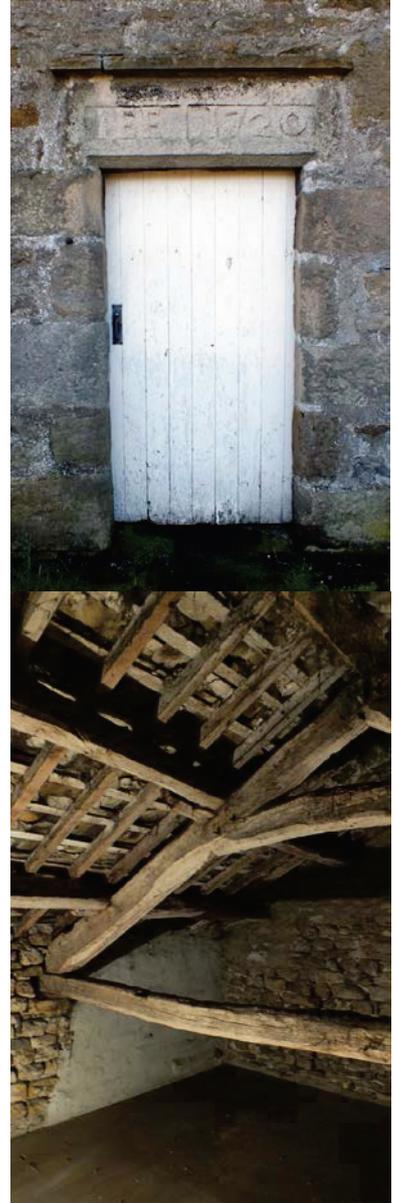


# OAKHEAD FARM, MEWITH LANE, TATHAM, LANCASTER, LANCASHIRE

## Archaeological Building Recording



Client: Mr and Mrs Longton

Planning Application Reference:  
1/15/00255/CU

NGR: 365610 467210

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September 2015



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## Non-Technical Summary

Following the submission of a planning application to convert a former agricultural building to ancillary accommodation for an existing dwelling house at Oakhead Farm, Mewith Lane, Tatham, Lancaster, Lancashire, a condition was placed on the decision notice by Lancaster City Council requiring that a record of the building be made beforehand to better understand its historical development and significance. Following the provision of a project design by Greenlane Archaeology the work on site was carried out in September 2015.

The current farmhouse and barn are shown on the earliest Ordnance Survey map, surveyed in 1844-5, and the datestone above the door of the barn suggests a construction date for the barn of 1720. The initials on the datestone perhaps belong to John Ellershaw (1681-?1759), whose family continued here until at least 1835. The shippon to the south-east side of the barn was not been built until after 1913.

The current farmhouse is butted by the barn to the north-east and the shippon to the south-east side of the barn is believed to have been built in the mid-to-late 20<sup>th</sup> century. The barn is of local interest because it retains much of its original fabric, including the original trusses and stonework, and has remained relatively unchanged since its construction.

## Acknowledgements

Greenlane Archaeology would like to thank Mr and Mrs Longton for commissioning the project and providing information about the building, and Ray Parr, Planning and Architectural Services, for providing 'as existing' architect's drawings of the site.

The building recording and desk-based assessment were carried out by Tom Mace, who also produced the illustrations. The report was edited by Jo Dawson and Dan Elsworth, the latter of whom also managed the project.

# 1. Introduction

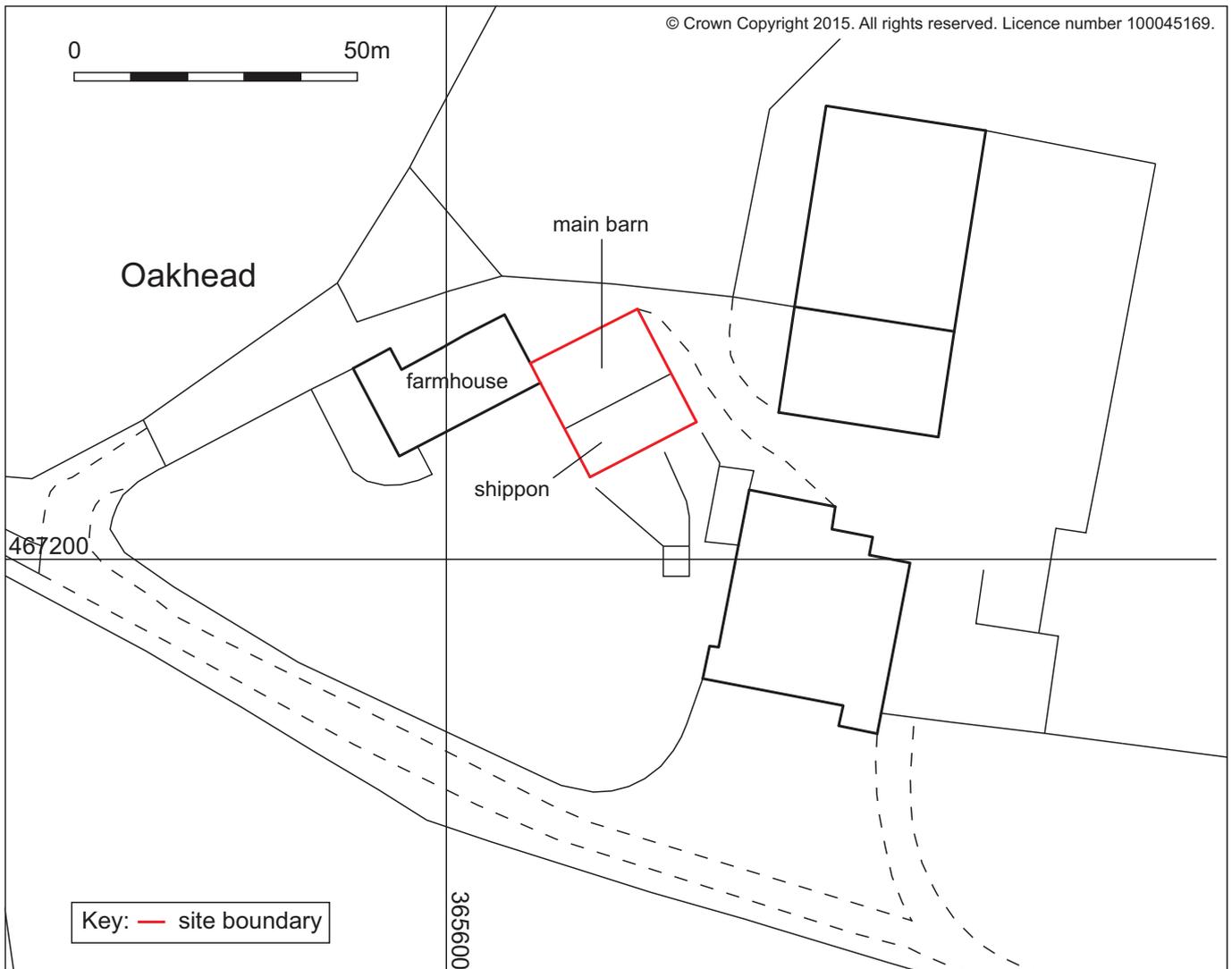
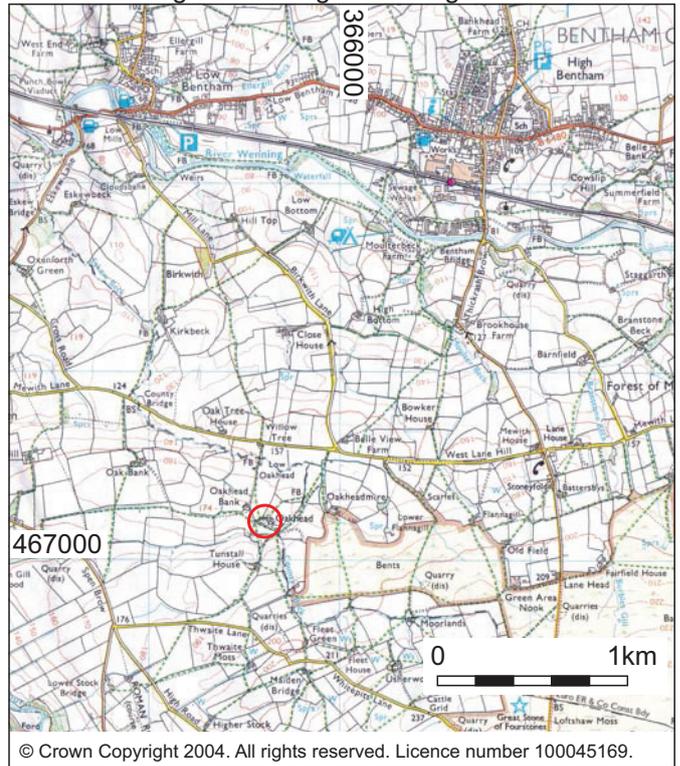
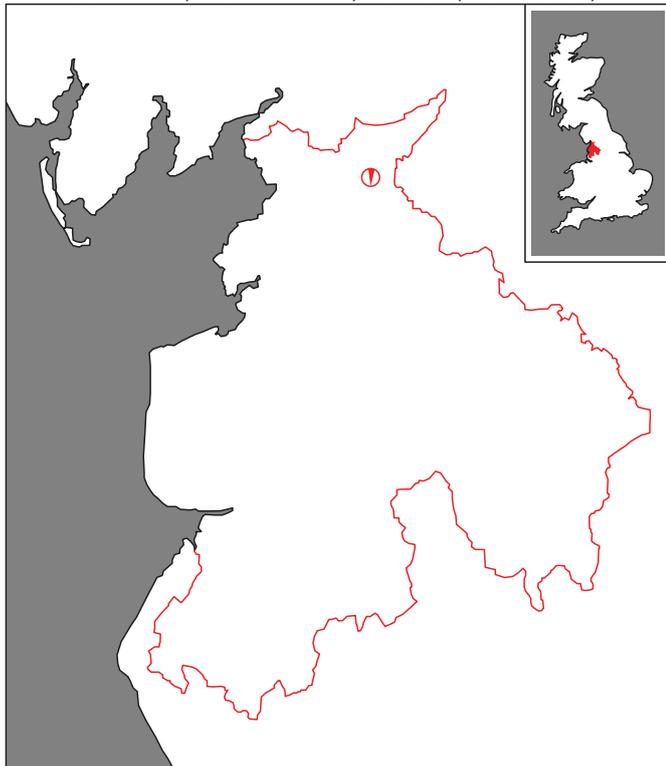
## 1.1 Circumstances of the Project

1.1.1 Following the submission of a planning application (ref. 1/15/00255/CU) for the conversion of a former agricultural building to form ancillary accommodation for an existing dwelling house at Oakhead Farm, Mewith Lane, Tatham, Lancaster, Lancashire (NGR 365610 467210), a condition (No. 3) was placed on the decision notice by Lancaster City Council, following advice from Doug Moir, at the time Planning Officer (Archaeology) at Lancashire County Council, requiring that the building be subject to an archaeological building recording. Greenlane Archaeology was appointed by Mr and Mrs Longton (hereafter 'the client') to carry out the archaeological building recording. In response to a brief produced by Doug Moir Greenlane Archaeology produced a project design for the work (*Appendix 1*), and the building recording was carried out in September 2015.

## 1.2 Location, Geology, and Topography

1.2.1 The site is located south of the River Wenning, approximately 2km south-west of High Bentham (Ordnance Survey 2004; Figure 1). High Bentham is approximately 3km west of Hornby and is one of a number of villages situated on the east side of the lower Lune Valley to the north-east of Lancaster. The site is approximately 170m above sea level (Ordnance Survey 2004).

1.2.2 The underlying solid geology is dominated by Namurian millstone grit (Moseley 1978, plate 1), which is overlain by glacially derived boulder clay on the higher ground and extensive alluvial deposits of gravel and silt within the wide Lune Valley (Countryside Commission 1998, 93). The site itself is situated within the lower part of the Lune Valley on the northern edge of the Bowland fringe, which is dominated by gently undulating topography, supporting lush pasture with occasional woodland (*op cit*, 91).



Client: Mr and Mrs Longton

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Figure 1: Site location

## 2. Methodology

### 2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 The building investigation comprised two separate elements intended to provide a suitable record of the structures in line with English Heritage standards (English Heritage 2006) and the guidelines of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA 2014a; 2014b). A suitable archive has been compiled to provide a permanent paper record of the project and its results in accordance with English Heritage and CIfA guidelines (English Heritage 1991; Brown 2007).

### 2.2 Desk-Based Assessment

2.2.1 A desk-based assessment was carried out in accordance with the guidelines of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA 2014a). This principally comprised an examination of early maps of the site and published secondary sources. A number of sources of information were used during the compilation of the desk-based assessment:

- **Lancashire Record Office, Preston (LRO):** this was visited in order to examine early maps of the site;
- **Greenlane Archaeology:** additional primary and secondary sources held in Greenlane Archaeology's library were also examined to provide information for the site background and map regression.

### 2.3 Building Recording

2.3.1 The building recording was carried out to English Heritage Level-2 type standards (English Heritage 2006), which provides a relatively detailed record of the building, but discusses its development in terms of its historical context to only a limited extent. The recording comprised the following elements:

- **Written record:** descriptive records of all parts of the building were made using Greenlane Archaeology *pro forma* record sheets;
- **Photographs:** photographs in both colour print and digital format, as both 12MB RAW files and jpegs, were taken of the main features of the building, its general surroundings, and any features of architectural or archaeological interest (see *Appendix 2*). A selection of the colour digital photographs is included in this report, and the remaining photographs are in the project archive;
- **Drawings:** drawings were produced by hand-annotation of printed plots of 'as existing' architect's drawings provided by the client's architect. In addition, cross-sections were produced by hand. The drawings produced ultimately comprised:
  - i. external elevations at a scale of 1:100;
  - ii. floor plans at a scale of 1:100;
  - iii. cross-sections at a scale of 1:50.

### 2.4 Archive

2.4.1 The archive, comprising the drawn, written, and photographic record of the buildings (see *Appendix 3*) will be deposited with the Lancashire Record Office in Preston. The archive has been compiled according to the standards and guidelines of the CIfA and English Heritage guidelines (Brown 2007; English Heritage 1991). A copy of this report will be supplied to the client, a digital copy will be supplied to the Lancashire County Council Archaeological Service, and one will be retained by Greenlane Archaeology. In addition, a digital record of the project will be made on the *Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations* (OASIS) scheme.

### 3. Desk-Based Assessment

#### 3.1 Map and Image Regression

3.1.1 **Introduction:** early maps of the area tend to be relatively lacking in detail and are not included in this section as they are not detailed enough to be useful in understanding the development of the property. A building is marked in the area and labelled 'Oak Head' on Yates's map of 1786, but it is unclear which, if any, of the surviving buildings this building relates to (Yates 1786). The most useful maps date from the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century onwards.

3.1.2 **Ordnance Survey 1847:** the first edition Ordnance Survey map, which was surveyed in 1844-1845, is at a scale of 1:10,560 and as such lacks specific detail (Plate 1). Oakhead Farm is clearly marked and the current farmhouse and barn appear to be shown, albeit in a simplified way.

3.1.3 **Tithe Map 1848:** this map (LRO DRB 1/183 1848a; Plate 2) shows the same basic plan of the farm as the earlier Ordnance Survey map (cf. Plate 1). The west end of the current farmhouse now shows the dog leg in the north elevation. The east end, where the current farmhouse butts the barn, seems to be not in line on the south side but this could just be because of the scale at which the map was produced.

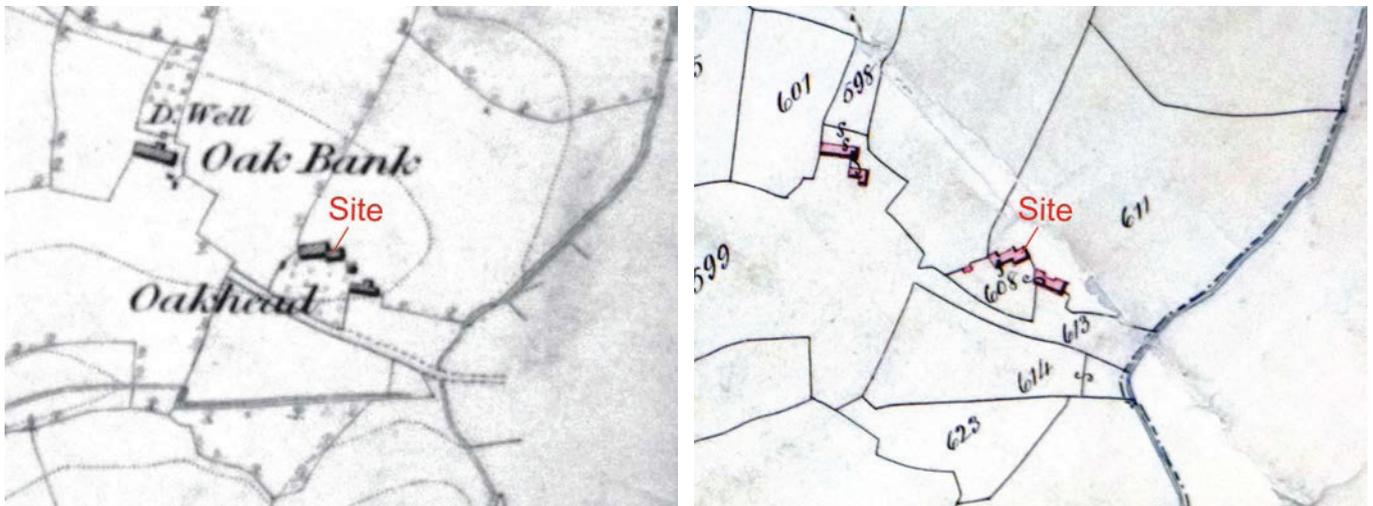


Plate 1 (left): Extract from the Ordnance Survey map of 1847

Plate 2 (right): Extract from the Tithe Map of 1848

3.1.4 **Ordnance Survey 1894:** this is the first 1:2,500 scale plan (surveyed in 1890) to depict the site, and is therefore considerably more detailed than its predecessors. The current farmhouse and barn are more clearly shown (Plate 3). The shippon to the south-east side of the barn had yet to be built.

3.1.5 **Ordnance Survey 1913:** this shows essentially the same information as the previous map (Plate 4; cf. Plate 3). The shippon to the south-east of the barn had yet to be built.

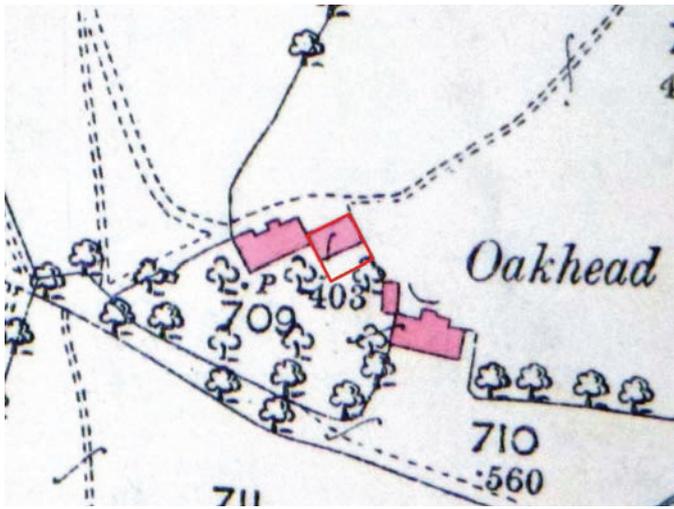


Plate 3 (left): Extract from the Ordnance Survey map of 1894

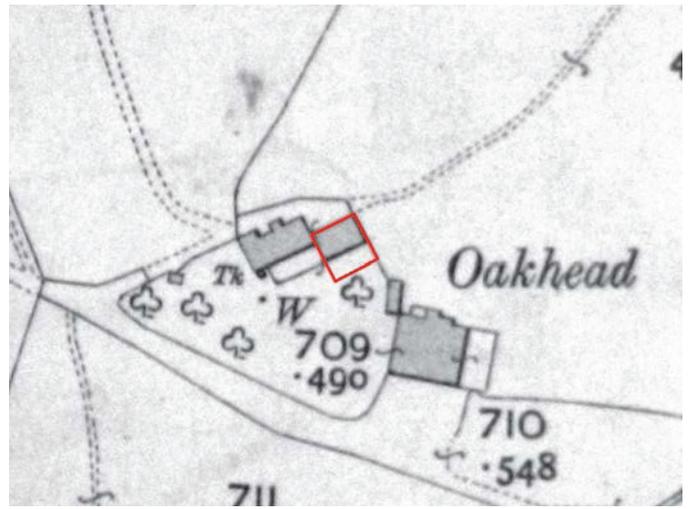


Plate 4 (right): Extract from the Ordnance Survey map of 1913

## 3.2 Site History

3.2.1 **Oakhead Farm:** there is a datestone above the door of the barn, which reads 'IEE | 1720'. The initials perhaps belong to John Ellershaw (1681-?1759), whose family continued here until at least 1835 (Garnett 2008, 208). Ellershaw is a common name in Tatham/Bentham (*ibid*) and the apportionment accompanying the tithe map of 1848 records that plot 608, which includes Oakhead Farm, was owned and occupied by Henry Ellershaw (LRO DRB 1/183 1848b). It was recorded as 'house, yard, orchard and garden' at that time (*ibid*). Another barn on the site also contains a datestone with the same initials and the year 1713, which presumably therefore relate to the same person (John Ellershaw), but this building has no physical relationship to the building subject to recording and is still in use as part of the farm (Peter Longton per comm.).

3.2.2 The adjoining building, now a house, was converted from an existing agricultural building before 1994 (Peter Longton pers comm.).

## 3.3 Conclusion

3.3.1 The datestone suggests a construction date of 1720 for the barn and the current farmhouse and barn had clearly already been built by the time of the earliest Ordnance Survey map, which was surveyed in 1844-5. The shippon to the south-east side of the barn was not been built until after 1913.

## 4. Building Recording

### 4.1 Arrangement and Fabric

4.1.1 The barn was attached to the north-east end of the current farmhouse, aligned north-east/south-west, and was spread over two storeys (Figure 4 and Figure 5). There were two rooms per storey; the room nearest to the house on the ground floor was accessible from the house and had already been modified and converted into a kitchen (the kitchen was not recorded because it had been extensively modernised), a hatch lead up to the room above that (F1), which had yet to be converted, and the ground floor room to the north-east of the kitchen (G1) was only accessible from outside. The room above that (F2) was accessed using a ladder through a small hatch from the room below. A long shippon had been added to the south-east side, which comprised a single room the length of the barn (G2).

4.1.2 The barn was stone built with large quoins at the corners and there was some concrete re-pointing noted internally. The roof of the barn was slate with ceramic bonnet type ridge tiles. The trusses were the original timbers but later timbers were used for the floorboards on the first floor and modern board was used in the room above the kitchen. The ground floor of the barn was stone flags and concrete. The doors were mostly plank and batten.

4.1.3 The shippon to the south-east was a 20<sup>th</sup> century block brick and concrete construction and butted the barn. It had a corrugated concrete sheet roof with a single-light section and a brick chimney extended above the roofline.

### 4.2 External Detail

4.2.1 **North-east elevation:** the block work extension to the south-east had fittings for a sliding door but the door itself was absent (Plate 5). The doorway had been in-filled with concrete blocks to the south-east side and the long concrete lintel above extended beyond that. The barn had quoins at the ends (Figure 2) and the lower part had been re-pointed. On the ground floor there was a doorway which had been partially blocked to leave a window in the top. The gap housed an eight-light window, comprising two blocks of four, in a rusted, hinged metal casement (Plate 6). The doorway, as was, had quoins and a heavy stone lintel. To the first floor was another doorway with quoins and a heavy stone lintel, housing a plank door, with a plain timber surround, on long hinges (Plate 7).



Plate 5: North-east external elevation



**Plate 6 (left): Blocked doorway to the barn on the ground floor of the north-east external elevation**

**Plate 7 (right): North-west end of the north-east external elevation**

4.2.2 **South-east elevation:** the modern shippon obscured the lower level of the barn (Plate 8; Figure 3). Above the modern extension, the elevation of the barn appeared to be rendered with concrete. There were two (window) openings in the block work of the shippon, both of which had been partially blocked leaving a gap at the top. The one to the south-west was blocked further up (another course of bricks higher) than the one to the north-east. The corrugated sheet roof was visible above that and the slates of the barn were visible behind. The square red brick flue from the shippon was also visible above the roof of the shippon.



**Plate 8: South-east external elevation**

4.2.3 **South-west elevation:** the exposed stonework of the barn had quoins at the south-east end and was plain above the window of the kitchen (Plate 9; Figure 3). The kitchen window was modern below a concrete lintel. The modern block work of the shippon extended the line of the building to the south-east. Again, the red brick flue from the shippon was visible above the line of the corrugated roof.



**Plate 9: South-west external elevation**

4.2.4 **North-west elevation:** the stonework was exposed and some throughstones were apparent. The barn had quoins at the north-east end, but had no quoins where it met the current farmhouse at the south-west end (Plate 10; Figure 3). On the ground floor there was a blocked narrow window with a stone surround at the north-east end (Plate 11). To the south-west of that was a plank door, with quoins and datestone above (Plate 12). The datestone read 'IEE | 1720' and there was a possible drip course above that (Plate 13). To the south-west of that was the arched doorway to the kitchen, with quoins in the jambs and modern door and full length windows either side. South-west of that was a low, modern window fitting with a stone sill and long stone lintel. As noted above, the barn did not have quoins to the main house and presumably butted it. On the upper level of the barn, to the north-east end, there was a window, which had been partially blocked with stone, below a heavy stone lintel (Plate 10 and Plate 11). The lower part of the remaining gap had been boarded and there was a single-light above with a timber surround.



**Plate 10 (left): North-west external elevation**

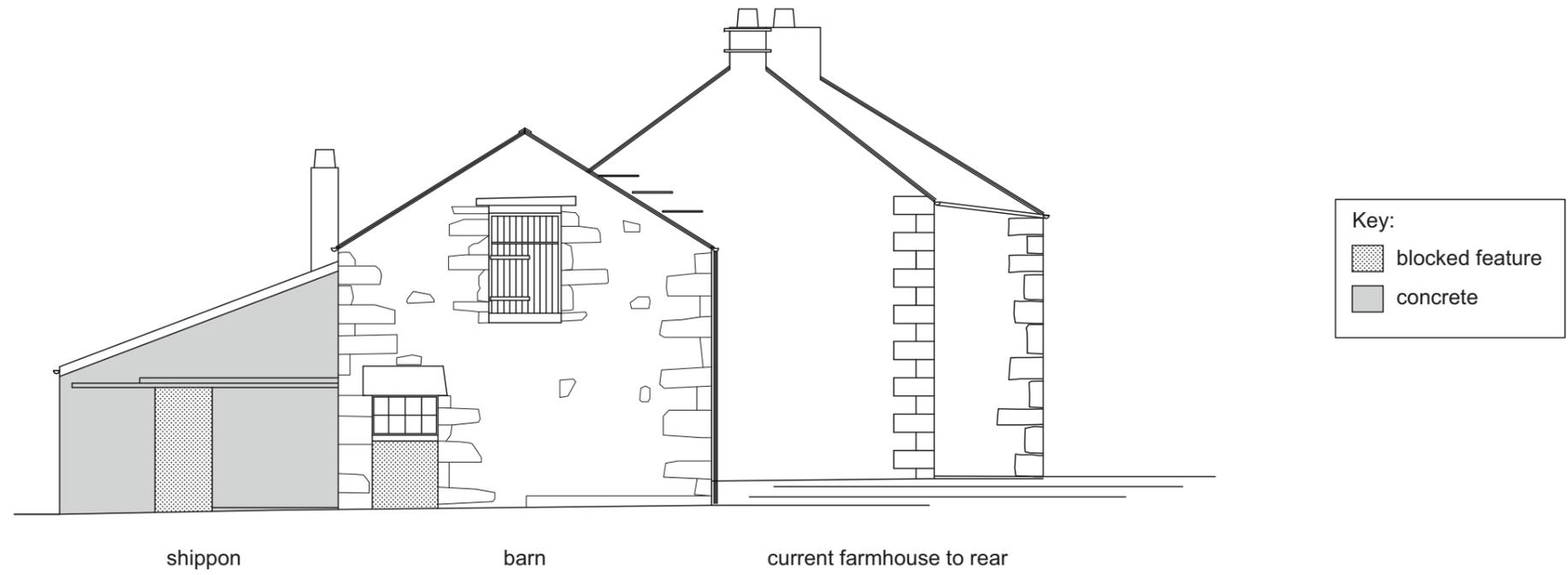
**Plate 11 (right): North-east end of the north-west external elevation**



**Plate 12 (left): Door to the barn at the north-east end of the north-west external elevation**



**Plate 13 (right): Datestone above the door to the barn at the north-east end of the north-west external elevation**



shippon                      barn                      current farmhouse to rear

NORTH-EAST EXTERNAL ELEVATION

0                      5m



current farmhouse to rear

barn to rear

shippon

SOUTH-EAST EXTERNAL ELEVATION

0                      5m

Figure 2: North-east and south-east external elevations

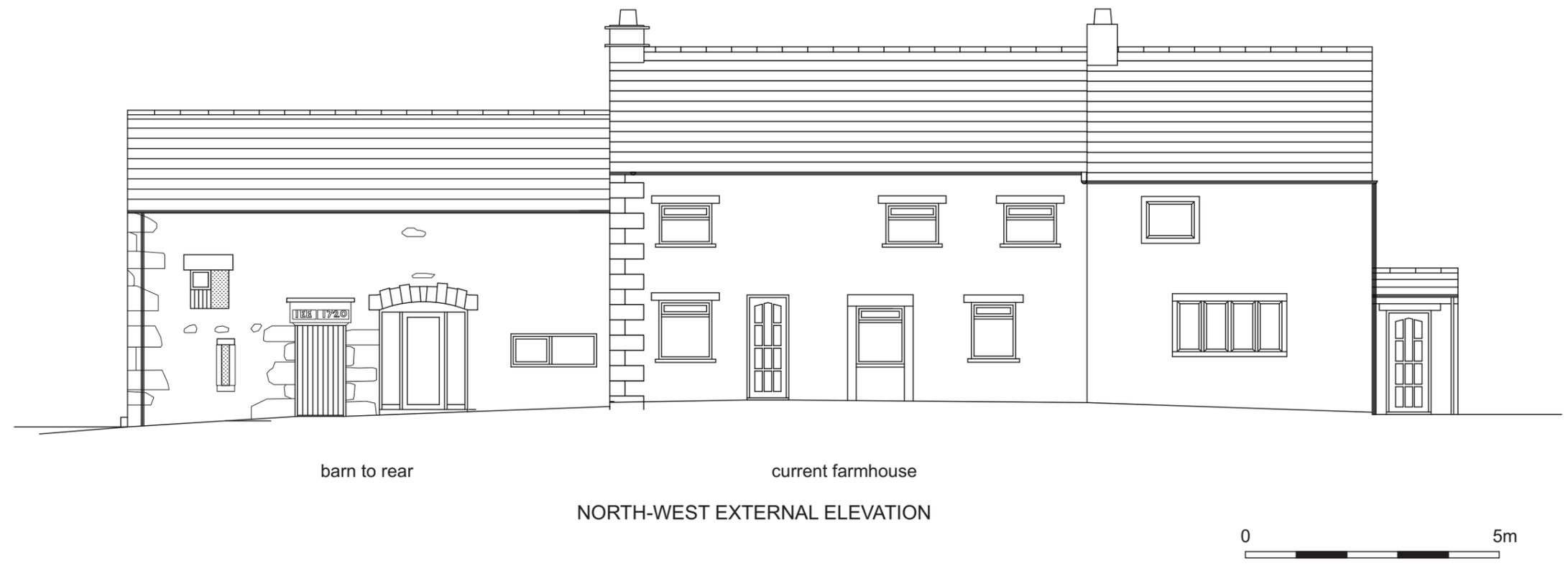
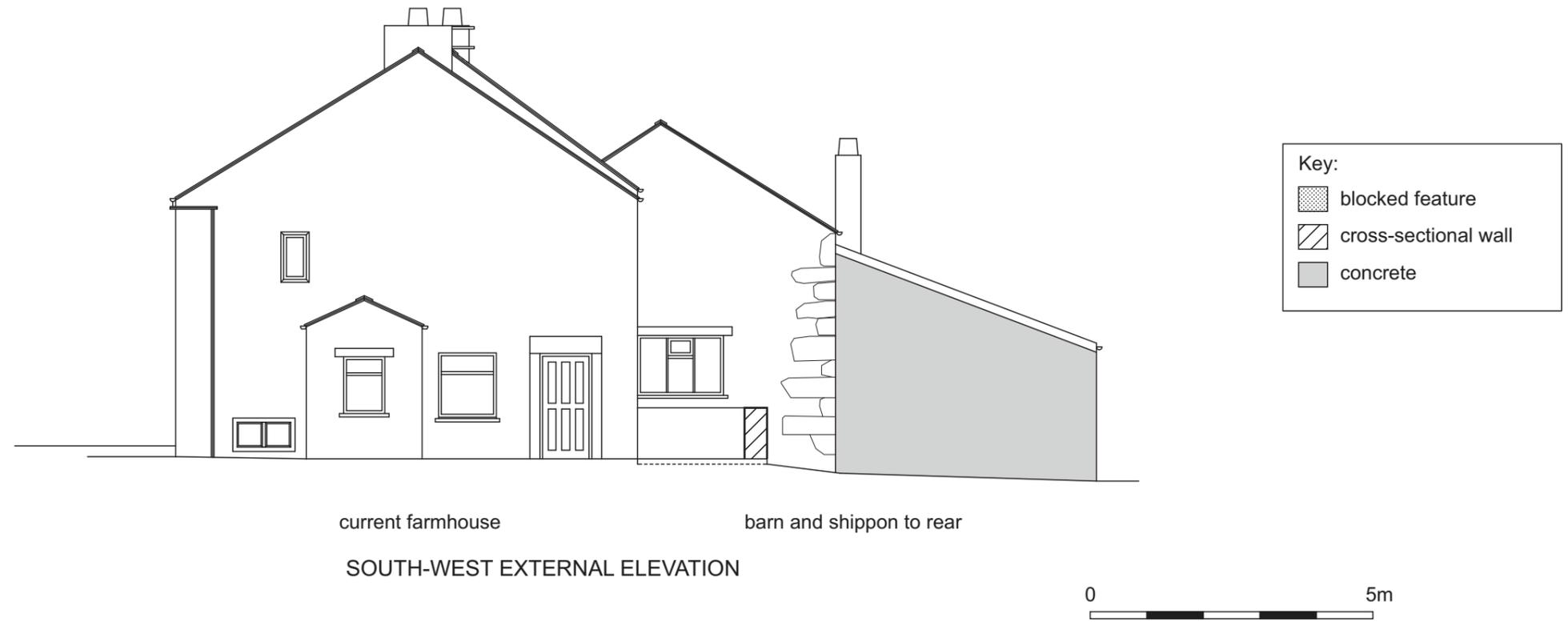


Figure 3: South-west and north-west external elevations

### 4.3 Internal Detail

4.3.1 **Ground floor room 1 (G1):** this room was located at the north-east end of the barn (Figure 4). The ceiling was open to the sawn timber beams and floorboards of the room above. There was a dung channel along the south-west side of the room. The floor was concrete on the north-east side and was flagged to the south-west (along the dung channel) apart from a small area of setts at the south-east end of the dung channel. The walls were all exposed stone with a thin lime wash throughout. The north-east elevation was plain apart from a partially blocked doorway at the south-east end (Plate 14), which housed a rusted eight-light metal casement window (two four-light hinged casements) within a timber surround and with a timber lintel (Plate 15). The south-east elevation was plain apart from a possible blocked opening towards the centre and blocked opening (doorway?) within the dung channel (Plate 16). The opening to the south-west end left a small alcove beneath a stone lintel. The south-west elevation was again plain apart from a small square alcove with a stone lintel and sill at the north-west end (Plate 17). The doorway on the north-west elevation to the south-west side had splayed jambs and stone quoins (Plate 18). There were additional 'arched' timber lintels behind the datestone to the exterior. The door was a plank and batten door on long hinges (Plate 19). To the north-east of that was a blocked slot window with a stone lintel and sill and splayed jambs (Plate 18).



Plate 14 (left): North-east elevation of G1



Plate 15 (right): Blocked feature at the south-east end of the north-east elevation (G1)



Plate 16: South-east elevation of G1



Plate 17: South-west elevation of G1



Plate 18 (left): North-west elevation of G1

Plate 19 (right): Plank door at the south-west side of the north-west elevation (G1)

4.3.2 **Ground floor room 2 (G2)**: this was the shippon to the south-east side of the barn (Figure 4). It was open to the corrugated sheet roof, which had one 'light' panel. The floor was concrete with a channel to the north-west of centre aligned south-west/north-east. There were six concrete stalls with two drinking troughs and a central tethering post in each (some of which are now missing). The north-east, south-east and south-west elevations were all modern concrete block and all of the walls were concrete skimmed to c1.5m up. The north-east elevation was fitted for a large sliding door to the north-west side, now missing. The concrete stalls were equally spaced along the south-east elevation (Plate 20). There were two partially blocked windows on this side also; the openings at the top remained, the one to the south-west having been blocked with an additional course of blocks. The south-west elevation was plain apart from the water tank in the west corner (Plate 21). The north-west elevation was originally the external wall of the barn, with some throughstones (Plate 22). There were no obvious features visible, although there was a low plinth noted along most of the length of the wall at its base. To the south-west of centre on this side of the room was a large flue, the lower part was built of concrete block (to 1.12m) and above that it was red brick, sat on top of the plinth (Plate 23). At the south-west end, to the south-west side of the flue, was a possible roof scar from an earlier outshut or lean-to (Plate 24).



**Plate 20: Stalls along the south-east elevation of G2**



**Plate 21: West corner of G2**



**Plate 22 (left): North-east end of the north-west elevation (G2)**

**Plate 23 (centre): Flue towards the south-west side of the north-west elevation (G2)**

**Plate 24 (right): South-west end of the north-west elevation (G2)**

**4.3.3 First floor room 1 (F1):** this room, at the south-west end of the barn (above the kitchen), had been used recently for storage (Figure 5). There was a single north-west/south-east truss across the room, which was open to the slates of the roof. The beams were hand-cut and bowed, especially the purlins. There were two purlins per pitch and the rafters were machine-cut. The floor was modern hardboard with an access hatch to the kitchen below against the north-east wall. The north-east elevation was exposed stonework with some concrete re-pointing and some crumbly white mortar to the north-west end (Plate 25). There was a blocked window aperture towards the centre, with a timber lintel, which was blocked with modern block work and there was a projecting stone at the south-east end of the elevation, which was otherwise plain (Plate 26). The south-east elevation was similarly exposed stone with concrete re-pointing and was otherwise plain (Plate 27). The south-west elevation was the same as the south-east elevation but had a central, low-level beam slot (Plate 28, Plate 29 and Plate 30). The north-west elevation was exposed stone to the south-west of the truss, with a white crumbly mortar (Plate 31). To the north-east of the truss the wall was covered with white plaster, which was apparently unpainted. The tie-beam truss with curving collar was sat on projecting stones at the ends and was pegged at the joints, with two purlins per pitch and a ridge purlin (Plate 32 to Plate 36; Figure 6). The timbers of the truss are hand-finished and roughly chamfered and there was a carpenter's mark on the north-east side. The south-east end of the truss was marked 'II' on the north-east side (Plate 37).



**Plate 25 (left): North-west end of the north-east elevation (F1)**

**Plate 26 (right): South-east end of the north-east elevation (F1)**



**Plate 27: South-east elevation (F1)**



**Plate 28: South-west elevation (F1)**



**Plate 29 (left): South-east end of the south-west elevation (F1)**

**Plate 30 (right): North-west end of the south-west elevation (F1)**



**Plate 31: North-west elevation (F1)**



**Plate 32: South-west side of the truss (F1)**



**Plate 33 (left): North-west end of the south-west side of the truss (F1)**

**Plate 34 (right): South-east end of the south-west side of the truss (F1)**



**Plate 35 (left): South-east end of the north-east side of the truss (F1)**

**Plate 36 (centre): North-west end of the north-east side of the truss (F1)**

**Plate 37 (right): Carpenter's mark at the south-east end on the north-east side of the truss (F1)**

4.3.4 **First floor room 2 (F2):** this room was at the north-east end of the barn above G1 (Figure 5). It was open to the slate roof as was F1. Likewise there was a single north-west/south-east beam across the centre of the room. There was exposed stone with a white lime mortar throughout but there was no obvious concrete re-pointing as there had been in F1. The north-east elevation had a single large opening to the centre with a large timber panel door across it (Plate 38). The opening had quoins and a heavy timber lintel and stone sill. There were two blocked slots either side of this opening and a central owl hole above. There were two further vent slots at the top of the opening (one either side) in line with the ones below. The south-east elevation was plain apart from two rows of three blocked vent slots in line above one another (Plate 39). The south-west elevation had a central blocked window with modern block brick blocking it and there was a possible row of blocked vents below that (Plate 40). There were two blocked vent slots on the north-west elevation to the south south-west side and a low-level partially blocked window to the north-east (Plate 41). The stone lintel above showed its original extent and it had been blocked to the south-west and part boarded to the north-east with a single-light timber casement above. The tie-beam truss with curving collar was the same as in F1 (Plate 42 and Plate 43; Figure 7)



Plate 38 (left): North-east elevation (F2)



Plate 39 (right): South-east elevation (F2)



Plate 40 (left): South-west elevation (F2)



Plate 41 (right): North-west elevation (F2)



**Plate 42 (left): South-east end of the north-east side of the truss (F2)**



**Plate 43 (right): North-west end of the north-east side of the truss (F2)**

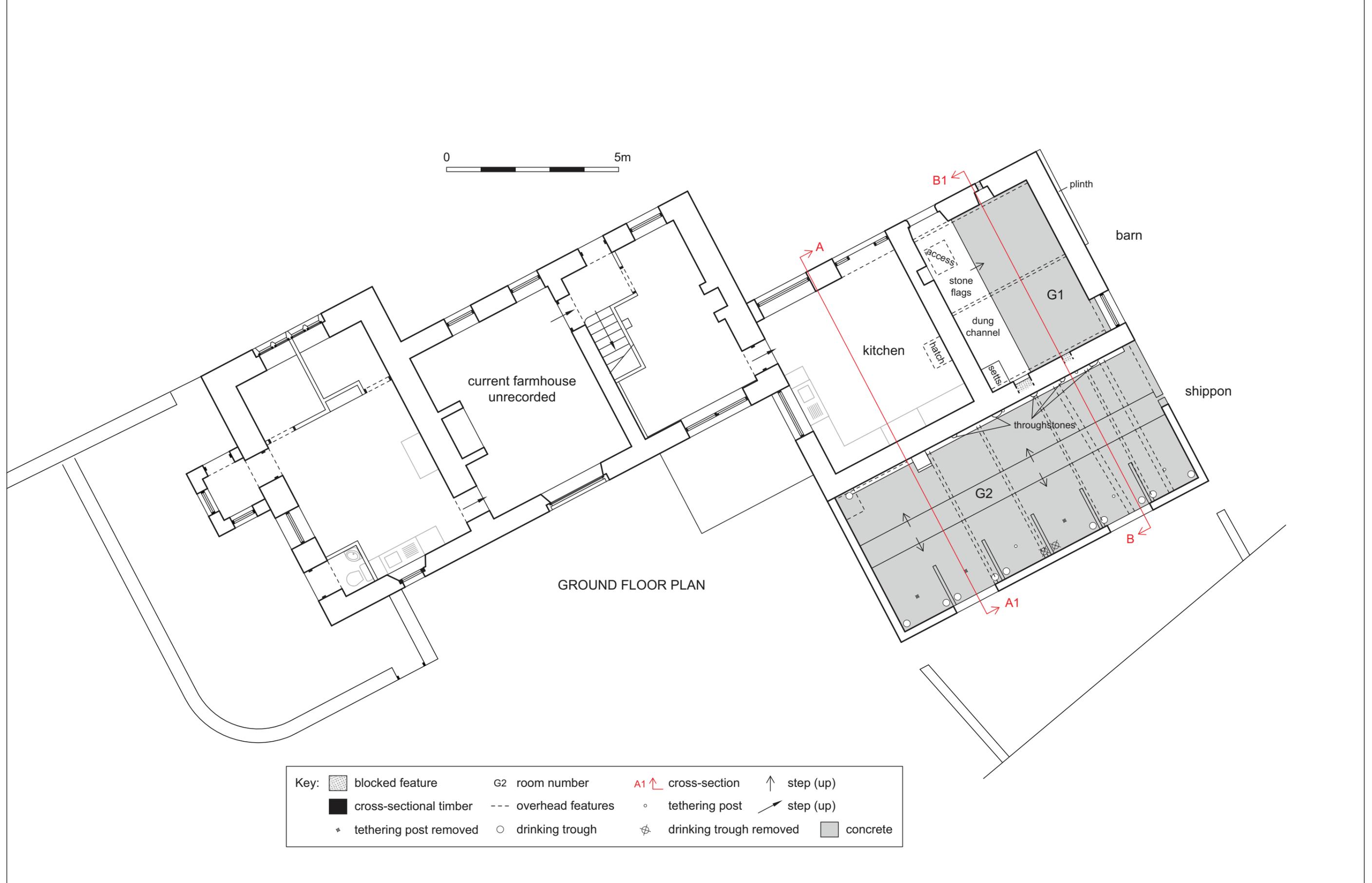
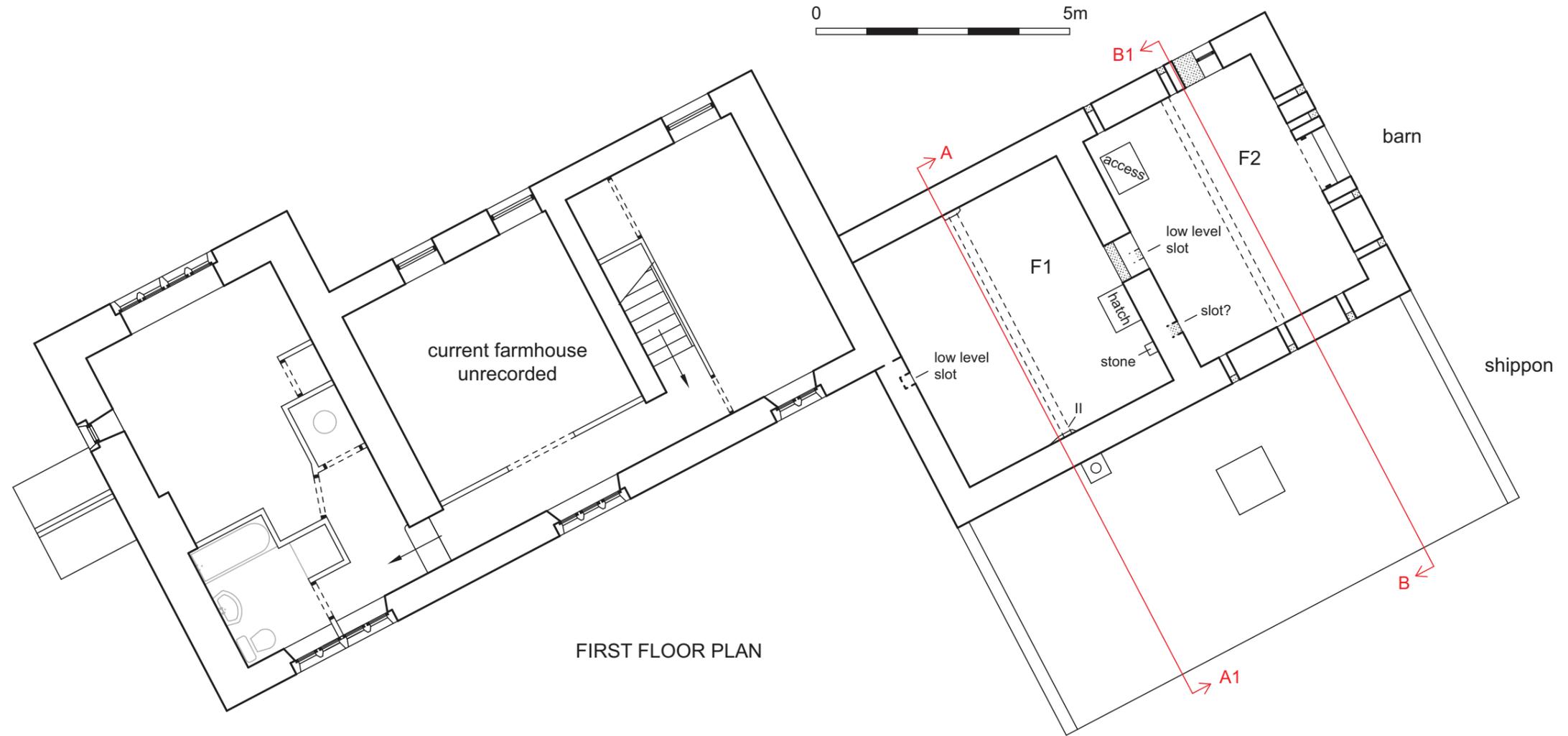
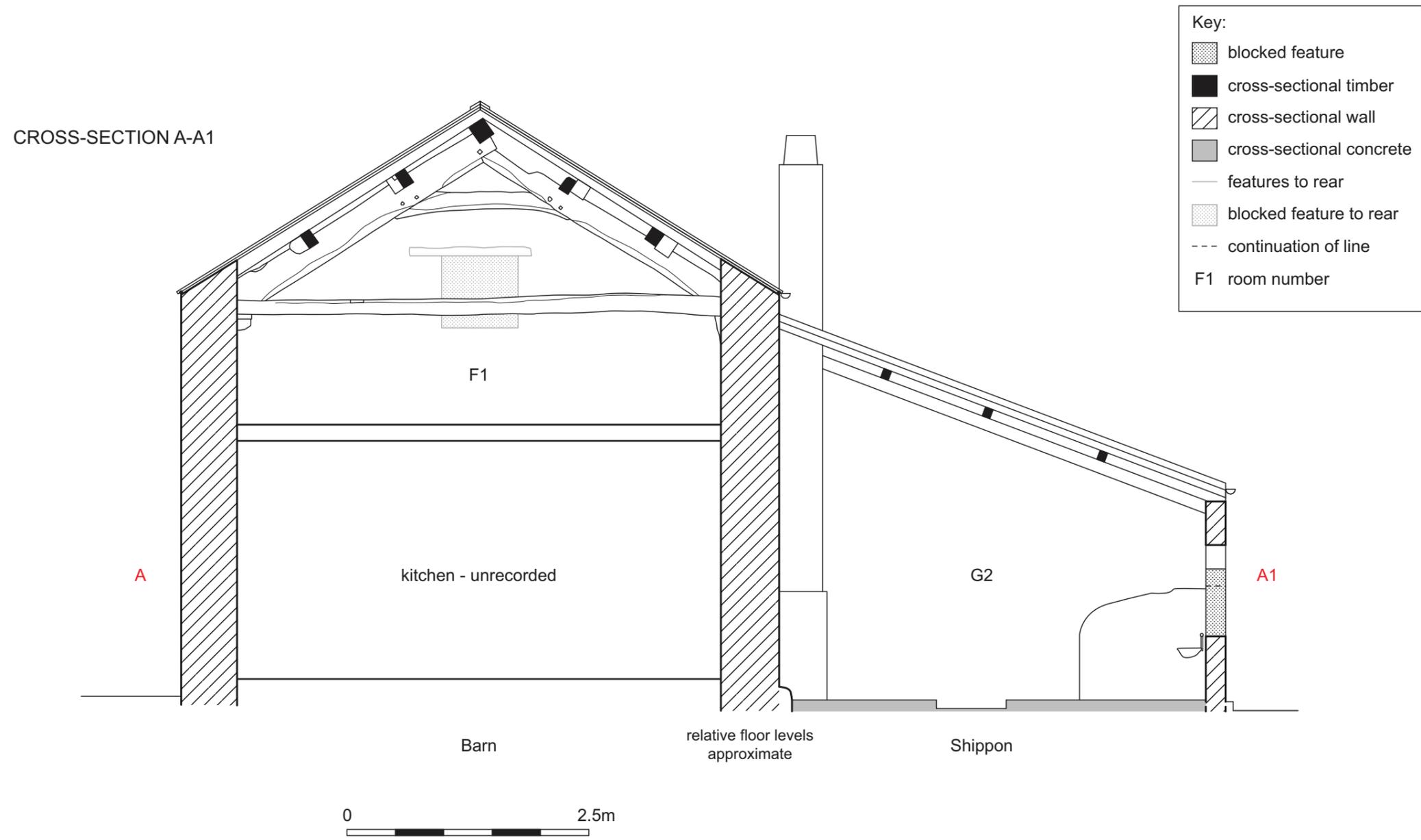


Figure 4: Ground floor plan



Key:	blocked feature	F2 room number	A1  cross-section	direction of steps (arrow points up)
	cross-sectional timber	--- overhead features	carpenter's mark	

Figure 5: First floor plan



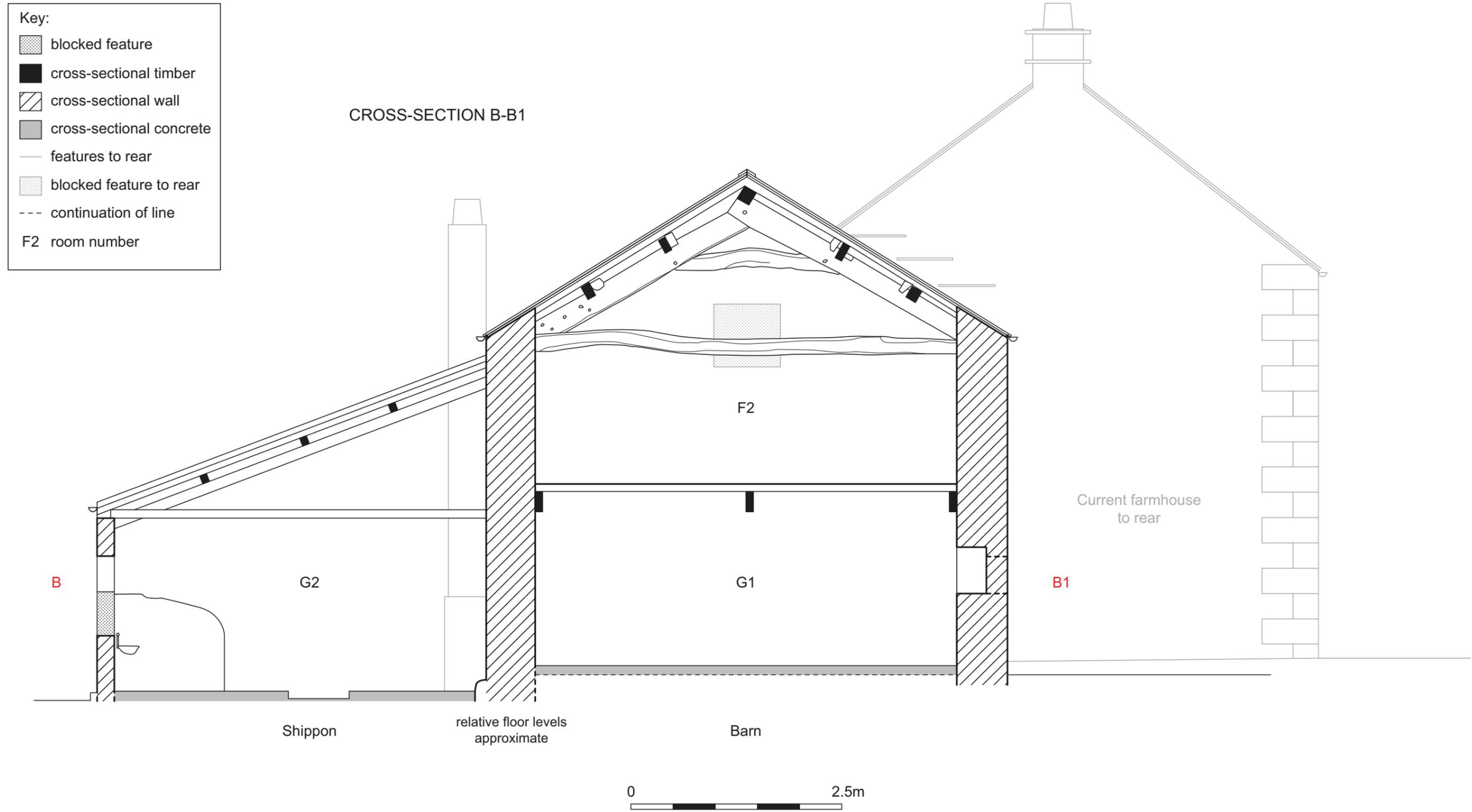


Figure 7: Cross-section B-B1

## 5. Discussion

### 5.1 Phasing

5.1.1 **Introduction:** the building clearly retains much of its original fabric but has also undergone a number of alterations and modifications. In total, three phases of development were identified.

5.1.2 **Phase 1 (18<sup>th</sup> century):** the building that is now the current farmhouse was evidently built before the barn as the barn butts against it. The datestone above the door of the barn suggests a construction date of 1720, probably part of a phase of building work taking place at the site given the datestone of 1713 present elsewhere on the farm. The barn comprised four rooms spread over two storeys from the outset, with animal housing to the north-east end and a hay loft over, and much of the original fabric survives. The barn seems small to have served as a shippon; the north-east end was perhaps a stable and the room to the south-west may have been a cart shed (where the kitchen is), although the arched doorway on the north-west elevation seems too narrow for this. The initials on the datestone can perhaps be attributed to John Ellershaw (1681-?1759), which is a common name in Tatham/Bentham (Garnett 2008, 208). John may have been an ancestor of Henry Ellershaw, who is recorded as the owner and occupier in 1848 (LRO DRB 1/183 1848b).

5.1.3 **Phase 2 (19<sup>th</sup>- early 20<sup>th</sup>):** the later Ordnance Survey maps show that the footprint of the barn and current farmhouse did not change during this phase. Some minor alterations were probably made during this phase; some of the blocked features recorded may have been blocked during this time.

5.1.4 **Phase 3 (mid-20<sup>th</sup> century to present):** the shippon to the south-east side of the barn was added in the mid-to-late 20<sup>th</sup> century, presumably replacing an earlier lean-to at this side of the barn as evidenced by the scar line on what used to be the external wall of the barn. The kitchen on the ground floor of the barn was probably converted during this phase and presumably the window between the two rooms on the first floor of the barn was also blocked at this time to improve insulation and so forth. The shippon has seen some minor alterations including the partial blocking of the two windows to the south-east.

### 5.2 Significance

5.2.1 The barn clearly retains much of its original fabric and has remained relatively unchanged apart from the south-east end of the ground floor, which has already been converted into a kitchen and incorporated into the current farmhouse. The original trusses survive and the stonework of the building is also intact. For those reasons the building is of local interest.

## 6. Bibliography

### 6.1 Primary and Cartographic Sources

LRO DRB 1/183, 1848a *A Map of the Parish of Tatham in the County of Lancaster*

LRO DRB 1/183, 1848b *Apportionment of the Rent-Charge in Lieu of Tithes in the Parish of Tatham in the County of Lancaster*

Ordnance Survey, 1847 *Lancashire Sheet 26*, 1: 10,560, surveyed 1844-1845

Ordnance Survey, 1894 *Lancashire Sheet 26.14*, 1: 2,500, re-surveyed 1893

Ordnance Survey, 1913 *Lancashire Sheet 26.14*, 1: 2,500, revised 1910

Ordnance Survey, 2004 *Forest of Bowland & Ribblesdale, OL41*, 1: 25,000

Yates, W, 1786 *The County Palatine of Lancaster*

### 6.2 Secondary Sources

Brown, DH, 2007 *Archaeological Archives: A Guide to Best Practice in Creation, Compilation, Transfer, and Curation*, IfA, Reading

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA), 2014a *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment*, revised edn, Reading

CIfA, 2014b *Standards and Guidance for the Archaeological Investigation and Recording of Standing Buildings or Structures*, revised edn, Reading

Countryside Commission, 1998 *Countryside Character, Volume 2: North West*, Cheltenham

English Heritage, 1991 *The Management of Archaeological Projects*, 2<sup>nd</sup> edn, London

English Heritage, 2006 *Understanding Historic Buildings: A Guide to Good Recording Practice*, Swindon

Garnett, E, 2008 *The Dated Buildings of South Lonsdale: revised and expanded edition*, Lancaster

Moseley, F (ed), 1978 *The Geology of the Lake District*, Yorkshire Geological Society, occ publ 3, Leeds

## Appendix 1: Project Design

# OAKHEAD FARM, MEWITH LANE, TATHAM, LANCASTER, LANCASHIRE

Archaeological Building Recording Project Design



Client: Mr and Mrs Longton

NGR: 365610 467210

Planning application ref.: 1/15/00255/CU

August 2015

## 1. Introduction

### 1.1 Project Background

1.1.1 Following the submission of a planning application (ref. 1/15/00255/CU) for the conversion of a former agricultural building to form ancillary accommodation for an existing dwelling house at Oakhead Farm, Mewith Lane, Tatham, Lancaster, Lancashire (NGR 365610 467210), a condition (No. 3) requiring an archaeological building recording was placed on the decision notice. Greenlane Archaeology was appointed by Mr and Mrs Longton (hereafter 'the client') to carry out the archaeological building recording and this project design was produced in response.

### 1.2 Greenlane Archaeology

1.2.1 Greenlane Archaeology is a private limited company based in Ulverston, Cumbria, and was established in 2005 (Company No. 05580819). Its directors, Jo Dawson and Daniel Elsworth, have a combined total of over 20 years continuous professional experience working in commercial archaeology, principally in the north of England and Scotland. Greenlane Archaeology is committed to a high standard of work, and abides by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' (CIfA) Code of Conduct. The desk-based assessment and building recording will be carried out according to the Standards and Guidance of the Institute for Archaeologists.

### 1.3 Project Staffing

1.3.1 The project will be managed by **Dan Elsworth (MA (Hons), ACIfA)**, who will also carry out the building recording with appropriately experienced assistance as necessary. Daniel graduated from the University of Edinburgh in 1998 with an honours degree in Archaeology, and began working for the Lancaster University Archaeological Unit, which became Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) in 2001. Daniel ultimately became a project officer, and for over six and a half years worked on excavations and surveys, building investigations, desk-based assessments, and conservation and management plans. These have principally taken place in the North West, and Daniel has a particular interest in the archaeology of the area. He has managed a number of recent projects in Cumbria and Lancashire including several archaeological building recordings. Recent projects include the recording of a former public house in Dalton-in-Furness (Greenlane Archaeology 2011a), lock keeper's cottage in Ulverston (Greenlane Archaeology 2011b), former school in Millom (Greenlane Archaeology 2011c) and industrial and commercial buildings in Barrow-in-Furness (Greenlane Archaeology 2009; 2011d). He is very experienced at building recording, having carried out numerous such projects, mainly in Cumbria and Lancashire, over the past 13 years.

## 2. Objectives

### 2.1 Desk-Based Assessment

2.1.1 To examine early maps of the site and any other relevant primary and secondary sources in order to better understand the dating and development of the building, and set it in its historic context.

### 2.2 Building Recording

2.2.1 To undertake a programme of archaeological building recording of the building to a Level 2-type standard (English Heritage 2006). This will provide a relatively detailed record of the building, as well as providing outline information about its development, form and function.

### 2.3 Report

2.3.1 To produce a report detailing the results of the desk-based assessment and building recording, which will outline the character, form and development of the historic fabric of the building.

### 2.4 Archive

2.4.1 Produce a full archive of the results of the building recording.

## 3. Methodology

### 3.1 Desk-based Assessment

3.1.1 A rapid examination of easily available sources, particularly maps, relating to the site will be carried out. These will include:

- **Lancashire Record Office:** the majority of original and secondary sources relating to the site are deposited in the Lancashire Record office in Preston. Of principal importance are early maps of the site, particularly Ordnance Survey maps. These will be examined in order to establish the date of the building, any periods of alteration, and, where possible, its function in order to set it in its historic context. In addition, any details of the building's architect(s), patrons and owners will be acquired where available;
- **Greenlane Archaeology:** a number of copies of maps and local histories are held by Greenlane Archaeology. These will be consulted in order to provide information about the date of the building, and any obvious phases of alteration.

### 3.2 Archaeological Building Recording

3.2.1 A programme of archaeological building recording to English Heritage Level 2-type standards is required (English Heritage 2006). This is a moderate level of investigation intended to record the form, function and phasing of the building, without incorporating the results of the desk-based assessment, in order to aid the interpretation of its development. It will comprise three types of recording:

- **Drawn Record:** plans of all of the principal floors will be produced, indicating alterations to the building and the location of each photographed feature of architectural or historic interest. These are compiled through hand measured survey techniques utilising 'as existing' plans and survey drawings. These are then drawn up to produce the final illustrations. In addition, a plan showing the location of the building in relation to other nearby buildings, structures and landscape features will also be produced;
- Elevations and cross-sections will be included where considered useful in explaining the relationship between different elements of the building or showing features of architectural or historic interest;
- **Written Record:** descriptive records of all elements of the building will be made on Greenlane Archaeology standard *pro forma* record sheets. These records will describe the building's plan, form, function, age, and construction materials. They will then be used to provide an account of the development of the building. In addition, the landscape and historic setting of the building will be described, in particular its relationship with other nearby buildings, streets, settlements and other structures;
- **Photographic Record:** photographs in colour digital format (RAW files at 12meg resolution) will be taken. These will cover both general and detailed shots of the external elevations, individual rooms and circulation areas, but also scaled photographs of specific features of architectural or archaeological interest. In addition, a record of the associated landscape and nearby buildings will also be made. Digital photographs will also be used for illustrative purposes within the report, and a written record will be kept of all of the photographs that are taken.

### 3.3 Report

3.3.1 The results of the building investigation will be compiled into a report, which will provide a summary and details of any sources consulted. It will include the following sections:

- A front cover including the appropriate national grid reference (NGR);
- A concise non-technical summary of results, including the date the project was undertaken and by whom;
- Acknowledgements;
- Project Background;
- Methodology, including a description of the work undertaken;
- Results of the desk-based assessment;
- Results of the building recording;

- Discussion of the results including phasing information;
- Bibliography;
- Illustrations at appropriate scales including:
  - a site location plan related to the national grid;
  - a plan showing the location of the building in relation to nearby structures and the local landscape;
  - plans of all of the principal floors of the building showing the location of each photographed feature of architectural or archaeological interest;
  - elevations of the building;
  - a cross-section or cross-sections showing as a minimum the roof structure;
  - photographs of the building, features of architectural/historic interest and its landscape, accompanied by appropriate descriptions;
  - copies of selected historic maps and plans of the building.

## 3.4 Archive

3.4.1 The archive, comprising the drawn, written, and photographic record of the building, formed during the project, will be stored by Greenlane Archaeology until it is completed. Upon completion it will be deposited with the Lancashire Record Office in Preston, together with a copy of the report. The archive will be compiled according to the standards and guidelines of the ClfA (Brown 2007), and in accordance with English Heritage guidelines (English Heritage 1991). In addition details will be submitted to the Online AccesS to the Index of archaeological investigationS (OASIS) scheme. This is an internet-based project intended to improve the flow of information between contractors, local authority heritage managers and the general public.

3.4.2 Three copies of the report will be provided to the client and a digital copy of the report will be provided to the Historic Environment Officer at Cumbria County Council. In addition, Greenlane Archaeology Ltd will retain one copy.

## 4. Work timetable

4.1 Greenlane Archaeology will be available to commence the project from **31<sup>st</sup> August 2015**, or at another date convenient to the client. It is envisaged that the elements of the project will be carried out in the following order:

- **Task 1:** desk-based assessment;
- **Task 2:** on-site building recording;
- **Task 3:** production of draft report including illustrations;
- **Task 4:** feedback on draft report, editing and production of final report;
- **Task 5:** finalisation and deposition of archive.

## 5. Other matters

### 5.1 Access and clearance

5.1.1 Access to the site will be organised through co-ordination with the client and/or their agent(s). In addition, the building will be cleared by the client in order to allow internal photographs to be taken without obstructions. Please note the building does not need to be fully cleared before the work is carried out but Greenlane Archaeology reserves the right to increase the price if the building is not accessible enough to carry out the recording, and further visits therefore have to be arranged in order to complete it. This also applies if the exterior is not accessible or obstructed to the extent that it prevents the building recording taking place as required.

### 5.2 Health and Safety

5.2.1 Greenlane Archaeology carries out risk assessments for all of its projects and abides by its internal health and safety policy and relevant legislation. Health and safety is always the foremost consideration in any decision-making process.

## 5.3 Insurance

5.3.1 Greenlane Archaeology has professional indemnity insurance to the value of **£1,000,000**. Details of this can be supplied if requested.

## 5.4 Environmental and Ethical Policy

5.4.1 Greenlane Archaeology has a strong commitment to environmentally and ethically sound working practices. Its office is supplied with 100% renewable energy by Good Energy, uses ethical telephone and internet services supplied by the Phone Co-op. In addition, the company uses the services of The Co-operative Bank for ethical banking, Naturesave for environmentally-conscious insurance, and utilises public transport wherever possible. Greenlane Archaeology is also committed to using local businesses for services and materials, thus benefiting the local economy, reducing unnecessary transportation, and improving the sustainability of small and rural businesses.

## 6. Bibliography

Brown, DH, 2007 *Archaeological Archives: A Guide to Best Practice in Creation, Compilation, Transfer, and Curation*, IfA, Reading

English Heritage, 1991 *The Management of Archaeological Projects*, 2<sup>nd</sup> edn, London

English Heritage, 2006 *Understanding Historic Buildings: A Guide to Good Recording Practice*, Swindon

Greenlane Archaeology, 2009 *Davey's Yard, Salthouse Road, Barrow-in-Furness, Cumbria: Archaeological Building Recording*, unpubl rep

Greenlane Archaeology, 2011a *Cavendish Arms, Market Place, Dalton-in-Furness, Cumbria: Archaeological Building Recording*, unpubl rep

Greenlane Archaeology, 2011b *Lock Cottage, Canal Foot, Ulverston, Cumbria: Archaeological Building Recording*, unpubl rep

Greenlane Archaeology, 2011c *Land Adjacent to the Millom Cricket Club, St George's Road, Millom, Cumbria: Archaeological Building Recording*, unpubl rep

Greenlane Archaeology, 2011d *Oxford Chambers, 102 Abbey Road, Barrow-in-Furness, Cumbria: Archaeological Building Recording*, unpubl rep

## Appendix 2: Photographic Register

Photo ID No.	Location	Description	Colour digital	Colour print
01	External	North-west external elevation	01-38	02-33
02	External	North-west external elevation	01-41	02-35
03	External	Door to G1	01-39	02-34
04	External	Datestone	01-40	–
05	External	North-east external elevation (north-west end)	01-20	–
06	External	North-east external elevation	01-18	02-15
07	External	North-east external elevation	01-19	02-16
08	External	South-east external elevation	01-21	02-17
09	External	South-east external elevation	01-22	02-18
10	External	South-west external elevation	01-23	02-19
11	G1	South-east end of room	01-24	02-20, 02-21
12	G1	North-east elevation	01-27	02-24
13	G1	Door, north-west elevation	01-29	–
14	G1	South-west elevation	01-25	02-22
15	G1	North-west elevation	01-30	–
16	G1	North-west elevation	01-26	02-23
17	G1	Window, south-east end of north-east elevation	01-28	02-25
18	G2	South-west end and stalls	01-42	02-36
19	G2	Flue and north-west corner	01-43	–
20	G2	Flue	01-45	–
21	G2	Scar of earlier outshut	01-46	–
22	G2	North-west elevation	01-44	–
23	F1	North-west end of truss, south-west side	01-14	02-11
24	F1	South-east end of truss, south-west side	01-15	02-12
25	F1	Truss (south-west side)	01-16	02-13
26	F1	South-east elevation	01-08	–
27	F1	South-east elevation	01-13	02-10
28	F1	South-east end of north-east elevation	01-07	–
29	F1	Central section, north-east elevation	01-10	02-09
30	F1	North-west end of north-east elevation	01-09	02-08
31	F1	South-west elevation	01-12	–
32	F1	South-east end of truss, north-east side	01-01	02-01, 02-02
33	F1	North-west end of truss, north-east side	01-02	02-03
34	F1	North-west end of room	01-03	02-04
35	F1	North-west end of room	01-04	02-05
36	F1	North-west end of south-west elevation	01-06	02-07
37	F1	South-east end of south-west elevation	01-05	02-06
38	F1	North-west elevation	01-11	–
39	F1	Carpenter's mark on truss (north-east side)	01-17	02-14
40	F2	North-east elevation	01-34	02-29
41	F2	South-east end	01-31	02-26
42	F2	South corner and truss	01-36	02-31
43	F2	North-west elevation	01-33	02-28
44	F2	North-west corner and truss	01-37	02-32
45	F2	North-east elevation	01-35	02-30
46	F2	Blocked feature, south-west elevation	01-32	02-27

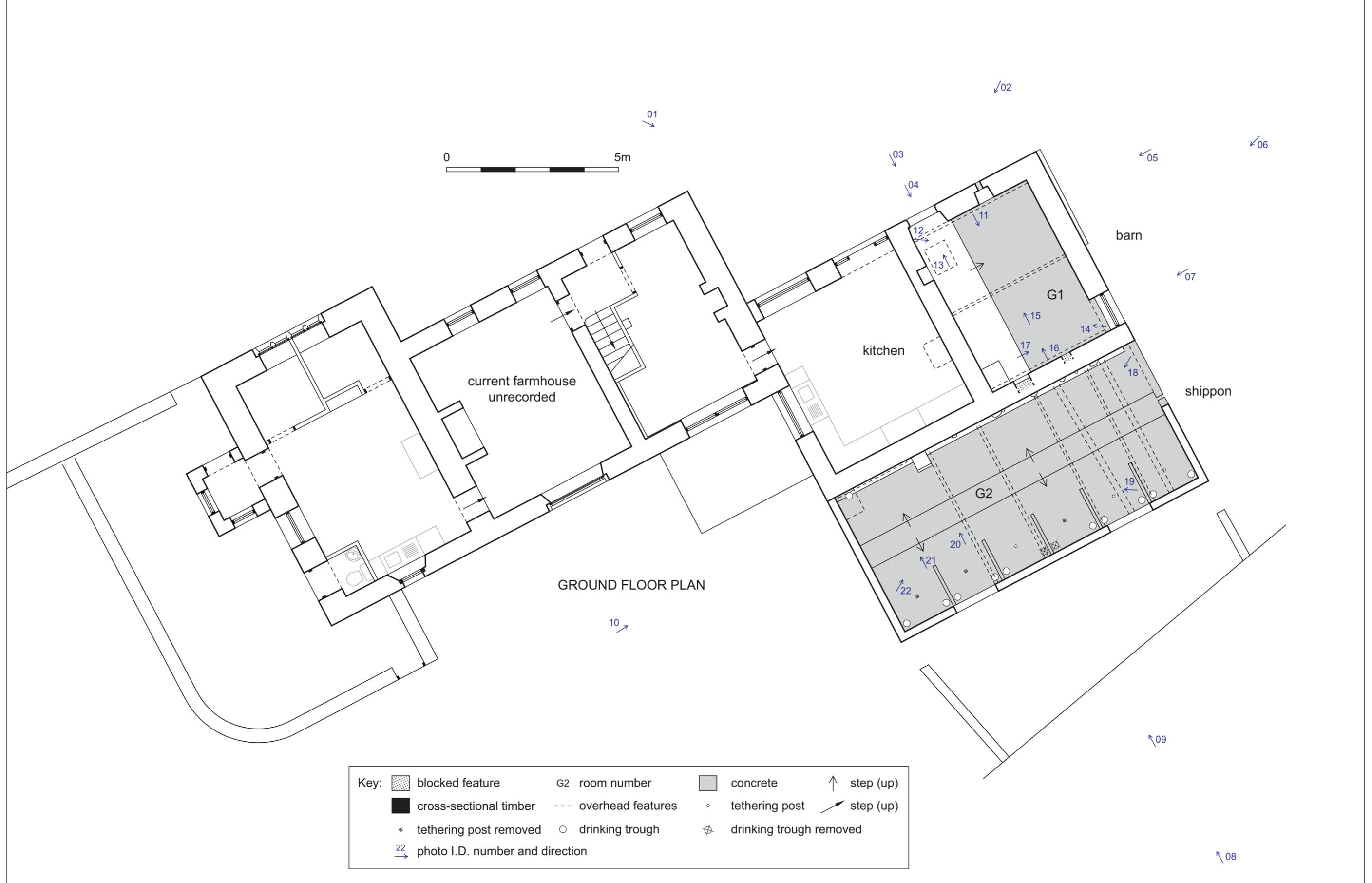
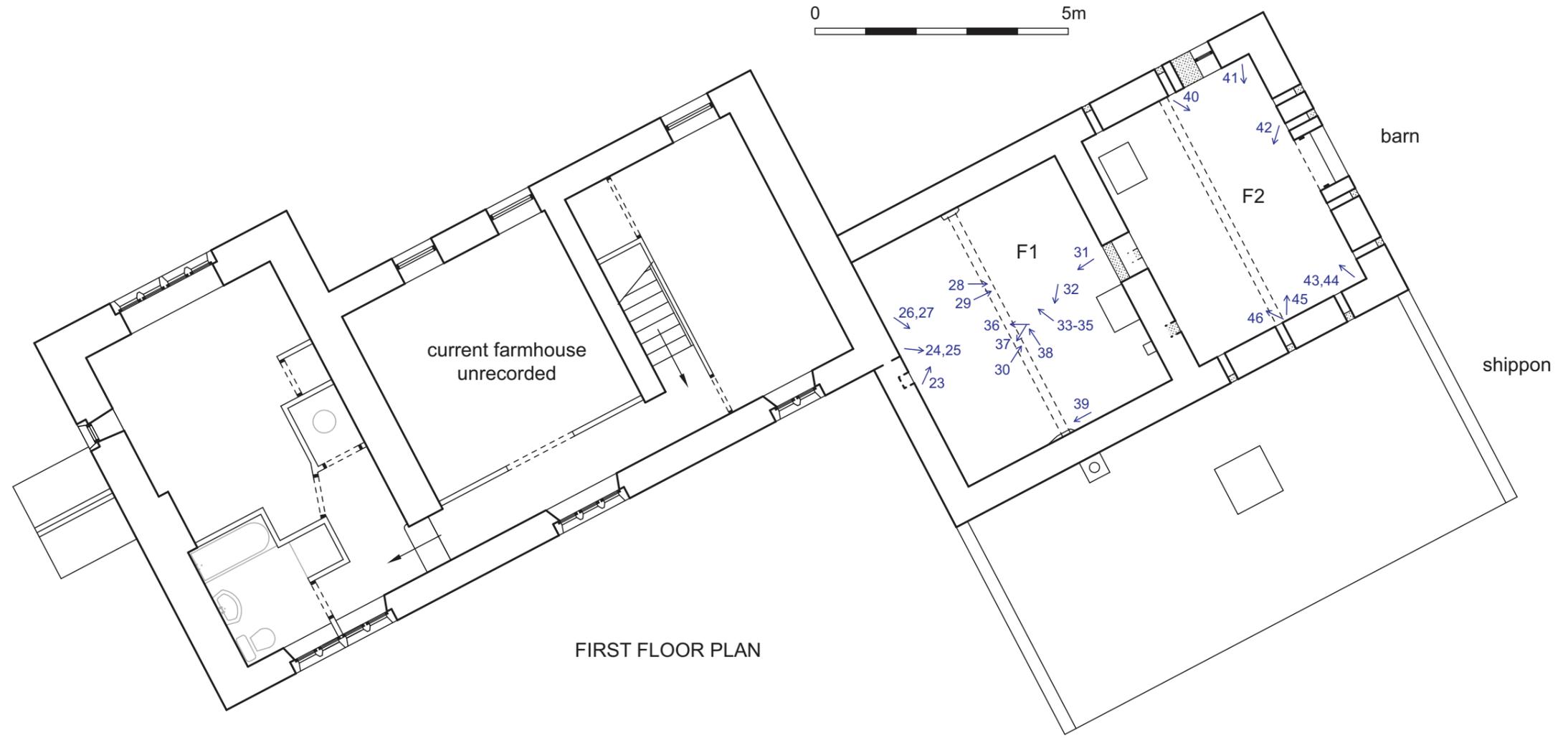


Figure 8: Ground floor plan, showing the location and direction of photographs taken on site



FIRST FLOOR PLAN

Key:	blocked feature	F2 room number	photo I.D. number and direction	direction of steps (arrow points up)
	cross-sectional timber	--- overhead features		

Figure 9: First floor plan, showing the location and direction of photographs taken on site

### Appendix 3: Archive Index

<b>Project name:</b>	Oakhead Farm, Mewith Lane, Tatham, Lancaster, Lancashire: Archaeological Building Recording		
<b>Project Code:</b>	G1299	<b>Site Code:</b>	OF15
<b>Description</b>	<b>Material</b>	<b>Size</b>	<b>Quantity</b>
Report	Paper, comb-bound	A3 and A4	41 sheets, single- and double-sided
Building investigation fabric record sheet	Paper	A4	1 sheet, double-sided
Building investigation elevation record sheet	Paper	A4	4 sheets, double-sided
Building investigation room description record sheet	Paper	A4	4 sheets, double-sided
Photo record sheet	Paper	A4	2 sheets, double-sided
Drawing index	Paper	A4	1 sheet, single-sided
Miscellaneous working drawings	Paper	A4	8 sheets, single-sided
Drawings	Drafting film	29 x 32cm	3 sheets, single-sided
Negatives	Negative film	7½ x 1¾ inch strips	10 strips
Colour prints	Colour print film (gloss)	4 x 6 inch	36 prints
Digital archive index	Paper	A4	1 sheet, single-sided
Digital archive	DVD	-	1