Barn at Noyna Bottom Foulridge, Lancashire: Archaeological Building Recording



September 2008

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CONTENTS

List of photographs

1	Introduction	. 1
2	Location and current use	. 1
	Planning background	
4	Historical background	. 2
	Recording methodology	
6	Description of the building	.4
7	Conclusion	. 7
	endix 1: Contents of the project archive	

Figures:

1: Location maps	7: Extract from OS 1931 map
2: Site plan	8: Ground floor plan
3: Extract from 1844 tithe map	9: Cross-section
4: Extract from OS 1848 map	10 : Site plan with key to photographs
5: Extract from OS 1894 map	11: Ground floor plan with key to photographs
6: Extract from OS 1912 map	

Photographs

SUMMARY

Noyna Bottom (NGR: SD 902423) is a stone barn probably of 17th century date, associated with the nearby Noyna Hall (now demolished). It was partly converted into a house in the 18th or 19th century, and has later agricultural additions. Archaeological building recording was carried out for Mr John Kay in August 2008 before the conversion of the barn to a new dwelling, and this record includes a ground floor plan, section drawing, photographs, and a written description.

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BARN AT NOYNA BOTTOM, FOULRIDGE, LANCASHIRE:

ARCHAEOLOGICAL BUILDING RECORDING

LIST OF PHOTOGRAPHS REPRODUCED IN THIS REPORT

- 1 General view, from the south-west
- 2 Noyna Bottom, from the south-east
- 3 Front elevation of the house (extended at the left)
- 4 Front elevation of the house and barn, from the south-east
- 5 The barn: front elevation
- 6 Front elevation of the barn, with later stable to right
- 7 Front elevation of the barn, and later stable, from the south-west
- 9 Chamfered doorway with worn stops, to shippon in west end of barn
- 11 General view of the site, from the north-east
- 13 Detail of chamfer and stop to doorway at north end of east gable
- 14 Rear elevation of the barn and house, from the north-west
- 16 General view of the site, from the north
- 18 Detail of former doorway in rear elevation of the barn
- 20 Detail of breathers in rear elevation of the barn
- 21 Detail of openings to house at west end of rear elevation
- 22 West end of the barn interior, showing rubble wall to house
- 23 Interior of shippon in west end of barn, from the north
- 26 Detail of pitched stones to stalls in shippon
- 30 Central bay of the barn and north-east doorway, from the south
- 31 Central bay of the barn, from the north-east
- 37 Doorway at north end of east gable, from the west
- 38 Original roof truss in the barn, from the east
- 39 Upper face of west truss in barn, from the north-east
- 41 Upper face of west truss in barn: north end
- 43 Upper face of west truss in barn: assembly marks to foot of king post
- 46 Upper face of west truss in barn: assembly marks to outer strut at north end
- 47 East truss in barn, from the south-west (dated 1865)
- 48 Date carved tie-beam of later truss in barn (west side)
- 49 Assembly numbers carved in later truss in barn (west side)
- 51 General view of the site, from the east
- 52 Later stable added to front elevation, from the south-west
- 54 Interior of added stable, from the west
- 59 Lean-to shippon against east gable of barn, from the south-east
- 60 Interior of lean-to shippon at east end
- 62 Outbuilding on south side of road, from the north
- 63 Outbuilding on south side of road, from the north-east
- 65 Outbuilding on north side of road, from the south-west

A complete set of photographs forms part of the project archive (see Appendix)

BARN AT NOYNA BOTTOM, FOULRIDGE, LANCASHIRE:

ARCHAEOLOGICAL BUILDING RECORDING

1 Introduction

- 1.1 This report presents the results of archaeological building recording at a barn at Noyna Bottom, a farm near Foulridge in east Lancashire. The work was commissioned by the owner and developer Mr John Kay and carried out in August 2008, to fulfil a condition of planning consent from Pendle Borough Council for the conversion of the building to residential use.
- 1.2 Noyna Bottom appears to have been built in the 17th century as an out-barn for Noyna Hall, a nearby gentry house then owned by the Barcroft family, which has since been demolished. The barn was originally four bays long but its west end has been converted into a house, probably in the 18th or early 19th century. It is a well-built structure with dressings of some quality, which retains one original roof truss, and has been extended on two occasions to create an additional shippon and stable.
- 1.3 The work was carried out in accordance with the standard requirements of the Lancashire County Archaeology Service for recording historic farm buildings, and involved drawn, written, and photographic recording, with historic maps being incorporated. This report will be submitted to the client, Pendle Borough Council, the Lancashire County Archaeology Service and the English Heritage National Monuments Record, and published on the internet via the Oasis Project. The project archive will be deposited with the Lancashire Record Office.

2 Location and current use

- 2.1 Noyna Bottom is a small farmstead situated about 1km east of Foulridge village and 2km north-east of Colne, in east Lancashire (NGR: SD 902423; Figure 1). It stands on the north side of an un-named lane running east from the village, at the southern foot of Noyna or Noyna Hill, a prominent local landmark. The site lies at an altitude of 240m AOD, in Foulridge civil parish, and is surrounded by enclosed grassland, mostly unimproved.
- 2.2 There are three buildings at the site: the main range, which faces south-southeast (hereafter south), of which the barn and adjoining lean-tos form the east end, with the house occupying the west end; a small stone outbuilding on the south side of the road, and a brick building on the north side of the road, to the east (Figure 2).

2.3 Noyna Bottom was occupied as an independent working farm until the early 21st century but for the last four years or so has been used only for limited agricultural use.

3 Planning background

3.1 None of the buildings at Noyna Bottom are believed to be listed as having special architectural or historic interest. Planning consent was granted by Pendle Borough Council in 2004 for the conversion of the barn to a new dwelling (application no 13/04/0663P), with a condition that a record is made of the building prior to development, which this report and archive are intended to provide.

4 Historical background

- 4.1 Traditional farm buildings are of historic interest because they contribute to an understanding of the vernacular architecture and past farming systems of the region. As a group they are under threat due to redundancy and neglect, as well as their potential for conversion, and records of them can help provide an understanding of this diminishing and irreplaceable stock.
- 4.2 The name Noyna is thought to derive from "Noon Hill", probably a reference to its being situated directly to the south of Kelbrook¹. The history of Noyna Bottom is not well documented but it is believed to have been owned by the Barcroft family², who established a large landholding in Foulridge at the end of the 16th century. This was a branch of the family who moved there from Barcroft Hall at Cliviger, and occupied both Foulridge Hall and Noyna Hall, which were lived in alternately by different generations^{3,4}. Many documents relating to the Foulridge estate and its owners from the 17th and 18th centuries survive but are too numerous to search in detail for the purposes of this report; however none are known to make any references to Noyna Bottom, or its earlier name, Noyna Out Laith. The male line of the Foulridge Barcrofts ceased in 1816 when Ellen Barcroft married Edward Parker of Alkincoats, and with her the Foulridge estate passed from the Barcrofts, later to become part of the Parkers' Browsholme Hall estate.
- 4.3 Both the tithe map of 1844 and the first edition OS 6" to the mile map (Figures 3 & 4) show that Noyna Bottom was then known as Noyna Out Laith (badly misspelt on the former map), suggesting that it was then considered a barn rather than a farm, and architectural evidence (see below) indicates that part of the

Wightman, P no date *Facets of Foulridge* (typescript, Colne library)

² Mr Hird (previous owner of the building), pers comm

³ 'Townships: Foulridge', A History of the County of Lancaster: Volume 6 (1911), pp. 544-548

⁴ Oldland, F 1990 *The Story of Foulridge*

building was made into a house at a relatively late date. However the 1841 census records that two households were then resident: that of Ishmael Lonsdale, a 45 year-old hand-loom cotton weaver and his family, and Joseph Lonsdale, a 40 year-old farmer and his mother Elizabeth, aged 75⁵. Ten years later Ishmael Lonsdale had taken over the farm, of 29 acres, while his mother continued to live as a separate household⁶. The tithe schedule of 1844 records enclosure 555 as "Noyna Outley [sic] Building", owned by Ellen Moon⁷.

4.4 While the tithe map appears to show the building outline rather simplistically, the 1848 OS map shows it with a more irregular outline, suggesting that it had undergone some extension by that date, although the scale is too small to draw firm conclusions regarding the precise development of the farm. However the maps of 1894, 1912 and 1931 (Figures 5 - 7) clearly show that additions and alterations were carried out at the east and south-east corners of the range between the late 19th and early 20th centuries, with the building only attaining its present outline after 1909. The historic maps also show that the small outbuilding on the south side of the road was extant by the 1840s, but that on the north side of the road does not appear to have been built until around 1900.

5 Recording methodology

- 5.1 The archaeological building recording took place on 22 August 2008, and in accordance with the standard requirements of the Lancashire County Archaeology Service for recording historic farm buildings. It involved drawn, photographic and written records of the barn and adjoining outbuildings, but did not include an investigation of the house or the two detached outbuildings.
- 5.2 The drawn record comprises a new ground floor plan of the barn and adjoining outbuildings, together with a cross-section, produced by hand measurement. Both show all significant archaeological detail, and employ conventions based on those specified by English Heritage⁸. The plan is based on an original survey by ADM Design.
- 5.3 The photographic record was made using a medium format camera with perspective control and other lenses, and black and white film for its archival qualities. External and internal photographs were taken, using either a 1m or 2m ranging pole marked with 0.5m graduations as a scale, and the locations of the photographs are shown on a site plan and copies of the floor plans. All the photographs have been printed to a size of 7" x 5" or 10 x 8", and form part of the

⁵ 1841Census transcript at Colne Library

⁶ 1851Census transcript at Colne Library

⁷ Foulridge tithe map and schedule (LRO DRB 1/81)

⁸ English Heritage 2006 Understanding Historic Buildings: A guide to good recording practice

project archive; a selection are also copied in this report, where they are referred to by numbers in **bold**.

6 Description of the building

- 6.1 The range of buildings at Noyna Bottom has an irregular plan but essentially forms a linear arrangement of three parts (house, barn, and lean-to shippon), with a stable at the east end of the range, projecting to the south (1,2). At the west end, the house has been extended by a single bay, in stone of shallower courses, which contrasts with the deep courses of the original building; the use of flat-faced mullions suggests that this extension dates to around 1800, and the porch which serves both parts of the house is either contemporary with or later than this extension (3). Of the earlier part of the house to the right, the tall, thin chimney stack to the ridge, the absence of dressings around the windows and their rather haphazard distribution, and the presence of a breather in the rear elevation, all suggest that this west end of the original building was originally agricultural⁹. The interior of the house was not inspected but the appearance of the front room as seen through the window suggests that it was converted into domestic accommodation in the late 18th or early 19th century.
- 6.2 The barn, including this western end, is built from deep courses of squared gritstone, no doubt quarried in the near vicinity, and the roof is stone slate but has been re-laid, incorporating ceramic ventilation cowls. It was built with an Lshaped plan, the west end being slightly wider than the eastern three bays, and there is an original projecting porch to the central of these three, serving the front elevation (4-7). To the west of the porch is an entrance to a shippon, comprising a chamfered doorway with worn stops and massive lintel (8,9), with an adjacent window which has been inserted or enlarged. The porch itself or covered entry (10) is simply formed by a pair of projecting walls which splay out slightly, and carry a modern timber lintel and loft. Within the porch is a small keep-hole, and the chamfered jambs show that the door itself has always been in its present position, although the pair of softwood doors now in place are clearly of fairly modern date, as is the lintel over them which may have replaced a stone arch. To the east of the porch the addition of the later stable in the early 20th century has obscured the outer face of the barn, and similarly the east gable is for the most part hidden within the lean-to shippon of similar date (11). However, a doorway at the north end of the gable appears to be an original feature, although it is in a relatively unusual position (12); it also has stop-chamfered jambs with splayed and rebated jambs, which incorporate holes for a cross-bar (13).

⁹ An early or mid 20th century photograph at Colne library shows one of the windows in the east part of the house with a mullion however.

- 6.3 To the rear the barn faces onto an abrupt slope which has slumped over the centuries, rendering the single doorway into the barn useless (14-17). This opening, directly opposite the front entry, has a massive lintel and chamfered surround, but has been filled with rubble and a small window (18); at only 1.5m wide it is relatively narrow, probably too narrow for a cart. Near the east end of the elevation is a pair of vertically-aligned breathers (19,20), and further west a number of openings, although it appears there was a matching pair of breathers originally, the lower one since made into a large opening to the ground floor shippon (21). West of here is the now domestic part of the range: another breather at ground floor level within this area is the only surviving original opening and is evidence of its former agricultural function.
- 6.4 Within the barn, the wall separating the domestic west end appears to be an original division but is of rubble of very different quality from the outer walls (22), which are faced with coursed stone to the interior as well. At ground floor level this cross-wall is whitewashed where it forms the side of the shippon, and incorporates a pair of recesses, probably lamp or can-holes (23,24). The shippon is laid out in standard fashion with four pairs of stalls facing towards the centre of the barn (25), and although the kerbs to either side of the manure channel or "group" are of stone, and the stalls have pitched stone standings (26), the channel itself is laid with concrete and the stall dividers or boskins are of precast concrete, while a breeze block wall divides the stalls from the adjacent threshing bay, and supports the hay loft over the shippon. The latter has been repaired at different times, but a number of the original joists remain in situ, some with mortices for heel posts of the timber boskins which have been replaced in concrete. Also of interest in this area is a recess in the south side, perhaps to hold a horizontal timber (27), and the external door to the shippon, of plank and batten construction with strap hinges, which may be of 17th century date (28).
- 6.5 The two bays at the east end of the barn form a single open area forming the threshing bay and a storage area, which appears never to have been divided (**29-31**), although ground level in the threshing bay has clearly been reduced to its present level by up to 0.5m. This central area has low stone retaining walls to three sides, and the positions of stops to the chamfers on the front entrance is evidence for the change in levels (**32-34**). The floor in the east end bay rises slightly towards the gable, which contains the elaborate doorway (**35-37**).
- 6.6 The barn has two trusses: the west one is original, of oak and of typical form for the 17th century or possibly early 18th century, while the other is a softwood replacement, its tie-beam inscribed with the date 1865. The earlier truss (38) has a heavy, roughly chamfered tie-beam, a straight king post, and curving principal rafters, possibly derived from halvings of the same timber (39-41). The ridge has been replaced but originally was diamond-set (42), while the three pairs of trenched purlins are staggered over the truss, but have been moved

slightly during re-roofing. Two pairs of raking side struts (V-struts) support the principal rafters, and these are pegged at both ends; the upper ends of the principal rafters are also pegged to the king post, but their feet are not pegged to the tie-beam. A series of chisel marks, most of them Roman numerals, have been cut into the timbers to mark the joints: I is used at the foot of the king post (**43**), VII at the top of the inner strut on the south side (**44**), T at the corresponding point on the north side (**45**), and V on the outer strut on the north side, where IIIII is also used on the principal rafter and adjacent purlin (**46**). IIIIII also appears near the end of this principal rafter to mark the sixth purlin.

- 6.7 The 1865 truss is of queen strut form and made up of square-sawn softwood, the queen struts bolted to the tie-beam (**47**,**48**). Despite the fact that it was made some two centuries later than the other truss, the carpenter used similar marks to number the joints (**49**,**50**).
- 6.8 Map evidence indicates that in their present form, the two additions at the east end of the barn were built between 1909 and 1930, although there was already a lean-to structure to the front elevation before this time. This early 20th century date is in keeping with the architectural character of the stable and shippon, which are of squared stone laid only partly in courses, although both have stone slate roofs, where not replaced by asbestos cement sheets (**51**). Dressings to both are of sawn stone.
- 6.9 The stable (**52**,**53**) uses the east side of the barn porch as parts of its west wall; its entrance is in this side, where there is also a small opening to a loft. The south side has three large windows and plain, square eaves brackets to carry the gutter. The interior has been adapted slightly to house livestock rather than horses but much of the floor surface survives unaltered, and is made up of grooved bricks with drains indicating the centres of three stalls which were divided by partitions ending in cast iron posts: one such post remains fixed to the east wall, and the outline of the adjacent ramped panelling is clear on this side and on the opposite wall (**54-56**). Other features surviving from its use as a stable are the two rows of harness pegs fixed to the outer walls, either side of the entrance (**57**).
- 6.10 The lean-to shippon has its entrance in the south side and windows to the east (**58**,**59**), and contains a row of stalls for eight animals facing onto a feeding passage at the west side (**60**). The floor is surfaced with a mixture of stone, brick and concrete (**61**), and the boskins are also concrete, although these appear to be replacements. Two (formerly three) cast iron columns support the raking trusses.
- 6.11 The outbuilding to the south of the road is built from random rubble with stone slate roof, and is of a single storey with three doorways in the north side. The

interior was not inspected but it is thought that at least part of it was a privy. It is likely to be of 18th or early 19th century date, and has the remains of other adjoining structures to the east (**62-64**). To the north-east of it, on the opposite side of the road, the small rubble and brick building is located next to a small stream which suggests it was used as a dairy (**65**).

7 Conclusion

7.1 Architectural features including the chamfered and stopped doorways, two of them with splayed and rebated jambs, the general quality of the masonry, and the surviving oak roof truss, indicate that the barn dates to the 17th century, and the appearance of the west end, combined with the earlier name of "Noyna Out Laith" all go to show that the building was originally a four bay structure given over solely to agricultural use, and while there is no known documentary evidence to prove it, it was almost certainly built by the Barcrofts to serve their Foulridge and Noyna Hall estate. It was built as a combination barn with housing for livestock, hay, and crops, and threshing would also have been carried out in it, but the function of the west end, before it was made into domestic accommodation, remains uncertain. The fourth bay means it is a relatively large barn, and the quality of some of the features suggests it was intended for the home farm rather than a tenant; the gable doorway at the north-east corner is a rather unusual feature, as gable entrances are usually provided for a shippon in the barn, and normally in a symmetrical arrangement. In the 18th or early 19th century it was established as a farm in its own right, with the conversion of the west end to a house and the addition of another bay for living accommodation, although it is not clear which part of the present house was occupied first. Further additions were made to the east end of the range, with the present arrangement being established only in the early 20th century.

Appendix 1: Contents of the project archive

To be deposited with the Lancashire Record Office

1 file, containing:

- a copy of the report
- full set of black and white photographs
- site notes (annotated plans etc)

Complete list of photographs taken, in film order

Photo	Film	Frame	Subject
2	1	1	Noyna Bottom, from the south-east
5	1	2	The barn: front elevation
6	1	4	Front elevation of the barn, with later stable to right
4	1	5	Front elevation of the house and barn, from the south-east
1	1	6	General view, from the south-west
3	1	7	Front elevation of the house (extended at the left)
7	1	8	Front elevation of the barn, and later stable, from the south-west
9	1	10	Chamfered doorway with worn stops, to shippon in west end of barn
8	1	11	Doorway to shippon in west end of barn
10	1	12	Front porch or entry to barn
53	1	13	West side of later stable added to front elevation
52	1	14	Later stable added to front elevation, from the south-west
62	1	16	Outbuilding on south side of road, from the north
63	1	17	Outbuilding on south side of road, from the north-east
64	1	18	Outbuilding on south side of road, from the south-west
65	2	1	Outbuilding on north side of road, from the south-west
58	2	2	Entrance to added shippon, from the south
51	2	4	General view of the site, from the east
59	2	5	Lean-to shippon against east gable of barn, from the south-east
11	2	6	General view of the site, from the north-east
19	2	7	Rear elevation of the barn, from the north-east
17	2	8	Rear elevation of the barn, from the north
15	2	10	General view of the site, from the north-east
16	2	11	General view of the site, from the north
14	2	12	Rear elevation of the barn and house, from the north-west
20	2	13	Detail of breathers in rear elevation of the barn
18	2	14	Detail of former doorway in rear elevation of the barn
21	2	16	Detail of openings to house at west end of rear elevation
25	2	17	Interior of shippon in west end of barn, from the south
23	2	18	Interior of shippon in west end of barn, from the north
28	3	1	Detail of (C17?) door to shippon
27	3	2	Recess in south side of shippon
26	3	4	Detail of pitched stones to stalls in shippon
29	3	5	Central bay of the barn, from the south-east
38	3	6	Original roof truss in the barn, from the east
22	3	7	West end of the barn interior, showing rubble wall to house

page	9
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31	3	8	Central bay of the barn, from the north-east
35	3	9	South-east corner of the barn
30	3	11	Central bay of the barn and north-east doorway, from the south
32	3	12	Former doorway in rear elevation
36	3	13	Breathers in north-east corner of the barn
37	3	14	Doorway at north end of east gable, from the west
13	3	15	Detail of chamfer and stop to doorway at north end of east gable
	3	17	Same as 3/15
60	3	18	Interior of lean-to shippon at east end
61	4	1	Brick floor to stalls in lean-to shippon
	4	2	Same as 4/4
12	4	4	Doorway at north end of east gable, from the east
54	4	5	Interior of added stable, from the west
56	4	6	Interior of added stable, from the south-east
55	4	7	Detail of cast iron post in added stable
57	4	8	Interior of added stable, from the north
24	4	10	Recesses in west side of shippon
48	4	11	Date carved tie-beam of later truss in barn (west side)
49	4	12	Assembly numbers carved in later truss in barn (west side)
50	4	13	Assembly numbers carved in later truss in barn (west side)
47	4	14	East truss in barn, from the south-west (dated 1865)
40	4	16	Upper face of west truss in barn: south end
39	4	17	Upper face of west truss in barn, from the north-east
41	4	18	Upper face of west truss in barn: north end
46	5	1	Upper face of west truss in barn: assembly marks to outer strut at north end
45	5	2	Upper face of west truss in barn: assembly marks to inner strut at north end
43	5	4	Upper face of west truss in barn: assembly marks to foot of king post
42	5	5	Upper face of top of king post of west truss in barn
44	5	6	Upper face of west truss in barn: assembly marks to inner strut at south end
34	5	7	Detail of chamfer to inside face of main entrance to barn
33	5	8	Internal view of main entrance into barn (altered, with new doors)

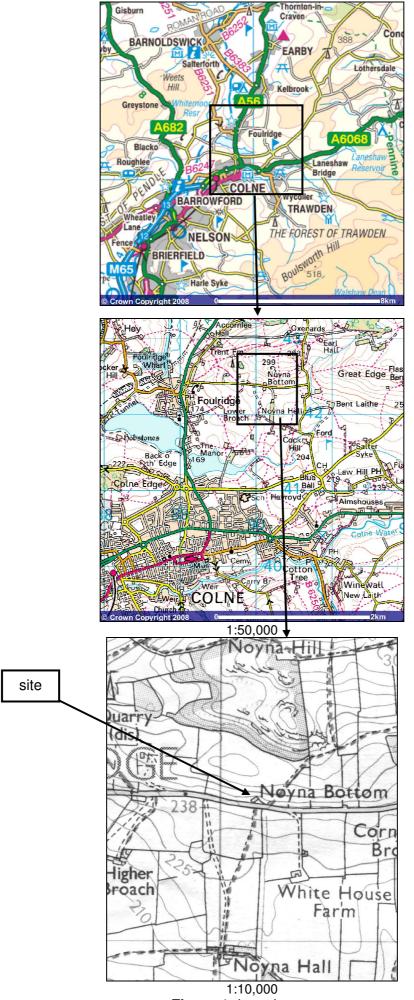
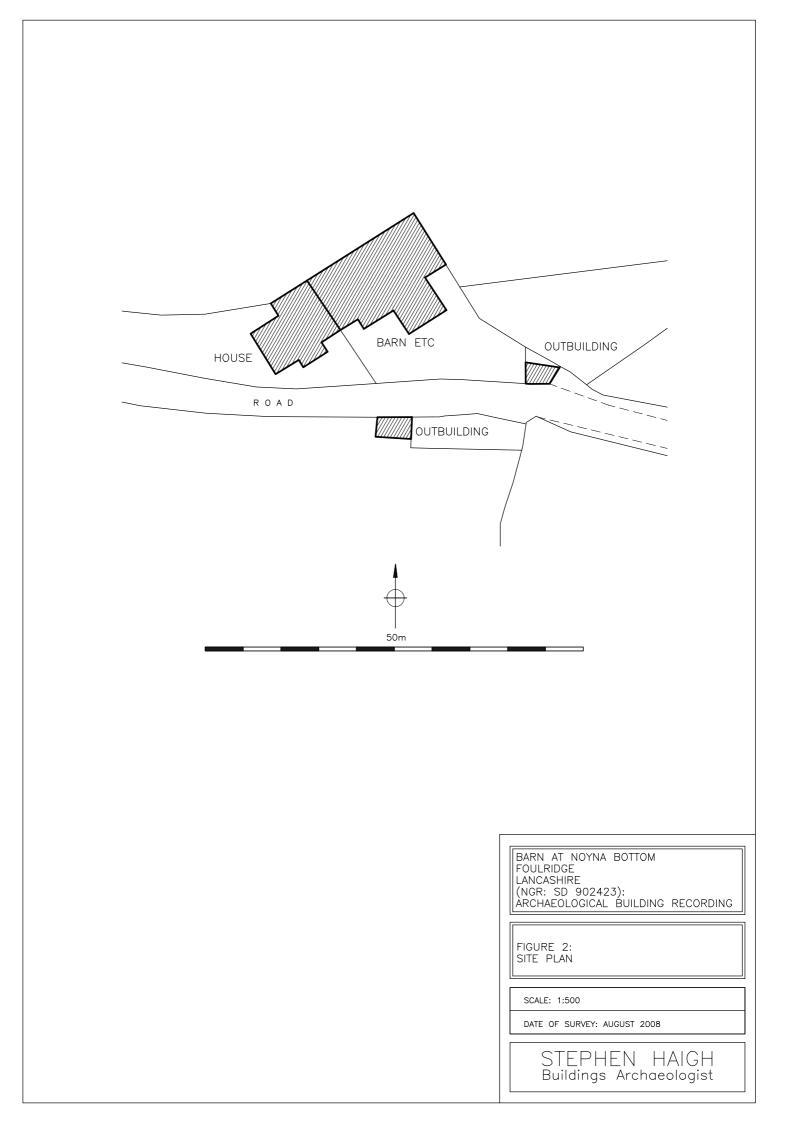


Figure 1: Location maps Reproduced by permission of Ordnance Survey© on behalf of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office. © Crown Copyright. All rights reserved. Licence no: AL100034008



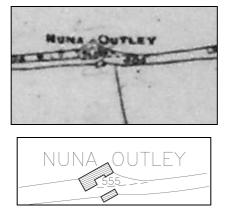


Figure 3: Enlarged extract from 1844 tithe map (photograph and tracing) Plan of the Township of Foulridge in the Parish of Whalley and County of Lancaster (LRO DRB 1/81)

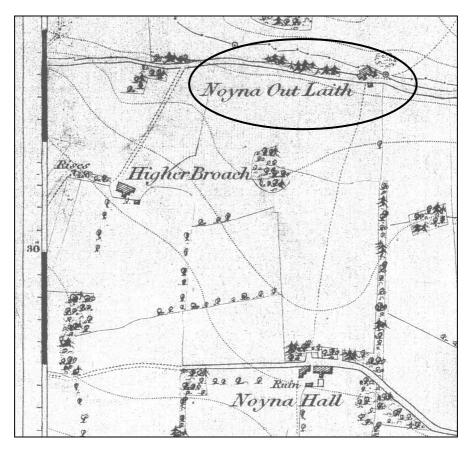


Figure 4: Ordnance Survey 6" to mile map (enlarged), published 1848 (survey date: 1844) Sheet no: Lancashire, 49

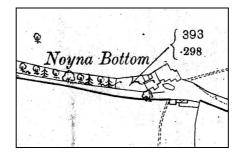


Figure 5: Ordnance Survey 1:2500 map, published 1894 (survey date: 1891-2) Sheet no: Lancashire, 49.9

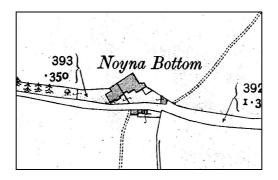


Figure 6: Ordnance Survey 1:2500 map, published 1912 (revised: 1909) Sheet no: Lancashire, 49.9

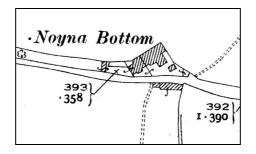
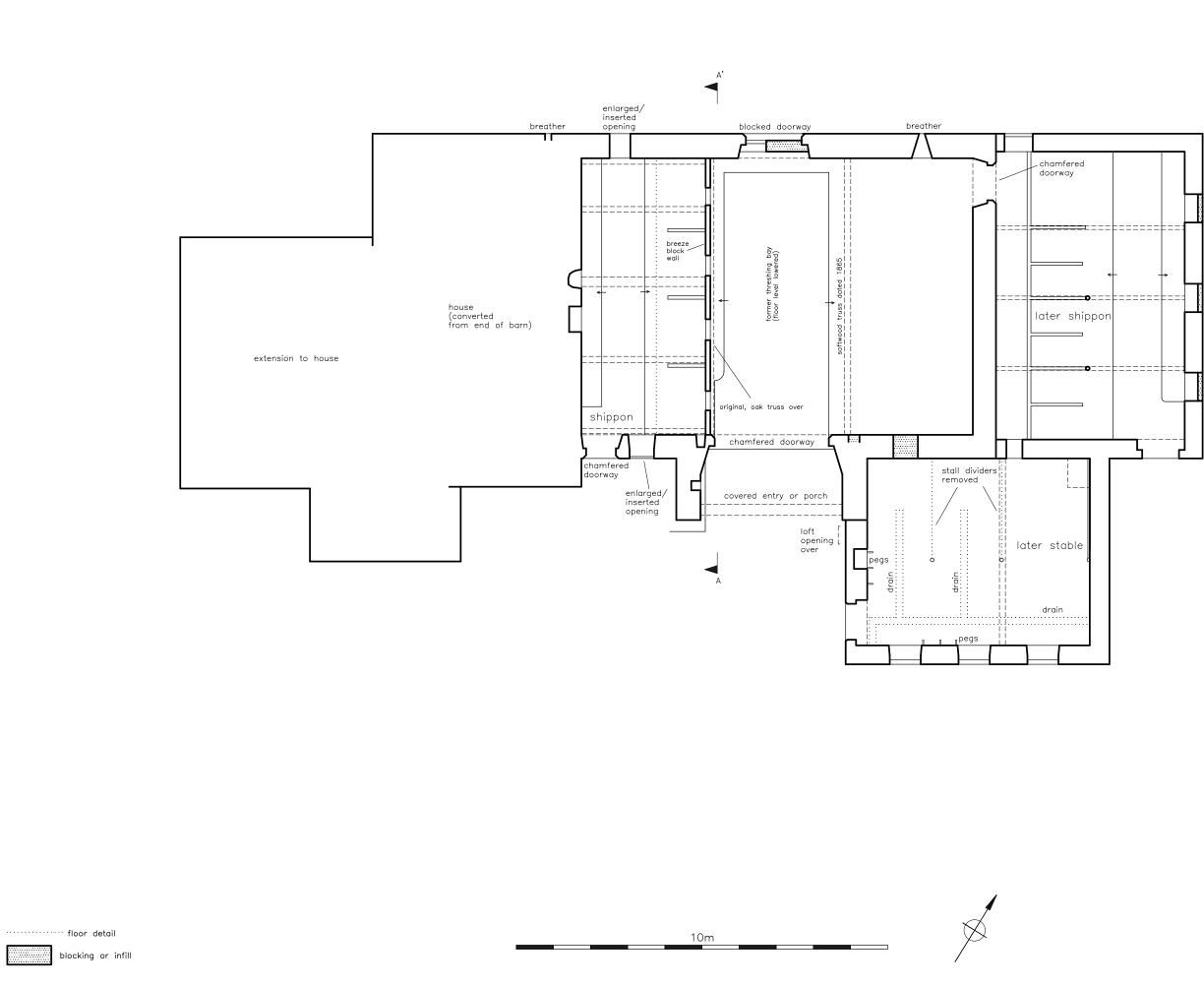


Figure 7: Ordnance Survey 1:2500 map, published 1931 (revised: 1930) Sheet no: Lancashire, 49.9



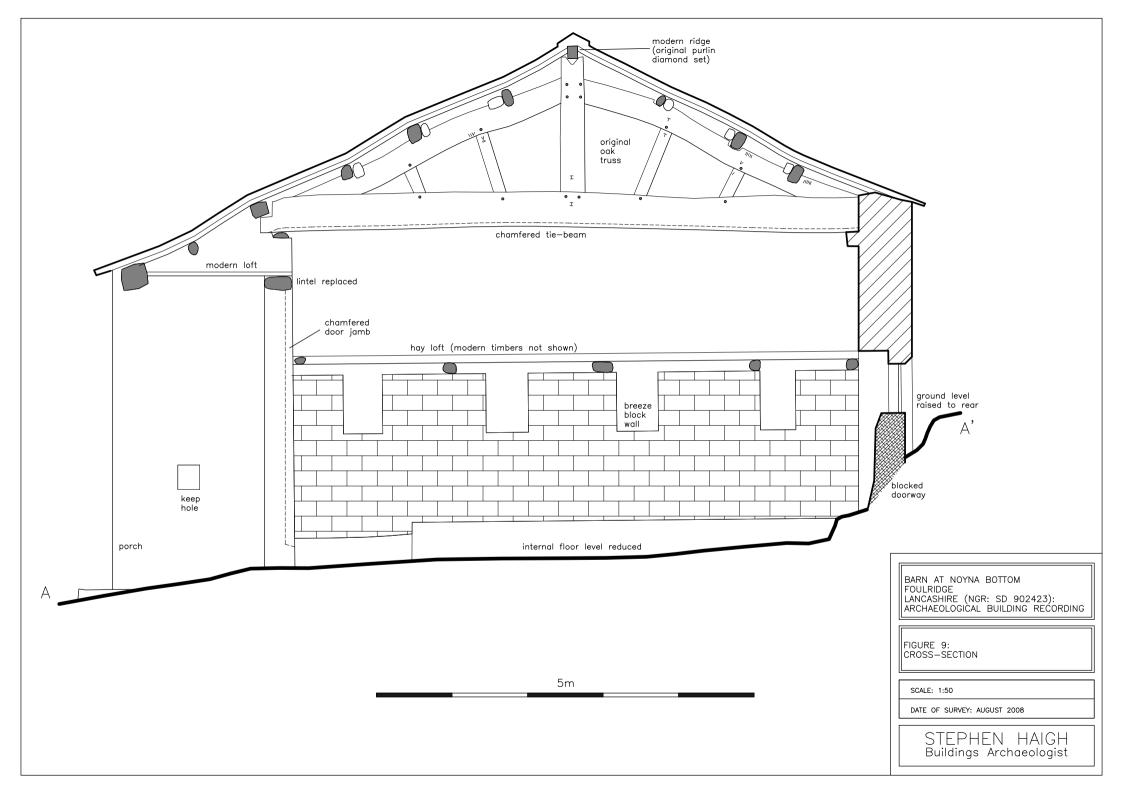
BARN AT NOYNA BOTTOM FOULRIDGE LANCASHIRE (NGR: SD 902423): ARCHAEOLOGICAL BUILDING RECORDING

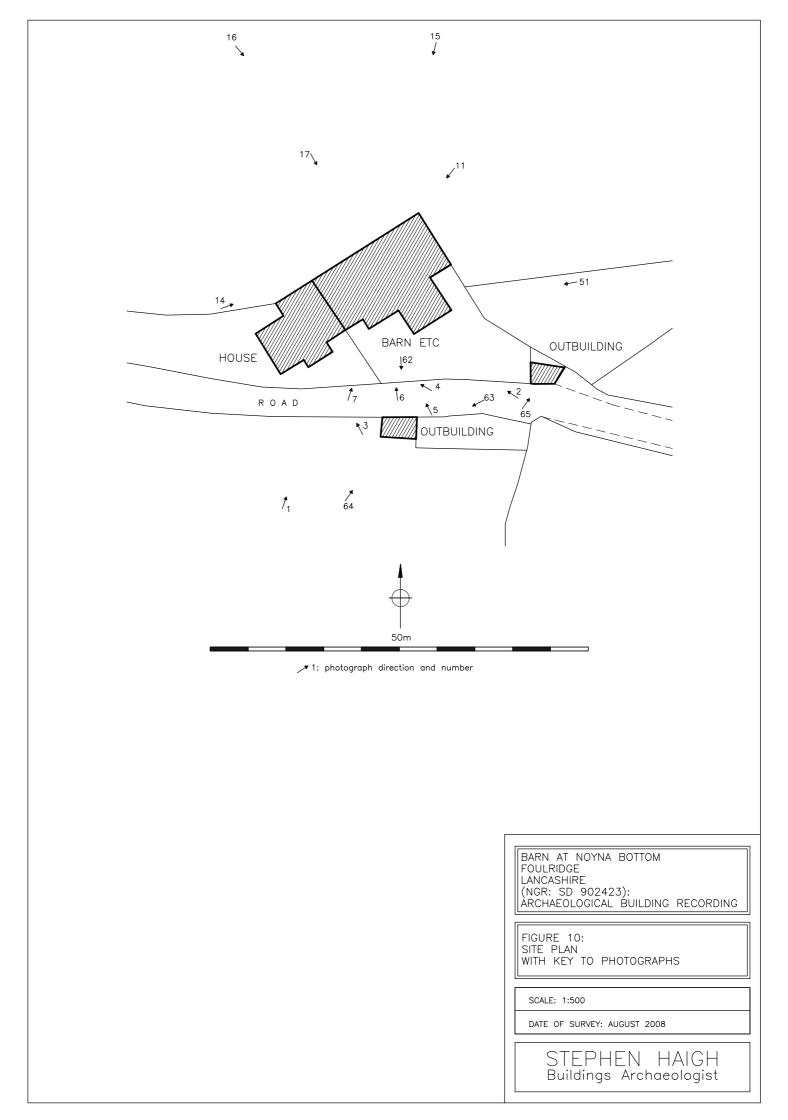
FIGURE 8: GROUND FLOOR PLAN

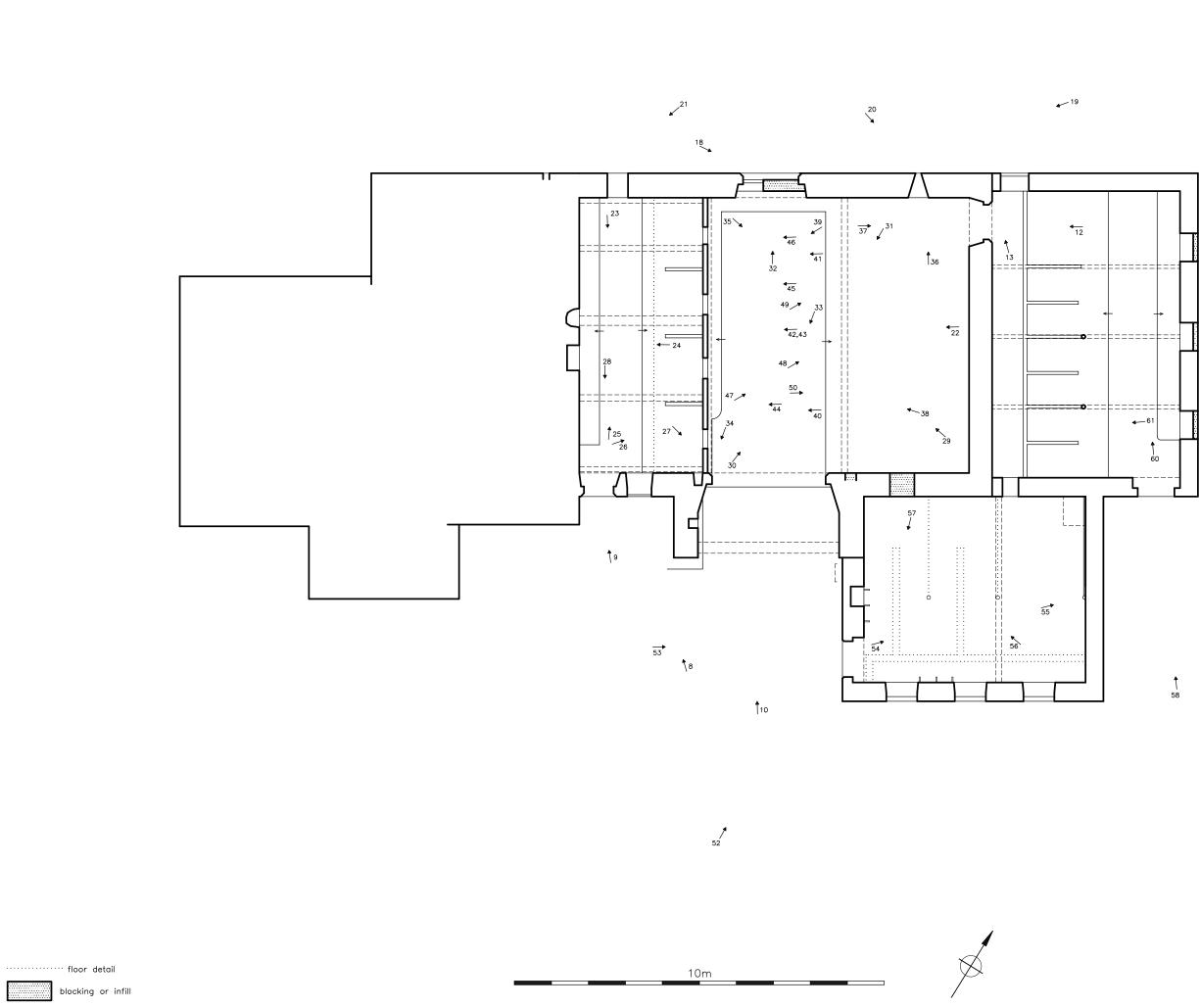
SCALE: 1:100

DATE OF SURVEY: AUGUST 2008

STEPHEN HAIGH Buildings Archaeologist







→ 1: photograph direction and number

59

BARN AT NOYNA BOTTOM FOULRIDGE LANCASHIRE (NGR: SD 902423): ARCHAEOLOGICAL BUILDING RECORDING

FIGURE 11: GROUND FLOOR PLAN WITH KEY TO PHOTOGRAPHS

SCALE: 1:100

DATE OF SURVEY: AUGUST 2008

STEPHEN HAIGH Buildings Archaeologist