



Northamptonshire Archaeology

Archaeological building assessment at Lodge Farm Cottage, Water Lane, Bradden, Northamptonshire



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**Northamptonshire
County Council**

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Report 11/182

August 2011



**NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGY
SEPTEMBER 2011**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL BUILDING ASSESSMENT AT
LODGE FARM COTTAGE, WATER LANE,
BRADDEN, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE
AUGUST 2011**

STAFF

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QUALITY CONTROL

	Print name	Signed	Date
Checked by	Pat Chapman		
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Approved by	Steve Parry		

OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS		
Project name	Bradden, Water Lane	
Short description	A building assessment recorded a former pair of pigsties located to the rear (south) of Lodge Farm Cottage, Water Lane, Bradden. The building is constructed mainly of limestone and contains two equal sized rooms, each with a single pedestrian door and a smaller opening for the pigs, both of which are now infilled. The building has later had windows inserted into one room after its use as pigsties ended, thus making it serviceable as a workroom and store, a function it retains at present.	
Project type	Building assessment	
Site status	Structure unlisted	
Previous work	None	
Current Land use	Redundant agricultural barn used for storage	
Future work	Renovation to repair and upgrade roof and insulation	
Monument type/ period	Post-medieval	
Significant finds	No	
PROJECT LOCATION		
County	Northamptonshire	
Site address	Bradden Lodge Farm Cottage, Water Lane, Bradden, Northamptonshire, NN12 8FG	
Study area	Barn	
OS Easting & Northing	SP 64625 48133	
Height OD	c 130m above Ordnance Datum	
PROJECT CREATORS		
Organisation	Northamptonshire Archaeology (NA)	
Project brief originator	Brief from Assistant Archaeological Advisor, Northamptonshire County Council	
Project Design originator	Joe Prentice (NA)	
Director/Supervisor	Joe Prentice (NA)	
Project Manager	Steve Parry (NA)	
Sponsor or funding body	Mr R Perrigo	
PROJECT DATE		
Start date	August 2011	
End date	August 2011	
ARCHIVES	Location (Accession no.)	Content (eg pottery, animal bone etc)
Physical		None
Paper		
Digital		
BIBLIOGRAPHY		
	Journal/monograph, published or forthcoming, or unpublished client report (NA report)	
Title	Archaeological building assessment at Lodge Farm Cottage, Water Lane, Bradden, Northamptonshire	
Serial title & volume	11/182	
Author(s)	J Prentice	
Page numbers	6 text, 3 figs, 7 plates	
Date	September 2011	

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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL BUILDING ASSESSMENT AT
LODGE FARM COTTAGE, WATER LANE,
BRADDEN, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE
AUGUST 2011**

Abstract

A building assessment recorded a former pair of pigsties located to the rear (south) of Lodge Farm Cottage, Water Lane, Bradden. The building is constructed mainly of limestone and contains two equal sized rooms, each with a single pedestrian door and a smaller opening for the pigs, both of which are now infilled. The building has later had windows inserted in one room after its use as a pigsty ended thus making it serviceable as a workroom and store, a function it retains at present.

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The village of Bradden lies approximately thirteen and a half miles (twenty one and a half kilometres) south-west of Northampton (NGR SP 64625 48133; Fig 1). A small stone barn at the south side of Lodge Farm Cottage, Water Lane has been granted permission to be renovated for storage (S/2011/0202/FUL and S/2011/0203/LBC). A request has been made by the Assistant Archaeological Advisor, Northamptonshire County Council that the building should be recorded prior to alteration carried out during the renovations. This record was made by Northamptonshire Archaeology (NA) after being commissioned to do so by the client, Mr R Perrigo.
- 1.2 The bedrock geology of the area is of Inferior Oolite (limestone, sandstone, mudstone and siltstone formation), of which most of the surrounding properties are built (Geological Survey of Great Britain website). The ground rises gently away from the house and therefore the land is higher on the south side of the former pigsties than on the north.
- 1.3 A single site visit was made on 30 August 2011 to assess and record the structure of the building as it survived and to determine, if possible, the date of the various phases of construction. The record conforms broadly to that of Level II of the English Heritage guidelines (EH 2006).

2 OBJECTIVES AND METHODOLOGY

- 2.1 The general objectives of the recording were:
 - To establish an accurate archaeological record of the building to English Heritage Level 2 (EH 2006, section 5), by means of annotated phase plans and sections illustrating vertical relationships through the building. Drawings were made at an appropriate scale, of 1:50.

- To undertake a comprehensive photographic survey of the building in its present condition using digital colour and black and white negative film.
 - To undertake detailed recording of significant structural features, including any architectural detailing and decoration, timber framing, graffiti, ritual marks or carpenter marks.
- 2.2 The drawn record was based upon the architect's plans as produced for the planning application. The accuracy of the plans was checked and they were annotated and amended to produce an accurate archaeological building record.
- 2.3 All works was conducted in accordance with the English Heritage procedural document, *The Management of Research Projects on the Historic Environment* (EH 2006b, revised 2009) and the Institute for Archaeologists *Standard and Guidance for the archaeological investigation and recording of standing buildings or structures* (IfA revised 2008).

A basic desk-based assessment was requested and the search has been undertaken at the Northamptonshire Record Office (NRO) and using digital versions of the 1810 and 1880 Ordnance Survey maps held by NA.

3 DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT

- 3.1 No records were found at the NRO which specifically relate to the Lodge Farm Cottages or the pigsties.
- 3.2 The earliest map held at the NRO for the village is a survey of the manorial enclosure made in 1740 by George Dunns (NRO map 2881, not illustrated). The focus of the survey is land held by Sir Thomas Samwell, and whilst Water Lane is depicted and two properties are shown located on its south side, the detail is insufficiently clear to determine whether either is Lodge Farm, or Lodge Farm Cottages, and certainly no building is shown in the location of the building which is the subject of this report.
- 3.3 The next available map is the pre-Inclosure map of 1803 (NRO map 2936, not illustrated). Whilst the detail is reasonably good, it is difficult to be certain which of the properties shown to the south of Water Lane might correspond with the present Lodge Farm Cottage pigsties.
- 3.4 The 1810 Ordnance Survey Preparatory Map held in digital format by NA was referred to, but the detail is insufficient to make out individual buildings (not illustrated).
- 3.5 The 25 inch Ordnance Survey map of 1883 shows the village in more detail, and a building on the site of the present structure is clearly indicated (Fig 2). An additional small structure is shown at both the north-east and south-west corner of the building outside of the location of each of the former pig openings through the north and west walls. It is not entirely clear what these small structures may be, but the outlines shaded red indicate that they were roofed, unless this represents an error on the part of the map colourer. If the latter, it seems more plausible that they were open-topped external pig pens which seems more likely, since most pigsties have external pens. However, no scars of any such external walls can now be seen on the present north and west walls suggesting that they were added and not contemporary, bonded walls (see below, sections 4.2 and 4.3).

4 BUILDING ASSESSMENT

4.1 The building lies to the south of Lodge Farm Cottage on the south side of the village of Bradden (Figs 1 and 3). The building is of rectangular plan and contains two equal sized rooms, one accessed via a door in the north wall, the other through a door centrally placed in the west wall (Fig 3). The external walls are constructed primarily of local limestone with occasional use of ironstone throughout. Only three sides (the north, west and south) were visible as the east side adjoins and is built against the wall of an adjoining property. The jambs to both doorways and the external wall corners retain larger and well dressed quoins, the walls themselves are built mainly of roughly dressed coursed rubble. The roof comprises corrugated iron sheeting; rainwater goods are plastic. Each elevation is separately described and for ease of reference the two rooms have been simply referred to as Room 1 and Room 2.

4.2 *The north elevation, exterior, Fig 3*

This wall contains a single doorway which gives access to the eastern of the two rooms, Room 1. The wall, as has previously been described, comprises coursed limestone with occasional ironstone bonded in lime mortar with larger quoins at the door jambs and wall corners. The pedestrian doorway fills the entire height of the wall and is positioned beneath an oak lintel which itself is located directly beneath the pine wall plate at eaves level. Beneath the oak lintel is an oak door frame with simple chamfered corners and pegged joints. The door is a modern replacement.

At the eastern end of this elevation is a low arched opening through the wall, now infilled with limestone, but formerly affording access in and out of Room 1. The shallow segmental arch is constructed of two rows of edge-laid red brick (230mm x 110mm x 65mm, Plate 1). This opening is of a size that suggests that the building served originally as a pigsty. There is no scar on this wall to indicate the presence of the small square structure shown on the 1883 Ordnance Survey map, nor is there any indication of any wall visible in the ground surface.

Between the pig opening and pedestrian doorway is a window, a later addition presumably added after the pig opening was blocked and the building used for a work space. The jambs of the window are crudely finished and clearly chopped through the north wall with no dressed quoins. The window frame is a simple, fixed, sixteen light pine frame the glazing bars simply chamfered and all painted white. There is no external sill.

4.3 *The west elevation, exterior, Fig 3*

The west gable of the building is constructed in the same way and of the same materials as the north wall (Fig 3, Plate 2). It contains a single, central pedestrian doorway of the same configuration as that in the north wall, fitted with a similarly-constructed door. To the south of the central door at the south-west corner of the main building is a short section of limestone wall which presumably formed the south side of the small square structure shown on the 1883 Ordnance Survey map, although there is no corresponding scar or indication that this structure was bonded to the wall to the north or a return at the west end of the surviving section. In the angle formed by the south side of the former structure and the west gable wall of the main building is a second arched pig opening which formerly allowed access to and from the interior of the west end of the building (Plate 3). Constructed in exactly the same way as that in the north wall, the only difference is that, when infilled, the opening was blocked with red brick rather than stone.

The only other visible features on this elevation are the simple, undecorated barge-boards.

4.4 ***The south elevation, exterior, Fig 3***

The south side of the building contains no original openings, and at present retains a single, later window inserted into the south wall of Room 1, presumably at the same time as that in the north wall was created (Fig 3, Plate 4). The window in this elevation is located immediately beneath the wall plate and is again formed of a re-used pine frame, this time apparently half of the size of that used in the north elevation and originally containing eight lights, though now retaining only seven (Plate 5). As in the north wall the insertion of this opening has been crudely finished and there is no external sill.

At the west end of the wall the surviving portion of the external pig pen is aligned almost exactly east-west in line with the south wall and projects out from the west gable end. It is clearly contemporary with the remainder of the building. Currently capped with a simple fillet of cement, it may originally have been capped with either dressed stone or ceramic coping.

4.5 ***Room 1, interior, Fig 3***

Located at the east end of the building and accessed via the doorway in the north wall. Lit by later windows in both the north and south walls, this room must originally have been lit only by daylight through the door and the lower pig opening unless there was some form of roof light which seems unlikely, and for which no evidence remains. The internal walls are simply limewashed and the floor is of concrete. There are no visible fixtures or fittings which indicate former usage, though it is possible that there were no fixed troughs for either fodder or water, both of which may have been located outside for ease of filling and cleaning. The pedestrian door is a modern replacement and comprises a simple ledged and braced frame with a sheet of corrugated iron sheeting nailed to the exterior, painted red (Plate 6).

The roof is simply constructed of pine purlins which are set into the east and west gable walls; there are no rafters (Plate 7). The purlins are a mixture of fully sawn and partly sawn timbers, some of which retain their bark. There is no visible indication that the roof has been repaired, especially since the ends of the purlins are set into the east and west, as well as the dividing, gable walls. This might indicate that the roof was always covered with corrugated iron sheeting, a material widely used on farm and other low-cost buildings and commonly used since its invention in 1829 by Henry Palmer. However, the extremely good (internal) condition of the present corrugated sheeting suggests that the roof covering has been replaced and is not original.

4.6 ***Room 2, interior, Fig 3***

Entered through the doorway located in the centre of the west gable wall, this room is identical in size to Room 1 but contains no windows and is currently lit only by daylight through the pedestrian doorway, electric light and a single transparent plastic roof panel. The former pig opening is blocked with red brick of the same type as that used to form the arch. The internal floor is of concrete. Though currently used as storage, it is not thought that the room retains any other original fixtures or fittings.

The walls to this room are not limewashed but are simply exposed stone and brickwork. The roof is of the same materials and construction as in Room 1.

5 CONCLUSIONS

- 5.1 The simple limestone and brick building located to the south of Lodge Farm Cottage, Bradden appears to be a mid nineteenth-century pigsty of two equal parts. Though

retaining some original features, it has also undergone a variety of alterations which reflect changes in use.

- 5.2 The most obvious of these alterations are the blocking of the low arched openings for the pigs to enter and exit the interior and the subsequent (and presumably contemporary) insertion of two window openings in Room 1. What is not certain is why at the same time a window, or windows, were not inserted into the other room at the western end, although the lack of natural light here indicates that this room was used simply as a store where light was not essential. The presence of two windows in the eastern room suggests that the room there was perhaps intended for use as a workshop rather than a simple store, a function which continues to the present day.
- 5.3 Dating cannot be closely established by historic maps, and the lack of architectural detail makes close dating on stylistic grounds difficult, but the sizes of the brick used suggests a date around the middle of the nineteenth century, with a building indicated in this location from the 25 inch Ordnance Survey map of 1883. Therefore it is thought that the building dates to between c1850 and 1883. It is not clear what the two small additional structures shown on that map were, nor is there any clear evidence today of their presence, apart from the south side of the part located at the west gable end of the building. It is thought most likely that they were not in fact roofed, but were simply small external pens, and that their colouring red is a simple cartographic error.
- 5.4 Although nothing remains internally of fixtures or fittings, the two blocked arched openings suggest it was used as a piggery, or double pigsty, a common feature of rural areas, particularly since the property to which it is attached almost certainly housed farm labourers working on the adjoining farm. Farm labourers would keep a breeding pig which would be fed household scraps and when slaughtered would provide a welcome supplement to their diet providing fresh meat and bacon. The presence of two pigsties accords with the fact that the present Lodge Farm Cottage, now a single residence, was originally two separate cottages.

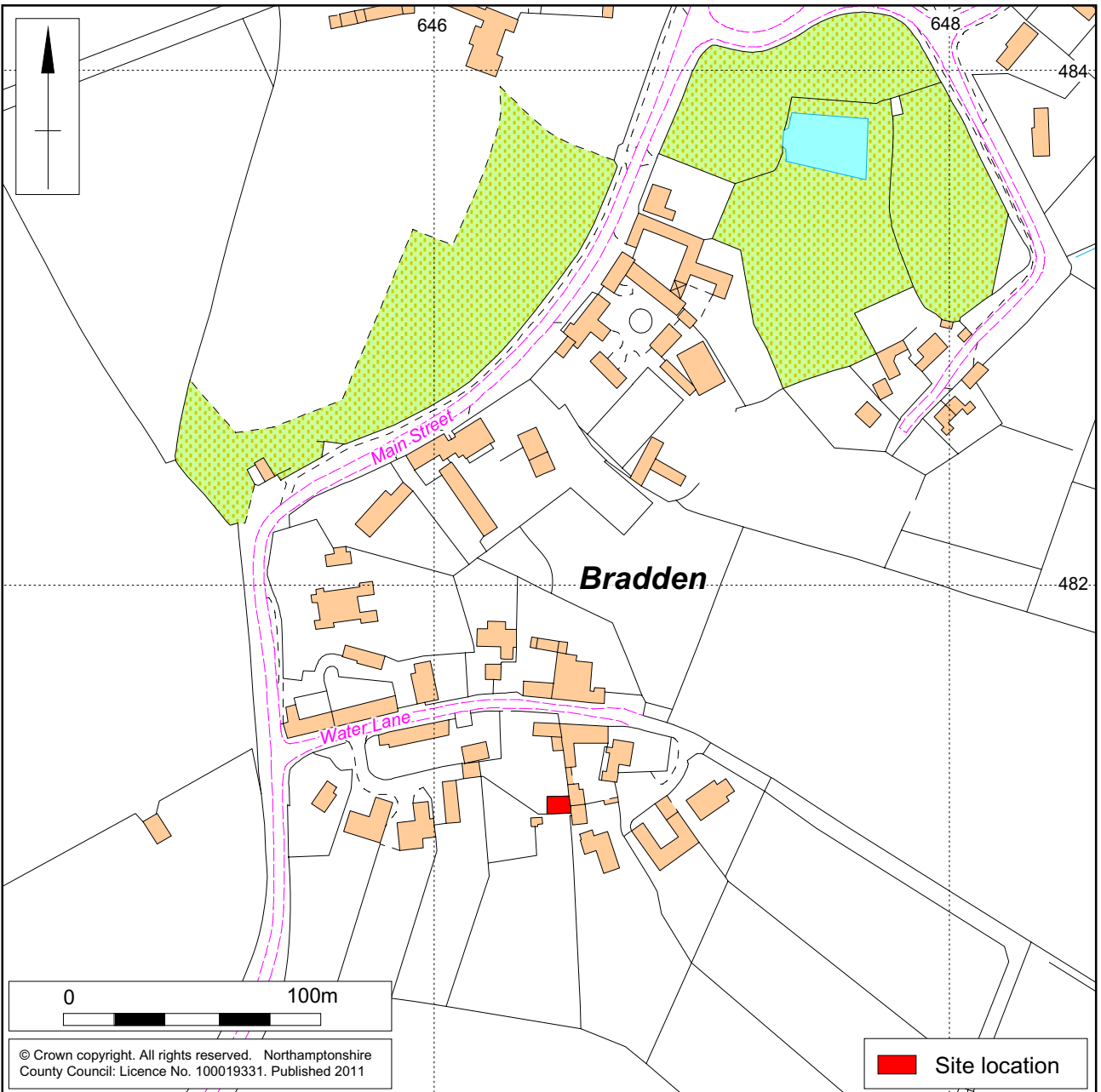
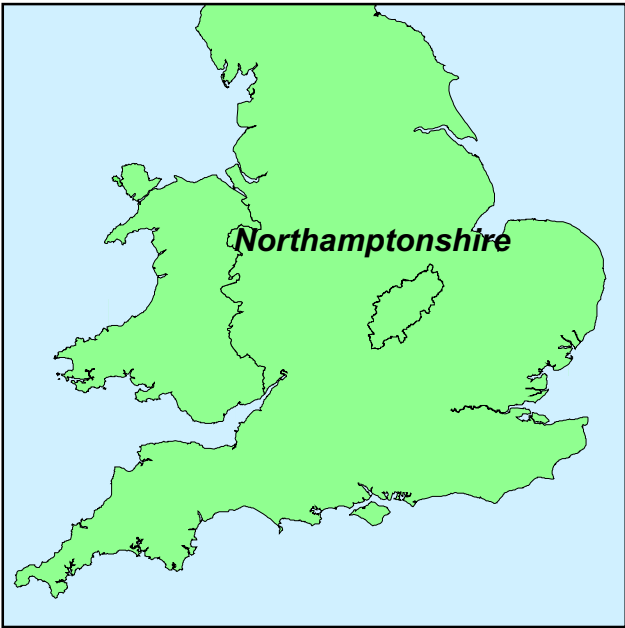
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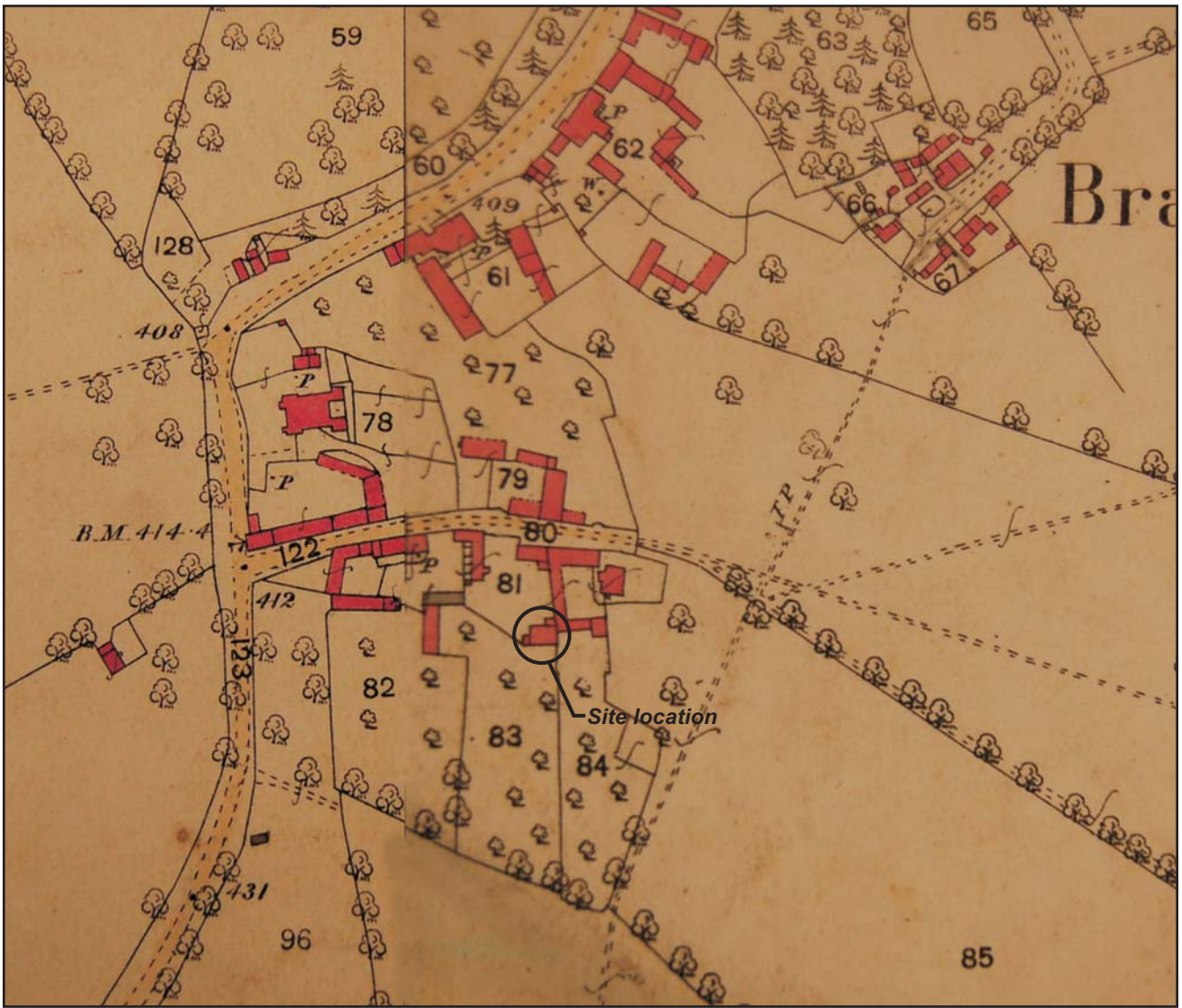
GLOSSARY

Chamfer	Surface formed by cutting off a square edge, usually at an angle of 45 degrees
Coping	Course of masonry or brickwork, often shaped, covering the top of a wall
Eaves	Overhanging lower edge of a roof
Jamb	Straight (vertical) side of a door, window or arch
Ledged and braced	Strengthening timbers on the inside of a door; the ledges comprising horizontal timbers, the braces diagonal timbers
Lintel	Horizontal beam or stone bridging an opening
Purlin	Roof timber aligned horizontally, usually laid on top of principal rafters and beneath common rafters
Rafter	Roof timber aligned vertically from the eaves to the ridge. Can be further sub-divided into principal rafters which comprise thicker, stronger timbers and secondary or common rafters which are usually smaller and thinner
Segmental	When describing an arch meaning in the form of a segment of a circle
Wall plate	Horizontal timber beam set on top of the wall at eaves level into which roof timbers are set



Scale 1:2500

Site location Fig 1

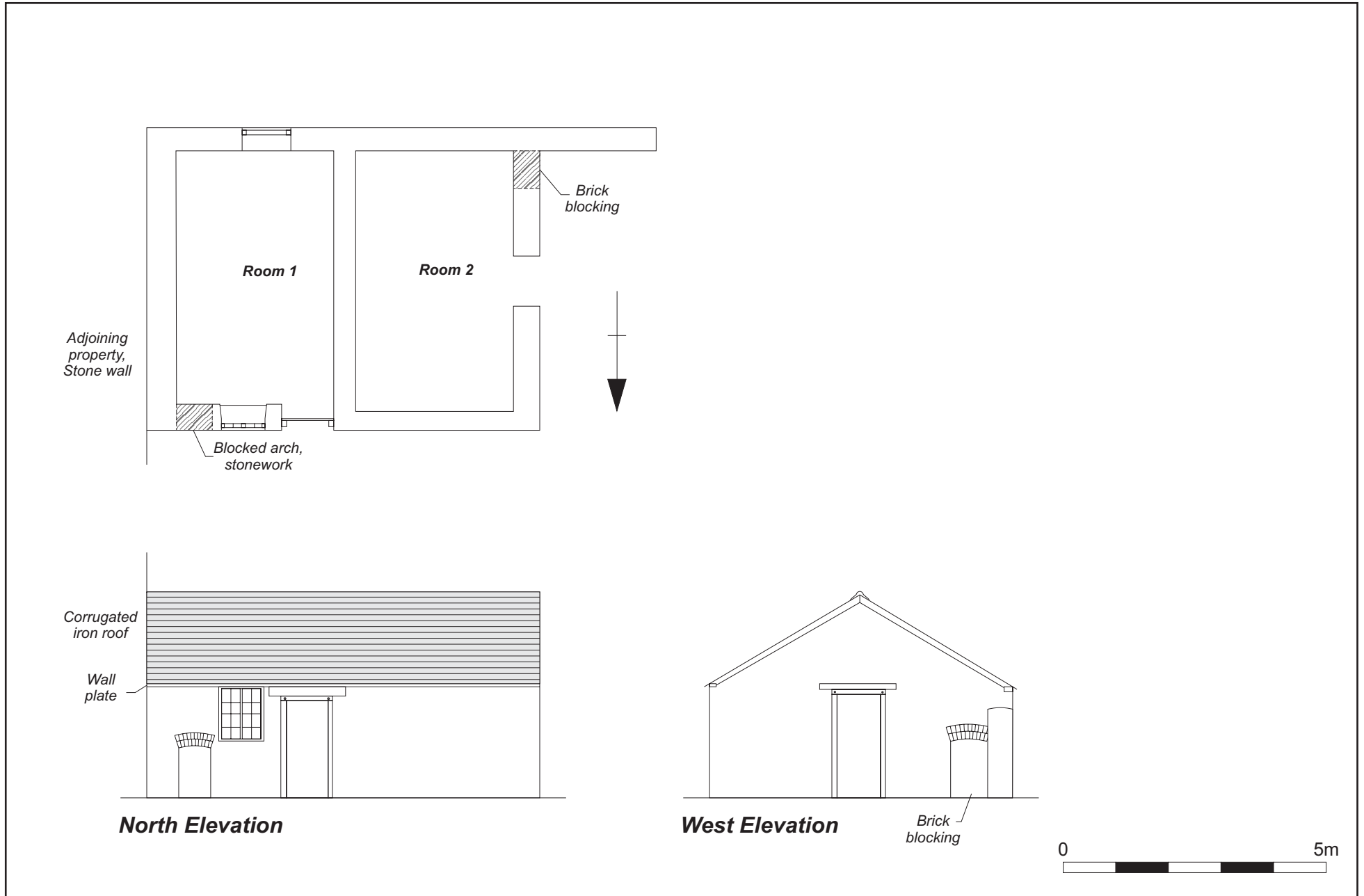


1831 First Edition 25inch Ordnance Survey map Fig 2

Scale 1:100

Plan and elevations of the former pigsties

Fig 3





The north elevation showing current and blocked openings, looking south Plate 1



The west elevation, looking north-east Plate 2



Arched pigsty opening in the west gable end, looking east Plate 3



The south elevation, looking north-east Plate 4



The window in the south wall, looking north Plate 5



The door to Room 1, looking north Plate 6



The roof structure in Room 1, looking north Plate 7



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