



Northamptonshire Archaeology

Archaeological Building Recording at The Bakehouse, 1 Wales Street, Kings Sutton Northamptonshire, March 2012



Northamptonshire Archaeology

2 Bolton House
Wootton Hall Park
Northampton NN4 8BE
t. 01604 700493 f. 01604 702822
e. sparry@northamptonshire.gov.uk
w. www.northantsarchaeology.co.uk



**Northamptonshire
County Council**

Amir Bassir

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STAFF

Project Manager: Iain Soden BA MIfA
Text: Amir Bassir BSc PlfA
Fieldwork: Amir Bassir
Illustrations: Amir Bassir

QUALITY CONTROL

	Print name	Signature	Date
Verified by	Iain Soden		11th April
Checked by	Pat Chapman		13th April
Approved by	Andy Chapman		13th April

OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS	
Project title	Archaeological Building Recording at The Bakehouse, 1 Wales Street, Kings Sutton, Northamptonshire
Short description	<i>Northamptonshire Archaeology carried out buildings recording on outbuildings to the rear of The Bakehouse, 1 Wales Street, Kings Sutton, Northamptonshire. The stone and brick-built, single-storey outbuildings, dated to the 19th century, were found to be unused, in a state of severe disrepair, overgrown and partly unroofed. The fabric of the structures showed evidence of repair and alteration, with the addition of an internal partition wall in Room 2 and the building of a brick extension to the west.</i>
Project type	Building assessment
Previous work	Unknown
Future work	Unknown
Monument type and period	18th century brick outbuildings
PROJECT LOCATION	
County	Northamptonshire
Site address	The Bakehouse, 1 Wales Street, Kings Sutton, Northamptonshire
Easting	449650
Northing	236250
Area	0.012ha
PROJECT CREATORS	
Organisation	Northamptonshire Archaeology
Project brief originator	Northamptonshire County Council Archaeological Advisor
Project Design originator	Northamptonshire Archaeology
Director/Supervisor	Amir Bassir
Project Manager	Iain Soden
Sponsor or funding body	Stable Architecture Ltd
PROJECT DATE	
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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL BUILDING RECORDING
AT THE BAKEHOUSE, 1 WALES STREET
KINGS SUTTON
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE**

Abstract

Northamptonshire Archaeology carried out buildings recording on outbuildings to the rear of The Bakehouse, 1 Wales Street, Kings Sutton, Northamptonshire. The stone and brick-built, single-storey outbuildings, dated to the 19th century, were found to be unused, in a state of severe disrepair, overgrown and partly unroofed. The fabric of the structures showed evidence of repair and alteration, with the addition of an internal partition wall in Room 2 and the building of a brick extension to the west.

1 INTRODUCTION

Northamptonshire Archaeology (NA) were commissioned by Stable Architecture Ltd to undertake an archaeological buildings recording on outbuildings to the rear of The Bakehouse, 1 Wales Street, King Sutton, Northamptonshire (NGR: SP 4965 3625; Figs 1 & 2).

The work was carried out in response to a condition of planning consent granted by South Northamptonshire Council for the demolition of the buildings ahead of development of the land.

The site lies within the village of Kings Sutton and is bound to the east by Wales Street. The gardens of several properties back onto the site to the south and north. An open communal area lies to the west, separated from the development area by an overgrown cast iron fence and railings.

Due to the poor condition and dangerous nature of the structures, access to the building and surrounding area was limited.

2 OBJECTIVES AND METHODOLOGY

The principal objectives of the building recording are set out in the Brief (NCC 2012): to record and understand the nature, function and character of existing buildings and to place them in their historic, cultural and environmental setting. The level of recording was specified as Level 1 – a basic visual record (English Heritage 2006, 14).

The specific aims of the building recording were to:

- Provide a comprehensive visual record of the structures prior to demolition;
- Provide a comprehensive review of the local and regional historical context of the structures recorded;
- Produce a high quality, fully integrated archive suitable for long term deposition in order to “preserve by record” the buildings in their current form, prior to demolition;

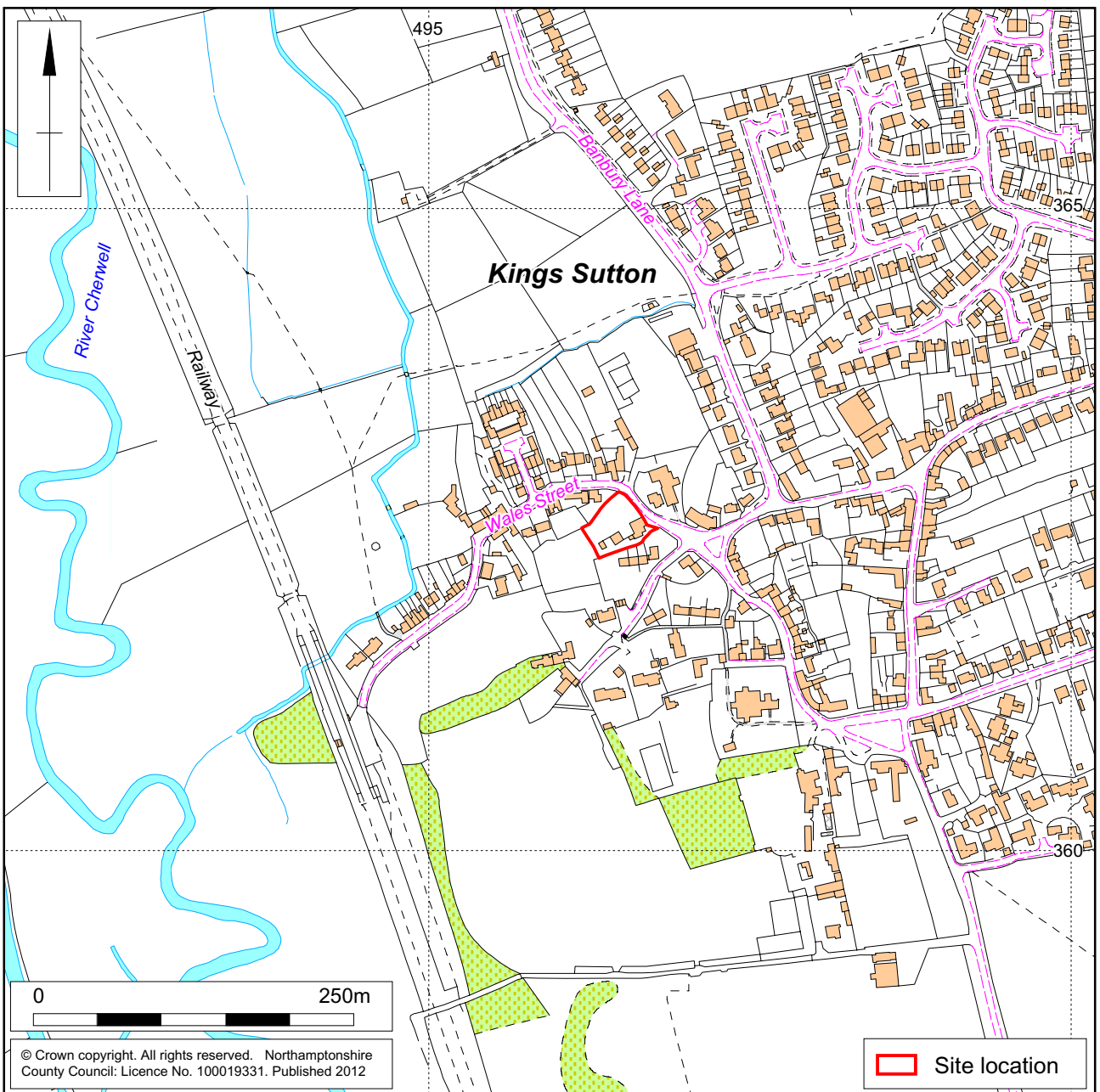
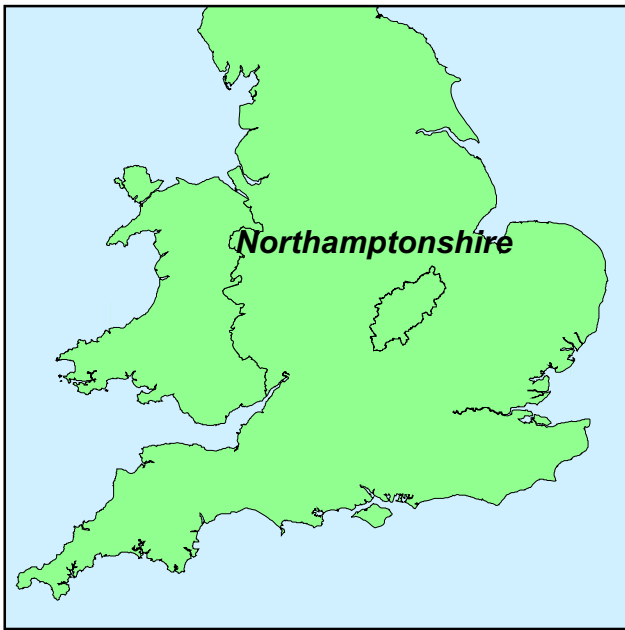
A site visit was made in March 2012, when the principal exterior elevations were photographed. The interiors were photographically recorded to include structural details that would be lost during demolition.

3 HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

3.1 The Bakehouse

The outbuildings can be seen on the 1887 1:10,560 map of Northamptonshire and the demolished range (Room 4) can be seen on 1900 1:2500 map of Northamptonshire but not on the 1887 map (not reproduced in this report).

Very little historical information exists for The Bakehouse and its outbuildings. The building was a bakery during the 19th and 20th centuries, and it can be assumed that the outbuildings served as storage and workshops or stables for the bakery. It is uncertain when the outbuildings and The Bakehouse were abandoned.



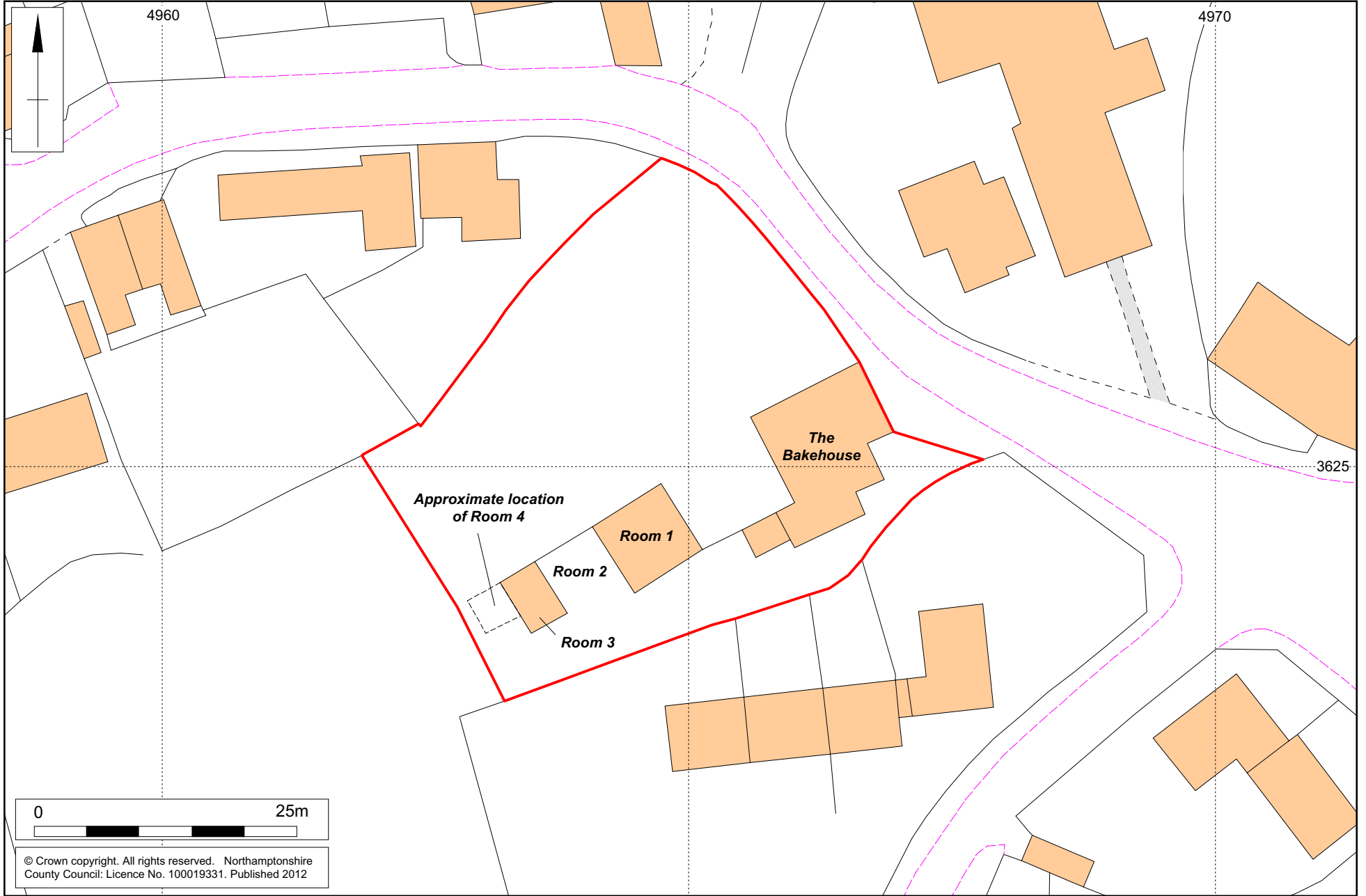
Scale 1:5000

Site location Fig 1

Scale 1:100 (A4)

Location of the surveyed buildings

Fig 2



4 BUILDING RECORDING

4.1 The building

The buildings were visited in March 2012 to carry out a photographic, measured sketch and written survey of the areas to be affected by the proposed works.

The outbuildings consist of three single-storey rooms on a north-east to south-west alignment with the remains of a gravel and flagstone path running parallel to the buildings on their northern side. The structures have a combined length of c18.5m and a maximum width of 7.5m (Fig 2).

The outbuildings are in a very poor condition and partly overgrown with vegetation. Several of the walls have partially collapsed and the remaining are in a state of disrepair (Figs 3-6). The roof of Room 2 is entirely missing and the roof of Room 3 has partially collapsed into the building (Fig 5). The roof of Room 1 is in a better state of preservation though the walls on which its wall plates rest are collapsing. The remnants of a later, brick-built fourth room are partially visible, abutting the western wall of Room 3 (Figs 4).

The structure is largely constructed from ironstone and sandstone. Areas of red brick attest to later repair and alterations. Timber beams and planks are present in Rooms 2 and 3, within the brickwork. Where the roof survives, it is constructed of corrugated iron supported on a simple timber frame with timber wall plates. White painted wooden cladding is present in Room 3, partially concealing the corrugated iron roof (Fig 25). The structures have brick floors except for Room 1 which has an earth floor. A later brick built partition is present in the north-eastern corner of Room 2 (Fig 17). This partition seals off that corner of the room and is accessed via a small, earlier doorway on the northern wall of the structure (Fig 20). A single instance of an iron tie rod and plates was present on the exterior of the northern wall of Room 2, overlapping the join between Rooms 1 and 2 (Fig 20).



The southern elevation, looking west Fig 3



General view of the buildings, looking north-east Fig 4



The northern elevation, looking south-east Fig 5



The northern elevation, looking south-west Fig 6

4.2 Room 1

This is constructed mainly from ironstone and limestone with some brick patching around the doorway and openings. The north and south walls are in a very poor condition and have partially collapsed. The remains of a door and an opening are present in the southern wall (Fig 8). A doorway with the remains of a wooden door and frame is built into the eastern wall (Fig 9). A timber lintel supports the stonework above. The stonework on the left door jamb has been replaced with red brick on the interior. The remains of the doorway on the southern elevation also have red brick replacing the stone work on the jambs. Though the southern and northern elevations have largely collapsed, the remains of window openings are evident in the brickwork, opposite one another (Fig 10). Due to the collapse of the walls, it is unclear if these openings are later insertions or are contemporary with the building and then patched with brick. A straight, vertical joint is present on the internal northern elevation, indicating that the building was perhaps open fronted on the north and later blocked (Fig 14).

The brickwork of the internal western wall bears the remains of a creamy, yellow-grey plaster which is also present on the internal northern wall of the same room (Figs 11 & 12). The eastern and southern walls are unplastered. An iron ring is embedded in the western wall of the room, approximately 1.0m from the ground and 1.5-2.0m from the northern wall.

The room has a corrugated iron roof on a simple wooden frame of machine-cut timbers with timber wall plates and a central truss with iron supporting rods (Fig 12).

The room has an earth floor.



The eastern elevation, showing differential weathering, looking south-west Fig 7



The south elevation, showing the remains of a doorway and window Fig 8



The doorway to Room 1, showing the internal brick jamb, looking south Fig 9



The eastern wall of Room 1 Fig 10



The western wall showing plasterwork and window openings to the right and left Fig 11



The corrugated iron roof with wooden frame, truss and supporting rod Fig 12



The doorway and window opening on the southern elevation of Room 1, looking south Fig 13



The vertical joint beneath the window opening on the northern wall, looking north-west Fig 14

4.3 Room 2

Room 2 shares common walls to the east with Room 1 and to the west with Room 3. It is approximately 0.5-1.0m higher than Room 1. The northern wall has partially collapsed outwards. The southern wall appears to have been deliberately knocked through and remains as a 1.5m long faced stub on the south-western corner of the building (Figs 15 & 16). Red brick and concrete facing on this stub indicates a deliberate alteration of the wall rather than collapse. A course of timbers is present just below eaves level on the interior of the western gable (Fig 16). Patches of red brick are present in both the east and western elevations.

The north-eastern corner has been subdivided into a smaller room by a red brick partition wall which is mortared onto and abuts the earlier stone walls (Figs 17 & 18). It survives to a height of approximately 1.5m and encloses a space of c1.5 x 1.25m. This room is accessed by a narrow doorway in the northern elevation of Room 2 (Fig 20). Due to overgrown vegetation, this room could not be entered during the site visit. This doorway pre-dates the brick partition wall. A vertical wooden tethering post with an iron ring was present at the exterior corner of the partition wall (Fig 17). A substantial extraneous timber protrudes from the western wall and rests atop the brick partition wall. The purpose of this timber is uncertain (Figs 15-18). However, blocked sockets in adjacent stonework suggest it may be the last vestige of a lost upper floor.

The floor of the room is largely hidden by vegetation but patches of a red brick floor surface were visible in places (Fig 19)

The roof is entirely missing from this room.



General view of Room 2, with the brick partition in the background, looking north Fig 15



The western elevation, showing the timber course and extraneous timber Fig 16



The brick partition with extraneous timber and the tether post obscured by vegetation, looking north Fig 17



The eastern gable showing patches of red brick Fig 18



The brick floor in Room 2 Fig 19



The north elevation of Room 2, showing the doorway and iron tie, looking south-east Fig 20

4.4 Room 3

This room is built onto the western elevation of Room 2. The northern wall has collapsed outward and survives to a height of less than 1.0m (Fig 22). The corrugated iron roof has partly collapsed into the room. The room is mostly inaccessible due to vegetation and debris.

The eastern wall is a mix of construction materials, largely built from ironstone, limestone and sandstone with patches of red brick and tile. Several timbers are also present in the fabric. An area of red brick repair can be seen on the western face of the western elevation (Fig 27). The interior elevation of the western wall has been painted white. (Fig 23)

The southern elevation appears to be open fronted with corrugated iron sheets flanking the remains of a hinged wooden door. A timber lintel runs the length of the elevation, supporting the roof (Fig 21)

The remains of white painted, timber cladding are present on the underside of the corrugated iron roof (Fig 25). A red brick floor survives within the room.



The south elevation of Room 3, looking north-west Fig 21



The north elevation of Room 3, showing the collapse of the north wall and roof Fig 22



The western wall of Room 3 Fig 23



The eastern wall of Room 3 Fig 24



The white painted, wood cladding below the roof of Room 3 Fig 25

4.5 Room 4

The extent of this room can only be speculated upon as it survives in scattered fragments and a small length of wall abutting the western wall of Room 4 (Figs 26 & 27). The area this room once occupied is heavily overgrown, though traces of the former brick floor are visible in the vegetation (Fig 28). This survey estimates the size of the room to be approximately 3.5 x 3.5m.

The surviving length of wall is of red brick with yellow mortar. The end of the wall is faced, indicating a doorway. Extraneous fragments of wall were found in the vegetation some metres away from the footprint of the building and indicated the structure was largely brick-built and served as a later addition to the stone built structures, perhaps contemporary with the red brick partition wall in Room 2.



General view of Room 4 with the surviving brick wall to the right Fig 26



The west elevation of Room 3 with the wall of Room 4 to the left Fig 27



Fragments of the brick floor of Room 4, largely hidden by vegetation Fig 28

5 CONCLUSION

The survey has shown that the outbuildings have their origins in the 19th century and have been subject to alteration and repair in the years since. These alterations and repairs appear to be of an ad hoc nature, using any building material which was present, including tiles, timber, brick and re-used stone. Historic map evidence shows that the western brick extension was constructed in the late 19th century.

Due to the poor condition of the structures and inaccessibility of the site, it is difficult to draw conclusions regarding the alterations and phasing of the alterations.

The buildings have no innate characteristics which mean that they might be related to know farm-building types as discussed by the HELM farm-building national surveys. They can only be described as "former outbuildings".

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