

**THE WOOLPACK INN
RISBOROUGH ROAD
STOKE MANDEVILLE
BUCKINGHAMSHIRE**

**HISTORIC BUILDING RECORDING &
ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF**

For

JTS PARTNERSHIP LLP

on behalf of

MITCHELLS AND BUTLERS RETAIL

CA PROJECT: 2870
CA REPORT: 09108


JANUARY 2010



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SUMMARY

Site Name:	The Woolpack Inn
Location:	Risborough Road, Stoke Mandeville, Buckinghamshire
NGR:	SP 8355 1025
Type:	Historic Building Recording and Watching Brief
Date:	May - July 2009 (HBR) and July-Sept 09 (WB)
Planning Reference:	09/01081/APP and 09/0182/ALB
Location of Archive:	To be deposited with Buckinghamshire County Museum

A fire in 2009 which badly damaged the Woolpack Inn, an L-shaped Grade II Listed Building described as a 17th century timber-framed structure with later additions and extensions, including significant internal alterations to the historic core. A programme of historic building recording was carried out prior to rebuilding, and an archaeological watching brief undertaken during construction works around the historic building core.

The fire destroyed one slope of the tiled section which covered one wing of the timber-framed core and caused the collapse of the entire roof structure and upper floor of the other wing which was thatched. Further demolition of these roof structures and the brick chimneys was necessary to make the building safe after the fire was extinguished. Nevertheless, the ground floor and elevations to eaves level and the central roof truss of the tiled structure survived to be recorded in detail and large elements of the timber structures of both it and the thatched section were recovered from the wreckage. This provided enough information to be gathered to inform both the understanding of the historic structures and to provide significant input into their restoration. The study of the building has confirmed a likely 17th-century date for the tiled range but has shown that the southern range is considerably earlier. The overwhelming majority of the timber work and all the older work was of elm and dating by dendrochronology was not therefore possible.

Archaeological monitoring of excavations for new foundations and floors revealed that the buildings had been erected on a laid platform of clay which sealed an old ditch or watercourse. With the exception of a clayey deposit under a rebuild of part of the historic south range, no evidence for floors earlier than the 18th or 19th century were seen. Two sherds of medieval pottery were found in make-up for these floors.

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 On 28 April 2009 the timber-framed, Grade II Listed Building, The Woolpack Inn, at Stoke Mandeville, Bucks (centred on NGR SP 8355 1025; Fig. 1) was badly damaged by fire, and the late 20th-century ranges on the east side of the historic core were gutted. The owners, Mitchells and Butlers Retail Ltd., wished to rebuild the public house and resume business. Peter Davenport, Senior Project Officer (Cotswold Archaeology (CA) Historic Buildings Specialist) visited the site on 11 May 2009 and assessed the damage and likely significance of the building. An indicative outline of archaeological recording was proposed which it was believed was likely to be required. At the same time, the structures of the standing chimney stacks and some elements of the dormer windows were recorded digitally by CA Geomatics staff to ensure a record was made prior to any collapse or demolition as they were in a vulnerable and potentially dangerous condition. .
- 1.2 Subsequent discussion with Julia Foster, Conservation Officer for Aylesbury Vale District Council (AVDC), led to agreement that a programme of archaeological recording of the standing building would be needed so that the restoration could proceed on the basis of an appropriate understanding of the buildings historic significance and to inform any Listed Building Consent granted for the works. A *Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI)* for such a record was submitted to and approved by Buckinghamshire County Council Archaeology Service (BCCAS), archaeological advisors to Aylesbury Vale District Council (CA 2009a).
- 1.2 Subsequently works to provide new floors in the southern range and limited excavation for new foundations and services required below-ground archaeological recording in the southern range and at the rear of the northern range and in other areas near the historic building core. Following discussion on site of the scope and methodology for these works, a brief was prepared by BCCAS 2009 and a second WSI was submitted by CA to BCCAS and approved by them (CA 2009b).
- 1.4 The fieldwork also followed the *Standard and Guidance for the archaeological investigation and recording of standing buildings or structures* (Institute of Field Archaeologists 2008) and *Understanding Historic Buildings* (English Heritage 2006) and *Standard and Guidance for an archaeological watching brief* (Institute for Archaeologists 2008), the *Management of Archaeological Projects* (English Heritage

1991) and the *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)* (English Heritage 2006).

The site

- 1.5 The site is on level ground just above the 30m contour on the southern edge of the village of Stoke Mandeville, in the clay vale of Aylesbury just north-west of the Chilterns. Around the buildings of the pub are level car parking, patios and garen ground. The underlying geology is Upper Greensand and Gault clay, expressed on site as a mid-grey, sticky, clay subsoil with small chalk fragments at about 300-400mm below the surface.

Background

- 1.5 Little is known about this part of the village archaeologically, but there has been settlement in the parish since Domesday at least and the manor was held pre-Conquest by the See of Dorchester-on-Thames (later Lincoln).
- 1.6 The Woolpack buildings are set back from Risborough Road in a plot that has not changed in outline since 1798, at least (Enclosure Award map of that year). However, in that year the plot was held as two properties: a strip against the road, called “an allotment on the green” in the apportionment, and “cottage and orchard” including the present building, on the east. It appears that, in common with all the neighbouring properties on the Princes Risborough Road the Woolpack property included a plot enclosed from the broad green that previously edged it. The building was at the front of the rear property, in effect fronting on to the green. By 1882, the two plots are the same shape overall as in 1798, but divided differently internally (1882 OS 1:2500). Also in that year, ancillary buildings are shown on the east and south and on the street frontage. One of these can be identified on the enclosure map, near the southern boundary of the plot. The frontage building is marked as a smithy and we may suspect that the ancillary buildings are stables and coach houses as the house is, by this time, an inn. The rest of the plot is shown as gardens or orchards and there is a substantial pond on the southern edge of the property. The 1899 OS map shows no change, and the buildings are all still there in 1944. The ancillary buildings have gone by 1969 (OS 1:1250 1969).

- 1.7 Changes to the building are not documented prior to 1972, when a planning application was made to extend the rear “cellar” on the eastern side, remove the central staircase in the north range and reverse the stair in the south range. This was allied to the insertion of a corridor under a long dormer on the eastern side of the first floor of the north range. Prior to this, a saloon and bar space had been added to the eastern elevation, on map evidence, post-dating 1944. The extension to the north containing the lavatories is shown as single storey in 1972 and the layout is probably earlier 20th century, including a garage facing north. Later changes to the historic core were minimal and later alterations largely concentrated on the addition of new spaces to the rear and the alterations in the garage and lavatory block on the north.

Methodology

- 1.7 The record of the historic buildings was carried out within Level 3, as described in *Understanding Historic Buildings* (EH 2006). The survey comprised photographic survey, hand-measured survey drawings, survey by reflectorless EDM and written notes. Existing survey plans and elevations were checked for accuracy and used to provide a basic dimensional framework. Fieldwork was carried out from early May to July 2009.
- 1.8 The buildings were photographed in 35mm black and white, and colour slide film and in digital format. These films and copies of the digital images are included in the site archive.
- 1.9 During and after the fire, many of the timbers of the building had been pulled down, especially in the south range, to get the thatch away before it burnt completely, and to make the remains safe for further work. The drawings of the *in situ* structure were made after this process and only a photographic record was possible of those parts of the structure taken away for safety reasons before detailed recording was possible. However, all timbers were kept on site and these were identified, as far as possible, as to function and original position. Measured records were made of significant individual timbers and some re-assembly on the ground was also achieved, and sections were drawn in this state.
- 1.10 For ease of reference the historic core of the building, with which this report deals, is split into North and South ranges (Figure 4). The building is aligned close to a

north/south axis with its west side facing toward the road. The east is occasionally referred to as the rear, and the west as the front.

- 1.11 The watching brief followed the methodology set out within the WSI (CA 2009b). CA archaeologists first hand-cleaned two areas, within the western and central rooms of the South Range, following removal of previously extant floor surfaces. This hand-cleaning was undertaken to the surface of the uppermost archaeological deposits encountered. In addition CA staff hand-cleaned a series of section faces exposed around the edge of the western and central rooms of the South Range following removal of the floor levels. Detailed archaeological recording, by means of drawn sections (scale 1:20), plans (scale 1:50), annotated building plans, photographs (black and white and digital images) and written descriptions were then be made of all exposed sections within these two rooms. A series of foundation pits excavated for a new roof frame in the area of the eastern side of the North Range were recorded, and a CA Archaeologist observed and recorded all subsequent intrusive groundworks, other than minimal surface work, within the North and South Ranges or within 2m radius of their outer limits (Fig. 33).
- 1.12 The archive from the project is currently held by CA at their offices in Kemble and will be deposited with Buckinghamshire County Museum, along with finds (the latter subject to the agreement of the legal landowner). A summary of information from this project, set out within Appendix C, will be entered onto the OASIS online database of archaeological projects in Britain.

2. DESCRIPTION

Exterior

- 2.1 The historic core of the building before the fire was of an essentially reversed L-shaped plan (Fig. 4). The southern, shorter arm, runs east/west and the longer, north arm runs north/south. It will be shown later that the north range is a later addition to the South range. The description that follows is of the building generally and the main changes visible in the fabric and some deductions that can be made from them and from documentary evidence. The timber frames are described in more analytical detail in the subsequent section.

- 2.2 The south and west ground floor walls of the south range were of white-painted brick (Figs 3 and 14). The hard, sandy, red bricks were $8\frac{3}{4}$ " x $4\frac{1}{8}$ " x $2\frac{3}{8}$ " regularly finished but hand-made and frogless. They were laid in pale brown lime mortar which was tuck-pointed, a surprisingly elaborate technique to find. This may have been contemporary with a yellow-tan paint coat later covered by the white paint that was the most recent finish. The yellow tan paint and the tuck pointing was an attempt to imitate high quality yellow London stock brick in thin, white mortar bedding. This suggests a late 18th to early 19th century date.
- 2.3 The south range was roofed in thatch with a timber-framed half hipped gable at the west. At the east, the hipped gable ran down to a steep "catslide" (Figs 3 and 14). The low east wall that supported this roof formed a small room beyond the main thatched block and set back slightly from the south wall of the southern range. The west door jambs were in modern brick and this reflects the alterations to this opening made in 1972 (Fig.13). The west gable was timber-framed above the brickwork, and a small eyebrow dormer in the south roof slope lit the interior at the east end. The original wall plates to the south wall survived underpinned with soft wood wall plates resting on the brick wall tops (Figs 5 and 12).
- 2.4 A casement window under a segmental brick arch lit the ground floor at the west gable end (modern joinery) and a similar size window was fitted into the timber frame on the first floor between the two middle studs between the wallplate and collar. On the south front (which survived the fire but had to be demolished after a basic record to allow access to remove fire debris and collapsed structure) the brick wall was pierced by two doorways at the west end and a casement window to their east, all provided with segmentally-arched brick heads (Fig. 14). The western door was bricked-up with thin soft red bricks of the same size as the southern stack of the north range ($2\frac{1}{4}$ " x $8\frac{3}{4}$ " x $4\frac{1}{4}$ "). A small rectangular window with wooden lintel and cill occurred just west of the blocked door. A door with a lintel which it shared with the integral window east of it provided access to the room under the catslide. This was a replacement in 1972 of a wider, double-leaved door.
- 2.5 The low east elevation was hidden by modern additions, but appears to have been rebuilt in brick at least once. It is marked on the plans as period 3 brickwork, i.e. the late 18th or 19th-century under-building, but has been much altered in recent years.

- 2.6 The northern range formed the north/south, slightly longer arm of the L (Fig. 4). Little of its external form was visible as it was obscured by the southern range, the modern additions to its east and north and the lean-to along its western façade.
- 2.7 It was, nonetheless, of timber-framed construction, the upper panels of the east and west elevations and the gables filled with brick 2¼" thick set in a pale grey to white lime mortar (Fig. 15). The roof was covered in nibbed plain tiles and had two pitched-roof dormers on its western slope (Fig. 3).
- 2.8 At each gable end was a brick stack (Fig. 16). That at the south was of battered construction, the east, west and north sides tapering in from the full size of the fireplace, the south face being vertical and built against the north wall of the south range. The thickness of the bricks was comparable to those in the wall-panels, at 2¼" to 2½". Both had thick joints of up to ½" (Figs 6 and 17). The chimney stack of the south range was a later insertion and was built against the north wall (incidentally trapping it against the adjacent stack) and the upper part of the north range stack (Figs 5 and 17). A gap of about 150mm between the two stacks above the trapped wall was filled with brick, not bonded in to either stack.
- 2.9 The northern stack was parallel sided and of more regular and evenly laid brick work and seems to have been a rebuild. The part below the tie beam was probably original as the tie beam rested on an offset on it and its underside had no joints for vertical studs (Fig. 11). The bricks were of similar size to those in the south stack but more regular in shape.
- 2.10 The front of the north range had had a single storey lean-to added. Historic mapping suggests that this is of late 19th century date and the style of construction fits this or an early 20th century date (Fig. 16). It would have been required to make the inserted central staircase and the related circulation work, and this was very probably inserted during the later 19th century. The slate roof fits in with this dating. The sashes and casements are of even more recent date, almost certainly part of the late 20th century refurbishments. The structural timber in the lean-to is sawn softwood and the ceiling is now of plasterboard. These later works are probably to do with changes made after 1972 (see below).
- 2.11 The east wall was a simple timber frame, revealed by the fire, but no details other than the structure survived (Fig. 8). It will be described in more detail below.

Interior, south range – ground floor

- 2.12 Little of the interior survived the fire and subsequent clearance of debris and making safe.
- 2.13 The ground floor consisted of three rooms: the kitchen on the west end; the sitting room in the middle and the corridor, under the catslide, which functioned separately as part of the kitchen and serving area. In addition, a stair compartment had been inserted in the eastern side of the sitting room, accessed from it (Figs 4, 6 and 19).
- 2.14 The two western rooms were divided by an inserted brick wall which was almost all fireplace. It was contemporary with the construction of the fireplace and stack on the north wall of the sitting room to which it was connected by a wall flue and sloping duct. The fireplace in the western room had a segmentally-arched brick head similar to the windows of the external ground floor walls and most probably of the same date. It acted as a relieving arch over the lintel, presumably wood. This and the probably brick jambs were plastered to give the impression of a stone fireplace. A modern (late 19th/20th century) register grate fire back was still *in situ* in a tile blanking wall in the older, larger opening. The grate had been removed. Cast iron hatches, for cleaning and rodding the nearly horizontal flue from this fireplace to the main stack survive in the new chimney breasts in both rooms, but large elements of the original fittings have been removed. The internal faces of the walls were plastered.
- 2.15 The kitchen ceiling was carried on softwood joists set in pockets in the walls, running east/west. They date to the insertion of the cross wall/flue. The kitchen was reached by a door from the sitting room at the south end of the cross wall. Access to this part of the range was also once possible via the blocked door in the south wall. The bricks and mortar of this cross wall are the same as the under-built exterior wall of the south range and it is assumed they are contemporary.
- 2.16 The sitting room interior was completely removed by the time it was inspected and its form immediately before the fire, let alone earlier, was beyond reconstruction from field evidence. The plan prepared in 2005 shows the basic layout and shows the first floor supported on an *ad hoc* radial arrangement of beams dependent on a central floor post. This must, in any case, postdate the insertion of the cross wall and the stair case enclosure, as two of the beams are supported by them. Many

short sawn softwood joists, with evidence of lath and plaster, were seen *ex situ* and these appear to have come from this ceiling.

- 2.17 The stair enclosure is marked as trapezoidal on the most recent plans, narrowing to the north, and this is the shape found on site during the recent work, both in the brick floor and in the remnants of the single-thickness brick wall of the enclosure. The stair enclosure was shown as more nearly rectangular in 1972 when it was reversed (to rise from the south). However, on the ground it is obvious that the current stair enclosure is much older than 1972 and these variations are the result of survey simplifications. The angled shape seems to have been intended to provide enough space by the stack for access into the lobby under the stair. Before 1972 the stair rose from north to south and the northern end of the same enclosure. There was a door into the lobby from the north range and the stair rose from it with its own door at the foot. The space in the enclosure south of the stair was part of the rear cellar under the catslide (Fig. 13). The present two-part structure of this wall reflects this, with the part against the stair of a different design from the southern section, which is clearly more recent (Fig. 20). The earlier stair probably dates from the rearrangement of the south range interior and brick walling; giving access to the first floor of the south range from both parts of the building. The floor of the area of the stair well and the space to the south was of brick and survived the later changes.
- 2.18 Access from the north range was also provided from the western lean-to. A door, blocked until this year (and blocked by 1972, but in concrete blockwork, so 20th century) led into the kitchen, cut through the north wall of the south range. When the blocking was removed, so was some of the surrounding brickwork. This proved to be a single skin brick wall with small scantling timber framing (Fig. 6) The bricks were 2¼" x 4" x 8½", the same size and type as filled in the panels of the north range. A vertical stud was recorded in the wall 110mm x 120mm (4½" x 4⅞") and the minor horizontal timbers were 90mm x 120mm (3⅓" x 4⅞"). The vertical timber seemed to rise from a mid rail 100mm x 120mm (4" x 4⅞") and there was no sign of it below this rail. The west brick jamb had been doubled into an attached pier, integral with the rest of the wall, but the east was single thickness (Fig.4). The wall had footings of two courses of bricks laid header fashion forming a foundation twice as wide as the rest of the wall. It was cut into the brown clay layer (109) which also underlay the north/south cross wall in the south range (Fig. 6).

- 2.19 The bricks were smaller and the foundation was less deep than the western and southern brick walls of the south range, and was earlier than they. The junction of the later wall with the older is apparent externally in the north face of the wall (Fig. 24). The wall continued eastwards and was butted by the inserted chimney/kitchen cross wall on the south and by the curved brick wall in the south-east corner of the lean-to on the north (Fig. 21). The wall had clearly under-built or partly incorporated the top part of the northern wall post of Truss A (see below), which had been sawn off at 1.75m above the present floor level. It may originally have been sawn off 0.35m lower as the area of wall between these two levels looked as if it had been repaired later after more timber had rotted (Fig. 22).
- 2.20 This wall looks contemporary with the building of the north range and is certainly earlier than the under-building of the south range. It seems likely that this wall was rebuilt when the north range was added. It may be integral with the north range south stack but this cannot be shown directly. The position of the doorway implies either that it led to the exterior, or that there was some kind of pentise or lean-to here, a predecessor of the present one, as it does not open into the main body of the northern range.
- 2.21 East of the cross-wall was the massive fireplace complex and stack. The sitting room fireplace has had all historical detail removed except for the cleaning hatch on the west, but it is very similar in style and fabric to the under-building of the timber frame of the rest of the southern range, and very probably contemporary with that.

Interior, north range – ground floor

- 2.22 The interior of the north range is all one space on the ground floor (Fig. 4). The lean-to and, prior to the fire, the ranges to the east, were all thrown into one by the removal of walls and partitions, with the exception of the lobby inside the central front door.
- 2.23 The plan made in 1972 (Fig. 13) shows the southern end of the lean-to as already part of the public bar in the body of the north range and the door to the kitchen (marked Sitting Room in the 1972 plan) in the south range blocked, whereas the northern end of the lean-to is the hall, including the later lobby, from which open the front door, the doors to the WC's and to the saloon bar. Between the saloon bar and public bar is the single flight of stairs to the first floor. The saloon bar extends into

- an added room to the east, and to provide access to this, the timber posts of the ground floor timber-framed wall at this end of the east side, except for the north-east corner post, have been removed.
- 2.24 The serving bar is also west of the historic core, and again the ground floor timber-framed wall has been removed to give access to the bar itself, except for those existing by the time of the fire, plus one more (Figs 4 and 12).
- 2.25 These arrangements at the east side remained more or less unchanged until the fire, although opened out to the new rooms to the east added in the following decades.
- 2.26 The staircase, which was certainly an insertion, probably of the later 19th century, was also removed and the space thrown into the public bar. The earlier door to the public bar from the lobby was turned into an internal window and the fireplace in the saloon bar (the northern end) seems to have been blocked in. It was removed completely during one of the later refurbishments, leaving as visible now, merely the chimney breast.
- 2.27 The 1972 plan shows the southern fireplace in its present form (Fig. 13), but it may have been at this time, if not earlier, that the jambs of the fireplace opening and some of the brick work above them at the east and west ends above the timber lintel were rebuilt in modern yellow stock brick laid in cement mortar (Fig. 23). The exterior east wall of the stack at ground floor level was also rebuilt/refaced in red brick commons, as it was to be plastered and panelled. The brickwork inside the stack on the east, south and west sides remained in its earlier form.
- 2.28 It is clear here that the central part of the south side of this fireplace originally formed a recess which has been infilled. On the east there is evidence that the recess was infilled with brick ovens and other heated spaces such as proving cupboards. Only fragments of these can be seen. The simplest hypothesis is that they were removed when the new stack was added to its south side.
- 2.29 The first floor was originally supported by a lateral beam running centrally east to west, over which passed a two-part longitudinal beam, similarly central, jointed over the cross beam. Ceiling joists ran from the girding beam in the east and west walls to the longitudinal beam (Figs 6 and 9). The longitudinal beam had the remains of a

small plain chamfer with a straight cut stop over the southern fireplace. It was too badly damaged to see whether this chamfer and stop were repeated at the northern end. This was not burning but rot and later cutting back. The straight-stopped chamfer could date to anytime in the 16th and 17th centuries.

- 2.30 The cross beam had been truncated and only the eastern half remained. The two timber posts that support the truncated cross beam were certainly necessary after the 1972 alterations. They, and a third, placed against the original full height wall post forming the southern front door jamb, may, however be earlier as they would be necessary to support a timber beam that replaced the removed southern half of the cross beam at a higher level when the stair was inserted. As timber supports they are certainly distinct and probably earlier than the steel stanchions that support further steel on the north side of the ex-staircase enclosure, dating from 1972 (Fig. 9). The cross beam has had shallow arches cut into its soffit to increase headroom. One of these matches the position of the eastern door between the public and saloon bars before 1972. The other may have been cut to match as circulation under it was made possible in 1972 (Figs 9 and 13).
- 2.31 The ceiling was plastered over in traditional style in lath and lime plaster, except for the south-west quarter, where the beams had been exposed and a new plasterboard ceiling fitted between them at a higher level. This exposure showed that the western end of the beams had rotted and been supported by feathered helper joists bolted alongside (Fig. 9). Another, much older, helper beam had been inserted west of the longitudinal beam in the north-east quarter. It had a side-halved scarf joint. The joists here were badly damaged by fire, but all of those that survived (four of a probable six) had a face-halved scarf over the beam, presumably indicating a repair after the east ends of those joists had also rotted.
- 2.32 Where the bar space opened out into the lean-to, it was presumed that the joist ends and the first floor studs (and the brick nogging) on the west side were supported by the girding beams, as on the east side, or by a replacement beam or girder. However, the removal of part of the ceiling indicated that the beams had been replaced only by stout planks nailed together to form an L-section timber. The joists, were simply fixed to this plank by a handful of nails and the studs and brick work rested on it. A sort of truss of angled timbers was added to the face of the south end of this wall (behind the lean-to roof) to which the first-floor studs were nailed, taking

the stud load from the plank at this end (but not the joists or the bricks, and the latter are falling into the spaces between the joists).

Interior – first floor

- 2.33 Nothing was left *in situ* of the first floor of the south range after the fire, except for a fragment of the northern foot of the western roof truss (Truss A, Fig. 25). Before clearance this showed the position of a door cut through the tie beam to give access to the bedroom at this end (Fig. 7). The doorway predated 1972, but the corridor it opened from was inserted in that year. The upper floor was ceiled in plaster up into the roof as an attic room and what appear to have been the ceiling joists were seen *ex situ*. They had clearly been “lath-and-plastered” on their undersides but the upper sides were extremely waney and irregular. They were softwood and presumably date from the late 18th or early 19th century refurbishment of the south range.
- 2.34 In the north range, the gables had survived the fire but had to be removed along with the upper part of the stack for safety reasons. Only the east and west walls, much of the same level at the north end and a large portion of the central partitions survived when recording was undertaken (Fig. 27). The south gable truss, which was built against the north side of the south stack complex, had been entirely removed, as had the northern gable.
- 2.35 The existing plan was of two rooms either side of a bathroom and washbasin recesses on the site of the former stair enclosure (Fig. 5). A passage along the east side under a long flat-roofed dormer connected these rooms to the 1972 stair in the south range. The internal finish was designed to show the timbers, painted black with white painted panels. The apparent girding beam along the floor on the west and north was merely a thick skirting board added to complete the effect of a beam (on left in Fig.26).
- 2.36 The north stack had served a fireplace in the upper room but this was removed and cut back in 1972. Plaster hid any sign of its former existence (Fig. 26). There was clearly never a fireplace in the southern room. The southern room had completely new floorboards, dating from 1972 or later. The northern room, in contrast, had wide elm boards, typically 12” (300mm) wide but ranging from 10” (250mm) to 14” (355mm). These may well be the original 17th century planks, and have largely survived the fire intact (Fig. 26). The planking used in the stud and clapboard wall

against the stair in the south range is similar and may have been recycled from the southern room in 1972, or earlier.

- 2.37 The bathroom and wash basin recesses occupy the stair enclosure (Fig. 5), and the floor here clearly postdates the stairs' removal. Extra studding in the main truss cross wall, however, clearly added as shown by the crude jointing and nails, is more likely to date from the insertion of the stair which would have been the occasion for the addition of the northern wall of the enclosure. The door into the stair from each room (now framing the recesses) was obviously an addition of that period (Fig. 10). The southern one cuts through the tie beam, whose removal at this end was completed by the insertion of the passage in 1972. There is no sign of another access between the two rooms, and unless there was a door in the same place, implying the destruction of the structural *raison d'être* of the truss as it was built, communication between them must have been via a crawl hatch at best.
- 2.38 The rooms were lit by dormer windows in the west roof slope. These were probably of late 19th or early 20th century date from their style and the soft wood used in their construction. The common rafters in the roof were also softwood (burning much more completely than the elm principals) and are likely of the same date as the dormers. A recess in the wall plate under each window, but considerably wider than the present dormers, suggests the former presence of wider and probably lower dormers, perhaps eyebrow types, under an original thatch.

3. THE TIMBER FRAME

The South Range

- 3.1 The timber frame of the south range had been much altered over the years. It can be reconstructed from site evidence to have been a central single-bay post and truss design with hipped half bays at each end, although the eastern end continued into a catslide. Under-building of the ground floor in brick and later alterations, and finally the fire, left little *in situ*. Only one post survived in place to ground level, the northern wall post of the eastern truss, Truss B (Figs 4, 8 and 19). This had survived up to the level of the wall plate of the north range but had been sawn off at its upper end during the removal of the southern end of that wallplate. Fig 19 shows that the jowling had been cut away earlier. This survived in the northern wall post of the eastern truss, Truss A, which had lost its lower portion at an early stage (Figs 7

and 25). Between these two posts large portions of the upper level of the north wall frame of the southern range survived, trapped between the two phases of stack construction (Figs. 5, 6 and 18). This had a wall plate, warped upwards, a girding beam at first floor level and panels of wattle and plaster infill. The east end of this wall was sawn off to provide access from the 1972 north range corridor and the stair head into the south range corridor. The west end was badly rotted, having been hidden in a dead space since well before 1972, but enough survived to show that it must have been connected to the wall post of Truss A.

- 3.2 Truss A was the most complete and was seen partially *in situ* after the fire. It had broken and fallen eastwards and large elements were seen lying just as they had fallen on the debris infilling the south range. The timbers were salvaged before further recording and re-assembled on the ground (Fig. 7). None of the timbers were sawn, but were all axe-finished. They took the form of a collar and tie beam truss with clasped purlins. There were no queen or crown posts, but three studs linked the collar and tie beam. Only the southern principal rafter survived as far as the collar and a single empty mortise on the east face, half way between the tie beam and the collar, suggested a wind brace. Two *ex situ* lengths of purlin were identified, probably from the south side of the roof. They were probably replacements as they were joined by a simple nailed splayed scarf, the opposite end of one was finished with a face halving, and no wind brace jointing was visible. No nails were used in the original structure. The principal was trenched for the purlin, but the purlin was complete.
- 3.3 Drilled holes in the underside of the collar and top and bottom of the tie beam indicate the position of round wood wattle staves. This is different from the surviving wattle in the north wall, woven around slender riven planks, and is probably secondary. The joints were all pegged mortise and tenon type. The tie beam had been cut through to allow the insertion of a door into the west bedroom and a modern softwood doorframe was the only link between the two sections. Secondary pegged mortises were noted in the underside of the tie beam, one interfering with the mortise for the southern arch brace.
- 3.4 The tie beam rested on the wall plate and jowled wall post in normal assembly and was jointed to the wall plate by a halved lap dovetail. The wallplate was mortised to a tenoned rebate in the top of the wall post and held between it and the tie beam by a tenon pegged into a mortise on the underside of the tie beam. Mortises in the

underside of the tie beam and in the north wall post indicated that the tie beams had been braced to the wall posts. This is an absolutely standard wall head joint in the medieval tradition (Fig. 7).

3.5 Although the wall posts on the south side had vanished, the wall plates were largely *in situ* with softwood wall plates between them and the new under-built brickwork. These were seen briefly in place but then identified from store and recorded (Fig. 12). They were relatively slight scantling and three sections were identified accounting for three-quarters of the length of the south wall. These had pegged mortises in the underside for wall studs at 0.9m centres, and in one case 0.8m. Five were seen in all, one with a short timber still in place, which had for some reason been bricked into the upper part of the wall. One length had a side-halved scarf joint, but with (presumably secondary) peg holes in the face. One section, seen *in situ* and recorded on the ground had the jointing for the truss tie beam and wall post.

3.6 Truss B was represented by the *in situ* wall post and a tie beam identified from the store. This, at first, appeared to be cranked but, in fact, the crank was much too close to what can be identified as the southern end and is simply warping or use of a bent timber. This end has a mortise for the brace to the wall post. The other end was sawn away an estimated 1.14m from the north end. This can only have been to give access to the roof space over the catslide. No room as such existed here and no door is shown in plans from 1972, but the removal of the facing jowl from the top of the wallpost suggests some access requirement here. A steel stanchion was attached to the south end of the tie beam and this had supported a RSJ which was inserted in 1972 as a replacement purlin (Figs 5 and 8). The wavy upper edge of the tie beam has had a flat cut into it next to the sawn-off end as if for an opening. This may have been an earlier version of the access to the catslide roof space. A complete ledged hatch door was recovered from the upper floor wreckage but its exact position was uncertain (Fig. 28). It was hinged to a stud and could have sat in the flat area on the beam which had one mortise just to one side. Again, there are secondary pegged mortises for wall studs in the undersurface of the tie beam. These align with the timber and mortises in the inserted cross beam described below. Further steel work was noted bolted to an isolated stud. The steel had one end bent from the horizontal at the same angle as the catslide so was presumably a brace in that part of the roof.

- 3.7 The west gable was destroyed in the blaze but was presumably linked to the main trusses via the clasped purlins (hidden under thatch in external views pre-fire, e.g. Fig. 3) and the wall plates. A wall plate was seen during the preliminary site visit to be linked to the south wall plates by an iron angle bracket with large forged nails, but this was the under wall plate inserted during the under-building. The original wall plate was not seen but would presumably have shown the mortises for the rest of the timber frame of the west end. The latter was replaced by the brick under-building.
- 3.8 The elements recovered in and out of place in the south range make it clear that it was a single bay truss frame, with half bays each end (actually 0.57 and 0.44 of the central bay). The west bay was half hipped and the east bay under a catslide to a low east wall. The side walls were probably three panels high to judge from the surviving panels in the north wall. A mortise in the east and possibly west side (obscured) of the north-east wall post is at the right height for such a rail. The arch braces, tie beams and the inferred wind braces imply that the first floor was a secondary insertion.
- 3.9 There is evidence for the secondary insertion of walling in the trusses (Fig. 8). In Truss B a beam was inserted across the truss at about 1.52 metres above the stone floor (see below for this) or about half way up to the tie beam, with two major vertical studs passing through from ground level to tie beam (inferred from pegged mortises) and a stud from this beam up to the tie beam (fragment of stud in place). The beam was mortised into the wall post at the north end but was fitted to the now-vanished south wall post with a nailed iron angle bracket, as clearly the beam could not be mortised in without removing the post (Fig. 29). The jointing visible here is a relic of an earlier use and suggests that the cross beam was originally a long collar from a wide building. Tiny surviving areas of brick work suggest at the panel infill was in brick and that this was likely to be broadly contemporary with the north range. The arrangement of the studs confirms that the opening into the east bay under the catslide shown on the 1972 plan dated to this phase of work, but was always very low. In Truss A there are two clear and one possible mortises on the underside of the tie beam, the southernmost of which could only have held a stud after the arch brace was removed. Near the centre, there were no drilled holes for the wattle staves, instead a simple groove to snap the staves into had been cut. The use of wattle and daub here may indicate that the two trusses were filled in at different dates.

- 3.10 This inserted wall was given a veneer of added decorative timber on its east face, presumably in the 20th century. The inserted cross beam was covered by a deep but thin plank nailed to the older timber and a vertical stud was added below. The nails were large cut nails (Figs 8 and 29).

The North Range

- 3.11 The main observation on this frame was that it was an addition to the south range. The east wall plate was hooked over the north wall plate of the south range (Figs 5 and 25), and the western one was jointed on to the top of the south eastern wall post of the earlier range (the details were lost when the top of this post was sawn off during safety-related demolition, but see Fig. 19). The mid rail on the east face was also jointed into the older wall post. The brick south stack, which is part of this later build was built against the north side of the south range north wall. In fact, there was no south wall proper of the north range, only the south range itself.
- 3.12 In broad terms, the frame was similar to the south range, but was clearly an evolution, not least in the inclusion of an upper floor from the beginning and no arch bracing. All the timbers were sawn, of generally smaller scantling and with simplified, but still traditional, pegged mortise and tenon joints. Again, all the original timber was elm. There was no sign of holes or slots in the frame for wattle and plaster and the bricks (2¼" x 8¾" x 4¼" 57mm x 222mm x 108mm) in pale beige to almost white lime mortar bedding seem to be the original or early panel infilling.
- 3.13 The frame was much damaged, with large elements removed at ground floor level, but a combination of the surviving timbers and joint evidence allows a clear reconstruction of the original design.
- 3.14 The east wall, badly charred in the fire, nonetheless survived most completely (Figs 8 and 15). The existing vertical timbers showed no sign of an intermediate rail below the first floor girding beam. Such tall panels were also visible in the north gable before demolition (Fig. 30). Three posts ran full height to the wall plate, at the positions of the roof trusses, with one more in each bay. On the west side the central truss wall post likewise rose full height and it appeared that the post immediately north also did, but this was difficult to see clearly. Its opposite number on the east may also have risen to the wall plate, but its lower part had been replaced by a re-used section of massive ceiling beam, from another, oak, building.

- 3.15 The girding beam on the east was in five sections, the central and next south being considerably deeper than the others and may be either repairs or re-used timbers. The wallplates on both sides were in two sections, joined by a face-halved and bladed scarf (Fig. 8). The girding beam on the west had been removed during works to open the bars into the lean-to.
- 3.16 The east wall was divided into eight double panels, above and below the girding beam, four either side of the central truss, but the symmetry was spoiled by the positioning of the south roof truss across the north of the chimney stack and at a slight angle. On the west the panel pattern was different, with four panels north of the centre, and six panels on the south. The end two have been much altered and rebuilt, however, seemingly to do with alterations to the chimney breast below on this side.
- 3.17 The north wall was similar but it was not clear whether the lower part of the north-west corner wall post survived later under-building. The upper part of this post survived intact with a very well-defined jowl with a parallel-sided upper part over a quadrant rather than the gradual swelling of the earlier wall posts in the south range. The north-eastern post was badly charred but was clearly also of this form originally. These posts were jointed to the tie beam and wall plates in a similar traditional fashion to the south range posts, but the other trusses merely sat on the wall plates, with a bare-faced lapped dovetail, a simplified version of the standard lapped dovetail, and none of the other posts were jowled.
- 3.18 The north and south trusses were only known in detail from the *ex situ* pieces, but were evidently identical with the central truss which survived largely intact, *in situ*. They were simple tie beam, collar and principal rafter trusses with clasped purlins, held together with pegged tenon and mortise joints. The purlins were joined with simple splay scarfs with two or three pegs. Unlike the south range, they were also trenched so that they interlocked with the trenched principals. The gables were infilled with vertical studs and struts, but in the central truss the struts were nailed additions. As far as could be seen after the fire and demolitions, all the common rafters were softwood replacements and had burnt much more readily than the principals, despite being of barely less scantling.

- 3.19 It is obvious upon inspection that the south stack post-dates the south range, but it is also clear that this stack is part of the build of the north range, not an addition and not earlier. This is shown by the incorporation of a wall post in the south-west corner of the stack (Fig. 4) and the fact that the west side of the stack at ground floor level is merely the brick infill of the timber frame here. The angled positioning of the south truss across the stack and the lack of a true south gable (instead, simply extending the wall plates and purlins to an *ad hoc* frame at this position) also show, at least, that the stack is not an insertion.
- 3.20 The few posts that make it to ground level are now supported on modern brick piers. Allowing for sawing-off of rotten post bases, this might suggest that the wall frame sat on a ground beam on a dwarf brick wall. This would have needed to be removed when the spaces east and west of the north range were opened into the central area. There was no sign of such a wall in the rebuilt section of the south range north wall west of the stack (section 2.20 above), but this was not part of the main structure and not necessarily typical. Nonetheless, it is possible that the posts stood on brick pads and the brick infill of a simple row of headers as here. No sign of such a wall was seen in the watching brief, but disturbance here would anyway have removed even quite a deep footing. It would, if the rebuilt east end of the north wall of the south range is a guide, have been no more than one brick thick anyway (see para 4.3).
- 3.21 There is no direct evidence for a stair in this range prior to that documented in 1972, and probably a 19th century addition, but it is possible that a winder stair was positioned east of the southern stack. The joists here could easily have been inserted after its removal, which is not the case elsewhere. If the broad floorboards in the first floor northern room are original then they also show that there was never a stair there. The insertion of a central stair and associated changes have been described above (2.23, 2.26, 2.37). The main impact of the eastern corridor added after its removal was the truncation of the tie beam of the southern and central trusses and the ends of the principal rafters on that side.

4. WATCHING BRIEF

- 4.1 A series of small excavations were needed to found new posts and piers necessary to support the restored building, as well as some shallow drainage runs (Fig. 33).

These excavations were numbered by the builders and these numbers have been used to refer to the trenches here. Trench numbers not mentioned in the text below were not dug. Other extra observations were given additional numbers. In addition, the modern floor of the south range was lifted and the make-up below it removed. This was not monitored and the area was archaeologically investigated in mitigation. The area was called Trenches 1 and 2, 6, 7 and 100.

Trench 1 (Western room of South Range)

4.2 At the limit of excavation a flint-clay 120, only partially-revealed within the north-eastern part of the room, was overlain by a silt-clay 119. Both deposits contained no artefacts and appeared to represent either the natural geological substrate or re-deposited natural clays. Observations in Trench 19/20 and Tr. 100 and Tr. 6 suggested that these were re-deposited clays (see below).

4.3 Clay 119 was cut by a north/south-aligned construction trench 111 for brick foundations 103 under the extant western wall 102 of the south range. Clay 119 was subsequently overlain by a compact, stony, sand-clay make-up layer 109, up to 0.25m in thickness. It was not clear if this overlay or was cut by the construction trench for wall 102, but the clear relationship of wall 108, the rebuilt west end of the north wall of the south range (see 2.18-2.20) to the rest of the walls here mean that 109 ought to have been cut by 111. The make-up 109 directly underlay the brick footings 116 for the rebuilt wall 108 and also the central cross wall 115, for which no construction trench was visible on this side. This clay layer was extensive and formed the stratum on which the rest of the south range under-building was erected. It contained a sherd of post-medieval glazed earthenware pottery, two clay pipe stems, one cow tooth and eight fragments of post-medieval flat tile (Fig. 6).

Trenches 2, 16, 17 and 100 (Eastern room of South Range)

4.4 A sandy yellow flint-clay 204, partially exposed within the north-western part of the room, and recorded as deposits 601 and 701 in foundation-pad trenches 16 and 17, appeared to represent either the natural geological substrate or redeposited material and was the lowest level reached in the trenches except for 100. Investigations related to underpinning the cross wall (Trench 100), showed that this was a laid layer. This layer was overlain by a stony-clay 203, up to 0.15m in thickness, which contained one modern tile fragment, seven post-medieval flat tile fragments and one residual late medieval reduced ware pottery sherd. A medieval sandy reduced-ware sherd and an animal bone were recovered from an equivalent

layer 10010 noted in trench 100 during underpinning works in the same area. As 10005, this layer predated the cross wall. This excavation deepened the trench locally against the cross wall to 600mm. This picked up the edge of a cut feature with a sloping west edge filled with sandy yellow clay (10006). This was sealed by 10005, which was the same layer as 204. It was cut into a grey blue clay with lime stone fragments that was the natural Gault clay. This feature was picked up again in Trench 5.

- 4.5 In the western section face, deposit 203 was overlain by a brick and concrete foundation 207. This was under a repaired patch at the base of the cross wall and appeared to be a form of underpinning. The brick aggregate in the concrete suggests an early 20th-century or slightly earlier date. A series of thin mortar, sand and clay layers in the north section (206, 202 and 205) laying in a cut in 203, coincided exactly with the added stack in the north wall and must represent its construction. 205 appeared to be the footings of the western cheek wall. 201 and 200 here represented the recently removed tile floor and its bedding.
- 4.6 A carefully laid sandstone and red brick floor 210 was seen under the east wall of this room, the line of Truss B of the south range (Fig. 31). It only survived under this wall except for one small area at the north where a brick floor extended three bricks from the wall face. The bricks were confined to the north end of the wall, suggesting a local repair in brick of the otherwise stone floor. The floor seemed to be bedded on 203, a layer seen all over this trench and making it seem likely that the stone floor extended over the whole room at least. The floor supported a line of red bricks laid on edge 209 which functioned as the footing for the inserted timber cross wall in Truss B. These bricks are in fact the survivors of the floor seen complete before the floor was lifted and which formed the brick floor in use in the narrow space occupied by the successive stairs and associated small passage (Fig. 32). It must pre-date the insertion of both sections of the wooden wall here.

Trench 3 (North of the north end of the building)

- 4.7 This was dug to a maximum depth of 0.40m outside all the buildings and encountered no pre-modern deposits. A modern sand-clay soil 301, containing abundant glass, plastic and wood fragments (not retained), was noted from 0.05m below present ground level (bpgl) to the limit of excavation.

Trenches 4 and 5A (interior of North Range)

- 4.8 These were the southern part of Trench 3 just inside the modern buildings. They were dug to a maximum depth of 0.25m. Modern sand and gravel make-up layers 401 and 501, supporting extant concrete floors, were encountered within trenches 4 and 5 from 0.1m bpgl to the limit of excavation.

Trench 8/22 (North Range)

- 4.9 Nothing other than the Victorian(?) quarry tile floors and clean clay were seen in this shallow trench. Clay 802, containing modern artefacts (not retained), was noted from 0.13m bpgl to the limit of excavation. The clay appears to represent redeposited natural clay. The clay was overlain by modern make-up layer 801 which supported extant tile and stone flooring 800.

Trench 10

- 4.10 This was a shallow trench dug along the outside of the south side of the south range. A modern make-up layer 1001 was encountered in trench 10 from 0.2m bpgl to the limit of excavation, 0.3m bpgl.

Trench 18

- 4.11 A small trench dug against the east side of the southern chimney breast. The stone slab floor, 1801, was laid over a thin limey soil with brick fragments. The quarry tile floor further in was also laid on this material. This overlay a clay dump 1803, which in turn sealed an orange-yellow gravelly clay, 1804, the surface of which was at 0.26m below the floor. This was excavated to a depth of 0.50m below the floor. No artefacts were recovered.

Trench 19/20

- 4.12 These were planned as two trenches but dug as one. The trench was dug to 0.57m bpgl and natural chalky grey clay was reached at 0.40m. Above this was a dump of gritty, chalky orange clay (19/2010), not unlike 203 but brighter and very similar to 1804. It contained a tiny fragment of red tile or brick. This was merely a lens at the interface of the natural clay and the next layer, 19/2005, a beige/grey clean clay dump. This ran up to the underside of the greensand stone slab floor here at the south end of the trench. At the northern end of the trench, a shallow depression in the top of 19/2005 was filled with two thin, yellow mortar layers separated by a dirt layer (19/2004, 19/2203, 19/2002). The upper mortar layer contained a quarry tile at

the south end. The present quarry tile floor was laid over this and level with the stone slabs.

- 4.13 These layers were all cut through by a brick-walled and concrete-bottomed drain at the north end of the trench (19/2006). This ran along the line of the east wall of the north range and can only have been inserted when the timbers had largely been removed. It did not continue beyond the mid point of the trench and how it ended was not seen. It was filled with large flint gravel as if for a French drain or soakaway, a feature repeated in Trenches 21 and 23.

Trench 21

- 4.14 Trench 21 was dug along the same line behind the east wall. The tile floor and concrete bedding was laid directly over grey clay, sampled to a depth of 0.37m, except where there was a brick drain 2102 similar to that in Trench 19/20 and filled with the same flint gravel 2103. However, this drain was an L-shape in the trench, turning a right angled corner and, unlike the frogged bricks and cement mortar of the drain in Trench 19/20, was made of hand-made bricks set in a beige lime mortar. The drain appeared to also continue eastwards, but it was not clear if there was a northern arm.

Trench 23

- 4.15 This was similar to Trench 19/20 in that it had a drain of modern brick with a coarse flint gravel fill 2302. The drain, however, seemed to be cut mostly in the natural clay, traced to a depth of 0.56m bpgl. Only the upper 0.24 metres was lined with brick (2303), which retained a similar depth of gritty fine rubble on the north 2304. It may be that the modern structure replaced an older one, as two bricks set one on top of the other in lime mortar 2306, were noted at the same level in the north edge of the trench.

- 4.16 It seems likely that these structures represent ground drains, renewed in recent times.

Trench 24

- 4.17 An undated rubble layer 2403 at 0.13m bpgl to the limit of excavation, was overlain by a modern make-up layer 2402 supporting an extant concrete floor 2401.

Trench 26

- 4.18 A modern make-up layer 2601 at 0.15m bpgl to the limit of excavation supported extant concrete floor 2600.

Trench 27

- 4.19 A silt-clay dump deposit 2705 at the limit of excavation at 0.3m bpgl, was cut by two north/south-aligned walls 2704 and 2703. These structural remains were overlain by a modern make-up layer 2702 supporting concrete floor 2701. These walls would be the rear wall of the pre1972 bar extension and one of the ground drains seen in Trenches 19/20 and 21.

Trench 29

- 4.20 Natural silt-clay 2903 was encountered at 0.18m bpgl to the limit of excavation, overlain by a charcoal-flecked stony-clay 2904, which contained a single clay pipe stem, and modern make-up layer 2901 supporting extant concrete floor 2900.

Trenches 5B, 30 and 101 (exterior of South Range)

- 4.21 The natural silt-clay geological substrate 501 was encountered in trench 5B at 0.3m bpgl, overlain by a silt-clay soil 501. The natural silt-clay geological substrate 3001, encountered at 0.14m bpgl in Trench 30, was cut by a u-shaped channel 3003 (Fig. 34). Only the upper part was excavated, to a depth of 0.70m below the present ground level, and contained a relatively loose clay fill with humic/organic lenses. The central hump of what appears to be natural (3001) in the middle of 3003 suggests that this is in fact two parallel cuts, one probably replacing the other. This was all overlain by a modern make-up layer 3000.
- 4.22 The natural silt-clay geological substrate 10100 was encountered in trench 101 at 0.2m bpgl, overlain by a silt-clay soil 10101 containing modern artefacts (not retained).
- 4.23 The cut 3003 into the natural seems to line up with that seen in Trench 100 in the south range (Fig. 6).

The Finds Evidence

- 4.24 Artefactual material comprising quantities of pottery, ceramic building material, clay pipe, animal bone and glass was recovered from five separate deposits (Appendix C).
- 4.25 Pottery dating to the medieval period was recovered from two separate deposits. A sherd of a medieval sandy coarse ware was recovered from deposit 10010. Deposit 203 produced a sherd of late medieval reduced ware, although the association with modern tile suggests it is residual.
- 4.26 A single sherd of post-medieval glazed earthenware was recovered from deposit 109.
- 4.27 Modern pottery, including transfer decorated refined whiteware and plain refined whiteware, was recovered from deposit 3000.
- 4.28 Part of a 19th-century glass bottle was recovered from deposit 3000. Lettering on the body of the vessel indicates production by MAW and Co, London.
- 4.29 Animal bone was recovered from two separate deposits; a cow tooth from deposit 109 and a fragment of a pig mandible from deposit 10010.

5. DISCUSSION

- 5.1 The partial destruction of the Woolpack by fire, while highly regrettable, has allowed many observations to be made on the history and character of the building to be made that would not have been possible before the event.
- 5.2 First, it is apparent that the historic core of the building was of two phases of construction, the north range (Period 2) being an addition to the south range (Period 1). It was also possible to observe more detail in the later alterations to the buildings that predated the documented changes since 1972. Below ground observations were also possible, and, while limited (or in the case of the area under the south range not originally carried out archaeologically), these helped understanding of the standing buildings.

- 5.3 The building is listed as a 17th-century structure and this dating is still entirely appropriate for the erection of the framing of the north range. The character of the timber cutting, shaping, and jointing, and the overall design is characteristic of the end period of traditional timber framing and the gradual disappearance of medieval methods, but still within the local vernacular tradition deriving from them. The use of brick infill in tall panels between relatively thin timber is also characteristic of this period.
- 5.4 The south range is a different creature. All the elements of the timber frame are essentially of medieval style, although the timber scantling is beginning to slim, and the timbering between the tie beam and the collar is rather simplified, more typical of the early post-medieval period. The panels seem to have been essentially square and infilled with wattle and plaster, if not daub. The open-to-the-roof design is also of an older tradition, but the significance of this observation depends on whether the south range was first built as a dwelling or as an agricultural building, a small barn, for example, with the end bays used for animal housing or further storage. The stud pattern in the south elevation (deduced from the wall plate mortises) does not seem to leave room for a wide entrance, and it was not possible to see what the arrangements were in the north side.
- 5.5 It is unfortunate that the elm timber from the building is not suitable for dendrochronological dating, as arguments about likely dating based on form and status are likely to become circular in its absence.
- 5.6 Nonetheless, given its character and its undoubted priority over the north range, it seems reasonable to assign a 16th-century date to the south range timber frame. If it was built as a dwelling it would be rather old-fashioned however early in that century it was constructed. It would be an open hall with a central hearth or perhaps a smoke hood. The charred state of the timbers (and the small number surviving) made any study of sooting of the roof timbers nugatory. The replacement purlins suggest that many of the original timbers may have gone in earlier refurbishments anyway. A late 15th to mid 16th-century date would be more likely if it was built as a dwelling.

- 5.7 On the other hand, if the south range was built as a farm building from the start, then the techniques would be entirely appropriate for a later date, even into the early 17th century.
- 5.8 However, it seems unlikely that a new wing for domestic occupation would be added to a barn, and it is more usual for a house to become a barn than (until recently) the reverse. Therefore, preference is given to the hypothesis that the south range was built as a house and dates to the late 15th to mid 16th centuries. This is supported, although hardly conclusively, by the two sherds of pottery found under the south range. These came from the yellow sandy clay dump (10010) that underlies the south range, and in the lowest make-up layers immediately over it (203). The clay dump predates the erection of the south range and the make-up seems to belong to the under-building in brick. From the clay layer came a sandy medieval coarse ware of 14th to 15th-century date, and from the make-up came a sherd of late medieval reduced ware of similar date.
- 5.9 If the south range were a hall house, then the putative lower end is more like to have been at the east, given the catslide, which would have covered the “service” end, and perhaps some kind of parlour would be in the larger bay on the west, under the half hip. The entrance then would have been in a “screens” passage (however expressed) by the eastern truss. This is where the later stair enclosure was contrived, which may be a distant echo of the earlier subdivision.
- 5.10 The added north range is a much later style of building, with an upper floor, albeit an attic storey, intended from the first. The plan form is harder to reconstruct. There is no obvious position for a door, although the later positioning of the inserted stair and the pairing of the wallposts here hints at a central door, immediately north of the central truss and lateral beam. This in turn hints at a lobby entry plan with the two rooms to either side. However, the usual central chimney stack is missing. All that can be said is that there seem to have been two rooms on the ground floor (repeated upstairs) each with their own end stack, although the southern upstairs room was not heated and the northern room may not have been.
- 5.11 The fireplace and stack on the south are old-fashioned, but not outlandishly so, for a 17th-century house and the thought has been entertained that, while clearly added to the south range, it might have been earlier than the current north range.

However, it appears that the intertwining of timber and brick on its west face with the structure of the timber frame rules out this idea.

- 5.12 The major change to the south range was the under-building in brick and the contemporary insertion of an upper floor (Period 3). This is thought to have been of late 18th to early 19th-century date and included the insertion of the cross wall/fireplace and the new stack against the north wall. It could well reflect investment in the inn business, whose beginnings are likely to have been some time in the late 18th or early 19th century. The original southward rising stair and clapboard partition it was built against ought to be part of this refurbishment as well as the strip of brick floor under it that was in use until the recent fire. This, incidentally, would mean that the stone floor under this brick floor (para 4.6) seen at the east end of the south range, must predate this period, and could be original to Period 1. These changes led to the removal of most of the timber frame below the wall plates, but preserved a large piece of the north wall.
- 5.13 Changes in 1972 involved re-organization of the circulation, the reversal of the stair and the insertion of new partitions and new steelwork in the roof, but otherwise the changes, compared to earlier times, were limited.
- 5.14 In the north range, alterations to the north range, which was the public house area, had started in the 19th century with the addition of the stair and the eastern lean-to, as well as the probable rebuilding of the northern stack. The most likely time frame for the knocking out of the east wall ground floor and the construction of a single storey addition along the east side to provide a bar is after the Second World War, when, by 1969, most of the outbuildings on the site had been demolished (para 1.6). This period and the alterations in 1972 seem to have been when the greatest damage was done to the timber frame in the north range.
- 5.15 South of the site is a pond and there has been some question as to whether there were any watercourses crossing the site. It has been shown above that there is a filled-in ditch, quite probably a watercourse, crossing the site of the south range from south to north and heading for the pond. There is evidence that it had been recut once and that its infilling clearly predated the deposition of the clay dump under the south range, probably in the 15th to 16th century. Other possible courses of replacement ditches would have been passed over by the trenches watched to

the east of the historic core, but none were taken deep enough to have cut the relevant deposits.

6. CA PROJECT TEAM

6.1 Fieldwork was undertaken by Peter Davenport, Alistair Barber and Jon Bennett. Peter Davenport wrote the report, with contributions from Alistair Barber. The illustrations were prepared by Lorna Gray. The archive has been compiled by Peter Davenport, and prepared for deposition by Victoria Taylor. The project was managed for CA by Mark Collard and Simon Cox.

7. REFERENCES

CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2009a *The Woolpack Inn, Stoke Mandeville, Buckinghamshire. Written Scheme of Investigation for a Programme of Archaeological Building Recording.*

CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2009a *The Woolpack Inn, Stoke Mandeville, Buckinghamshire. Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Watching Brief.*

APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Trench 1

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
100	Structure	Post-medieval brick-built wall foundation	0.58	0.33	>0.18	
101	Structure	Post-medieval brick-built wall foundation: offset foundation courses beneath 100	0.58	0.33	.0.2	
102	Structure	Post-medieval brick-built wall foundation			0.25	
103	Structure	Post-medieval brick-built wall foundation: offset foundation courses beneath 102			>0.08	
104	Deposit	Modern concrete floor			0.05	
105	Structure	Modern brick make-up layer for 105			0.05	
106	Deposit	Modern concrete floor			0.02	
107	Deposit	Modern yellow sand-gravel make-up layer for 106			0.04	
108	Structure	Post-medieval brick-built wall foundation			0.14	
109	Deposit	Stony-clay dump deposit			0.1	
110	Deposit	Fill of 111: grey-blue clay with fragmentary brick		0.8	>0.2	
111	Cut	Wall construction cut: N/S-aligned		0.8	>0.2	
112	Structure	Glazed ceramic tile flooring above fireplace hearthstone 113			0.01	
113	Deposit	Concrete fireplace hearthstone	.0.43	0.3	0.05	
114	Deposit	Modern bedding layer for concrete hearthstone 113		0.55	0.06	
115	Structure	Brick infill of fireplace: only one course exposed		0.6	>0.06	
116	Structure	Post-medieval brick-built wall foundation		1.5	>0.08	
117	Deposit	Modern bedding layer			0.04	
118	Deposit	Modern concrete			0.1	
119	Deposit	Natural geological substrate: grey-blue silt-clay				
120	Deposit	Natural geological substrate: grey-blue silt-clay				

Trench 2

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
200	Deposit	Modern ceramic tile floor			0.01	
201	Deposit	Modern concrete bedding layer for 200			0.06	
202	Deposit	Modern make-up layer: yellow-brown gravelly-sand			0.07	
203	Deposit	Grey-brown sandy gravelly-clay.			0.05-0.15	
204	Deposit	Natural geological substrate or redeposited clays: grey-blue clay with pebbles and flints			>0.15	
205	Deposit	Brick and concrete-built ?fireplace foundation	0.4	>0.1	0.03	
206	Deposit	Chalk ?dump deposit			0.02	
207	Structure	Post-medieval brick-built wall foundation			0.1	
208	Deposit	Modern concrete floor			0.1	
209	Structure	Post-medieval brick-built wall foundation			0.13	
210	Structure	Post-medieval limestone block wall foundation			>0.15	
211	Deposit	Modern concrete ?foundation: E/W-aligned		0.9	.0.2	

Trench 3

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
300	Deposit	Modern made-ground: fragmentary tarmac, brick and clay soil			0.05	
301	Deposit	Modern topsoil: grey-brown to black sand-clay			>0.35	

Trench 4

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
400	Deposit	Modern concrete floor			0.1	
401	Deposit	Modern made ground: yellow sands and gravels			>0.15	

Trench 5

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
500	Deposit	Modern concrete floor			0.1	
501	Deposit	Modern made ground: yellow sands and gravels			>0.1	

Trench 6

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
600	Deposit	?Post-medieval floor make-up layer: grey-brown clay with fragmentary brick			0.04	
601	Deposit	?Natural geological substrate: pebbly grey-blue silt-clay			>0.21	

Trench 7

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
700	Deposit	?Post-medieval floor make-up layer: grey-brown clay with fragmentary brick			0.08	
701	Deposit	?Natural geological substrate: pebbly grey-blue silt-clay			>0.22	

Trench 8/22

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
800	Deposit	Modern red brick floor			0.08	
801	Deposit	Modern make-up layer: fragmentary brick, stone and sand			0.04	
802	Deposit	Natural geological substrate: grey-green clay with modern artefactual contamination			>0.12	

Trench 9

Not used

Trench 10

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
1000	Deposit	Modern concrete floor			0.1	
1001	Deposit	Modern make-up layer: fragmentary brick, stone			.0.1	

		and sand				
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Trench 18

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
1801	Deposit	Modern stone slab floor				
1802	Deposit	Modern make-up layer: lime-rich soil with fragmentary brick and stone				
1803	Deposit	Beige-grey clay dump deposit				
1804	Deposit	?Natural geological substrate: orange gravelly-clay				

Trench 19/20

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
19/2001	Deposit	Modern quarry tile and stone slab floor			0.025	
19/2002	Deposit	Modern bedding layer: lime mortar with fragmentary brick and limestone			0.025	
19/2003	Deposit	Brown sandy clay-silt			0.25	
19/2004	Deposit	Yellow-brown lime mortar			0.025	
19/2005	Deposit	Dump deposit: beige-grey clay			0.29	
19/2006	Structure	Modern brick-built drain		>0.4		
19/2007	Deposit	Modern fill of 19/2006		0.4		
19/2008	Deposit	Natural geological substrate: blue-grey clay with chalk inclusions				
19/2009	Structure	Footing of wall under truss B: small bricks in lime mortar. Only seen at south end of trench.				
19/2010	Deposit	?floor make-up or dump deposit: orange gritty chalky-clay				

Trench 21

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
2101	Deposit	Modern concrete floor				
2102	Deposit	Hand-made bricks in beige mortar forming E/W-aligned wall stub retaining 2104				
2103	Fill	Flint gravel fill of 2102			0.2-0.4	
2104	Deposit	Gravel, fragmentary stone and brick in sand-clay deposit			0.3-0.4	
2105	Deposit	Natural geological substrate: beige-grey clay			<0.32	
2106	Deposit	Gravel, fragmentary stone and brick in sand-clay deposit				

Trench 22

See Trench 8

Trench 23

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
2301	Deposit	Modern concrete floor			0.6	
2302	Deposit	Flint gravels			>0.55	
2303	Structure	Wall: single skin with modern bricks in hard grey mortar			0.9	
2304	Deposit	Gravel, fragmentary stone and brick in sand-clay deposit			0.22	
2305	Deposit	Natural geological substrate: beige-grey clay			>0.24	
2306	Deposit	Thin bricks with yellow-brown lime mortar.				

Trench 24

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
2401	Deposit	Modern concrete floor			0.08	
2402	Deposit	Modern make-up layer			0.05	
2403	Deposit	Clay with large pebbles: not fully exposed				

Trench 27

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
2701	Deposit	Modern concrete floor			0.08	
2702	Deposit	Modern make-up layer			0.08-0.3	
2703	Wall	Internal brick-built wall				
2704	Wall	Internal brick-built wall bonded with yellow-brown sand mortar		0.1	>0.2	
2705	Deposit	Silt-clay dump deposit, only partially revealed				

Trench 29

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
2900	Deposit	Modern concrete floor			0.08	
2901	Deposit	Modern make-up layer			0.1	
2902	Wall	Internal brick-built wall				
2903	Deposit	Natural geological substrate or redeposited material: clay with sandstone inclusions				
2904	Deposit	Brown clay with charcoal inclusions and pebbles			0.1	

Trench 30

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
3000	Deposit	Grey silt-sand with modern artefacts (not retained)				
3001	Deposit	Natural geological substrate: blue-grey silt-clay				
3002	Fill	Former stream channel: u-shaped cut, not fully revealed			0.63	
3003	Cut	Fill of 3002: loose green-grey clay with lenses of organic material				

Trench 100

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
10000	Deposit	Modern tile floor			0.03	
10001	Deposit	Concrete bedding layer for tile floor			0.07	
10002	Deposit	Gravel-sand make-up layer			0.13	
10003	Wall	Brick-built wall footing and extant internal wall				
10004	Cut	Construction cut for 1003				
10005	Deposit	Grey-brown silt-clay probable dump deposit			0.25	
10006	Deposit	Yellow-brown gravelly sand-clay				
10007	Layer	Natural geological substrate: grey-blue clay with fragmentary limestone				

10008	Wall	Brick-built wall footing and extant internal wall				
10009	Cut	Construction cut for 1008				
10010	Deposit	Grey-brown silt-clay: probable dump deposit				
100011	Deposit	Grey-brown silt-clay: probable dump deposit				
10012	Deposit	Natural geological substrate: grey-blue clay with fragmentary limestone				

Trench 101

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
10100	Deposit	Modern concrete floor				
10101	Deposit	Modern make-up layer for 10100				
10102	Cut	Modern service trench (gas main)				
10103	Fill	Fill of 10102: yellow-brown gravels				
10104	Deposit	Natural geological substrate: yellow-brown sand-clay with flint and gravels				
10105	Deposit	Natural geological substrate: yellow-brown sand-clay with flint and gravels				

APPENDIX B: THE DCMS LISTING DESCRIPTION

The DCMS Listing description

SP 81 SW

STOKE MANDEVILLE

RISBOROUGH ROAD
east side

4/139

The Woolpack Inn

SP 81 SW STOKE MANDEVILLE RISBOROUGH ROAD east side 4/139 The Woolpack Inn II Public House. C17 altered and extended. Originally timber framed now mostly white painted brick with some exposed framing in gable end. RH part thatched with half-hipped gable, LH part old tiles, with brick stack at junction, another at LH end, 2 gabled dormers with sash windows. 1 storey and attic T shaped in plan. Gable end on RH has 3-light casement with segmental arch to ground floor, 2-light attic casement. LH part has slate roofed lean-to with 4 panelled door in centre having small timber hood. Shallow bay with barred sash window to LH, triple sash window to RH and 2-light casement on far RH. RCHM I p.282 MONS 6-10.

APPENDIX C: FINDS CATALOGUE

Finds Concordance

Context	Material	Description	Count	Weight(g)	Spot date
109	Pottery	Glazed earthenware	1	14	PMED
	Clay Pipe	Stem	2	4	
	Animal Bone	Cow tooth	1	27	
	CBM	Flat tile	8	357	
203	Pottery	Late medieval reduced ware	2	42	MOD
	Post-medieval CBM	Flat/peg tiles	7	217	
	Modern CBM	Tile	1	136	
2904	Clay Pipe	Stem	1	3	
3000	Modern Pottery	Transfer decorated refined whitewares, plain white wares	9	161	C19
	Glass	Vessel glass	1	265	
10010	Pottery	Medieval sandy reduced ware	2	35	MED
	Animal Bone	Pig mandible	1	78	


APPENDIX D: OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS	
Project Name	The Woolpack Inn.
Short description (250 words maximum)	<p>A fire in 2009 which badly damaged the Woolpack Inn, an L-shaped Grade II Listed Building described as a 17th century timber-framed structure with later additions and extensions, including significant internal alterations to the historic core. A programme of historic building recording was carried out prior to rebuilding, and an archaeological watching brief undertaken during construction works around the historic building core.</p> <p>The fire destroyed one slope of the tiled section which covered one wing of the timber-framed core and caused the collapse of the entire roof structure and upper floor of the other wing which was thatched. Further demolition of these roof structures and the brick chimneys was necessary to make the building safe after the fire was extinguished. Nevertheless, the ground floor and elevations to eaves level and the central roof truss of the tiled structure survived to be recorded in detail and large elements of the timber structures of both it and the thatched section were recovered from the wreckage. This provided enough information to be gathered to inform both the understanding of the historic structures and to provide significant input into their restoration. The study of the building has confirmed a likely 17th-century date for the tiled range but has shown that the southern range is considerably earlier. The overwhelming majority of the timber work and all the older work was of elm and dating by dendrochronology was not therefore possible.</p> <p>Archaeological monitoring of excavations for new foundations and floors revealed that the buildings had been erected on a laid platform of clay which sealed an old ditch or watercourse. With the exception of a clayey deposit under a rebuild of part of the historic south range, no evidence for floors earlier than the 18th or 19th century was seen. Two sherds of medieval pottery were found in make-up for these floors.</p>
Project dates	May-September 2009
Project type (e.g. desk-based, field evaluation etc)	None
Previous work	n/a
Future work	Unknown
PROJECT LOCATION	
Site Location	Risborough Road, Stoke Mandeville, Buckinghamshire
Study area (M ² /ha)	
Site co-ordinates (8 Fig Grid Reference)	SP 8368 1016
PROJECT CREATORS	
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology
Project Brief originator	Buckinghamshire County Council Archaeology Service

Project Design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Manager	Simon Cox	
Project Supervisor	Peter Davenport	
PROJECT ARCHIVES	Intended final location of archive (museum/Accession no.)	Content (e.g. pottery, animal bone etc)
Physical	Buckinghamshire County Museum	Ceramics, animal bone.
Paper	Buckinghamshire County Museum	WSI, site plans, trench recording sheet, photographic registers, and b/w photographs.
Digital	Buckinghamshire County Museum	Photographs, survey data
BIBLIOGRAPHY		
<p><i>The Woolpack Inn, Risborough Road, Stoke Mandeville, Buckinghamshire. Historic Building Recording and Archaeological Watching Brief. CA typescript report 09108</i></p>		

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 COTSWOLD ARCHAEOLOGY			
PROJECT TITLE The Woolpack Inn, Risborough Road Stoke Mandeville, Buckingham			
FIGURE TITLE Site location plan			
DRAWN BY	SCALE	PROJECT NO.	FIGURE NO.
PJM	1:25,000@A4	2870	1



historic core



PROJECT TITLE
The Woolpack Inn, Risborough Road
Stoke Mandeville, Buckingham

FIGURE TITLE
**Plan of the site showing location
of the buildings**

DRAWN BY	SCALE	PROJECT NO.	FIGURE NO.
PJM	1:500@A3	2870	2

0 50m



COTSWOLD ARCHAEOLOGY

PROJECT TITLE

The Woolpack Inn, Risborough Road
Stoke Mandeville, Buckingham

FIGURE TITLE

**General view of the Woolpack Inn
before the fire**

DRAWN BY

PJM

SCALE

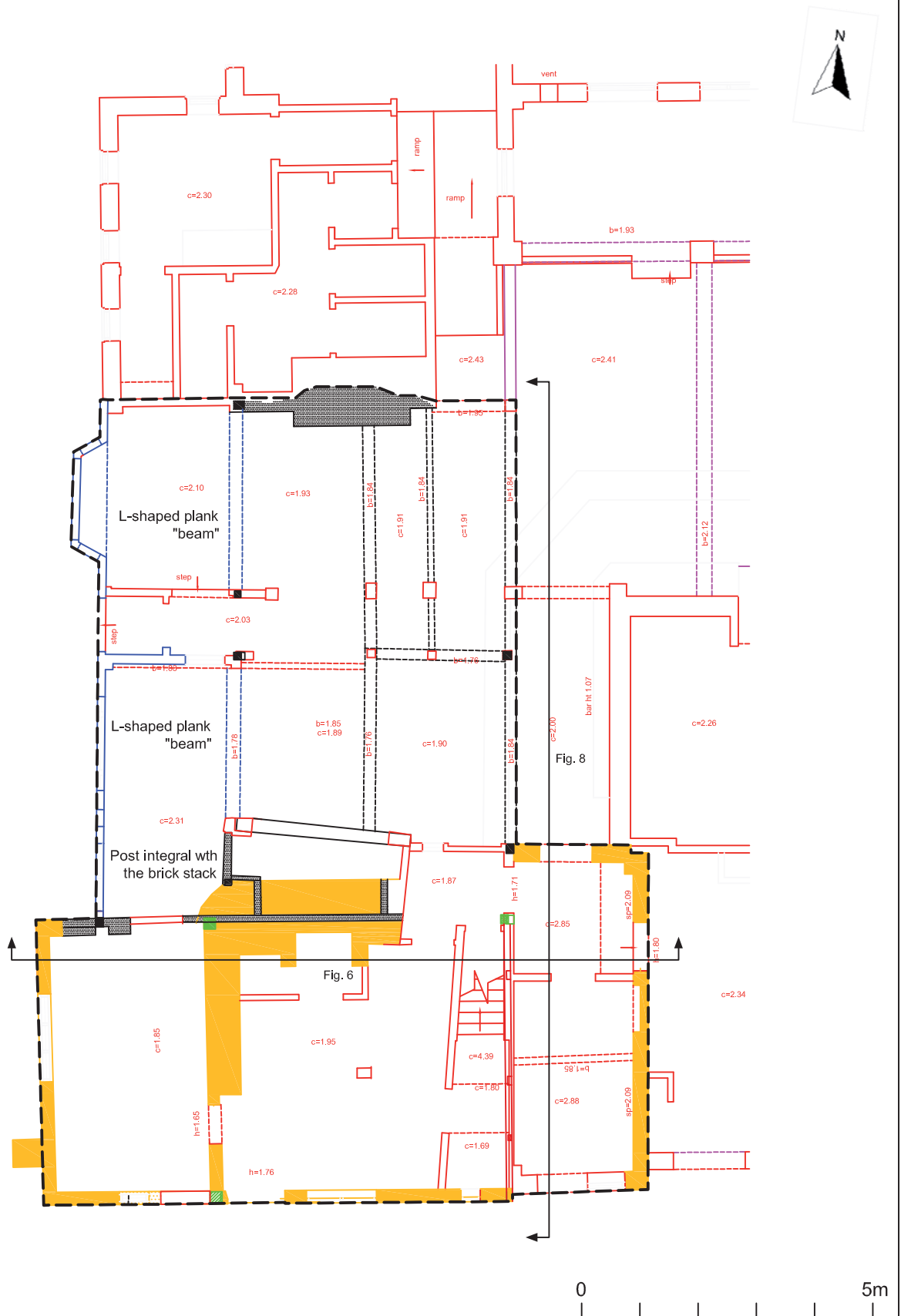
n/a

PROJECT NO.

2870

FIGURE NO.

3



- later 20th century structure
- original timber frame and brickwork of North Range
- South Range timber frame
- South Range brick underbuilding
- later 19th century lean-to
- historic core



COTSWOLD ARCHAEOLOGY

PROJECT TITLE

The Woolpack Inn, Risborough Road
Stoke Mandeville, Buckingham

FIGURE TITLE

Ground floor phased plan

DRAWN BY

LG

SCALE

1:100@A4

PROJECT NO.

2870

FIGURE NO.

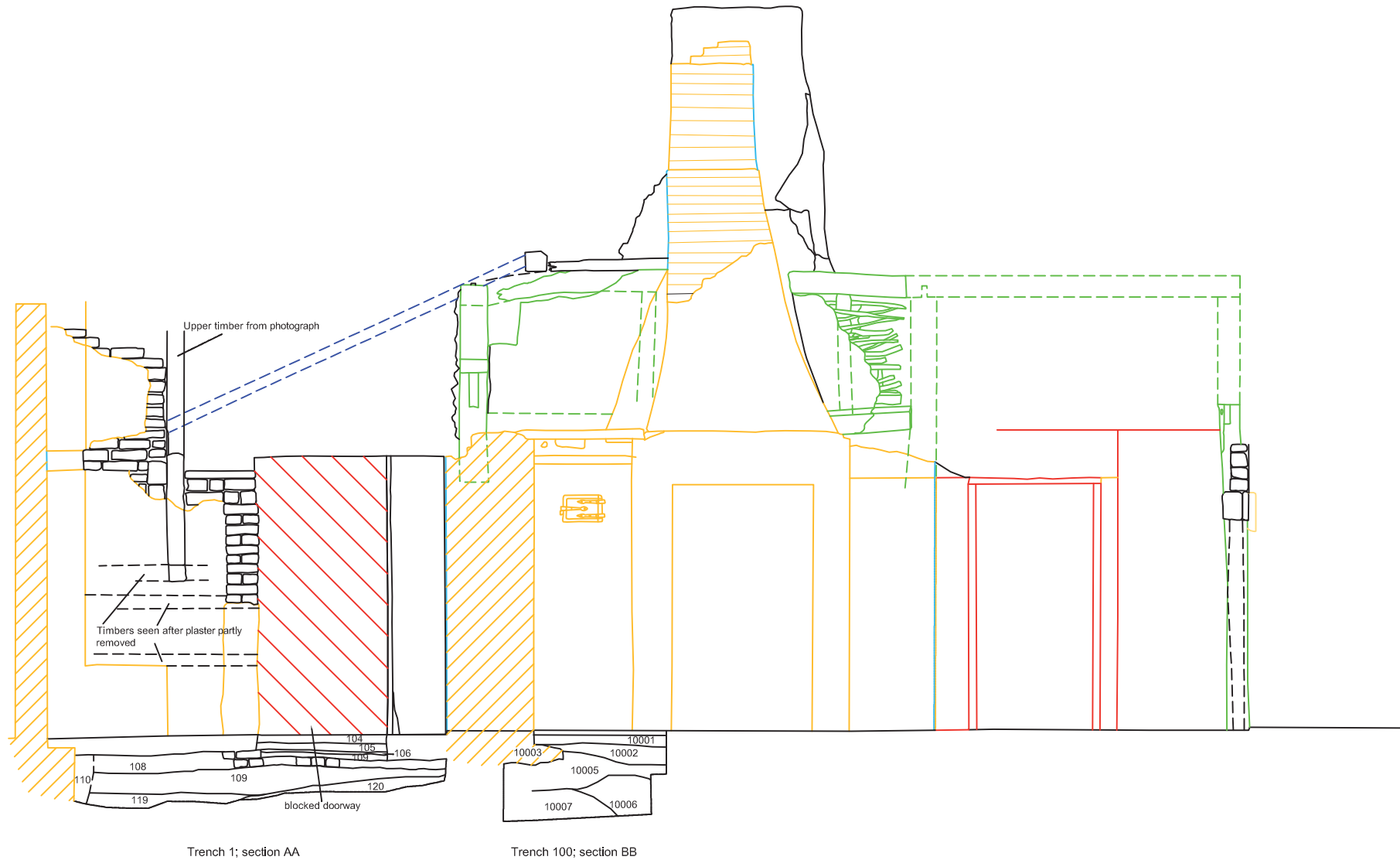
4



- later 20th century structure
- original timber frame and brickwork of North Range
- South Range timber frame
- South Range brick underwork
- historic core

COTSWOLD ARCHAEOLOGY			
<small>PROJECT TITLE</small> The Woolpack Inn, Risborough Road Stoke Mandeville, Buckingham			
<small>FIGURE TITLE</small> First floor phased plan			
<small>DRAWN BY</small> LG	<small>SCALE</small> 1:100@A4	<small>PROJECT NO.</small> 2870	<small>FIGURE NO.</small> 5

P:\2870 the woolpack stoke mandeville br\illustration\Drafts\Illustrations\2870 The Woolpack, Stoke Mandeville Fig 6.dwg



- 16th Century?
- 17th Century
- c. 1800
- late 19th Century
- mid 20th Century

0 2m

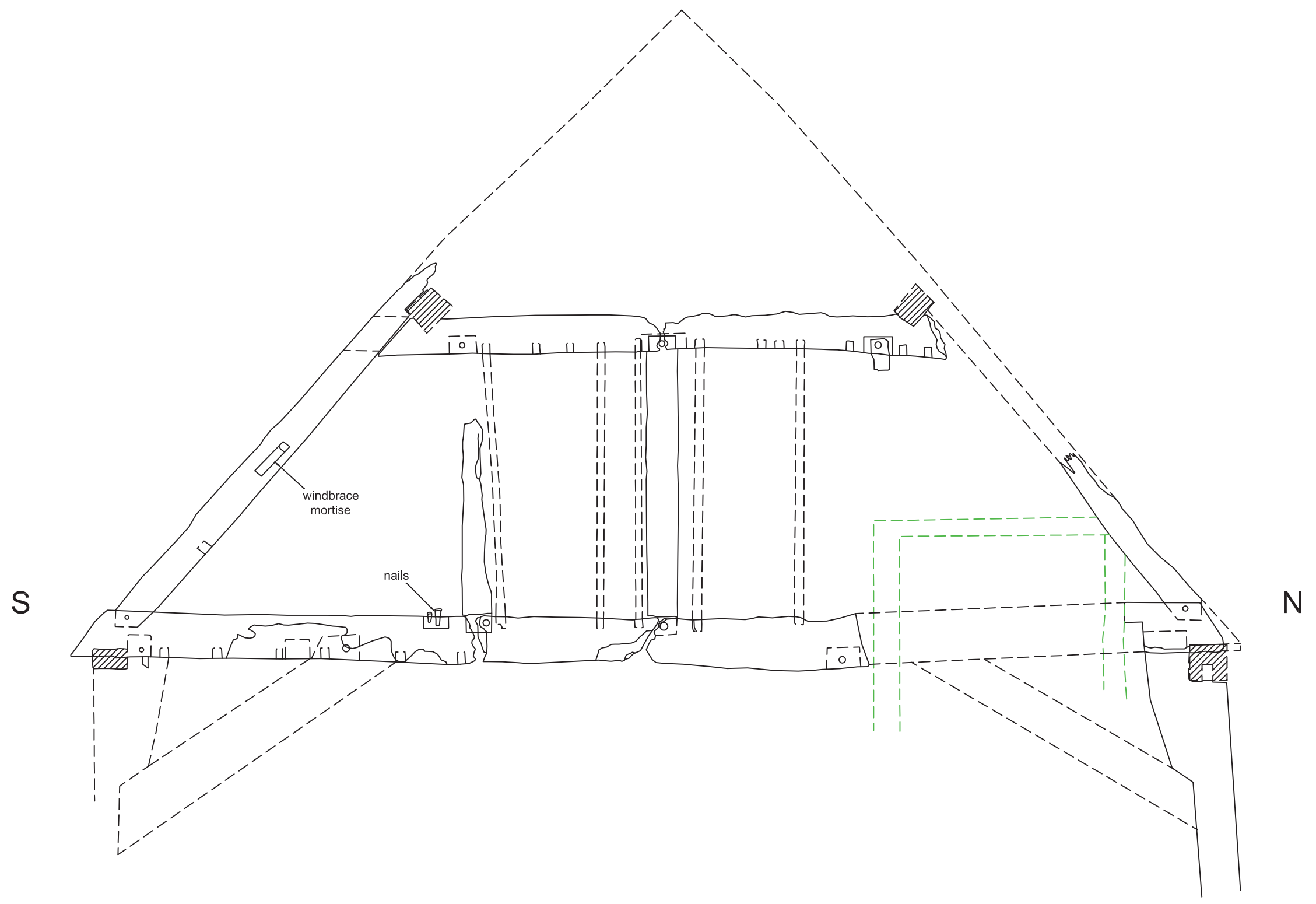



PROJECT TITLE
The Woolpack Inn, Risborough Road
Stoke Mandeville, Buckinghamshire

FIGURE TITLE
**Interior elevation of the north wall
of the south range**


DRAWN BY	SCALE	PROJECT NO.	FIGURE NO.
RK	1:40@A3	2870	6

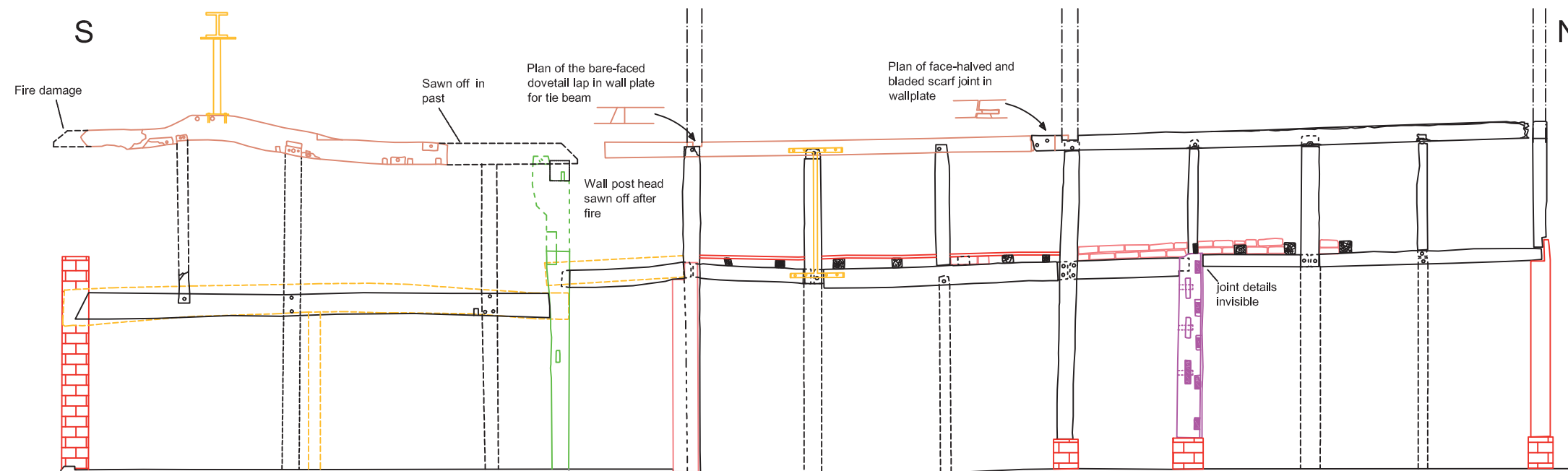
P:\2870 the woolpack stoke mandeville br\Illustration\Drafts\Illustrations\2870 The Woolpack, Stoke Mandeville Fig 7.dwg



 inserted door
probably 19th century

0 | | 1m

 COTSWOLD ARCHAEOLOGY			
<small>PROJECT TITLE</small> The Woolpack Inn, Risborough Road Stoke Mandeville, Buckinghamshire			
<small>FIGURE TITLE</small> The western truss of the south range			
<small>DRAWN BY</small> PJM	<small>SCALE</small> 1:20@A3	<small>PROJECT NO.</small> 2870	<small>FIGURE NO.</small> 7



- South range original timber *in situ*
- North range original timber *in situ*
- North range original brick
- Original timber *ex situ* "replaced"
- Re-used older timber
- South range brick work
- Ghosted timber from joint evidence
- Modern timber
- Iron work
- Modern brick
- Decorative nailed-on timber
- Roof truss positions

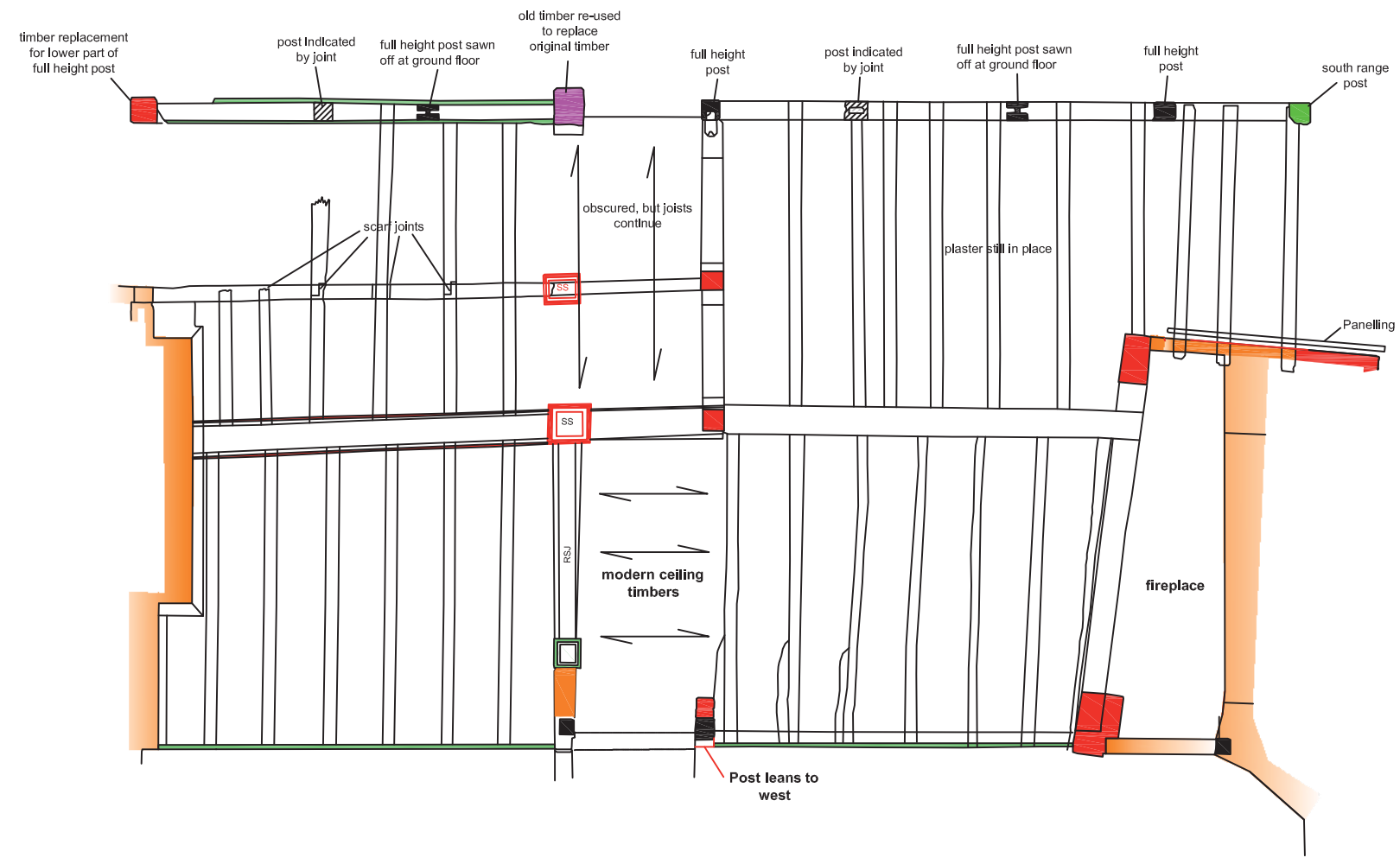


PROJECT TITLE
 The Woolpack Inn, Risborough Road
 Stoke Mandeville, Buckinghamshire

FIGURE TITLE
**The east elevation of the frame of
 both north and south ranges**

DRAWN BY	SCALE	PROJECT NO.	FIGURE NO.
PD	1:50@A3	2870	8

P:\2870 the woolpack stoke mandeville br\illustration\Drafts\Illustrations\2870 The Woolpack, Stoke Mandeville Fig 9.dwg



- North range original timber
- South range original timber
- Old brick
- Late 20th century works
- Re-used timber

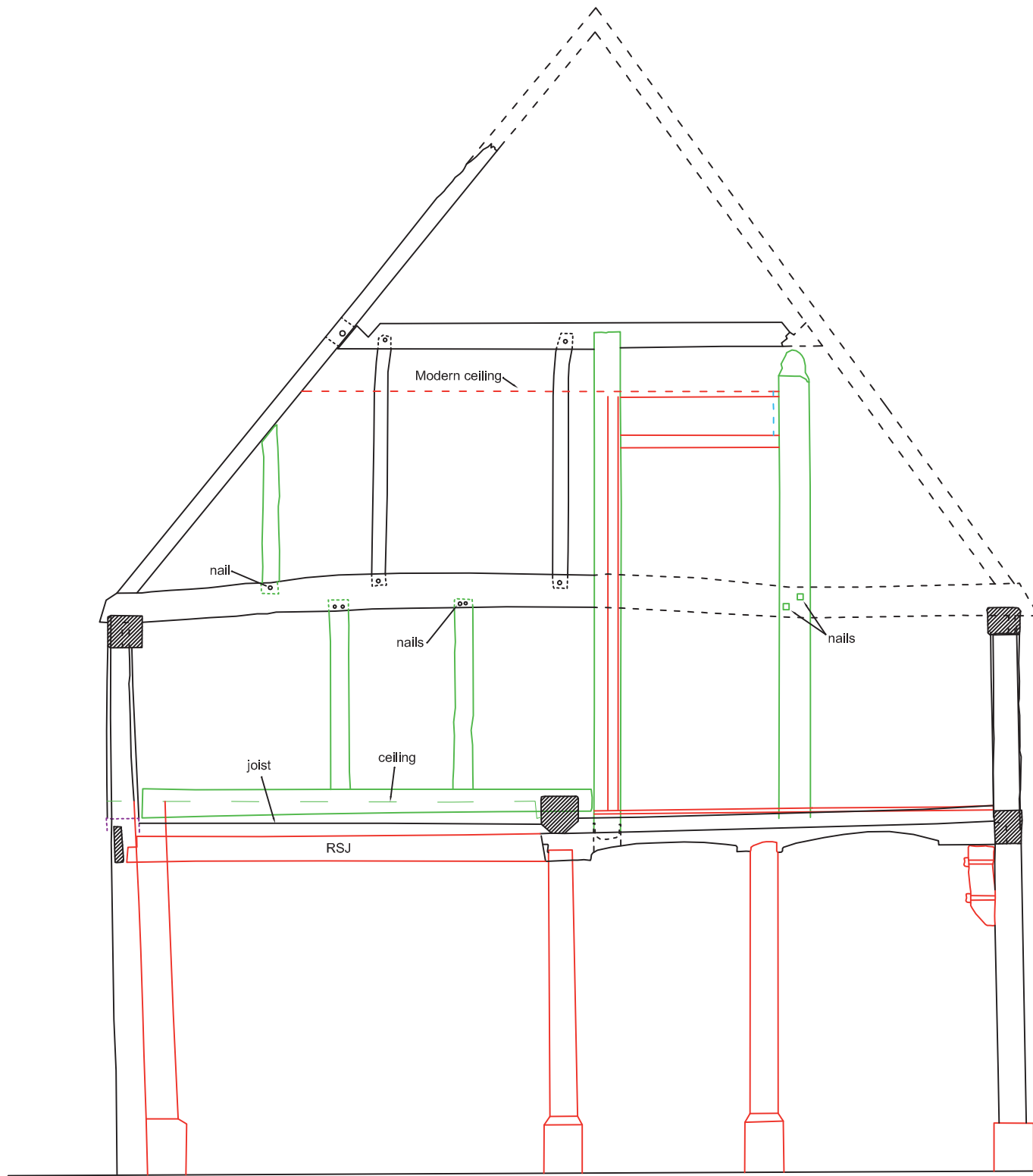


COTSWOLD ARCHAEOLOGY

PROJECT TITLE
The Woolpack Inn, Risborough Road
Stoke Mandeville, Buckinghamshire

FIGURE TITLE
**The ceiling plan of the ground floor
of the north range from above**

DRAWN BY	SCALE	PROJECT NO.	FIGURE NO.
PJM	1:50@A3	2870	9



- original north range timbers
- 19th century additions
- post 1972 additions

0 1m

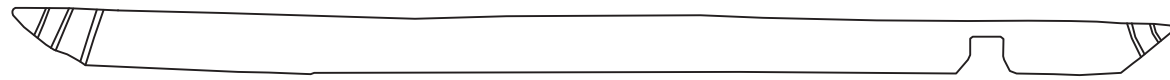


PROJECT TITLE
The Woolpack Inn, Stoke Mandeville
Buckinghamshire

FIGURE TITLE
**Central Truss of First Floor of
North range**

DRAWN BY	SCALE	PROJECT NO.	FIGURE NO.
RK	1:30@A3	2870	10

North Range Purlin West Slope



North Range South Gable Tiebeam



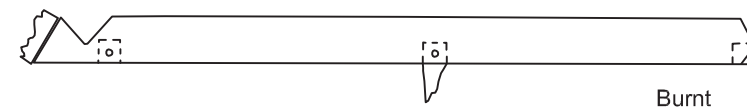
Sawn off

North Range East Wall Wallplate, south section



Joint burnt

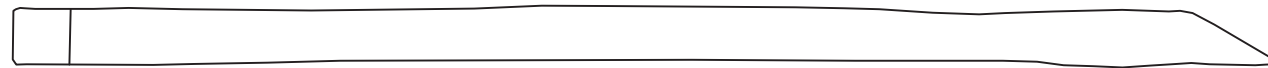
North Range North Gable Collar



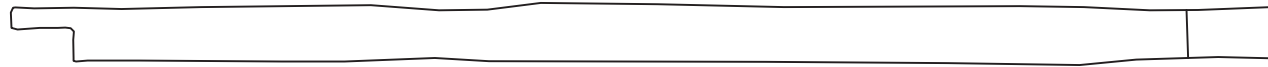
Burnt

North Range Purlin West Slope

plan



side view

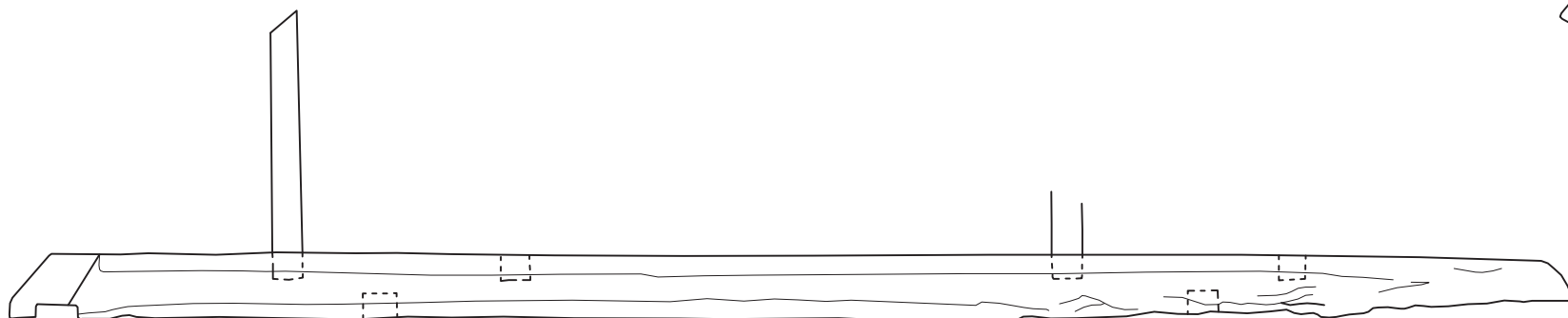


North Range South truss collar



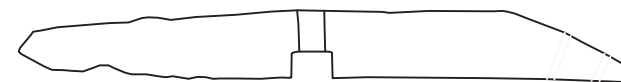
Burnt

North Range North Gable Tiebeam



Burnt

North Range Purlin



Burnt



COTSWOLD ARCHAEOLOGY

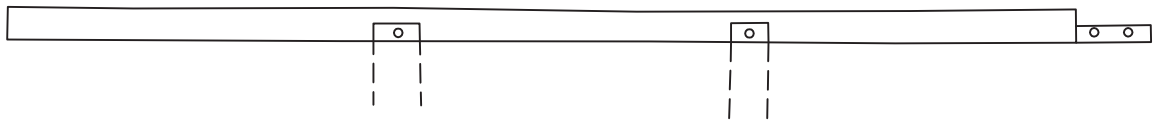
PROJECT TITLE
The Woolpack Inn, Risborough Road
Stoke Mandeville, Buckinghamshire

FIGURE TITLE
**Ex Situ timbers from the north
range**

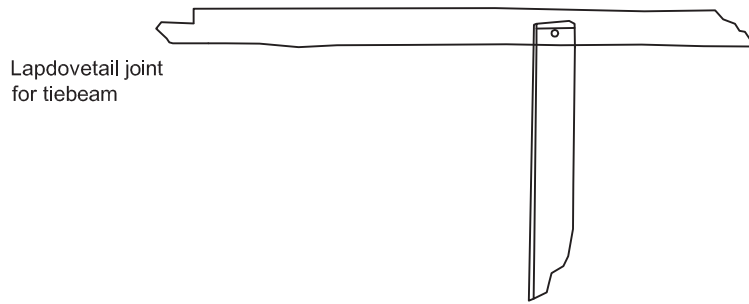
DRAWN BY	SCALE	PROJECT NO.	FIGURE NO.
PJM	1:20@A3	2870	11

P:\2870 the woolpack stoke mandeville br\Illustration\Drafts\Illustrations\2870 The Woolpack, Stoke Mandeville Fig 12.dwg

South Range Wallplate, sideview interior

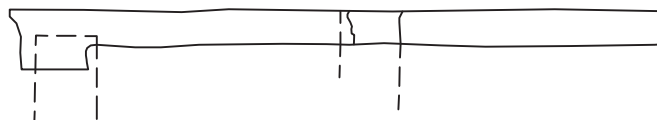


South Range Wallplate, sideview interior



Lap dovetail joint
for tiebeam

South Range Wallplate, sideview interior



COTSWOLD ARCHAEOLOGY

PROJECT TITLE

The Woolpack Inn, Risborough Road
Stoke Mandeville, Buckinghamshire

FIGURE TITLE

**Ex situ wallplates from the south
range**

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LG

SCALE

1:20@A3

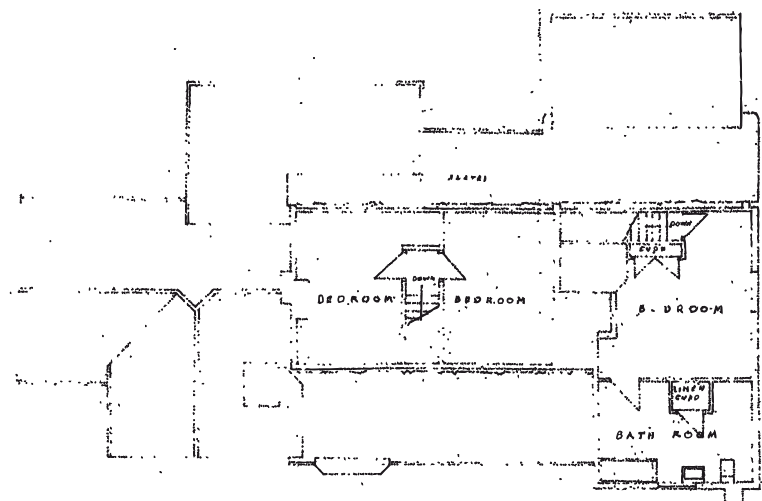
PROJECT NO.

2870

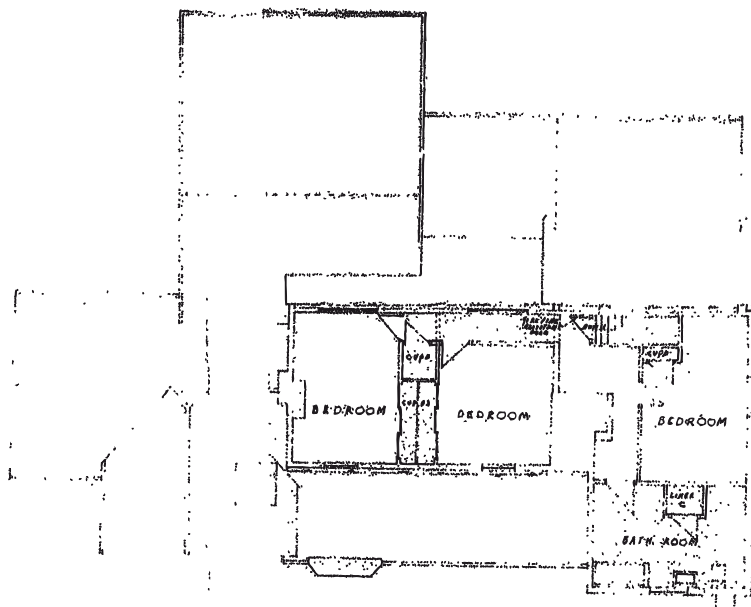
FIGURE NO.

12

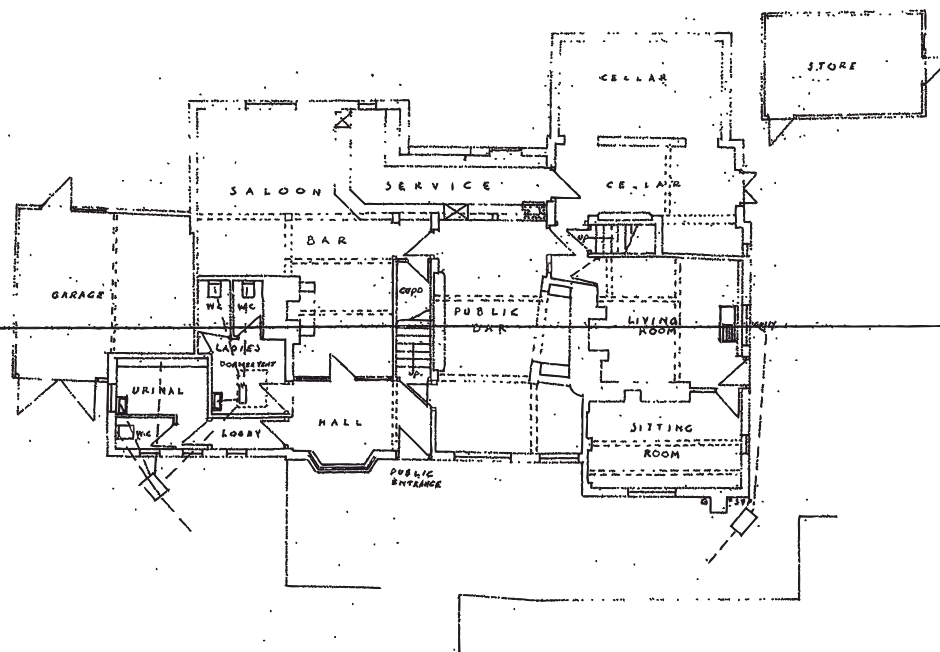
MASS
27 MAY 1977



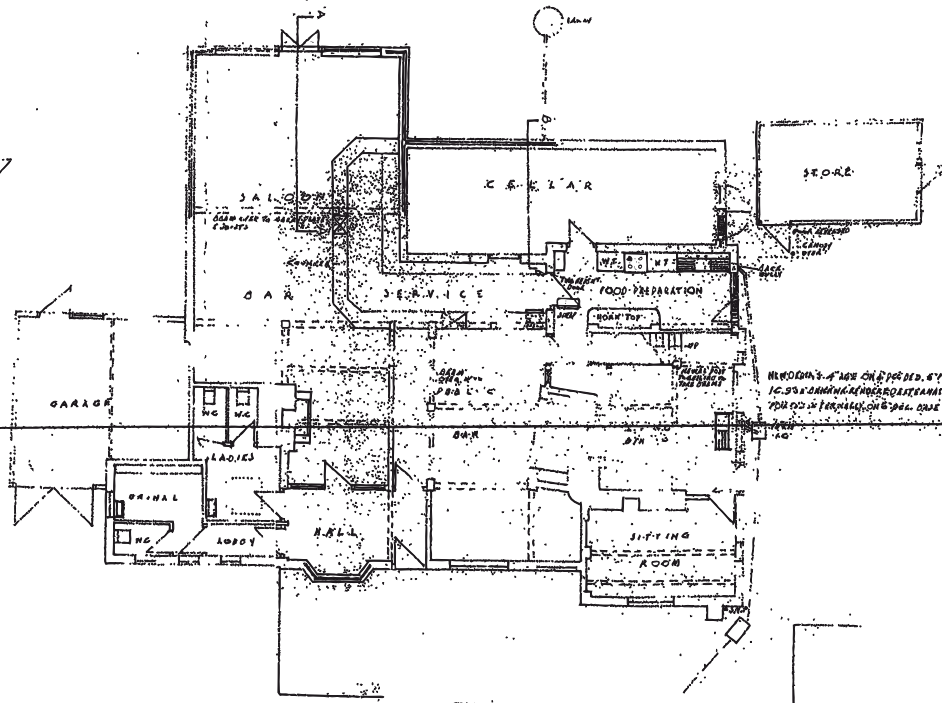
FIRST FLOOR AS EXISTING



FIRST FLOOR AS PROPOSED



GROUND FLOOR AS EXISTING



GROUND FLOOR AS PROPOSED

LOCATION PLAN SCALE 1:2500
 THE AYLESBURY BREWERY CO. LTD
 WAITON BREWERY, AYLESBURY.
 PLAN OF THE WOOLPACK R.N. STOKE MANDEVILLE
 SHOWING PROPOSED ALTERATIONS.
 SCALE: EIGHT INCHES TO ONE FOOT
 HEALTH DEPT
 P.E.F.
 4.3.1972

211

PROJECT TITLE
 The Woolpack Inn, Risborough Road
 Stoke Mandeville, Buckingham

FIGURE TITLE
 The Woolpack ground and first
 floor plans in 1972

DRAWN BY	SCALE	PROJECT NO.	FIGURE NO.
PJM	n/a	2870	13



14

14 The south side of the south range in the late 20th century



COTSWOLD ARCHAEOLOGY

PROJECT TITLE

The Woolpack Inn, Risborough Road
Stoke Mandeville, Buckingham

FIGURE TITLE

Photograph

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SCALE

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PROJECT NO.

2870

FIGURE NO.

14



15



16

15 The eastern timber-framed wall of the north range before partial demolition, looking south

16 General view of the west side of the Woolpack after the fire but before demolitions



COTSWOLD ARCHAEOLOGY

PROJECT TITLE

The Woolpack Inn, Risborough Road
Stoke Mandeville, Buckingham

FIGURE TITLE

Photographs

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PROJECT NO.

2870

FIGURE NO.

15 & 16



17 The south stack of the north range, looking south from the first floor. Scale 2m



COTSWOLD ARCHAEOLOGY

PROJECT TITLE

The Woolpack Inn, Risborough Road
Stoke Mandeville, Buckingham

FIGURE TITLE

Photograph

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PROJECT NO.

2870

FIGURE NO.

17



18

18 The stack in the south range built against the earlier north range chimney and the northern timber wall of the south range, looking north. Scales 1m



COTSWOLD ARCHAEOLOGY

PROJECT TITLE

The Woolpack Inn, Risborough Road
Stoke Mandeville, Buckingham

FIGURE TITLE

Photograph

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n/a

PROJECT NO.

2870

FIGURE NO.

18



19



20

19 The interior of the south range, looking north-east

20 The south range under excavation, looking east-north-east. The successive angles of the stair can be seen on the clapboarding on the right



COTSWOLD ARCHAEOLOGY

PROJECT TITLE

The Woolpack Inn, Risborough Road
Stoke Mandeville, Buckingham

FIGURE TITLE

Photographs

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SCALE

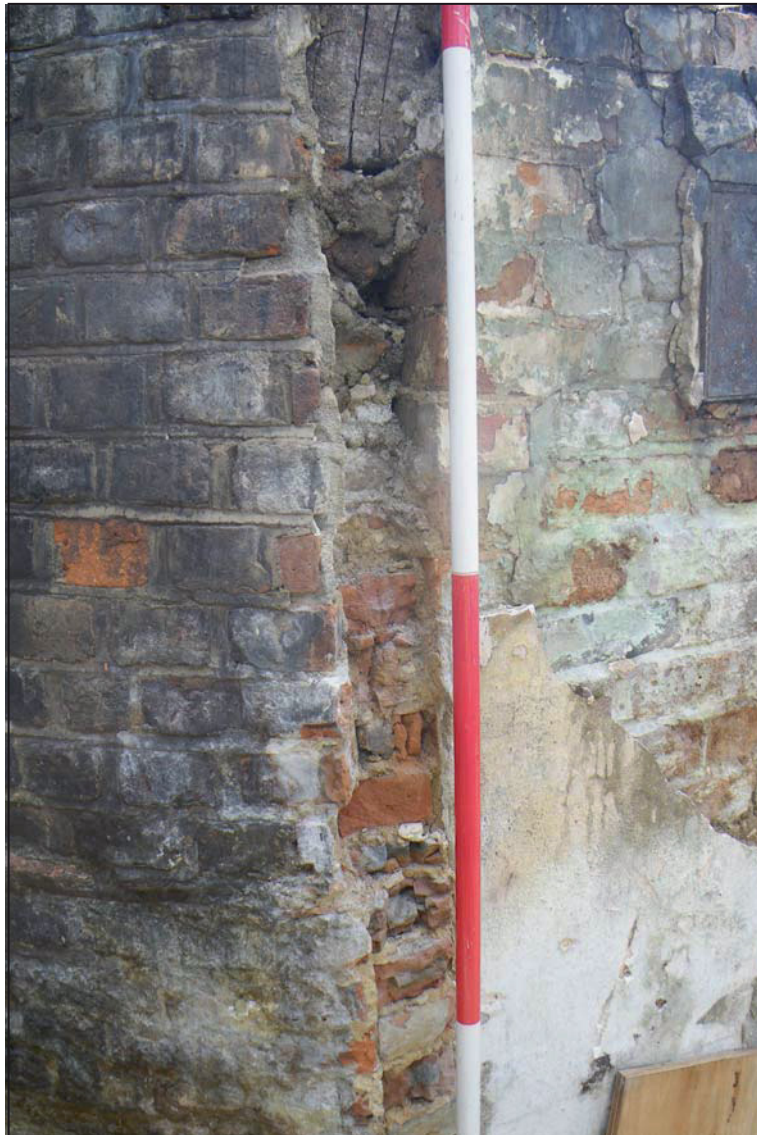
n/a

PROJECT NO.

2870

FIGURE NO.

19 & 20



21

21 The single-skin brick wall of the north side of the south range sandwiched between the south range cross wall and the curving wall added to the north range stack, looking east. Scale divisions 0.5m



COTSWOLD ARCHAEOLOGY

PROJECT TITLE

The Woolpack Inn, Risborough Road
Stoke Mandeville, Buckingham

FIGURE TITLE

Photograph

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n/a

PROJECT NO.

2870

FIGURE NO.

21



22

22 The sawn-off wall post of Truss A and the early brick under-building, looking east. Scale divisions 0.5m



COTSWOLD ARCHAEOLOGY

PROJECT TITLE

The Woolpack Inn, Risborough Road
Stoke Mandeville, Buckingham

FIGURE TITLE

Photograph

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SCALE

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PROJECT NO.

2870

FIGURE NO.

22



23



24

23 The fireplace in the south end of the bar in the north range, looking south. Scales 1m

24 The junction of the west wall of the south range with the earlier north wall, looking south-east. Scale 2m



COTSWOLD ARCHAEOLOGY

PROJECT TITLE

The Woolpack Inn, Risborough Road
Stoke Mandeville, Buckingham

FIGURE TITLE

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PROJECT NO.

2870

FIGURE NO.

23 & 24



26



27

26 The first floor northern room in the north range, looking north. Scale 2m

27 The central truss on the first floor, looking north-west. Scale 2m



COTSWOLD ARCHAEOLOGY

PROJECT TITLE

The Woolpack Inn, Risborough Road
Stoke Mandeville, Buckingham

FIGURE TITLE

Photographs

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SCALE

n/a

PROJECT NO.

2870

FIGURE NO.

26 & 27



28



29

28 The hatch door hinged to a stud found in the south range wreckage. Scales 1m and 0.30m

29 Close up of the south end of the inserted cross beam in Truss B, showing nailed bracket, brickwork, and the recent decorative plank behind it, looking north-east



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PROJECT TITLE

The Woolpack Inn, Risborough Road
Stoke Mandeville, Buckingham

FIGURE TITLE

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SCALE

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PROJECT NO.

2870

FIGURE NO.

28 & 29



30



31

30 North gable before safety demolition, looking southwest

31 The stone floor, 210, under the line of Truss B, south range, and the later brick floor, 209, over it, looking east. Scales 1m and 0.5m



COTSWOLD ARCHAEOLOGY

PROJECT TITLE

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Stoke Mandeville, Buckingham

FIGURE TITLE

Photographs

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PROJECT NO.

2870

FIGURE NO.

30 & 31



32

32 The brick paving 209 still in situ, looking east-north-east. Scales 1m



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PROJECT TITLE

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FIGURE TITLE

Photograph

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SCALE

n/a

PROJECT NO.

2870

FIGURE NO.

32



35



36

35 Trench 1 looking north, showing 119, the chalky clay layer pre-dating Period 2. Scale 1m

36 Trench 2 looking west, showing 204, the same chalky clay layer as 109, shown in Tr 100 to seal the ditch fill 10006. Trench 16 to left . Scale 1m



COTSWOLD ARCHAEOLOGY

PROJECT TITLE

The Woolpack Inn, Risborough Road
Stoke Mandeville, Buckingham

FIGURE TITLE

Photographs

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SCALE

n/a

PROJECT NO.

2870

FIGURE NO.

35 & 36