SHIP INN, PIEL ISLAND, BARROW-IN-FURNESS,

CUMBRIA

Architectural Evaluation



Client: Barrow Borough Council NGR: SD 23336 63773

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Non-Technical Summary

Prior to the submission of an application by Barrow Borough Council to renovate the Ship Inn, Piel Island, Barrow-in-Furness, Greenlane Archaeology was commissioned to carry out an architectural evaluation of the building. The Ship Inn is a Grade II Listed Building, and as renovation work was likely to need to be extensive it was anticipated that an assessment would be required in order to act as supporting documentation. The architectural assessment would provide background information about the development of the building, both in terms of its documentary history and physical structure, and would determine those areas of significance within its fabric.

There is evidence for activity on Piel Island from at least the Bronze Age, although the form that this might have taken is uncertain. The first recorded structure built on the island was a precursor of the current castle, although it is not certain when this was constructed. A fortified building was certainly present by 1327 and this played a vital role in protecting the trade interests of Furness Abbey for the next 200 years. Following the Dissolution, the castle, along with the remainder of the Abbey's property, came into private hands, eventually becoming the property of the Duke of Albemarle in 1662, from whom it passed to the Duke of Buccleuch. The island retained an important role in local shipping, it was an important harbour, and acted as a base for the local customs officers during the 17th and 18th century, and was utilised for salt working in the 17th century, at which time it was also suggested as a suitable place for making ships. During the 19th century it was home to pilots working in the harbour, and, as the town of Barrow-in-Furness grew in size, it gradually became an important leisure resort. In 1920 it was given to the town as a memorial to those killed during the First World War, thus confirming and maintaining its importance to the people of Barrow.

The documentary evidence revealed that while the Ship Inn is thought to be around 300 years old, the earliest direct reference to a public house on the island is only from 1800, although an innkeeper is apparently recorded in 1746. Earlier buildings, apart from the castle, probably existed on the island, and these may have been connected to a salt works that was recorded in the 1660s and 1690s, or a ships' chandlery. The inn possibly developed from one of these as an illustration from 1727 shows a small building in its approximate position. A plan of Piel Island from 1833 names the inn 'The Herdhouse', but it was certainly known as The Ship Inn by the 1840s. The first certain inn keeper was James Hool, and he made considerable improvements to the building. Throughout the 19th century the inn was an important component of any visit to the island, and the inn became known as a hotel. It continued to grow in size as its facilities improved to meet growing visitor numbers.

The building investigation revealed several phases of development within the building, and shows that it does have very early origins. The earliest section appears to have been the east end, which must originally have comprised a small building of only one and a half storeys. This was subsequently raised in height, possibly at the same time as the building was extended to the west, likely to have been in the first part of the 19th century. Subsequent extensions were added during the remainder of the 19th century, including several porches, and a tea room. During the late 20th century several less sympathetic alterations were made as a result of modernisation and repairs, including the conversion of the tea room into a pool room and shower block, and the addition of extra bathrooms. Further buildings comprising a detached bunk house and toilet block were also constructed outside.

In general, the majority of the original fabric has remained in good condition, however, especially on the first floor. Many features of significance survive and it is recommended that these be retained during any subsequent alterations. A number of

the more recent alterations were far from sympathetic to the historic fabric and it is recommended that these be improved during any forthcoming renovations.

Acknowledgements

Greenlane Archaeology would like to thank David Joyce at the Estates Office at Barrow Borough Council for commissioning and supporting the project, and for providing background information about the inn, and also Anna Williams of Anna Williams Associates and David McArdle of Tims Morris Ltd for providing copies of 'as existing' drawings. Further thanks are also due to Charles Wilton, Jenny Dickinson, and Kevin Morrison at the Planning Department at Barrow Borough Council, and the staff of the Cumbria Record Office in Barrow-in-Furness for their help and additional information. In addition, thanks are due to Paul MacGladdery and Michael Dixon for their patience and help with equipment on site, John Cleasby for safely transporting us all to the island and back. Special thanks are due to John Garbutt for providing additional background information from his private collection, and Sabine Skae at the Dock Museum for allowing access to the chair, helmet and sword, while they are in storage.

The desk-based assessment was carried out by Daniel Elsworth, who also undertook the building recording and produced the report and illustrations. The project was managed by Jo Dawson, who also edited the report.

1. Introduction

1.1 Circumstances of the Project

1.1.1 The Estates Office of Barrow Borough Council (hereafter 'the client') propose to carry out renovation work on the Ship Inn, Piel Island, Barrow-in-Furness, Cumbria (SD 23336 63773). This building is Listed (Grade II), and considering the scope of the renovation works proposed, Charles Wilton of the Planning Department at Barrow Borough Council informed the client that Listed Building Consent was required. He further recommended that supporting information be submitted with the Listed Building Consent application, including an architectural evaluation of the building in its current state. Greenlane Archaeology was commissioned to carry out this work, and following consultation with Graham Ives, English Heritage's Historic Areas Adviser for Cumbria, and Charles Wilton of the Planning Department at Barrow Borough Council, this was confirmed as a Level 3-type survey (English Heritage 2006). A project design was produced by Greenlane Archaeology (see accompanying CD), and following the acceptance of this the on-site recording was undertaken on 6th and 7th June 2007, following the completion of the first stage of the desk-based assessment.

1.2 Location, Geology and Topography

- 1.2.1 The Ship Inn is located on the east side of Piel Island, which is approximately 5km south-east of Barrow-in-Furness (Fig 1). It is 215m from Piel Castle to the south, and 170m from a row of cottages to the north-west (Fig 2). The whole island is at approximately 6-7m above sea level (Ordnance Survey 2002).
- 1.2.2 The underlying solid geology is dominated by Penrith Sandstone (Moseley 1978, plate 1), which is overlain by glacially derived boulder clay (Countryside Commission 1998, 27). Piel Island forms the southern point of the West Cumbria coastal plain area, which is typified by gently undulating topography dominated by pasture of which Piel Island forms a small piece (*ibid*).

2. Methodology

2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 The architectural investigation comprised three separate elements intended to provide a suitable record of the structure, in line with English Heritage standards (English Heritage 2006), the guidelines of the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA 2001), and advice from the Association of Local Government Archaeological Officers (ALGAO 1997). In addition a desk-based assessment was carried out in accordance with the project design (see accompanying CD), and a suitable archive was compiled to provide a permanent paper record of the project and its results in accordance with English Heritage and IFA guidelines (English Heritage 1991; Ferguson and Murray n.d.).

2.2 Desk-Based Assessment

- 2.2.1 A desk-based assessment was carried out. This principally comprised an examination of early maps of the site, which could demonstrate the basic phasing and development of the building, as well as other documentary sources. A number of sources of information were utilised during the desk-based assessment:
 - Cumbria Record Office, Barrow-in-Furness (CRO(B)): this was visited in order to examine early maps of the site, and other primary and secondary sources;
 - Barrow Borough Council, Planning Department: details of previous planning applications relating to the Ship Inn were examined in order to provide information about the phasing of the building and the period in which certain elements had been constructed;
 - Dock Museum, Barrow-in-Furness: the Ship Inn's chair, sword, and helmet were examined;
 - **Private collection**: sources from John Garbutt's private collection, which were not available in the Record Office, were utilised;
 - **Greenlane Archaeology**: additional secondary sources held in Greenlane Archaeology's library and the personal libraries of members of staff, used to provide information for the site background, were also examined.

2.3 Building Recording

- 2.3.1 The building recording was carried out to English Heritage Level-3 type standards (English Heritage 2006). This is a largely descriptive investigation, with only a limited level of interpretation of the phasing and use of the buildings, which incorporates evidence compiled during the rapid desk-based assessment. The recording comprised several parts:
 - Written record: descriptive records of all parts of the building were made using Greenlane Archaeology pro forma record sheets;
 - Photographs: photographs in both 35mm black and white print and colour digital format were taken of the main features of the building, its general surroundings, and any features of architectural or archaeological interest. A selection of the colour digital photographs is included in this report, and the remaining photographs are presented on the accompanying CD;

- **Drawings**: drawings were produced by hand-annotating 'as existing' and 'proposed' illustrations of the building drawn by the client's architect, provided by the client in digital format at a scale of 1:1. These comprised:
 - i. 'as existing' cellar, ground and first floor plans, at 1:100;
 - ii. one cross-section, at 1:100 and detail of this at 1:50;
 - iii. 'as existing' elevations of all four external aspects, at 1:100.

2.4 Archive

2.4.1 A comprehensive archive of the project has been produced in accordance with the project design (see accompanying CD), and current IFA and English Heritage guidelines (Ferguson and Murray n.d.; English Heritage 1991). The paper and digital archive will be deposited in the Cumbria Record Office in Barrow-in-Furness on completion of the project. Two copies of this report will be deposited with the client and one with the client's architect, and one will be retained by Greenlane Archaeology. In addition, digital copies will be offered to the Cumbria Historic Environment Record and the OASIS scheme, together with a record of the project details.

3. Desk-Based Assessment

3.1 Piel Island

- 3.1.1 Piel Island has a long and interesting history, and is of considerable importance in the local area due not only to its connections with Furness Abbey, but also as a major deep water harbour. It has evidence for human occupation spanning at least the last 3000 years, and an outline of this is provided in order to place the results of the architectural evaluation in context.
- 3.1.2 **Prehistoric Early Medieval**: the earliest known evidence for any human activity on Piel Island exists in the form of stray finds. A bronze spear head, dating to the Bronze Age, was discovered embedded in the wall of the castle in 1871 (Gaythorpe 1903), and demonstrates that people at least visited it at this time. Two pieces of a complete rotary beehive quern were also discovered on the island in 1868 (Gaythorpe 1909, 328; CRO(B) Z2391 n.d.), and although difficult to date (Ingle 1987, 11), they are generally assumed to be Iron Age (Watts 2002, 27). The latter discovery might suggest that something approaching a more permanent settlement was present on the island at this time, and though it has been suggested that Piel would have made an ideal location for a military site of some description (Harrison 1877, 232), there is no evidence to support this. There are, however, earthworks extending the line of the outer bailey of Piel Castle, which do not evidently relate to the castle and have extensively eroded by the sea (Clare 2000, 20), although these could easily relate to an early phase of medieval construction. Roman coins, and pottery possibly also of Roman date, have been discovered on nearby Foulney Island, which might suggest a Roman presence in the area, but what form this might have taken is uncertain (Elsworth forthcoming). A recent reinterpretation of evidence from Furness has suggested that the Roman military may have had a presence in the area (ibid), and a good port would undoubtedly have been of some importance to them.
- 3.1.3 In a sense, the earliest documentary evidence for the island is the placename. The present name, Piel Island, was adopted some time after the construction of the castle. The original name was 'Fotheray', or one of a variety of spelling variations, which probably originates from a Scandinavian word applied in general to small islands, to which has been added an additional ending, also meaning island (Ekwall 1922, 201). After the castle was built a variation combining the two elements was typically used Pile of Foudrey (again with various spelling variations). It has also been suggested that it may have been the origin for the name of the whole of the Furness peninsula (*ibid*). There is no evidence that the Vikings actually had any form of settlement on the island, although it would seem likely that they made use of it as an obvious port.
- 3.1.4 **Medieval Present**: it is during the medieval period that Piel Island became a prominent feature of the local landscape on account of its important harbour. The earliest reference to the harbour at Piel is in 1212, when a licence was granted for the importation of a cargo of wheat, flour, and other provisions (Melville *c*1949). Piel would undoubtedly have been included in the original grant of land to Furness Abbey made in 1127 and, although it is not specifically named, the Abbots were expected to maintain a fort in Furness for the general defence of the area following a grant made between 1135 and 1154 (Curwen 1910, 271). It is likely that some form of structure, fortified or otherwise, existed from an early date to house cargos entering the port, especially as the trade from Piel to Abbey lands in Ireland increased during the 13th century (*ibid*). The 'Port of Furness' was by this time well established and the trade in Irish corn considerable, so much so that in 1276 Furness Abbey was prohibited by

Edward I from sending food to rebels in Wales (*ibid*). The port was also mentioned during the early part of the 14th century when ships were commandeered by the crown in anticipation of war with France (*ibid*), and grew wealthy in the latter part of the century as peace returned under Edward III and it was able to exploit not only the corn trade but also the more lucrative wool trade (*ibid*).

- 3.1.5 Some form of building was clearly present on the island during the medieval period, as in 1327 Furness Abbey was granted the right to crenellate (i.e. fortify) its existing 'dwelling-house' (*ibid*), although a reference from 1323 to a peel might suggest that this was not a particularly extensive programme of alterations (Curwen 1910, 272). By the beginning of the 15th century the lucrative trade was evidently not as productive, as in 1403 the castle is said to have been 'thrown down' due to the expense of its upkeep (op cit, 274). The harbour at Piel continued to be used, however, and became known as 'a place of great resort for those who sought to evade payment of royal duties' (Beck 1844, 293, cited in Curwen 1910, 274). Indeed, in 1423, a petition from merchants in Calais was issued complaining that Furness Abbey had been smuggling wool from Piel without paying the necessary dues (Curwen 1910, 274). Six years later, due to the threat of invasion, it is recorded that the castle was partially rebuilt, and new arrangements were made for its defence, with each tenant of the Abbey required to supply men and arms (op cit, 275).
- 3.1.6 Piel's notoriety during the 15th century continued, however, despite this apparent reconnection with the region's defence, and the Abbey deliberately chose not to interfere when Colonel Martin Swartz and his German mercenaries landed on the island in 1487 as part of an attempt by Lambert Simnel to seize the English crown (*ibid*). Following the dissolution of Furness Abbey Piel Castle passed to the crown, and although there was some suggestion of destroying it (a survey carried out in 1537 described it as being in poor condition) its useful defensive position seems to have prevented this from happening (*op cit*, 275-277). However, even concerns of a Spanish invasion during Elizabeth I's reign did not apparently lead to it being repaired or made serviceable and it is likely to have remained ruinous during this period (*op cit*, 276-277).
- 3.1.7 Following the restoration of Charles II the lordship of Furness was given to the newly ennobled Duke of Albemarle in 1662 (Farrer and Brownbill 1914, 299-300), and this included the castle and part of the remaining land on the island (CRO(B) BD BUC 17/1 1917-1935). After this date activity on Piel seems to have revolved around shipping and industry. A salt works is recorded as existing on the island from as early as 1662 (PRO 134/13Wm3/Mich23 c1662), which was still apparently present in the 1690s (Hainsworth 1983). In 1667 a proposal was made to use Piel as a ship yard, with the intension of constructing three third-rate frigates by 1st August 1671, on account of the plentiful amounts of local timber (Curwen 1910, 277-278), but it is not certain that this ever happened. An unsupported suggestion that a ships' chandlery existed on the island in the 17th century may be related to this proposal (Ramsden 1994, 30), and might suggest that the plan did come to fruition, although it is not generally thought to have (Melville c1949).
- 3.1.8 During the late 17th and early 18th century Piel became important due to its connection with the collection of customs. A customs officer worked from Piel as early as 1669, and during the early 18th century several seizures of illegally imported alcohol were made (*ibid*). A concerted effort in the 1720s virtually wiped this trade out, but the officers working from Piel still apparently had no permanent base and were required to travel to Lancaster to conclude their business (*ibid*). A petition was sent in 1717 requesting an office at Piel, but it appears that Rampside was the preferred location (*ibid*; Jarvis 1948, 152-157). A deputy controller and searcher were established at Piel in 1720, however, (Hammersley 1971, 57-58) but it is not known if

they operated from an actual premises on the island. As the trade from Piel in commodities such as iron ore, timber, and bark increased during the 18th century this Custom House, which had apparently been built at Rampside, although its location is uncertain, was considered too small in 1730 and additional storage was sought (Melville *c*1949). By the 1750s, however, trade had increased considerably around Ulverston and a petition to the controller of customs, probably dating to between April 1752 and October 1754, requested that the customs house be moved to Ulverston (Barnes and Hobbes 1960, 141-142). This apparently happened in 1766 (*op cit*, 143), although 1760 (Barnes 1968, 83) and 1780 (William Salmon writing in 1849, cited in Layfield 2007) have also been suggested. It has been assumed that the customs house serving Piel ceased operation in 1765, although there is a reference to a '*Tide Surveyor of the Customs of Pile Fouldrey*' still residing in Rampside in 1824 (Rollinson and Harrison 1986, 32).

3.1.9 In the early 19th century Piel remained important for shipping entering the harbour and was occupied by a number of pilots appointed by the Port Commissioners of Lancaster. They were granted an old barn, to be converted into cottages, and land, both situated within the walls of the ruined castle, by the Duke of Buccleuch in 1839 (CRO(B) BD BUC 21/2/4 1839-1842). Following lengthy negotiations they finally settled the lease in 1842, but the pilots did not stay for long. There were several disputes over access to land and water with the landlord of the Ship Inn (see Section 3.2.6) and while it is not known when the pilots left there are only two recorded in the census of 1851, only one of whom may have lived in the cottages within the castle (Cumbria Family History Society 1995, 140), and there are two empty houses recorded in 1861 (RG9/Piece3169/Folio27/Page7 1861). In 1875, perhaps to remedy this situation and in order to serve the growing port at Barrow, a row of cottages was constructed for pilots to the north-west of the inn (English Heritage 2001a). Aside from its connections to the port, Piel was also important as a piece of agricultural land. There are accounts from as early as 1715 of people on Walney using the ground, albeit illegally, for grazing cattle (CRO(B) BPR 1/M9/25/38 1715), and in the late 18th and early 19th centuries the land was regularly rented to landowners on the south end of Walney (CRO(B) BD BUC 42/1/9 1797; CRO(B) BD BUC 42/1/10 1801; CRO(B) BD BUC 45/1/11-16 1796-1799; CRO(B) BD BUC 45/1/18 1800; CRO(B) BD BUC 45/1/20 1801).

3.1.10 Until 1874 the ownership of the island was divided between two people; the Duke of Buccleuch, who owned the castle and the Ship Inn and land associated with this, and a Mr CW Archibald, who owned the rest (CRO(B) BD BUC Plans 4 1833; CRO(B) BD BUC 39/46 1873). The Duke of Buccleuch purchased the remainder in 1874 (CRO(B) BD BUC 17/1 1917-1935) and spent a considerable sum of money carrying out maintenance to the crumbling castle (Harrison 1877, 239-240; Newman 1987; 1996), but in 1919 decided to sell the entire island (ibid). This reached such an advanced stage that a prospectus was drawn up (CRO(B) BD BUC 17/SP1/257 n.d.) and advertisements were issued to the local and national press (CRO(B) BD BUC 17/1 1917-1935). The intervention of the mayor of Barrow, Alfred Barrow, on 27th August 1919, who requested that the island be given to the town instead, halted the sale (ibid). Ultimately, despite some concerns that under the ownership of the town council it would be unlikely to 'blossom into [a] popular health resort', based on the evidence of attempts to develop Walney (CRO(B) BD BUC 17/1 1917-1935), the entire island was given to the town of Barrow-in-Furness in 1920 as a memorial to those who lost their lives during the First World War (ibid). However, it took extended negotiations to confirm the final hand-over of title, which was not completed until 1921 (Deeds 1921a; 1921b). The expense of its up keep has led to suggestions by the council that they might wish to sell the island (once in 1928, apparently due to changes in the Town Council, and a second time before 1935; CRO(B) BD BUC 17/1

1917-1935) but despite this it has remained the property of the town. The guardianship of the castle was transferred to the Secretary of State for the Environment in 1973 (Deeds 1973), from whom it has passed to English Heritage, the suggestion having already been made in 1928 that if the island was to be sold the castle be placed under the protection of the Committee for the Preservation of Ancient Monuments (CRO(B) BD BUC 17/1 1917-1935).

3.2 The Ship Inn

- The origins of the Ship Inn are obscure, and although it is said to be over 300 years old (Clarke and Lockett 1986, 12), the evidence for this is uncertain. It has also been stated that the inn developed out of a former ships' chandlery established in the 17th century (Ramsden 1994, 30), but again no corroborating sources are given to support this. The earliest contemporary sources are equally unconvincing; on 28th May 1700 George Hilton of Beetham Hall, a renowned socialite and inveterate drunk, visited the island with friends to go fishing and recorded in his diary that they 'dined in the Pile of Fother Illeland' (Hillman 1994, 8). It is not clear from this whether they ate in an inn or just within the ruins of the castle, however. Some time later, in 1746, a lease for agricultural land situated within the castle ditch was granted to an Edward Postlethwaite, who is described as an innkeeper from the 'Pile of Fowdrey' (CRO(B) BPR 1/M9/25/44 1796). Postlethwaite and his family were evidently resident on the island as there are entries relating to them as such in the parish registers in 1746 (Dickinson n.d.a) and 1766 (Anon n.d.a). There were clearly also other residents on the island around this time as the parish registers include an Andrew Brink in 1763 (Dickinson n.d.b), Mary Brinty in 1775 (ibid), Alexander McAlexander in 1780 (Anon n.d.a), and John and Alice Banks in 1803 (Anon n.d.b). A summary list of all of the recorded or probable landlords from Edward Postlethwaite onwards, is presented in Appendix 1, along with their dates of occupancy as far as these are known.
- 3.2.2 The complex records of property situated on the island (see Section 3.1.10 above) make it difficult to identify individual buildings, although it is clear that some cannot be the inn as they are situated within the castle ditches. The earliest direct reference to an inn, or 'publick house' is only in 1800 (CRO(B) BD BUC 45/1/18 1800), at which date few details are given; it is likely that a 'Dwelling house and outhouses' mentioned in a lease of 1797 (CRO(B) BD BUC 42/1/9 1797) refers to the same property, but again no details are given. A brief account of the inn in 1805 states only that it was 'lonely' (Close in West 1805, 369), but was able to provide 'sufficient hospitality' (op cit, 372). It did get some visitors, however, and a description from 1813 paints a vivid picture of the life of the innkeeper at that time:

'There is a public-house on the island, the only habitation, tenanted by an old Scotchman, who has been lord of this domain for many years, and goes through the duties of guide and expositor among the ruins of the castle with admirable fluency. The custom of the seamen from the roadstead, and the donations of occasional visitors in the summer time, support him in a state of which he has no right, he thinks, to complain; but he acknowledged that when there were no vessels in the roadstead he found his situation rather too lonesome, and apt to drive him to his beer-barrel for company' (Macleod 1988, 31).

3.2.3 There is only a brief mention of the existence of an inn on Piel in the first directory to cover the area in detail (Baines 1824, 629), and the earliest map to name the building only dates from 1833, at which time it was apparently called 'The Herdhouse', although it is not clear if this is the name of an inn or not (CRO(B) BD BUC Plans 4 1833; Plate 9). Even in the late 1830s however, when there are several contemporary documentary sources, identifying those that relate specifically to the inn is difficult. A series of documents from 1839 seem to relate to the tenancy of the

inn by James Hool. These show that he was accepted as the leaseholder, for a term of 21 years, on 12th August (BD BUC 45/2/2 1839) of what was described as 'the dwelling house & the rest of the land within the castle ditch' (BD BUC 45/2/3 1839), the remainder of the land within the castle ditch having been granted to the Lancaster Port Commissioners a few months earlier (see Section 3.1.9 above)). The dwelling house was apparently known by the name 'Piel House' and was occupied by an Edward Ashburner who, as a result of Hool's lease, was ejected from it (CRO(B) BD BUC 45/2/5 1839) and given the 'old building formerly a bakehouse' instead (CRO(B) BD BUC 45/2/6 1839). The old building is probably that shown to the north of the inn on the plan of 1833 (CRO(B) BD BUC Plans 4 1833; Plate 9). Piel House is presumably the Ship Inn and is described as being in 'very bad repair' at this time, so much so that James Hool was prepared to spend £88 of his own money to carry out the necessary improvements (CRO(B) BD BUC 45/2/3 1839). Hool's intension was apparently to 'establish a provision warehouse for the accommodation of shipping' (ibid), and a subsequent list of repairs shows the extent of work that was necessary:

'All New spars for Roof and Nails	£9 9s 2d
4 New Ribs & 1 Rafter	£1 10s 4d
Boards for Attick Story floor	£6 15s 7d
12 new doors	£4 4s 0d
10 New Windows and Glazing and Paint	£8 5s 0d
5 Pair of Door Jams	£1 15s 0d
8 Ton of slate at 7 ^s 6 ^d per ton	£10 8s 0d
Flags and Flagging	£6 18s 0d
Ridging stone	£1 15s 0d
Lead for valy [valley] gutters	£2 0s 0d
Lime and hair	£2 18s 0d
Lats [lathes] and Nails	£5 0s 0d
4 New Graits	£1 10s 0d
For filling up pigry and prey [?]	£3 5s 0d
For filling up the above and getting	
materials for Place and Painting	£18 10s 0d
	£88 8s 1ď

(CRO(B) BD BUC 45/2/4 1839)

3.2.4 Presumably Edward Ashburner had not kept the house in good order while he had occupied it as he was not only ejected from it, he was also expected to pay towards the repairs, and repair the old building he was moved into (CRO(B) BD BUC 45/2/6 1839). While Ashburner may have operated an inn or public house from the building on Piel, he is described as a labourer in the parish registers in 1829 and 1831 (Anon n.d.c) and a pilot in 1836 (*ibid*). James Hool is therefore the first person who can confidently be identified as a landlord of the Ship Inn; he is listed in the 1841 census as a publican, along with his wife, five children and a female servant (see Table 1 below):

Name	Occupation	Age	Born in Lancashire?
James Hool	Publican	40	Yes
Jane Hool	-	40	Yes
James Hool	-	15	Yes
Sarah Hool	-	9	Yes
Jane Hool	-	4	Yes
Joesph Hool	-	1 month	Yes
Margaret Slyth	Female servant	30	Yes

Table 1: Occupiers of the Ship Inn according to the 1841 census (HO107/Piece 529/Book 4/Folio 12/Page 1 1841)

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3.2.5 The Tithe Apportionment of 1844 demonstrates that James Hool was still occupying the inn at this time, and the Ashburners were still in the building nearby (CRO(B) BPR 1 1844). The 1851 census lists Hool as an innkeeper, living with his wife and seven children (see Table 2 below).

Name	Occupation/relationship to head of household	Age	Place of birth
James Hool	Innkeeper	51	Dalton
Jane Hool	Innkeeper's wife	50	Roosecote
James Hool	Son	27	Leece
Margaret Hool	Daughter	24	Roose
Sarah Hool	Daughter	20	Roose
Thomas Hool	Son	17	Roose
Jane Hool	Daughter	14	Roose
Joseph Hool	Son	9	Piel Island
George Hool	Son	5	Piel Island

Table 2: Occupiers of the Ship Inn according to the 1851 census (Cumbria Family History Society 1995, 140)

- 3.2.6 During his tenancy Hool had a number of disputes with pilots living in the cottages within the castle, whom he considered 'very troublesome' on account of issues of access to the water pump (CRO(B) BD BUC 21/2/4 1839-1842). It took almost three years to resolve the first squabble. A later complaint arose when they were accused of 'trespassing upon his premises by sending their pigs & poultry therein' and had not built a wall intended in the original lease to divide the two properties (CRO(B) BD BUC 45/2/7 1848). A particular dispute arose with the Charnley family, who were evidently pilots and may have been the cause of the earlier complaints, after they were accused of building a pigsty and middenstead on Hool's land in 1843, regularly trespassing, not repairing a garden wall, and 'wheeling manure over the ground off the road' (CRO(B) BD BUC 45/2/8 1848-1849). In addition, the Charnley children were said to have been seen to 'throw stones from off the castle wall' onto Hool's land, set fire to a hedge, and had broken the 'string course round the castle wall' (ibid). Clearly life on the island was far from harmonious during this period.
- 3.2.7 By 1861 the Hools were also no longer living on the island, and the tenancy of the Ship Inn had been taken over by John Pennington (see Table 3 below).

Name	Occupation/relationship to head of household	Age	Place of birth
John Pennington	Pilot	33(?)	Sundarland [sic]
Ann Pennington	Wife	20	Lane Houses, Lancashire
John Pennington	Son	5	Piel
Annie Pennington	Daughter	6 months	Piel

Table 3: Occupiers of the Ship Inn according to the 1861 census (RG9/Piece 3169/Folio 27/Page 7 1861)

3.2.8 John Pennington was clearly a popular landlord as there are frequent references to him in the visitors' books, which begin in 1856 (CRO(B) Z217 1856-1873). In fact, it is likely that the date of 1856 reflects the departure of James Hool, and the subsequent re-branding of the inn as a 'Hotel' (*ibid*), which also fits with the date of birth of John Pennington's eldest child, who must have been born on Piel in c1856 (see Table 3). John Pennington and his family were still present during the census of 1871 (Table 4), although by 1881 the tenancy had been taken over by John Housby (Table 5).

Name	Occupation/relationship	Age	Place of birth
	to head of household		
John Pennington	Pilot & licensed victualler	43	Sunderland, Northumberland
John Pennington	Pilot	15	Piel
Thomas Pennington	Son	6	Piel
Thomas Butler	Visitor: unmarried soliseter	_	Dalton
	[sic]		

Table 4: Occupiers of the Ship Inn according to the 1871 census (RG10/Piece 4245/Folio 109/Page 7 1871; the last entry is scored out in the census)

Name	Occupation/relationship to head of household	Age	Place of birth
John Housby	Innkeeper and farmer	41	Walney
Eleanor Housby	Wife	41	Kirkby, Lancashire
Mary Eleanor Steel	Domestic servant	25	Ulverston

Table 5: Occupiers of the Ship Inn according to the 1881 census (RG11 Piece 4293/Folio 40/Page 14 1881)

3.2.9 John Housby was made famous in 1879 by a poem printed in the *Barrow Vulcan* commemorating a race between him, in his boat, and Tom Tichborne, a local butcher, on his horse and trap (Lockett 1976, 13). The poem records that Tichborne won with only two seconds to spare, and following the race they adjourned to the Ship Inn, where they:

'The healths of Hose [sic – meaning Housby] and Tichborne drank,

And Sang - God Save the Queen' (op cit, 16).

3.2.10 The late 19th century was a period of increased social activity in Piel Channel, with boating for pleasure becoming an important pursuit for many people. The Ship Inn of course formed an important part of this, but drunken revellers leaving the inn seem to have become casualties of boating accidents on more than one occasion (Diamond n.d., 20-23), and in one case the coroner stated that 'the landlord of the Ship Inn should not supply drink as to make incapable men who may have to take charge of a boat' (op cit, 23). Even a Mr R Tyson, described as 'of the Ship Hotel' and so perhaps the landlord (although he is not recorded as such elsewhere), was involved in a fatal boating accident in 1892 (op cit, 22). Piel was also popular with yachtsmen during this period (op cit, 18), and a regatta was regularly held; at one such event in 1889 the inauguration of a new landlord, a Mr Walmsley, took place (op cit, 22).

3.2.11 Walmsley, along with his family, is listed the 1891 census (see Table 6 below), but it is likely that he did not stay for very long. The popularity of the inn during this period did not mean that it was always successful; one of its landlords, presumably Walmsley, went bankrupt in 1894 and the hearing told of poor takings, even on regatta day, and worse in winter, and rent in excess of £52 per year (Watts 2000, 43).

Name	Occupation/relationship to head of household	Age	Place of birth
John Walmsley	Publican	54	Poulton-le-Fylde
Elizabeth Walmsley	Wife	54	Lancaster
Margaret Walmsley	Barmaid	27	Barrow-in-Furness
Lily Thompson	Barmaid (niece)	21	Barrow-in-Furness
Margaret Myers	General servant	26	Barrow-in-Furness

Table 6: Occupiers of the Ship Inn according to the 1891 census (RG12/Piece 3488/Folio 127/Page 15 1891)

3.2.12 A description of a visit to the inn in c1904 shows that it was still a popular haunt of local sailors, seasoned drinkers, and yachtsmen (Craven c1904). The census of 1901 shows that by this date it was occupied by the Ashburner family (see Table 7 below):

Name	Occupation	Age	Place of birth
Thomas Ashburner	Publican and farmer	35	Barrow-in-Furness
Elizabeth Ashburner	Wife	46	Grinskill, Shropshire
Ann Killan	Sister-in-Law	51	Grinskill, Shropshire
Elsie M Ashburner	Niece	10	Preston
Mollie Ashburner	Niece	6	Preston
Matthew Porter	Servant/Gardener	57	Aldingham

Table 7: Occupiers of the Ship Inn according to the 1901 census (RG13 Piece 4015/Folio 141/Page 9 1901).

3.2.13 During the early part of the 20th century details about the inn and its landlords are not generally more readily available until the 1920s when proposed sale in 1919 and eventual gift of the island to the town provide a considerable amount of information specifically relating to the inn (see Section 3.1.10, above). The tenant at the time, Mrs Ashburner, was apparently in poor health, and looking to retire, but the lengthy negotiations led to her taking a 'caretaker' role until as late as 1921, although in 1920 her son-in-law, Mr GH Nelson, appears to have taken over for a while (CRO(B) BD BUC 17/1 1917-1935). There was some concern that the tenancy might become vacant resulting in the inn losing its licence (*ibid*), but this does not appear to have happened. A report and valuation compiled in 1919 gives a detailed description of the various elements of the inn and some of its contents:

'2 cellars.

Ground Floor – Bar, 2 Smoke Rooms, 2 Store Rooms, Dining Room, Kitchen, Pantry, Wood built pavilion (Slated roof), small garden, Wash house, Shippon, Yard and out offices.

First Floor – Dining room, Sitting Room, 6 Bedrooms & W.C.

Also about 22 acres of Meadow & Pasture Land and also a Large Garden' (ibid).

3.2.14 At this time the inn is described as being in 'moderate' condition and requiring repair, and, in addition, its trade is said to be 'by no means large, but this of course can be understood at the present time with restricted supplies, but even in pre War times the Barrelage per week would be very small' (ibid). This did not discourage several applicants for the job of landlord from coming forward, however (CRO(B) BD BUC 17/5 1919-1920). The transfer of the island and the inn to the town allowed some stability to return to its management, and a succession of landlords is recorded in the deeds held by Barrow Town Council (see Appendix 1). Throughout the rest of the 20th century these provide a relatively detailed account of the building and the duties of its tenants, which included preventing disorderly behaviour, providing a suitable stock of refreshments, food, and sleeping accommodation for visitors as required (Deeds 1922a; 1922b). In addition, they were expected to collect rent from the cottages on the island, were allowed to make use of the land adjacent to the inn for grazing animals, make sure the castle was not damaged by visitors and report any structural problems to the Borough Surveyor, look after the key to the inner keep and charge 2d per head for those who wished to use it, and be responsible for the 'safety and preservation of the old chair, helmet and three Visitors Books now in the Inn and shall observe the ancient customs connected therewith' (ibid).

3.2.15 Later tenancy agreements also include a schedule detailing the rooms of the inn:

'Ground floor - Bar, Smoke Room with fire grate, Kitchen with fire range, Scullery with sink, Dining room (with fireplace)

First floor – one w.c., one bath, one washbasin, five fire grates to bedrooms' (Deeds 1979).

3.2.16 The tenants were obliged to repair and keep the building in good order as well as paint or paper the interior walls, and paint any external walls and metalwork (*ibid*). Facilities were still basic in the latter half of the 20th century, however, and access to and from the island was always difficult, especially in winter:

'Water has to be drawn from a well; light is provided by means of oil lamps. A visit to the cinema in Barrow is a rare event' ("Evening Mail" Woman Reporter 1949).

- 3.2.17 By 1960 the water was being piped across from the mainland, the well having become unusable, and modern conveniences such as television and electricity, supplied by a generator, had been added (Armathwaite 1960, 299). However, there was still no telephone in 1970 and in emergencies the mainland would apparently be contacted by lighting a bonfire on the shore (Metcalfe *et al* 1970, 53).
- 3.2.18 Intriguingly it was claimed in 1928 that the town council were finding it 'impossible to let the public house' (CRO(B) BD BUC 17/1 1917-1935), although there seems to have been a continuous stream of landlords. Whether the island was suffering a drop in visitor numbers at this point is uncertain. Throughout the later part of the 20th century the island and the Ship Inn remained a favoured spot for visitors, both local and otherwise, and during the summer months it became especially busy ("Evening Mail" Woman Reporter 1949; Metcalfe et al 1970, 53). Apart from some difficulties relating to one particular landlord in the early 1980s, which resulted in visitors petitioning to have him removed (Brunskill 1980; Anon 1980), it has remained popular and peaceful, especially in winter (Mitchell 1991, 28). A description from 1970 reveals how it had not lost its maritime links:

'The atmosphere is essentially a sailing one – a hush descends on the place for five minutes for the Shipping Forecast on the radio, even if no-one intends travelling further than Roa Island on the ferry' (Metcalfe et al 1970, 53).

3.2.19 It was considered that the landlord 'must be able to handle a boat, navigate in thick mists or complete blackness, be a general handyman, a welcoming host... and also a man who appreciates the sometimes not so obvious qualities of solitude' (op cit, 55). A description from the same time summing up life on Piel is probably as true today as it was then:

'It is a place which has never been exploited commercially and remains one of the truly unspoilt odd-spots of Britain' (op cit, 53).

3.2.20 Within the last 20 years the building has been extensively modified, however, and in 1986-1987 the interior was entirely gutted and the internal wall finishes removed and replaced with damp proofed plaster (Anon 1986). The bar and main saloon were re-organised, central heating was installed, and a fireplace was opened up to incorporate a wood burning stove (*ibid*). The wiring and plumbing were all replaced and there were even plans for to convert the adjoining barn into a shower room for campers (Clarke and Lockett 1986, 12). The details of many of these alterations are presented in *Section 3.4.16-17*.

3.3 The King and Knights of Piel

- 3.3.1 One of the most enduring aspects of the Ship Inn is the tradition of the king and knights of Piel, the details of which are recorded in various sources (CRO(B) Z217 1856-1873; "Evening Mail" Woman Reporter 1949; Armathwaite 1960; Ramsden 1994). The tradition holds that each new landlord is crowned 'King of Piel' in a ceremony of uncertain origin, in which they sit in an ancient chair, wearing a helmet and holding a sword while alcohol is poured over their head. In early versions of the ceremony they also wore oilskins, a practice that was still in place until at least the 1950s (Myers 2006, 60), but seems to have waned in recent years (*op cit*, 23). Similarly, anyone else sitting in the chair can be made an honorary 'Knight of Piel' (women are made a 'Baroness'), the main result of which is that they are expected to buy everyone in the bar a drink.
- 3.3.2 The origins of the ceremony and date at which it began are uncertain, and there has evidently been some variation in the way in which it was carried out. The earliest written references to it are in the first visitors' book, which was started in 1856, and was evidently largely intended to record the ceremony and the people that took part in it (CRO(B) Z217 1856-1873). This actually records that a Frederick Thornton was made a 'freeman of the said island' in 1846, ten years before the visitors' book was even started. The earliest evidence for the ceremony taking place, however, is the graffiti carved into the chair used during it (Plates 1-2), some of which includes dates, the first of which is 1842 carved by someone called 'R(?) Jackson' (Plate 2). Other names carved into the chair are also of interest, including 'G. Hool' carved in both 1856 and 1859 (Plate 3), who is presumably the youngest son of James Hool, the former innkeeper, who would have been approximately 10 and 13 at those dates (see Table 2 above). 'R Charnl...' is also carved into the chair, which is probably one of the various Charnleys recorded as living on the island; perhaps one of those that James Hool had so much difficulty with (see Section 3.2.6).
- 3.3.3 The ceremony is said to be due to the landing of Lambert Simnel in 1487 (see Section 3.1.6), who held court in the castle 'and from thence were sent the emissaries which were expected to raise the country in favour of the Pretender' (Curwen 1910, 275). It is perhaps most likely to have begun as a slightly mocking homage to this event, but by the 19th century it had become an important aspect of the island's history, to such an extent that responsibility of looking after the helmet and chair fell within the tenancy agreement (Deeds 1922a onwards) and they were considered important enough as objects of historic interest during the transfer of the island to the town in 1920 that their protection is specifically mentioned on several occasions (CRO(B) BD BUC 17/1 1917-1935). Illustrations of the ceremony and the regalia from the 19th and early 20th centuries (Plates 4-6) show how it has traditionally been carried out. A detailed description from c1904 also reveals some of its more unusual, perhaps Christian, connotations:
- 'The ceremony began, the landlord officiating as Grand Chamberlain. Forbes had some sort of robe thrown over him, and a huge brass helmet put on his head... the helmet was taken off Forbe's head, a cross was made on his head by two churchwarden pipes, and the helmet replaced after half a wineglassful of raw whisky had been poured upon his scalp... ultimately the ceremony was entered in the official records and was duly signed' (Craven c1904, 61).
- 3.3.4 Clearly at this stage the ceremony for knights and the king was the same, and over time it has clearly seen several variations. References in the visitors' books describe knights at one point as free members of 'the Noble Ancient Castle of Piel' (CRO(B) Z218 1873-1899), and in 1914 as an entire cabinet, including Prime Minister and Lord Mayor of Piel, and a whole royal family is listed (CRO(B) Z219 1899-1941). One thread remains in common, however the king and knights of Piel

were always expected to be 'a free drinker & smoker & lover of the female sex' (CRO(B) Z218 1873-1899).

3.4 Map and Image Regression

- 3.4.1 Several early maps and images of the site were examined, and were able to reveal a number of pieces of information about the development of the building.
- 3.4.2 *View of Piel Castle 1727 (from Curwen 1910)*: this view by Samuel and Nathanial Buck is principally of the castle, but it does include a small building in the foreground in the approximate position of the present Ship Inn (Plate 7). This appears to be no more than two bays in length with one or two small windows in the east gable, a central chimneystack and quite a steeply pitched roof. The accuracy of this illustration is open to question as the castle is clearly distorted to the extent that it is depicted as filling virtually the whole island. It is evident, however, that a building did exist in the general location of the Ship Inn.
- 3.4.3 **Plan of Southend Estate 1797 (CRO(B) BD BUC 39/20 1797)**: although primarily a plan of an estate on Walney, this includes Piel Island (Plate 8). Again, a building is depicted on the site of the Ship Inn and, although clearly very stylised, it has apparently been extended on the west end of the north side to form an L-shape. Another small building is also situated to the north.
- 3.4.4 *Illustrations from 1831 (Pickering and Finden 1831; n.d.)*: although only one of these illustrations is dated they are likely to both have been produced in 1831 (Plates 10-11). Although they lack detail, even compared to the illustration from 1727, they appear to show an approximately L-shaped building of perhaps two storeys. The details of the windows and doors are not very clear and there is apparently only one chimney visible.
- 3.4.5 *Plan of Southend Estate 1833 (CRO(B) BD BUC Plans 4 1833)*: this plan, drawn up to show the land owned by CD Archibald, clearly shows what is now the Ship Inn, again as an L-shaped building (Plate 9). Significantly it is named 'The Herdhouse', there is a well marked at the west end, and the buildings to the north, which are apparently now in ruins, are labelled 'Old buildings'.
- 3.4.6 **Chart of Piel Harbour 1841 (CRO(B) BDX 18 1841)**: this plan, produced during the construction of Piel Pier on Roa Island, shows the inn as a very simplified rectangular building with an extension in the south side (Plate 12). It is named 'Hoole's Inn' and the building to the north is apparently no longer ruinous.
- 3.4.7 **Tithe Map 1842 (CRO(B) BPR 1/l3/2 1842)**: the tithe map shows the site as comprising a long rectangular block with extensions to the north and south (Plate 13), although the one to the south is not centralised as shown on the previous map. The small building to the north is still present. The accompanying schedule (CRO(B) BPR 1 1844) groups all of the buildings in this area together, describing them as 'Inn, Cottages, Yard & Outb's [outbuildings] and states that they are occupied by 'J. Hool, Ashburner & another'.
- 3.4.8 **Ordnance Survey 1849**: this is the first map to show the Ship Inn by name. It reveals that it is essentially the same as on the previous plan, although with a small outshut added to the far west end (Plate 14). The small building to the north is apparently also still present, although it has also been enlarged with a small oushut added to the west side.
- 3.4.9 *Piel Island Estate Plan 1873 (CRO(B) BD BUC 39/46, 1873)*: by this date the Ship Inn has been considerably enlarged (Plates 15-16). The extension on the south side has been enlarged or replaced with a bigger one, and the extension to the north has been doubled in size. New outbuildings have apparently also been

constructed to the west, while, in contrast, the small building to the north has completely disappeared. The more detailed of these two plans shows a complex arrangement of internal divisions (Plate 16), with a large central approximately L-shaped block, sub-divided from the east and west ends. The extension to the south is also apparently sub-divided internally and the details of several small outshuts can be seen. There are clearly two detached outbuildings at the west end.

- 3.4.10 *Ordnance Survey 1891*: this shows the inn had essentially the same basic plan as on the previous map, although additional small outshuts, evidently porches, have been added to the east and north sides (Plate 17). The outbuildings to the west have also apparently been altered, with a single large building with smaller buildings to the south perhaps replacing what was there before, although this may just be differences in the level of accuracy of survey.
- 3.4.11 **Photographs c1900**: these two undated photographs, one discovered loose within the visitors' book (CRO(B) Z217 1856-1873; Plate 18) and one from a private collection (Plate 19), show the Ship Inn as it is depicted on the previous plan. The extensions to the south, including the porch, are clearly shown, as are the outbuildings to the west, which comprise a large barn and smaller outshuts.
- 3.4.12 **Ordnance Survey 1913**: this shows that the buildings remained essentially unchanged since the last plan, with the exception of the construction of a small outshut to the north-west and apparent removal of outshuts on the east end (Plate 20).
- 3.4.13 **Deeds 1922-1964**: an unusual plan of the site is included with many of the lease documents drawn up between Barrow Borough Council and either landlords of the Ship Inn or people applying to keep house boats on the island (Plate 21). This appears to show the Ship Inn much as it was in 1913, but the earlier plans (1922-1952) do not show the large extension to the south and all of them show two large outbuildings to the west. This plan is presumably based on an earlier estate plan (perhaps that from 1873), or are extremely inaccurate or schematic, as subsequent plans return to a form similar to that of 1913 (see Section 3.2.15 below). Even within the run of plans from 1922-1964 some, from 1927 and 1937, shows essentially what is depicted on the following plans, further demonstrating the apparent inaccuracy of these drawings.
- 3.4.14 **Photograph c1920**: a photograph of the east end of the building (reproduced in Myers 2006, 23) shows little change from the previous views of the site (Plate 22). However, it does illustrate the presence of the various porches at this end and it is apparent that the door into east side of the pool room has not yet been added.
- 3.4.15 **Lancashire Life 1970**: a series of illustrations produced for an article in Lancashire Life (Metcalfe *et al* 1970, 52-55) show several additional outshuts situated at the east end of the building (Plate 23). These appear to have been added since the previous plans were drawn up, although they seem to be shown as existing on the plan of 1891 (Plate 17).
- 3.4.15 **Deeds 1973-2005**: after 1964 the plans of the site show the inn essentially as it is today (Plate 24).
- 3.4.16 *Planning Applications* 1972-1995: a number of planning applications were submitted within the latter part of the 20th century, most of which had corresponding plans, giving details not only of the proposed alterations but also of the building as it existed at the time. The earliest of these, from 1972 (Ref. 8928), 1974 (Ref. 093), and 1982 (Ref. 0935), were essentially cosmetic, and applied to the installation of illuminated signs, construction of a septic tank, and replacement of cast iron guttering with plastic, respectively. Later applications were for more extensive work, however, and included the erection of a detached block for public conveniences in 1984 (Ref.

0634), the opening out of the existing fireplace, construction of a fire escape and other, more minor alterations in 1986 (Ref. 0567; 0975), the conversion of part of the extension to the south (formerly a tea room) into toilets in 1989 (Ref. 0086), and the construction of a bunk house in 1995 (Ref. 0731).

3.4.17 Of the alterations carried out in the late 20th century, three of the last four had the largest impact on the building. The alterations in 1986 saw the removal of two small outshuts (both toilets) from the east end of the building (Plate 25), the blocking of a fireplace at the east end of the first floor, the conversion of a first floor window into a doorway, and construction of a corresponding external fire escape (Plate 26), and may have led to the blocking of a fireplace on the west side of the present ground floor bar (Ref. 0567). The other application from this year intended to open up the main fireplace in the main lounge on both sides and move the bar to its present location (Ref. 0975; Plate 27). The conversion the former tea room in 1989 (Ref. 0086) saw the addition of partition walls to the south end to create separate male and female toilets and showers as well as a pool room (Plate 28). The intended small windows in the west elevation were modified following concerns over their inappropriate form for the style of the building.

4. Building Recording

4.1 Arrangement and Fabric

- 4.1.1 The building is orientated approximately east/west, with an extension on the east side of the south elevation, two on the west side of the north elevation, and one on the west end. It is butted by walls associated with a group of outbuildings at the west end and there are porches added to the north, south, and east ends (Fig 2). The whole building is two stories tall (with an attic), apart from the porches and the extension at the east end of the south elevation. The exterior of the building is finished with roughcast render scored to give the appearance of ashlar blocks, although where this has come away the walls are evidently built of a mix of the local sandstone and beach pebbles. The majority of the render has been painted white, with the window surrounds and a strip along the bottom black. The roof is finished with grey slate, the main part laid in diminishing courses, with ceramic bonnet tiles.
- 4.1.2 There are four chimney stacks on the main part of the building and one on each of the extensions to the north. All are of the same style, and are rendered in the same style as the walls, with a square string course around the top and ceramic square section pots with beaded rims. A small square brick chimney with a circular pot is situated on the extension to the west end. The windows are a mix of heavy square stone surrounds, narrower square render surrounds and no surrounds at all, while the casements are a mix of original sliding sash, modern sliding sash, and modern hinged and fixed casements (all of the windows and doorways were boarded up during the investigation and were inspected internally, although one board was removed to allow photographs to be taken). A paved area of cobbles set in concrete runs around the exterior of the building; on the east side this extends into a larger area of broken concrete slabs set in concrete and on the west side it is butted by a concrete floor within a yard associated with the barn.

4.2 External Detail

- 4.2.1 **North elevation (Fig 3)**: the east end is extended by a small brick porch with a gabled roof attached to which is a plastic gutter (Plate 29). The bricks are laid in stretcher bond with a voussoir arch over a doorway on the west side. To the west of this is the main part of the building, the east end of which has four windows, two per floor, all of which have heavy square-section dressed stone surrounds that have been painted black. The ground floor windows have much heavier lintels and scars for iron bars across the lower half (Plate 30). There is another small porch with a hipped roof between the east end of the main elevation and the return into the extensions at the west end, which has a doorway on the east side and a window on the north with a plain surround and narrow dressed stone sill.
- 4.2.2 The extensions at the west end comprise two gables topped with chimneys in this elevation. There is a large window on the ground floor of the westernmost of these with a flat arch lintel and narrow dressed stone sill, below which is a barrel hatch into the cellar with concrete surrounds. To the west of this there is a concrete block wall butting the extension, with a low concrete platform to the west, between the block wall and a sandstone-built boundary wall around the adjoining yard. The elevation continues to the west beyond the two extensions were there is a doorway with plain surrounds on the ground floor and another on the first floor with evident rebuilding around it. On the west side, beneath the first floor doorway, is a raised concrete platform with the stubs of upright iron posts, associated with which is some scarring in the wall render (Plate 31). A concrete block wall butts the elevation at the west end.

- 4.2.3 West elevation (Fig 4): much of the north side, which forms the west side of the westernmost extension and the gable of the west end of the building, is obscured by the group of outshuts. The wall is still finished in the same style, however, although there are two concrete block walls and one sandstone wall butting against it. The far north side has a single window with a plain surround and narrow dressed stone sill on the first floor. The lower part of the gable extension in the centre, within the attached outshut, has some through stones visible and dressed quoins visible where the render has come away. There is a large crack evident in the render running down the centre of the gable and a ceramic vent has been inserted. The south side of this elevation is formed by various outshuts. The first of these, which has a monopitch roof sloping down to the south, forms Room 3 and has rectangular iron tie rod plates fixed to it and a slate drip course covered by render at a low level. South of this is the side of a small plain monopitch porch, also sloping down to the south, while the rest of the elevation forms the side of the pool room (Room 11) and shower block (Room 12). This elevation evidently originally comprised a large open window divided by timber posts, which has been largely filled in with concrete leaving small narrow apertures, which are very narrow on the south side (Plate 32). There are barge boards and a plastic gutter attached beneath the roof.
- 4.2.4 **South elevation (Fig 5)**: the west end is butted by a sandstone boundary wall around the yard associated with the outbuildings to the west. There is a small window with a plain surround and narrow sill within the extension to the west. Between this and the main part of the building is the first monopitch outshut, which extends virtually to first floor height, and has two rectangular iron tie rod plates, a timber wallplate beneath the eaves (supporting the ends of four purlins) and a slate drip course covered with render at a low level (Plate 33). The main part of the elevation, to the east of this, has six tall windows with narrow square render surrounds and narrow dressed stone sills, four on the first floor and two on the ground, plus a smaller (inserted) window on the west side first floor, also with a narrow dressed stone sill. A small monopitch porch is situated on the west side, and this also has a small window with a roughly dressed stone sill and plain surrounds in the south side and a doorway in the east side, beneath a timber barge board attached to which is a plastic gutter. The east end is covered by the extension forming the pool room (Room 11) and shower block (Room 12), above which is another tall window, the surround of which has evidently been repaired on the east side and above, and only a small amount of the original square surround is left (Plate 34). The east end forms the gable end of the pool room/shower block extension, which has a rough plaster finish and modern barge boards. Attached to this are two iron downpipe hoppers (acting as plant holders) and a timber and wire mesh cage forming an aviary. The garden wall, which is largely built from beach pebbles, butts the south-west corner of the extension and has a doorway at the east end and close to the centre.
- 4.2.5 **East elevation** (**Fig 6**): this comprises the opposing side of the pool room/shower block extension and the end gable of the main part of the inn. The south end is plain, with plastic rainwater goods attached beneath the roof and a doorway in the centre with a modern raised six panel door (Plate 35). The timber frame aviary is attached to the south end, but this part of the elevation is otherwise plain. The gable end of the inn is also relatively plain; there is a rectangular plywood sign attached near the top and a small gabled brick porch at the ground floor with a central window with a narrow stone sill and voussoir arch lintel (Plate 36). Low blocks built of fragments of concrete slab, approximately semi-circular in plan and perhaps forming seating, are positioned between the porch and the main elevation and the main elevation and the elevation continues into the extensions at the west end of the north side of the

building, where there are two windows, one per floor, with no surrounds and narrow dressed stone sills, and between this wall and the main building the hipped roof porch has a doorway with plain surrounds.

4.3 Internal Detail - Cellar

- 4.3.1 **Arrangement**: there are two cellars present within the building, one in the north-west corner of the building, cellar Room 1, and one approximately in the centre, cellar Room 2 (Fig 7).
- 4.3.2 **Cellar, Room 1**: this comprises an approximately square room with a stone flag floor and low ceiling supported by a single large hand-finished timber beam orientated east/west. This is further supported by a brick column in the centre, which in turn supports machine-cut timber joists (Plate 37). All of the walls have a rough covering of whitewash. The north elevation has a sloping barrel hatch, the slope of which is lined with a pair of iron rails (Plate 37). The east and west elevations are plain, although there are small alcoves built into each. The south elevation has a flight of brick steps with timber treads on the east side; the bricks are a mid reddishorange colour and typically 0.2m long by 0.12m wide. The steps lead up to a doorway, the west side of which has evidently been at least partially rebuilt in brick, suggesting it has been inserted.
- 4.3.3 **Cellar, Room 2**: this is a very small, rectangular room with a concrete floor incorporating a recessed area in the centre, 0.2m deep, with timber edging and plank base. It has a very low ceiling comprising machine-cut joists and floorboards, and the entry hatch, which is accessed via a small ladder, is on the west side. The walls are brick built and whitewashed, the bricks typically being 0.22m long, 0.11m wide and 0.08m thick and laid in English garden wall bond at a ratio of three rows of stretchers to one row of headers. There are taps for the pumps attached to a board fixed to the south elevation, and there is an opening on the north side leading to another entry hatch, which has evidently been inserted and is built of concrete blocks and bricks.

4.4 Internal Detail – Ground Floor

- 4.4.1 **Arrangement**: the main part of the building is divided into four rooms by thick walls, and each of the extensions, porches and other outshuts comprises a single room. The large extension to the south at the east end of the building is divided by partition walls into two rooms (Fig 8). The room numbers progress approximately from west to east.
- 4.4.2 **Ground floor, Room 1**: this currently forms a kitchen and has a concrete floor and the ceiling is finished with plaster and paint. All of the walls are also finished with plaster and paint and, in addition, there are some tiles on the north and west elevations. The north elevation has a doorway on the east side, with a modern tongue and groove plank door with a single light in the upper part. The east elevation has timber boxing (presumably for cables or a pipe) at ceiling level and there is a central doorway with a tongue and groove plank door held by battens on the south side where there are also scars for the original strap hinges. The south elevation has modern kitchen units attached, which incorporate a sink and there is a low door on the east side, with two narrow rectangular tie rod plates above it, and a window with splayed jambs on the west. This has a modern aluminium hinged casement and is probably inserted. The west elevation has a large central chimney breast incorporating a large fireplace (blocked) with heavy stone surrounds with chamfered edges, which are stopped at the top (Plate 38). A row of modern ceramic vents has been inserted into the chimneybreast above the fireplace.

- 4.4.3 **Ground floor, Room 2**: this forms a small square outshut on the south-east side of Room 1. It has a concrete floor and is open to a monopitch roof, extending approximately half way up the first floor, which comprises modern sheeting on timber rafters. The walls are all plastered and painted and have slightly rounded or angled corners, although this does not extend to the floor on the south side. The top of the wall on the west side is built of concrete blocks, and there are two iron bars orientated north/south above head height (connecting to the tie rods visible in Room 1 and externally), one of which has an iron hook hanging from it. A plastic pipe on the same orientation runs across above these, and the door to the north has a modern timber lintel and is rebuilt above this, suggesting it has been inserted.
- 4.4.4 Ground floor, Room 3: this has most recently been used as a living room or lounge, and has a parquet floor and plaster and painted ceiling, supported by a single hand-finished and chamfered beam orientated north/south. The walls are all finished with plaster and paint. The north elevation has two doorways, the westernmost of which has a plain surround, is accessed by two timber steps up, and has an original but modified six panel door, the top four panels of which have had glass inserted. The easternmost doorway has a slightly beaded surround and a tongue and groove plank door with strap hinges. The east elevation has a doorway on the north side with a beaded surround and a re-hung four panel door. There is a modern tiled fire surround in the centre with a projecting hearth incorporating log stores built of brick (marked 'FURNESS BRICK C^O L^{TD} BARROW'). The hearth opening has a red sandstone surround comprising quoins and a keystoned arch, and incorporates an enamelled iron grate (Plate 39). The remainder of the fire surround appears to be built from modern concrete bricks. In the south-east corner, filling a recessed area, probably a former cupboard, a storage area has been formed with a plywood top. Above this is a rusticated beam, possibly re-used from elsewhere, running between the south and east elevation, which supports partition walls forming the toilet off the landing (see Section 4.5.6). The south elevation has a window with splayed jambs incorporating a 4-light modern hinged casement window, and the west elevation has a single central doorway with a beaded surround.
- 4.4.5 **Ground floor, Room 4**: this has probably been most recently used as a store, and has a modern floorboard floor, raised relative to the rooms to the south. The ceiling is finished with plaster and paint and there is a single hand-finished beam orientated east/west with a slight chamfer (Plate 40). The walls are all finished with plaster and paint/wallpaper and there is a shallow plain skirting board throughout. The north elevation has a single window with square jambs and a four-light sliding sash casement with horns. The east elevation has a small alcove (probably a former window) in the centre with splayed jambs and a plain, probably modern surround and timber sill. The south elevation is plain apart from a stud partition wall denoting the position of the stairs to cellar Room 1 and there is a doorway to the west of this.
- 4.4.6 *Ground floor, Room 5*: this is within a small porch added to the south side of the building. It has a concrete floor at a lower level than the main building to the north, and a monopitch roof supported by machine-cut rafters. The walls are all finished with plaster and whitewash. The north elevation has a doorway into the main building (Room 6), which has had some alterations to the lintel including the addition of a machine-cut timber, but the majority comprises the original hand-finished timber and this has been severely scorched across the centre and east end. The east elevation has a doorway with a beaded tongue and groove plank door with battens and strap hinges. The south elevation has a window with a modern two-light fixed light casement. The west elevation is plain, with shelves attached.
- 4.4.7 *Ground floor, Room 6*: this forms a hall and access to the main staircase, and has a concrete floor, slightly raised in the south-east corner, and plaster ceiling.

The staircase is against the east wall and has been heavily modernised with plasterboard and is supported by a square section post at its south end. Only the skirting board along the east wall is evidently original and is decorated with a beaded moulding (Plate 41). All of the walls are finished with plaster and paint, the plaster generally applied in a rough 'country cottage' effect. The north elevation has a doorway into Room 7 with a beaded surround and original four-panel door (Plate 44). The east elevation has a doorway on the north side, also with a beaded surround; the door has four plain panels and has been split in two across the centre. There is a tall alcove on the south side of this elevation beneath the stairs within which is a modern plywood bench fixed to the wall.

- 4.4.8 **Ground floor, Room** 7: this has most recently been used as a kitchen and has a concrete floor covered with vinyl, which is at a lower level than that to the south. The ceiling is finished with lathe and plaster and wallpaper and all of the walls are finished with plaster and paint, although part of the north and west are covered by metal sheeting and have kitchen units attached. The east elevation has a central window with splayed jambs and a modern 12-light sliding sash casement (Plate 42). There is a cupboard built into the wall to the south of this with a cyma moulded and beaded surround a timber sill and two shelves inside and a pair of lockable doors (Plate 43).
- 4.4.9 *Ground floor, Room 8*: this has most recently formed the bar. It has a timber board floor with two plywood hatches providing access to cellar Room 2. The modern bar and associated shelving is against the west wall. The ceiling is finished with plaster and wallpaper with a single stop-chamfered beam orientated north/south (Plate 45). The north, south, and east walls are all finished with rough 'country cottage' style plaster and paint, while the west wall is wallpapered. The north elevation has a tall doorway with a plain surround and a tongue and groove plank door with battens and strap hinges. The east elevation has two doorways with no surrounds, one on either side, the southern of which is evidently inserted. The south elevation has a window with splayed jambs and a modern 12-light sliding sash casement. There are shelves attached to the west elevation, most of which are modern, although they incorporate some earlier elements.
- 4.4.10 *Ground floor, Room 9*: this forms the main lounge, and has a tongue and groove timber board floor, beneath which is a line of stone footings, perhaps part of an earlier wall, and rows of brick stub walls supporting the floor joists and posts (see below). The ceiling is finished with plaster and textured paint and is supported by an inserted beam running mid-way across the room, which is machine cut and finished with a neat stop-chamfer decoration. It is in turn supported by a large round post at the south end (perhaps a re-used telegraph pole?), and another smaller, squaresection post with stop-chamfer decoration, which is sat on a thin rectangular sheet of timber (Plate 46; Figs 10-11). All of the walls are finished with plaster applied in a 'country cottage' style and painted. The north elevation has two original 12-light sliding sash windows with beaded surrounds and splayed jambs. The east elevation has a central doorway with a beaded tongue and groove plank door supported with battens, held on strap hinges, and with a circular 'port hole' with a brass surround inserted through it. The south elevation has a small inserted single-light window on the east side with splayed jambs and a fixed modern casement. There is a large inserted doorway in the centre with splayed jambs (probably an enlarged window), and another inserted window to the west of this also with splayed jambs. The west elevation has a large central fireplace housing a wood burning stove sat on a stone and concrete plinth (Plate 47). The fireplace opening has evidently been enlarged and the rough wall core has been left exposed inside and a rough rusticated lintel has been added.

- 4.4.11 *Ground floor, Room 10*: this forms the interior of a small porch on the east end of the building. It has a red and black chequered tile floor and the gabled roof is supported by three small tie beam trusses holding the rafters, all of which are machine cut. The walls are all whitewashed, and the north, east, and south are brick built; the bricks are laid in stretcher bond and are typically mid red in colour and 0.23m long and 0.08m thick. The north elevation has a doorway with a beaded tongue and groove door with chamfered battens and the jambs are finished with chamfered bricks. The east elevation has a modern six-light fixed casement window and there are also chamfered bricks in the jambs. The south elevation is plain, although there are timber battens attached, while the west elevation retains the original roughcast (un-scored) render and the doorway has a heavy square-section stone surround.
- 4.4.12 *Ground floor, Room 11*: this has most recently been used as a pool room and has a concrete floor covered with vinyl and a modern plaster suspended ceiling with attached 'beams' (Plate 48). The original ceiling is visible above this and comprises a single ridge purlin and a series of light-weight tie-beam trusses. The walls are all finished with plaster and paint. The north elevation has a central doorway with a window to the west, but is otherwise plain, as is the east wall. The south elevation is an inserted concrete block or brick wall with a modern doorway on the east side with a plain surround. The west elevation has a low-level window along the top with modern casement forming six lights, two of which are hinged.
- 4.4.13 *Ground floor, Room 12*: this forms a shower and toilet block and has a concrete floor and suspended ceiling. It is divided internally by a series of modern partition walls with modern plywood doors and all of the walls are finished with plaster and paint. A row of narrow windows has been left along upper part of the west elevation and there are two low block work stub walls with a shelf on top against the south wall. The east elevation has a central doorway with a modern raised six-panel door.
- 4.4.14 *Ground floor, Room 13*: this forms the interior of a small porch on the north side of the building. It has a concrete floor, with a large proportion of gravel, and a flat plasterboard roof. The walls are all plastered and whitewashed. There is a small modern three-light fixed casement window in the north elevation, and a doorway to the east with a modern door with six fielded panels.

4.5 Internal Detail – First Floor

- 4.5.1 **Arrangement**: the first floor is arranged very much like the ground floor, with the rooms in an essentially linear arrangement (numbered from west to east) linked by a corridor along the north side, and each of the outshuts containing the equivalent of one room (Fig 9). The west and east ends have been further subdivided with partition walls, which have also been used in forming some of the rooms off the main corridor.
- 4.5.2 *First floor, Rooms 1a-1c*: the west end probably originally comprised a single room but it has been sub-divided with the addition of stud partition walls to form a bathroom (1a), shower room (1b), and lobby (1c). Room 1a has a mix of wide and narrow timber floorboards covered by carpet and the ceiling is finished with plaster and paint. The walls are also finished with plaster and paint and there is a toilet, sink and bath with associated pipes attached to the south elevation. Timber boxing has been attached to the west elevation, apparently over the chimney breast and the north elevation comprises a modern stud partition with a long narrow window at a high level and a doorway with a modern plywood door and plain surround on the east side. Room 1b also has a timber board floor and the ceiling is finished with plaster and wallpaper. There is a shower unit and sink attached to the south

elevation and water pipes and a boiler to the west (Plate 49). There is an inserted doorway on the east side of the north elevation forming a fire escape with a plain surround. Room 1c is a small area providing access from the corridor to the east (Room 2) to Rooms 1a and 1b. It too has the same timber board floor as Rooms 1a and 1b and a plaster ceiling and the walls are finished with plaster and paint. The north and east elevations are formed by the main walls, the east elevation clearly butting the north, and the south and west elevations are modern partitions. The east elevation has a doorway, the northern jamb of which has been partially rebuilt in brick suggesting it has been inserted.

- 4.5.3 *First floor, Room* 2: this forms a corridor linking all of the rooms on the first floor. It has fairly wide timber floorboards with a step at the east end where the floor is at a lower level. There is a modern square section skirting board attached to the wall to the west of this step and a beaded skirting board to the east. There are two doorways in the north elevation leading into the extensions at the west end, and three in the south elevation, including access to the stairs, to the east of which is a large airing cupboard. The east end of the corridor turns to the south where partition walls have been inserted and there is a cyma-moulded surround around the aperture, which contains a modern plywood door, connected to the step down at the east end. The north elevation has a window at the west end with splayed jambs and a 12-light sliding sash casement without horns (Plate 50), and another at the east end. The base of the principal rafter from the truss in the roof space (see *Section 4.6.4*) projects into the far east end of the north elevation and is clad with a beaded fascia. The south elevation has a partition wall made of beaded tongue and groove boards west of the step at the east end (north elevation of Room 7).
- 4.5.4 *First floor, Room 3*: this was most recently used as a bedroom, and is the most westerly of the row of rooms along the south side of the first floor. It has fairly wide timber floorboards and the ceiling is finished with plaster and paint. The walls too are finished with plaster and paint with a square section skirting board attached. There is a modern plywood door in the north elevation, with a cyma-moulded surround. Partition walls have been added in the south-east corner to form the toilet off the stairs (part of Room 5) and there is a blocked fireplace in the east elevation with a square stone surround with a timber mantle and an iron insert decorated with egg and dart and a beaded astragal moulding (Plate 51). There is a window in the south elevation with splayed jambs and a modern four-light hinged casement.
- 4.5.5 *First floor, Room 4*: this was also used as a bedroom, and forms the westernmost of the two extensions to the north side of the building. It has fairly narrow timber floorboards and the ceiling is finished with plaster and paint. The walls are also finished with plaster and paint and there is a square section skirting board attached to the north, south, and east elevations. There is a blocked fireplace set across the north-east corner of the room, with a square stone surround and timber mantle and concrete or stone hearth (Plate 52). The west elevation has a window with splayed jambs and a modern four-light hinged casement, and the wall has been finished with a rough plaster finish including false(?) through stones. The south elevation has a modern plywood door with a plain surround, although part of a simple beaded decoration survives.
- 4.5.6 **First floor, Room 5**: this forms the access to the main staircase via a short landing off Room 2. The floor comprises very narrow timber floorboards and the bannister is clad with relatively rough timber boards and pieces of hardboard or plasterboard with a flat hand rail on top. The ceiling and walls are finished with plaster and paint, and there is a modern fire door to the north. The west elevation has an original four panel door (the top two panels having been glazed) leading into a small toilet. The south elevation has a rough plaster finish with false(?) through

stones and a central window with a modern four-light sliding sash casement. Inside the toilet the north wall appears to be a relatively modern partition, while the west is made up of timber boards and has the toilet and cistern attached. The south elevation is the main wall, and has a small inserted single-light window with a hinged casement and splayed jambs.

- 4.5.7 *First floor, Room 6*: this was most recently a bedroom and is the easternmost of the rooms formed within the extensions added to the north side of the main building. The floor is probably timber boards, although these are covered by vinyl sheeting, and the ceiling is finished with plasterboard. The walls are all finished with plaster and paint/wallpaper and the north elevation has been clad with a stud wall incorporating fibreglass insulation. The east elevation has a window with splayed jambs and a modern four-light hinged casement. The south elevation has a modern plywood door with a plain surround although some beaded decoration remains.
- 4.5.8 *First floor, Room 7*: this too was most recently a bedroom. It has wide timber floorboards and plasterboard ceiling and all the walls are finished with plaster and paint and there is a square section skirting board attached to the north, east, and west walls. The north wall comprises a stud partition clad with tongue and groove boards (Plate 53), with a modern plywood door on the west side with a plain surround (Plate 54). The west elevation has a blocked fireplace with a square stone surround and timber mantle and an iron insert decorated with egg and dart and beaded astragal moulding, as per Room 3. The south elevation has a window with splayed jambs and a modern four-light hinged casement (Plate 55).
- 4.5.9 *First floor, Room 8*: this too was most recently used as a bedroom. It has wide and irregular timber floorboards and plaster ceiling and the walls are finished with plaster and paint and there is a skirting board with a slight beading attached. The north elevation has an original four panel door with a cyma moulded surround, while the south elevation has a window with splayed jambs, and a modern four-light hinged casement.
- 4.5.10 *First floor, Room 9*: this was also a bedroom, and is situated in the southeast corner of the first floor. It has wide and irregular timber floorboards with some later repairs, and a plaster ceiling. The walls are finished with plaster and paint/wallpaper and there is a beaded skirting board attached to the north, south, and east elevations. A large cupboard is attached to walls in the north-east corner. The north elevation has a doorway with an original four-panel door and part of a cymamoulded surround. There is a window in the south elevation with splayed jambs and a modern four-light sliding sash casement. On the west side of the south elevation the end of the principal rafter projects through the ceiling and into the wall and is clad with a beaded fascia.
- 4.5.11 *First floor, Room 10*: this forms a bathroom, and is situated in the north-east corner of the first floor. It has wide and irregular timber floorboards and a plaster ceiling. The walls are all finished with plaster and paint and the original skirting board with a slight beaded decoration remains in most places, although it has been covered by later boxing in several areas. There is a window in the north elevation with splayed jambs extending to the floor and a 12-light sliding sash casement without horns. A toilet and sink are attached to the east elevation and a bath and airing cupboard are attached to the south. The door in the west elevation is original and four-panelled with a cyma-moulded surround.

4.6 Internal Detail – Roof Space

4.6.1 **Arrangement**: the roof space is divided into five sections within the main east/west range of the building, one at the west end above first floor Rooms 1a-1c,

one above first floor Room 3, one above first floor Rooms 5 and 7, and one at the east end above first floor Rooms 8-10. In addition, a single space was also present in the extensions to the west end of the north side of the building, above first floor Rooms 4 and 6. Only the space above Rooms 8-10 was easy enough to access to allow a detailed inspection.

- 4.6.2 **Roof space, west end**: the roof structure above first floor Rooms 1a-1c is supported by one purlin per pitch and a ridge purlin, all of which are rough and handfinished. The rafters are later, machine-cut replacements with felt backing beneath the slates, and the joists for the first floor ceiling are also made from machine cut timbers.
- 4.6.3 **Roof space, above first floor Room 3**: this is open to the roof, which is supported by two purlins, one per pitch, both of which are re-used. The one to the north is a very large timber with shallow joist slots and a probable Baltic timber mark at its east end. The rafters are all later machine-cut replacements and at the east end some brick for the flue is incorporated into the wall.
- 4.6.4 **Roof space, above first floor Rooms 5 and 7**: this comprises a smaller area open to the roof, which is supported by two hand-finished purlins, one in each pitch, and machine-cut rafters with felt backing the slates. The walls at both the east and west ends have some early hand-made brick in forming the flues, but are otherwise built of randomly coursed rounded stones.
- 4.6.5 Roof space, above first floor Rooms 8-10: this comprises a single large open area open to the roof, which is supported by a single truss comprising a pair of principal rafters (Fig 10), both of which are evidently re-used cruck blade fragments, with empty diagonal joist slots and peg holes in the west face (Fig 11; Plate 56). Slots for a missing collar, cutting through the earlier slot on the south side, are also evident as are carpenter's marks in the form of Roman numerals ('I' and 'II'), some of which evidently relate to the original use of the timber (one has been partially cut through where the principal rafters are jointed together). A later collar, comprising two pieces of timber bolted to either side of the principal rafters, has been added at a lower level. The truss supports a single purlin in each pitch, although there are empty slots for one or two earlier purlins, and a ridge purlin. All but the ridge purlin hand-finished, and some are evidently re-used, and they over-lap at the truss. The north-east section is a former beam, and has numerous joist holes in one face, while the southeast section is formed from two pieces of timber scarf-jointed together with numerous peg holes in one face. The rafters and ridge purlin are later machine cut replacements. In both the east and west elevations the line of an earlier gable is visible (Plates 57-58); this evidently had a much steeper pitch and was subsequently raised in height. The render scar is visible across the position of the chimney in the west end (Plate 58). Relatively early hand-made brick has been used in the flues at both stages, although the bricks in the earlier, lower gables are evidently thinner. The build of both the original wall and later extension generally comprises random courses of rounded stones.
- 4.6.6 **Roof space, above first floor Room 4**: this too is open to the roof and has two purlins, one per pitch, both of which are hand-finished and possibly re-used and sit on top of the wall to the south. There is brick built into the north elevation for the flue.
- 4.6.7 **Roof space, above first floor Room 6**: this is essentially the same as the roof space above Room 4, with two hand-finished purlins, one per pitch, and brick built into the north elevation.

4.7 The Outbuildings

- 4.7.1 **Arrangement**: immediately to the west and north-west of the Ship Inn are a group of outbuildings comprising the heavily modified remains of an early barn, which is linked via a small outshut to the inn and has additional outshuts on the west side, and a modern bunk-house and toilet block (Fig 2). These were not examined as part of the architectural assessment, but photographs were taken and they are worthy of some comment as part of this report.
- 4.7.2 **The barn**: this building is constructed largely from beach pebbles, but some red sandstone has been used, and brick and yellow sandstone have been utilised around apertures and for quoins (Plate 59). There are irregular apertures in the east and west elevations, most of which appear to have been inserted. Two small monopitch outshuts are situated to the south of the west side, attached either to the barn itself or to the adjoining boundary wall. Further, more modern monopitch outshuts are situated to the east and north-east. A sandstone and cobble wall forms a yard around the outbuildings on the east side, and the barn is butted by the garden wall on the south and east sides. The roof of the building has clearly been reduced from its original height, and now comprises a monopitch structure of corrugated sheeting sloping down to the west. Internally there are relatively modern half lofts on the north and south sides.
- 4.7.3 **The bunk-house**: this is a concrete block structure, with a monopitch roof of corrugated sheeting sloping down to the west (Plate 60). The walls are rendered and scored to give the appearance of ashlar blocks. There are two doorways and two windows in the west elevation. It was not possible to access the interior, but it is evidently sub-divided into at least two rooms.
- 4.7.4 **The toilet block**: this too has a monopitch corrugated sheet roof, and is probably also built of concrete blocks (although it has been painted white). It is divided into male (east) and female (west) toilets at either end, with a storeroom (?) between, and there are three doorways and a window in the south elevation (Plate 60).

5. Discussion

5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 The extensive information available relating to the site and the detailed map coverage beginning in 1797 have provided a good opportunity to relate information gathered during the field survey with that existing in the documentary record. Information relating to the specific origins of the existing building is sparse, however, although a number of possibilities are present, based on the existing evidence.

5.2 Phasing

- 5.2.1 Several phases of construction and alteration are evident at the site, many of which can be related to the cartographic and other historical sources. An outline plan of the building's development through Phases 2 to 7 (it is impossible without further investigation to be certain of the details relating to the Phase 1) is shown in Figure 12.
- 5.2.2 **Phase 1**: the earliest part of the structure is the two bays forming the east end, which is likely to be late 17th century in origin. Although the junction between this end of the building and the later extensions is obscured by render and plaster, the documentary sources (specifically the print of 1727; Plate 7) point to this being the case, as does the presence of re-used cruck blades. The use of crucks, in which long timbers extended from the ground or part-way up the walls to the full height of the roof, has its origins in the medieval period, although most surviving examples date to the 16th-17th centuries or even slightly later (Brunskill 2002, 151). This initial building was apparently only a small structure, probably of only one and a half stories, which would correspond quite closely to that shown in the illustration from 1727 (Plate 7). The purpose of this building is uncertain although the documentary sources suggest at least two possibilities. The presence of a salt works on the island, recorded in 1662 and 1693-1698, may have required a building of some sort, either to house workers or for associated industrial purposes. A more recent reference suggests that a ships' chandlery was established on the island in the 17th century and it was this that later developed into the inn, although supporting evidence is not given.
- 5.2.3 **Phase 2**: the original small building was raised in height, as shown by the line of the former gables in the roof space (Plates 57-58). The windows with heavy square section surrounds were probably also added at the same time, as the increased height would have allowed. The style of the windows suggests that this was likely to have taken place in the early to mid 18th century (see Collier 1991 for similar examples in Whitehaven). The re-use of timber evident within the roof is also a common feature of buildings from this period, although it cannot be used as a method of dating as increased timber shortages meant that it was taking place from at least the 17th century (Tyson 2000, 41). The purpose of the alterations at this date is not certain; the documentary sources suggest that the inn may have existed by this time, although if it did it would have been very small. An alternative possibility is that it was being used by the customs officers at Rampside either as a custom house or as storage, but there is no compelling evidence that either structure was ever actually built on Piel.
- 5.2.4 **Phase 3**: some time after the previous alterations, and, according to the documentary sources, prior to 1797, the building was extensively enlarged. The documents and the physical remains suggest that this consisted of an extension to the west, and, perhaps slightly later, an extension to the north producing an L-shaped building. This certainly fits the evidence within the building, which shows that a considerable block was built over two stories, matching the raised height of the

original building. By this date the building was almost certainly being used as an inn or public house; the first documentary reference to it as such is in 1800, and this enlargement was clearly intended to be to improve facilities. A further indicator of this is the presence of a barrel hatch in the northern extension, and the style of the surviving first floor fireplaces, which certainly fit the general period (Burton and Porten 2000). The presence of a Baltic timber mark in the roof space over this part of the building also generally concurs with the 18th century date, although these continued to be imported into the first half of the 19th century (Greene 1995; 1996). The resulting building is essentially that described in the earliest accounts of the inn and depicted on the plans and in engravings until c1840 (Plates 8-11), during which time it may have been known as 'The Herdhouse'.

- 5.2.5 **Phase 4**: the documentary sources show that following James Hool's acceptance of the tenancy in 1839-1840 a number of additions were made to the building, principally an extension to the south and an extension to the west. Any evidence for the extension to the south has since been destroyed by later alterations, but the extension to the west can be identified with ground floor Room 1 and first floor Rooms 1a-1c. It is possible also that some of the surviving fireplaces and original doors are those mentioned in Hool's list of repairs to be carried out in 1839 (CRO(B) BD BUC 45/2/4 1839), although this cannot be certain, but it is evident that he made several alterations and improvements.
- 5.2.6 **Phase 5**: between 1849 and 1873 the site was substantially enlarged again, with a further extension to the north, adjoining the one that already existed, and a large extension to the south. This period corresponds with the apparent re-branding of the Ship Inn as a hotel, and its increasing usage by yachtsmen, holidaymakers, and short-term visitors rather than local sailors. It is unlikely that these two major extensions were contemporary, but there are no means of physically relating them to each other. The construction of the large extension to the south probably required the conversion of a former ground floor window into a doorway, which in turn is likely to have led to the removal of a beam supporting the ceiling. This was probably replaced by the short beam and at least one of the upright posts that are currently present, and has led to the present instability of the first floor. The tall outshut at the west end of the south elevation also appears to have been added at this time as does one of the outshuts at the east end (Plate 16).
- 5.2.7 **Phase 6**: after 1873 and before 1910 only very minor alterations seem to have been carried out, principally comprising the addition of porches and other outshuts. Some of these may have been added earlier but there is no way of relating them directly to each other and the earlier mapping is generally not detailed enough to show this. It is likely, although there is no particular evidence to support this, that the small toilet leading off the stairs (first floor Room 5) and cellar Room 2 were added during this phase, or perhaps slightly later as part of general, but minor, improvements carried out at this time.
- 5.2.8 **Phase 7**: throughout the majority of the 20th century very few changes seem to have been made to the building. Only in the 1980s and 1990s were any significant alterations carried out, although these were largely damaging to the original fabric. The documentary sources show that outside toilets had been added to the east end prior to 1970, although there does not appear to have been a corresponding planning application, and these may been constructed at the end of the 19th century. The additions detailed in the planning applications of the 1980s and 1990s are clearly visible within the present building. Additional access was also evidently created at the north end of cellar Room 2, and the timber 'aviary' was added to the south end of the pool room.

5.2.9 **The outbuildings**: although the outbuildings were not specifically included within this appraisal it is clear that they have a close relationship with the inn and the way in which it was used and developed. The barn, which survives in a partially ruinous condition, was probably constructed between 1873 and 1889, although it may have incorporated elements constructed between 1849 and 1873. The barn has clearly seen some alteration since it was first constructed, including the installation of a flue and the removal of the original roof and gables. The smaller outbuildings to the south of it were almost certainly built between 1873 and 1889, and another was built to the north between 1891 and 1910. The toilet block and bunk house are modern constructions, and were constructed in 1984 and 1995 respectively.

5.3 Discussion

5.3.1 Both the documentary study and the investigation of the building itself have revealed that the Ship Inn does have 17th century origins, although what its original purpose was and when it first became an inn, assuming it was not constructed as such, remain uncertain. The detailed nature of the documentary sources has allowed the results of the investigation of the actual fabric of the building to be closely tied to specific events and individuals, and together they demonstrate the ways in which the building has changed over time to suit the needs of its tenants and clients and respond to the dominant emphasis of society in general. The majority of the building forms an essentially domestic function, although the original small building seems too small to have been any more than a cottage, unless it had an industrial or other use. The tall outshut on the south side of the building (forming ground floor Room 2) is of uncertain function. It may have acted as a drying room, wash room, or smoke house.

6. Significance and Recommendations

6.1 The Ship Inn

6.1.1 The architectural evaluation has revealed that both the documentary and physical history of the Ship Inn is very complex and of considerable age, probably beginning in the late 17th century. The building as it stands today is a monument to the various events that have occurred in its lifetime; some of these events are of more importance than others, and likewise, some elements of the surviving structure are of more significance than others either because of their relationship to the site's history or their condition and survival. The measure of significance of the various parts of the building is based on the guidelines produced by the Association of Local Government Archaeological Officers (ALGAO 1997).

6.2 Significance

- 6.2.1 The vast majority of the surviving structure would appear to be of late 18th or early 19th century date, and although it is not certain when the inn originated, it is likely that much of this fabric was developed to fulfil this role. The earlier elements, which probably pre-date the inn, are also significant as they probably relate to industrial activity on the site, although this cannot, at present, be confirmed.
- 6.2.2 A number of the original four-panel doors, sliding sash windows and fireplaces, as well as the roof structure and main walls, all appear to belong to periods of improvement and development carried out during the early to mid 19th century. Some of these may even be amongst those detailed in James Hool's list of repairs in 1839 (see *Section 3.2.3*).
- 6.2.3 Only relatively minor alterations were carried out in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, including the addition of porches and the large extension to the south (now a pool room and toilets/showers), all of which are of slightly less significance.
- 6.2.4 Alterations carried out during the late 20th century are, in general, or very low significance if not positively detrimental to the character of the property and their removal could easily be justified.
- 6.2.5 The outbuildings to the west and north-west of the inn are of particular interest. The remains of the barn form a relatively important if badly damaged and underused element of the site, while the modern bunk house and toilet block are extremely intrusive and detrimental to the setting of the inn and, arguably, the island as a whole.

6.3 Recommendations

6.3.1 Based on the understanding of the building presented in *Sections 3-5* and the significance outlined in *Section 6.2* above, a number of brief recommendations for improvements to the building can be made. The most recent alterations, those made in the 1980s and 1990s, have had by far the most detrimental affect on the building. Many of these alterations should probably not have been made given that the building was listed in 1976 (English Heritage 2001b), and the early cosmetic changes to guttering and so forth were clearly the beginning of a 'slippery slope'. The more substantial changes have not only damaged considerable areas of the original fabric, they have also led to the loss of original features both internally and externally, and affected the setting of the building with the addition of inappropriate outbuildings and virtual demolition of original ones. A number of recommendations are therefore made.

- 6.3.2 *Fireplace, ground floor Room 9:* the fireplace in the main bar (Ground floor Room 9) has been over-widened to accommodate a wood-burning stove; fortunately the proposal to open up what was apparently perceived as the 'original fireplace' on both sides was never carried out this would not only have been extremely inappropriate (the fireplace would never have been accessed from both sides), it might have structurally damaged a main supporting wall. Ideally the opening should be returned to something more appropriate and smaller, perhaps with a stone surround similar to those elsewhere in the building. This would probably be prohibitively expensive, however, so an alternative might be to square off the internal edges of the jambs or simply leave it as much as possible in its current condition.
- 6.3.3 **Bunk house, toilet block, barn, and outbuildings:** the bunk house and toilet block are extremely inappropriate and adversely affect the setting of the building. The damage to the original barn is also regrettable, as this formed an important part of the site from at least the 19th century onwards. The ideal solution would be to remove the two modern outbuildings and house the facilities they provide in the original barn, following extensive repair perhaps including the restoration of the original roof-line, and associated outbuildings (depending on whether they were being used for their intended purpose housing animals). Again, this would probably be prohibitively expensive, so an alternative might be to finish the modern outbuildings in a more appropriate fashion, something matching the inn, and carry out basic renovation to the barn and outbuildings to prevent their total deterioration. The concrete block walls added between the barn and inn should be removed.
- 6.3.4 *Fire escape:* the fire escape added to the west end of the north elevation has left scarring in the render and an obtrusive concrete base. These should be removed if at all possible and the doorway on the first floor, which is now unusable, should be reinstated as a window. If a fire escape is required the easiest way to minimise the impact this might have on the historic fabric would probably be to re-use this location, although it would need to be as unobtrusive and in keeping with the building as possible.
- 6.3.5 **Render:** the current render is probably late 19th or early 20th century in date (traces of an earlier render are still present within the porch on the east end of the building (ground floor Room 10)). If this is to be removed and replaced with lime-based render to improve any damp problems within the building either a basic roughcast or scored ashlar block effect finish would be appropriate. Re-rendering the external walls would also disguise some of the more modern alterations.
- 6.3.6 **Window, east end of south elevation:** the window at the east end of the south elevation, above the present pool room, has lost the majority of its surround due to modern repointing. This should be replaced.
- 6.3.7 **South extension:** the alterations to the extension to the south, containing the pool room and associated toilets/showers (ground floor Rooms 11 and 12) are entirely inappropriate. Although this area is one of the latest major alterations to the building and less significant than the rest, it is still a relatively early part of the building. At the very minimum the suspended ceiling and extensive blocking of what were probably large apertures along the west side are very intrusive and improvements could be made by appropriately altering these. This part of the building, because of its relatively late date, low significance, and extensive alteration is somewhere that more extensive improvements could perhaps be made without damaging the historic fabric or setting of the building.
- 6.3.8 **Concrete bases:** the small concrete bases on the east end of the building relate to former outside toilets that have since been demolished, and appear to have been left to house ventilation pipes. They are very obtrusive and damage the

appearance of the east elevation and some attempt should be made to remove or improve them.

- 6.3.9 **Cobbles and flags:** while the cobbles set in concrete running around the majority of the building are not particularly obtrusive, and have clearly been there for some time (see Plate 6), the concrete flag floor to the east of the building detracts from the general setting and some improvement would be preferable.
- 6.3.10 **Signage:** the present levels of signage are small-scale and do not impinge or detract from the historic fabric of the building. Future signage should remain at this scale.
- 6.3.11 *Plaster:* the interior 'country cottage' effect plaster should be removed and a smooth finish applied.
- 6.3.12 **Blocked fireplaces:** the various blocked fireplaces (ground floor Rooms 4 and 8 and first floor Rooms 1a(?), 6, and 10) should not have been blocked (and it is not certain when some of them were or whether appropriate Listed Building consent was obtained). Ideally these should be reinstated with surrounds and inserts similar to those elsewhere. This is likely to be prohibitively expensive, however, so in general, measures to ensure that they are not damaged any further should be put in place.
- 6.3.13 *Fire surrounds:* every effort should be made to retain the existing fire surrounds remaining within the building (first floor Rooms 3, 4, and 7), and where possible enhance them. These are protected as part of the listing.
- 6.3.14 **Stairs and toilet:** the stairs have been extensively and unsympathetically altered, with only a small amount of the original moulded decoration remaining on the ground floor. These should be restored as far as possible in a matching style. The toilet leading off of the stairs is evidently a later addition, although it is not certain when it was added. Its removal and the reinstatement of the walls that have been affected by its insertion (ground and first floor Room 3) would be ideal.
- 6.3.15 **Cellar flag floor and brick pillar:** the original flag floor in cellar Room 1 should be retained. If structurally possible the intrusive brick pillar should be removed.
- 6.3.16 *Tall outshut:* the tall outshut on south side should be retained. The function of this is uncertain, but it has apparently seen relatively little alteration and is clearly quite an early element of the structure.
- 6.3.17 **Beam and posts in bar:** the short chamfered beam and supporting posts in the main bar are not original and were probably first added as a result of the construction of the extension to the south. These could justifiably be removed and replaced with a beam spanning the full width of the room assuming cost and engineering practicalities allow.
- 6.3.18 *Windows:* the majority of the windows are modern replacements and have unsuitable casements. The four sliding sash windows at the east end of the north elevation and one in the south elevation are probably original, and, in addition, there are some, probably later sliding sash windows. The original sash windows should be retained, the later sash windows could justifiably be retained, and the modern casements should be replaced with sliding sash casements, preferably of 12-lights and matching those that already exist. Ideally the small inserted windows should be removed and blocked, but as these are the sole source of light for some parts of building this is unlikely to be practical (the small inserted window at the east end of the south elevation on the ground floor does not appear to serve any useful function however);

6.3.19 **Skirting boards:** the square-section skirting boards present throughout much of the building are a relatively modern addition and should, where possible, be replaced with a moulded type matching that surviving elsewhere in the building.

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Client: Barrow Borough Council

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Appendix 1: Recorded Landlords of the Ship Inn

Name	Date of	Sources
	occupancy	
Edward Postlethwaite?	c1746-c1766	CRO(B) BPR 1/M9/25/44 1746; Dickinson
		n.d.a; Anon n.d.a
James Hool	c1839-c1856	BD BUC 45/2/2 1839; 1841 & 1851
		Census; Mannex 1849, 418
John Pennington	c1856-c1868	1861 Census; CRO(B) Z217 1856-1873
William Pennington?	c1868-c1879	CRO(B) Z217 1856-1873
John Housby	c1879-1889	Lockett 1976; Mannex and Co 1882, 101
		& 150; Census 1881
William Walmsley	1889-c1894	Diamond n.d., 22; Census 1891
Thomas and Elizabeth	c1894-c1922	Census 1901; Bulmer <i>c</i> 1910, 107 & 167;
Ashburner		CRO(B) BD BUC 46/3/21 1912; CRO(B)
		BD BUC 17/1 1917-1935
GH Nelson?	1920-?	CRO(B) BD BUC 17/1 1917-1935
Harry Andrews	1922-1927?	Deeds 1922a
William Drummond	1922-1927?	Deeds 1922b
JF Bewley	1927-1931	Deeds 1927b
Robert McDowell	1931-1947	Deeds 1931
Mr and Mrs W Hackett	1947-1950	Deeds 1947; "Evening Mail" Woman
		Reporter 1949
William Dearn	1950-1952	Deeds 1950
James Howarth	1952-c1960	Deeds 1952
Mr and Mrs Dan Rooney	c1960-1964	Armathwaite 1960
Jack Nicholson	1964-1970	Deeds 1964; Metcalfe et al 1970;
		Nicholson 2004
MJ McKeown	1970-1971	Deeds 1970; Metcalfe et al 1970, 55
HD Green	1971-1974	Deeds 1971
Mr and Mrs JT Smith	1974-1978	Deeds 1974
Ron Warburton	1978-1986	Anon 1978; Deeds 1979; Brunskill 1980;
		Anon 1980
Rod and Karen Scarr	1986-2006	Deeds 1986; Anon 1986; Clarke and
		Lockett 1986; Anon 1987a; 1987b; Anon
		2007
Steve and Sheila Chattaway	2007-	Chapples 2007

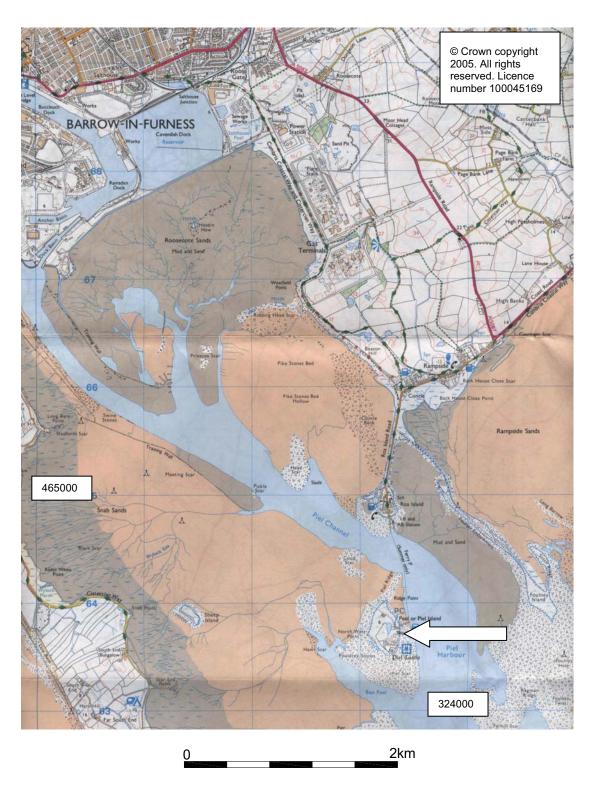


Figure 1: General site location

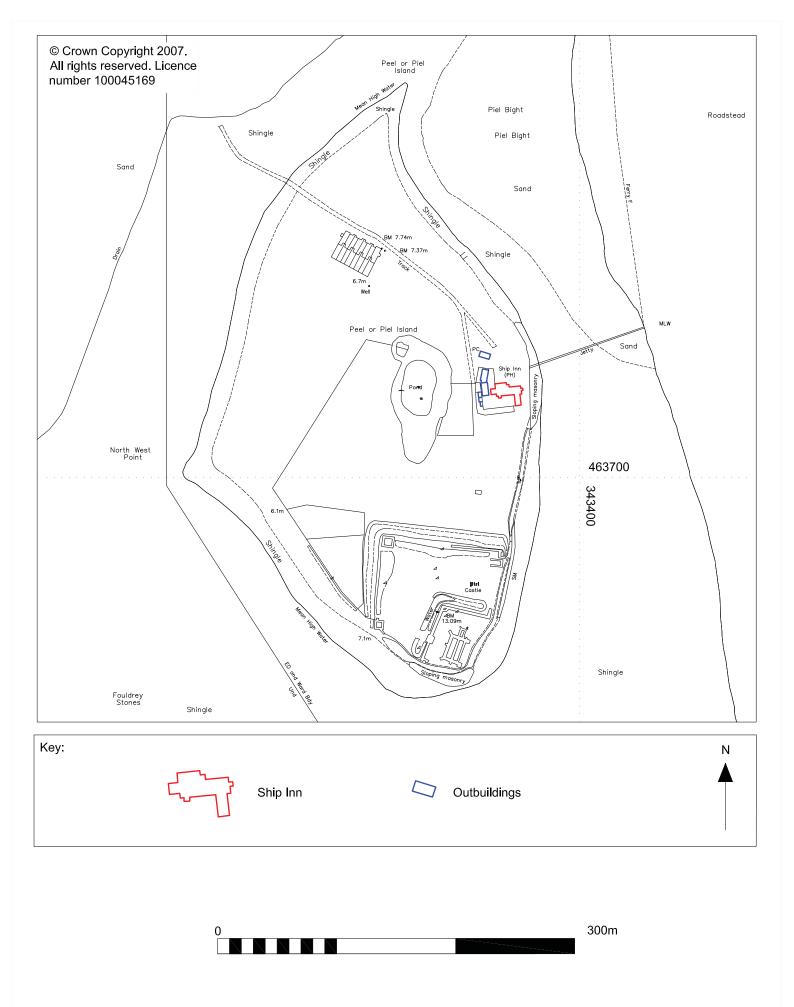


Figure 2: Detailed site location



Figure 3: North external elevation

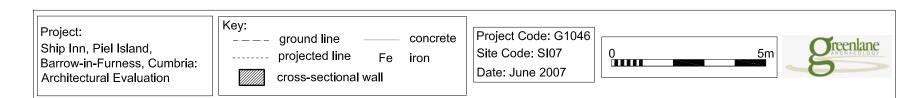


Figure 4: West external elevation



Figure 5: South external elevation





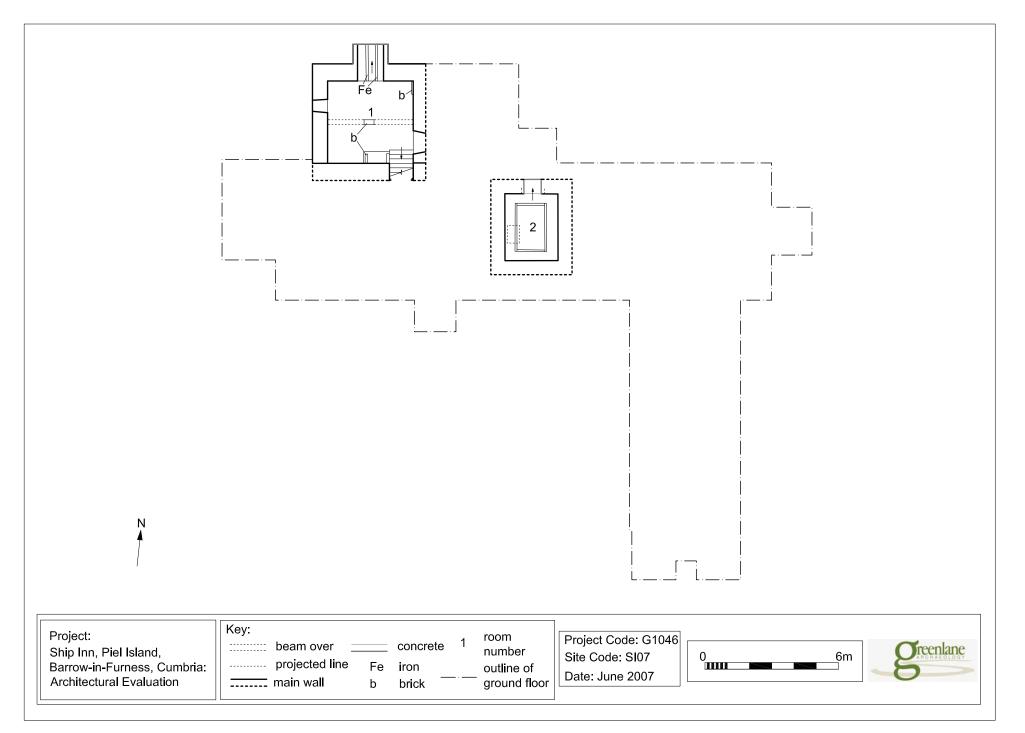


Figure 7: Cellar plan

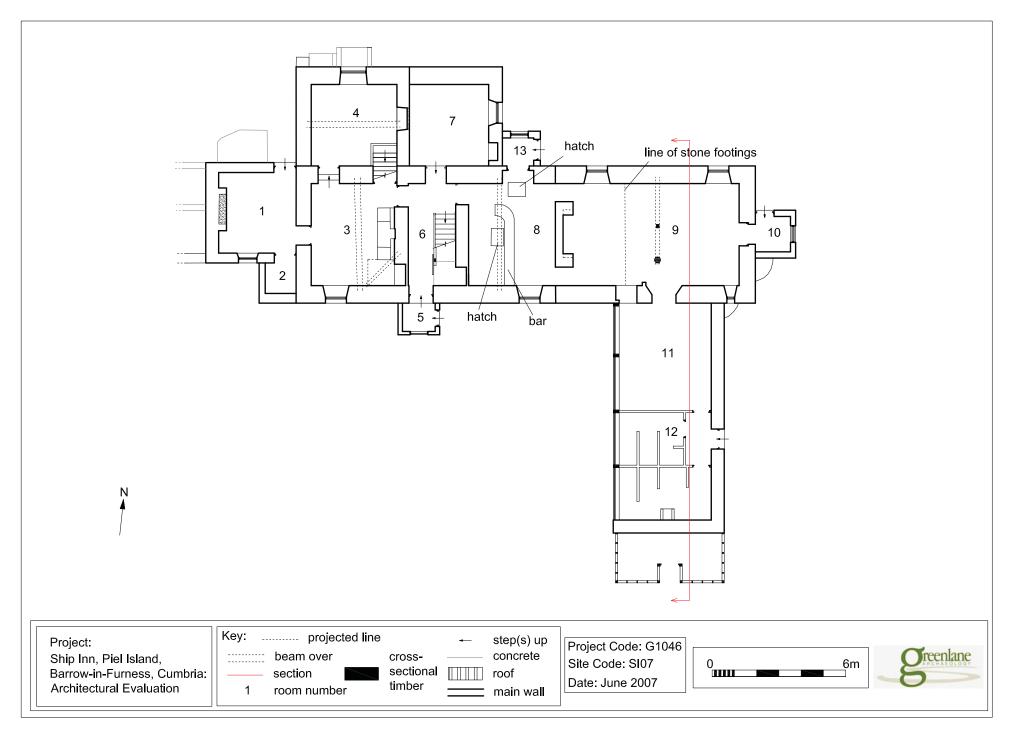


Figure 8: Ground floor plan

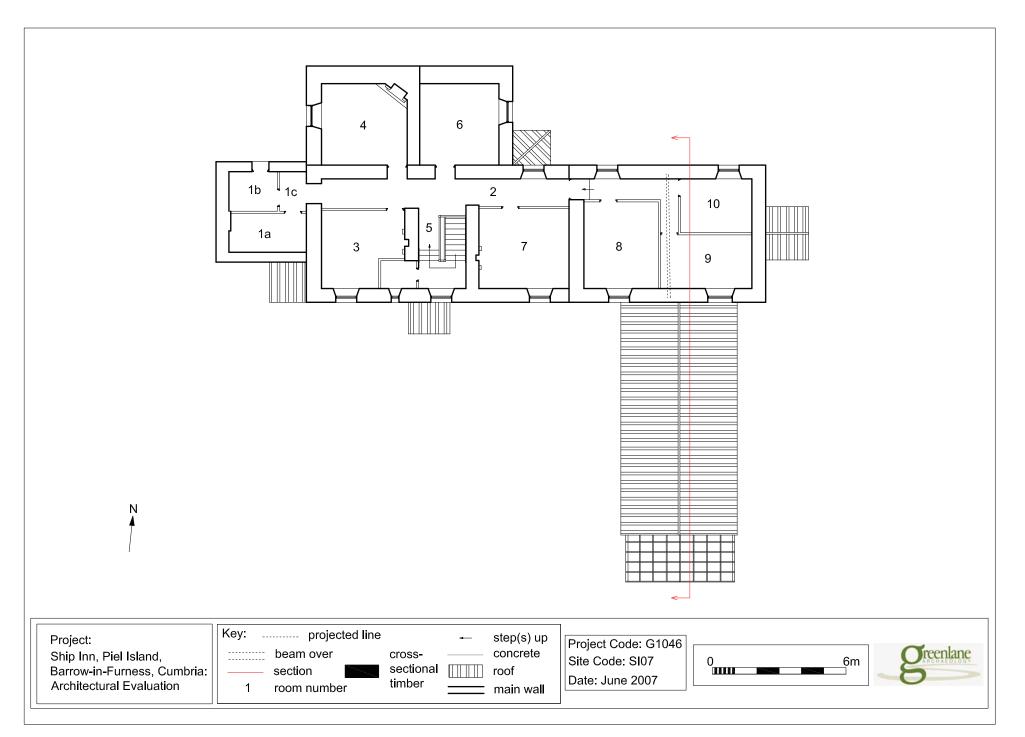


Figure 9: First floor plan

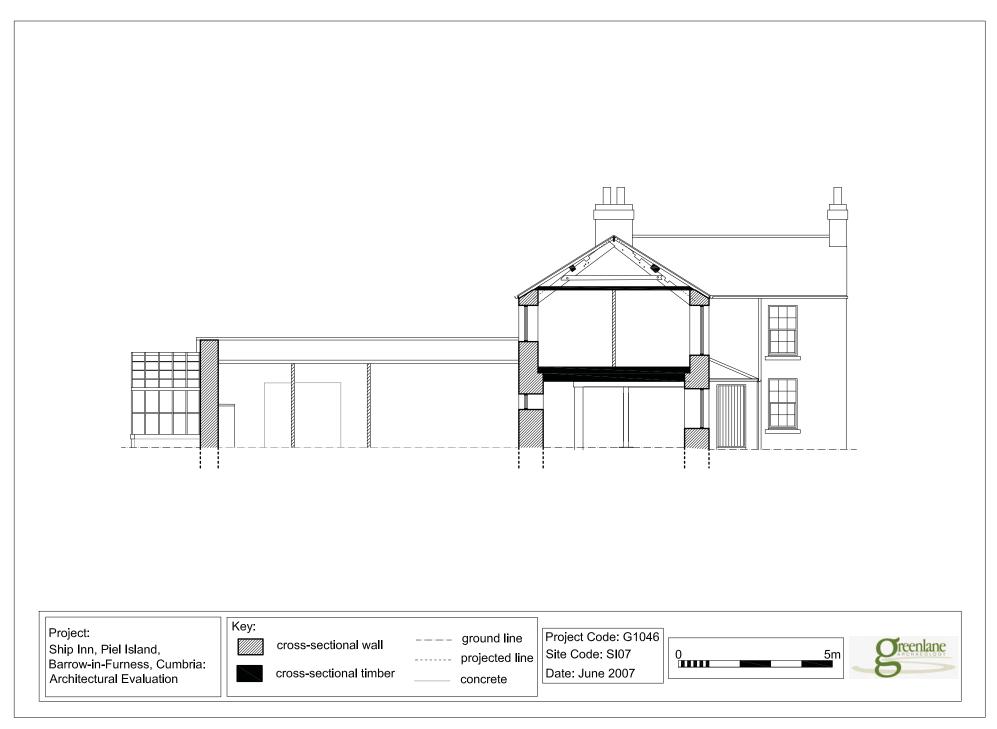


Figure 10: East-facing cross-section

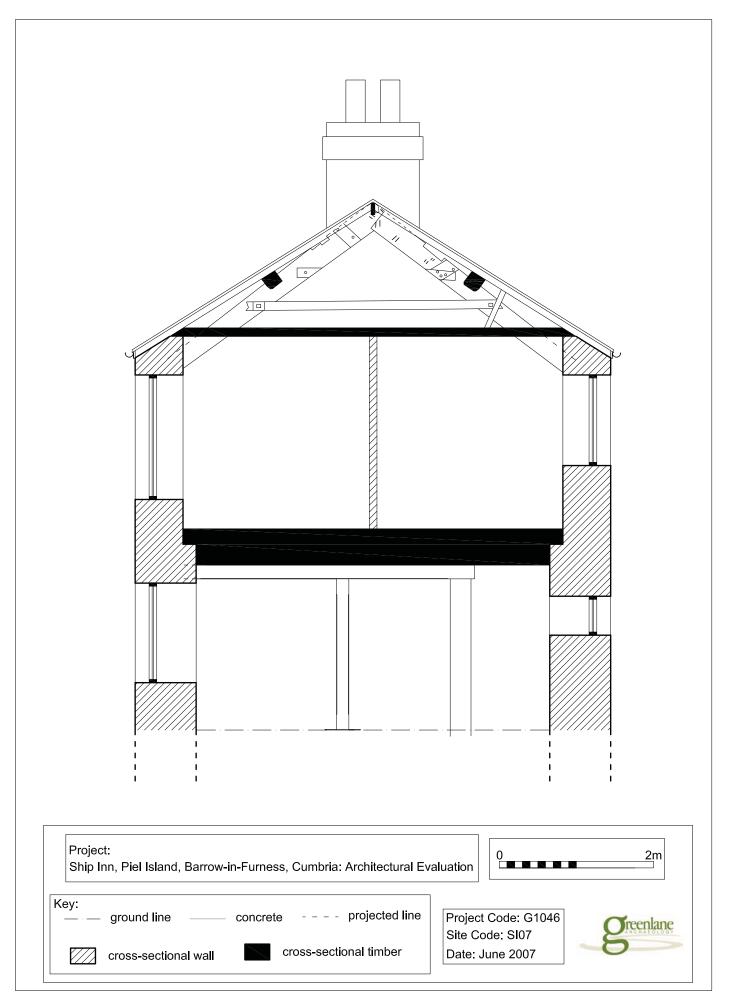


Figure 11: Detail of west-facing cross-section

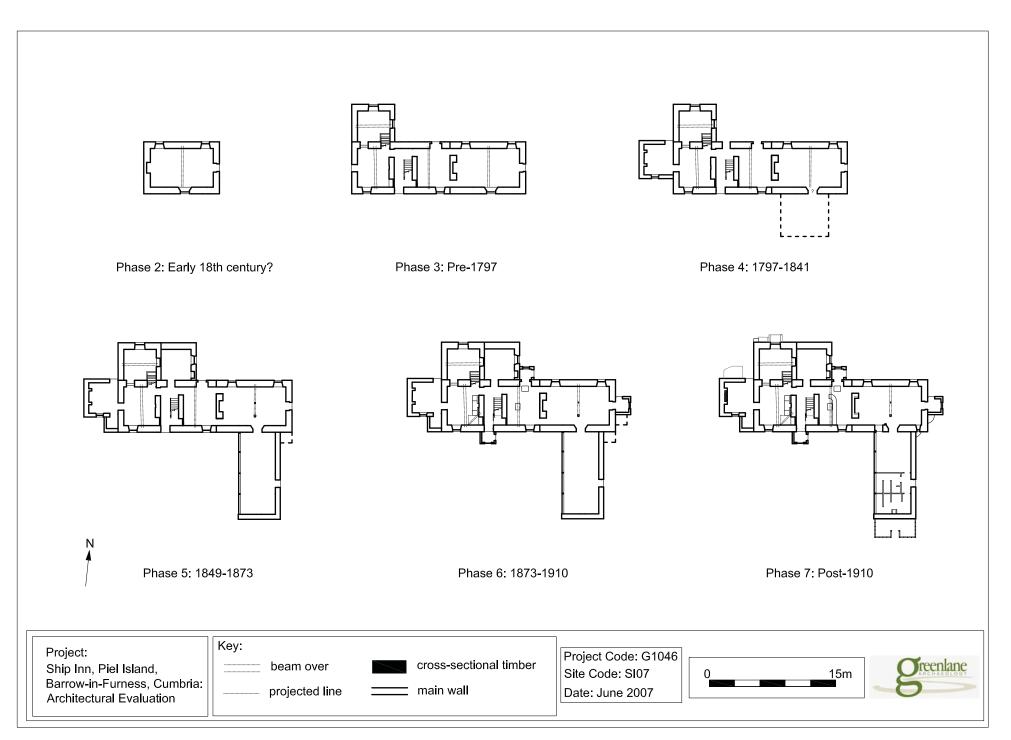


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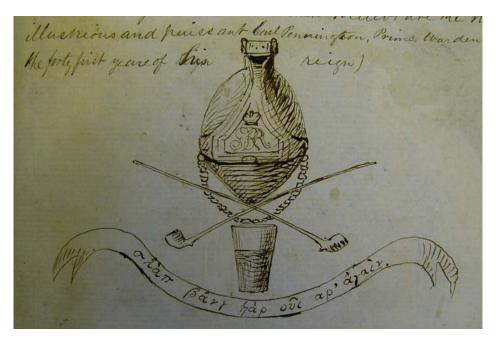


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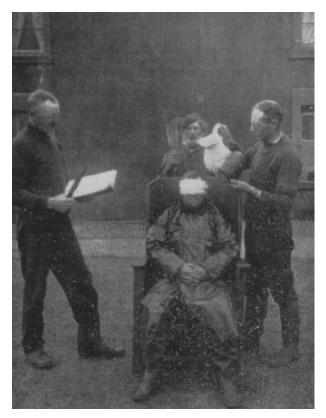


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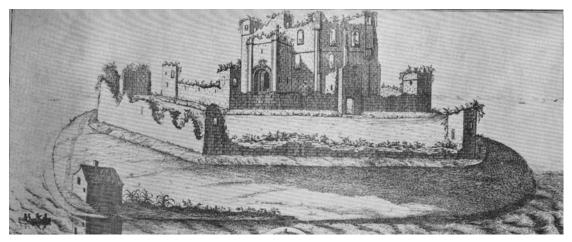


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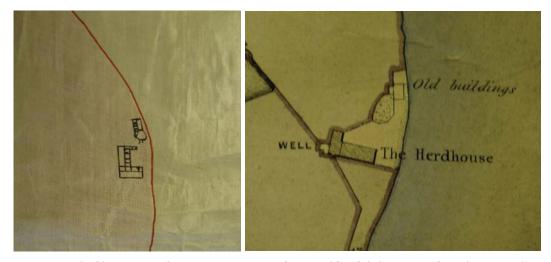


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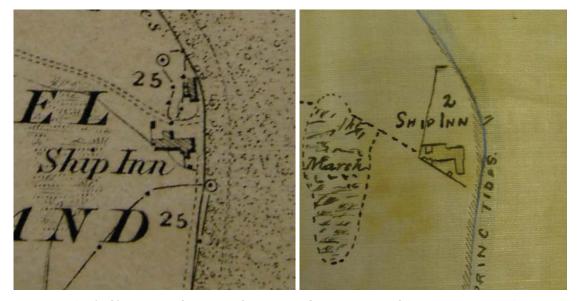


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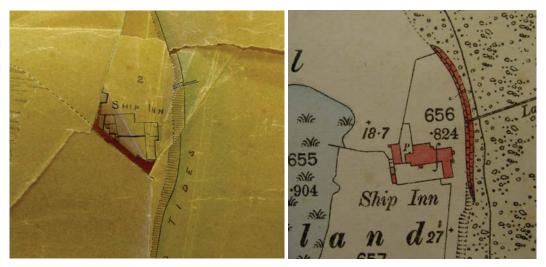


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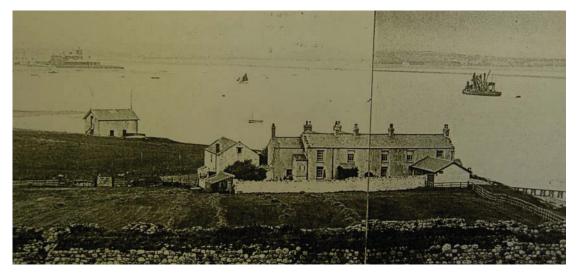


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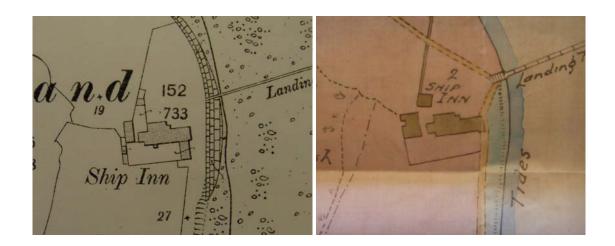


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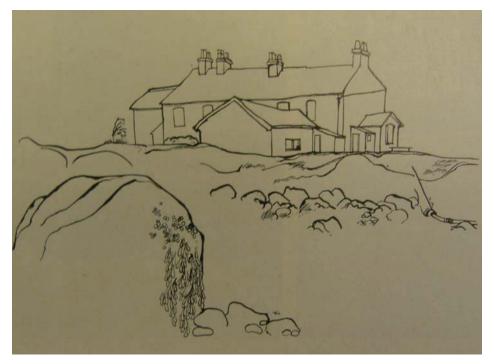


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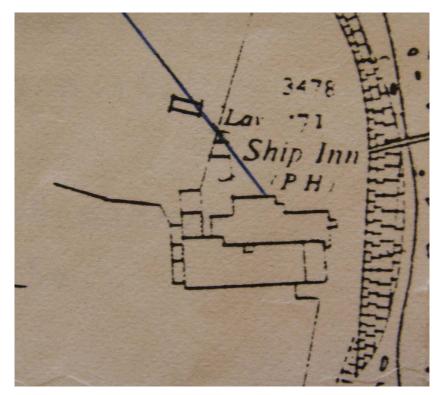


Plate 24: Plan dated 1985 from the deeds

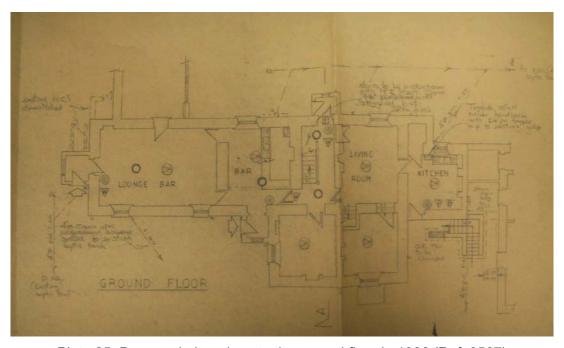


Plate 25: Proposed alterations to the ground floor in 1986 (Ref. 0567)

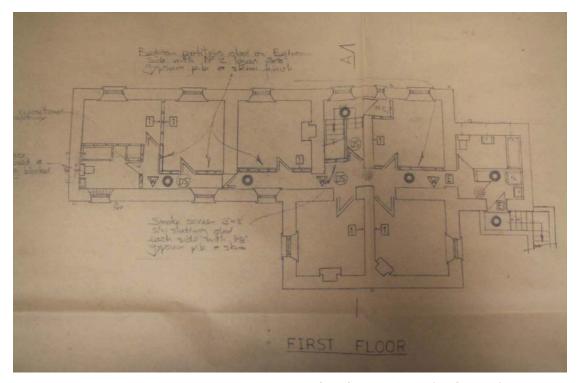


Plate 26: Proposed alterations to the first floor in 1986 (Ref. 0567)

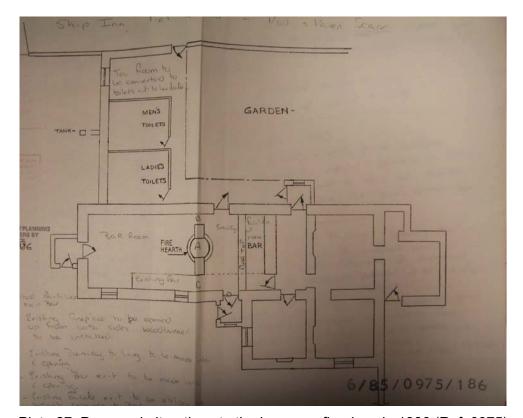


Plate 27: Proposed alterations to the bar room fireplace in 1986 (Ref. 0975)

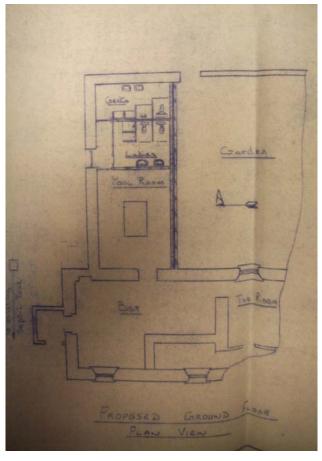


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Plate 47: Enlarged fireplace in ground floor Room 9



Plate 48: General view of ground floor Room 11



Plate 49: General view of first floor Room 1b



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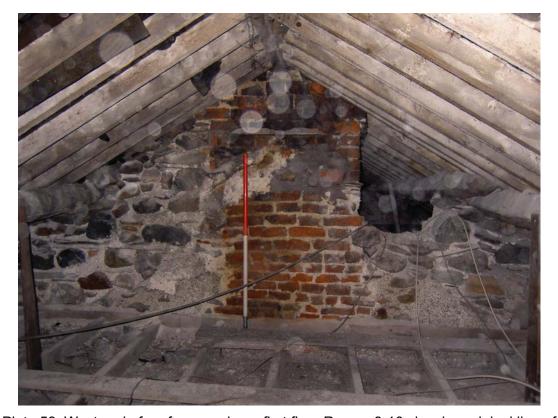


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