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Archaeological Services Ltd**



**An Archaeological Standing Building
Recording and Monitoring
at Dowd's Farm, Hedge End,
Southampton.**

F/11/69881
SU 4884 1466

Project No. CBAS0276

by
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Summary

The survey of the building and subsequent watching brief have enabled a development history of Dowd's Farmhouse to be detailed. The evidence shows that, although much altered, the basic fabric of the original 17th century 2- or 3-bay building survived. Soon after building, additional bay(s) were added resulting in an impressive 4-bay house. This then survived through until the 19th century with little further alteration, at which point major reconstruction and addition of an extension was carried out.

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1.0 Introduction

- 1.1** Chris Butler Archaeological Services Ltd (CBAS) was commissioned by Yellow Dot (Hedge End) Ltd to conduct a standing building survey and watching brief at Dowd's Farm, White's Way, Hedge End, Southampton. The property is situated on Dowds Farm Estate, which is located within a new housing development to the north of Hedge End at SU 4884 1466 (Fig. 1).
- 1.2** Planning permission (F/11/69881) has been granted for extensions, restorations, repairs and change of use of the farmhouse to a day nursery, together with demolition of extensions on the east and west elevations. The local planning authority has put a condition on the planning consent for the development, requiring an appropriate programme of archaeological work to be undertaken.
- 1.3** Dowd's Farmhouse is a Grade II Listed Building (50700). The building appears to be early 17th century in origin, and is a timber-framed house with a large mid 19th century brick-built extension at the rear.
- 1.4** The appropriate programme of archaeological work, in accordance with a brief prepared by Heritage Officer at Eastleigh Borough Council, comprised the following:
- a. Prior to the development commencing a standing buildings survey corresponding to an English Heritage Level 3 survey was to be carried out.
 - b. During the works an archaeological watching brief to be carried out to record any parts of the building currently obscured and to monitor the demolition of the existing extension.
- 1.5** The survey was carried out by the author assisted by Jon Kaines on the 20th February 2012 with a second visit by the author on the 28th June 2012 to monitor the building works. The project was managed for CBAS by Chris Butler MifA.

2.0 Historical and Archaeological Background

- 2.1 A Historic Environment Record search established that there were only a small number of sites and Listed Buildings in the immediate vicinity of the site (Fig. 1), with most of the archaeological remains having resulted from archaeological evaluation and excavation undertaken at Dowd's Farm between 2006 and 2011 (57238)¹.
- 2.2 Evidence for early prehistoric activity was found in the form of a small number of worked flints dating to between the Mesolithic period and the Bronze Age. These include an early Neolithic polished flint axe, a later Neolithic chisel arrowhead, and other implements dating from the Neolithic and early Bronze Age. Pottery dating from the Bronze Age and the early Iron Age was also found. Most of this material was residual in late prehistoric and later features, but a number of pits dating to the late Bronze Age were also found. A possible Bronze Age round barrow may exist to the south-west of the site (25953).
- 2.3 During the later Iron Age, two enclosures were discovered on the higher ground to the south of the site, with ditched trackways radiating northwards from this plateau, and an associated activity area and field system². No Romano British features were identified, and only a few artefacts of this date were recovered.
- 2.4 There was no direct evidence for Anglo-Saxon activity apart from a few sherds of pottery. During the 11th century there was a move to extensively ordered agricultural landscape centred on the present farmhouse, which probably post-dates an earlier farmhouse. Dowd's Farm can be traced with reasonable confidence to the late 12th century when it was part of the foundation endowment of God's House, Southampton³.
- 2.5 Dowd's Farmhouse is a Grade II Listed Building (50700). The building appears to be early 17th century in origin, and is a timber-framed house with a large mid 19th century brick-built extension at the rear.
- 2.6 Dowd's Farm was first noted on the 1845 South Stoneham Tithe map. On the 1st Edition OS map of 1869 (Fig. 2), the farmhouse sits on the north side of a farmyard complex with barns, stables and other buildings arranged around a yard to the south of the farmhouse, and another barn to the west (63029). This situation is unchanged on later OS maps through to the recent redevelopment, when all of the associated farm buildings were demolished, leaving just the farmhouse.

¹ Clelland, S. E. 2011 *Prehistoric to post-medieval occupation at Dowds Farm, Hedge End, Hampshire*, Wessex Archaeology.

² *Ibid.*

³ *Ibid.*

3.0 Archaeological Methodology

- 3.1** A building survey, conforming to an English Heritage Level 3 survey was carried out. A full descriptive record was made, both externally and then internally room by room through the house, and forms the basis of the following report. Although dimensions were recorded, no drawings were made as current architects drawings exist for the building (Figs. 3 - 5).
- 3.2** A selection of supporting digital photographs were taken of the building during the survey (these together with a full index are contained in the archive). A descriptive and photographic record of any original or early fixtures and fittings is also contained in the archive, and these are mentioned in the descriptive record where relevant.
- 3.3** The general external inspection of the property was made difficult by the scaffolding on which the plastic sheeting was fixed to, which was positioned very close to the exterior walls of the property. The sheeting made the interior of the house very dark which had a detrimental effect on some of the photographs. The property was also very neglected and had been vandalized. By the time of the second visit to the site the scaffolding and sheet had been removed but the exterior walls of the property had been repaired, or in the case of the eastern wall of the early part of the house been replaced.
- 3.4** At the time of the survey the two rooms on the first floor of the 19th century extension had been sealed off due to the presence of a colony of bats, and could not be inspected. On the second visit these rooms could still not be inspected due to the building works. The original 17th century part of the building had been neglected and heavily vandalized, with some of the interior walls being removed or stripped of their covering.

4.0 General External Description

- 4.1 Dowd's Farmhouse is orientated on an east-west alignment, the earliest part of the building is now of four bays (Fig. 6). The two/three bays of the original house have a later fourth bay added to the eastern end, and perhaps also Bay 1 may be an addition. There is a large square 19th century two-storey extension, located on the north side of the two middle bays of the original house. There was also a second 19th century extension in the north-eastern corner created by the northern wall of the original building and the eastern wall of the 19th century extension. This extension had been demolished at the time of the survey, but it is noted from the architects drawings that this was also of two storeys. The associated cellar had been backfilled with rubble, due to health and safety concerns. A second smaller two storey extension was situated in the north-western corner of the building, against the northern wall of the western bay of the original building and the western wall of the 19th century extension. This had also been demolished at the time of the survey but is believed to have dated to the 20th century.
- 4.2 The exterior of the building was covered with plastic sheeting with a framework of scaffolding set very close to the walls of the house making the southern exterior wall of the property very difficult to examine. There appeared no timber framing in evidence in southern wall of the building, which had been completely rebuilt in brick which is painted white. It was noted during the survey of the interior of the building that the bricks were laid in English bond, and the courses of headers were of vitrified bricks (**Plate 1**). However, the architects drawings do show a post that had been revealed where the brickwork was missing. This would appear to be the principal post D-D located in the south-eastern corner of bay three, which is confirmed from the interior of the building. This is the only remaining principal post on the southern side of the building, all the others on this wall having been removed at the time of the construction of the replacement brick frontage.
- 4.3 The southern elevation has four openings, with the first floor being lit by two wooden framed casement windows (**Plate 2**). These are positioned directly beneath the eaves. The western window is positioned with the dividing wall between Bays 1 and 2, and the eastern window lighting Bay 3. The windows lighting the ground floor are positioned in the centre of the southern wall of Bay 3 and 4.



Plate 1: Interior brickwork Southern Wall



Plate 2: Example of first Floor Window

- 4.4** The western wall of the original building does have some timber framing still *in-situ*, at the northern end of this wall (**Plate 3**). This consists of the principal post A, with a wall stud to the south of the principal post. The principal post and wall stud are joined by horizontal beam which is mortised and pegged into both the post and the wall stud. Further south along the west wall there is the remains of a second wall stud on the northern side of the gap in the brickwork. This stud has an empty mortise on its southern face. To the south of the timber framing a large area of brickwork is missing, this revealing a length of the side girt (**Plate 4**). In the soffit of the side girt are two empty mortises with empty pegholes for walls studs. The upper part of the western wall was obscured by the plastic sheeting and ivy but appeared to be tile hung and devoid of features. The brickwork at the southern end of this wall was laid in stretcher bond, with the brick infill of the timber framing at the northern end being laid in a random bond. The brickwork at the southern end appeared to be a recent repair.



Plate 3: Framing in North end of West Wall



Plate 4: Side Girt West Wall

- 4.5** The eastern elevation was completely of brick construction with no evidence of any *in-situ* timber framing on the exterior face of this wall. The bare brickwork was apparent at the first floor level in eastern wall of Bay 4; this revealed that the brickwork was laid in random bond. On the first floor there were two windows in the first floor of the eastern bay. These were of the same type, wooden framed casements with two rows of three lights. In the northern side of the west wall was the current entrance into the ground floor of Bay 4. This was fitted with a door of four vertical plank construction with bracing on its inner face. To the south of the entrance was a small casement window.
- 4.6** The roof of the original part of the house was fully hipped at the western end, with the eastern end being half hipped. The roof covering of this part of the property is of artificial slate tiles. The earliest part of the house being served by a brick built chimney stack located at the junction of Bays 3 and 4. This is within the house, and passes through the ridge, and has two high clay chimney pots. The roof covering Bay 4 has a lower ridge line and is also appreciably lower at eaves level, which suggests that the fourth easternmost bay is a later addition.

- 4.7 The remaining 19th century extension on the northern side of the original house is on two storeys and approximately square in plan. The interior measured 6.85m north to south by 6.8m east to west. This extension is of red brick construction, with the bricks being laid in random bond. The northern elevation of this extension had three openings, on the first floor there were two wooden framed sash windows of four lights. Above both of these windows is a decorative soldier course of bricks. On the ground floor there is a single full height window in the centre of it, also with a decorative soldier course above. There are no openings in the western elevation of the part of the building. The eastern elevation has the entrance from the exterior of the building in a position slightly to the north of centre, there was no door fitted to this entrance at the time of the survey.
- 4.8 The extension to the north of the original building has a gabled end at both the eastern and western side. The roof covering is the same as that of the earliest part of the building, which is of artificial slate tiles. Located near to both the gable ends are two brick built chimney stacks, with two grey clay square chimney pots. The chimney pots having their lower part decorated with an inset panel on all four sides (**Plate 5**).



Plate 5: Chimney Pots on 19th Century Building

5.0 Survey of the Interior: Ground Floor

- 5.1 The interior of the building at the time of survey was entered through the doorway in the northern wall of the fourth bay, which led into a small lobby to the north of the chimney stack. Both of the southern and eastern walls were of brick, with timber framing visible in the northern wall. This framing consisted of posts and rails consistent with small panel framing (**Plate 6**). The soffits of the timbers could not be examined as the framing had been in-filled with bricks and plastered over. The sole plate of the north wall was apparent at both the eastern and western end with the centre portion having been removed. The sole plate was 300mm above the current floor level, and had been under built with bricks. The western wall was the chimney stack, with a small range inset into an alcove in the southern end of this wall (**Plate 7**). To the north of the range was the staircase to the first floor. This was panelled-in on the eastern side with vertical planking. The staircase looks to be a simple 19th century replacement. There is a small

cupboard in the north-eastern corner of the room this is also of vertical wooden plank construction.



Plate 6: Framing in North Wall of Kitchen



Plate 7: Range in West Wall of Kitchen

5.2 The ceiling of the kitchen comprised fifteen joists measuring 175mm deep by 75mm wide, which are on a north-south alignment. The joists have smaller sectioned bracing timbers between them. These are probably not original and have nail holes in the soffits, which suggests that they originally had a ceiling covering which had later been removed. The floor was of red ceramic tiles.

5.3 Bay 3 is entered via a doorway at the western end of the small lobby to the north of the chimney stack; this entrance had no door fitted at the time of the survey, but there is a single strap hinge remaining near the top of the southern side of the door frame. The eastern wall has an inglenook fireplace that has had a later smaller fireplace inserted into the southern side of it (**Plate 8**). The later fireplace surround has been removed, revealing the brick construction of the chimney breast to the later fireplace. The original timber lintel of the inglenook fireplace is still apparent, and has been incorporated into the later chimney breast. To the south of the inglenook fire place is a small cupboard which was possibly a spice cupboard associated with the original fireplace. To the south of the spice cupboard there is a second high level cupboard. The wall to the south of the inglenook fireplace appears to have been re-built in brick, which sealed the alcove. Below this cupboard the wall showed signs of being repaired or possibly the cupboard was originally larger (**Plate 9**).



Plate 8: Inglenook Fireplace in Bay 3



Plate 9: Second Cupboard with Area of Repair Below

- 5.4 At the time of the second visit some of the brickwork had been removed on the exterior of the wall in this area which revealed a small section of a curved brick wall, possibly a bread oven. However, due to the small size of the gap in the wall it this was hard to interpret, it was also noted that there appeared to be no sign of burning or sooting (**Plate 10**).



Plate 10: Structure to South of the Inglenook from Exterior

The floor covering is of red quarry tiles, which have been removed in two areas. Where they had been removed, a second earlier floor layer of red brick has been revealed at a depth of 150mm below the current floor level. This was most likely the original 17th century floor.

- 5.5 There is timber framing incorporated into both the northern and western walls in both cases having been in-filled with brick. At the time of the second visit to the property the brick had been removed from the western wall with the timber framing left *in-situ*. The timber framing of the west wall consists of two wall studs with a cross beam above and the sole plate below. The sole plate had three empty mortises and a slot cut into the centre of its upper face. The slot was most likely to accommodate the wattle and daub panels, with the empty mortises being for wall studs. This implies that the two studs remaining in this wall are later additions (**Plate 11**). At the southern end of this wall there are two original 17th century doorways. The northern doorway giving access from Bay 2 and the southern doorway to the staircase to the first floor room of Bay 2. Both of the doorways have cranked heads carved into the cross beam. The southern doorway is 810mm wide while the northern doorway is wider at 1.1m, with the northern jamb of the northern doorway and the central jamb of the two doors being original timbers. The northern jamb and the cross beam above the jamb have their eastern facing surfaces roughed up, suggesting they were originally covered with daub or plaster.



Plate 11: West Wall of Bay 3



Plate 12: Two Original 17th Century Doorways

- 5.6 In the northern wall the timber framing comprised two wall studs with a rail at approximately mid height running to the west from the western stud and the east from the eastern one. There is no visible timber framing in the centre of the northern wall (**Plate 13**). The ceiling in Bay 2 consists of eleven 17th century joists that have their lower corners chamfered and stopped at both ends, and measure 130mm wide with a depth of 100mm. The joists at the eastern end of Bay 3 rest on a beam running north south above the inglenook fireplace and on the western end rest on the floor boards of Bay 2. The floorboards of Bay 2 have their associated joists resting on the cross beam of the western wall of Bay 3 (**Plate 14**).



Plate 13: North Wall of Bay 3



Plate 14: Joists of Bay 2 and Bay 3

- 5.7 The floor level in the northern side of Bay 2 is up to 170mm lower than the rest of the ground floor, with the floor covering being of brick. This is probably the original floor level as evidenced by the floor covering being at approximately the same depth and formed of the same brick as that in the two excavated areas in Bay 3. The southern side of Bay 2 is at the higher level and is made up of a corridor and the staircase to the first floor. There is original timber framing in both the northern and western walls. The framing in the western wall consists of a downward brace at the northern end of this wall, which is mortised and pegged into the sole plate and the principal post B (Fig. 6). To the south of the downward brace there are two wall studs, joined at mid height by a rail which is mortised and pegged into the studs. The top of the studs are joined to the

crossbeam and the sole plate. All of these timbers appear to be the original 17th century fabric of the building (**Plate 15**). As in the western wall of Bay 3 the centre of the sole plate has had a chase cut into its upper surface to hold the wattle into the framing. The entrance to Bay 1 is located between the staircase and the southern wall stud. This appears to be a later doorway, as the frame is constructed of modern timber. The framing in the northern wall consists of a single stud at the western end of this wall; the rest of the wall is of brick.



Plate 15: The Western Wall of Bay 2

5.8 The staircase located at the southern end of Bay 2, and is in its original 17th century position. This is evidenced by the 17th century doorway from Bay 3. The staircase may also be of this date, but no dateable features were noted. At the time of the first visit only the studs of the northern wall of the stairwell remained. These exhibited the marks of lathes and plaster on the northern side of them. At the western end was an under stairs cupboard. To the north of the northern wall of the staircase was a second stud wall forming a small corridor. This wall had also had its covering removed and shows the marks of lathes on its northern face. At the time of the second visit to the site both of the stud walls and the staircase had been removed. The ceiling consisted of twelve joists on an east-west axis, measuring 115mm wide by 130mm deep. As with the studs the joists have the marks of the staves on them. The joists in Bay 2 must be original as they and the floorboards above support the joists in Bay 3 which are an original 17th century feature of the house.

5.9 Bay 1 is located at the western end of the house, and has timber framing in the western and northern walls. The western wall has two posts with a high set rail, which is possibly the door head to an earlier entrance into this bay (**Plate 17**). The framing in the western wall is that described in the exterior description. The lower part of principal post A (Fig. 6) is only visible on the exterior of the wall. There is no evidence for the sole plate in Bay 1, as it is possibly concealed by the modern concrete floor which has been laid in this part of the house. The ceiling is of exposed joists and is the same height as that in Bay 2, with them being set slightly to the north of the joists in Bay 2. This can be seen where the joists of both Bay 2 and 1 rest on the cross beam of the dividing wall between the two bays. The joists are on an east-west alignment, and appear to be of a modern date. In the centre of the joists there is a centre ceiling girder on a north-south alignment.



Plate 16: Northern Stud Walls of Staircase and Corridor



Plate 17: Possible Doorway in Northern Wall of Bay 4

6.0 Survey of the Interior: First Floor

- 6.1** The first floor room in Bay 4 has very low northern and southern walls as the room is built into the roof space on these two sides. Evidence for Bay 4 being a later extension is apparent on the wall plate at the top of the southern wall. The wall plate is noticeably lower, and is a separate timber from that in Bay 3 (**Plate 18**). On the second visit to the property the northern, southern and eastern walls had been demolished and the timber framing of the western wall had been revealed. This consisted of the tie beam with a downward brace rising from the principal post D-D (Fig. 6) at the southern end of the tie beam (**Plate 19**). Also apparent were a number of wall studs that appeared to be of a later date than the main framing; these exhibited the marks left behind by the lathes and plaster wall covering. The access to this room was via the staircase adjacent to the western wall, it was also noted that there did not appear to be access to the western part of the building from this room on the first floor.



Plate 18: Wall Plate in Bay 4



Plate 19: Downward Brace in Bay 4

- 6.2** Bay 3 on the first floor was accessed originally from Bay 2 by a doorway at the northern end of western wall. This was evidenced by the cranked door head carved into the soffit of the tie beam between these two bays (**Plate 20**). This was of the same design as the two door heads noted in the western wall of the ground floor of Bay 3. Either side of the door head the timber door jambs are *in-situ*, these have been mortised and pegged into the tie beam. A later wall stud has been inserted into the soffit of the door head, which implies that this doorway had been blocked at a later date. The eastern wall of Bay 3 consisted of the brick built chimney breast which had been panelled over with wattle and daub. In the centre of this wall was the remains of a fireplace, this appeared to have

been blocked at a later date. Above the opening of the fire place there was a wooden lintel. The lintel had a slightly arched lower edge, which had also been chamfered. Above the fireplace an area of the wall covering had been removed revealing four staves and a wall stud at either end. There was also a single length of the wattle *in-situ* above the lintel at the southern end. At the northern end of the eastern wall to Bay 3 an area of the wattle had been exposed (**Plate 22**).



Plate 20: Door Head Between
Bays 2 and 3



Plate 21: Lintel of Fireplace Bay 3



Plate 22: Area of Exposed Wattle Bay 3

6.3 At the time of the survey the first floor of Bay 3 was open to the roof but originally had a ceiling. This was evidenced by the ceiling girder located to the northern side of the fireplace (**Plate 22**). The girder was on a north south alignment and supported at either end by a carved wooden corbel. In both sides of the girder empty mortises were apparent for the joists.



Plate 23: Ceiling Girder in Bay 3



Plate 24: Ceiling Girder Corbel

- 6.4** The west wall of Bay 2 had many of the original 17th century timbers and panels of wattle and daub *in-situ* (**Plates 25 & 26**). The original framing consisted of the tie beam (measuring 230mm deep by 160mm wide), which was supported on the northern side by principal post C, which also had the wall plate cut into the northern side. The southern principal post C-C was missing, most likely removed when the eastern wall was re-built in brick (Fig. 6). The principal post C was 200mm square and had a swelling jowl. Rising from the tie beam were three queen struts that were mortised and pegged into the tie beam and the high level collar. The collar was mortised and pegged into the principal rafter, which measured 140mm square. The principal post C originally had an upward brace rising to the tie beam, which is now missing but is evidenced by empty mortises in both the principal post and the tie beam. The upward brace on the southern side of the truss is in position but largely concealed by a covering of daub. Also apparent in the soffit of the tie beam are the empty mortises for missing wall studs. The northern wall is a mixture of brick, wattle and daub, and lathes and plaster, with two possible original wall studs *in-situ*.



Plate 25: North End of West Wall
Bay 2



Plate 26: South End of West Wall
Bay 2

- 6.5** The eastern wall of Bay 3 also serves as the western wall to Bay 2, and is described above. The western wall of Bay 2 is of similar construction to the eastern wall (**Plate 27**), and consists of the principal post B on the northern side which supports the tie beam (Fig. 6). The principal post B measures 200mm square and has a swelling jowl. There is an upward brace rising from the principal post to the tie beam, which measures 180mm wide by 90mm deep. The brace is mortised and pegged into both the principal post and the tie beam. The principal post B-B is again missing due to the re-built south wall, with the tie beam resting on the wall plate. Rising from the tie beam are two queen struts which are mortised and pegged into both the tie beam and the high set collar. The wall studs from the floor level up to the tie beam appear to be original, but the second and third wall studs are possibly replacements using reused timbers, evidenced by two empty mortises, and the third wall stud appears to be cut into the tie beam. The wall studs above the tie beam to the collar at the northern end are modern replacements, with the southern end of the upper wall retaining wattle and daub panels. The wattle is exposed in places.



Plate 27: West Wall of Bay 2

- 6.6** The northern wall of Bay 2 is of brickwork laid in a random bond, with a doorway to the 19th century extension on the northern side of the original building. The brickwork had modern studwork covering it, with the 17th century wall plate being supported by the brickwork. At the western end a doorway to the northern extension had cut through the wall plate.
- 6.7** Bay 1 is located at the western end of the original 17th century building (Fig. 6). The western end wall (**Plates 28 & 29**) consisted of five original wall studs; with seven modern various sized timbers between them. Both the principal posts were *in-situ*. The principal post A had a swelling jowl which was noticeable smaller, with the overall shape being more angular, than the principal posts B and C in Bays 2 and 3. The top of the principal post A-A had no jowl with the end of the post being straight cut; it is possible that this principal post was a replacement. The tie beam was supported by the principal posts, and was higher than the wall plates of the northern and southern walls. Rising from both of the principal posts to the tie beam was an upward brace; these both measured 130mm deep by 70mm.



Plate 28: South End of West Wall
Bay 1



Plate 29: North End of West Wall
Bay 1

- 6.8** Both the northern and southern wall plates had been re-placed with new timbers just to the west of the junction between Bays 1 and 2. Both of these joints were rough scarf joints (**Plate 30 & 31**). It was also noted that both the northern and southern roof purlins had joints in a similar position (**Plate 32 & 33**). The northern wall is of modern

studwork, with both the northern and western wall timbers showing the signs of being covered in lathes and plaster. The ceiling covering in this room had been removed; this left the bare joists which also had the marks of the laths on them.



Plate 30: Joint in Northern Wall
Plate Bay 1



Plate 31: Joint in Southern Wall
Plate Bay 1



Plate 32: Joint in Purlin North Side Bay 1



Plate 33: Joint in Purlin South Side Bay 1

- 6.9** The roof of the original 17th century house is preserved under the timbers of a roof constructed from modern timbers. The roof over Bays 2 and 3 is of the side purlin type with the purlin measuring 140mm square. The purlin on both sides of the roof was clasped by the collar of trusses bays 2 and 3. The original roof in Bay 2 had two slightly curving wind braces in either side of the roof; with the wind braces at the eastern end of the southern side of roof and the western end of northern side still being *in-situ*. The missing wind braces are evidenced by the empty mortises in the principal rafters and the cut away area on the inner face of the purlin. The roof over Bay 1 consisted of the jack rafters of half-hipped eastern roof. These all appeared to be of a modern date most likely contemporary with the later roof structure over Bays 2 and 3. By the time of the second visit this roof had been removed. The roof structure over Bay 1 was the hipped western end of the building this, as with the 17th century roof, was protected by the later roof structure. It seem likely that this area of roof had been re-roofed later than that over the main body of the house, as evidenced by the replaced purlins in Bay 1.

7.0 19th Century Extension

7.1 The ground floor of the 19th century extension on the northern side of the original building consists of a single large room, with a corridor housing the staircase to the first floor in the north-western corner (Fig. 5). The corridor measures 1.95m north-south by 6.8m east-west internally, with the entrance from the exterior of the building being located at the eastern end. Only the stairs remain of the staircase, the balustrade on the southern side having been removed (**Plate 34**). The staircase is has a dog leg with a half landing. The main room has the internal measurements of 4.9m north south by 6.8m east west. At the base of the southern and northern walls there is a wooden skirting board with a moulded top. All of the walls are plastered. The doorway to the room to the north is located in the eastern end of the north wall of the corridor and is fitted with a four panelled wooden door.



Plate 34: Corridor in 19th Century Extension

7.2 The main room on the ground floor has the internal measurements of 4.9m north-south by 6.8m east-west. All the walls are plastered and have a moulded wooden picture rail and wooden skirting boards with a moulded top. In the centre of the western wall there is the chimney breast with moulded wooden fire surround. Above the surround is a wooden shelf supported by a wooden corbel at the top of the two sides (**Plate 35**). The room is lit by full height windows in the eastern and northern walls; the eastern window only has the outside frame remaining. Both of the windows have sliding six panelled wooden doors fitted to the inside which act as shutters (**Plate 36**).



Plate 35: Fireplace in Main Room



Plate 36: Example of Sliding Shutters

Although the first floor rooms of the extension could not be inspected, due to their being sealed off because of the presence of a colony of bats, from the architects drawings it could be seen that there are two rooms with a corridor at the southern end.

8.0 Discussion

- 8.1 Dowd's Farmhouse was in a very poor state of repair and had also been badly vandalized, and much of the exterior timber framing had been removed when the walls were re-built in brick. However, some of the original framing was still apparent in the interior walls. The 17th century roof timbers were also apparent, although having had a later roof built over them.
- 8.2 The original building comprises a rectangular two or three bay house on two floors (Fig.7). Evidence from the remaining timbers incorporated into the northern wall of the original house would suggest small panel framing. This was also implied by the length of side girt revealed in the hole in the western wall of the original house where the spacing of the empty peg holes would also suggest this type of framing.
- 8.3 Both the ground floor room of Bay 3, and the chamber above were heated, and enough evidence survives to suggest that these were the high status rooms. This evidence takes the form of the ceiling joists in the ground floor room, which were of a greater scantling than those in Bay 2. These are also thought to be part of the original fabric of the building as the joists of Bay 2 rest on the floor boards of Bay 3. Both of the lower corners of these joists are chamfered and stopped at both ends. In the chamber above the presence of the ceiling girder supported at the ends by carved wooden corbels would imply that this was also a high status room. Also surviving from the 17th century are the two doors in the western wall of the ground floor of Bay 3, these both have cranked heads. The doorway at the southern end of the wall gave access to the staircase, the doorway to the north of the stairs provides the ground floor access between Bays 2 and 3, while a third doorway with a cranked head is located carved into the northern end of the tie beam of western wall of Bay 3 on the first floor.
- 8.4 The next phase was the construction of a single bay extension (Bay 4) at the eastern end of Dowd's Farmhouse. Evidence for the eastern bay being a later addition is that viewed from the exterior of the building the ridge of the roof is slightly lower. This also applies to level of the eaves which are also lower. Observed from the interior of the building the southern wall plate of the easternmost bay is appreciably lower. There are no dateable features in this bay, but the remains of small panel timber framing in the northern wall would suggest that the extension was erected a short while after the main body of the building.
- 8.5 There is also some evidence for the western end (Bay 1) of the house also being a later addition to the original house. The jointed timbers of the purlins and wall plates in Bay 1 could suggest that this roof was later than that over Bays 2 and 3. Also the downward brace in the northern end of the western wall of Bay 2, might suggest this was an external end wall.

- 8.6** The southern, western and eastern exterior walls of the four bays of the earliest phases of the building were re-constructed with brick. This involved the removal of most of the timber framing from these three walls. The material and design of the brickwork in the construction of the southern wall would suggest, with the use of vitrified headers, that the timber framed walls were rebuilt in brick during the second half of the 19th century.
- 8.7** The replacement of the southern wall and the eastern wall and the rebuilding of the western wall were possibly also carried out at the same time as the two storey extension, on the northern side of the building was added, which was the final phase of development. Only the ground floor of this extension was surveyed due to the presence of a colony of bats in the first floor rooms. The dateable features, for example the fireplace and the sliding shuttering over the windows would also suggest later 19th century date for this extension.
- 8.8** The survey of the building combined with the watching brief has enabled a development history of Dowd's Farmhouse to be detailed. The evidence shows that, although much altered, the basic fabric of the original 17th century 2- or 3-bay building survived. Soon after building, additional bay(s) were added resulting in an impressive 4-bay house. This then survived through until the 19th century with little further alteration, at which point major reconstruction and addition of an extension was carried out.
- 8.9** The survey and subsequent watching brief have achieved the aims as set out in the WSI.

7.0 Acknowledgements

- 7.1** We would like to thank Yellow Dot (Hedge End) Ltd for commissioning this standing building survey, and their on-site staff for their co-operation during the survey. We would also like to thank Nicholas Sherwood of TKL Architects LLP for making the arrangements for the survey and watching brief, and for permission to use their drawings.
- 7.2** Keith Butler would like to thank Jon Kaines for his assistance with the fieldwork. The project was managed for CBAS by Chris Butler MIFA.

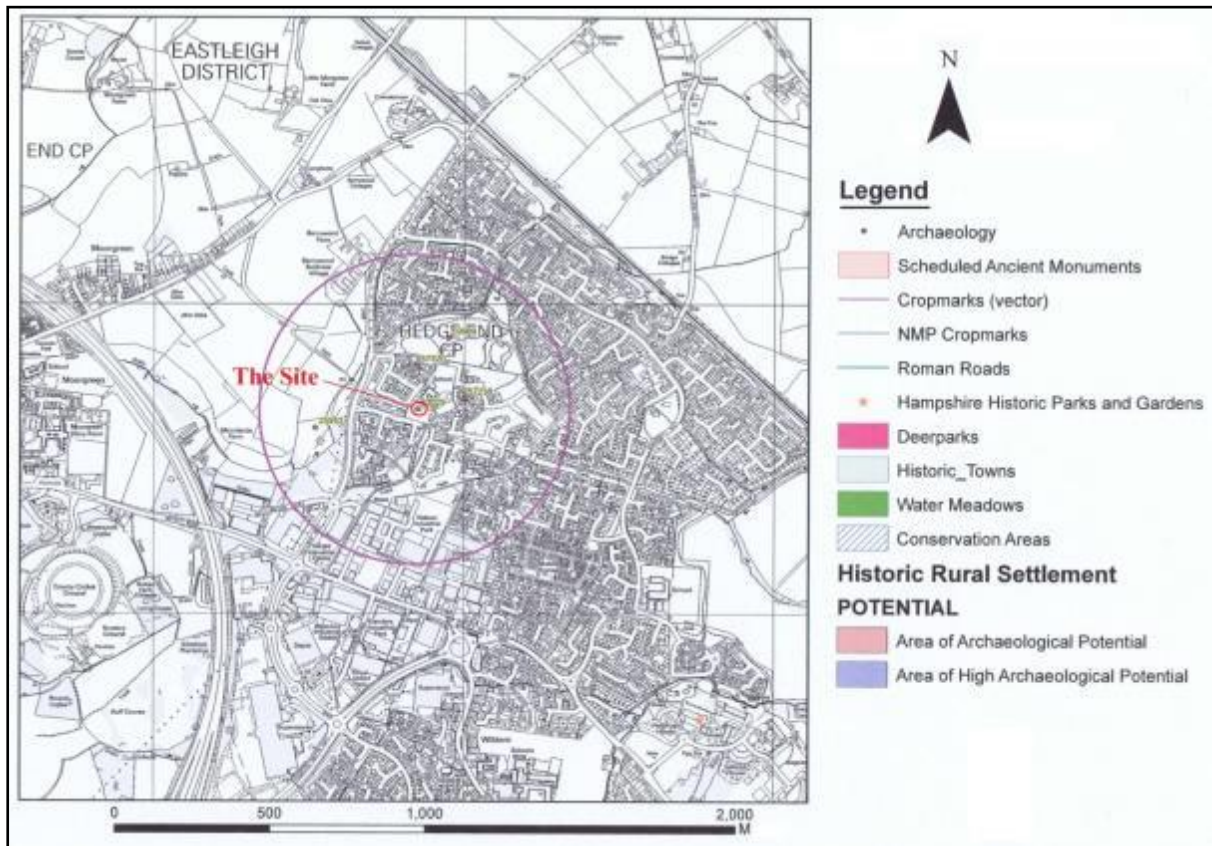


Fig. 1: Dowd's Farm, Hedge End: Location of the site & sites on the HER

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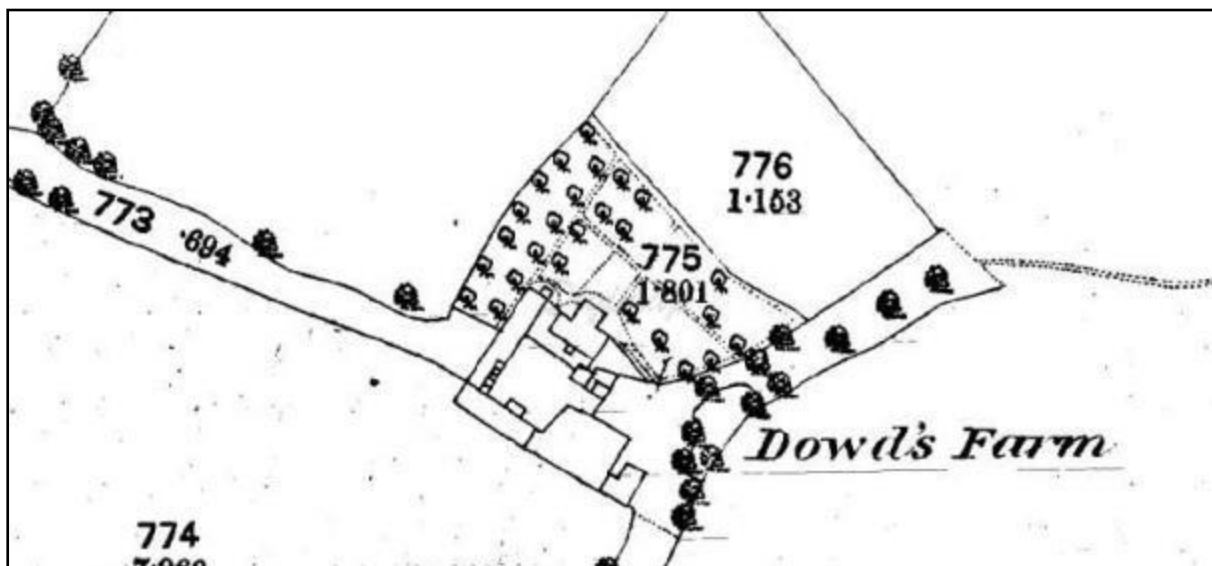


Fig. 2: Dowd's Farm, Hedge End: 1st Edition OS Map (1869)

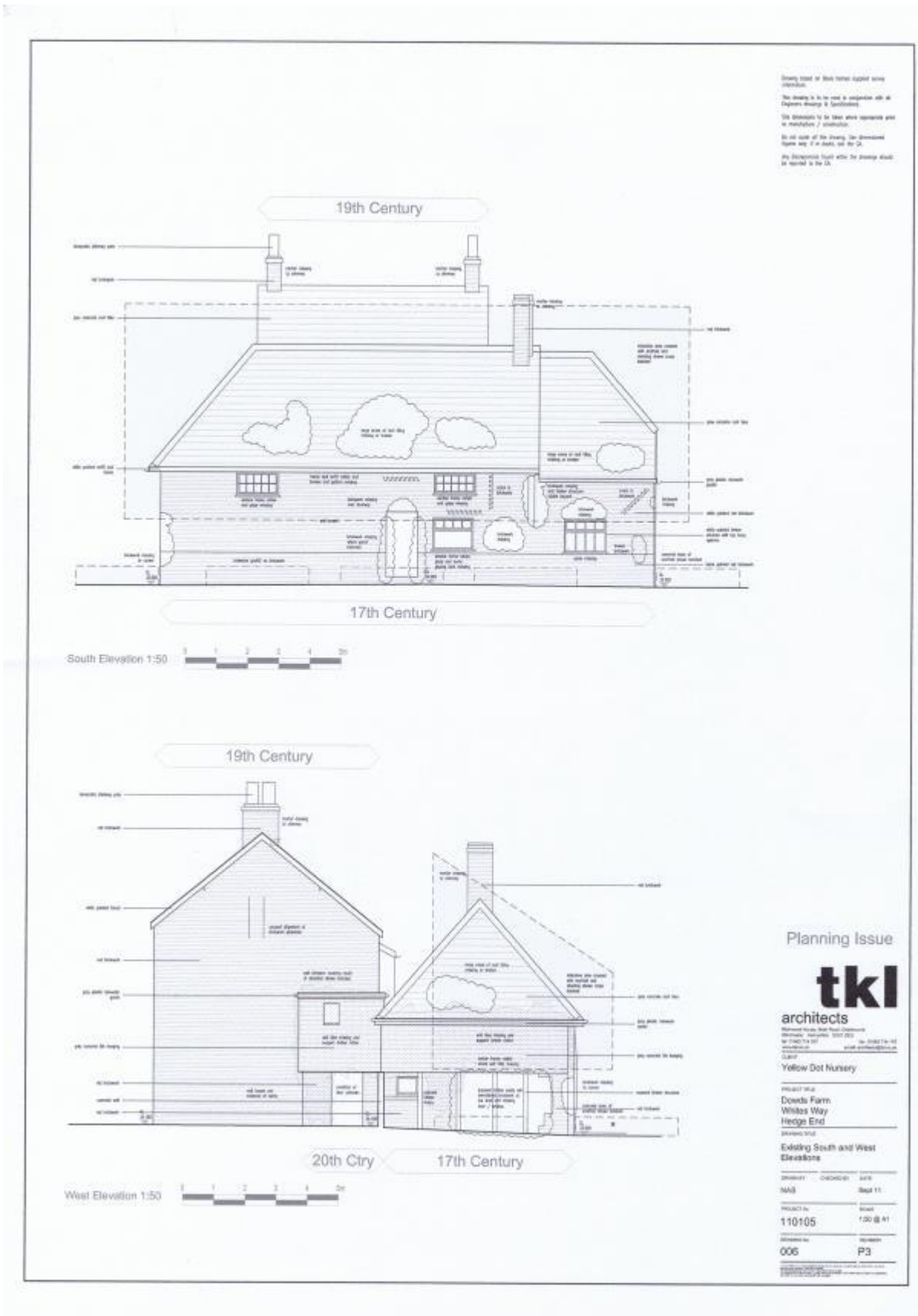


Fig. 3: Dowd's Farm, Hedge End: Existing South and West elevations
(Adapted from TKL Architects drawing)

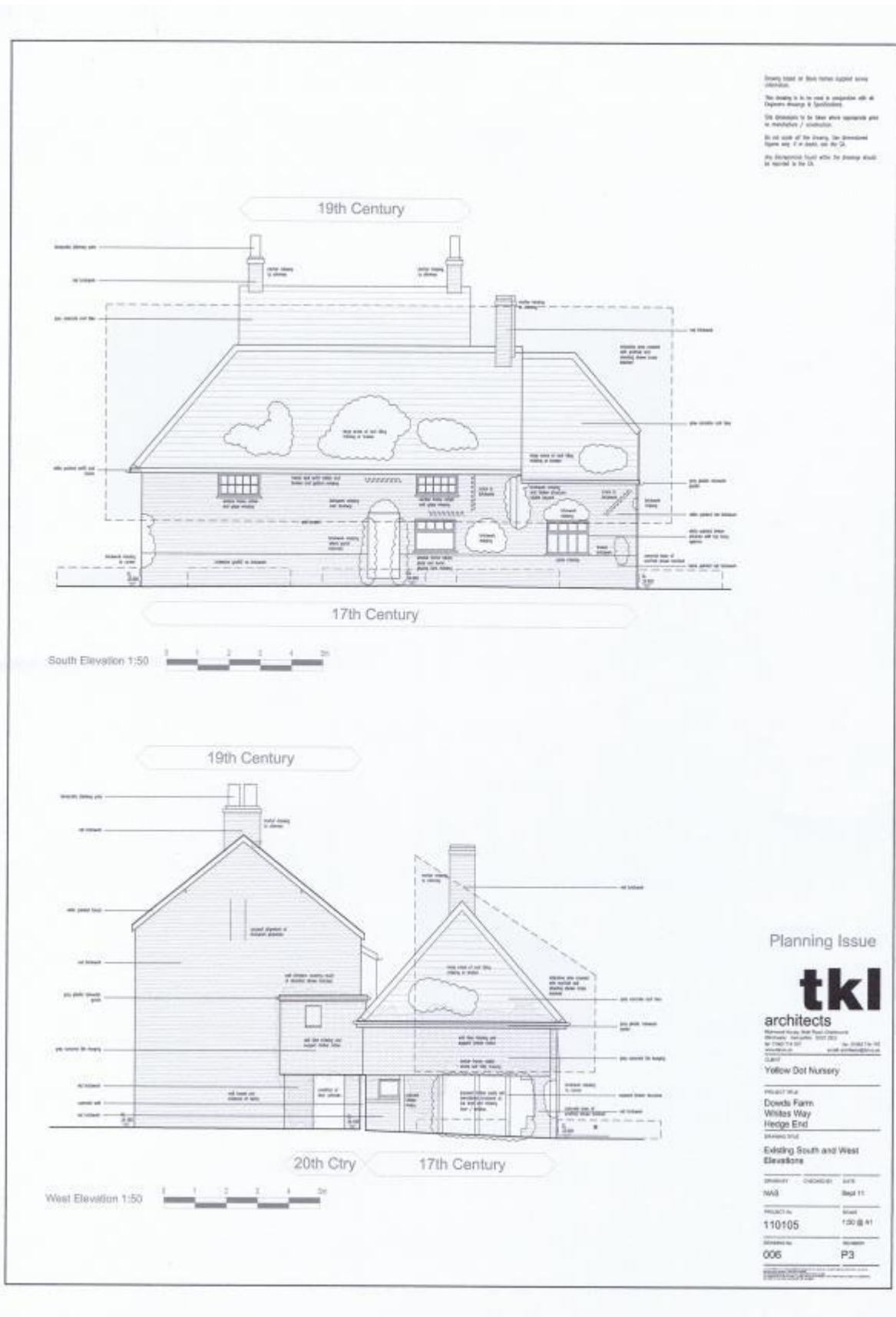


Fig. 4: Dowd's Farm, Hedge End: Existing North and East elevations
(Adapted from TKL Architects drawing)

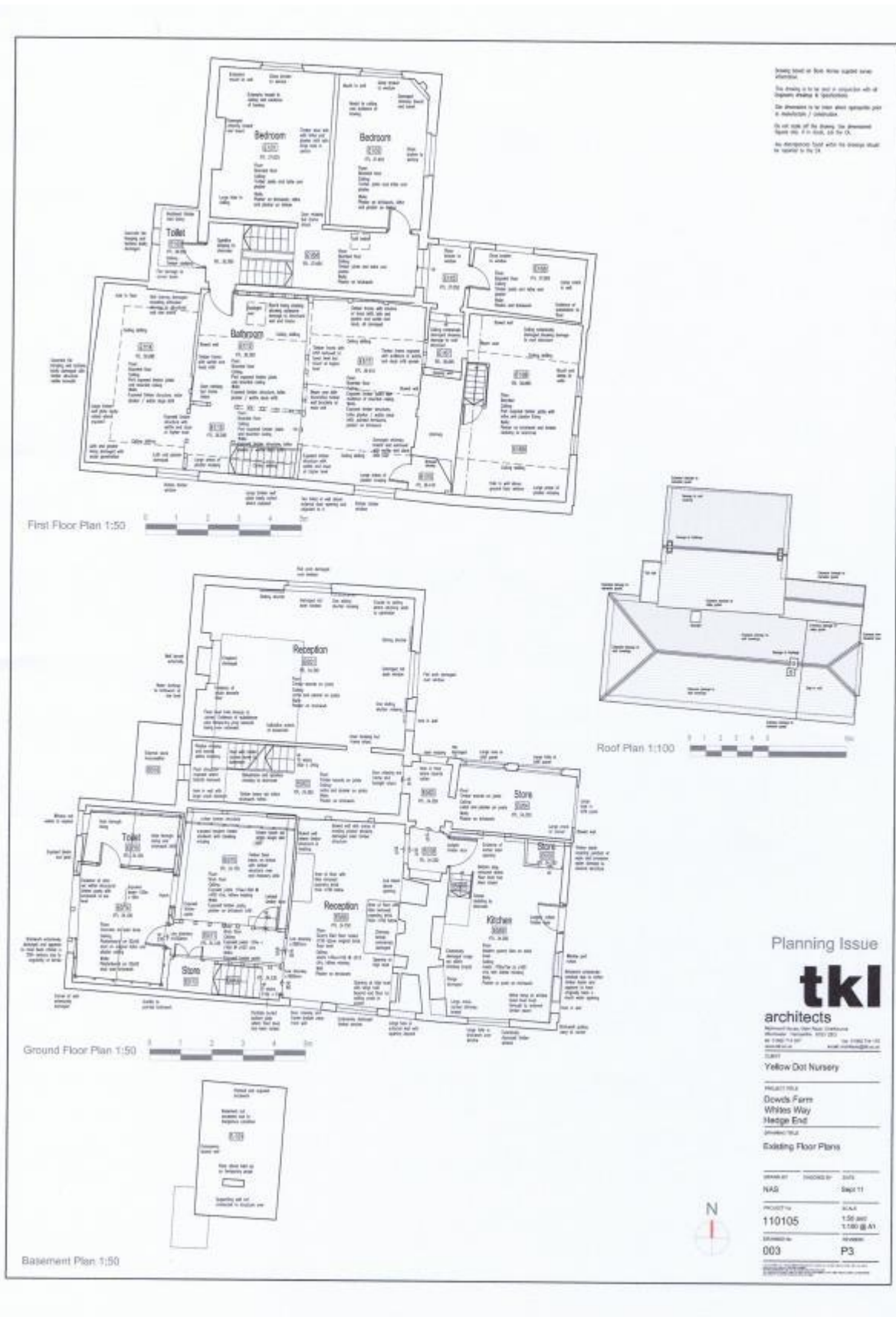
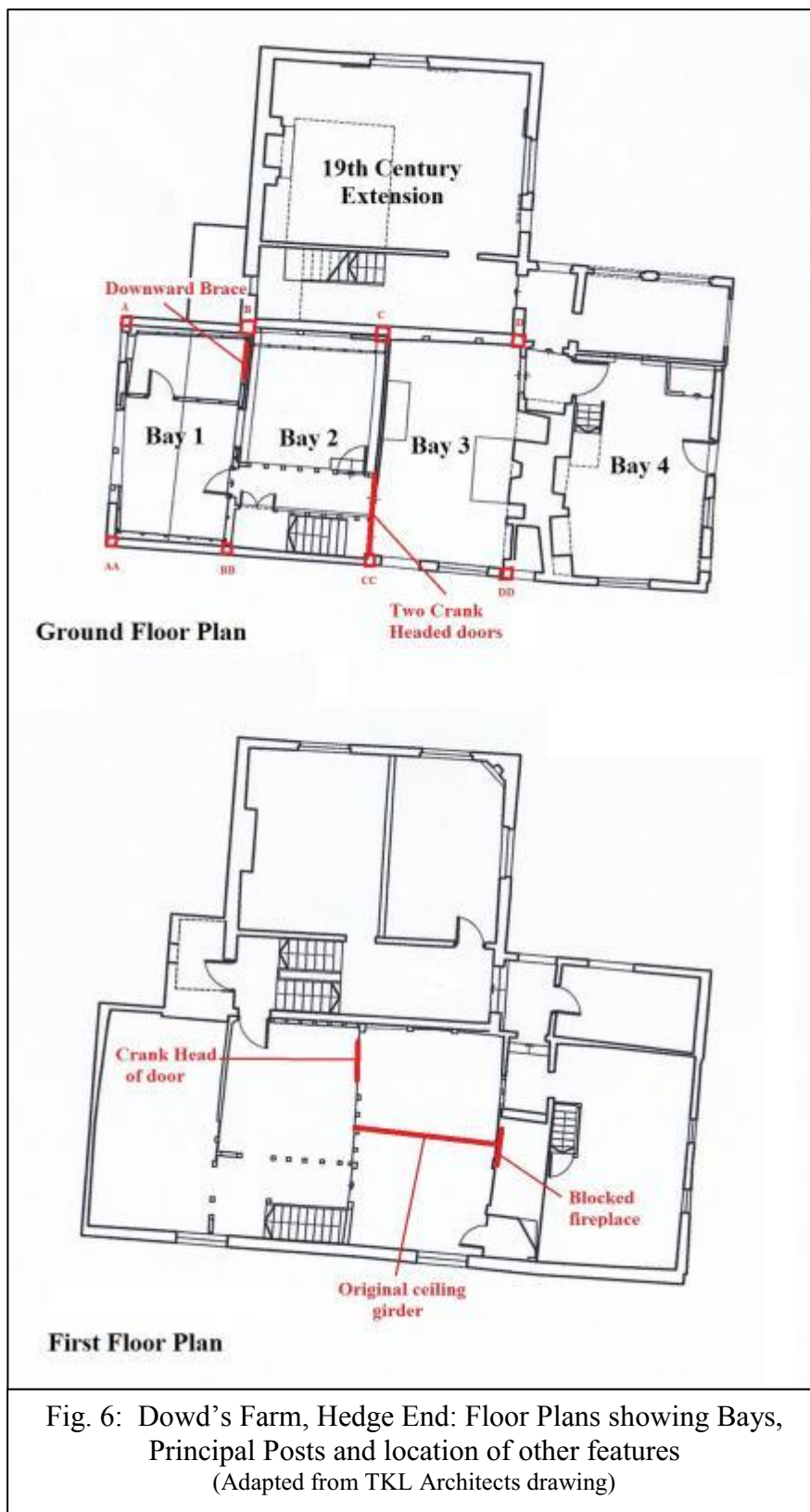


Fig. 5: Dowd's Farm, Hedge End: Existing Floor Plans
(Adapted from TKL Architects drawing)



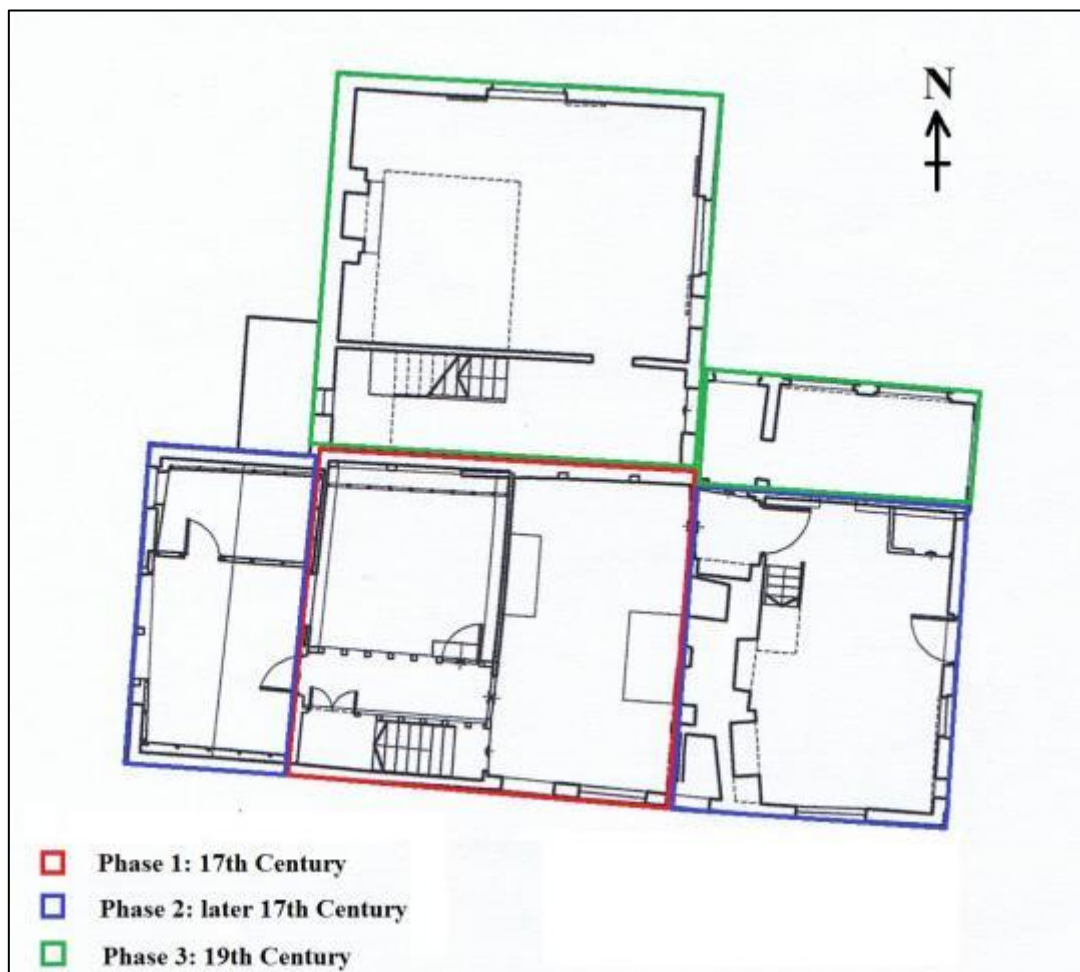


Fig. 7: Dowd's Farm, Hedge End: Phased plan
(Adapted from TKL Architects drawing)

Chris Butler Archaeological Services Ltd

Chris Butler has been an archaeologist since 1985, and formed the Mid Sussex Field Archaeological Team in 1987, since when it has carried out numerous fieldwork projects, and was runner up in the Pitt-Rivers Award at the British Archaeological Awards in 1996. Having previously worked as a Pensions Technical Manager and Administration Director in the financial services industry, Chris formed **Chris Butler Archaeological Services** at the beginning of 2002.

Chris is a Member of the Institute of Field Archaeologists, a committee member of the Lithic Studies Society, and is a part time lecturer in Archaeology at the University of Sussex. He continues to run the Mid Sussex Field Archaeological Team in his spare time.

Chris specialises in prehistoric flintwork analysis, but has directed excavations, landscape surveys and watching briefs, including the excavation of a Beaker Bowl Barrow, a Saxon cemetery and settlement, Roman pottery kilns, and a Mesolithic hunting camp.

Chris Butler Archaeological Services Ltd is available for Flintwork Analysis, Project Management, Military Archaeology, Desktop Assessments, Field Evaluations, Excavation work, Watching Briefs, Field Surveys & Fieldwalking, Post Excavation Services and Report Writing.

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