

HISTORIC BUILDING
RECORDING AND
GROUNDWORKS AT
EATON FARM, STOKE PRIOR,
HEREFORDSHIRE

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Recording of an historic building at Eaton Farm, Stoke Prior, Herefordshire

Shona Robson-Glyde and Anna Deeks

Contributions by Angus Crawford

Part 1 Project summary

The recording of an historical building was undertaken at Eaton Farm, Stoke Prior Herefordshire (National Grid reference SO 350927 258280). It was undertaken on behalf of Mr and Mrs Pritchard of Eaton Farm, who intend to convert an existing agricultural building to form one dwelling for which a planning application has been submitted. The project aimed to survey and record the historic building both prior to and during development in order to create a detailed record, in particular of those archaeological structures or materials which would be destroyed or damaged by the development. In addition the project was concerned with assessing whether any significant archaeological deposits was present during associated groundworks.

The building at Eaton Farm was constructed in the 17th century as a cider mill when the production of cider was an important economic process within the country. The building was extended in the late 18th century as the need to diversify the crops produced on the farm arose due to a downturn the economic viability of cider production. The building was again altered in the 19th century, as cider making again became a viable manufacturing process. In the 20th century the needs of the farm, and therefore the function of the building, changed again as the economic importance of other produce took over from cider making and finally the mill was removed from the building and it was partially converted into a house.

Part 2 Detailed report

1. Background

1.1 Reasons for the project

The recording of an historical building was undertaken at Eaton Farm, Stoke Prior Herefordshire (National Grid reference SO 350927 258280; Fig 1) on behalf of Mr and Mrs Pritchard of Eaton Farm. Mr and Mrs Pritchard intend to convert an existing agricultural building to form one dwelling and have submitted a planning application to Herefordshire Council (ref NC2002/2585/F), who consider that a building, Eaton Farm barn (HSM 23236), of historic or architectural significance may be affected. The barn is adjoined to the south-west corner of the farmhouse.

1.2 Project parameters

The project conforms to the *Standard and guidance for an archaeological watching brief* (IFA 1999a) and the *Standard and guidance for the archaeological investigation and recording of standing buildings or structures* (IFA 1999b).

The project also conforms to a brief prepared by Herefordshire Council (the Curator) and dated January 2003 (Herefordshire Archaeology 2003) and for which a project proposal (including detailed specification) was produced (HEAS 2003).

1.3 Aims

The aims of the project were to survey and record, both prior to and during development, the structures of historic interest and other archaeological materials present on the site. In addition the project was concerned with assessing whether any significant archaeological deposits was present during associated groundworks.

More specifically the following aims have been identified.

- To create a detailed record of those archaeological structures or materials to be destroyed or damagingly affected by the development;
- To make a concise record of other relevant features of the site, in order to put the work in context;
- The deposition of a satisfactory archaeological archive and publication.

2. Methods

2.1 Documentary search

Prior to fieldwork commencing a search was made of the Historic Environment Record (HER). In addition the following sources were also consulted:

Cartographic sources

- Tithe map of Eaton, Hennor and Stretford. Township in Parish of Leominster, 1850
- Ordnance Survey 1st edition 6" to the mile. Sheet number 19NE. Surveyed 1885, published 1891.
- Ordnance Survey 1st edition 6" to the mile. Sheet number 12NE. Surveyed 1885, published 1891.

-
- British Geological Survey 1990. 1:250,000
 - Soil Survey of England and Wales 1983. 1:250,000

Documentary sources

- Hurst 1986
- Pevsner 1963
- Price 1795
- Thorn and Thorn 1983

2.2 **Fieldwork**

2.2.1 **Fieldwork strategy**

A detailed specification has been prepared by the Service (HEAS 2003).

Fieldwork was undertaken between 16th July and 22nd September 2003.

Building recording consisted of a photographic survey of the interior and exterior of the building and building analysis. All photographs were taken with photographic scales visible in shot. The photographic survey was carried out using 35mm single lens reflex (SLR) Pentax P30 camera with colour film. Additional photographs of all ground works were taken with a digital camera (Fujifilm Finepix S602Zoom). All photographs were recorded on a pro-forma Photographic Record Sheet, listing the shot number, description of shot, orientation, and length of zoom. Building analysis was carried out by annotating ground and elevation plans and by completing pro-forma Building Record Sheets.

A total of three trenches were excavated during the course of ground works, amounting to just over 15m² in area, were excavated over the site area of approximately 90m², representing a sample of 16%. The location of the trenches is indicated in Figure 2.

Machining was carried out under archaeological supervision with a mechanical mini-digger with a toothed bucket 0.40m wide. Clean surfaces were inspected and selected deposits were excavated to retrieve artefactual material, as well as to determine their nature. Deposits were recorded according to standard Service practice (CAS 1995). On completion of excavation, trenches were reinstated by replacing the excavated material.

2.2.2 **Structural analysis**

All fieldwork records were checked and cross-referenced. Analysis was effected through a combination of structural, artefactual and ecofactual evidence, allied to the information derived from other sources.

2.3 **Artefacts (Angus Crawford)**

2.3.1 **Artefact recovery policy**

The artefact recovery policy conformed to standard Service practice (CAS 1995; appendix 2). This in principal determines that all finds, of whatever date, must be collected. However, in this case only a sample of later material was collected from the spoil during machining. All artefacts were recovered from stratified deposits.

2.3.2 **Method of analysis**

All hand retrieved finds were examined. A primary record was made of all finds on a Microsoft Access 2000 database. Artefacts were identified, quantified and dated and a *terminus post quem* produced for each stratified context.

Pottery was examined under x20 magnification and recorded by fabric type and form according to the fabric reference series maintained by the service (Hurst and Rees 1992).

2.4 **Building recording**

The project conformed to the specification for archaeological recording to RCHME level 1-2 as defined by the Royal Commission on the Historic Monuments of England (RCHME 1996).

2.5 **The methods in retrospect**

Some areas of the building had not been cleared of contents prior to the survey, however it was not felt that this in any way impeded the quality of record produced..

3. **Topographical and archaeological context**

Eaton Farm is located immediately to the south-east of Leominster and north-west of Stoke Prior in Herefordshire and is centred on NGR SO 350927 258280. The site is bounded to the west by the River Lugg, to the east by the Stoke Prior Road and to the south and north by field boundaries. The underlying solid geology comprises Lower Devonian red mudstone, sandstone and some calccrete of the St Maughans formation (British Geological Survey 1990), overlain by river alluvium. The soils are of the Lugwardine association comprising the Mathon, Hollington and Walford series, with typical characteristics of stoneless permeable silty soils, at risk of flooding (Soil Survey of England and Wales 1983).

The Herefordshire SMR contains a number of sites within the vicinity of Eaton Farm, all of which are noted within the text below, these sites are also listed in Table 1 at the end of this section.

Eaton appears to have been settled since at least the late Saxon period and the medieval manor (HSM 25292; Fig 3) is mentioned in the Domesday Book (Thorn and Thorn 1983). The presence of several medieval structures immediately to the south-east of the site reflect this. The core of this activity appears to be the mid 14th century manor house of Eaton Hall (Pevsner 1973; HSM 5162). In addition to the primary construction, the Hall contains elements of rebuild dating to the 18th century as well as remains of a possible undercroft, dating to the 13th century. In association with the Hall, the Herefordshire SMR lists several further medieval sites, comprising fishponds (HSM 11980) immediately to the north of the hall and a chapel which was subsequently converted into a hop kiln (HSM 11984; Price 1795). Further evidence of settlement is provided by parch marks of a deserted medieval village (HSM 10311) located to the south of Eaton Hall. A stone bridge (HSM 5161) located 0.75 miles south-east of Leominster church dating to the 16th century also provides evidence of medieval activity.

Settlement and activity in the vicinity of the site continues into the post-medieval period and is well testified by a range of sites including, a 19th century mill at Eaton (HSM 12008), a 17th century barn at Eaton (HSM 5230), a number of barns at Eaton Hall (HSM 23237, 23239, 23240, gravel pits (HSM 30256), Eaton Hall river bridge (HSM 30759) as well as documentary evidence for post-medieval dovecotes, also at Eaton Hall (HSM 12007). In addition a possible mill site has been identified at Eaton Hall, represented by a number of waterlogged timbers found in association with 17th century finds (HSM 5165), which may be the predecessor to the 19th century mill identified further upstream (HSM 12008). A further bridge dating to the 19th century has been identified in the vicinity of Eaton Hall (HSM 23238) and is listed Grade II.

The barn, which forms the focus of this historic building recording, is adjoined to the south-west corner of Eaton Farm. The farmhouse itself is listed on the Herefordshire SMR (HSM 23236) as an 18th century farmhouse with an “earlier core” and is listed grade II. The farm buildings are shown on the 1850 tithe map for Eaton, Hennor and Stretford (Fig 4). The adjacent fieldnames, such as ‘Big Orchard’ ‘David’s Orchard’ and ‘Young Orchard’ indicate that the land surrounding Eaton Farm was almost entirely under orchard. This cartographic evidence correlates to an earlier use of the farms outbuildings as a cider press as evidenced by the partial remains of a press in the grounds of the site (Plate 1). A later Ordnance Survey map, surveyed in 1884-5 (Fig 5), shows that orchards still occupy the majority of land to the east of Eaton Farm. Slight changes in field divisions are shown but the footprint of the farm buildings remains unchanged.

SMR number	Description	NGR
5161	Eaton Bridge, Leominster	SO 5073 5849
5162	Eaton Hall, Leominster	SO 5087 5803
5165	Timbers, N of Eaton Hall	SO 5000 5800
5230	Barn, Eaton, Leominster	SO 5090 5820
10311	Building, S of Eaton Farm	SO 5100 5700
11980	Fishponds, Eaton Hall	SO 5090 5810
11984	Chapel, Eaton Hall	SO 5080 5800
12007	Dovecotes, Eaton Hall	SO 5090 5800
12008	Mill, Eaton, Leominster	SO 5087 5799
23154	Field S of Eaton Bridge	SO 5000 5800
23231	Mill site?, S of Eaton Hall	SO 5085 5780
23236	Eaton Farmhouse, Leominster	SO 5093 5828
23237	Barn, Eaton Hall	SO 5085 5795
23238	Bridge near Eaton Hall	SO 5080 5795
23239	Barn 1, Eaton Hall	SO 5087 5800
23240	Barn 2, Eaton Hall	SO 5090 5798
25292	Eaton medieval manor, Stoke Prior	SO 5000 5800
30256	Gravel pits, Eaton Hall	SO 5123 5782
30759	Eaton Hall bridge, Leominster	SO 5080 5790

4. Description

The building recorded, and its different phases, is shown on Figure 6. The results of the structural analysis are presented in Appendix 1. Table 1 summarises the artefacts recovered.

4.1 Historic building recording

The building recording included analysing the structure of the barn. The building consisted of the main structure, the barn, and a lean-to structure attached to the east of the building. Much of the original layout of the barn has been lost due the conversion of the south-east end in the late 1950s.

The barn is built of coursed rubble lias and sandstone on the ground floor (Plate 2) and timber-frame above which has brick infill. The first floor timber-frame is rendered on the exterior but the timber and brickwork is visible inside (Plate 3). The timber-frame is of square panels. The roof is hipped with plain tiles, the windows are rectangular and the doors have wood frames.

The lean-to has a stone plinth, like the barn, with timber-frame above (Plate 4). The stone is coursed rubble lias and sandstone and the timber frame is a mixture of tall and square panels. The roof has slates, the windows are square and the doors have wood frames. One of the windows is a small casement with leaded lights.

4.1.1 **17th century**

In the 17th century a small barn was built against the wall of the existing Eaton Farmhouse. It is possible that this barn was not the only building constructed on the farm at this time. This barn was constructed of rubble stone, roughly coursed, on the ground floor. The first floor was built of timber-frame panels with brick infill. This style of building appears to be common in Herefordshire. Access to the first floor was via a staircase or ladder from the ground floor probably situated at the south-east end. Due to the later alterations of the barn it is not possible to determine a function for the barn at this date although due to the popularity of cider making in Herefordshire, and the surviving field name evidence for orchards, it may have been built as a cider mill.

4.1.2 **18th century**

In the 18th century the barn was extended along its north elevation. The extension was constructed of roughly coursed rubble stone on the ground floor and a mixture of tall and square panels of timber framing on the first floor. The panels were infilled with brick. Access into the extension was through doors in the north-east face of the building (Plate 5). The access to the first floor was by exterior stone steps (Plate 6) with a built in kennel below them (Plate 7). A doorway was inserted through the framing on the first floor to allow access into the main barn from the extension. The building was used as a granary on the first floor and for grain processing or storage on the ground floor. A separate room on the ground floor was used as a dairy. This had a flagstone floor with a stone bench on brick piers (Plate 8).

Also in the 18th century the first floor of the barn had an internal timber frame division added (Plate 9). This division allowed different items to be stored on the same floor but in separate conditions, such as apples and grain or hay. At this time the building was being used as a cider mill and for the storage of the fresh cider. The first floor was used for the storage of apples. The cider mill still exists within the garden of the farmhouse.

4.1.3 **19th century**

In the 19th century the first floor of the granary was partially converted into a workmen's room (Plate 10). This was used for the workmen of the farm to sleep in probably during harvest or threshing time.

4.1.4 **20th century**

In the 20th century the building was altered as its use changed. The main barn was extended into the granary extension on the ground floor. This caused an opening to be created in the original northeast wall of the barn and the dairy wall was partially rebuilt (Plate 11). An opening into the barn from the dairy was blocked with breezeblock. The southeast end of the barn was converted for residential use by the farmhouse in the mid 20th century, which included the building of a bay window on the southwest elevation (Plate 12). The walls dividing the barn were built of breezeblock with some brick. The barn may have still been used as a cider mill at this time and it was still being used as a granary.

Also in the 20th century a number of doors and windows were inserted or replaced in the buildings. On the southwest elevation taking-in doors were added on the ground and first floors and shuttered windows were added.

4.2 **Monitored groundworks**

The watching brief consisted of a large area outside the barn that was cleared to level the ground in preparation for the development. Three trenches were also excavated for drainage and a septic tank. These trenches are indicated on Figure 2. Section drawings of the trenches are reproduced in Figure 7.

4.2.1 Artefactual analysis (Angus Crawford)

A summary of the artefacts recovered can be seen in Table 1. The assemblage recovered from the watching brief came from four stratified contexts and the site surface. The assemblage ranged in date from the late post-medieval to modern periods. The recovered pottery assemblage consists of 52 sherds of which all were recovered from a single context (302) except for one as an unstratified surface find.

The pottery was identified and grouped by fabric and context (see Table 2). The majority of the sherds were undiagnostic but could be dated between the 18th and 20th century by fabric type.

Other finds included ceramic and stone building material, glass vessel shards, two clay pipe stems, oyster shell (context 201) and animal bone (context 302).

The stone (context 201) and slate (context 302) building material were undiagnostic and undateable and, while included in the assemblage quantification, are not included in the artefact discussion.

Context	Material	Total	Weight (g)
200	Modern bottle glass	2	291
200	Modern pottery	2	112
200	Modern roof tile	1	1000
200	Modern blast furnace slag	4	63
201	Post-medieval brick	1	201
201	Oyster shell	1	21
201	Roofing slate	1	118
302	Animal bone	4	70
302	Modern bottle glass	1	29
302	Modern pottery	22	722
302	Post-medieval pottery	28	1514
302	Roofing slate	2	56
302	Stone tile	1	142
302	Modern roof tile	4	772
304	Clay pipe stem	2	9

Table 1: Quantification of the assemblage.

Context	Fabric name	Fabric	Total	Weight (g)
200	Modern stone china	85	2	112
302	Red sandy ware	78.1	16	933
302	Nottingham stoneware	81.3	1	3
302	Creamware	84	3	70
302	Modern stone china	85	22	722
302	Post-medieval buff wares	91	8	508

Table 2: Quantification of assemblage fabrics by context.

4.2.2 Phase 1 - Natural deposits

Natural deposits were observed in Trench 1 and consisted of compact brown/red clay.

4.2.3 Phase 2 - Post-medieval and modern deposits

Post-medieval deposits were uncovered within all trenches. The natural soil was only revealed in trenches 1 and 2. Trench 1, to the east of the barn, exposed the natural red clay and also a lias stone wall (307) and its return. This wall relates to an earlier building on the site that may be of the same date as the 17th century barn. The wall construction, which appears similar to that of the barn, consists of shaped coursed rubble facing stones with as rubble infill. This wall was constructed onto a natural dark red/purple clay with a large amount of cobbles that was used a foundation.

Trench 2, to the exterior of the barn, revealed a small square brick structure (203). The fill of this structure (204) was loose and consistent with the structure being a demolished privy.

In trench 3, within the granary extension, the natural soil was not exposed but along almost the entire length of the trench a mixed deposit was revealed (304). This deposit appears to be a construction layer pre-dating the building of the granary extension. Also in trench 3 a pit (301) cut into this construction layer appears to be of post-medieval date. The pit extends under the wall of the building. This pit had two fills, the primary fill (303) contained very little in the way of finds and the secondary fill produced the majority of the pottery. Whilst this pit post-dates the construction layer (304) it pre-dates the construction of the granary wall. It is possible that the pit was used as a scaffolding support.

Post-medieval finds (Angus Crawford)

Twenty-seven sherds of pottery were identified as post-medieval in date. All were retrieved within context 302. The dominant fabric was black glazed red sandy ware (fabric 78.1) accounting for 59.3% of the post-medieval fabrics. The second largest grouping (8 sherds) was of post-medieval buff ware (fabric 91), which included two pieces of a press-moulded dish. Three sherds of creamware could be more specifically dated due to its short period of manufacture (1760-80). A single small rim sherd of Nottingham stoneware (fabric 81.3) was also recovered. An in-depth analysis of form types was not undertaken but all sherds were identified as originating from domestic kitchenware.

Post-medieval ceramic building material (brick fragment, context 201; roof tile fragment, context 302) was also identified but, due to diagnostic difficulties, could only be placed broadly within the period. Two clay pipe stems of post-medieval date were also recovered from context 304.

Modern finds (Angus Crawford)

The modern pottery assemblage (24 sherds) consisted entirely of modern stone china (fabric 85). Of these twenty two were located within context 302. While exact dates for modern stone china are problematic the assemblage from context 302 appears no later than 1900. The two remaining sherds of modern stone china were recovered as unstratified surface finds. Both post dated 1900 with one sherd identified as a fragment of marmalade jar from James Keiller and Sons of Dundee. Interestingly Alex Keiller used his share of the family 'Marmalade' fortune to purchase and excavate Avebury in the 1930's.

A single shard of bottle glass was also recovered from context 302 and its thickness is suggestive of manufacturing methods prior to 1900. A large piece of modern roof ridge tile (1kg) and two modern glass vessels were also recovered as unstratified surface finds. Pieces of blast furnace slag (context 200) were also identified as modern in origin.

4.2.4 Undated deposits

Trench 1 revealed an undated stone wall. This wall was constructed of large faced stones on both sides and with a rubble core. It was 1.1m wide and was sitting on a foundation of re-deposited natural clay with cobbles tamped into it. The subsoil in the surrounding layer had built up against the wall rather than being cut through to construct the wall.

The wall extended along the trench and into the large sump excavated for the septic tank. Here the full width of the wall was revealed and also a return to the north. The construction of the wall was very different to that of the barn. The stones of the wall were much larger than those of the barn and were properly faced. The wall of the barn is only half the width of this stonewall. Even though there was no dating material within the surrounding soils, the construction of the wall would suggest a date prior to the 17th century.

5. Discussion

Eaton Farm barn was constructed in the 17th century probably as a cider mill attached to Eaton Farmhouse. The construction of this barn was possibly part of a larger period of building on the farm. The evidence of walls discovered in Trench 1 may be evidence of a building from this period. The construction of the wall is very similar to that of the barn. A larger trench would have revealed more of this building, as it was located close to the surface below the topsoil.

Viscount Scudamore, who was ambassador to Charles I in France, introduced cider into Herefordshire. He studied the orchards and cider varieties whilst in France and the fame of Herefordshire cider lies with a pip of the 'Redstreak' apple planted by Viscount Scudamore on his return from France. By the late 1600s it is reputed that more cider than ale houses were licensed in London during the reign of Charles II (Cider Route 2004). Cider was a very important and profitable drink through to the 1760s when the then Prime Minister, Lord Bute, put a tax of four shillings on a hogshead of cider and perry. This was essentially what killed the cider industry even though the tax was reduced in 1766. Agricultural techniques and economics had moved on during this period and cider making declined considerably. The construction of the lean-to at Eaton Farm probably relates to this change in agriculture and the need for a different type of building to deal with the new crops. The fact that the cider mill appears to have remained intact at this time shows that cider making was not totally abandoned in this period and that the farm diversified.

The granary that was created in the 18th century lean-to had an important function for the farm. The granary was used to store the grain after it had been threshed. The threshed grain would originally have been stored in the farmhouse but as yields and farming profits grew the granary became an independent building on the farm. Granaries were raised above the ground to keep the grain dry and vermin free. Threshed grain required safe storage for it was both the main cash crop and the seed for future crops. If the grain got damp, was eaten by rats or stolen by thieves then the farm could fail financially. Therefore the granary was generally located on the first floor in a building that would allow air circulation and had a staircase that could be protected either by being locked or, if external, then by incorporating a kennel, as in this case.

The late 19th century saw a revival in the production of cider and the construction of the workmen's room in the granary may have been needed to house the workforce during the apple harvest. At this time a large number of cider factories opened in Herefordshire, some of which are still currently in production. This time of boom in the cider industry came to a close following the Second World War when agriculture again became strong as technology created greater and easier production of other crops. At this time it is likely that the barn cider mill was placed in the garden. The use of the barn and granary had to change due to developing nature of agriculture in the latter half of the 20th century. As a result of this, half the barn was converted into a house in the 1950s.

6. Publication summary

The Service has a professional obligation to publish the results of archaeological projects within a reasonable period of time. To this end, the Service intends to use this summary as the basis for publication through local or regional journals. The client is requested to consider the content of this section as being acceptable for such publication.

The recording of an historical building was undertaken at Eaton Farm, Stoke Prior, Herefordshire (National Grid reference SO 350927 258290; HSM 37315). It was undertaken on behalf of Mr and Mrs Pritchard of Eaton Farm, who intend to convert the existing agricultural building to form one dwelling. The project aimed to survey and record the historic building both prior to and during development in order to create a satisfactory detailed record, in particular of those archaeological structures or materials which would be destroyed or damaged by the development. In addition the project was concerned with assessing whether any significant archaeological deposits were present during associated groundworks. The building at Eaton Farm was constructed in the 17th century as a

cider mill when the production of cider was an important economic process within the country. The building was extended in the late 18th century as the need to diversify the crops produced on the farm arose due to a downturn the economic viability of cider production. The building was again altered in the 19th century, as cider making again became a viable manufacturing process. In the 20th century the needs of the farm, and therefore the function of the building, changed again as the economic importance of other produce took over from cider making and finally the mill was removed from the building and it was partially converted into a house.

7. **The archive**

The archive consists of:

- 4 Fieldwork progress report sheets AS2
- 2 Photographic record sheets AS3
- 39 Digital photographs
- 2 Colour print film
- 3 Abbreviated context record sheets AS40
- 2 Building record sheets AS43
- 4 Annotated scale drawings (supplied by client)
- 1 Box of finds

The project archive is intended to be placed at:

Herefordshire Museum and Art Gallery
Broad Street
Hereford
HR4 9AU

8. **Acknowledgements**

The Service would like to thank the following for their kind assistance in the successful conclusion of this project, Mr and Mrs Pritchard (client), Mr A last (agent) and Julian Cotton (Herefordshire Archaeology Planning Services).

9. **Personnel**

The fieldwork and report preparation was led by Shona Robson-Glyde with elements of reporting by Anna Deeks. The project manager responsible for the quality of the project was Simon Woodiwiss. Fieldwork was undertaken by Shona Robson-Glyde, finds analysis by Angus Crawford, and illustration by Carolyn Hunt.

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11. **Abbreviations**

HER	Historic Environment Record
HSM	Numbers prefixed with 'HSM' are the primary reference numbers used by the Herefordshire Sites and Monuments Record.
SMR	Sites and Monuments Record.

12. **Appendix 1 Trench descriptions**

Trench 1

Maximum dimensions: Length: 10.80m Width: 0.50m Depth: 0.70m

Orientation: North-East to South- West

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
101	Turf		0.00-0.05m
102	Topsoil	Dark brown sandy loam with large amount of 19 th century manuring containing glass, pottery, bone, tile and charcoal	0.05-0.25m
103	Subsoil	Compact red/brown loamy sand with occasional charcoal flecks, frequent root and worm action.	0.25- 0.40m
104	Subsoil/natural	Compact brown/red clayey sand with small amounts of charcoal	0.40-0.70m

Features/Other deposits.

Context 105: Cut for cable trench. Running north-west to south-east

Context 106: Fill of 105. Loose material, similar to topsoil (102) but mixed with subsoil (103)

Context 107: Stone wall running north-east to south-west with return at south-west end of trench running south-east. Faced with dressed stones on both external faces and a rubble core. Sealed by topsoil (102), cuts subsoil (103) and natural (104)

Trench 2

Maximum dimensions: Length: 13.35m Width: 0.55m Depth: 0.70m

Orientation: North-East to South- West

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
200	Unstratified	Material from levelling activity	N/A
201	topsoil	Dark brown sandy loam with large amount of 19 th century manuring containing glass, pottery, bone, tile and charcoal	0.05-0.25m
202	Subsoil	Compact dark red/brown sandy clay with patches of hard compact red clay and stone with occasional charcoal flecks and stone throughout.	0.25- 0.40m

Features/Other deposits.

Context 203: Brick privy

Context 204: Fill of privy

Trench 3

Maximum dimensions: Length: 4.70m Width: 0.55m Depth: 0.70m

Orientation: North-East to South- West

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
301	Cut	Cut running north-east to south-west	N/A
302	Fill	Very loose dark brown clayey loam with frequent ash and very dark black hummic loam. Occasional pottery, bone and charcoal flecks. Secondary fill of 301	N/A
303	Fill	Very loose dark brown clayey loam with rare pottery, bone and charcoal flecks. Primary fill of 301.	N/A
304	Layer	Compact mixed grey brown and red brown sandy clay containing rare finds and charcoal flecks. Cut by 301	0.00-0.70m

13. **Appendix 2 Contractors report form**

Report Name and Title	Historic Building Recording and Groundworks at Eaton Farm, Stoke Prior, Herefordshire	
Contractors Name and Address	Worcestershire Historic Environment and Archaeology Service Woodbury Hall University College Worcester Henwick Grove Worcester, WR2 6AJ	
Site Name	Eaton Farm, Stoke Prior, Herefordshire	
Grid Reference: 350927 258280	Planning Application Number: NC2002/2585	
SMR number/s of site	HSM 23236 (Eaton Farmhouse), HSM 37315 (building recording & watching brief event)	
Date of Field Work	16 th July – 22 nd September 2003	
Date of Report	September 2004	
	NUMBER AND TYPE OF FINDS	
Pottery	Period – post medieval	Number of sherds – 27
	Period – Modern	Number of sherds – 24
Other		
Ceramic building material	Period – post medieval	Quantity – 2
Claypipe	Period – post medieval	Quantity – 2
Glass	Period –modern	Quantity – 3
	NUMBER AND TYPE OF SAMPLES COLLECTED	
Sieving for charred plant remains	No of Features sampled: 0 No of buckets: 0	
Summary of the report		

14. **Appendix 3 Brief and Proposal**



HEREFORDSHIRE
COUNCIL

BRIEF FOR A PROGRAMME OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY AND RECORDING. PROPOSED BARN CONVERSION AT EATON FARM, STOKE PRIOR, HEREFORDSHIRE

Ref: NC2002/2585/F

Date of issue: January 2003

The County of Herefordshire District Council has attached an archaeological condition to the planning permission granted for the above proposed development.

This archaeological condition requires the applicant to secure a programme of archaeological survey and recording, (hereinafter referred to as "the project") in order to record the archaeological interest of the proposed development site.

The County Archaeological Service, Herefordshire Archaeology, considers that the proposed development has significant archaeological implications.

The project in this case will comprise structural recording, ground-works recording, production of interim report, deposition of any archive, and publication of results.

The project must follow accepted archaeological best practice, as defined by the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA), and be in accordance with the general framework provided by this brief.

The formal submission of a project design implies that the applicant agrees with that design. The applicant is advised that project designs must be approved by Herefordshire Archaeology before being put into effect. The project must be undertaken by a professional archaeological contractor.

No development must take place until all these matters have been addressed.

Herefordshire Archaeology
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1 THE DEVELOPMENT SITE

The proposed development site is centred at NGR SO 50900 58290 approximately. The above definition is for broad identification for the purposes of this brief only. Full details of the proposed development are held by the developer.

2 THE DEVELOPMENT BACKGROUND

A planning application (ref: NC2002/2585/F) was validated by Herefordshire Council on 21/08/2002. This planning application proposed the conversion of agricultural buildings to form one dwelling. The applicants were Mr and Mrs Pritchard, Of Eaton Court. Herefordshire Archaeology advised that the development proposal had significant archaeological implications (see below). Accordingly, a standard archaeological 'survey and recording' condition was attached to planning permission when granted. This condition follows national government guidance (PPG 15 and 16), and is in accordance with local government (Herefordshire) plans.

3 THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

The site/structures on the site is/are of significant archaeological/historical interest, and would be detrimentally affected by the proposed development works. There may also be other archaeological remains on site.

This section (3) is intended as a concise summary of what currently appear to be the main archaeological themes, and does not constitute an anticipation of what might be found, or a documentary study of any kind.

4 THE AIMS OF THE PROJECT

The broad aims of the project are to survey and record, prior to and during development, the structures of historic interest and other archaeological materials present on the site. The primary intention is to make a satisfactory detailed record of those archaeological structures or materials to be destroyed or damagingly affected by development. There is also a secondary intention, however, to make concise records of other relevant features of the site, in order to put the work in context. The work will also aim to result in the deposition of a satisfactory archaeological archive and production of a satisfactory publication. The archaeological survey and recording will not be regarded as complete until satisfactory deposition and publication has been achieved.

5 THE SCOPE OF WORK

The work will consist of the following items:

- Archaeological recording (to RCHME level 1- 2) of any historically significant above ground structures to be destroyed or damaged by the development. It is anticipated that this will principally consist of a photographic record.
- Archaeological recording of any large scale ground-disturbing operations forming part of the development, except where Herefordshire Archaeology agree otherwise in advance. It is assumed that during the course of recording, the archaeological contractor may need to make routine small scale/short duration interventions in order to properly effect this recording.
- Full and proper analysis, processing, and deposition of all retained archaeological materials and archives of any kind that deriving from the works, and proper reporting and summary publication of the results in a recognised Journal.

6 THE METHOD OF WORK

The work will be undertaken to the relevant standards of the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA). Submitted project designs must indicate in detail the methods to be followed.

7 SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

There are no special requirements in relation to this particular development proposal.

8 DISCLAIMER

This brief has been prepared to the best of the information currently available to Herefordshire Archaeology, but despite our best efforts should not be assumed to be complete, consistent or completely accurate. If the applicant, the applicant's agent, or anybody else acting on behalf of the applicant or otherwise involved in the project, has supplementary or contrary information which may be relevant to the site or the archaeological work, they should contact the archaeological advisor (see below) as soon as possible. Herefordshire Archaeology has advised that the work described by this brief should take place, and will monitor archaeological standards during the full course of the work, but is not *responsible* for the work, particularly as regards site hazards and health and safety matters.

9 FURTHER INFORMATION

Further information can be obtained from **Herefordshire Archaeology, Planning Services, Herefordshire Council, PO Box 144, Hereford HR1 2YH Tel. 01432 383350**

PROPOSAL FOR RECORDING
OF AN HISTORIC BUILDING AT
EATON FARM, STOKE PRIOR,
HEREFORDSHIRE

© Archaeological Service, Worcestershire County Council

23 January 2003

Field Section,
Archaeological Service,
Worcestershire County Council,
Woodbury Hall,
University College Worcester,
Henwick Grove,
Worcester WR2 6AJ



Project reference P2343

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As a Registered Archaeological Organisation of the Institute of Field Archaeologists we deliver a quality service to our clients, users and partners. We have a commitment to providing clients with projects to a high standard and which are on time and within budget. Through information and education we provide the present and future communities of Worcestershire with a well managed archaeological heritage. To the Service's partners we will initiate ideas and seek their implementation in areas such as research.

Proposal for recording of an historic building at Eaton Farm, Stoke Prior, Herefordshire

1. Project specific design

1.1 Background

The Field Section of the Archaeological Service (the Service) has been requested to prepare a proposal for recording an historic building of archaeological interest at Eaton Farm, Stoke Prior, Herefordshire (SO 5090 5829).

The proposal has been requested by Mr and Mrs Pritchard of Eaton Farm (the Client) in response to a brief (the Brief) prepared by Herefordshire Council (the Curator) and dated January 2003 (ref NC2002/2585/F). The Brief results from the submission of a planning application to Herefordshire Council (reference number NC2002/2585/F). This proposes conversion of agricultural buildings to form one dwelling and is considered by the Curator to have the potential to affect an archaeological site (Brief, section 3).

The archaeological background to the site is given in the Brief (section 3).

1.2 Aims and objectives

The aims and scope of the project are given in the Brief (section 4-5).

1.3 Methods

Prior to fieldwork commencing existing information on the site will be collected. Relevant sources will be derived from those given by the SMR, and any information supplied by the Client.

Stage 1 Fieldwork

The drawn record will consist of the following items.

- Existing drawings prepared for the planning application.

Photography will consist of the following items.

- The general external appearance and setting of the building.
- Each external elevation.
- Where appropriate the general appearance of each room and circulation areas.

A written description of the structure will also be produced.

Observation and recording of archaeological deposits will be restricted to areas of ground disturbance associated with construction (ground breaking

and preparation, foundations, services, access etc) following the progress of the construction team.

Professional standards and Service methodologies are detailed in Section 2.

Stage 2 Report

Following completion of fieldwork, a report will be prepared for submission to the Client and Curator as specified below and in Section 2.

The report account will include the following items.

- Type or purpose of building.
- Known dates (drawn from existing sources) or provisional dates based on results of recording.
- A summary description of the building's plan, form, function, date and development.

Contingency

A contingency has been allowed to be applied to either fieldwork or report stages where necessary. The contingency is to allow for the appropriate treatment of the archaeological resource where this cannot be accommodated within the original costs. The contingency will be implemented in one or more of the following circumstances.

- The further recording and analysis of archaeological remains of a date and nature as indicated in the Brief.

1.4 Personnel

The Project Manager will be the first point of contact in all matters relating to the project.

- The Project Manager for this project will be Simon Woodiwiss (a profile is appended).
- The Project Leader for this project will be notified on acceptance of this proposal.

All staff will be appropriately qualified and with an established record of expertise. Profiles of key members of the team will be made available to the Client and Curator on request. The team will comprise the following, as required.

- Project Manager Responsible for the project.
 - Project Leader Direct fieldwork and prepare report.
-

- Field Archaeologists Undertake fieldwork and associated tasks.
- Specialist coordination and support Illustration.

In-house specialist support is also available in further more specialised areas (details will be supplied on request).

The Service has worked previously with a range of specialists in other fields (details will be supplied on request).

1.5 Programme

The project will commence on a date to be mutually agreed in writing. The Service will meet externally imposed deadlines wherever possible. Please inform the Service of specific commencement dates and date requirements for submission of the report.

The level of resources indicated below is for the purposes of demonstrating that an adequate level of resources have been committed to the project and variation may occur due to staff availability and the nature of the archaeological site. Any such variation will not compromise the quality or standard of the project.

Periods for report production and the contingency are dependent on the quantity and complexity of information retrieved and cannot be quantified at present. Provision equivalent to 145% of fieldwork (Stage 1) costs has been allowed for report production (Stage 2), and 33% of estimated fieldwork costs for contingencies. 1-2 days have been allowed for the buildings recording and 1-2 days for the observation of groundworks. Provision for the report would allow for 5.25 person days (including finds and illustration) and the contingency would allow for 1 additional day in the field or on the report.

Programme	Stage name Stage number	Fieldwork Stage 1
staff		
Project Manager	person days	
Project Leader	person days	3
Field Archaeologists	person days	
Specialists	person days	

2. Standard project design

2.1 Quality

The Service is part of Worcestershire County Council and is subject to the Council's policies, safeguards, practices and audit procedures.

The Service is registered as an archaeological organisation with the Institute of Field Archaeologists, and as such is bound to the IFA's *Code of Conduct* and bylaws.

The following are particularly relevant to this project:

- *Code of approved practice for the regulation of contractual arrangements in field archaeology (1997)*;
- *Standard and guidance for the archaeological investigation and recording of standing buildings or structures (1999)*.

Recording will respect the specification published by the Royal Commission on the Historical Monuments for England (RCHME 1996 *Recording historic buildings: a descriptive specification*, 3 edn).

The project and any recommendations will conform to the government advice contained in *Planning Policy Guidance: archaeology and planning* (DoE, PPG 16 1990) and *Planning Policy Guidance: planning and the historic environment* (DoE, PPG 15 1994).

2.2 Standard methods

The project will follow the procedures of the *Manual of Service Practice: fieldwork recording manual*, 1995 as amended, County Archaeological Service internal report, **399**.

Stage 1 Fieldwork

The County Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) will be consulted before fieldwork starts, with the aim of refining the project strategy as presented in this proposal.

The Brief requires that the Curator is invited to monitor fieldwork, and the Service will normally arrange visits. Any requirements of the Curator must be notified to the Service before fieldwork commences.

Stage 2 Reporting

The results of all fieldwork will be presented as a report in the Service's internal report series.

The report will contain:

- a non-technical summary;
- background;
- aims;
- methods;
- location and size of archive; and
- discuss results.

The report will also include the following information.

- Location of the site. Given as a six figure national grid reference and marked on a plan at either 1:10,000 or 1:2500.
- Legal status (Listed Building or Scheduled Ancient Monument) and reference.
- Date(s) of recording and name of recorder.

Each photographic print will be labelled with the SMR reference number, orientation, date taken, and reference of negative. A 35mm camera and black and white film will normally be used.

The Service will normally supply three copies of the report to the Client (or agent if they are coordinating the project on the Client's behalf). One of these copies may be forwarded to the Curator. A reasonable number of extra reports will be supplied to the Client on request. Where requested the Service will forward a copy directly to the Curator (in the interests of speed).

The Service has a professional obligation to make archaeological information available within a reasonable period (outside of any period of confidentiality reasonably required by the Client). The report will be submitted to the SMR with a short summary to be published in one or more regional journals (eg West Midlands Archaeology, Transactions of the Worcestershire Archaeological Society) where appropriate. The report will be submitted to the SMR within three months of completion of the fieldwork, unless the Service is notified to the contrary.

The record archive will be offered to an appropriate museum and security copies kept by the Service (or other appropriate arrangement).

2.3 Health and safety

The Service is covered by the conditions and requirements of the County Council's health and safety policies and procedures (as amended).

- *Health and Safety, corporate health and safety policy 1998.*
 - *Corporate Services safety policy (Cultural Services) 2000.*
-

The County Council also produces supplementary guidance (for example).

- *Guide to general risk assessment*, no date.
- *Display screen equipment, information for users*, 1992.
- *Manual handling in libraries*, no date

The Service has issued *Manual of Service practice: safe working practice* (1996 as amended, County Archaeological Service internal report, **461**) which are guidelines drawn from its risk assessments of common situations. The following guidelines are relevant to this project, and all staff will be aware of them.

- *Working out of doors and working with soils.*
- *Travelling.*
- *Working with tools and small equipment.*
- *Lone working.*
- *Sharing the site with other contractors.*

In addition provision has been made within the guidelines for assessing further risks which may be encountered during the project (*The specific circumstances of the site*).

All these documents may be viewed at the Service's offices, and may be copied to the Client and Curator on request.

The Client must notify the Service of any hazards within the archaeological site before the project commences. These include unsafe parts of any structure (eg unstable walls, rotten floors), hidden voids and contaminated ground or materials.

Where the project falls within the Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 1994 the Service will act in the role of Contractor for the purposes of the regulations. The Client must provide the Service with the following.

- The name of the Planning Supervisor.
 - The name of the Principal Contractor.
 - The relevant contents of the Safety Plan.
 - Service staff will follow any proper instruction given by the Principal Contractor for the purposes of health and safety when on site.
 - Protective clothing will consist of hard hat, protective boots, and high visibility jacket.
-

- The Service will maintain hazard fencing around areas in which it is undertaking detailed recording and where this may be a hazard to others working on the site.
- All staff will be appropriately certified in the use of any equipment used during the project. Any equipment or plant (including scaffolding) provided by the Client will be inspected before use by Service staff.

2.4 Conditions

The project is undertaken under the provisions of one or more of the following:

- *Local Government Act, 1972, section 111,*
- *Local Authorities (Goods and Services) Act, 1970,*
- *Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act, 1979,*
- any other relevant legislation.

In undertaking an archaeological project Worcestershire County Council's support (or otherwise) cannot be assumed or expected for any development proposal unless specifically indicated.

Worcestershire County Council will not have, or obtain any tenancy, or other estate, or interest in the archaeological site other than the access granted for the purposes of the archaeological project.

The Client will be responsible for obtaining all necessary permissions for undertaking the project. Of particular importance may be any consents for sites scheduled (or areas of archaeological importance) under the *Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979*, or listed buildings legislation.

Access to the site is the responsibility of the Client. Permissions for access must be arranged by the Client, with the landowner and tenant, as appropriate.

The Client should notify the Service of their site representative (if any) to whom the Service will report when on site. Where the Client has a site representative the Service will not give any instruction directly to the Construction Team, but will direct any requests through the Client's site representative. Where there is no site representative the Service will liaise directly with the Construction Team. Any recording will be undertaken where possible and as directed by the Client's site representative (if any).

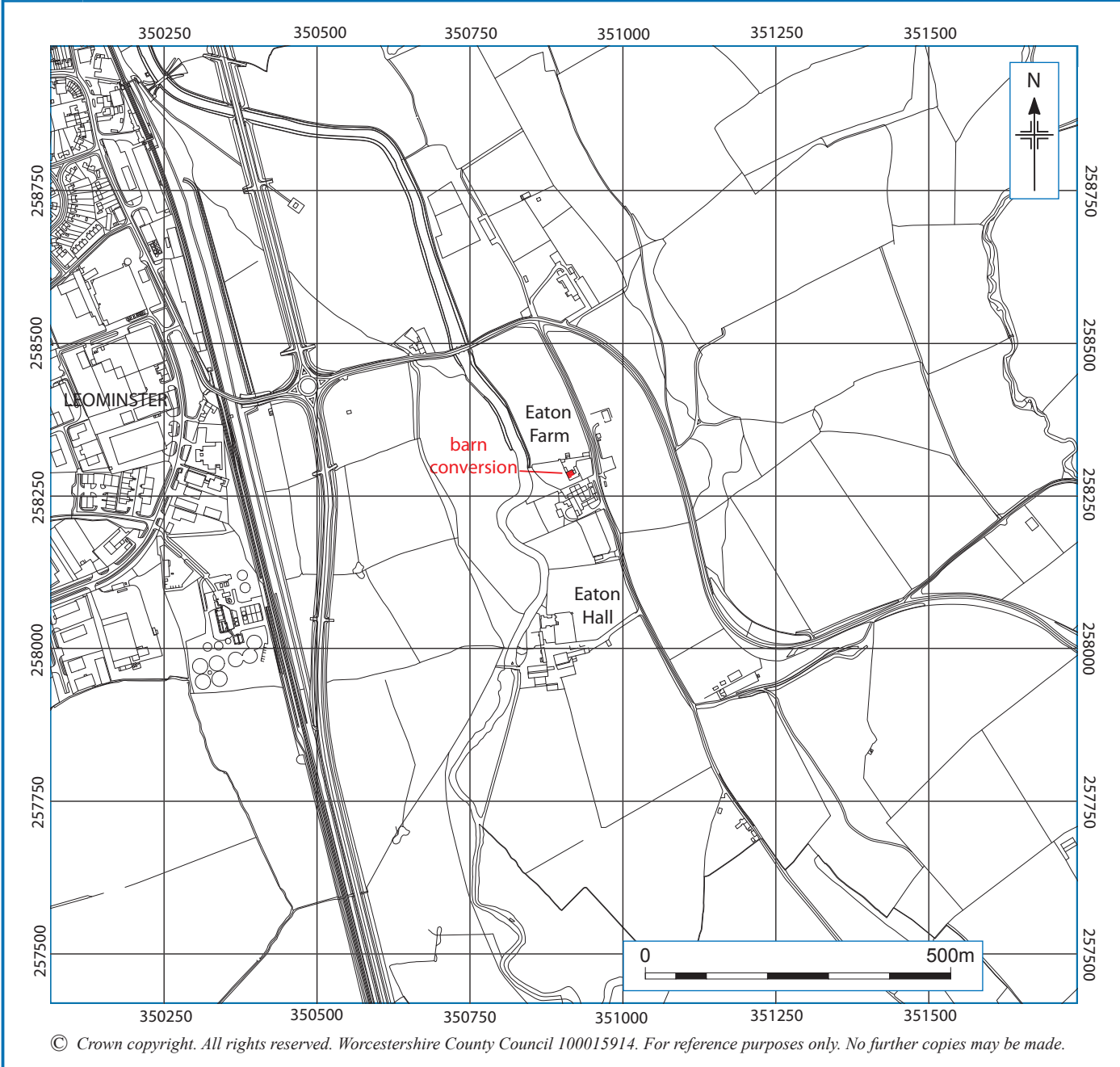
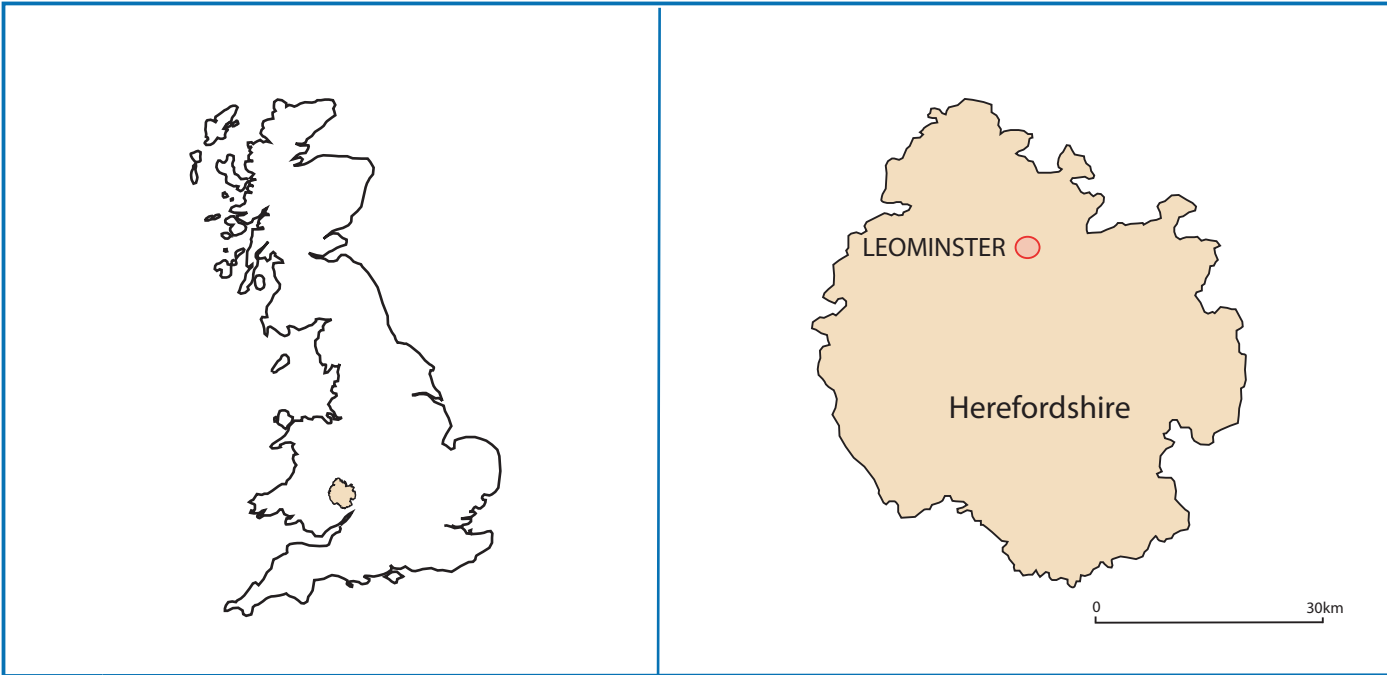
The project will only be undertaken when supported by a written agreement between Worcestershire County Council, the Client and/or the landowner (as appropriate). Forms of agreement or a draft agreement are enclosed with this proposal.

The Service is covered by employer's liability insurance (with a limit of £25 million), public liability insurance (with a limit of £25 million), and professional

indemnity insurance (with a limit of £1 million). Insurance is with the American Reinsurance Company Ltd (Policy Number 98ARM10069, expires 28 September 2003).

The Service will retain full copyright of the report under the *Copyrights, Designs and Patents Act 1988* with all rights reserved; excepting that it shall provide an exclusive licence to the Client in all matters directly relating to the project as described in this proposal.

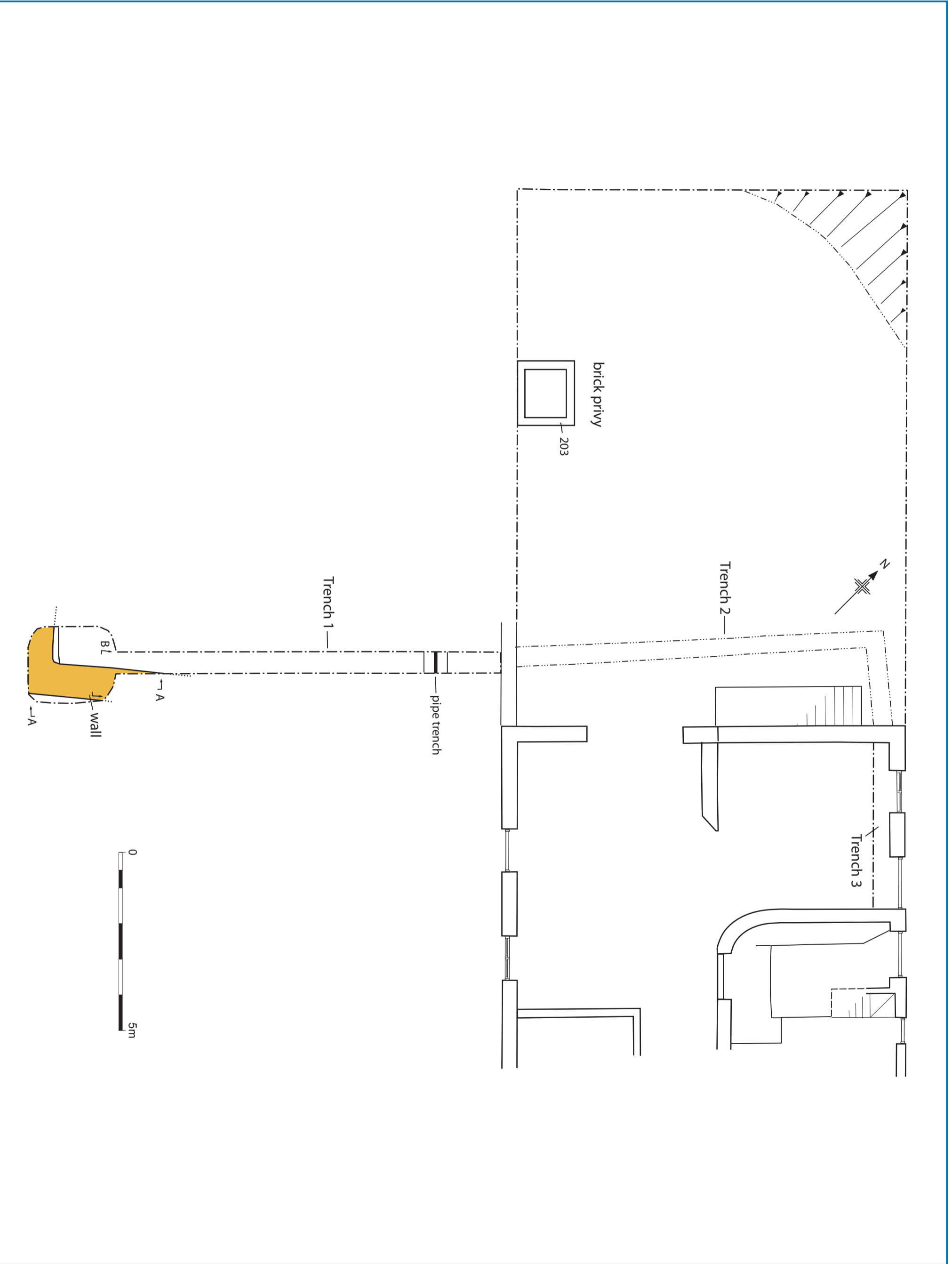
15. **Appendix 4 Figures**



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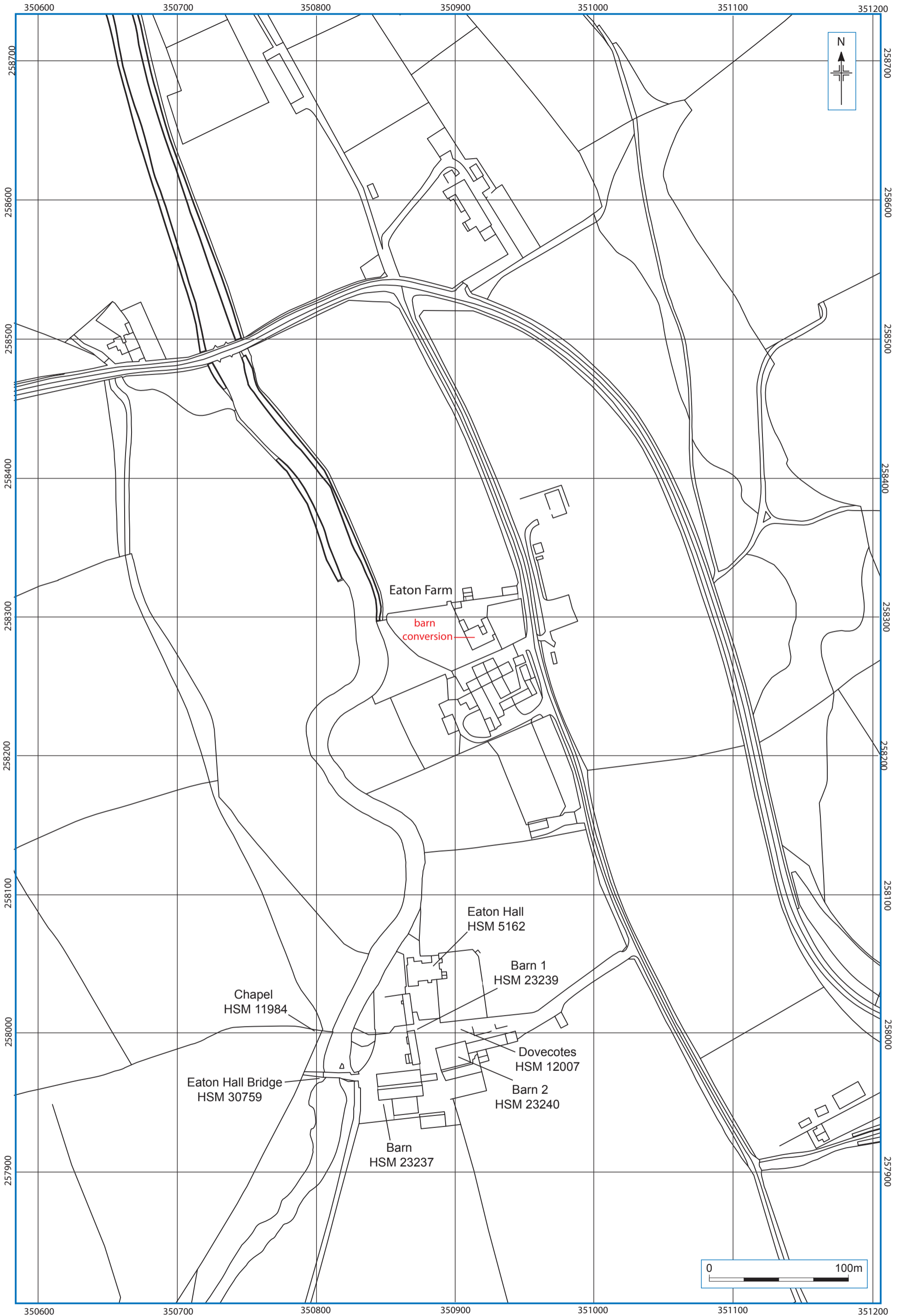
Location of the site.

Figure 1



Location of trenches 1, 2 and 3.

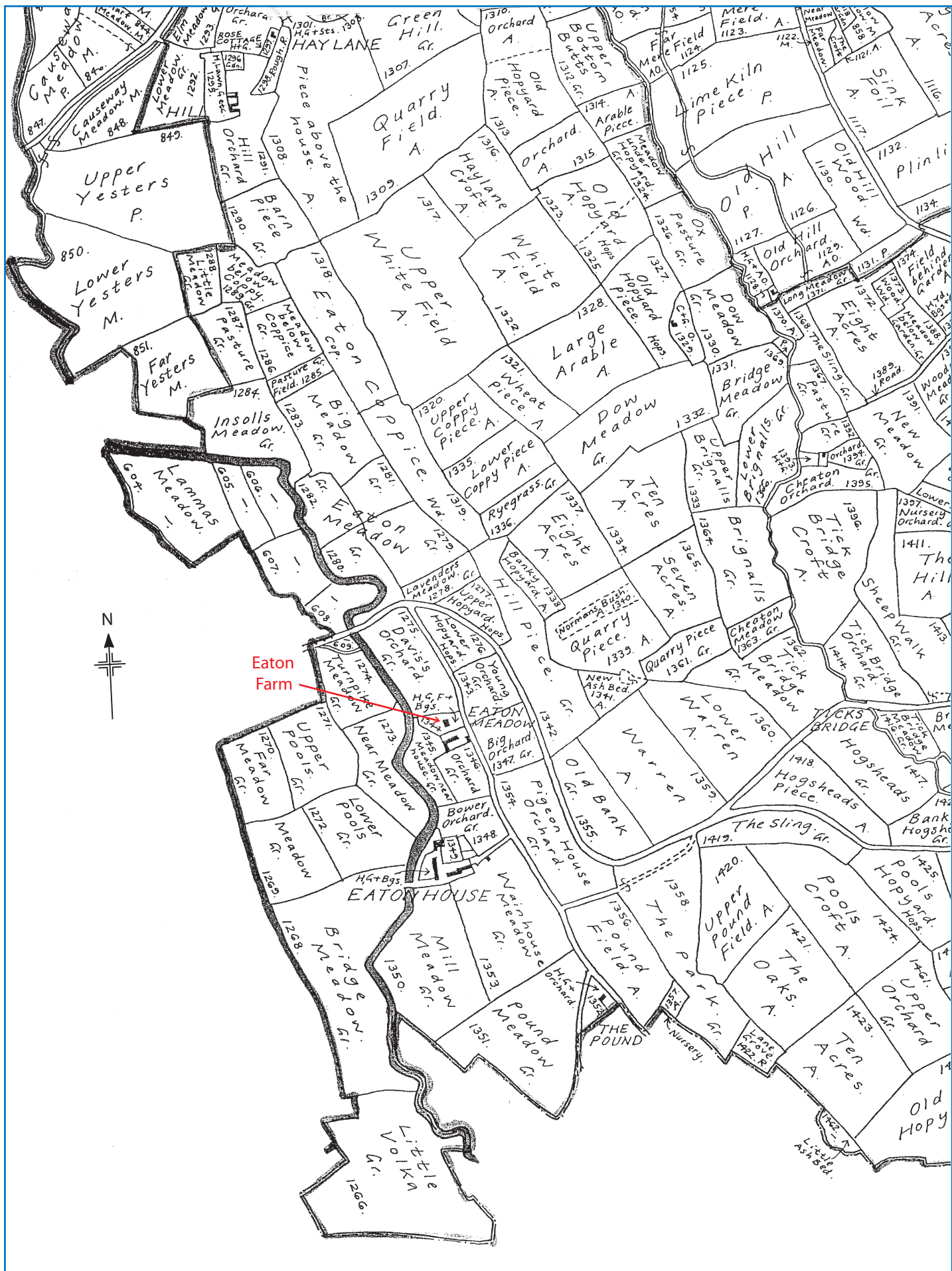
Figure 2



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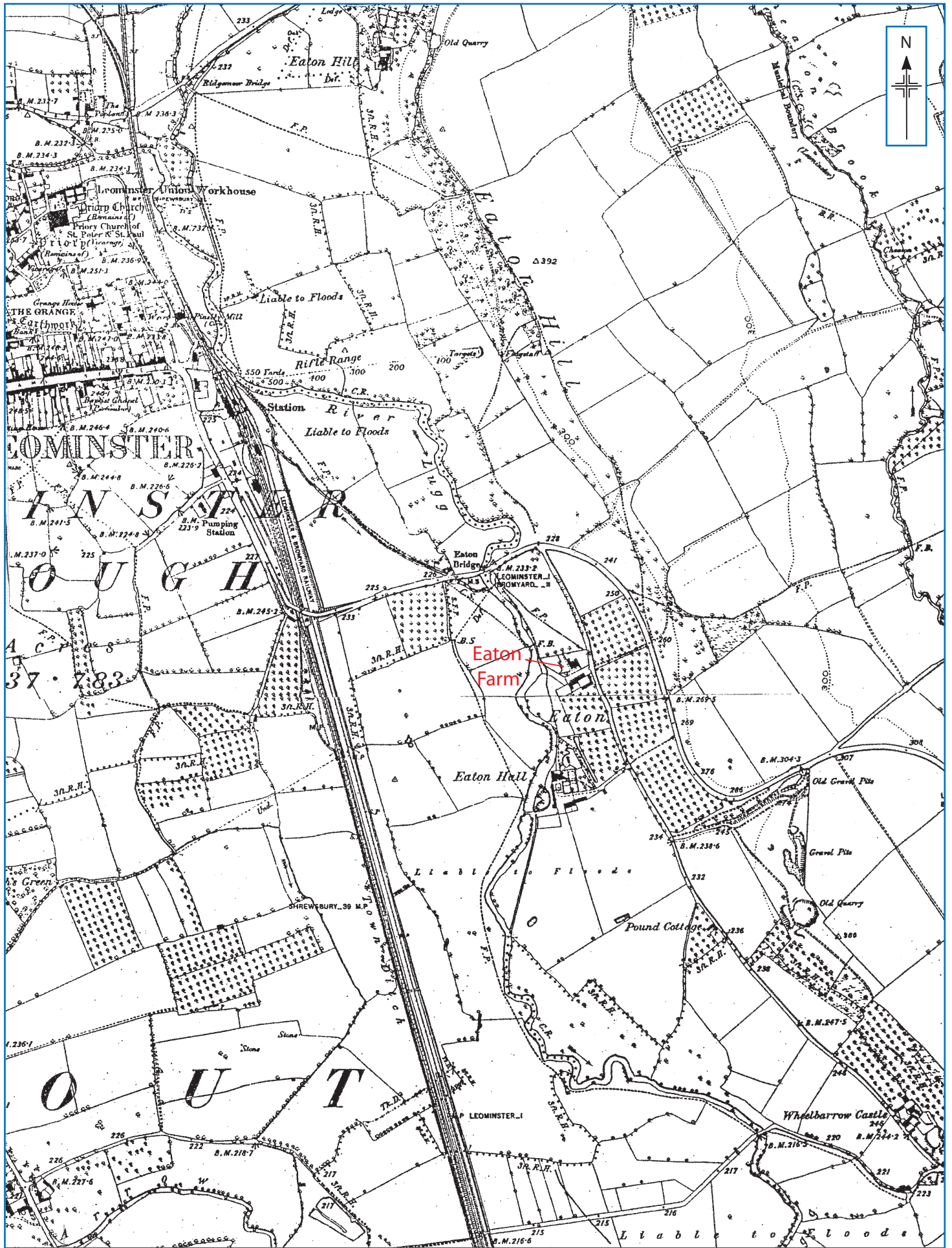
Sites in the vicinity.

Figure 3



Extract from Eaton, Hennor & Stretford: Township in Parish of Leominster tithe map, 1850.

Figure 4

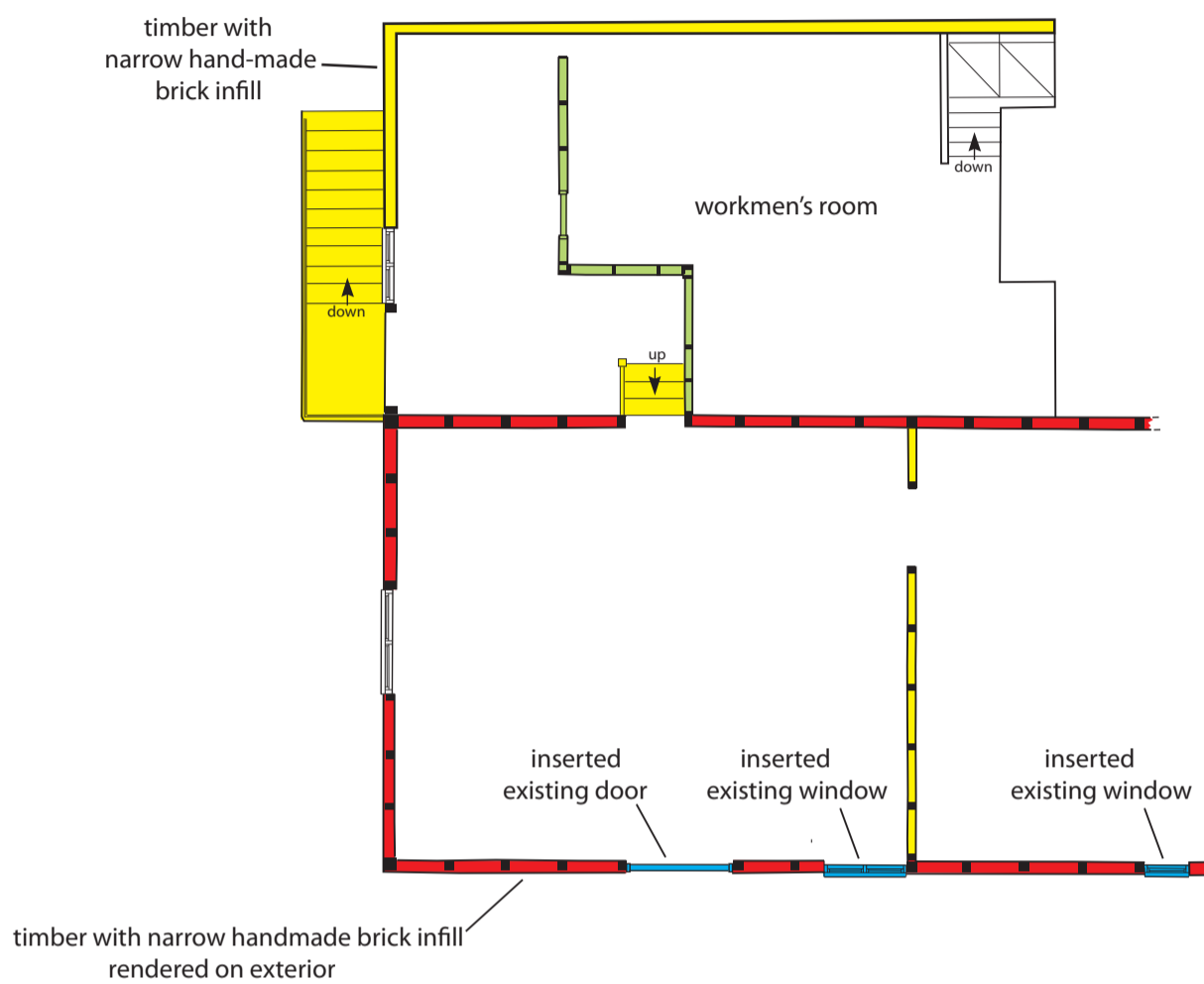


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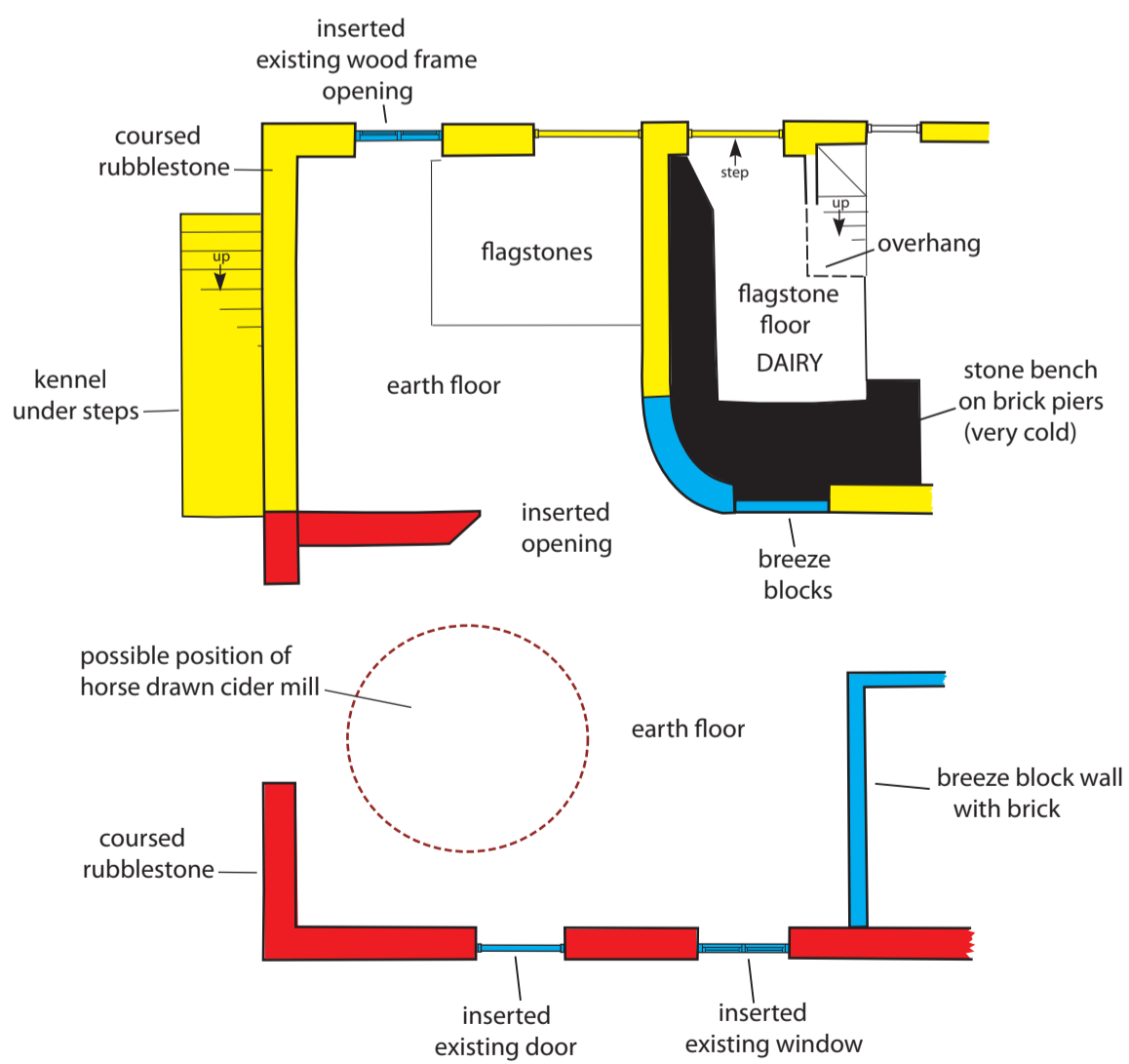
Figure 5

Extract from 1st Edition Ordnance Survey, 6" to 1 mile. Sheets 12SE and 19NE. Surveyed 1884-5, published 1890.

FIRST FLOOR



GROUND FLOOR



KEY

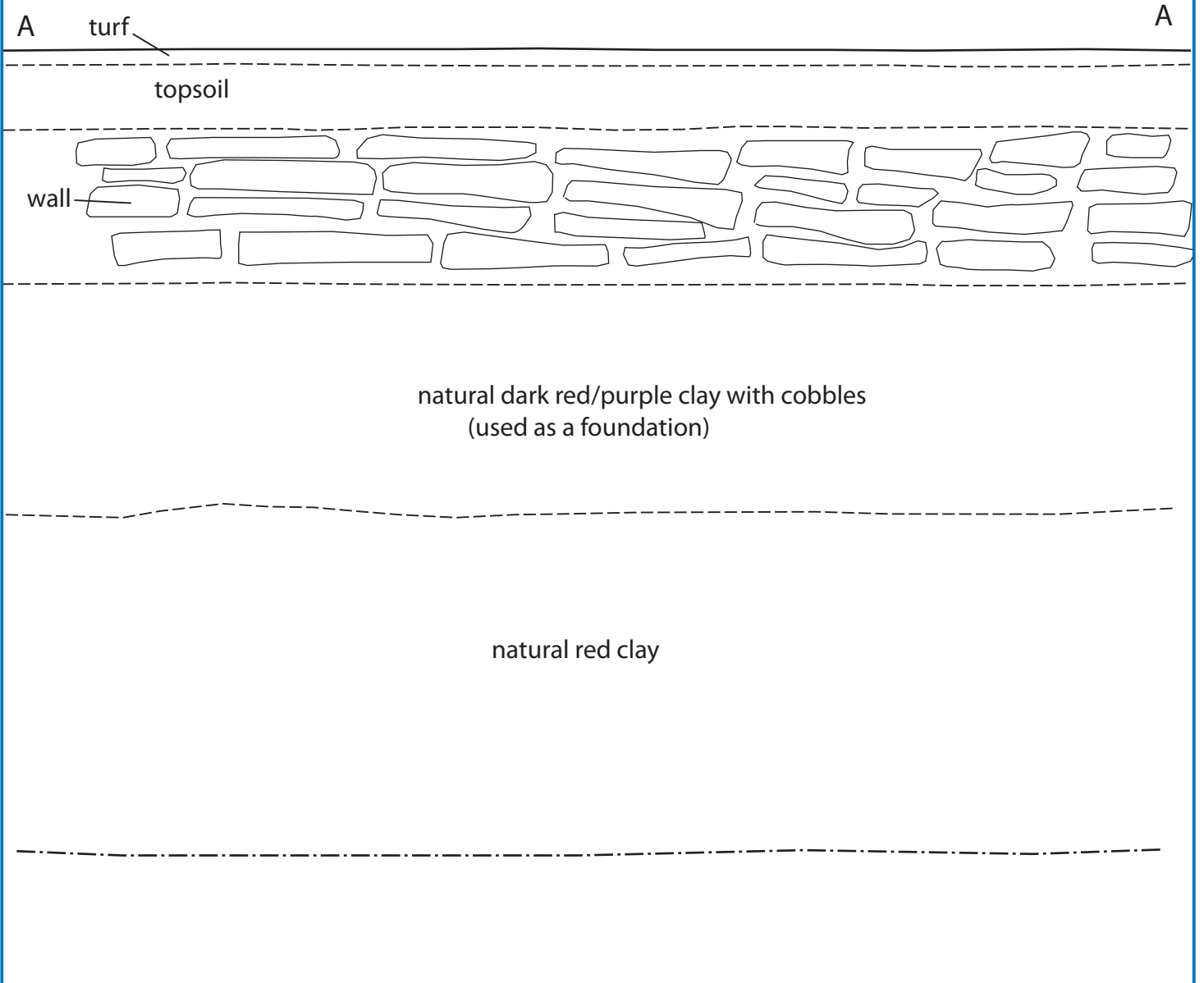
- 17th century
- 18th century
- 19th century
- 20th century

1:100 0 5m

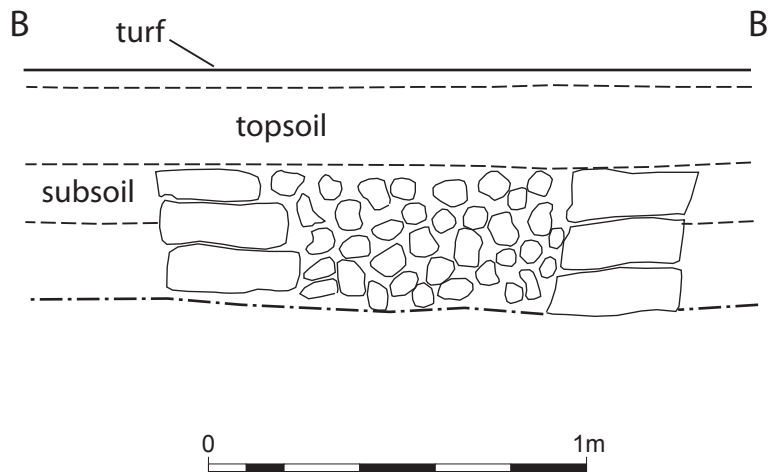
Phasing plan.

Figure 6

SOUTH-EAST FACING SECTION OF WALL



NORTH-WEST FACING SECTION OF WALL



Schematic sections of wall..

Figure 7

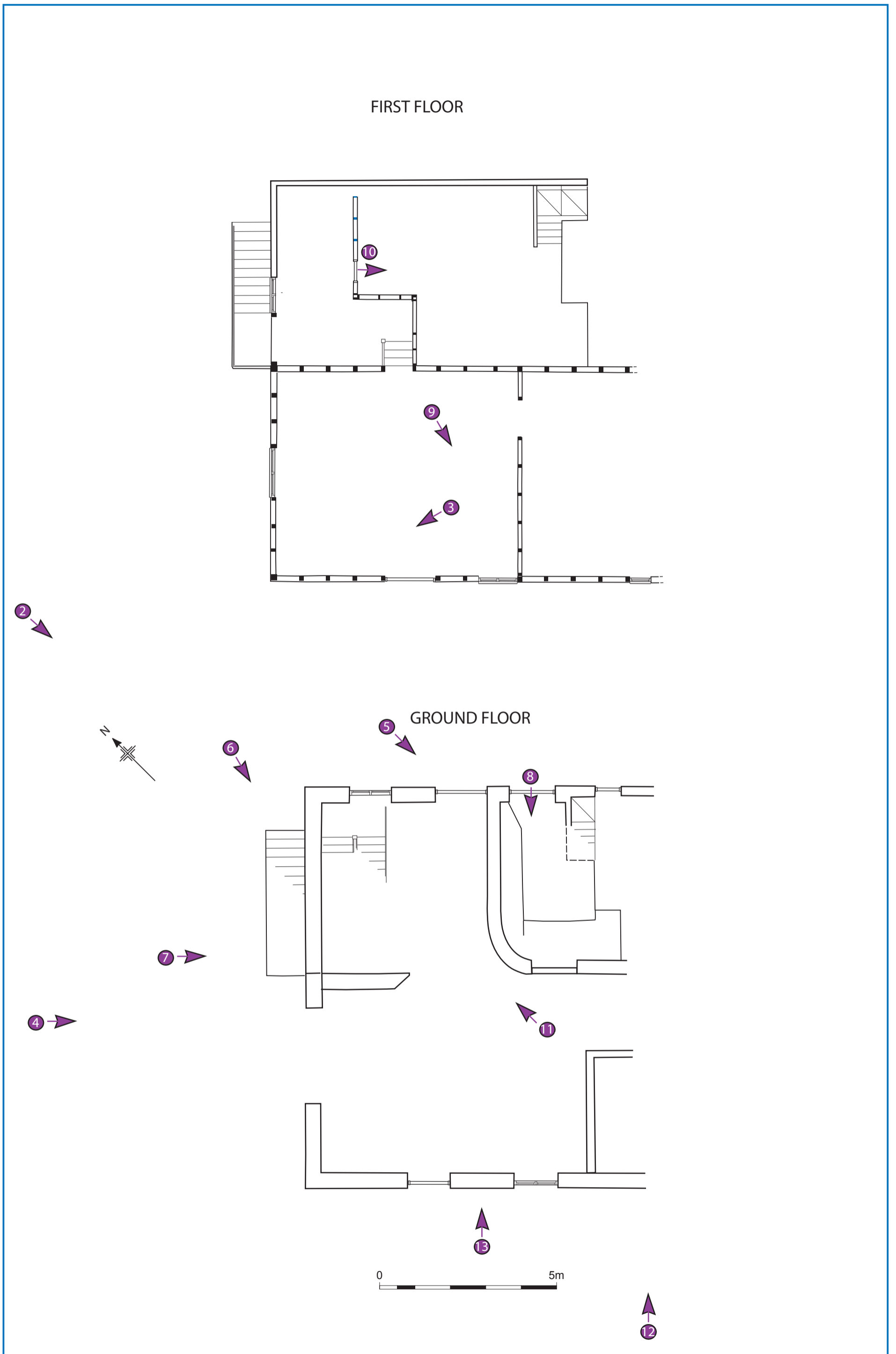


Photo location plan.

Figure 8

16. **Appendix 5 Plates**



Plate 1: Cider mill in garden



Plate 2: Barn attached to Eaton Farmhouse



Plate 3: First floor timber-framing



Plate 4:Lean-to extension to barn



Plate 5: Access doors into lean-to

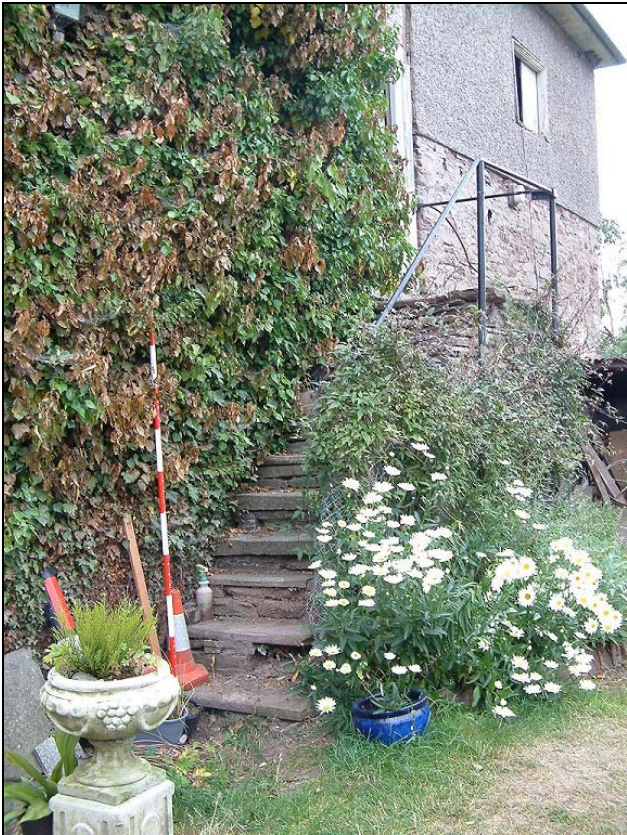


Plate 6: Granary stairs



Plate 7: Kennel below stairs



Plate 8: Dairy



Plate 9: Inserted dividing wall in barn



Plate 10: workmen's room

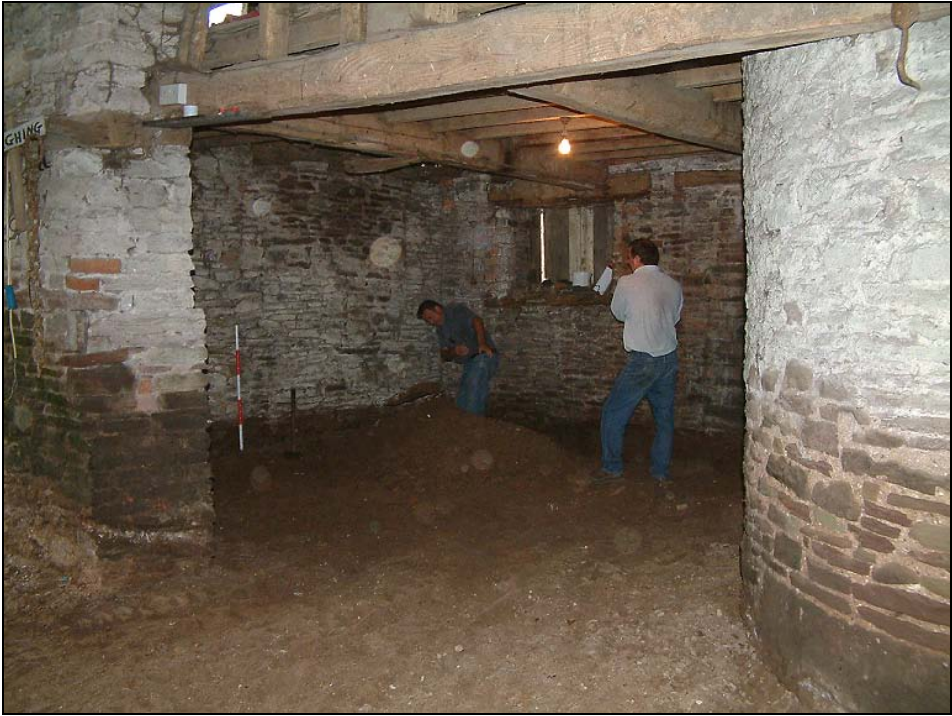


Plate 11: Hold through to granary from barn (photographed once building cleared of material)



Plate 12: Added bay window to converted section of barn



Plate 13: Inserted windows in barn