

# Building recording at Long Barn, Ashmore Farm, Norton, Evesham, Worcestershire

Worcestershire Archaeology  
*for Blenheim Architectural Services*

September 2020



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# LONG BARN, ASHMORE FARM, NORTON, EVESHAM, WORCESTERSHIRE

Building recording report

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## SITE INFORMATION

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Site name:	Long Barn, Ashmore Farm, Norton, Evesham, Worcestershire
Site code:	WSM52771
Local planning authority:	Wychavon District Council
Planning reference:	19/00564/FUL
Central NGR:	SP 04514 47944
Commissioning client:	Blenheim Architectural Services, on behalf of Mercia Homes Ltd
WA project number:	P5885
WA report number:	2839
HER reference:	WSM73357
Oasis reference:	fieldsec1-400727

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Version	Date	Author	Details	Approved by
1	25/09/2020	Tim Cornah	Draft for comment	Tom Vaughan

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## **Building recording at Long Barn, Ashmore Farm, Norton, Evesham, Worcestershire**

By Tim Cornah

Illustrations by Tim Cornah

### **Summary**

Building recording was undertaken of the Long Barn, Ashmore Farm, Norton, Evesham, Worcestershire (NGR SP 04514 47944). It was commissioned by Blenheim Architectural Services, on behalf of Mercia Homes Ltd, in advance of proposed conversion of the building. Planning permission has been granted subject to a programme of building recording.

This 19<sup>th</sup> century structure brick structure was part of Ashmore's Farm, and probably originally a shelter shed for cows facing into the former farmyard to the north. Few original elements remained as in the 20<sup>th</sup> century it was refocussed to face the south with an almost entire rebuild of its southern wall to include wide doorways and windows. Stalls and drainage suggest a use as a milking parlour, and potentially a dairy within the western end.

# Report

## 1 Introduction

### 1.1 Background to the project

Building recording was undertaken by Worcestershire Archaeology (WA) in July 2020 of the Long Barn, Ashmore Farm, Norton, Evesham, Worcestershire (NGR SP 04514 47944). The project was commissioned by Blenheim Architectural Services, on behalf of Mercia Homes Ltd, in advance of conversion of the building. Planning permission has been granted by Wychavon District Council (reference number 19/00564/FUL).

The building is an undesignated heritage asset, within the terms used by the National Planning Policy Framework. The building is registered with Worcestershire Historic Environment Record (HER; WSM52771).

No brief was provided but the project conforms to the generality of briefs previously issued. A written scheme of investigation (WSI) was prepared by Worcestershire Archaeology (WA 2020) and approved by the Archaeology and Planning Advisor to Wychavon District Council. The building recording also conforms to the industry guidelines and standards set out by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists in *Standard and guidance for the archaeological investigation and recording of standing buildings or structures (ClfA 2014a)*, as well as *the Standards and guidelines for archaeological projects in Worcestershire (WCC 2019)*.

## 2 Project Aims

The Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (ClfA) defines the aims of building recording as 'a programme of work intended to establish the character, history, dating, form and archaeological development of a specified building' (ClfA 2014a).

## 3 Project methodology

### 3.1 Fieldwork strategy

A detailed specification has been prepared by Worcestershire Archaeology (WA 2020).

Fieldwork was undertaken on 30 July 2020. The site reference number used by the Historic Environment Record to record archaeological "events", and the site code used in the archive is WSM73357.

Building recording consisted of a photographic survey of the interior and exterior of the buildings. All photographs were taken with photographic scales visible in each shot, where practical. The photographic survey was carried out with a Canon EOS 200D digital SLR camera. All photographs were recorded on a pro-forma Photographic Record Sheet.

#### Level 1 record

A level 1 record is essentially a basic visual record supplemented by the minimum of information needed to identify the building's location, age and type.

The record will include the following elements of survey:

#### Photography

- General view or views of the building in its wider setting or landscape
- External appearance of the building, using oblique and right-angle shots

#### Drawings

- Roughly dimensioned sketched plan, section, or elevation

Written account

- A summary of the building's type or purpose, historically and at present, its materials and date (where possible)

## 4 The building

The floor plan of the building is presented in Figure 2, which includes the orientation of the photos, Plates 1 to 13.

Cartographic evidence suggests that the building was constructed between 1836 and 1884 as part of Ashmore's Farm, most likely as part of a farmyard bounded by this building on its southern side, a threshing barn to its east and Ashmore's Farm house to the north, as well as further small structures to the west.

Few elements of the 19<sup>th</sup> century structure remain, largely only the softwood king post trusses dividing the building internally into nine bays, with a further bay on the west end added re-using an earlier timber. It is probable that this building was originally a shelter shed for cows and was largely open sided facing into the farmyard to the north. The existing brickwork on the northern side appeared to be largely of 20<sup>th</sup> century date, supporting this suggestion.

The building was refocussed to face to the south, with an almost entire rebuild of its southern wall to include wide doorways and windows. Stalls and drainage suggest a use as a milking parlour, and potentially a dairy within the western end.

## 5 Project personnel

The fieldwork was led, and the report prepared by Tim Cornah, ACIfA. The project was managed by Tom Vaughan, MCIfA.

## 6 Acknowledgements

Worcestershire Archaeology would like to thank the following for the successful conclusion of the project: Grahame Aldington (Blenheim Architectural Services), Joe Colls-Burnett (Mercia Homes Ltd), and Aidan Smyth (Archaeology and Planning Advisor, Wychavon District Council). Worcestershire Archaeology would also like to thank the residents of Ashmore House for allowing access to the rear of the building to facilitate the recording.

## 7 Bibliography

ClfA 2014a *Standard and guidance for the archaeological investigation and recording of standing buildings or structures*, Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, published December 2014, updated 28 June 2019

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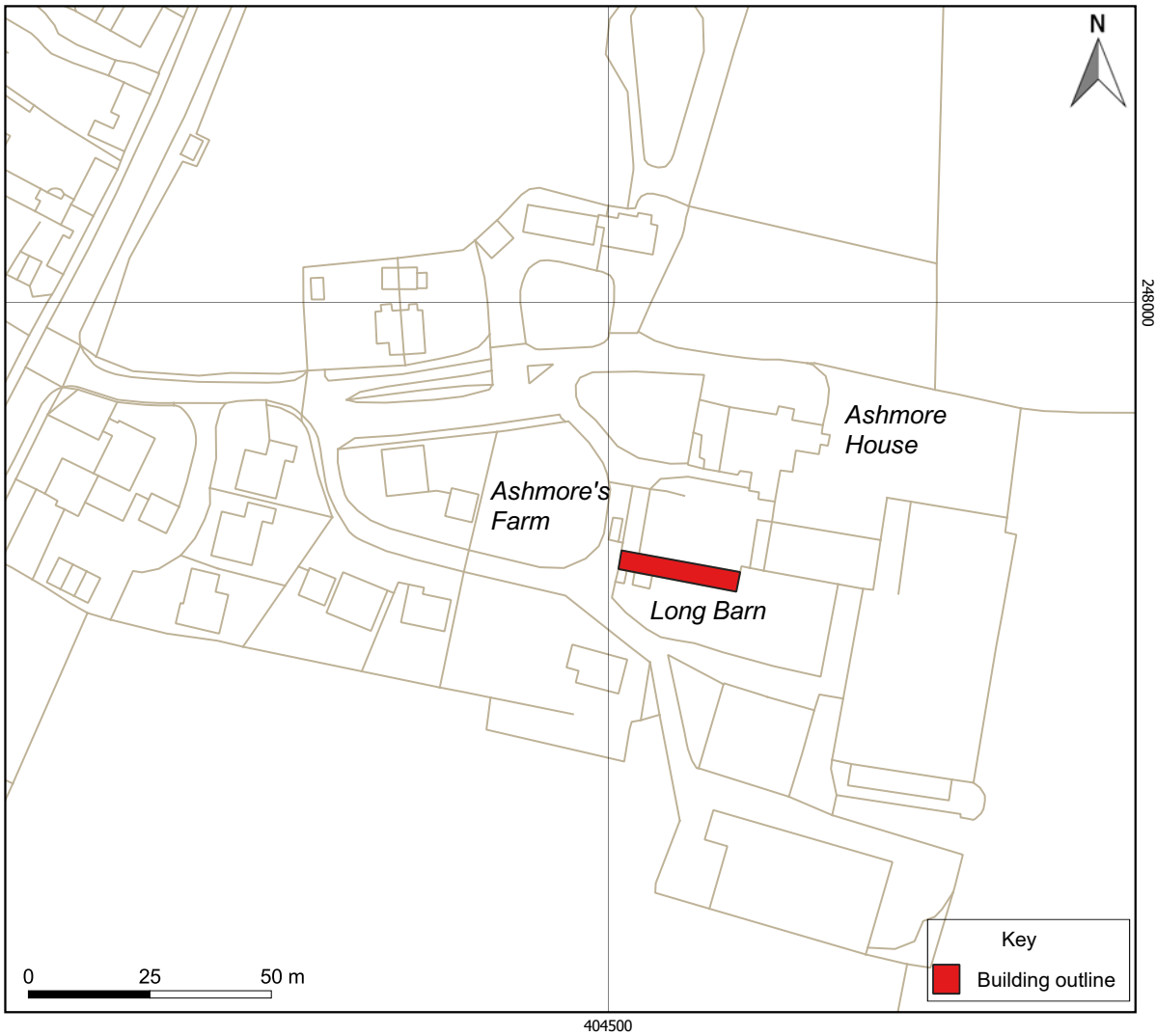
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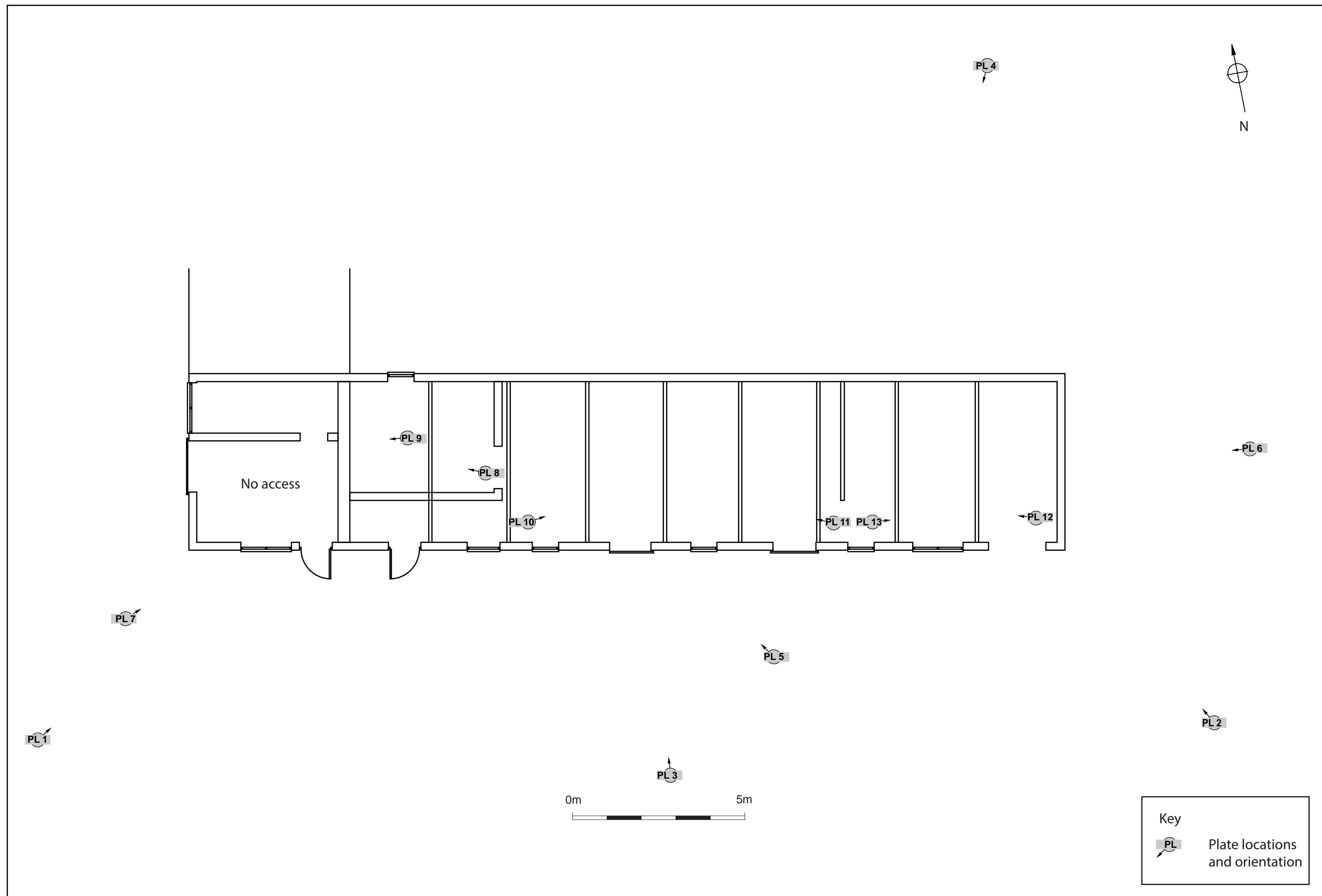
## Figures



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Location of the building

Figure 1



Ground plan of the building (based upon Belnheim Architectural services drawing number RC-LBC-18-02)

Figure 2



## Plates



*Plate 1 The building with Ashmore House behind, looking north-east*



*Plate 2 The building with Ashmore House behind, looking north-west*





*Plate 3 The building with Ashmore House behind, looking north*



*Plate 4 The building, looking south, scale 1m*





*Plate 5 The building, looking north-west, scale 1m*



*Plate 6 The building, looking north-west, scale 1m*





*Plate 7 The building, looking north-east, scale 1m*



*Plate 8 The building interior, looking west, scale 1m*





*Plate 9 The building interior re-used timber, utilised as a tie beam, looking west, scale 1m*



*Plate 10 The building interior, looking west, scale 1m*





*Plate 11 The building interior, looking east, scale 1m*



*Plate 12 The building interior, looking west, scale 1m*





*Plate 13 The building interior, looking east, scale 1m*

## Appendix 1: Summary of project archive (WSM73357)

TYPE	DETAILS*
Digital	Images raster/digital photography, ground plan, report

*\*OASIS terminology*

The project archive is currently held at the offices of Worcestershire Archaeology. Subject to the agreement of the landowner it is anticipated that it will be deposited at Worcestershire Museum.