

BARNS AT HIGH MEADOWS GOOSEHAM BUDE CORNWALL

Results of a Desk-Based Assessment
&
Historic Building Recording



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**Barns at High Meadows
Gooseham, Bude
Cornwall**

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&
Historic Building Recording**

For

Mr. Stephen Massingale

By



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Summary

South West Archaeology undertook a historic building survey on the barns at Higher Meadows, Brownspitt Farm, in the small hamlet of Gooseham, near Morwenstow in North Cornwall; comprising two detached ranges of buildings dating from the late 18th and 19th centuries with some 20th century additions. The buildings lie to the west and south-east of a paddock, with a green lane to the south and period farmhouse and additional historic agricultural buildings further to the west. Both structures have stone elevations under slate roofs with some replacement corrugated iron sheeting. The grouping has a number of historic uses: from threshing barn and granary, to cart-shed and cattle byre, with a timber engine house.

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1.0 Introduction

Location: High Meadows, Brownspitt Farm, Gooseham
Parish: Morwenstow, Bude
County: Cornwall

1.1 Background

South West Archaeology Limited (SWARCH) were commissioned by Mr. Stephen Massingale (the Client) to undertake desk-based research and a historic building survey of the barns at Higher Meadows, Brownspitt Farm, Morwentow, North Cornwall (see Figures 1 & 2) prior to the conversion of the buildings into two detached residential dwellings. This work was undertaken in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) (Appendix 1) and with a brief for archaeological investigation by Phil Copleston, the Historic Environment Planning Advice Officer (HEPAO) Cornwall Council.

The hamlet of Gooseham lies within the parish of Morwenstow, North Cornwall, approximately ten miles north of Bude. Morwenstow parish has no main focal settlement but consists of a collection of hamlets and small villages. Brownspitt Farm is to be found south-east of Gooseham, on a slight north-facing slope, set across one of the parish roads, with a spring and river directly to the west, and higher ground to the east.

1.2 Methodology

The desk-based assessment and historic context study was carried out by Emily Wapshott and was undertaken with reference to IfA guidelines on the preparation of archaeological assessments (*Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Desk-based Assessment*. 1996 (revised 2001 and 2008)). The necessary research was conducted at the Cornwall Record Office and online using the ProMap Online Historic Maps service; material held by the Cornwall Council Historic Environment Record (HER) was also consulted.

The building survey was carried out by Emily Wapshott in May 2011 and was based on English Heritage Level guidelines with reference to IfA guidelines on the recording of standing buildings (*Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Investigation and Recording of Standing Buildings or Structures* 1996 (revised 2001 and 2008)).

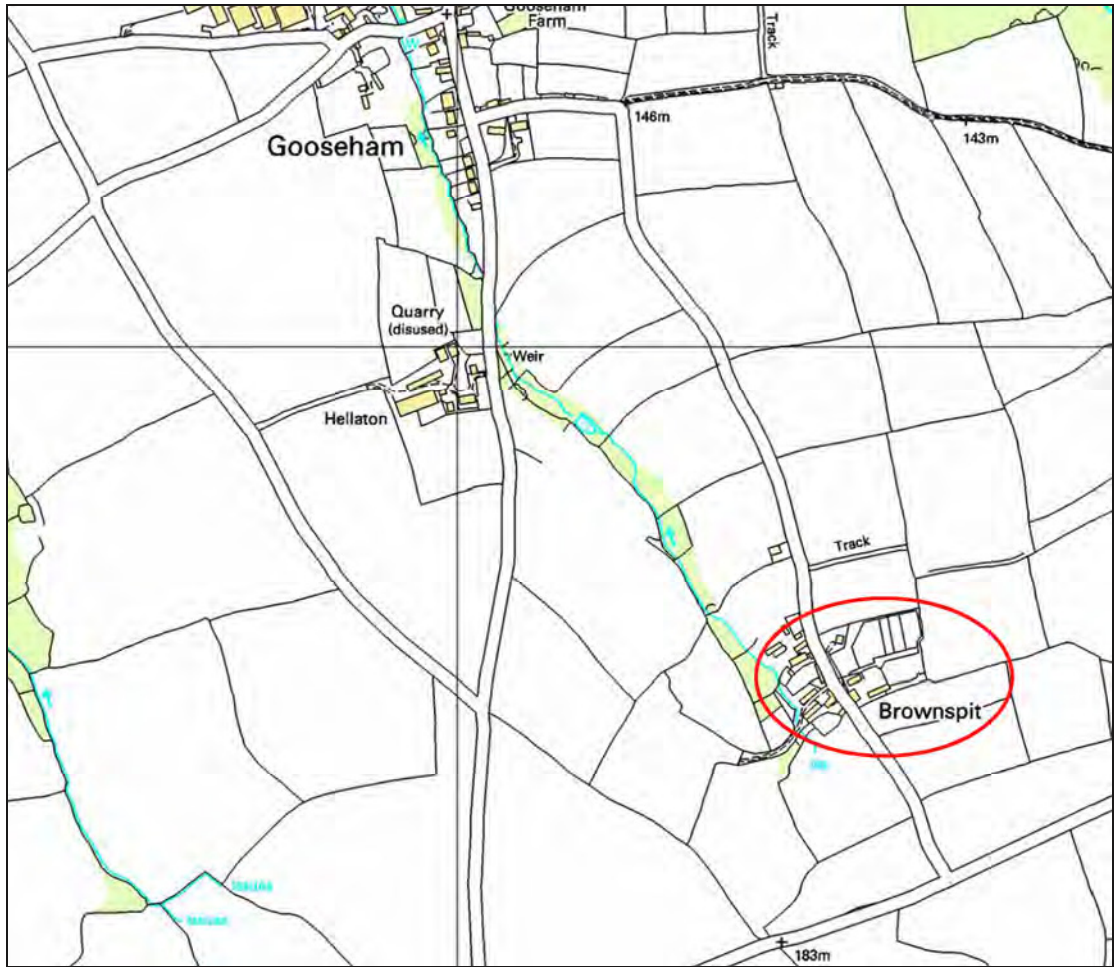


Figure 1: Site location (the site is indicated).



Figure 2: Site plan showing the location of the surveyed buildings.

2.0 The Historic Context

2.1 Mowenstow Parish

The parish of Morwenstow is believed to have been named after the son of St Morwen, to whom the nearby church of Marhamchurch is dedicated. The parish name has undergone a number of changes in its spelling with the most commonly reproduced versions in literature from tithe apportionments and church records to census documents being: Morwenstow, Morwenstoe, Moorwinstow or Morwinstow. During the dissolution of the monasteries in the 16th century the parish tithes were valued at £5. 6s. 9½d and the parish occupied some 8000 acres, including 242 acres of foreshore and several acres of water and at the time was noted as being in the ecclesiastical estates of the hospital of St. John in Bridgewater, a monastic institution which provided hospitality to poor travellers and had an infirmary for the poor and sick of the area. The parish of Morwenstow was detailed in *The Parochial History of Cornwall, Volume III* by Gilbert, Hals, Tonkin and Boase, published in 1838. In the chapter on Morwenstow it is described; ‘This parish forms the north-eastern extremity of the county and gives origin to the river Tamar.’ They note that, ‘Mr Lyons states, that the principle villages in this parish are Coombe, Crosstown, Eastcot, Gooseham, Hallabeer, Woolford and Woolley. The Cornwall Online Census Project has worked to digitise information on the parishes within the county; the information for the 1841 Census, Enumeration District 6, Civil Parish of Moorwinstow (Book 7, Folio 18, Pages 6-7) states that 1050 persons dwelt within the parish boundary, however by 1891 that number was down to 701 and by 1911 to 603 inhabitants.

2.2 Brownsplit(t) Farm

Brownsplit Farm is documented in the 1841 census, around the time of the Tithe Map (1842), as being owned and farmed by a Nicholas Tucker, who was 24 at time of the census. It also names a Mary Tucker, aged 25, a John Tucker, aged 4, and an Eliza Tucker, 18, noted as a servant. Five other people are listed as living at the farmhouse, some servants, others agricultural labourers. There also seems to be mention of four cottages within the farm, inhabited by labourers and their families; in total twenty six people are listed as living at Brownsplit(t). The voting records of the parish show Nicholas as the freeholder to the house and land at Brownsplit and also at Snailsdon, another farm recorded in the voting records in 1851/52, 1853/54, 1856/57. It also shows a John Cottle as being the occupier of a house and land, but not a freeholder on the farm, and other land in Gooseham, possibly one of the cottages noted on the 1841 census.

2.3 Cartographic Evidence

2.3.1 The Tithe Map

Both the Threshing barn and Engine house can be seen on the 1842 tithe map, across the road from the large farmhouse. The threshing barn and engine house (Building 1 and Building 1b) are highlighted in red on the inset showing how the shape of the buildings has barely changed between the 1840s and the 1880s. In 1842 the engine house would have been a horse engine house, and appears larger than the extant building on the site. It is noticeable that on the 1880s map the engine house appears to have a polygonal wall to the east and on this early tithe map it appears to be squarer; this could simply reflect the vagaries of early mapping, but equally it may actually indicate a change in shape in the building. The fact the engine house is present in the 1840s suggests the main threshing barn (Building 1) is even earlier in date since the engine house merely abuts the eastern wall of that structure and is not tied-in to that wall. Building 1

may have started as a simple barn for storage, or perhaps a barn built for hand threshing, in the late 18th century and was then developed in the early 19th century with the construction of the engine house to the east as agriculture became more mechanised and the new horse-powered threshing machines became more widely available. The farmhouse and the other substantial range of barns facing building 1 can also be seen on the title map giving the farm a general date of 18th, possibly very early 19th century; either of the ‘Georgian’ or ‘Regency’ periods. The wall or bank of the paddock to the east of the barns abuts the threshing barn to the north and the horse engine to the east. At this date there is no evidence of the cart-shed/linhay (Building 2), unsurprising given that the bull-nose bricks used in its structure would suggest a construction date after the 1850s.



Figure 3: Extract from the 1842 tithe map of Morwenstow Parish, showing the threshing barn (B1) and engine house (B1b).

2.3.2 The 1885 First Edition Ordnance Survey Map

The larger building, now a threshing barn (B1), can be seen on the 1885 map (Figure 4) adjacent to the road, across from the farmhouse and the other substantial ranges of agricultural buildings of various uses. To the east of the threshing barn is a small paddock which is shown as having walls (or traditional Cornish banks), with trees. This bank or wall projects from the north end of the threshing barn and to the south adjoins the southern elevation of the engine house.

The threshing barn appears to be of the same shape and size as we see today, except for the addition of the lean-to to the south, now evidenced only by the sockets in the wall of the south elevation and the blocked opening. The horse engine is shown to the east of the threshing barn with an opening or access shown in the north. This engine house would probably have had

stone walls and a timber roof supporting the central shaft around which the horses would have walked, powering the threshing machine. The green lane to the south the engine house appears to be walled or gated across, forming a large pen to the south of the barn.

The cart-shed/linhay (B2) is far longer in length than the current building, appearing to stretch much further to the east. The use of bull-nose bricks and the mapping evidence suggests that the current building is either formed part of the longer range, or is one of two buildings in the same general position.



Figure 4: Extract from the 1885 First Edition Ordnance Survey map, showing the threshing barn (B1) and engine house (B1b), with the cart-shed/linhay (B2) at Brownsplit Farm.

2.3.3 The 1906 Second Edition Ordnance Survey Map

On the 1906 map the threshing barn (B1) is in the same position as on the first edition map, with the walls or banks of the small paddock to the east leading away from its north-east corner. However, it has lost the lean-to to the south and has gained the granary extension. The engine house to the east appears to have changed shape, being smaller in size and squarer, with the wall or bank to the lane running behind it and joining with the south-east corner of the threshing barn, instead of curving back to meet the south-east corner of the engine house, as it did in 1885. The wall/bank or gate across the green lane has also been removed, opening up the route-way.

The cart-shed/linhay (B2) to the south-east is shown in the same position as in 1885, but now with a further building to the east, uphill of the current standing structure. The cart-shed/linhay is shown as built into the side of the green lane, with a small lean-to or extension on the west end, latterly replaced by the 20th century concrete cattle byre, and has a wall/bank or gate

extending from its south-east corner, again blocking off the top of the lane. The building further up the lane has obviously been demolished or is largely ruinous now as it was not visible through the undergrowth during the survey. (see 3.0 below & Figure 5)

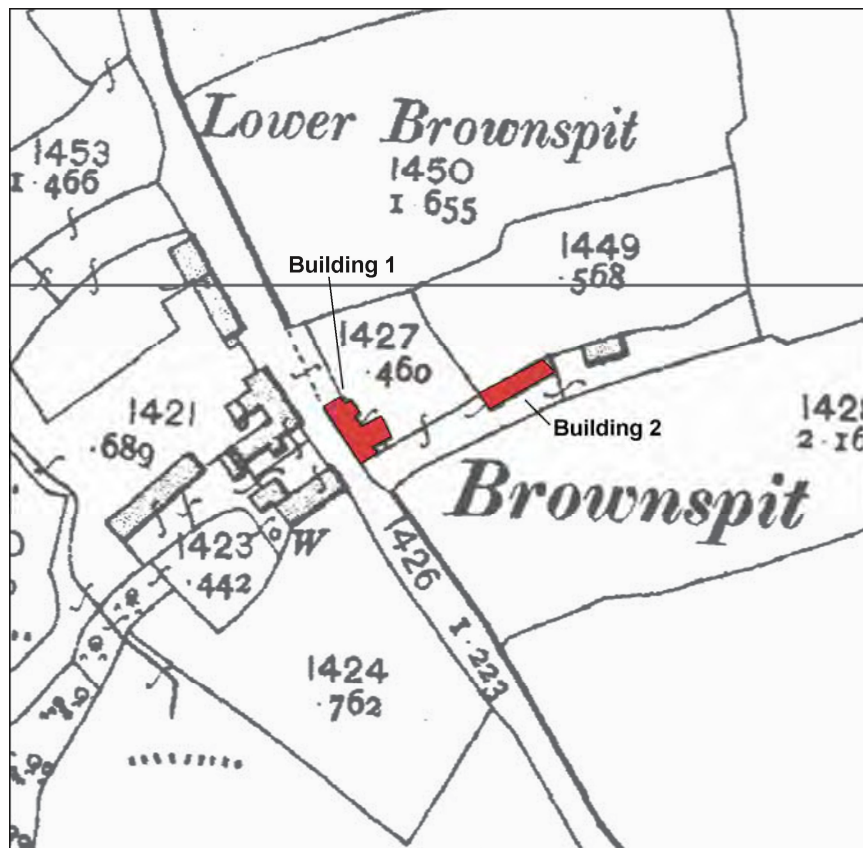


Figure 5: Extract from the 1906 2nd Edition Ordnance Survey map, showing the addition of the granary (B1a).

3.0 Results of the Building Survey

3.1 General Description

The farm, within the small hamlet of Gooseham, has a number of curving or small irregular fields within its immediate vicinity and the area is characterised by ‘anciently enclosed land’ but the farm is otherwise surrounded, at least to the east and uphill by the large, predominantly square fields of later enclosure (http://www.cornwall.gov.uk/images/HLC_areas.gif). Adjacent to the subject buildings runs a green lane, connecting the large enclosed fields with the parish road, a further green lane can be seen to the north of Higher Meadows, now fragmented, but still marked on the OS maps as ‘track’, again leading to the east, up into the enclosed land. The two detached stone buildings, lying to the south-east and west of a small paddock, are enclosed by the green lane to the south, further fenced paddocks to the east and a modern timber barn to the north. The larger building, a threshing barn (Building 1), lies to the west, adjacent to the small parish road, across from the late 18th/early 19th century farmhouse and other stone agricultural buildings. The smaller building (Building 2), a former cart-shed or linhay, lies further up the slope to the south-east, near to the top of the green lane (see Figure 6).

The threshing barn has a large single-storey part-timber/part-stone extension, an engine house to its south-east corner (Building 1b), and a two-storey stone extension to the north, forming a granary (Building 1a). The cart-shed/linhay was formerly open-fronted and facing onto the green lane before being converted to stock housing in the 20th century. It now has a modern concrete block extension (cattle byre) to the west, which is of mid 20th century construction.

Both buildings are currently redundant and the threshing barn has fallen into disrepair with slipped slates and water-damaged roof trusses and rotten, failing floor timbers within the granary extension.



Figure 6: The threshing barn (B1) (on the right) and the farmhouse at Browns Pitt Farm, viewed from the south.

3.2 Threshing Barn (B1)

3.2.1 Exterior description

A detached stone two-storey agricultural building on a north-south axis, with a timber extension to the south-east (B1b) and a stone granary extension to the north (B1a). The roof is of graded slate, with terracotta ridge tiles; elevations of rubble construction in a cream-coloured lime mortar, with inclusions of shillet and some charcoal.

The south gable-end wall is partially obscured at the base by nettles and undergrowth. The timber wall plate of the slate roof is being exposed by the slippage of some of the slates. The elevation is of blocky rubble stonework, set in cream-coloured lime mortar, with roughly dressed stone quoins to the corners and the reveals of the single blocked opening of a central ground-floor doorway. There is a row of holes in the elevation at three-quarters height where timbers have been forced into the wall for a former lean-to. The blocked doorway has stone reveals and the lintel also appears to be constructed from large blocks of stone. However, the area of wall above this doorway has been rebuilt suggesting these stones may replace an earlier removed timber or stone slab lintel, which has failed or been removed upon the blocking of the opening. The elevation is abutted to the east by the stone south wall of the engine house.

The west elevation which faces onto the parish road is partly obscured by ivy at the north end, over the threshing doors. The elevation is of closely-packed blocky rubble stonework in a cream-coloured lime mortar. There are roughly-dressed stone quoins to either corner and two stone-built air vents to the base of the wall towards the south end. There is a loading door at first floor level at the south end with a brick segmental arch with internal timber lintel. This opening appears to be forced into the elevation as the stones within the splay are ragged and appear smashed, unlike the worked stone reveals of the opening on the south elevation. Cement render partly lines the opening, showing the position of a former timber frame for a door. The other opening within the elevation is that of the threshing doors, further to the north and raised approximately 0.9m above the line of the road. There is a small stone plinth beneath the threshing doors, presumably for resting the tail gate of the carts during unloading. The threshing doors are still intact and there are remnants of a timber pentice above, which would have sheltered the doors – and therefore the threshing floor inside – from the weather. In recent times ivy has grown across these doors, almost completely obscuring all details in the stonework, including the joint between the threshing barn and the later granary. To the north of the opening and abutted by the plinth are the large stone block quoins of the threshing barn; these now form the south side of a doorway within the granary.

The east elevation is largely obscured by the engine house at the south end and there is a large timber wall plate at the eaves. The large blocky rubble stonework is set in yellowish-white lime mortar which shows many variations of colour suggesting re-pointing and possibly some rebuilding on the addition of the granary. Much of the stonework to the south is covered by corrugated iron sheeting, preventing analysis. There is one wide ground-floor doorway at the north end, with a boarded 19th century timber stable door, ledged and braced to the interior, with a substantial slate slab threshold and narrow timber lintel. The stonework above and around this opening appears to have been re-pointed and the reveals to the opening do not appear to be as formally arranged as that in the blocked doorway in the south wall. To the centre of the elevation there is an opening, with a narrow timber lintel and now covered by corrugated sheeting, formerly for the drive shafts for the threshing engine which was once housed in the adjacent timber structure. There are stone quoins to the south end, adjacent to the abutting stone wall of the engine house and to the north end adjoining the granary there appear

to be areas of quoins remaining although sections have been rebuilt to tie in the structures (see Figure 7).



Figure 7: The east elevation of the threshing barn (B1) and granary (B1a), viewed from the north-east.

3.2.2 Interior Description

The interior walls of the threshing barn are of exposed stone that shows evidence of re-pointing in many areas. In the east wall there is a small opening with timber lintel for the drive shafts to enter and run the threshing equipment. In the south wall the blocked opening has quoined reveals, as to the exterior, with an internal timber lintel surviving, which is now partially covered by a modern grain box. There is a surviving raised plank threshing floor at the northern end which is approximately 0.5m above the internal ground level and which appears to terminate in line with the first floor loading door in the west elevation. This floor is supported on large timber joists, set into the walls of the building, running east-west, with the planks running north-south. The floor seems to have been cut or has rotted away to the south at the eastern side and has a modern timber and galvanised sheet built-in grain box to the south end (see Figure 8). To the west there is the possibility that the change in the floor height at this point was due to the area being used for straw storage, forming a lowered straw bay as seen in other historic threshing barns.

To the north there is a set of detachable timber steps, fixed to the timber sill of the doorway with metal straps, for access to the first floor door in the granary, which has a planked 19th century door (see Figure 9). The threshing doors in the west wall are of 19th century timber planking, ledged and braced with large square-profile strap hinges and iron door furniture. Typically seen in stables, these doors allow for multiple combinations of open and closed sections. The doors and the surrounding wall are again largely obscured by ivy, as on the exterior. The threshing doors have no opposing pair in the east wall, merely the single large ground-floor doorway mentioned above. No threshing machinery or *in-situ* fixed internal features survive.



Figure 8: Interior view of the north wall of the threshing barn (B1), viewed from the south.



Figure 9: Interior view of the south wall of the threshing barn (B1), viewed from the north.

3.2.3 The Roof Structure

The roof of graded slate under terracotta ridge tiles. There is some evidence of torching to the east pitch, with less remaining to the west. The roof structure is timber; with A-frame trusses, with bolted lap-joints and half-lap joints. There are three purlins to each pitch, trenched into the back of the truss blades with a single ridge pole to the apex and the rafters resting on the back of the purlins and with the slates attached directly to the rafters. The eaves have been built up to provide a vermin-proof seal for grain storage. The mortar here appears to be cement and is heavily applied, suggesting this may be a later development following the insertion of the modern grain box.

3.3 The Granary (B1a)

3.3.1 Exterior Description

A two-storey grain store on a north-south axis, built up against the earlier threshing barn, with a set of stone, slate and brick steps leading up to a first floor door on the east side (see Figure 7 & coverplate). The roof is of slate, with black glazed ridge tiles, some of which are broken or missing, with elevations constructed of roughly-coursed stonework set in lime mortar.

The west elevation is partially obscured by ivy but where visible is of closely-packed roughly-coursed stonework of smaller, flatter stones than those in the threshing barn, in a whiter lime mortar. There is one ground-floor doorway at the joint between the granary and threshing barns; this has a timber lintel, with some brick, possibly the remains of a brick segmental arch. The south side of the opening is formed from the stone quoins of the threshing barn and a large granite slab has been inserted into the quoins to the north.

The north gable wall is of the same construction as the west wall and has a timber wall plate to the eaves. There are two openings, symmetrically placed in the centre of the elevation. The upper opening, sitting within the apex, has a brick segmental arch which is now boarded from the inside but may once have held a set of timber louvres in respect of the grain store; the lower is open but may also have held a timber window as the sides are cement lined. This lower opening has a slate sill and also a brick lintel, but this has been rebuilt with modern bricks. There are stone quoins to both corners; to the west, a large granite slab in the quoins may have been reused from elsewhere in the farm complex. There is a small wall, broken at the top, that runs away from the elevation at right angles at the east end; this is now built into the bank, but may once have turned to the east and created an enclosure, or walled paddock.

The east elevation is as to the north and west but with stonework of a small blocky form, with stone quoins to the north end and built up against the threshing barn to the south. There is a single first-floor doorway to the grain store, with stone, brick and slate steps, leading up from the north, a narrow timber lintel to the doorway and no formal reveals. The door is timber, ledged and braced to the interior with closing strips to the exterior planks and with a raised threshold. There is a single stone-built air vent to the north end, with two further terracotta pipes forced into the wall to the south. As seen on the west elevation the doorway has been built up against the quoins of the threshing barn. There is replacement plastic guttering on this elevation, with a downpipe to the north end.

3.3.2 Interior Description

The interior walls are of exposed stone, which have been re-pointed in some areas. The west wall at the southern corner appears on its internal face to abut the threshing barn wall, with a

large crack running down the join where little effort appears to have been made to 'tie-in' the structures. The floor is of wide timber planks, which have suffered from considerable water damage, due to the leaking roof and are now rotten, making access unsafe. There is a large *in situ* timber internal frame supporting three grain boxes of various sizes, formed of pine planks (see Figure 10). Within each grain box the stonework is plastered and whitewashed. The floor to wall joint has been rendered around the boxes, again providing a vermin-proof seal for grain storage. The sliders to seal the grain boxes were not observed, but the room could not be fully accessed due to the dangerous floor structure. The internal door has clearly been forced into the north elevation of the threshing barn; the section of wall to the east and above the doorway has been rebuilt showing a heavy use of mortar and some bricks used in repairs. The lintel for the door is very narrow in nature and the door is of timber planks, ledged and braced, with strap hinges and a timber latch, it has a timber frame and a timber sill and a raised stone threshold, to prevent vermin entering the grain store.

3.3.3 The Roof Structure

The slate roof with black glazed ridge tiles, many of which are broken or missing, has been tied into that of the threshing barn. The roof structure is timber, an A-frame single truss with bolted joints that appear to be half lap but could not be viewed safely at the time of the survey. There is a single ridge pole to the apex and a single purlin to each pitch resting on the back of the truss blades, the rafters rest on the back of the purlins and the slates are attached directly to the rafters. The eaves have again been built up to meet the roof, providing a vermin-proof seal for grain storage.

3.4 The Timber Engine House (B1b)

This building abuts the threshing barn on its east side, at the south end. The south wall is of rubble stone construction, with a timber wall plate and slated eaves. The slates have fallen from the eaves and the wall plate is rotted and the roof has been replaced with corrugated iron sheeting. The wall merely abuts the threshing barn and is not tied-in, showing this building to be a later phase of development; however, the style is similar to that of the threshing barn and the quality of the stonework is high. The stonework of the south wall appears to return to the east but the ground level has been built up, obscuring the wall and the later timber structure has been built around and on top of the remains, which can now only be seen to the left on the north side. The building is open to the north, with large replacement round-profile timber pillars possibly former telegraph poles, supporting the timber A-frame roof structure, which has bolted joints. To the east there is a substantial step-up to a boxed in area, which has some timber planking and wire mesh. The floor appears to be of earth. There is a clamp or bearing set into the ground in the centre of this structure, presumably for bracing the diesel engine, or possibly even as a base for horse engine, both of which would have been housed in this building at some point; this fixing was not viewed as the floor area had not been cleared.



Figure 10: Interior view of the first floor of the granary (B1a), viewed from the south-east.

3.5 The Cart Shed/Linhay (B2)

3.5.1 Exterior Description

A single-storey stone-built former open-fronted cart-shed/linhay, facing directly onto a green lane leading to the east into the neighbouring field system. With rubble stone elevations with bullnose brick detailing under a replacement corrugated sheeting roof. To the west of the stone built structure is an attached concrete block cattle byre, built in the 1950s, with rendered elevations, metal casement windows and timber doors.

The north elevation is dug into the bank to the east end and constructed of rubble stonework with bull-nose brick quoins and a large double doorway to the west end, with plain brick reveals and a timber lintel, set back into an alcove, possibly a larger lintel has been removed from here, replacement plank timber doors, this lintel appears set back from the elevation. This elevation is abutted to the west by the concrete block cattle byre. The roof is of modern replacement corrugated iron (see Figure 11).

The east elevation, constructed as the north wall (above), is dug into the bank at the north side. The quoins to the south side are double, forming the appearance of a pillar to the south side of the building. The roof is corrugated iron and strapped down to the exposed purlins which project through the wall.

The south elevation was formerly open-fronted and is now closed with concrete block-work, with three eaves height windows and a central doorway. The east end of the elevation has double bull-nose brick quoins forming a pillar and to the west there is a longer return of wall, with bull-nose brick quoins to the former central opening. Some of the pointing on this section of wall has been replaced with raised ribbon pointing.



Figure 11: The north elevation of the cart-shed/linhay (B2), viewed from the north.

The west elevation is largely obscured by the abutting cattle byre, the visible upper section at the apex is rendered. The cattle byre was not described in detail as it is of mid-to-late 20th century construction; a photographic record was however made of this building.

3.5.2 Interior Description

The interior walls are exposed stone, with some re-pointing in a cream-coloured lime mortar, with some evidence of damp ingress and some water damage. The roof structure is a timber, bolted A-frame design, with two purlins to each pitch. The 20th century concrete internal partitions have now been removed but the former layout can still be made out in the earth floor, with a feeding channel to the north wall.

4.0 Phasing and Development

The buildings as a group have undergone a number of phases of addition and possibly conversion, largely within the 19th century, which reflects the wealth and development of the farm and the farming industry as a whole.

4.1 The Threshing Barn (B1)

The threshing barn is considered to be of **phase one**, dating to the late 18th/early 19th century. This building is no doubt contemporary with the farmhouse and other buildings situated immediately across the road to the west. The first historic use of the building may not have been as a threshing barn because the position of the double threshing doors at the very end of the west elevation is unusual and would presumably have weakened the structure. The blocked doorway in the south elevation also appears at a lower level than the threshing floor and may suggest the buildings current use is due to conversion. These smaller doors, often referred to as draught doors, are usually of a stable door type and are used to control the flow of air over the threshing floor. Single doors opposite double threshing doors have also been identified, not least in R.W Brunskill's *Traditional Farm Buildings of Britain*, as possibly being designed for use during the winnowing process, again to control draughts. Despite the anomalies and the singular design of the building it is most likely it was built as a threshing barn; however the conversion theory cannot be discounted and upon the commencement of the works when the ivy is removed and the stonework around the threshing doors can be examined the nature of the opening, either forced or constructed within the elevation, can be established (see Figures 12-15).

4.2 The Cart Shed/Linhay (B2)

This once open-fronted cart-shed/linhay is a **phase two** building, its bull-nose brick quoins signify its construction took place some time after the 1850s when bull-nose bricks were widely introduced. Their use as far west as north Cornwall can be expected to be much later, dating this building to the later decades of the 19th century. The building in fact appears on the First Edition Ordnance Survey mapping in 1885, giving us a definitive period of construction between 1850-1885. The green lane it respects is of earlier date, probably from the time of enclosure of the land in the area.

Note on the engine house: The earlier building of the engine house, the remains of which are the single stone wall to the south and ruined section to the east would also have been of the second phase, appearing on the 1842 Tithe Map and therefore is earlier than the cartshed/linhay (see Figure 16).

4.3 The Granary (B1a)

The granary extension to the north of the threshing barn is a later addition, comprising **phase three** on the site. This building does not appear on the 1885 First Edition OS map but has been built by the 1906 Second Edition OS map, giving the building a very late 19th century date. Although bricks have been used in the segmental arches of openings they are of plain stock type and the reveals to openings are still of stone and the lintels often of timber. The loading door on the west side of the threshing barn is undoubtedly of this phase, forced into the

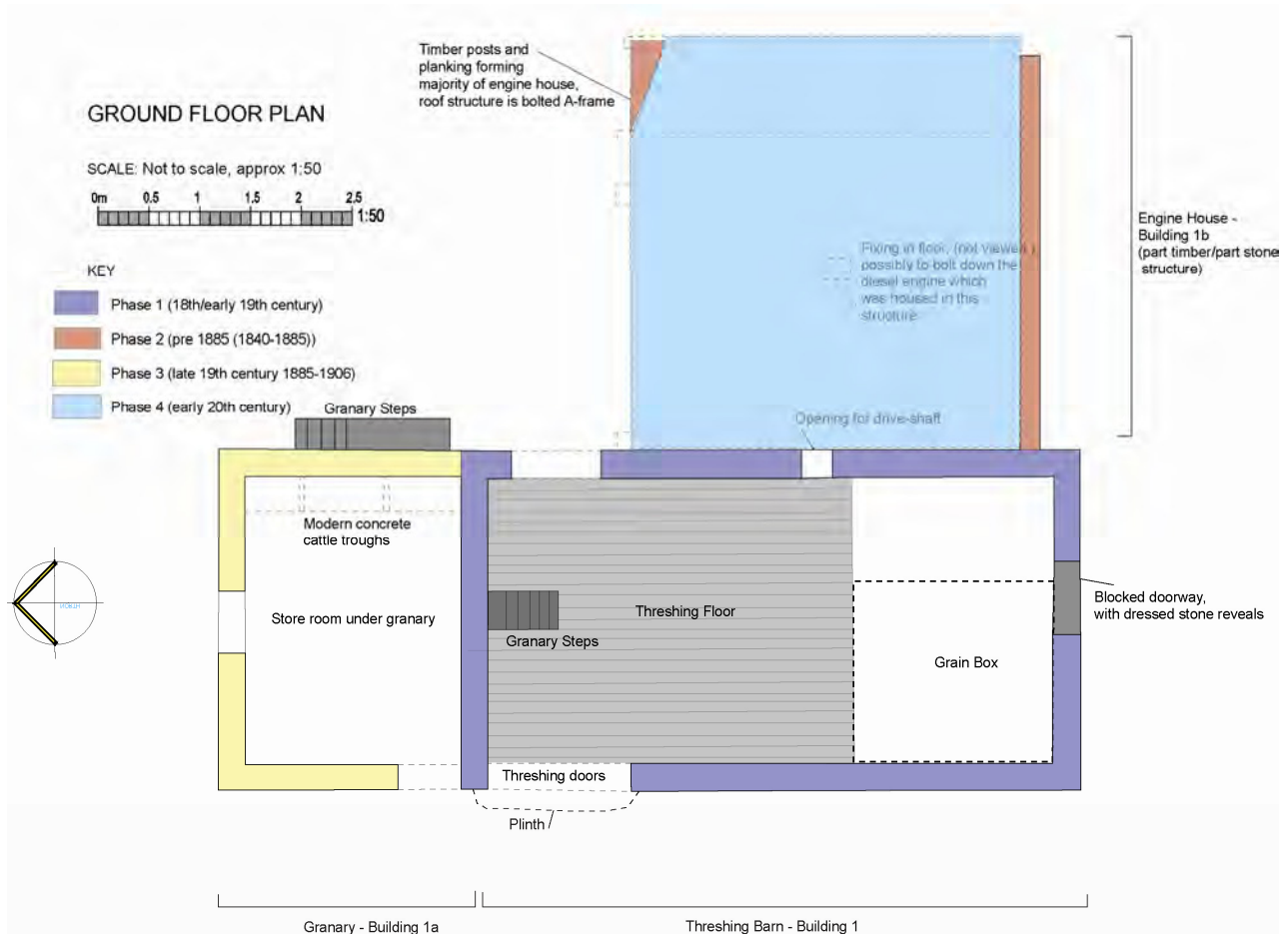


Figure 12: Phased plan of the ground-floor of the threshing barn (B1) and additions (B1a & B1b).

elevation, the segmental brick arch matching that of the apex opening on the north elevation of the granary (see Figures 12-15).

4.4 The Engine House (B1b)

This building as it now stands is of **phase four**, the current timber structure dates to the first decade of the 20th century; the shape of the building appears to change between the 1885 and 1906 Ordnance Survey maps, potentially upon the change from horse power to that of a diesel engine. There is however the possibility the remains of the earlier stone-built building can be seen in the return of the south wall to the east and the remains of a wall observed at the north-east corner. This earlier building, had it survived in full, would have housed a horse-engine of a mid-19th century date. The roof and other elements have obviously been replaced again, more recently in the later 20th century (see Figures 12-15).

4.5 The Concrete Block Cattle Byre

This is of **phase five**, a mid 20th century construction, adjoining the phase three cart shed to the west end. This also respects the green lane which may suggest it was still in regular use at this point as a main access-way into the fields. The block-built building possibly replaces an earlier

lean-to which lay in a similar position and appeared on the 1906 Ordnance Survey map (see Figure 16).

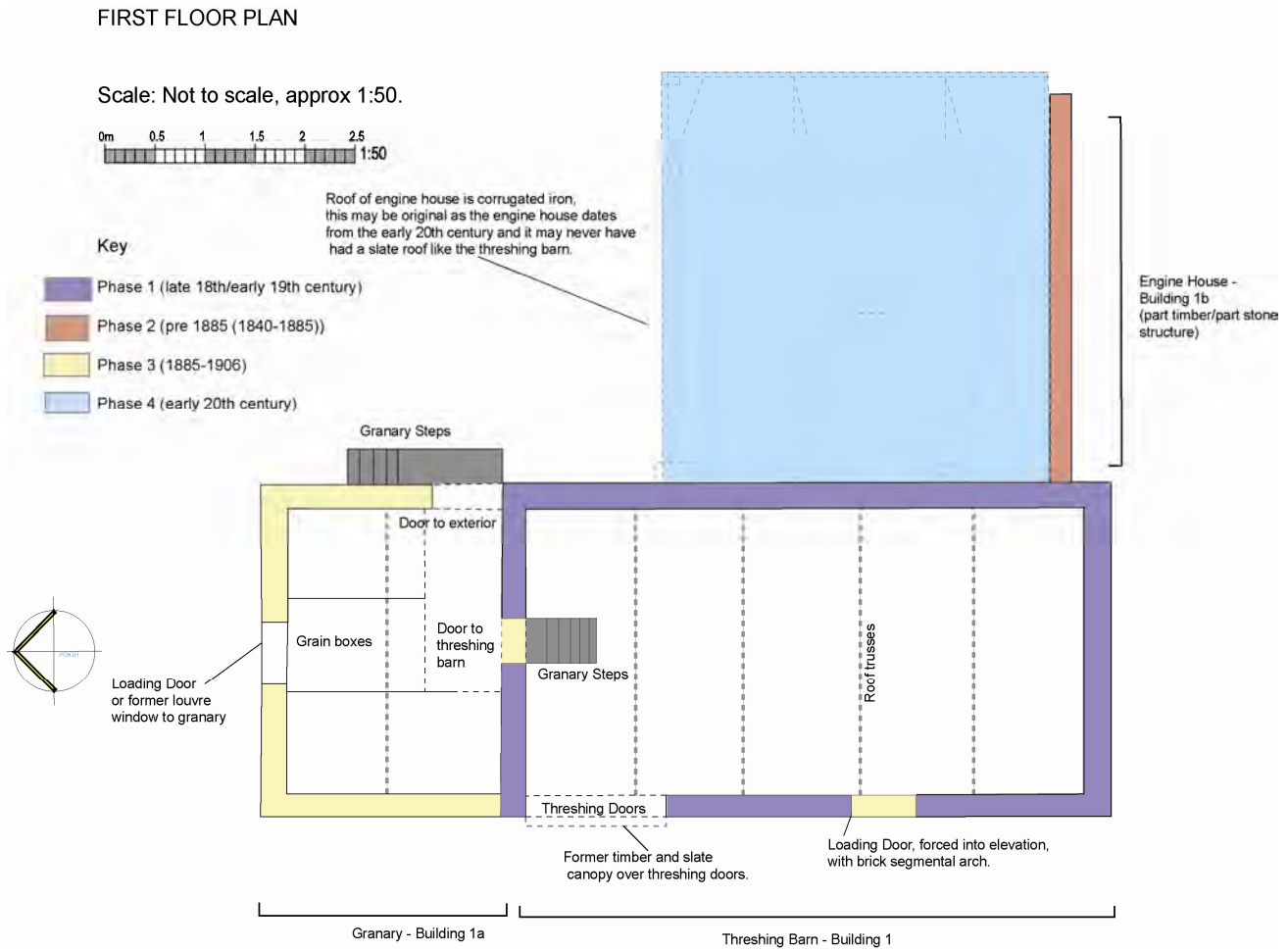


Figure 13: Phased plan of the first-floor of the threshing barn (B1) and additions (B1a & B1b).

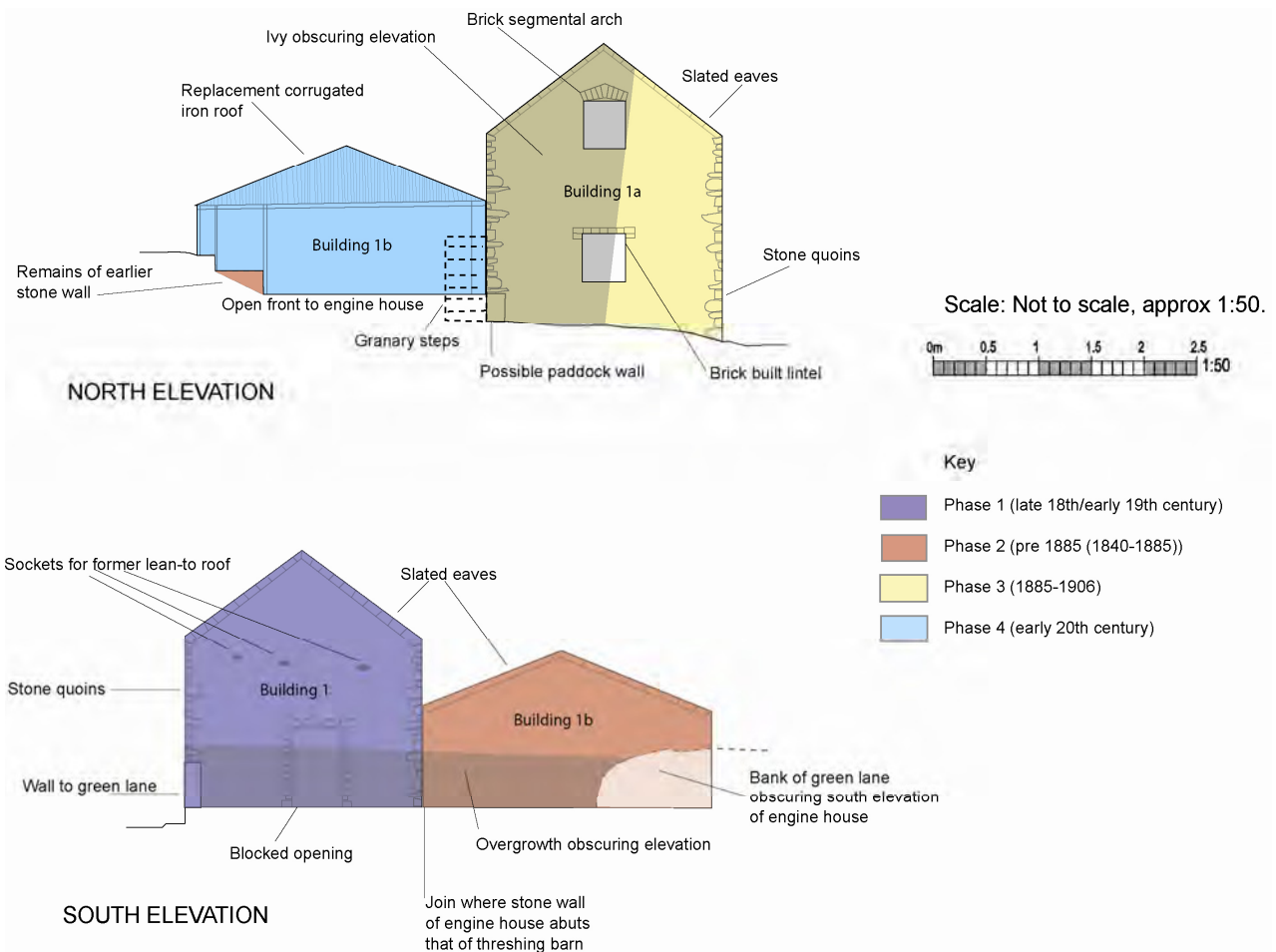


Figure 14: Phased drawing of the east and west elevations of the threshing barn (B1) and additions (B1a & B1b).

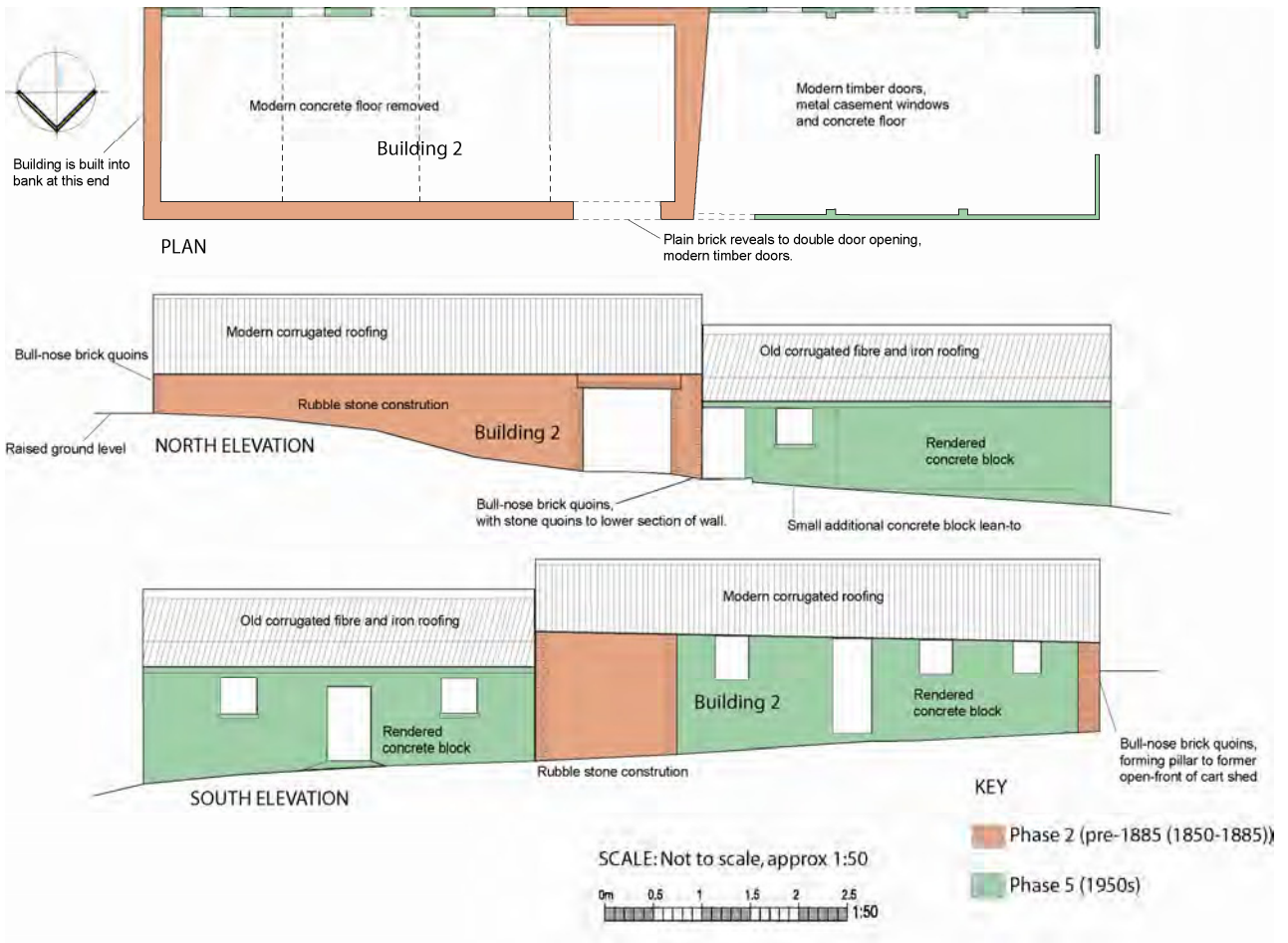


Figure 15: Phased drawing of the north and south elevations of the threshing barn (B1) and additions (B1a & B1b).

5.0 Bibliography and References

Published Sources:

Brunskill, R.W 1987: *Traditional Farm Buildings of Britain*. London.

English Heritage 2006: *Understanding Historic Buildings, a Guide to Good Recording Practice*.

Institute of Field Archaeologists 1994 (Revised 2001 & 2008): *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Desk-based Assessment*.

Institute of Field Archaeologists 1996 (Revised 2001 & 2008): *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Investigation and Recording of Standing Buildings or Structures*.

Unpublished Sources:

Cornwall Record Office:

Morwenstow Tithe Map 1842

Tithe Map Apportionment 1842

Online Sources:

Promap Website:

Ordnance Survey County Series Published 1885 1:2500

Ordnance Survey Published 1906 1:2500

Heritage Gateway Website:

Cornwall and Scilly Historic Environment Record (HER)

HER number: 170774 Post-med engine house

HER number: 56689 Undated enclosure

HER number: 56694 Bronze Age Barrow

HER number: 56690 Post-med spoil heap

HER number: 2944.03 Medieval settlement

Census Online Website:

Cornwall Online Census Project 1841-1881 by hundreds

Cornwall Online Parish Clerks Project:

http://www.cornwall-opc.org/Par_new/l_m/morwenstow.php

Cornwall Historic Landscape Characterisation Website:

http://www.cornwall.gov.uk/images/HLC_areas.gif

Appendix 1

WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION FOR HISTORICAL BUILDING RECORDING OF A BARN AT HIGH MEADOWS, GOOSEHAM, CORNWALL.

Location: Barns at High Meadows, Brownspitt Farm, Gooseham EX23 9PH
Parish: Morwenstow
County: Cornwall
NGR:
Planning Application No: 2008/01923
Proposal: Conversion of disused barns into two residential dwellings
WSI ref: SWARCHBG11
Date: 19.05.2011

1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This document forms a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) which has been produced by South West Archaeology (SWARCH) at the request of Stephen Massingale (the Client), and sets out the methodology for historic building recording of barns at High Meadows, Gooseham, Bude, Cornwall and for related off site analysis and reporting. The WSI and the schedule of work it proposes was devised in consultation with the Cornwall County Council Historic Environment Service Historic Environment Planning Advice Officer, Phil Copleston (HEPAO).
- 1.2 In accordance with PPS5 *Planning Policy Statement 5: Planning for the Historic Environment* (2010), and the Local Development Framework Policy on archaeology, consent has been granted, conditional upon a programme of archaeological work being undertaken. This condition (number 6) requires that:
'No development shall take place within the site until the applicant has secured and implemented a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation to be submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority in consultation with the County Archaeologist'.
- 1.3 The programme of work to be carried out by SWARCH and covered by this WSI consists of:
- 1.3.1 Desk-based research to place the building in context;
 - 1.3.1 Undertaking a photographic survey and description of the extant building;
 - 1.3.2 Related analysis and reporting.

2.0 METHOD

- 2.1 The IfA's Standards and Guidance will be used throughout the execution of the project.
- 2.2 A desktop assessment of the known history and archaeology of the site will be undertaken to place the findings in context. This will collate cartographic and documentary information held in the Cornwall and Scilly Historic Environment record (HER), the Cornwall Records Office at Truro and the Cornwall Centre at Redruth as appropriate.
- 2.3 The historic building recording will conform to Level 2 of recording levels as set in *Understanding Historic Buildings: A guide to good recording practice - English Heritage 2006* (available on-line at the English Heritage website) and described in outline below:
*This is a **descriptive record**, made in circumstances similar to those of Level 1 but when more information is needed. It may be made of a building which is judged not to require any fuller record, or it may serve to gather data for a wider project. Both the exterior and the interior will be viewed, described and photographed. The record will present conclusions regarding the building's development and use, but will not discuss in detail the evidence on which these conclusions are based. A plan and sometimes other drawings may be made but the drawn record will normally not be comprehensive and may be tailored to the scope of a wider project.*
Consideration will be given to the site layout and organisation, function, the materials and method of construction, fenestration, internal arrangements, original fixtures and fittings, subsequent fixtures and fittings, evidence of use and status and the date/period of initial build and subsequent alterations
- 2.4 The Client will provide SWARCH with details of the location of proposed works within the building area, and of the proposed construction programme.
- 2.5 Health and Safety requirements will be observed at all times by any archaeological staff working on site, particularly when working with machinery. As a minimum: high-visibility jackets, safety helmets and protective footwear will be worn.
- 2.5.1 Appropriate PPE will be employed at all times.
 - 2.5.2 The site archaeologist will undertake any site safety induction course provided by the client.
- 2.6 If significant detail is discovered, all works will cease and a meeting convened with the client and the HEPAO to discuss the most appropriate way forward.
- 2.7 SWARCH will agree monitoring arrangements with the HEPAO who will be informed of the start of the fieldwork, will be regularly informed of progress and will monitor the project throughout, and may wish to inspect the works in progress.

3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL RECORDING

- This will be based on IfA guidelines and those advised by the HEPAO and will consist of:
- 3.1 A photographic record consisting of black and white prints, supplemented by digital photography, will be compiled. The black and white prints and negatives of archive quality will comprise the primary archive. All photographs, both general and specific, will include scale and, where appropriate, a north arrow. A full

- photographic concordance will accompany this archive which will contain a description of each photograph, including structure, direction of shot, scale size, date and photographer identification.
- 3.2 The photographic record will be supplemented if necessary by annotated drawn records where available. Any variation of the above shall be agreed in consultation with the HEPAO.
- 4.0 ARCHIVE AND REPORT**
- 4.1 An ordered and integrated site archive will be prepared in accordance with Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE) English Heritage 2006 upon completion of the entire project. The documentary archive will be produced to the relevant archive standards. This will include relevant correspondence together with field drawings, notes and photographic records and a copy of the project report. The documentary archive will be deposited with the Cornwall Records Office.
- 4.2 A summary of the contents of the archive shall be supplied to the HEPAO.
- 4.3 An illustrated summary report will be produced within six months of the completion of fieldwork, specialist reports allowing, and submitted to the HEPAO, and the Client.
- 4.4 A report will be produced. This will include the following elements:
- 4.4.1 A report number;
 - 4.4.2 A location plan, an overall site plan, a plan of the buildings, with an indication of where photographs have been taken, with appropriate annotation;
 - 4.4.3 One or more representative images (as appropriate) with appropriate annotation;
 - 4.4.4 A concise non-technical summary of results of the project;
 - 4.4.5 A brief history of the site.
 - 4.4.6 A description of the building and any significant historical elements;
 - 4.4.7 A copy of this WSI.
- 4.5 The HEPAO will receive the report within six months of completion of fieldwork, dependant on the provision of specialist reports, radiocarbon dating results etc., the production of which may exceed this period. If a substantial delay is anticipated then an interim report will be produced. The report will be supplied to the HEPAO on the understanding that one of the hard copies will be deposited for public reference in the HER. In addition to the hard copies of the report, one copy will be provided to the HES in digital Adobe Acrobat PDF format, on the understanding that it may in future be made available to researchers via a web-based version of the HER.
- 4.6 A copy of the report will be supplied to the National Monuments Record (NMR) in Swindon.
- 4.7 A copy of the report detailing the results of these investigations will be submitted to the OASIS (*Online Access to the Index of archaeological investigationS*) database under reference number southwes1-101339.
- 4.8 Should they merit it; the results of these investigations will be published in an appropriate academic journal. If required, after the production of a summary report, a programme and timetable for this will be submitted to the HEPAO and the Client for approval.
- 5.0 PERSONNEL**
- 5.1 The project will be managed by Colin Humphreys, the building recording will be undertaken by Emily Wapshott. Where necessary, appropriate specialist advice will be sought (see list of consultant specialists in Appendix 2 below).
- Deb Laing-Trengove South West Archaeology Ltd. The Old Dairy, Hacche Lane Business Park,
Pathfields Business Park, South Molton, Devon EX36 3LH Telephone: 01769 573555; email:
deblt@swarch.net

List of specialists

Building recording

Richard Parker;
11 Toronto Road, St James, Exeter. EX4 6LE; Tel: 07763 248241

Conservation

Richard and Helena Jaeschke; 2 Bydown Cottages, Swimbridge, Barnstaple EX32 0QD; Tel: 01271 830891

Curatorial

Alison Mills; The Museum of Barnstaple and North Devon, The Square, Barnstaple, North Devon; EX32 8LN;
Tel: 01271 346747

Thomas Cadbury; Curator of Antiquities, Royal Albert Memorial Museum, Bradninch Offices, Bradninch Place, Gandy Street, Exeter EX4 3LS; Tel: 01392 665356

Fiona Pitt; Plymouth City Museum, Drake Circus, Plymouth, PL4 8AJ; Tel: 01752 204766

Geophysical Survey

Substrata; Tel: 07788 627822

GSB Prospection Ltd.

Cowburn Farm, Market Street, Thornton, Bradford, West Yorkshire, BD13 3HW; Tel: 01274 835016

gsb@gsbprospection.com

Human Bones

Louise Lou; Head of Heritage Burial Services, Oxford Archaeology, Janus House, Osney Mead, Oxford, OX2 OES; Tel: 01865 263 800

Lithics

Martin Tingle; Higher Brownston, Brownston, Modbury, Devon, PL21 OSQ; Tel: 01548 821038

Metallurgy

Sarah Paynter; Centre for Archaeology, Fort Cumberland, Fort Cumberland Road, Eastney, Portsmouth PO4 9LD; Tel: 02392 856700; sarah.paynter@english-heritage.org.

Palaeoenvironmental/Organic

Vanessa Straker; English Heritage SW, 29 Queen Square, Bristol BS1 4ND; Tel: 0117 9287961

vanessa.straker@english-heritage.org.uk

Dana Challinor (wood identification); Tel: 01869 810150

Julie Jones (plant macro-fossils); juliedjones@blueyonder.co.uk

Heather Tinsley (pollen analysis); heathertinsley@aol.com

Ralph Fyffe (pollen analysis) University of Plymouth

Pottery

John Allen; Exeter Archaeology, Custom House, The Quay, Exeter, EX2 4AN; Tel: 01392 665918

Henrietta Quinnell; 39 Polsloe Road, Exeter EX1 2DN; Tel: 01392 433214

Timber Conservation

Liz Goodman; Specialist Services, Conservation Museum of London, 150 London Wall, London EC2Y 5HN

Tel: 0207 8145646; lgoodman@museumoflondon.org.uk

Appendix 2

Historic Environment Record for Brownsplit Farm

HER Number: 39

Name: BROWNSPIT - Medieval settlement
Summary: The settlements of Brownsplit and Lower Brownsplit are first recorded in 1520.
Grid Reference: SS 2346 1558
Parish: Morwenstow, North Cornwall, Cornwall
Map: [Show location on GoogleMaps](#)

Protected Status: None recorded

Other Statuses/Codes: none recorded

Monument Types: SETTLEMENT (First mentioned Medieval - 1066 AD to 1539 AD)

Full description

The settlements of Brownsplit and Lower Brownsplit are first recorded in 1520. The name is English and contains a first element of uncertain meaning plus 'pit or hollow' (b2). The settlement of Brownsplit is recorded on the OS map of 1888 (b1), and is still occupied.

Sources / Further Reading

- [1] SCO4049 - Cartographic materials: Ordnance Survey. 1880s. 1st Edition 6 Inch Map.
- [2] SCO3402 - Bibliographic reference: Gover, JEB. 1948. Place-Names of Cornwall. 22

Associated Finds: none recorded

Associated Events: none recorded

Related records: none recorded

Appendix 3

List of Jpegs on CD to the rear of the Report

1. The north end of the east elevation of the threshing barn and granary, viewed from the east.
2. The east elevation of the threshing barn and granary, from the north-east.
3. The timber engine house, from the north.
4. The north elevation of the granary, from the north-west.
5. The west elevation of the threshing barn and granary, from the north-west.
6. The ivy covered threshing doors and canopy in the west elevation of the threshing barn, from the west.
7. The west elevation of threshing barn, from the south-west.
8. The south elevation of the threshing barn, with blocked doorway, from the south.
9. The south elevation of the engine house, from the south-west.
10. The green lane from the parish road to the cart-shed/linhay, from the west.
11. The cart-shed/linhay and cattle byre, from the north-west.
12. The north elevation of the cart-shed/linhay, from the north.
13. The north and east elevations of the cart-shed/linhay, from the north-east.
14. Both ranges of buildings, from the north-east.
15. The south elevation of the cattle byre and cart-shed/linhay, from the west.
16. The west end of the cart-shed/linhay, from the south.
17. The south and east elevations of the cart-shed/linhay, from the south-east.
18. Interior east wall of the cart-shed/linhay, from the west.
19. The south elevation of the cattle byre, from the south-east.
20. The west elevation of the cattle byre, from the south-west.
21. The north elevation of the cattle byre, from the north-east.
22. The north elevation of the cart-shed/linhay, from the north.
23. The north and east elevations of the cart-shed/linhay, from the north-east.
24. The south elevation of the engine house, from the south.
25. The south elevation of the threshing barn, from the south.
26. The blocked doorway in the south elevation of the threshing barn, from the south.
27. The join between the threshing barn and the engine house, from the south.
28. As above, close-up view.
29. The open-front of the engine house, from the north.
30. As above.
31. The corrugated sheeting obscuring the east wall of the threshing barn, from the north.
32. The engine house interior, including roof trusses, from the north-west.
33. As above.
34. The east elevation of the granary, from the east.
35. As above.
36. The granary steps, from the east.
37. As above, from the north.
38. The doorway in the east elevation of the threshing barn, from the east.
39. The granary exterior door, from the east.
40. The threshing floor, from the doorway in the east elevation, from the east.
41. Interior view of the threshing doors, from the east.
42. The interior granary door, from the south-east.
43. Interior west elevation of the threshing barn and the loading door, from the north-east.
44. Cut away section of the threshing floor, or former straw bay, from the north.
45. The south wall of the threshing barn with interior view of the blocked doorway, from the north.
46. The roof of the threshing barn, from the north-east.
47. The timber roof structure, A-frame trusses, with bolted joints.
48. The carpenters mark on the tie-beam on the roof truss, from below.
49. The apex of the truss, from below.
50. The lap joint on the roof truss, from below.
51. Interior north wall of the threshing barn, from the south.
52. Interior south wall of the threshing barn, from the north.
53. The opening for the drive shaft in the east wall of the threshing barn, from the north-west.
54. Detailed view of the threshing doors, from the east.
55. The corner of the interior west and north walls of the threshing barn, from the south-east.
56. The interior timber granary steps, from the south.
57. Interior view of the first floor of the granary, from the south-east.
58. The granary roof, from the interior, from below.
59. The eastern grain box, within the granary, from the south-east.
60. The western grain box, from the east.
61. The interior door between the granary and the threshing barn, from the east.
62. The north elevation of the granary, from the north.

63. Quoins at the north-west corner of the granary, from the west.
64. As above.
65. As above.
66. The plain brick lintel above the lower opening in the north elevation of the granary, from north-west.
67. The doorway in the west elevation of the granary, from the north-west.
68. Interior lintel of the door in the west elevation of the granary, from the east.
69. As above.
70. Interior of the east and north walls of the ground floor store below the granary, from the west.
71. As above, east and south walls, from the west.
72. Quoins to the north end of the threshing barn, from the north-west.
73. View through the threshing doors to the east, from the west.
74. The south end of the west elevation of the threshing barn, from the west.
75. The loading door in the west elevation of the threshing barn, from the west.
76. As above.
77. Quoins on the south-west corner of the threshing barn, from the south-west.
78. The join between the threshing barn and the granary on the eastern elevations, from the east.



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