detail. Each feature was also photographed and placed into a wider context (i.e. the surrounding elevation).

### 4. Structural Description and Analysis

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#### 4.1 Historical Background

The complex of outbuildings forming the subject of this programme of standing building recording is located to the S of Woodrow Farm (WSM 32167), a farmhouse of mid 19<sup>th</sup> century date occupying a large, roughly rectangular curtilage adjoining the W side of the B4091 road from Hanbury to Bromsgrove (**Plate 1**).

The farm lay within the manor of Hanbury, which formed part of the extensive estates of the Vernon family, whose impressive residence at Hanbury Hall is located approximately 1km to the W of Woodrow Farm (Brooks & Pevsner, 2007, 347-52). The origins of the manor of Hanbury date back to before the Norman Conquest; it appears to have originated as an estate belonging to an Anglo-Saxon *minster* recorded in a Mercian charter of 836 (Willis-Bund, 1913, 374).

No subsequent record of this monastic house has been found; its estates appear to have been appropriated by the bishopric of Worcester, which is recorded as holding the manor of Hanbury in Domesday Book (1086), which amounted to 14 hides. It is

likely that the existing parish church of St Mary the Virgin, situated 1km NW of Woodrow Farm, represents the site of the Anglo-Saxon *minster*. The estate of Hanbury remained in the possession of the bishopric of Worcester until 1558, when the manor was appropriated by the Crown and was subsequently purchased by Edward Vernon in 1630 (Willis-Bund, 1913, 374-7).



Plate 1: View N showing Woodrow Farm, a late 18<sup>th</sup> century brick farmhouse with later alterations

The early history of occupation at Woodrow Farm is poorly documented; the evidence of the place name (of Old English origin, incorporating the elements *wudw* and *raw* denoting ‘a row of trees’) does not necessarily imply the presence of settlement in this specific area during the medieval period. The earliest reference found to the place name ‘Woodrow’ dates from the early 19<sup>th</sup> century, when it appears on the Ordnance Surveyors’ drawing of 1813.

However, archaeological evidence for medieval activity in the vicinity of Woodrow Farm was identified during the Hanbury Landscape Survey of 1990-1 (Dyer, 1991). This consisted of a scatter of medieval pottery found in a ploughed field to the NW of the farm (WSM 11425; NGR SO 96100 63700), together with a well-defined area of ridge and furrow situated to the S (WSM 11738; NGR SO 96300 63500). Moreover, several of the buildings and boundary walls at Woodrow Farm incorporate blocks of worked masonry which appear to be derived from previous structures on the site and the cellarge of the farmhouse is also reputed to incorporate earlier fabric.

The earliest cartographic evidence found for occupation on the site of Woodrow Farm is contained in the survey and terrier of the Vernon estates at Hanbury drawn up by the Worcester mapmaker John Dougharty in 1731, which shows that the topography of the site differed considerably from its present appearance (**Fig. 2**). The 1731 map shows a T-shaped building, of two-unit, baffle-entry type, with a centrally placed chimneystack and entrance wing, which, at that time, appears to have immediately adjoined the N-S road from Hanbury towards Bromsgrove, which appears to have run further to the W of its modern alignment. Significantly, no outbuildings are shown



lying adjacent to the house, although the somewhat schematic fashion in which the buildings are depicted prevents detailed conclusions from being drawn about their appearance and layout.



Figure 2: Extract from the plan of the Vernon estates at Hanbury by J. Dougharty (1731)  
 (Reproduced by courtesy of the Worcestershire Record Office)

It is difficult to relate the plan of the building shown on the 1731 plan with the existing farmhouse, which appears to have been substantially rebuilt in the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century, together with the adjacent complex of outbuildings. However, it is likely that the central block of the farmhouse incorporates fabric from an earlier building and large pieces of worked masonry are visible in the walls of the farmhouse and the adjacent complex of outbuildings.

The Ordnance Surveyors' drawing of 1813 (at a scale of 2 inches to the mile) is the earliest map showing the complex of outbuildings located to the SE of the farmhouse. Unfortunately, the level of detail is insufficient on which to base detailed conclusions about the layout of the various outbuildings. However, the map depicts a freestanding rectangular building, oriented N-S, occupying the approximate location of the present farmhouse, to the SE of which are two ranges of buildings aligned E-W immediately adjoining the Bromsgrove road, which is shown on what appears to be its modern alignment.

The Hanbury parish tithe map of 1838 (**Fig. 3**) is the earliest map to provide detailed information on the layout of the outbuildings at Woodrow Farm. The tithe map shows a group of three buildings situated within a rectangular enclosure in the NE part of the site, the easternmost of which, aligned roughly N-S, appears to occupy the site of the present farmhouse, while to the W and SW of this building are two ranges of barns, aligned N-S and E-W respectively. Situated to the SE of this group of buildings, the tithe map depicts a complex consisting of four separate outbuildings, the northernmost of which comprises a long oblong range aligned roughly E-W with projecting wings at either end, adjoining the road to Bromsgrove. Facing this range

to the S is a smaller rectangular structure, while to the W of this is a T-shaped building consisting of a rectangular block with a cross-wing at the W end. Situated immediately to the SW of this T-shaped structure is an oblong range aligned roughly E-W.

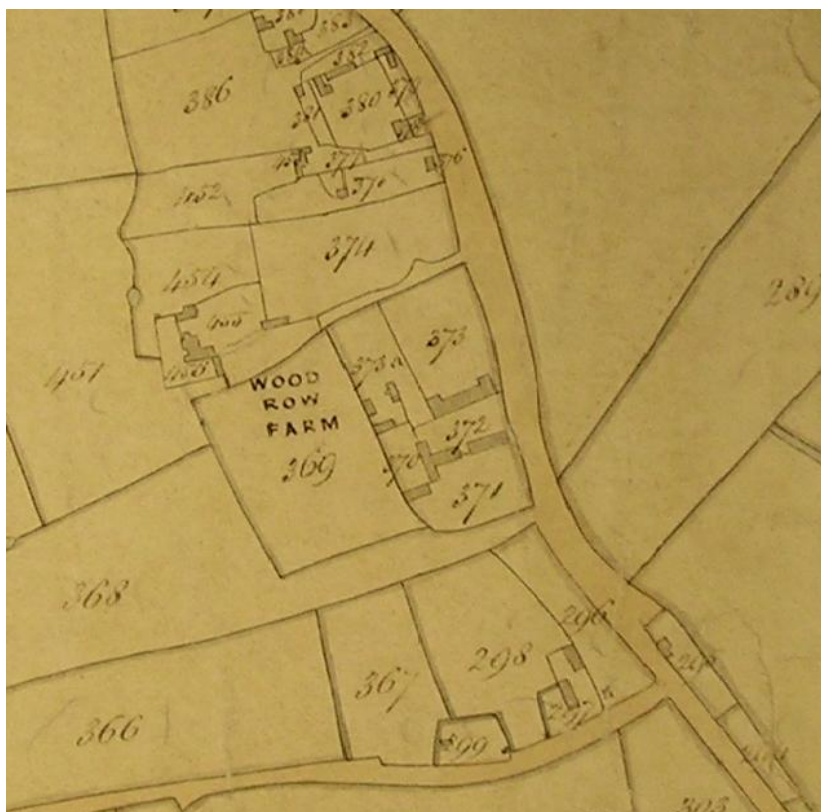


Figure 3: Extract from the Hanbury tithe map of 1838 showing Woodrow Farm  
(Reproduced by courtesy of the Worcestershire Record Office)

The tithe apportionment of 1838 records that Woodrow Farm was then owned by Thomas Vernon of Hanbury Hall and occupied by a tenant farmer named James Haywood (Heywood). Haywood appears to have been in occupation as early as 1820 and remained as tenant at Woodrow Farm throughout the middle decades of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. James Haywood is still listed as occupier of the farm in 1855 (Billing's Directory); however, he appears to have died by 1876, when his widow Ann Haywood is listed as tenant; together with a farmer named Joseph Creswell (Post Office Directory). By 1892, another tenant farmer, John Wilson, is recorded as occupying Woodrow Farm and was still residing there at the time of the Land Valuation Survey of 1910.

At some time between 1838 and 1884, it appears that the farmhouse and the adjacent complex of outbuildings were substantially rebuilt and enlarged and the layout of the farm, as shown on the OS 1<sup>st</sup> edition 25-inch map of 1884 (**Fig. 4**), is more clearly identifiable with its existing appearance. The northernmost range appears to have been partially demolished and rebuilt and a small L-shaped structure built immediately to the W of it, which was used as a pony-and-trap house. To the SW, the T-shaped building appears to have been completely rebuilt and an L-shaped range of buildings erected to the NW, which functioned as pigsties and a swill house, with a small, freestanding structure immediately to the S, which was apparently used



as a 'Boar Pen'. It should also be noted that the oblong range aligned E-W shown on the 1838 title map still appears to be extant on the OS 1<sup>st</sup> edition map of 1884.

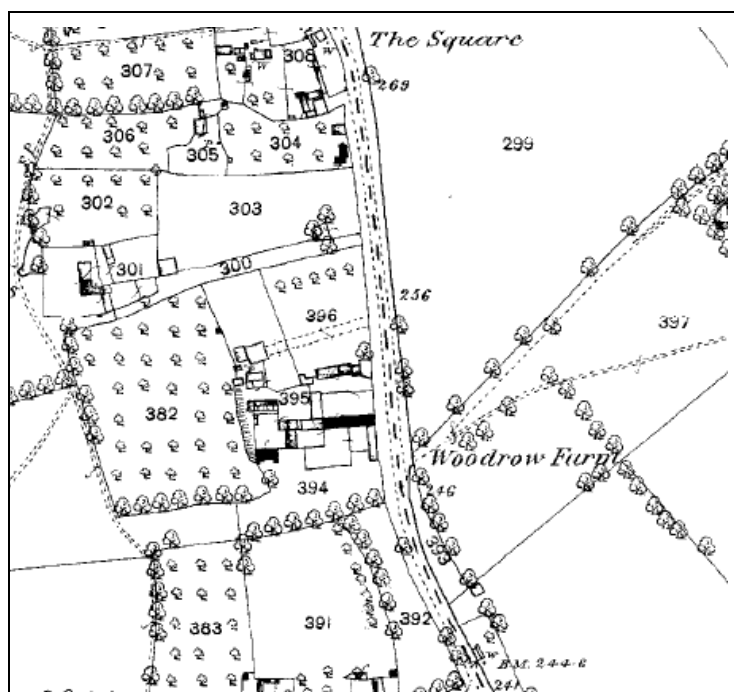


Figure 4: Extract from the OS 1<sup>st</sup> edition 25-inch map of 1884 showing Woodrow Farm  
 (Reproduced by courtesy of the Worcestershire Record Office)

Comparison between the OS 1<sup>st</sup> edition and 2<sup>nd</sup> edition maps dated 1884 and 1904, respectively, shows that further alterations had been made to the complex of outbuildings. The southernmost of the two ranges of outbuildings adjoining the road to Bromsgrove had been rebuilt to comprise a rectangular building (which may be identified with Barn 2) aligned E-W and connected to the E end of the L-shaped range shown on the OS map of 1884. The 1904 map (**Fig. 5**) also shows an open shed structure, this may be identified with a Dutch barn with a corrugated iron roof, which is visible on an aerial photograph of Woodrow Farm taken in about 1960.

A Land Valuation Survey of Woodrow Farm undertaken in 1910 (NA IR 58/93513) provides a useful snapshot of the layout of the farm and the condition of the buildings in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. The farmhouse is described as being 'of brick and tile, in good repair, containing 3 attics, 4 bedrooms, 2 front rooms, kitchen and wash kitchen, dairy, pantry and mess room'. The farm buildings are described as consisting of 'a wood house, swill tank and 6 piggeries and yard, 3 loose boxes for young stock (wood and tile), 6 stall stable and loose box, nag stable, harness room and loose box, bull pen, foal yard, chaff house and granary, 4 bay open shed and yard, 2 bay trap house, 4 bay Dutch barn, two bay carthouse and granary'. The occupier of the farm is listed as John Wilson, who held the tenancy of the farm from Mr B. Vernon of Hanbury Hall.

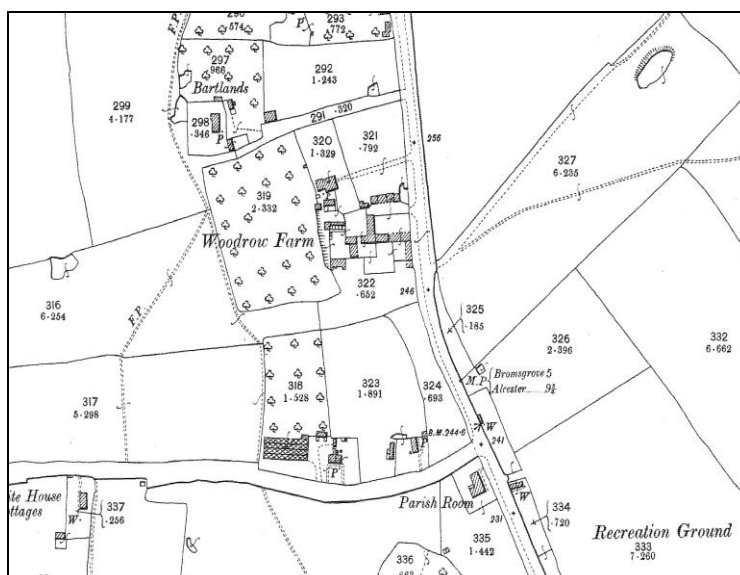


Figure 5: Extract from the OS 2<sup>nd</sup> edition 25-inch map of 1904 showing Woodrow Farm  
(Reproduced courtesy of the Worcestershire Record Office)

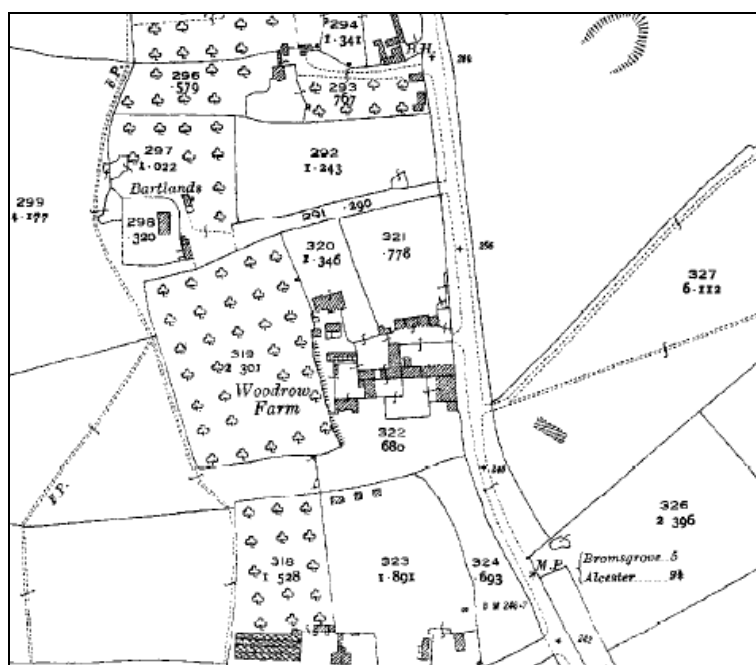


Figure 6: Extract from the OS 3<sup>rd</sup> edition 25-inch map of 1928 showing Woodrow Farm  
(Reproduced by courtesy of the Worcestershire Record Office)

The complex of outbuildings is shown as relatively unchanged on the OS 3<sup>rd</sup> edition map of 1928 (**Fig. 6**), with the exception of a small extension added to the N of Barn 2. An aerial photograph of Woodrow Farm taken c.1960 provides important information about the layout and appearance of the farmhouse and outbuildings prior to the alterations carried out in the mid to late 1970s (**Plate 2**).

Of particular interest is the barn aligned E-W and situated apart from and to the SW of the main complex of outbuildings, which has been demolished in recent years.

This barn, significantly, is shown as weatherboarded, in contrast to the other buildings, which are uniformly of brick construction. This would imply that this barn predated the other outbuildings and, indeed, a building of similar plan is shown in this location on the Hanbury tithe map of 1838.



Plate 2: Aerial photograph of c.1960 looking W showing the farmhouse and outbuildings at Woodrow Farm  
(Reproduced by courtesy of the owner)

## 4.2 General Building Plan

The complex of barns forming the subject of this programme of standing building recording occupy the southern part of the curtilage of Woodrow Farm, a three-storey farmhouse, largely of mid-19<sup>th</sup> century date. The complex comprises six barns (referred to on the architect's plans as Barns 1-6), the easternmost of which, Barn 1, is covered by a separate planning permission and therefore has not been included in this programme of works.

Barns 2 and 3 together form a large T-shaped range but have been recorded as two separate buildings. Barn 4, located to the N of Barns 2 and 3, is a small L-shaped single-storey gabled structure, three bays wide. Barn 5 located to the W of Barn 3, is roughly L-shaped in plan, two storeys in height with a half-hipped catslide roof. Situated to the W of Barn 5 is Barn 6, an L-shaped range of single-storey outbuildings, 6 bays in length, with a small freestanding structure (referred to as Barn 6a) situated immediately to the N.



Plate 3: View SW showing Barn 2, with Barn 3 adjacent to rear

### 4.3 Phased Description

Investigation revealed that the existing complex of farm outbuildings exhibits three major phases of construction and rebuilding:

1/ This comprises the principal construction phase, probably dating from the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century. It is represented by Barn 3, Barn 4, the small L-shaped stable block immediately N of Barn 3, Barn 5, situated immediately adjacent to and W of Barn 3, the range of pigsties and adjacent swill house (Barn 6) and the freestanding quadrangular structure immediately S of Barn 6, which was apparently used as a 'Boar Pen'.

This phase of building activity, based on the evidence of the Hanbury tithe map and the OS 1<sup>st</sup> edition 25-inch map, dates from between 1838 and 1884, during which period the complex of outbuildings at Woodrow Farm appears to have been largely rebuilt. The consistent external detailing of this group of buildings strongly suggests that they were constructed at roughly the same time.

2/ A secondary phase is represented by the construction of Barn 2, lying adjacent to the E of Barn 3 and replacing an earlier structure, which, based on cartographic evidence, appears to have been rebuilt at some time between 1884 and 1904. A small single-storey extension was added to the N of Barn 2 at some time between 1904 and 1928; this has been counted as a sub-phase (Phase 2a).

3/ A tertiary, recent phase of construction, dating from the mid-late 1970s, is represented by the building of a brick extension to the N of Barn 2 to accommodate a workshop, the substantial rebuilding of the southern range of Barn 3 and the extensive renewal of door and window openings in Barn 3 and, to a lesser extent, Barn 4.

#### 4.3.1 Phase 1 (mid 19th century)

Phase 1, the principal phase of construction, dated on cartographic evidence to the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century, was represented by the northern range of Barn 3, together with Barns 4, 5 and 6. These four barns exhibited a remarkable consistency of detailing, in particular, the bonding of the brickwork and the dentilled eaves corning, which strongly suggests that they represent a single phase of construction.



Plate 4: View SE showing Barn 3 with Barn 5 adjacent to W

##### 4.3.1.1 Barn 3 Northern Range

The northern range of Barn 3 (**Plate 4**) was a single-storey gabled building, four bays long and aligned N-S, constructed of brick (in an irregular English Garden Bond, bonded with a light brown sandy mortar with frequent rounded stones) with a hipped, tiled roof with a dentilled eaves cornice, partially concealed by modern guttering (**Plate 5**). The principal W-facing elevation consisted of five window- and two door-openings, all of which appeared to have been renewed quite recently, indicated by the use of Staffordshire blue bricks (commonly used in the 1960s-70s) for the window and door lintels and angled blue bricks for the window sills.

The N-facing gable elevation exhibited the same dentilled decoration evident in the W-facing elevation. A doorway was inserted in the E end of the elevation, which also appeared to have been renewed with a blue-brick lintel; immediately to the right of this doorway was a flat-headed, eight-light window, metal-framed with a concrete lintel and sill, which appeared to be a later addition. The E-facing external elevation of Barn 3 had been obscured by the building of the N extension to Barn 2 in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century and the subsequent construction of a workshop in the late 1970s (**Plate 6**). The dentilling visible in the W-facing elevation was also reproduced here. This elevation also had four narrow flat-headed window openings with brick lintels and sills inserted just below eaves level, which appeared to be later additions.





Plate 5: View E showing detail of N end of W-facing principal elevation of Barn 3, showing dentilled eaves

The internal arrangements of Barn 3 were difficult to investigate fully, due to the current use of the barn for storing agricultural implements and timber. The internal walls had also been largely covered with whitewash. The roof construction comprised three sets of kingpost trusses, with inclined struts connecting the kingpost to the principal rafters, carrying two sets of through-trenched purlins (**Plate 7**). The roof timbers appeared to be of recent date and may have been contemporary with the repairs to the external elevation carried out in the 1970s. The southernmost of the three roof trusses had been damaged (due to the weakening of the E wall) and was supported by steel uprights.

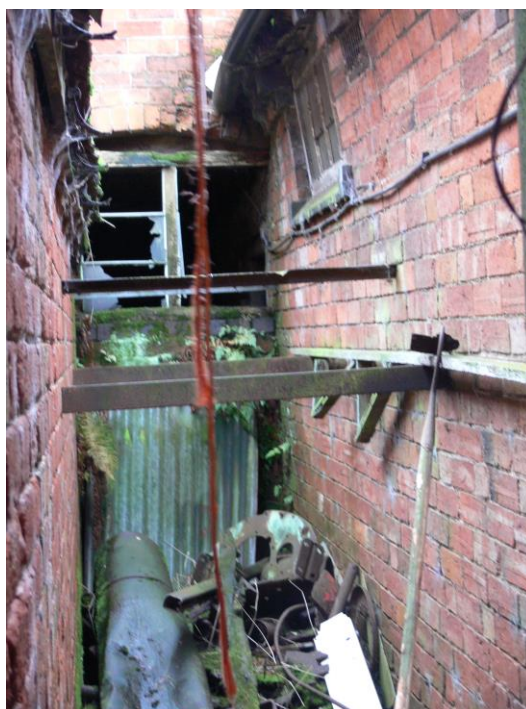


Plate 6: View S showing E wall of Barn 3 to right



Plate 7: View S showing kingpost roof truss in Barn 3

Internally, the barn was arranged into four separate stalls for livestock, with a narrow passageway running along the E side of the barn. The passageway was clearly demarcated from the livestock stalls by plank-and-batten partitions extending up to the height of the tie beam, resting upon a low mortared standard-gauge red-brick wall (**Plate 8**).



Plate 8:View N showing passageway along E side of Barn 3, with livestock stalls to the left



4.3.1.2 Barn 3 – Southern Range



Plate 9 View looking SE showing N-facing elevation of southern range of Barn 3 showing original eaves cornice replaced by timber wall-plate



Plate 10: View looking S showing W facing gable of Barn 3

The structural evidence suggests that the southern range of Barn 3 was originally a self-contained unit, separate from and possibly preceding the construction of the northern four bays, which appear to be built up against the southern range. However, the cartographic evidence appears to indicate that both structures were in existence by the late 19<sup>th</sup> century and are shown on the OS 1<sup>st</sup> edition 25-inch map of 1884. The original relationship between the northern and southern ranges is difficult to determine, owing to the fact that the southern range has been considerably altered, probably in the mid-late 1970s, when the roofline was heightened and the N- and W-facing external walls were substantially rebuilt.

The southern wing of Barn 3 comprised a single-storey gabled range of brick construction (laid in Common Bond with 4<sup>th</sup> course Flemish headers and bonded with a greyish mortar) aligned E-W, four bays long with a hipped, tiled roof. The roofline of the structure appeared to have been heightened and a timber wall-plate inserted in place of the original eaves cornice (**Plate 9**). The N-facing elevation of the barn had two narrow four-pane windows, devoid of sills or lintels.

The range was entered via a flat-headed, wooden-framed doorway set at the N end of the W-facing gable elevation, which appeared to be a later addition (**Plate 10**). A modern timber lintel and vertical, square post had been inserted above and to the left of the doorway. It was noticeable that the brickwork in the lowest seven or eight courses of the W-facing gable, to the right (S) of the doorway, showed signs of considerable wear and have not been as heavily re-pointed as those above, perhaps suggesting that this may have represented part of the original construction of the barn.



Plate 11: View looking NE showing S-facing elevation of Barn 3

The S-facing external elevation, now concealed by a corrugated iron barn, also appeared not to have been as substantially altered as its N-facing counterpart. The S-facing elevation consisted of two flat-headed, wooden-framed doorways, flanked

by three flat-headed windows, all with blue brick lintels and sills, very similar in appearance to the W-facing elevation of the northern range of Barn 3 (**Plate 11**). No evidence of a dentilled eaves cornice was noted; however, this may have been due to the insertion of the timber wall-plate contemporary with the reconstruction and heightening of the roof in the mid to late 1970s.

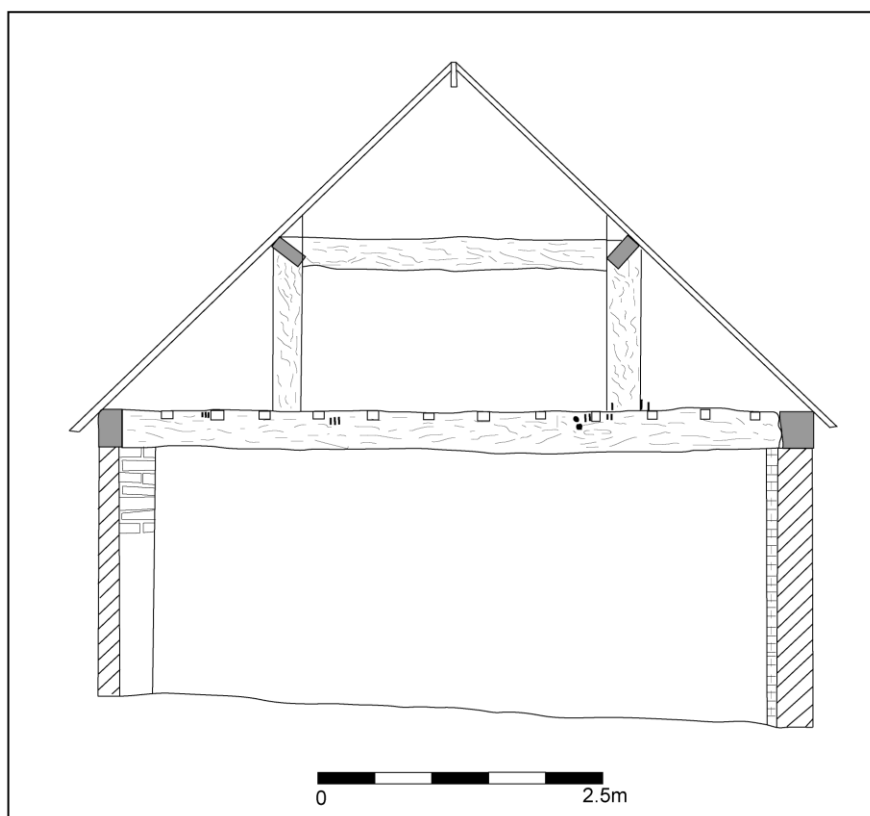


Fig. 7: Section looking E showing queen-post roof construction in Barn 3

The internal arrangements of the barn were difficult to examine in detail, due to the recent use of the building as a timber store, and the internal walls had been largely whitewashed. The roof was of queen-post construction (**Fig. 7**), comprising three sets of queen-post trusses, each of which consisted of two vertical members (queen struts) connecting the tie beam to the principal rafters and, in turn, connected by a horizontal collar beam. A set of trenched through-purlins was also carried on top of the vertical queen struts.

The southern range of Barn 3, like its counterpart to the N, appeared to have been used as a livestock barn, indicated by the remains of a brick-lined animal trough located 0.9m S of the N wall and extending for 10m W of the E end of the barn. The easternmost bay of the barn was separated from the rest of the barn by a mortared brick partition wall, with a plank-and-batten partition wall marking the division between this structure and the northern four bays of Barn 3 (**Plate 12**). Evidence of a blocked segmental arched doorway was also noted in the E gable end of the southern range, which was bricked-up and a flat-headed doorway inserted (**Plate 13**), presumably when the adjacent Barn 2 was built, at some time between 1884 and 1904.





Plate 12: View N showing brick-lined trough and wooden partition wall on N side of southern range of Barn 3



Plate 13: View E showing bricked-up segmental arched doorway at E gable end of Barn 3 with later flat-headed doorway inserted

#### 4.3.1.3 Barn 4

Barn 4, situated immediately W of Barn 1 and opposite Barn 3, was an L-shaped, single-storey structure of brick construction (in an irregular English Garden Bond), with a half-hipped, tiled roof and dentilled eaves, which had been purposely built as a pony-and-trap house. The principal S-facing elevation of the barn (**Plate 14**) was three bays in length, the western bay having a wooden-framed stable door under a segmental gauged brick arch, while two wooden-framed three-light windows within semicircular brick arches were inserted in the central and eastern bays of the elevation. The E-facing gable elevation also exhibited evidence of dentilling but no other features were visible



Plate 14: View N showing S-facing elevation of Barn 4

The rear N-facing elevation of Barn 4 (**Plate 15**) had similar dentilled eaves corncicing to the S-facing elevation. The lower part of the N-facing elevation exhibited evidence of partial rebuilding, with the insertion of two courses of elongated, large worked slabs of greyish mudstone. These worked slabs were presumably derived from the fabric of another, earlier building, possibly of medieval date, and were very similar in size and appearance to those visible in the boundary wall adjacent to and extending to the W of the barn.

Projecting to the rear of the building was a single-bay gabled extension with a half-hipped roof, surmounted by a two-tier brick chimneystack. Inserted in the E-facing wall of the extension was a single flat-headed four-light window with Staffordshire blue angled bricks for the sill, which identified it as a later insertion, probably dating from the 1970s.





Plate 15: View SW showing rear N-facing elevation of Barn 4 with gabled N wing with half-hipped roof surmounted by chimneystack

The internal arrangements of Barn 4 appeared to have remained essentially unchanged since its construction, which can be dated, based on cartographic evidence, to some time between 1838 and 1884. The interior, which was covered by a thick lime whitewash, had been arranged into three compartments, a large L-shaped room with a plaster barrel-vaulted roof and regularly coursed brick cobbled flooring (**Plate 16**), with a wooden hayrack and trough and a cast iron manger at the N end of the room (**Plate 17**).



Plate 16: Plan view showing cobbled flooring and drain in L-shaped compartment of Barn 4



Plate 17: Internal view N showing wooden hayrack and trough attached to N wall

To the E of this room, a segmental gauged arched doorway gave access to a smaller, rectangular room with brick flooring and a central drain in the centre of the floor, with a wooden hayrack and manger mounted against the E wall. The most interesting feature of Barn 4 was the small oblong room containing a fireplace and chimney flue of brick construction, recessed into the NW corner (**Plate 18**). The fireplace appeared originally to have had a cast iron grate. Its function appeared not only to have been to keep the horses warm but also to dry the harness, as indicated by the horizontal wooden posts above and to the left of the fireplace.



Plate 18: View looking N showing harness room in Barn 4 with fireplace in NW corner



#### 4.3.1.4 Barn 5



Plate 19: View SW showing N-facing and E-facing elevations of Barn 5

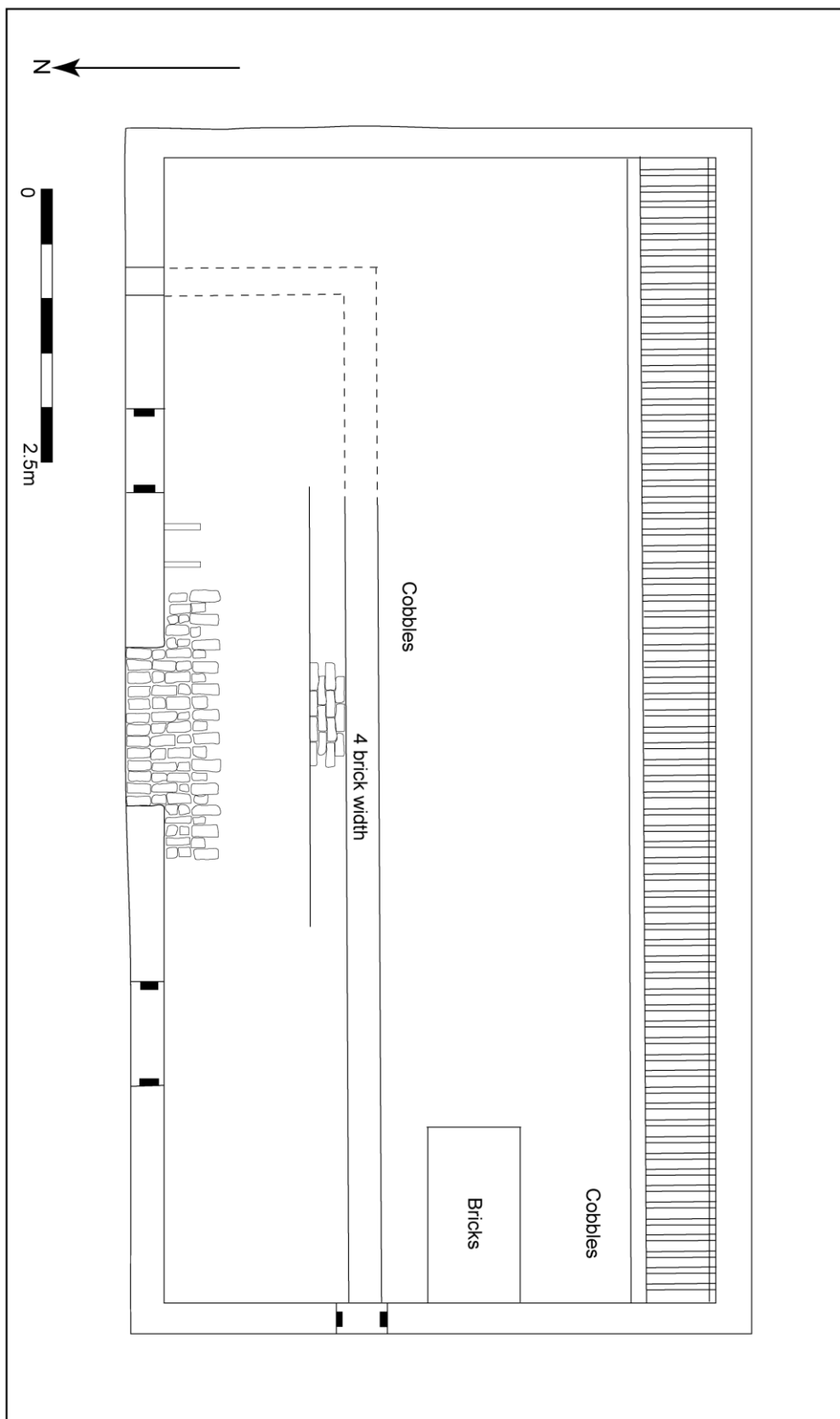
Barn 5 was a four-bay structure, apparently built as a stable, comprising a single-storey with hayloft, of brick construction (in an irregular English Garden bond) with a half-hipped, tiled roof with dentilled eaves partly concealed by modern guttering (**Plate 19**). The principal, N-facing elevation had a central doorway, with a wooden frame under a segmental gauged brick arch, flanked by two segmental arched gauged windows, both wooden framed. The brickwork of the upper storey displayed evidence of having been substantially re-pointed.



Plate 20: View N showing S gable end of extension to Barn 5



Fig. 8: Ground plan of Barn 5 showing features identified



The E-facing gable end of the structure had a large wooden-framed hayloft doorway at upper-storey level, within a gauged brick segmental arched opening. Immediately below and to the right of the hayloft doorway was a small rectangular two-light wooden-framed window within a simple flat-arched opening, which appeared to be a later insertion. The W-facing external elevation of the barn had a series of irregularly placed ventilation slots at upper storey (hayloft) level, below which was a two-light, flat-arched window similar to that inserted in the E gable end of the barn, and presumably added at about the same date.

Attached to the S wall of the barn was a gabled extension probably built as a livestock shelter, four bays in length, (**Plate 20**) of brick construction (in an irregular English Garden Bond) with a hipped, tiled roof. The S gable and W-facing elevation were brick-built with dentilled eaves, while the E-facing elevation was completely open, the wall-plate being carried on steel uprights. An aerial photograph of c.1960 shows that the E-facing elevation was originally enclosed by a plank-and-batten wall, with the wall-plate supported by wooden posts.

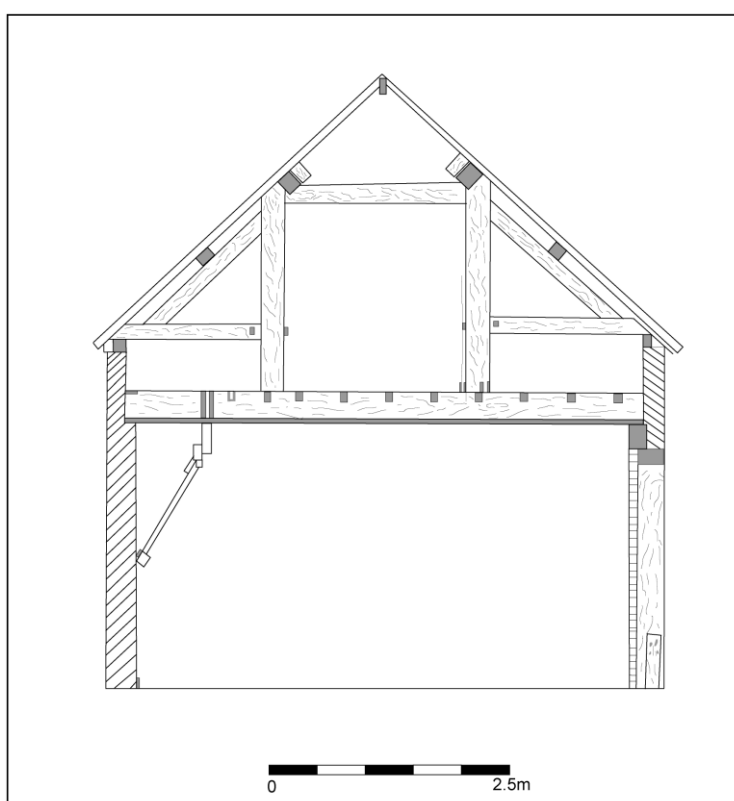


Fig. 9: W-facing section showing queen-post roof trusses in Barn 5

The internal arrangements of the barn appeared to relate to its use as a cattle barn and no obvious indication of earlier usage was noted. The roof construction comprised three sets of queen-post trusses, each consisting of two vertical members, supported by horizontal braces at wall-plate level, rising from the tie-beam to support the principal rafters and connected by a collar beam (**Fig. 9**). The principal rafters were connected by two sets of purlins, the uppermost of which was partially carried upon the queen-post members and collar beam. The horizontal rafters carrying the hayloft floor still largely remained intact, although the floor planking had since been removed. A series of carpenter's marks were identified, inscribed in Roman numerals from I-VIII, at the S end of each of the horizontal rafters.

Due to the recent usage of the barn for storing agricultural and household materials, it was not possible to examine the flooring of the barn extensively; however, certain features were clearly identifiable. The flooring appeared to largely consist of irregular stone cobbling, embedded within a well cemented dark reddish-brown sandy clay; however, two areas of brick flooring were identified, the first located immediately within the entrance to the barn, measuring 2.5m × 0.75m, while the second area adjoined the W wall of the barn, measuring 1.5m × 0.85m. A brick-lined drainage gully was also visible, extending for 9.5m from the W end of the barn and then turning 90 degrees to the N, continuing N for some 2m before exiting via a drain in the NE corner.



Plate 21: Internal view SE, showing racks mounted along N-facing wall of barn

Other features relating to the use of the barn were also identified, including a large wooden hayrack running along the entire length of the N-facing wall of the barn and connected to each of the tie beams by vertical struts (**Plate 21**). Immediately to the left of the barn entrance were two horizontal wooden posts attached to the S-facing wall, which were evidently used for hanging harnesses (**Plate 22**).



Plate 22: Internal view looking NE showing N wall with wooden harness post

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- Plate 6: View S showing E wall of Barn 3 to right
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- Plate 8: View N showing passageway along E side of Barn 3, with livestock stalls to the left
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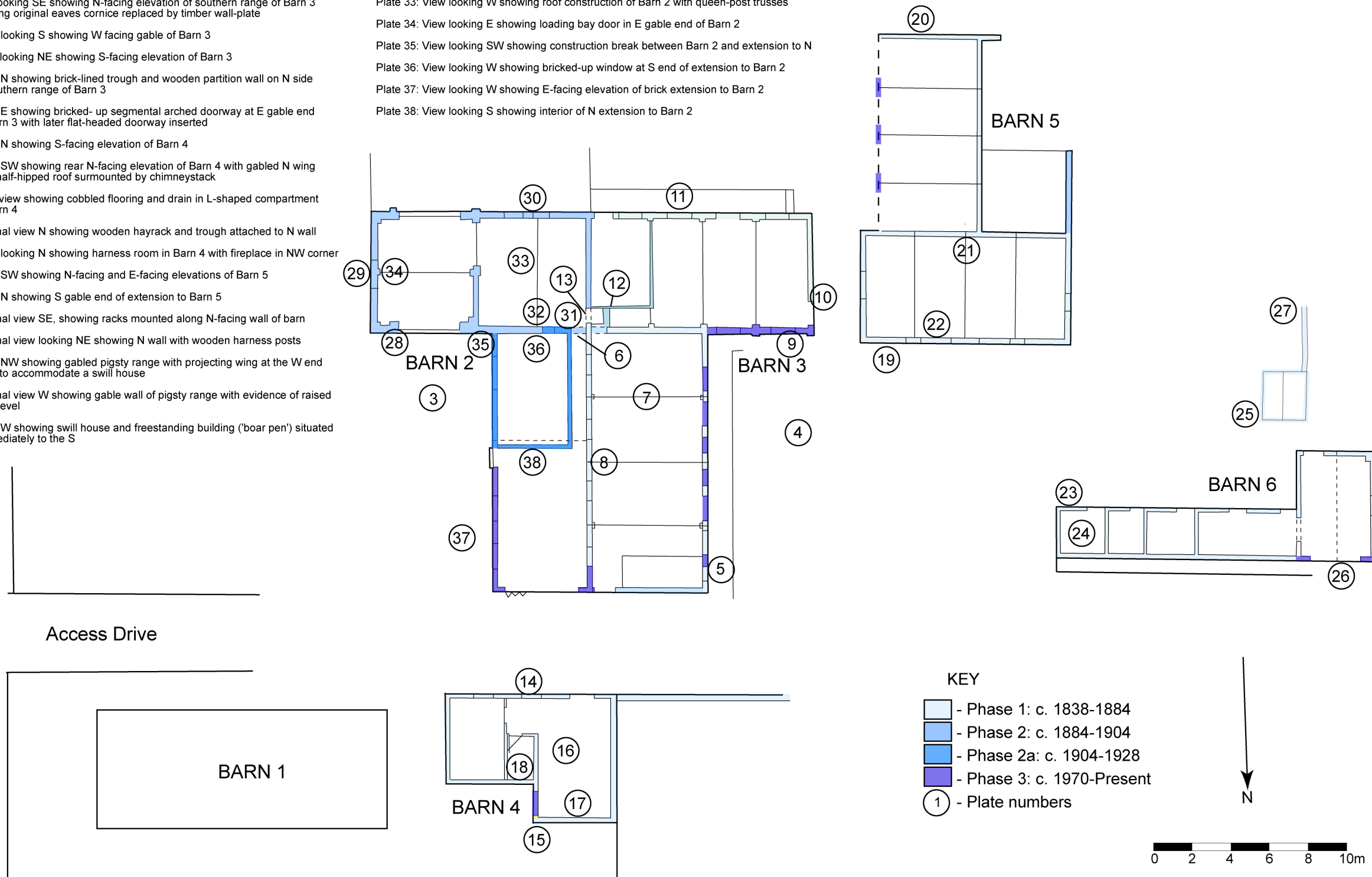


Fig. 9: Plan of barns showing phases of construction and alteration (cross-referenced to plates)

#### 4.3.1.5 Barn 6

Also belonging to the principal construction phase was Barn 6. This consisted of a single-storey gabled range, of brick construction (bonded in an irregular English Garden Bond), aligned E-W. It was five bays long with a projecting wing (used as a swill house) attached to the W gable end, also brick-built, and one-and-a-half storeys high, aligned N-S, with a chimneystack attached to the W corner of the S gable (**Plate 23**). The roofs were both tiled with dentilled eaves corncicing, similar in appearance to Barn 4. Four narrow ventilation slits were visible at the apex of the E-facing gable elevation.



Plate 23: View NW showing gabled pigsty range with projecting wing at the W end built to accommodate a swill house

Five flat-arched openings were inserted into the S-facing elevation of the gabled range, four of which possessed their original wooden lintels, which originally gave access to individual walled pig-runs. These walls have since been demolished, although the stumps were still clearly visible. The interior of the gabled range, which was originally whitewashed, was divided into five separate compartments or pens, demarcated by four brick partition walls, three of which have been removed, although the footings of the walls were still clearly visible. Evidence for the level of the original floor was clearly indicated by a stringcourse at an approximate height of 0.7m from the base of the wall (**Plate 24**).





Plate 24: Internal view W showing gable wall of pigsty range with evidence of raised floor level

The swill house, abutting the W end of the gabled range, has been converted into a garage and few internal features relating to its original use were visible (**Plate 25**). A flight of three stone steps gave access to a flat-arched doorway with wooden lintel inserted into the S-facing gable of the building. A modern carport with a concrete lintel had been inserted into the N-facing elevation of the building, which appeared to have been largely rebuilt (**Plate 26**).



Plate 25: View W showing swill house and freestanding building ('boar pen') situated immediately to the S



Plate 26: View looking S showing N-facing gable elevation of Barn 6 with modern carport inserted

The freestanding structure situated immediately to the S of the pigsty range and swill house, referred to as a 'boar pen', was a rectangular gabled structure with a hipped, tiled roof and dentilled eaves cornice with a single flat-arched doorway with wooden lintel and door-frame inserted into the S-facing gable elevation (**Plate 27**). The heavily truncated remains of brick walls with stone coping projecting from the S gable end represented the remnants of a walled enclosure extending to the S of the 'boar pen'.



Plate 27: View looking NW showing 'boar pen' and remains of adjoining enclosure wall with 'swill house' to rear



### 4.3.2 Phase 2 (late 19th -early 20th century)



Plate 28: View looking S showing N-facing elevation of Barn 2 with wagon entrance

This phase of building activity, which may be dated to roughly between 1884 and 1904 (based on cartographic evidence), was represented by the construction of Barn 2, attached to the E end of Barn 3. A small single-storey extension was also added to the N of Barn 2 at some time between 1904 and 1928; this has been counted as a sub-phase (Phase 2a).

#### 4.3.2.1 Barn 2

Barn 2, which may be identified with the granary and carhouse listed in the Land Valuation Survey of 1910, comprised a two-storey gabled structure, three bays long, of brick construction (in a Common bond with 6<sup>th</sup> course Flemish headers) with a hipped tiled roof. A single-storey extension to the N, originally two bays long, was built between 1904 and 1928, and further extended in the mid-1970s. Barn 2 was clearly differentiated from the adjacent, earlier Barn 3 by its greater height and the noticeable absence of dentilling in the eaves, a feature common to all the Phase 1 buildings.

The N-facing elevation of the barn (**Plate 28**) had a broad, flat-headed entrance for wagons, above which was a wooden fascia board at eaves level. The E-facing gable elevation of the barn had a low, segmental gauged brick loading-door giving access to the loft at first-floor level (**Plate 29**). The S-facing external elevation, completely concealed by the construction of a modern, corrugated iron barn, had a corresponding wagon entrance, immediately to the W of which were two windows, one flat-arched, the other with a segmental gauged brick arch, both having eight-pane casement frames (**Plate 30**).



Plate 29: View looking W showing E-facing gable elevation of Barn 2 and extension to N

The internal arrangements of Barn 2 exhibited evidence of considerable modern alteration and repair (**Fig. 11**). The barn itself was divided into two compartments, apparently representing two distinct working areas. Much of the original threshing floor survived, comprising large, regularly laid rectangular flagstones, some of which were heavily worn and fragmented, with evidence of occasional patching with brick and mortar. The flagstone flooring had been further disturbed by the insertion of three cast iron tanks for grain storage.



Plate 30: View looking NE showing S-facing external elevation of Barn 2

Fig. 11 Ground floor plan of Barn 2 showing features identified

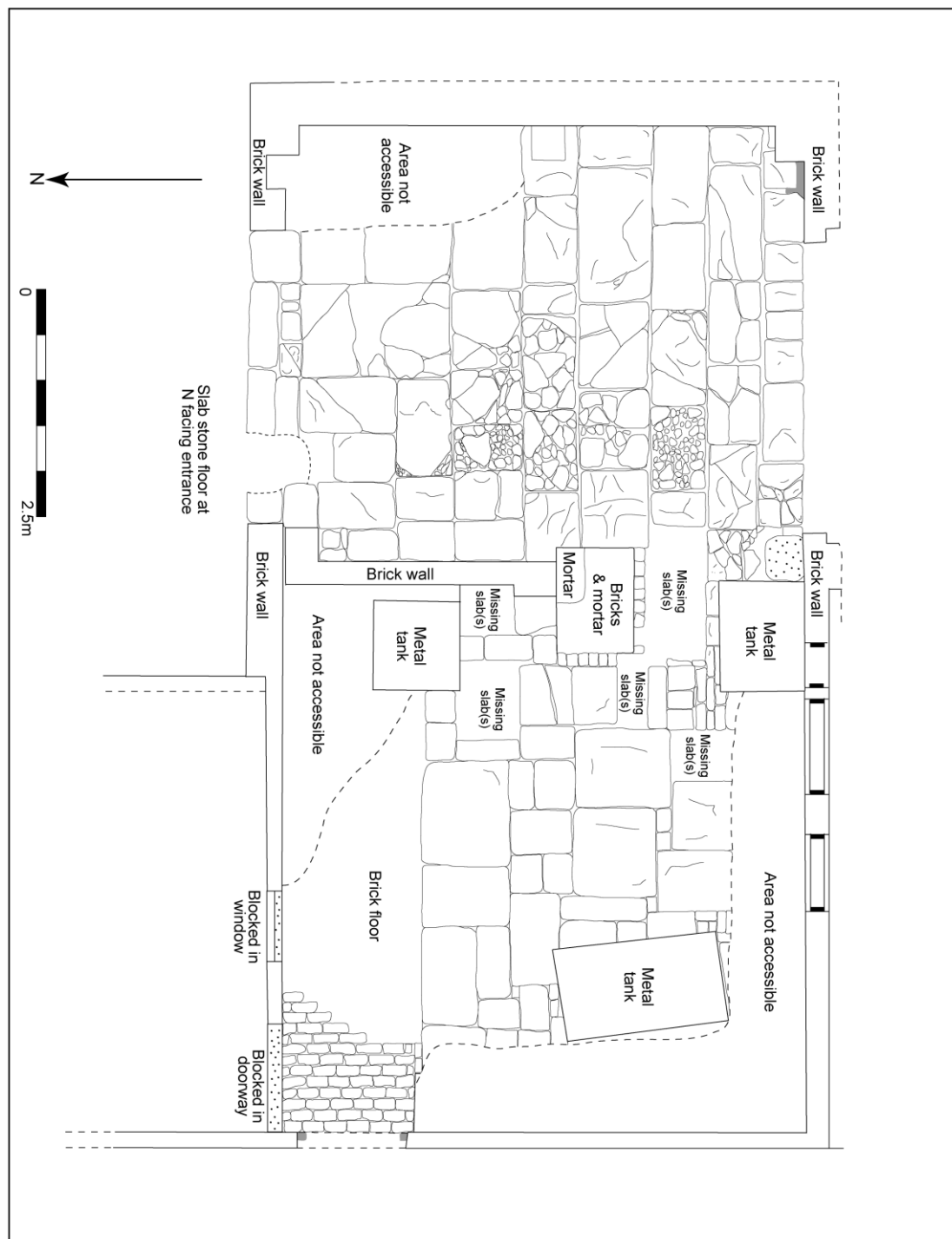






Plate 31: View N showing bricked-up doorway in NW corner of Barn 2

Further alterations were visible in the extreme NW corner of the barn, where the original doorway, with a low, gauged brick arch, had been bricked up and a small two-light, six-pane casement window with a metal frame and brick sill inserted (**Plate 31**). Immediately adjacent to this feature is evidence for a segmental gauged arch window inserted in the N wall and since bricked up (**Plate 32**). The original flagstone flooring in this part of the barn also appeared to have been replaced by standard gauge brick flooring. These alterations appear to be contemporary with the construction of the N extension to Barn 2, at some point between 1904 and 1928.



Plate 32: View N showing bricked-up window in S-facing wall of Barn 2



Plate 33: View looking W showing roof construction of Barn 2 with queen-post trusses

The upper storey of Barn 2 similarly revealed evidence of extensive modern alterations, the most obvious being the insertion of grain-processing machinery (**Plate 33**). The roof construction consisted of two sets of queen-post trusses (**Fig. 12**), with the vertical members supported by horizontal braces at wall-plate level and connected by a collar beam; the joints had been further reinforced with cast iron ties. The flooring of the easternmost bay of the barn was noticeably lower than the other two bays, presumably connected with its use as a loading bay, as indicated by the segmental arched loading door in the E gable end (**Plate 34**). The flooring of the westernmost two bays was supported by steel girders, inserted in the mid-late 1970s and contemporary with the installation of the grain processing machinery.

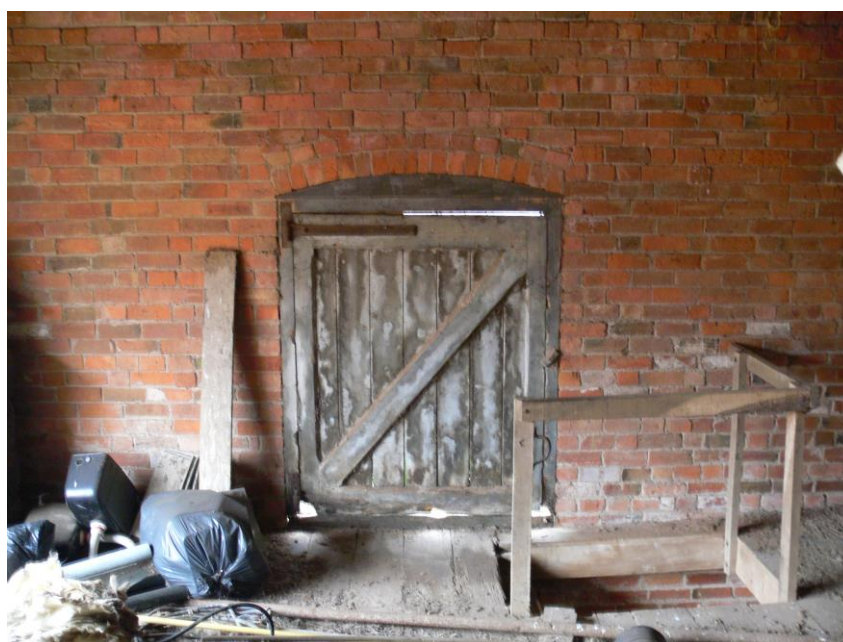


Plate 34: View looking E showing loading bay door in E gable end of Barn 2

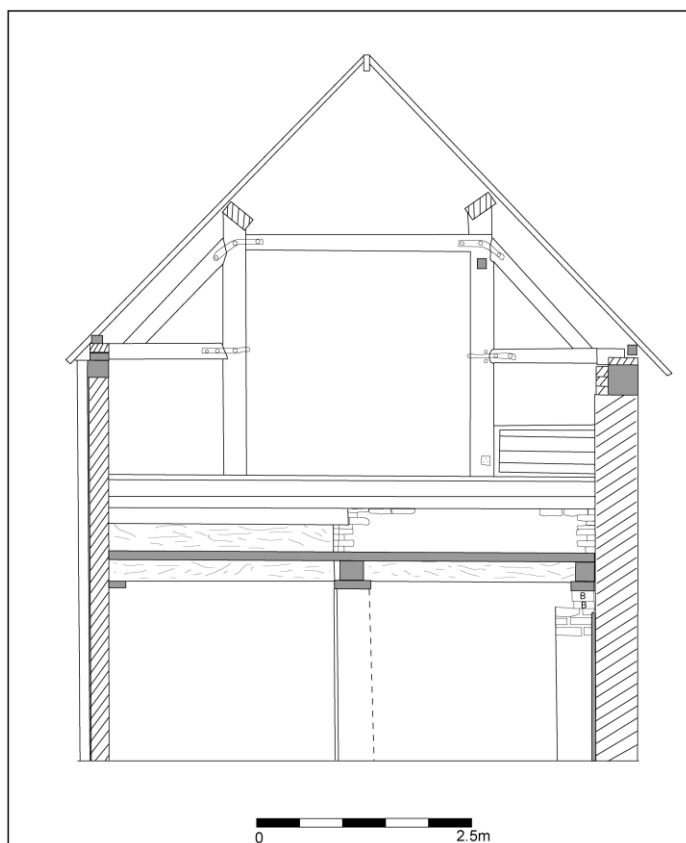


Fig. 12: Section showing queen-post roof construction in Barn 2

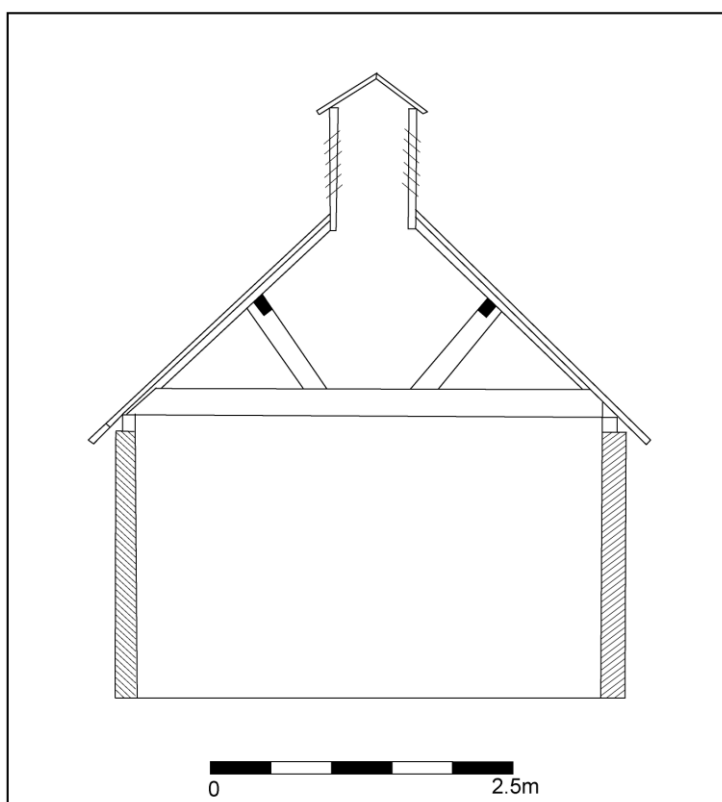


Fig. 13 Section showing open truss roof construction in N extension to Barn 2



#### 4.3.2.1 N Extension to Barn 2



Plate 35: View looking SW showing construction break between Barn 2 and extension to N

Adjacent to the NW corner of Barn 2 was a single-storey extension to the N, two bays in length, of brick construction (in an irregularly coursed Common Bond, bonded with a greyish mortar) with a hipped, tiled roof. Based on the evidence of the OS 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> edition maps, it appeared to have been built at some time between 1904 and 1928 (**Plate 35**). The E-facing external elevation of the building had a single flat-headed 12-pane window with a brick sill. Internally, the S end of the extension had clearly been built up against the N wall of Barn 2, as indicated by a bricked-up, segmental arched window (**Plate 36**). The roof construction comprises two sets of open trusses, with the tie beam connected to the principal rafters by inclined struts (**Fig. 13**). Inserted in the centre of the roof is a small louver with ventilation slots and a corrugated iron roof, which appears to be connected with the use of the building as an 'Engine House'.



Plate 36: View looking W showing bricked-up window at S end of extension to Barn 2



### 4.3.3 Phase 3 (mid to late 1970s)

#### 4.3.3.1 Workshop extension to N of Barn 2



Plate 37: View looking W showing E-facing elevation of brick extension to Barn 2

This, the latest phase of building activity, was represented by the single-storey lean-to extension attached to the N extension of Barn 2, which was built in the mid to late 1970s as a workshop (**Plate 37**). The extension was gabled, three bays in length, of brick construction (in running bond) with a hipped, tiled roof, noticeably higher than the building to which it was attached, with plastic guttering. The principal E-facing elevation was devoid of any external detailing and consisted of a plain flat-arched doorway at the S end, to the right of which were two flat-arched eight-light casement windows with concrete lintels and tiled sills. A carport with corrugated iron door was inserted in the N-facing gabled elevation.

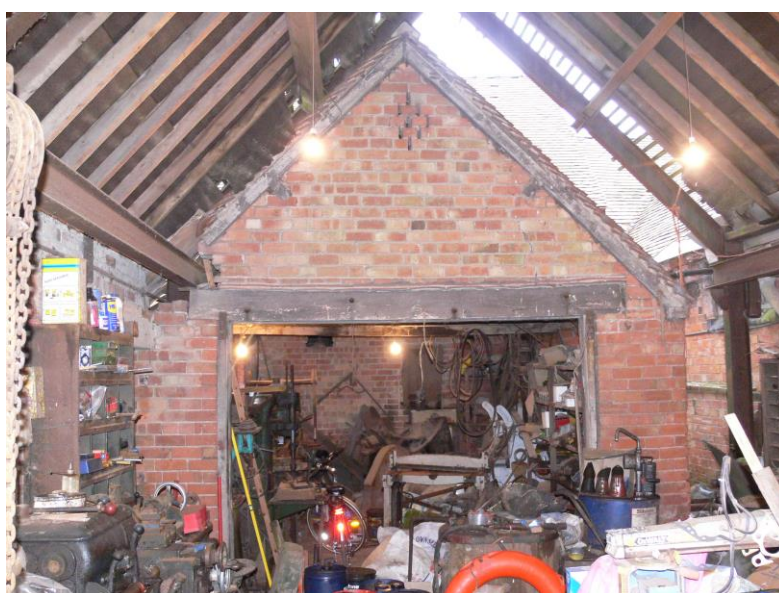


Plate 38: View looking S showing interior of N extension to Barn 2

Internally, it was immediately obvious that the extension lacked an E-facing wall, having been built up directly against the E external elevation of Barn 3. The roof was of open truss construction, the principal rafters linked by trenched purlins and resting on an iron wall-plate, which, in turn, was supported at intervals by rectangular steel uprights (**Plate 38**).

## 5. Conclusion

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A combination of documentary analysis and standing building recording of the existing complex of outbuildings at Woodrow Farm revealed evidence of three distinct phases of building activity from the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century up to the late 1970s.

- Phase 1, the principal phase of construction, appears to date from between 1838 and 1884, based on the evidence of the Hanbury tithe map and the OS 1<sup>st</sup> edition 25-inch map, when it appears that the entire complex of outbuildings was substantially rebuilt.
- This phase of building activity was represented by Barn 3, Barn 4, the small L-shaped stable block immediately N of Barn 3, Barn 5, situated immediately adjacent to and W of Barn 3, the range of pigsties and adjacent swill house (Barn 6) and the freestanding building immediately S of Barn 6, which was apparently used as a 'Boar Pen'.
- The consistent external detailing of this group of buildings (in particular the dentilled eaves corncicing) strongly suggests that they were probably constructed at about the same time.
- Phase 2 was represented by the construction of Barn 2, a two-storey carthouse and granary lying adjacent to the E of Barn 3 and replacing an earlier structure, which, based on cartographic evidence, appears to have been rebuilt at some time between 1884 and 1904, with a Dutch barn attached to the E end. A small single-storey extension was added to the N of Barn 2 at some time between 1904 and 1928.
- Phase 3, the most recent phase of building activity, was represented by the construction of a further single-storey extension to the N of Barn 2 to accommodate a workshop in the mid to late 1970s, contemporary with the construction of two large corrugated iron barns to the S of Barns 2 and 3 respectively. The southern four bays of Barn 3 also appear to have been extensively altered during the same period.

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1838 – Tithe Map of Hanbury Parish

1884 - OS 1<sup>st</sup> edition 25-inch map (Worcestershire 22.16)

1904 – OS 2<sup>nd</sup> edition 25-inch map (Worcestershire 22.16)

1928 – OS 3<sup>rd</sup> edition 25-inch map (Worcestershire 22.16)

1953 – OS provisional edition 6-inch map (Worcestershire 22 SE)

Three aerial photographs showing Woodrow Farm were also consulted, by kind courtesy of the owner of the farm, Mr P. Platt.





## Document Control

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