

BUILDING RECORDING AND EXCAVATION

ON

WARREN FARM, FOREST ROAD,

WOKINGHAM, BERKSHIRE

NGR SU 81461 71907

On behalf of

Warren Farm (Wokingham) Ltd

JULY 2015

REPORT FOR	Warren Farm (Wokingham) Ltd The Granary Ashridgewood Farm Warren House Road Wokingham Berkshire RG40 5RD
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Warrenfarm House

Building Recording and Excavation

SUMMARY

Permission was granted by a planning appeal for the demolition of a building called Warren Farm, Wokingham Borough, Berkshire. Subsequent to this a request was made for an initial assessment of the build, followed by various levels of recording of the structure and a subsequent evaluation and excavation.

An analysis of the structure and excavations noted that there were problems with the assessment made by English Heritage and the limited interpretation that was carried out on the site in advance of a decision.

The excavation recovered material from the site that dated from the later Mesolitic to the Early Bronze Age, which would imply that the north facing bluff occupied by warren Farm was used as an advantage point in a forested landscape. Two features imprecisely dated indicate that a standing post was erected and that on the north side a short ditch was excavated. This may have been done to create a focal point in a wooded landscape or possibly to act as a ambush or hunting platform to surprise game.

The identification of what appears to be part of a medieval cruck was noted in the east wall of part C of the building. The remains of two beam-slots were also noted, which appear to be part of a medieval open hall. Though it was not demonstrated it is probable that this hall was associated with an early cellar.

In the late 16th century a chimneybreast was added to the hall and this was associated with a large timber framed structure with single skim brick walls in its base. This structure probably had a stair turret, and a long room on the east side, presumably a bed chamber above. The stairs subsequent stairwell may have originated as an entrance lobby with small chamber above. There could have been a single storey structure to the south, a veranda or gallery.

In the 17th or 18th century, probably about 1660-80 or at the restoration of the monarchy in 1680, some of the walls on this structure were rebuilt with more substantial footings.

In the early 19th century it is believed on stylistic grounds that the front of the building was reworked with the addition of part B. In the middle of the 19th century some of the walls in part C and D were rebuilt, and the cellar may have been enlarged. It is apparent that up to this date the medieval hall had influenced the shape of the building and its subsequent design and development.

The development of phase 8 saw the subsequent rebuilding of parts C and D and the subsequent loss of character of the structure with the filling of the cellar or Warren House.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Location

Warren Farm was located on the historic parish boundary of the parishes of Saint Nicholas Hurst and Wokingham Without (SU 81461 71907). However from historic maps it is apparent that it was located in neither of these parishes but was placed in an area of extraparochial land placed between the two parishes. This fact is historically important and ultimately indicates that the farm was probably a lodge associated with the monarch. Historically the parish of Saint Nicholas Hurst was in the Hundred of Charlton and the parish of Wokingham was in the Hundred of Sonning. These parishes were located in the historic County of Berkshire, but there is some evidence that parts of these parishes were part of the historic County of Wiltshire as isolated parcels. The site is now located in the Borough of Wokingham.

The farmhouse has fields to the northeast, east, and south. There are two old access routes to the farm from the northeast and southeast. The present access road approaches from the south. To the southwest and west of the farmhouse the property is surrounded by farm buildings. There are fields to the northwest and north, beyond which is the route of the M4 motorway.

Topographically the farmhouse is located on a slight eminence that has views across the Kennet, Loddon and Shottesbrook Valley. This is set at a height between 55m to 58m above Ordnance Datum.

The underlying geology (mapsapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html) is a London Clay Formation, a clay, silt and sand mix that is a sedimentary bedrock formed 34million to 56million years ago in the Palaeogene period. This is capped by the superficial deposit a River Terrace Deposit 5, that is a sand and gravel laid down three million years ago in the Quaternary period.

1.2 Commission

This report was commissioned by Warren Farm (Wokingham) Ltd.

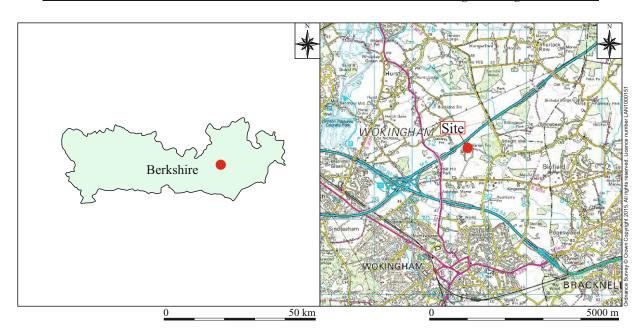
1.3 Aim of Investigation

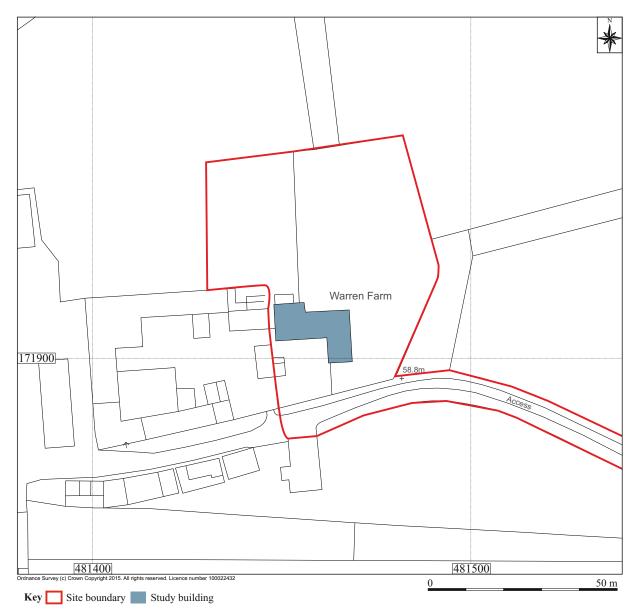
The aim of this report is to carry out a series of investigations into the building to ascertain as much information about the structure before and during it is demolished. The different parts of the building were recorded at different levels.

2 BACKGROUND

2.1 Designations

The building is not nationally designated, but is considered to be of local importance. The building is not listed in the Buildings of England: Berkshire (Tyack, Bradley et al. 2010).







A report of the building was carried out in 2013 in respect to listing (Fiorato 2013). The report sets out the main reasons for listing a building.

- Buildings dating from before 1700 if there are significant proportions of their original fabric surviving
- > Buildings 1700-1840, with higher levels of classification and survival
- > Buildings 1840 and later that have a more significant criteria of survival

It was suggested that what survives of the building allows for no real plan and knowledge of use, though it is apparent that the building has pre-1700 origins (Fiorato 2013). The building underwent alterations in the period 1700-1840 when the structure was Georgianised. A date of c. 1800 was put on these alterations by the features on the stairs. It was noted that windows had been inserted into the timber framing in the 20th century that had made the reduction of the structure more significant. The conclusions were that even though the building could be noted as dating from the late 16th to early 17th century that there were significant architectural alterations of the 19th century in which much of the original plan of the building was lost.

Historically it was claimed that the farm was associated with Sir Henry Neville and Billingbear House. Billingbear was a large Tudor building that was taken down in 1920 (Fiorato 2013). The English Heritage report found nothing to substantiate these suggestions, but failed to investigate other historical factors concerning the building.

2.2 History of Development

The exact historical descent of the land on which Warren Farm stood is complicated, because of its extra-parochial origins, but not impossible to ascertain and explain. This piece of land lay between the parishes of Hurst Saint Nicholas and Wokingham Without. Hurst Saint Nicholas and Wokingham Without were ecclesiastically attached to the church of Sonning. The land was also located in the historic Forest of Windsor.

Sonning was held by Osmund, Bishop of Salisbury in 1066 and 1086 (Morgan 1979, 3.1). The estate in 1066 covered an area of 60 hides and in 1086 covered an area of 24 hides. The account covered 40 villagers, 16 smallholders, 10 slaves, 2 mills, 5 fisheries, meadowland and woodland for 300 pigs. The establishment of a cathedral at Salisbury occurred in the Norman period; prior to this the cathedral of Wiltshire and Berkshire was located at Ramesbury in Berkshire near the county boundary. The earliest West Saxon see was located at Dorchester-on-Thames, although this site later served as the site of a see associated with the Middle Angles and Mercians. Both Sonning and Wokingham etymologically contain the remains of early folk-names. Wokingham was an area taken out of Sonning Hundred, and its name first recorded in 1146 as *Wokingeham* has been given an etymology of 'The homestead of the people of **Wocc*' and uses the forms –**inga**- and **hām** (Gelling 1973, 139-40).

The other significant territorial association is with the Forest of Windsor. Windsor Forest is also first recorded in 1086 as *Foresta de Windesores* and *Foresta de Windlesores* in 1087 (Gelling 1973, 4). The bounds of the forest were recorded in 1300 and they included all of the county of Berkshire to the east of the River Loddon. The Forest also partially extended into the county of Surrey, and may originally have been bounded on the east by

the River Wey and to the south by the Blackwater. References to Windsor Forest in the Domesday Book occur in a number of passages; for example under the manor of Windsor there is reference to woodland in the King's Enclosure (Morgan 1979, 1.1). There is a further reference to woodland in Windsor Forest being attached to the manor of Cookham (Morgan 1979, 1.3). It is likely that the area in which Warren House Farm was located at this time was in Charlton Hundred. Cookham was the king's head manor of this hundred and so it is possible that this area of extra-parochial land could have been attached to the Cookham reference to Windsor Forest.

The manor of Whistley in 1086 was the nearest listed to Warren Farm, and is located in the current parish of Saint Nicholas Hurst. The manor was held by the church of Abingdon and in 1066 accounted for 10 hides and in 1086 for 7 hides (Morgan 1979, 7.32). The manor lists 16 villagers, 1 smallholder, a mill, woodland and a fishery. At this time the manor lay in the Hundred of Charlton. Saint Nicholas Hurst was first recorded as *Herst* in 1220 a name for which the etymology is **hyrst** a wooded hill or wood (Gelling 1973, 99). There was a *capella de Herst* recorded in 1220, *de sancto Nicholao*. The chapel of Hurst was attached to the mother church of Sonning; it was part of the parish at the close of the 11th century and the church of Sonning received dues from the vill of Whistley (VCH 1923, 247-260). There is known to have been a chapel at Hurst attached to Sonning from the 13th century. The chapel at Wokingham was also attached to Sonning, but is known to date from at least 1146 (VCH 1923, 225-260).

An assessment of the early historical maps, which will be fully discussed in this report in their historical position, indicate that the land on which Warren Farm stood was neither part of Hurst or Wokingham parishes, but that it was actually part of an extra-parochial enclave located between the two territories. How and when it was created cannot categorically be defined, and it is also not possible to determine previous boundary changes to the size of the extra-parochial territory at present. It is known that it was traditional for areas of medieval forest held by the king to contain large areas of extraparochial land. This is evident at the centre of the Forest of Dean in Gloucestershire (VCH 1996, 285-300) and also in the New Forest in Hampshire (VCH 1903). The extent of the extra-parochial land in the Forest of Dean can be recognised from township maps of the East and West Dean and the longevity of the form of these boundaries is shown by the surviving map of West Dean dated 1608 (National Archive MR1/879). Other Royal hunting forests show this arrangement to a lesser extent, as in Wychwood, West Oxfordshire, where the parish of Wychwood originated as an area of extra-parochial hunting land (Schumer 2010, 101-108). In the case of Wychwood Gelling (1954, 386) noted that this area is derived from a district name and not a historically developed village.

In these forests it was traditional for the establishment of a series of lodges. This is evident in the New Forest and in the Forest of Dean. In the Forest of Dean the Royal Manor of Newarne is listed in 1086 (Thorn and Thorn 1983, 1.72), which was later replaced by the establishment of the Speech House or the King's Lodge at the centre of the surviving forest.

If we thus take known historical traditions of the Forest of Dean and New Forest as examples, then it indicates that areas of extra-parochial land in any known Royal medieval forest could and probably should be associated with the monarchy. A map produced in the History of the King's Works (Allen Brown, Colvin et al. 1963a, 242) for the period 1272-

1485 shows medieval royal lodges in Windsor Forest located at Foliejon (near Winkfield) and Collingridge. The map also shows royal medieval houses located at Wychmere and Easthampstead. The Manor or Lodge of Foliejon was located at Winkfield and comprised lands in and around Windsor Forest (Allen Brown, Colvin et al. 1963a, 244; 1963b, 939-940). In medieval times the manor was also known by the name Belestre but more commonly Foyle Johan. The manor was alienated from the Crown by Edward I to John Droxford (Drokensford) the Bishop of Bath and Wells, a co-regent of Edward II. The manor was reclaimed by the monarch in 1313 for the payment of a debt. Edward the II alienated the manor to Oliver of Bordeaux, for the rent of a red rose, from whom it was inherited by William Trussell in 1317. The manor was brought back into the royal fold by Edward III in 1359 together with other neighbouring manors including Wychemere. This purchase was associated with building work at Windsor Castle and the enlargement of Windsor Park, as Foliejon was a neighbouring park attached to that of Windsor. The lodge remained part of the royal estate until it was sold in 1630 to Serjeant Henne. Thus around Windsor at this time there was a ring of satellite houses and hunting lodges, not all of which have probably been located.

Those other royal buildings identified in and around Windsor Forest include Manor Hill near Virginia Water, a former royal residence of Henry III 1244-1246 (Allen Brown, Colvin et al. 1963b, 1007-1009). The present great park was created around this site and Edward I preferred this location to the Castle. The Manor of Wychemere, Old Windsor, was obtained by Edward III from Oliver of Bordeaux in 1359 (Allen Brown, Colvin et al. 1963b, 1020-1021) along with other sites attached to Foliejon. The land around this manor was added to the park. Richard II demolished the manor at Wychemere, which is now the moated site called Bear's Rail. The last of the recognised manor sites held by the monarchy and listed in the King's Work is the Manor House of Easthampstead which was associated with Edward II (Allen Brown, Colvin et al. 1963b, 925-927). Noted in the King's Work is a reference dated to c. 1442-48, which refers to the cutting of timber in the Royal Park for use at Windsor Park, Easthampstead, Foliejon and Wokingham (Allen Brown, Colvin et al. 1963a, 282). From other details recorded it is apparent that the locations of the buildings presumably royal are known at Windsor Park, Easthampstead, and Foliejon (Foliojohn) but that at Wokingham is not encountered as being documented elsewhere or identified. There would have been minor royal lodges established across the Forest for the surveillance and maintenance of Forest Law, and we could hypothesise that the royal building at Wokingham may have been one of these buildings.

English Heritage's investigation into the Warren Farm building (Fiorato 2013) attempted to focus on an association thought to have existed between Billingbear House and Warren Farm, claimed by a local historian, however, no such connection could be demonstrated. What is evident is that the search here was problematic in that it did not revert to details of primary sources and the implications of these facts.

In the post-medieval and post-Civil War landscape the situation had changed. The chief lodge in the Windsor Forest was established at Cumberland Lodge in the Windsor Great Park in the mid-17th century (VCH 1923, 80-85). The significance of areas of extraparochial land and their former association with the monarch and the functioning of the royal forest altered with the abolition of Forest Law. The maps of Windsor Forest (T/M 30/1, T/M 30/3) show the area but not in sufficient detail.



Fig. 2: Rocque's Map of 1761



Fig. 3: Greenwood's Map of 1824

Cartographic information associated with Warren Farm commence like most Berkshire places with the maps of the latter part of the 18th century. The map of Rocque dated 1761 (T/M128) shows a building in the location of Warren Farm roughly orientated east to west in line with the road that leads towards Billingbear (Fig. 2). There appear to be no buildings associated with the site that could be indicated as a farmyard with surrounding

barns and other outbuildings. The road to *Billings Bare* is marked, and in places is shown as a tree lined ride. The name *Warren House* is recorded as being located in Wokingham Without parish (Gelling 1973, 144) on Roque's map of 1761, and also the names *the Warren*, and *Warren House Field* are used at this time. The name Warren House is written on the map above the current Targetts Farm (T/M128), and the name the Warren was used for a large stretch of rough pasture and woods extending from Buck Hill in the south, now Ashridge, north into the parish of Hurst and incorporating Broad Common. Indeed it is possible to suggest that this area represents the Warren or hunting ground and that Warren Farm would have been located at its south end.



Fig. 4: Hurst Tithe Map of 1842

The second map that shows the building is that of Greenwood dated 1824 (D/ERu P5). The buildings shown appear to be part of a yard which is open on the south side (Fig. 3). This map records the name for the farm as Kings Farm. The road is shown running to Billing Bear Park. To the west there is a farm called the Holloway, which could either refer to an east west orientated trackway or one running north to south that is marked on Rocque's map running up over the common. Such place-names are common and refer to a well established route way, many of which are at least medieval in date. The name indicates that even though Warren Farm may appear to be somewhat isolated now that in the past it was on a recognised route.

The next cartographic representation of the building is on the Hurst Tithe Map of 1842 (D/D1 73/1). This shows the house as a pink rectangular structure roughly orientated east to west (Fig. 4). There are outbuildings marked to the rear of the structure, an east to west barn and then an L-shaped structure that forms part of the yard. There are four other isolated buildings located around the wider area of the farmyard. In the parish of Hurst Saint Nicholas there is a reference to *Warren House Farm* that was recorded as *Warren* or *Little Warren* in 1841 (Gelling 1973, 101). Perhaps more significantly it is on this map that

the farm is shown as occupying an area of extra-parochial land, a situation that must have occurred historically during the medieval period when the parish shapes were developing from historical landholdings and traditions.

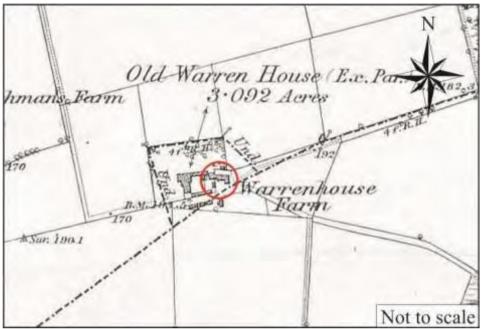


Fig. 5: First Edition Ordnance Survey Map of 1877

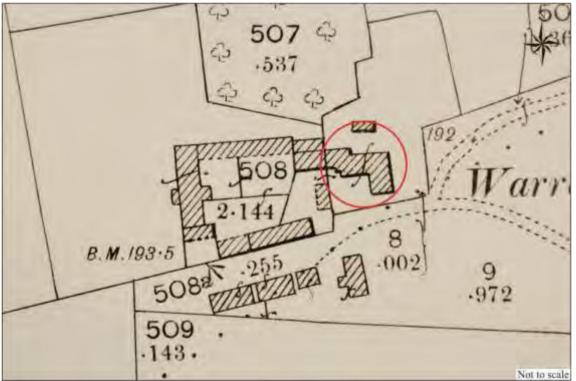


Fig. 6: Second Edition Ordnance Survey Map of 1899

The First Edition Ordnance Survey Map of 1877 (Berks 38.7) shows an L-shaped building orientated predominantly east to west (Fig. 5). The barn to the west appears to be shown as being attached to the house. The farmyard has an L-shaped building to the north and west

of the yard, and a building to the south with one beyond that. The area is shown as being extra-parochial and is called Old Warren House and covers an area of 3.092 acres.

The Second Edition Ordnance Survey Map of 1899 (Berks 38.7) shows the building as a staggered L-shape structure with a further step at the west end (Fig. 6). On this map the house is called *Warrenhouse Farm*.

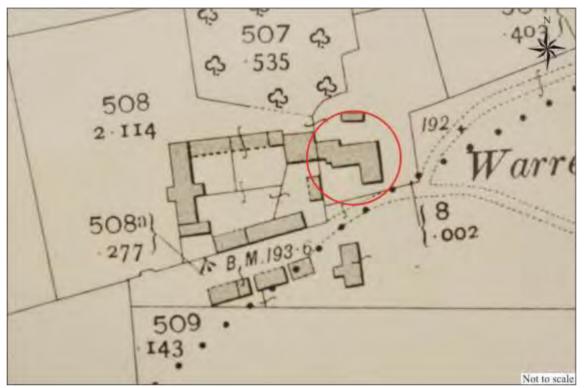


Fig. 7: Third Edition Ordnance Survey Map of 1911

The Third Edition Ordnance Survey Map of 1911 (Berks 38.7) shows the same shaped building as on the Second Edition, but here the building is called Warren Farm (Fig. 7).

3:I DESCRIPTION OF WARREN FARM

3.1 Introduction and General Description

It is evident from the plan and internal observations that the building that survives is of a number of phases of which four are evident at a first glance (Fig. 8). The earliest visible part of the building is of a roughly square structure (Part A). There are two further phases of the building, one of which is the Georgian style development of the building (Part B). This is an extension on the original structure to the south. There are further extensions to the west, the date of which it is more difficult to determine (Parts C and D). Part C of the building contains a roof structure with reused timbers that can be seen to form trusses that have a traditional design. At the far west end of the building there is a further part of the structure that is a post-World War II development (Part D). Excavation of this part of the building was, and that though some of part C of the structure was reworked in the 19th century, the building had been reworked again in the 20th century.

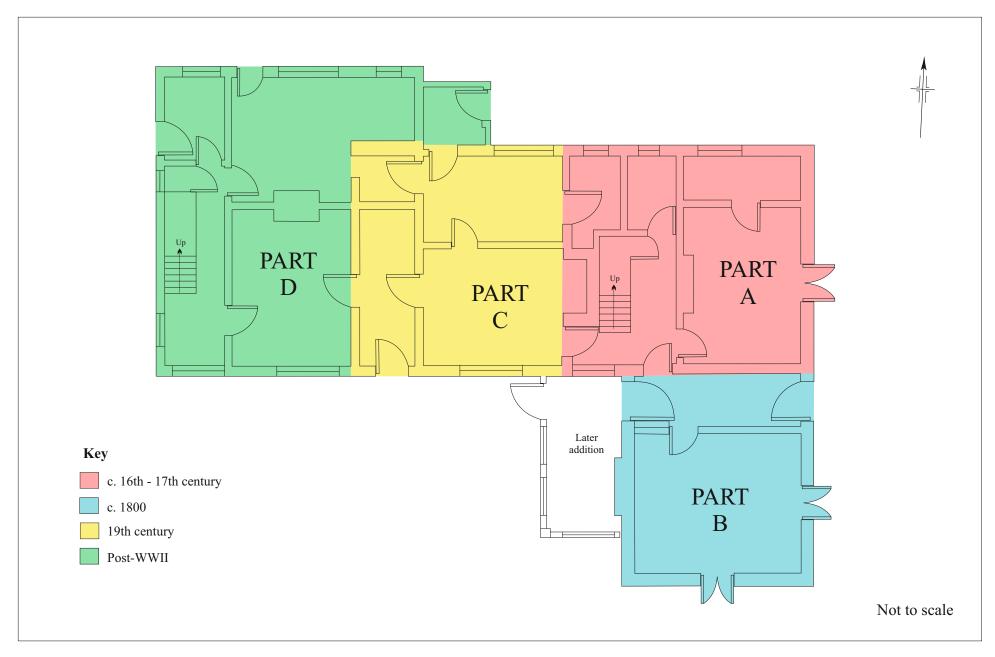


Figure 8. Plan of ground floor areas

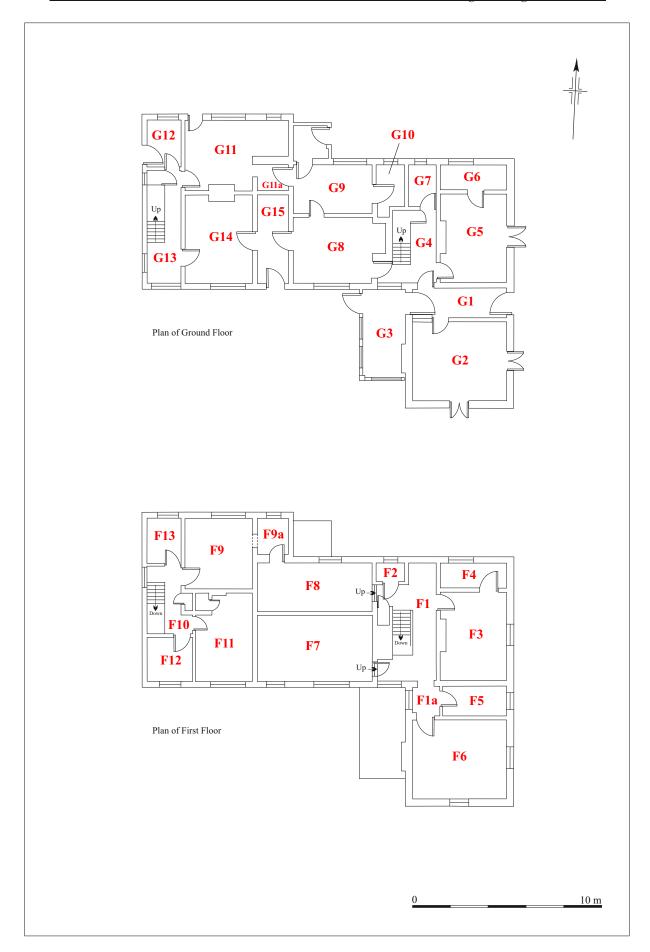


Figure 9: Ground floor and first floor plans

3.2 Façades

The front façade of the building faces roughly towards the east (Fig.10, E1, plate 1). It is of brick with a red clay tile roof. The façade contains three bays. Centrally the ground floor has a square headed door with window light and porch, and is panelled. The porch contains two square pilasters with Doric type features, above which is a cornice. The first floor window above is a square headed sash window that contains two window panes and sill. Above the first floor window there is a small gable. The two flanking bays contain double glass panelled doors with window light above. The first floor window above in both cases is a square-headed sash window with four panes. Above the roof line it is possible to see the remains of three double chimney stacks with brick water tablature.

The south facing façade is dominated by the gable end of the front range (Fig. 10, E2, plates 2-3). This has a single bay with a double door, glass panel door with roof light on the ground floor. There is a square-headed sash window on the first floor with four panes and a sill. To the west of this façade there is a rear extension with five bays. The four west bays have modern casements and the central one from the east contains a ground floor door. Between the two central groups is evidence of a butt joint. In the corner between the rear extension and the front range, there is the end of a brick conservatory, a single square-headed window in its south range. This conservatory conceals a square headed window, and there is a further square headed window above. This bay closest to the front range is located in the timber framed structure with brick infill.

The west façade contains a gable end at the end of the rear extension (Fig. 11, E3). There is a flat roof extension on the north side. Two windows with a door to the north are located in the end gable on the ground floor. On the first floor there is a single window. Behind this gable a further gable rises up which is part of the older front range (plate 6), which has a double chimney stack located as a gable end chimney (plate 5). The front range extends to the south. Centrally in this extension there is a lateral chimney (plate 4), again with a double brick stack. On the ground floor is the lean-to conservatory with a door on the north side and two square-headed windows on the south side, and on the first floor between the rear extension and the lateral chimney there is a small square-headed window with gable.

The north façade contains a gable at the end of the front range (Fig. 11, E4, plates 7-8), and a small side gable, which is often interpreted as the stair turret. Both of these gables and walls below contain evidence of box framed timber structures with brick infill and underlying plinth (plate 9). The remains of a brace is evident on the first floor. This part of the building contains three bays on the ground floor, with modern casements. On the first floor it is only the two outer bays that contains a wall in line with the front range of the building, which has a window and door on the ground floor, both of modern casements, and on the first floor there is a single window. To the west of this there is a flat roof extension out from the gable that contains four bays. Three of the bays contain modern casements on the ground and first floor, with the second bay from the west having a door on the ground floor.



Figure 10: Front and south external elevations 13



Figure 11: Rear and north external elevations 14



Plate 1: Front façade





Plate 2: South gable

Plate 3: South façade



Plate 4: South chimney



Plate 5: North chimneys



Plate 6: Former west gable



Plate 7: North façade



Plate 8: North façade



Plate 9: Plinth on north façade (wall 2/12)

3.3 Ground Floor

The front door enters a rectangular hall (G1), which has a panelled door at either end; both are square-headed with window lights. There is a panelled door with moulded surround on the south side and a further one on the north side. The removal of plaster uncovered a blocked doorway on the north side (Fig. 12, E5).

The door on the south side enters room G2. This has a Georgian fireplace in the west wall (plate 10) and double glass doors in the south and west wall. The panelled door is in the north wall. There is a moulded skirting and a cornice rail and central roundel (plate 11).

The door at the west end of the hall (G1) enters the conservatory (G3). This has a door and two modern casement windows in the west wall and a modern casement window in the south wall. In the east wall is the old panelled door with window light above and in the north wall is a window that looks into a central hall (G4) with stairwell.

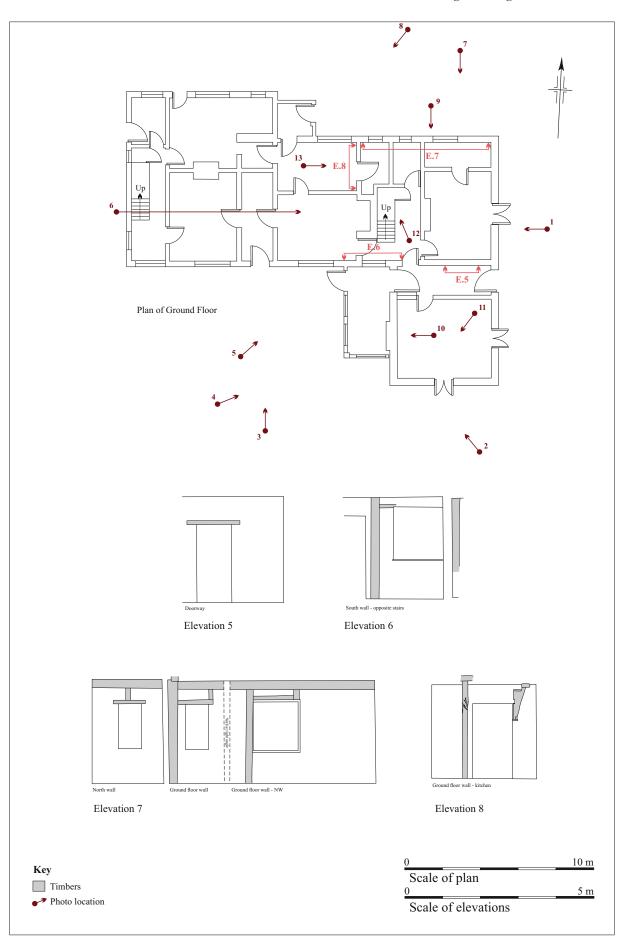


Figure 12: Ground floor plan with internal wall elevations 19



Plate 10: Fireplace G2



Plate 11: Roundel G2

The door on the north side of the hall (G1) leads into a further hall (G4), which is of an L-shape. This is dominated by a ladder stairs with panelling enclosing the area underneath the stairs (plate 12), with a panelled door to a cupboard. The stairs have a simple balustrade arrangement. This is one of the features that were used to provide dating evidence for the rebuilding of certain elements of part A and part B dated c. 1800. In the south wall is the window that looks into the conservatory (Fig. 12, E6). In the east wall there is a panelled door, and further ones in the north and west walls at the end of each arms. Some timbers were uncovered in the south wall by stripping.



Plate 12: Early 19th century staircase G4

The panelled door in the east wall leads into room G5. The room G5 has a chimneybreast in the west wall, a double glass panelled door in the east wall. The removal of plaster has uncovered the remains of the blocked door in the south wall. There is a further door in the north wall. The ceiling when uncovered contained the remains of three large timber beams with chamfers and stops.

The north door leads into a narrow rectangular room G6. This has a window in a modern casement in the north wall. The stripping back of the north wall uncovered the remains of timber framing (Fig. 12, E7).

The north door in the hall (G4) leads into room G7, a small square room with a modern casement window in the north wall. The stripping back of the north wall also uncovered remains of timber framing (Fig. 12, E7).

The door in the west wall of the hall G4, leads into a room in part C of the building. This room G8 has a fireplace in the east wall with window in the south wall and a door each in the west and north walls. There is a concrete beam painted black. There was evidence of a timber frame structure in the southeast corner (Fig. 12, E7), and in parts of the east wall.

The door in the north wall leads into the kitchen (G9). This room has a window and door in the north wall. There is a door in the south wall and a further door in the east wall. In the west wall there is another door. Stripping back of the east wall uncovered the remains of a timber upright and more surprisingly part of a timber, which from its shape, would appear to be a fragment of a cruck beam (Fig. 12, E8, plate 13). This data would imply that part C of the house covers the remains of a former medieval timber hall.

The door in the east wall of the kitchen leads into a small extension of the kitchen (room G10), which is rectangular in shape and contains a window in the north wall, with a modern casement. The stripping of the wall uncovered the remains of timber framing (Fig. 12, E7).

The north door from the kitchen entered a porch on the north side of the building, but this had already been removed by the time of the first visit. It had a door in the east wall.

The wall in the west wall of the kitchen leads into part D of the structure; which is the most recent addition to the building. This initially enters a small lobby G11a, with panelled door in east wall and sliding door in west wall. The sliding door enters room G11 that contains two windows and a door in its north wall, all with modern casements. There is a further door in the west wall. In the south wall there is evidence of a chimneybreast with boiler set in front. On the east side the room has an alcove, and it is apparent that a wall has been removed here.



Plate 13: Surviving part of cruck beam

The door in the west wall leads into a further hall (G13) with stairwell. There is a cupboard under the stairs. There is a window in the south wall and a door in the east wall. In the west wall at the foot of the stairs there is a further modern casement window.

The north wall door leads into room G12. This room is a narrow rectangular affair with a modern casement window in the north wall and panel door in the south wall. There is an external door in the west wall.

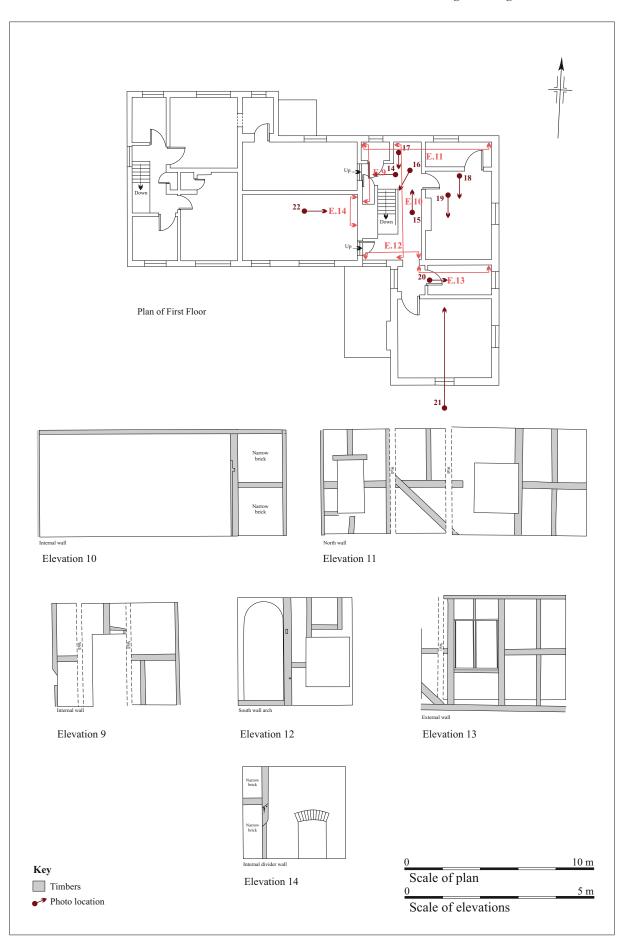


Figure 13: First floor plan with internal wall elevations 23

The east wall door in room G13 leads into room G14, which has a modern casement window in the south wall. There is a door in the east wall and a fireplace in the north wall.

The door in the east wall of G14 leads into a further hall G15, which has an external door in the south wall and a door in the east wall that leads back into room G8.

3.4 First Floor



Plate 14: West wall F1



Plate 15: North alcove F1



Plate 16: South wall F1



Plate 17: Ceiling timber F1

The main staircase in G4 rises to a F-shaped landing that has its long axis running north to south (F1). On the west side of the landing the stairs rest against a chimneybreast, either

side of which there are two panel doors. There is a cupboard set to the north of the chimneybreast. The west wall contains timber framing, which was exposed (Fig. 13, E9, plate 14). There is a panel door in the staggered north wall line, and an alcove, which contains timber framing (Fig. E10, plate 15). More timber framing was uncovered in the north wall (Fig. 13, E11, plate 15). In the east wall there is a single panelled door. In the south wall there is a round headed arch on the left hand side and a modern casement window on the right. When this wall was uncovered there was evidence of timber framing surviving (Fig. 13, E12, plate 16). The ceiling contains a timber beam (plate 17)



Plate 18: South wall F3



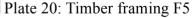
Plate 19: South wall window F3

The panel door in the north wall enters a small rectangular room (F2), which has timber framing in three walls (Fig. 13, E9, F10, E11), with a modern casement window in the north wall and a door in the south wall.

The panel door on the east side of the landing (F1) leads into room F3. This room has a sash window in the east wall and a chimneybreast in the west wall. In the south wall the stripping back of the plaster uncovered the remains of timber framing (plates 18-19). In the north wall there is a door that enters an *en-suite* (F4) with a window in the north wall. The north wall also contains indications of timber framing.

The round-headed arch in the south wall of the landing (F1) enters a small square landing extension (F1a). The approach to this area has one step. In the east and south walls there are panel doors and in the west wall there is a narrow sash window.





The east door from landing F1a enters a bathroom F5, which has a narrow sash window in the east wall. Stripping of plaster revealed that the north wall contained timber framing with brick infill (Fig. 13, E13, plates 20-21). The bricks have a depth of about 50mm and thus are likely to be 16th or 17th century in date.

The south door from landing area F1a enters room F6. There are sash windows located in the east and south walls and a fireplace in the west wall.

The southwest door from landing F1 enters room F7, a rectangular space orientated east to west, with steps on entry. There are two windows in the south wall and a fireplace in the

east wall. Stripping of this wall uncovered the remains of timber beams (Fig. 13, E14, plate 22). Timber transverse beams are evident in the ceiling.



Plate 21: Timber framing F1a and F5



Plate 22: Timber framing F7 28

The northwest door from landing F1 leads into a narrow rectangular room F8, which has a modern casement window in the north wall along with a door.

The door in the north wall of F8 opens up into room F9a and F9. F9a being a side room with an opening in the west wall and a modern casement window in the north wall. The opening extends into room F9 proper, which has a modern casement window in the north wall and a door in the west wall.

The west door opens onto landing F10, which has a window in the west wall and a stairwell against it. In the north wall there is a modern door. In the staggered east wall there are three doors, of which the middle one opens into an airing cupboard. In the south wall there is a further door.

The south door in the east wall of landing F11 enters room F11, which has a chimneybreast in the north wall and a built in cupboard in the northwest corner. There is a modern casement window in the south wall.

The south door from landing F10 leads into a small square room F12; which is a small square room. There is a modern casement window in the south wall.

The north door from landing F10 enters a bathroom F13. This has a modern casement window in the north wall.

3.5 Attic

The attic space can be divided into four locations, which include the spaces above part A, B, C and D of the structure (Figs. 2 & 14).

The main surviving roof space is that located over the timber framed part of the building called here part A. This is a roughly T-shaped roof space with a main north to south orientated attic and a further part of the attic running at right angles. At the junction between the two roof spaces there is a chimneybreast which is constructed of bricks with an approximate depth of 45mm to 50mm. These are thus of a general 16th to 17th century date. The north to south part of the roof contains near matching gables at either end (Fig. 14, E15, E16, plates 23, 28), which have three struts between the tie-beam and the collarbeam. Above the collarbeam there are two vertical timbers with a cross timber between, and a further vertical timber between the collar and the cross timber, which operated as a mullion at one time. There is a further simpler truss located on the north side of the chimney near the junction of the two roof lines. This truss (Fig. 14, E17, plate 23, 25, 26) is a simpler affair with a tie-beam, collar beam. The purlins are chamfered (plate 27) and at either off-set upright above the collar beam. The purlins are chamfered in the collarbeam fitted to the south of the chimneybreast, set within an incomplete or irregular truss.

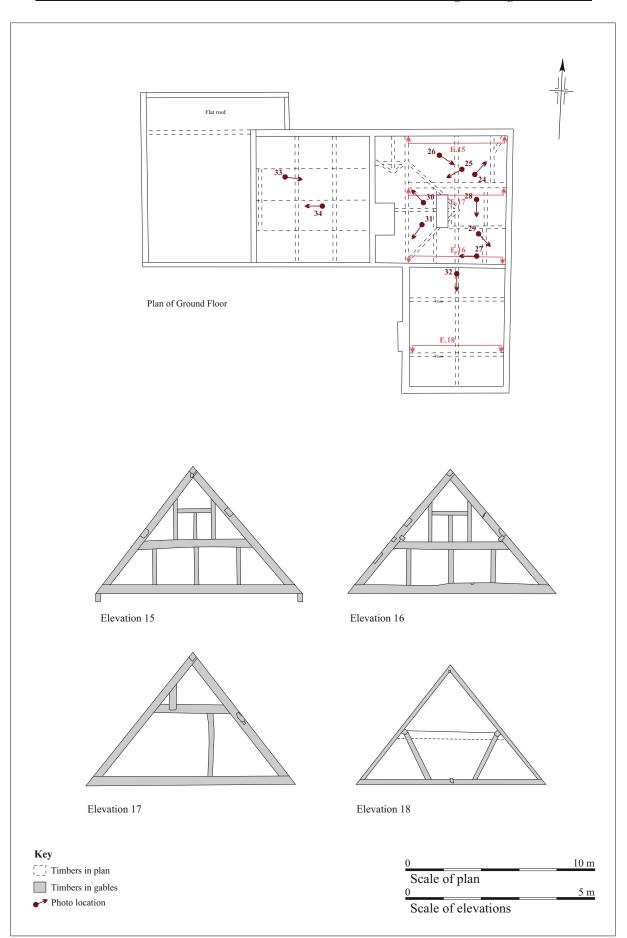


Figure 14: Plan of attic with elevations



Plate 23: Attic A trusses



Plate 24: Attic A detail



Plate 25: Attic A trusses



Plate 26: Attic A detail





Plate 27: Attic A perlins

Plate 28: Attic A trusses



Plate 29: Attic A detail



Plate 30: Attic A perlins



Plate 31: Attic A perlins

The east to west orientated roof space has a chimneybreast at its west end, set within the line of the original wall and partially blocking the window, implying that it has been rebuilt with older brick (probably in the 19th century). The truss-gable contains a tie-beam *cum* wall plate at the base, with a collar-beam in the gable. There are three struts, between the two north upright posts; there is a horizontal sill beam and a vertical mullion for the location of an original window. The purlins are chamfered (plates 30 and 31) and the common rafters also, indeed some of the common rafters are in two pieces, which imply an early date for the structure.

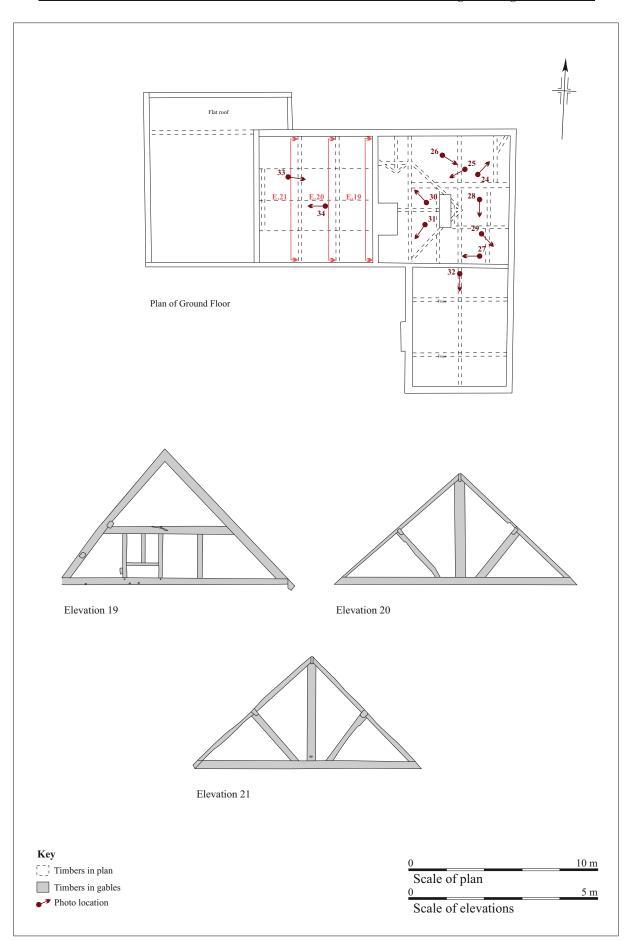


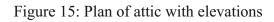


Plate 32: Attic B

Plate 33: Attic C

The attic space over part B has nicely cut timbers. There are two trusses, both of which have two struts, and one of which has a narrow plank acting as a collar-beam between the two purlins (Fig. 15, E18, plate 32). There is a further plank acting as a collar beam between the purlins. The gable end wall on the south side is of brick with no timber framing, and the timber frame between the attic space over part A and B is roughcast on its south side.





The attic space over part C contains part of the timber frame gable on the west side of part A (Fig. 15, E19, plate 33), which has already been described. Below the wall plate there are posts surviving of timber framing, part of a box frame. There is also a brace surviving in this area. There are two trusses in this roof space that each contain a king post with two accompanying struts, set over a tie-beam (Fig. 15, E20, E21, plates 32-33). The timbers in these trusses contain the remains of mortise joints, thus implying that they have been reused from elsewhere.

The attic space above part D is a modern affair with modern timbers and build.



Plate 34: Attic C

3:II EVALUATION AND EXCAVATION AT WARREN FARM

The site was initially meant to start as an evaluation with the insertion of two trenches. Trench 1 running east to west through the western part of the house (part C and D) and the other Trench 2 running north to south up the east range of the house (part A and B). It was not possible due to the size of the excavator provided to carry out this trenching without disturbing the foundations. These areas were thus initially cleaned off, and a further Trench 3 was excavated to the east of the building, and Trench 1 moved to an area to the south of the building. The surfaces exposed were observed and recorded.

The natural appeared to be similar across the site. Only in Trench 3 was it possible to note that there was banding in the natural. Trench 3 was located outside the east side of the house and the lowest layer in the natural here was context (3/03) a compact grey-brown yellow sand with gravel inclusions. The apparent difference here was due to the concentration of gravels. In Trench 1 the natural was context (1/02) a compact orange and yellow sand with gravel inclusions, which extended across the site in the areas of part C and D of the house. Layer (2/02) was a compact yellow brown sand that extended under parts A and B of the house, in the area where Trench 2 was due to be located. In Trench 3 the natural appeared to be capped by deposit (3/02) a compact yellow brown sand with gravel or bunter pebble inclusions similar to the other deposits.

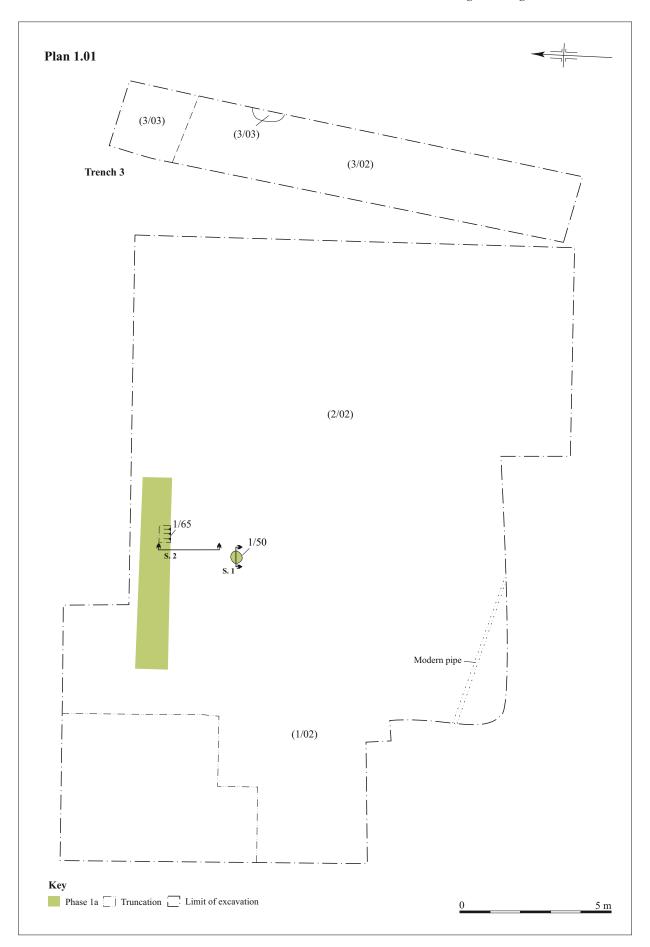


Figure 16: Site plan - phase 1a

3.6 Phase 1a: Mesolithic to Early Bronze Age activity

It was apparent that there were two features that could be seen to cut the natural (Fig. 16). The precise date for these features was not ascertained. Truncating the natural was cut 1/50 an oval feature measuring 0.3m by 0.4m and 0.1m deep (Fig. 20, S1, plate 35). The sides of the posthole were moderately sloping and the base rounded. The fill (1/51) was a compact dark brown black sand with a few stone inclusions including a single worked flint, possibly of a Neolithic date.



Plate 35: Cut 1/50

The other feature was a linear cut 1/65 which was recognised with a width of 0.55m and dug to a depth of 0.18m (Fig. 20, S2). The projected width and depths were probably a minimum of 1m across and 0.5m deep. The slope had a moderate pitch, and the base was not seen. The fill (1/70) was a moderately compact mid-grey brown silt sand with stone inclusions.

The site produced a number of worked flints, which had three blades of a Late Mesolithic to Early Neolithic date and a number of tertiary flakes of a Late Neolithic to Early Bronze Age date. It is thus apparent that there was some form of activity taking place on the site from the Late Mesolithic to the Early Bronze Age, even though this may not have been evident on the site throughout this time as specific features.

The two features that were detected below the soil horizon, if contemporary, may represent a hunting location. This would have consisted of a symbolic post with a bank and ditch located on the north side above the scarp slope into the valley. The post may simply have been a marker in the forest landscape, by which people could orientate their movement. The bank would have been a hiding position from where animals could be observed. Such a feature may point to the long-term use of the landscape as one primarily for hunting. Topographically it can be noted that Warren Farm is located on a knoll that overlooks the current corridor of the M4. The M4 at this point skirts the base of a low scarp to the east of the River Loddon and on the south side of a tributary (perhaps Shottesbrook) whose valley is orientated east to west and which enters the Loddon near Twyford. The land thus runs between the higher ground at Binfield on the south and Bowsey Hill on the north side.



Figure 17: Site plan - phases 1b-3

3.7 Phase 1b: Early Bronze Age to Medieval activity

Covering these earlier features were the remains of a soil horizon of a relatively homogenous form (Fig. 17), which was recorded as a number of layers (1/01, 1/35, 1/39, 1/46, 1/64, 1/90, 1/91, 2/01, 3/01) across the site. The following layers were detected in parts C and D of the building where they were divided by the remains of internal walls. Layer (1/01) was a compact brown sand with gravel inclusions and with variable depth to a maximum of 0.32m. It was located in an area measuring 5.8m by 4.8m. Layer (1/35) was a moderately compact grey brown sand with a depth of 0.26m deep, and measured 4.1m by 2.1m. Layer (1/39) was treated as the same as (1/35) and was a moderately compact grey brown sand. Layer (1/46) was a moderately compact brown sand 0.25m deep. Layer (1/64) was a firm mid-grey brown silt sand with frequent stone inclusions, being 0.26m thick, and extending over an area of about 1.9m by 6m. Layer (1/90) was a compact grey brown sand with pebble inclusions being 0.2m deep, and covering an area 4m by 4.45m. Layers (1/91) was similar as was (1/92) that lay to the south of the building. Underlying parts A and B of the house was layer (2/01) a compact mid-brown sand with gravel inclusions which measured 0.12m deep and covered an area of 12.8m by 5.1m. Context (3/01) lay to the east of the building and was a compact brown sand with pebble inclusions measuring 0.12m deep.

Dating evidence that appears to come from one of these layers could be considered in one respect problematic. From deposit (1/39) a sherd of 17th century date was recorded. The soil levels uncovered across the site, however, were relatively homogenous, which made it difficult to identify potential features (for example a possible beam slot) when they were filled with the same material that had been removed. Alternatively layer (1/39) and the others may have had more than one accumulation horizon and that these finds were recovered from the tops of these deposits. The last possibility is it could also be assumed that these soil deposits were 17th century and all that followed was of a 17th century date, which is in some respects difficult to assume or establish and unrecognised disturbance is possibly the preferred answer. What this would imply is that the upper surface of these deposits was relatively stable from the medieval period into the 17th century under part C and D of the structure.

3.8 Phase 2: High to Late Medieval activity (14th to 16th centuries)

The earliest indication for construction on the site is in the timber framing in the west wall of part A of the building (Fig. 17). Here it is apparent that a timber survived that had an underlying curving edge, which is indicative of it not belonging to the box framing style of the surviving timber structure in part A. No real indication could be found of this timber surviving in the ground, although it was thought a possible discoloration was evident on the surface, but which failed to materialise as a posthole in excavation. The piece appears thus to be a fragment of what can be interpreted as part of a cruck building (plate 13). Mercer (1975, 8-19) discusses the development of the open framed hall from the 14th century. More specifically he identifies a series of regional construction types, which he calls the Open-hall houses of the South East, Pennine Aisled Halls, and perhaps more significantly the Cruck-built Open Hall. The latter has a distribution along the Hampshire-Surrey border and is recognised in other local pockets across the South Midlands. The distribution would be correct for this to potentially be the remains of an outlying Cruck-built Open Hall of the Hampshire-Surrey border type.

These Cruck-built Open Halls would have had the feet of their blades either located on post-pads or on dwarf walls or foundations supporting timber sills. In this case it may be particularly difficult to identify the remains of these features as they would be ephemeral and often lost with later construction.

Crucks are datable from the 14^{th} century to the 16^{th} century in vernacular buildings (Mercer 1975, 17-19), but at present there is no way of precisely dating this structure from the cruck. What there is, however, is a reference in textual sources to timber being taken to Wokingham for the construction of a building of the king, in *c*. 1440 (see historical background).



Plate 36: Cut 1/61

Two features that may well belong to this structure are what appears to be the remains of two beam-slots, which could represent beams for suspended floors and in one case perhaps the line of a sill beam for the hall. Linear cut 1/52 was 0.33m across and 0.09m deep, and was over 2.5m in length (Fig. 20, S3). This feature had steep sides and a rounded base (plate 35, in profile on upper left hand side). The cut for the linear horizontally was not overly clear from the surrounding soil horizons, but was evident in section. The fill (1/53) was a moderately compact light brown sand clay with no inclusions. Linear cut 1/61 survived as a recognised section measuring 0.14m across and 0.08m deep and over a stretch 0.8m long (Fig. 20, S4, S5, plate 36). The fill (1/60) was a soft mid-grey brown silt sand with few inclusions. The latter beam slot was located near to the later wall line 1/13, and would appear to lie on the line of a wall related to that of the cruck. Linear cut 1/61 is indicative of there being at least one surface horizon in the homogenous soil. This deposit contained four clay pipe fragments and a piece of window glass. The window glass was thin and opaque and was probably of a medieval or very early post-medieval date. The clay pipe fragments were all stems of various width and undiagnostic. The coin is of 1700. Though the clay pipe is possibly 17th century at the earliest and the coin of 1700, it should be remembered that a timber structure takes time to decay, and later material can fall into the void created during its deterioration, thus giving a later date associated with the initial construction.

3.9 Phase 3: Post-medieval (16th to 17th century)

As no wall base is evident around the site it is probably the case that the original building rested on post pads and contained sill beams, some of which have left beam slots. It is thus possible that as the lower components deteriorated that more substantial features were placed to support the crucks and their connecting walls. The following features may represent a development of this process (Fig. 17).

Oval pit 1/33 had gradually sloping sides and a flat base and measured 0.91m by 0.61m and was 0.21m deep (Fig. 20, S6, plates 37-38). The fill (1/34) was a compact mid-brown sand with frequent inclusions of brick, which had an approximate depth of 50mm or less.



Plate 37: Cut 1/33



Plate 38: Cut 1/33

L-shaped cut 1/57 was a right angle cut with moderately sloping sides and a flat base measuring 1.3m across by 1.6m. The fill deposit (1/58) was a highly compact grey green clay sand cement with bunter pebble inclusions. There was a small brick feature 1/68 or 1/59 in which the bricks measured 120mm by 100mm, and were generally a narrow brick.

The feature was 0.9m long. Layer (1/56) was a compact mortar cement with aggregate inclusions.

Feature (1/74) represents an early scatter of bricks in a compact grey brown sand measuring 1.75m by 0.6m, which was located above the brown soil horizons. The bricks had an approximate depth of 50mm. This overlay deposit (1/46).

3.10 Phase 4: Post-medieval (16th to 17th century)

The timber frame structure at the east end of the building was subsequently constructed (Fig. 18). Here, however, there were probably only a couple of walls for which the foundation of this date fully survived, and these were walls that became internal features.

Rectangular cut 1/71 represents a rectangular feature in which the original west chimney breast was constructed (Fig. 20, S7, Plate 39). This cut was 0.64m to 0.7m wide and was at least 1.5m long. The sides of the cut were relatively steep. Masonry wall 1/42 was of red bricks that measured 210mm by 110mm and 45-50mm. This was bonded by a grey brown mortar and was orientated north to south. This stretch of the wall had a single brick width and represented the back of the fireplace. Butting up to the brick wall 1/42 (but not apparent on S7) was fill (1/44) a compact brown sand with frequent charcoal inclusions, which was 0.08m deep. A sherd of pottery with a mid-16th century profile was recovered from this context, and also a flint blade of a Late Mesolithic to an Early Neolithic date. Overlying this was layer or lens (1/49) which was a moderately compact dark brown sand with frequent ash inclusions measuring 0.07m deep and 0.5m across. This last lens represents an area of burning in the base of the chimney breast.



Plate 39: Wall 1/42

Foundation cut 2/16 was a feature some 5m long and some 0.11m wide; there were linear sides and a flat base. The wall 2/15 was made of bricks that were approximately 45mm to 50mm in depth and which was orientated east to west. The wall was originally about 5m long, but only a fragmentary amount of it survived the stripping. What was of note was the narrow nature of the bricks and the single row of bricks.

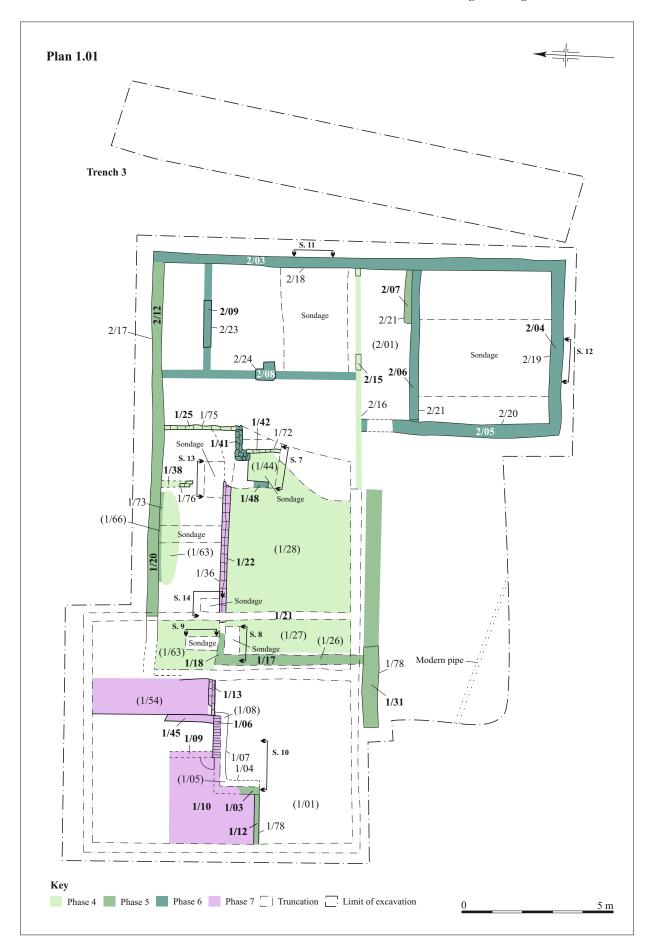


Figure 18: Site plan - phases 4-7

Foundation cut 1/75 was a liner feature measuring 2.6m long and 0.12m across, with vertical sides and a flat base. This feature had a north to south orientation. Masonry structure 1/25 was made of brick 220mm by 110mm x about 50mm deep. The bricks were in a stretcher bond with white yellow chalk mortar.

Foundation cut 1/76 was a linear feature 1.4m long and about 0.12m across, with vertical sides and a flat base. The orientation was north to south. Damaged masonry wall 1/38 constructed of orange bricks of a depth of approximately 45-50mm in depth. The wall is approximately 1.4m long as it survived and orientated north to south.

Layer (1/28) was a compact grey brown sand with pebble inclusions being 0.2m deep, and covering an area 4m by 4.45m. Two sherds of pottery were recovered from context (1/28) which have a profile attributed a 17^{th} century date and two fragments of clay tobacco pipe. This deposit produced two blades of a late Mesolithic to Early Neolithic date, and a tertiary flake.

Layers that may well have been associated with this period included deposit (1/63) a soft mid-brown yellow silt sand with no inclusions being 0.06m deep. Deposit (1/27) was a loose brown sand some 0.08m deep and measuring 4.5m by 1.1m, which partially overlay (1/74). The deposit produced thermally fractured flint and a secondary flake and two fragments of clay tobacco pipe.

3.11 Phase 5: Post-medieval (17th or early 18th century)

In the 17th or at the latest the very early 18th century it is apparent that certain walls were replaced and the remains of the cruck based building was finally removed (Fig. 18). From the time bricks were reintroduced there was a process of replacing timber framing, and inserting bricks into timber framed structures. Single brick walls, possibly only dwarf walls were replaced probably in the 17th century. Certain parts of the foundation of the structure of Warren Farm appear to have bricks with a narrow depth that form wider walls at the base, and on the north side of the structure appears to have formed a plinth on which the timber structure sat.

Foundation cut 2/17 was a linear feature measuring some 7.6m long and 0.36m across, which had vertical sides and a flat base. This was associated with masonry structure 2/12that was constructed of red brick measuring 220mm by 110mm and by approximately 45-50mm (plates 40, 9). The wall was 7.6m long with a width of 0.36m and a height of 0.29m, having six visible rows. The next wall was a continuation; wall 1/20, although there was a slight deviation in the orientation of the line of the wall. The deviation in the wall line may not be due to a different date for construction, but that two timber-framed constructions were being replaced and that they had probably been slightly misaligned originally. Foundation cut 1/73 is a linear feature that is about 0.5m across and 0.08m deep, with shallow sloping sides and a rounded base. Masonry 1/20 was a brick wall and foundation with a yellow sand mortar bonding, which is orientated east to west. This formed part of the plinth that underlay the northern part of the building (plate 41). The bricks measure 110mm across and 45-50mm deep. The wall survived to at least three courses after the concrete flooring had been removed. Backfill 1/66 is a moderately compact mid-grey brown silt sand with stone inclusions. This deposit produced a sherd of pottery that has a profile of a 17th century pot and two fragments of clay tobacco pipe, one of a late 17th century date (1660-80). The bottle glass is of a mid-17th to early 19th century date. This dating implies that although certain walls were likely to have been constructed at an earlier date and imply a possible late 16th century origin for the building that the north wall foundation or plinth was part of a rebuilt in 1660-80.



Plate 40: Wall 2/12



Plate 41: Wall 1/20

Other walls of this possible rebuild could be detected under the concrete slabs. Foundation cut 1/26 was a linear feature measuring 0.35m across and 0.18m deep. Masonry 1/17 was a brick wall and foundation with a yellow brown sand mortar orientated north to south and measuring 4.9m long and 0.33m across (Fig. 20, S8, plate 43). The bricks measured 110mm across and 50mm thick. Three courses of the wall survived. Backfill (1/47) was a moderately compact light brown sand with small inclusions.

Foundation cut 1/78, for wall 1/31, was recognised over a 6m length and 0.5m across, where the wall survived, but had presumably originally extended up to 8m in length. The sides were vertical and the base flat. The associated masonry wall 1/31 was constructed of bricks with an approximate height 45-50mm, and which was bonded by a white yellow mortar (plate 42).

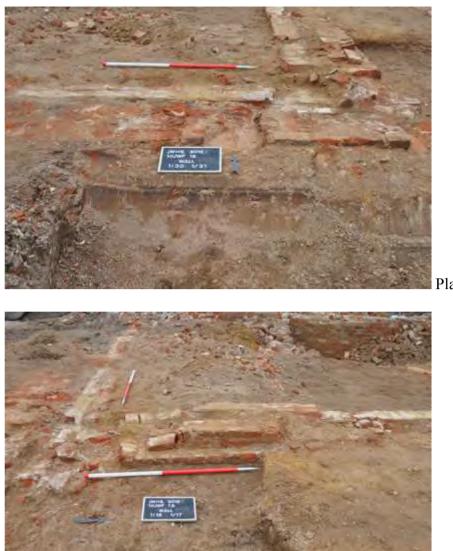


Plate 42: Wall 1/31

Plate 43: Wall 1/17

Foundation cut 1/79 was a short linear feature measuring 1.25m long and 0.25m across, and which was roughly orientated east to west. Masonry 1/18 was a brick wall two bricks wide. The bricks measured 220mm by 110mm by 50-60mm (Fig. 20, S9). The foundation survived to a height of two to three bricks.

Foundation cut 2/21 was part of a possible wall that lay adjacent to wall 2/06 of the 19th century build. As the early 19th century building contained timber floors in this area, then it is highly possible that this small row of bricks represents an earlier feature on the south side of the building. The masonry structure 2/07 was constructed of bricks 210mm by 110mm and by 45mm deep. This was part of an internal foundation wall and what survived was 1.7m long and 0.21m across. One row was visible and it is not known if this was part of an earlier wall line or if the bricks had been reused in the foundation.

The following walls are associated with a sunken feature at the west end of the site under part D of the house. The problem with the walls here are that they appear not to be properly keyed together in a uniform way and thus some of the walls appear to be constructed with earlier bricks that may be associated with earlier features. Foundation cut 1/77, for wall 1/12, was linear feature measuring 1.65m long with a vertical side and orientated east to west. Wall 1/12 was of brick and orientated east to west. The bricks were not of a modern (20th century) origin and probably 50-60mm in depth (Fig. 20, S10). The orientation and alignment it can be noted matched that of the barn that was adjacent to Warren Farm to the west, and thus it is possible that this wall, as it does not appear contemporary with other walls in this part of the site, which form the sump, that it originated as an east extension to the barn. Foundation cut 1/04 was a linear feature measuring 0.29m across and 0.89m deep with steep to vertical sides and a flat base. It is possible that the foundation cut truncated the line of 1/12, and as such it may be an addition or a rebuild. Masonry wall 1/03 is made of bricks measuring 124-122mm wide by 50-60mm thick bonded by a yellow white sand mortar (plate 44). The wall was 0.29m wide and orientated north to south. Backfill (1/05) of the foundation cut is a loose mid-grey sand with inclusions of brick, mortar, tile and bunter pebbles.



Plate 44: Wall 1/03

3.12 Phase 6: Georgian or Imperial (late 18th or early 19th century)

The walls that formed the east end of the building were constructed in the following manner. These represent a reconstruction of the east wall and an addition to the south, which was referred to as part B (Figs. 18-19). This structure is not shown on the Tithe Map of 1842, but it is shown on the First Edition Ordnance Survey of the 1870s. On stylistic grounds the reworking of the building is considered to be earlier in date, *c*. 1800, and thus it is treated as a late 18^{th} century to early 19^{th} century phase.

Foundation cut 2/18 (for 2/10, 2/11, 2/03) was a linear feature 13.6m long and 0.4m wide with vertical sides and a flat. Ballast foundation 2/10 was a cemented mix of gravel pebbles with also brick and burnt inclusions (Fig. 20, S11, not on plan). The bricks were reused and measured 220mm by 110mm by approximately 50mm. The foundation was 0.11m deep. The ballast foundation was capped with masonry wall 2/11 is constructed of red bricks 40-45m deep (not on plan). Masonry structure 2/03 was constructed of bricks 230mm long by 70mm deep and was bonded by a grey white mortar (plate 45). The wall survived to a height of 0.26m and 0.4m wide and was 13.6m long.

Foundation cut 2/19 (for 2/13 and 2/04) was 5.8m long and 0.45m across with vertical sides and a flat base. Ballast foundation 2/13 was a cement mix with gravel, brick and burnt inclusions with a height 0.21m. The ballast foundation was capped by masonry structure 2/04 was made of bricks measuring 240mm by 110mm by 70mm (plate 46). This wall had a height of 0.35m and was 0.45m wide and some 5.8m long (Fig. 20, S12).



Plate 45: Wall 2/03

Plate 46: Wall 2/04

Foundation cut 2/20 (for 2/14 and 2/05) was 5.9m long with vertical sides and a flat base. Ballast foundation 2/14 was a cement mix with gravel, brick and burnt inclusions, with a depth of 0.17m (not on plan). This was capped by masonry structure 2/05 was made of bricks 230mm by 110mm by 70mm and survived to a width of three rows. The wall was orientated north to south and had a length of 5.9m.

Foundation cut 2/22 was about 4.95m in length, and about 0.14m deep. This had vertical sides and a flat base. The masonry structure 2/06 was constructed of bricks 220mm by 115mm by 70mm, and formed an internal foundation. The remains of the wall contained two rows and measured 0.14m high and 0.23m across.

Foundation cut 2/23 was about 3.5m long and 0.23m across. The masonry structure 2/09 was constructed of brick and measured 220mm by 110mm by about 70mm. The wall remained to a height of 0.07m and a stretch 1.5m long. The wall line was originally 3.5m long.

Linear foundation cut 2/24 measuring 3.5m long and 0.2m deep, with a section across the chimneybreast of 0.7m. The masonry structure 2/08 was constructed of brick measuring 220mm by 110mm by 70mm deep, and survived as an L-shaped foundation, which formed part of a chimneybreast. The brick size would indicate that even if this was the location of an earlier chimney of a 16^{th} or 17^{th} century date that the foundation was reworked or underpinned with larger bricks. The surviving wall was 0.9m by 0.7m and 0.2m high. The wall was originally 3.5m in length.

Foundation cut 1/80 was a linear feature 1.1m long, with vertical sides and a flat base. The masonry structure 1/41 was of brick measuring 230mm long and with a depth of about 60mm, which was bonded by a grey mortar. The wall was orientated east to west and survived in a stretcher bond.

Foundation cut 1/81 was a short linear feature measuring 0.53m in length and survived to about 0.2m in depth. The masonry structure 1/48 was constructed of brick and survived as a foundation of two courses. It was bonded with white mortar and measured 0.53m by 0.22m.

Layer (1/32), overlies pit fill (1/34) and other deposits, and was a moderately compact yellow brown sand with mortar deposits included which had a maximum depth of 0.17m (Fig. 20, S13, S14). The deposit covered an area of 4.1m by 2.1m. Layer (1/40) was considered to be the same as layer (1/32) and was described as a mid-brown sand that had inclusions of tile, brick and mortar. This deposit was of a 19th century date as ascertained from its pottery and it also contained two fragments of clay tobacco pipe. Two further 19th century deposits were located over deposit (1/32). This included layer (1/24) that was a compact black sand with charcoal inclusions measuring 0.3m by 1.75m and being about 0.03m deep. This was a charcoal spread. The second was layer (1/69) was a moderately compact grey sand with charcoal inclusions that measured 0.02m in depth.

3.13 Phase 7: mid 19th century

In the late 19^{th} century there are evidently periods of rebuilding. The map of 1877 (published in 1881) shows a series of buildings that link between the barn to the west and run across the areas of part C and D (Figs. 18-19). The following layers were considered to be part of a levelling layer associated with the 20^{th} century rebuilding on the site. Deposit (1/67) was a soft mid-yellow silt sand with stone inclusions. Overlying this was deposit (1/54) a loose or soft brown yellow sand covering an area 1.8m by 1.2m. This deposit contained a single clay tobacco pipe fragment.

The following two walls may have been constructed internally in the 17th to early 18th century phase of part C; however, the bricks appear to be later. Foundation cut 1/36 was a linear feature measuring some 0.36m across with vertical sides and a flat base (Fig. 20, S6, S14). The masonry wall 1/22 was constructed of bricks measuring 220mm by 110mm by 60mm. The wall was orientated east to west and was 4.2m long. Backfill (1/37) was a

moderately compact mid-brown silt sand with a few stone inclusions. This wall appears to be in line with wall 1/18 and it is possible that the wall was rebuilt and that only a small part of the earlier foundation survived.

Walls in the area of part D not related to the post 1911 build included 1/13, 1/09, 1/06, and 1/45. Foundation cut 1/87 was for a wall about 3.7m long and some 0.4m across. The masonry structure 1/45 was a brick construction with the bricks measuring 270mm by 110mm by approximately 60mm. The wall is orientated north to south and has a stretcher bond. The backfill (1/55) was a loose red sand. This deposit produced a residual sherd of the mid-16th century and a clay tobacco pipe fragment of an early 18th century date. This wall is interesting in that it was located in line with the end of wall 1/31, and as such must represent part of a wall line that was located at the west end of the building. The bricks in this part of the wall appear to be 19th century in date, while part of the wall line appears to be missing. It is possible that the surviving wall may have existed as timber framing, and thus have been extremely ephemeral in nature. Foundation cut 1/62 which was for wall 1/13, had vertical sides and a flat base. The masonry structure 1/13 was made of bricks 210mm by 110mm by 60mm and bonded by a grey white mortar. The wall was orientated east to west and was 1.3m long. This joined up to wall 1/45.

A significant cut had occurred in the northwest area of part D of the building. This was for a half cellar probably used as a 'Warren House'. It was also the case that a couple of the walls looked as though they were not bonded in properly to the other walls. Linear foundation cut 1/86 that was at least 2m long and 0.22m across, with a steep to vertical side with a flat base. The masonry structure 1/09 was constructed of a brick with a depth from 65-70mm (Fig. 20, S15). Foundation cut 1/07 was a linear feature. The masonry wall 1/06 was a brick wall orientated east to west and 0.24m wide. The wall was bonded by a grey white mortar. Backfill (1/08) was a loose mid-grey sand with inclusions of brick, mortar, and stone and measured 0.24m wide and 0.87m deep. Brick floor 1/10 was 0.08m thick and butted up to walls 1/09 and 1/06.



Plate 47: Wall 1/09

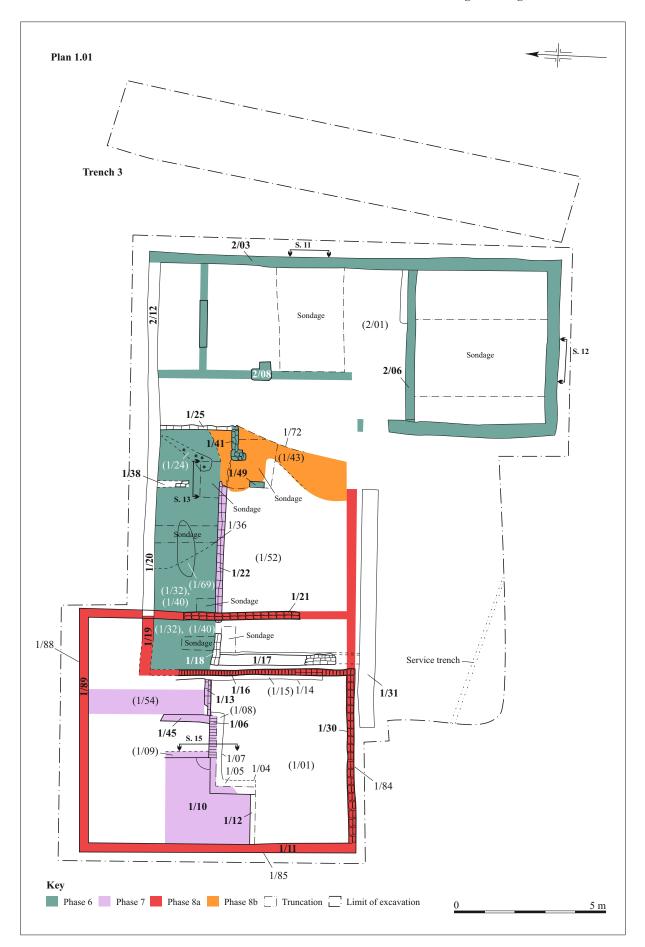


Figure 19: Site plan - phases 6-8

3.14 Phase 8a: 20th century (post-1911)

Phase 7 was followed by the construction in the 20th century of part D, but it is apparent that there was earlier activity on the site in the northwest corner (Fig. 19). The three main external walls are 1/11 on the west, 1/30 on the south and 1/89 and 1/19 on the north. Linear foundation cut 1/85 was at least 1.17m deep and 8.8m in length. The northern end crossed the cellar. The masonry structure 1/11 was of bricks with a depth 60-70mm and orientated north to south. Linear foundation cut 1/84 was probably originally 12m in length and 0.21m deep, with vertical sides and a flat base. The masonry structure 1/30 was made of modern bricks. Only 7m of the wall survived and this was originally 12m if the south wall of part C was included (however, this may have been part of a separate build). Foundation cut 1/88 was a linear feature that lay along the north side of the building, being some 7m long and 0.3m wide and over 1m deep. The sides were steep to vertical. The wall 1/89 was of brick with a depth 60-70mm. This ran along the northern part of the cellar. Foundation cut 1/83 was a linear feature 2m long with vertical sides and a flat base. The masonry structure 1/19 was constructed of bricks measuring 220mm by 100mm by 60mm, which was bonded by grey mortar.

Internal walls for this construction included walls 1/16 and 1/21. Foundation cut 1/14 was a linear feature with steep to vertical sides and a flat base. Masonry structure 1/16 was constructed of brick measuring 220mm by 100mm and 60mm, which was bonded by white mortar. The wall was orientated north to south and measured some 6.45m in length. The backfill (1/15) was a compact light brown sand with pebble inclusions. This wall it can be assumed was a replacement for wall 1/17 and it can be noted that of the surviving trusses in the roof of part C of the structure that a timber was located in the attic above that wall and set away from the new internal gable wall. Foundation cut 1/82 was a linear feature 6.75m long and 0.2m across with vertical sides and a flat base. The masonry structure 1/21 made of bricks measuring 195mm by 110mm by 60mm and bonded with white mortar. The south wall of part C may also have been reconstructed at this date.

Of the internal walls it was only possible to indicate that walls 1/03 and 1/06 could have been associated with 20^{th} century wall lines. However, if this is the case then it has to be assumed that they were reused as they both border the areas of the half cellar.

3.15 Phase 8b: Modern (Disturbance 2015)

Areas of disturbance created with the removal of the concrete slab.

Deposit (1/29) was a loose brown yellow sand layer, which was cleaned back across the area of the kitchen and a further room. This was above deposits (1/24) and (1/69). The deposit (1/29) contained a variety of pottery of which the latest was of a 19th century date. There was a tertiary flake and two thermally fractured pieces from this deposit. The area produced 10 pieces of clay tobacco pipe of which the diagnostic material was of the late 17^{th} to early 18^{th} centuries.

Cut 1/72 was an irregular feature that measured 1.9m by 3m and was 0.2m deep with gradual sloping sides and a flat base. The fill (1/43) was a moderately compact brown sand with fragments of brick and small stones. This deposit produced pottery of the 19th century. A thermally fractured flint was recovered from this deposit.

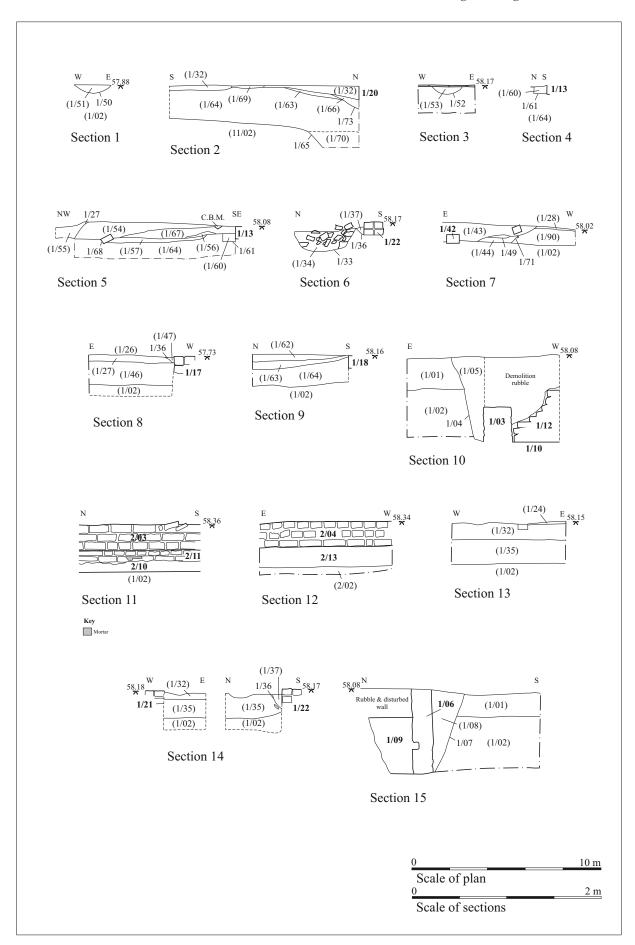


Figure 20: Sections of site plan

4 FINDS

4.1 Flint (by David Gilbert)

A total of eleven struck flints were recovered during the excavation at Warren Farm. Following Andrevsky (1998, 104) dorsal cortex is divided into four categories; the term primary flake refers to those with cortex covering 100% of the dorsal face while secondary flakes have cortex on between 50% to 99% of the dorsal face. Tertiary flakes have cortex on 1% to 49% of the dorsal face while flakes with no dorsal cortex are referred to as uncorticated.

The assemblage included 4 thermally fractured pieces weighing a total of 77g. This material was weighed and discarded following standard archive collection policy.

All pieces were of grey-brown flint, with a few starting to show signs of a pale grey patina forming. The majority displayed a Late Mesolithic to early Neolithic soft hammer blade technology although a few had a hard hammer technique suggesting a late Neolithic-Early Bronze Age date.

Context	Artefact	L(mm)	W (mm)	B (mm)	Notes
1/27	Thermally fractured	23	21	8	Possible secondary flake 4g
1/27	Secondary flake	55	62	16	Probably recent
1/28	Blade	46	17	6	Blade removal scars on dorsal surface
1/28	Blade	36	24	8	Broken, possibly deliberate
1/28	Tertiary Flake	20	17	8	
1/29	Tertiary Flake	22	17	6	Damaged
1/29	Thermally fractured	25	23	7	5g
1/29	Thermally fractured	40	32	20	32g
1/43	Thermally fractured	52	28	27	36g
1/44	Blade	32	15	5	
1/51	Tertiary Flake	35	25	11	

Table 1: Flint finds

4.2 Pottery *(by Paul Blinkhorn)*

The pottery assemblage comprised 36 sherds with a total weight of 787g. It was all postmedieval. The following fabric types were noted:

CPO: Chinese Porcelain, mid 16th century + (Whitehouse 1972, 63). Hard, slightly translucent white fabric with a clear glaze, often with hand-painted polychrome decoration. Known in Europe from the 13th century, but did not become common until the 16th century, with the majority being of 18th century date. Wide range of table- and decorative wares. 1 sherd, 2g.

GRE: Glazed Red Earthenware, $16^{th} - 19^{th}$ century (Brears 1969). Fine sandy earthenware, usually with a brown or green glaze, occurring in a range of utilitarian forms. Such 'country pottery' was first made in the 16th century, and in some areas continued in use until the 19th century. 19 sherds, 581g.

MET: Metropolitan-type Slipware, $17^{th} - 18^{th}$ C. Similar fabric to Red Earthenware, with geometric designs in white slip under the glaze. Produced at a number of centres, but particularly Harlow in Essex (Davey and Walker 2009). 2 sherds, 77g.

MOD: Miscellaneous 19th and 20th century wares. Mass-produced white earthenwares, stonewares etc. 7 sherds, 102g.

SS: Staffordshire Slipware. AD1680-1750. Fine cream fabric with white slip and pale yellow lead glaze, commonest decoration is feathered dark brown trailed slip. Chiefly press-moulded flat wares, although small bowls and mugs etc are known. 3 sherds, 9g.

SWSG: Staffordshire Salt-Glazed Stoneware, AD1720-1780 (Mountford 1971). Hard, white fabric with a distinctive white 'orange peel' textured glaze. Range of fine tablewares such as mugs, tea bowls and plates. 1 sherd, 3g

TGE: Anglo-Dutch Tin-glazed Earthenware 17^{th} – early 18^{th} century (Orton 1988). Fine white earthenware, occasionally pinkish or yellowish core. Thick white tin glaze, with painted cobalt blue or polychrome decoration, . Range of table and display wares such as mugs, plates, dishes, bowls and vases. 3 sherds, 13g.

The pottery occurrence by number and weight of sherds per context by fabric type is shown in Table 1. Each date should be regarded as a *terminus post quem*. The range of fabric and vessel types is typical of relatively well-to-do post-medieval households in the region in the $17^{\text{th}} - 18^{\text{th}}$ centuries. It comprises utilitarian wares in the form of large bowls and jug fragments in GRE, with finer, more decorative eating, drinking and display pottery is the form of dishes, bowls and tankards in TGE, MET, CPO, SS and SWSG.

Table 2: Pottery occurrence by number and weight (in g) of sherds per context by fabric type

		G	RE	TC	GE	M	ЕT	CI	90	S	S	SW	SG	M	OD	
F	Cntxt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	Date
1	28	2	135													17thC
1	29	10	158	1	2					3	9	1	3	3	39	19thC
1	39					1	38									17thC
1	40			1	9			1	2					2	35	19thC
1	43													2	28	19thC
1	44	1	24													M16thC
1	55	2	15													M16thC
1	66	4	249	1	2	1	39									17thC
	Total	19	581	3	13	2	77	1	2	3	9	1	3	7	102	

4.3 Brick and Tile

A few fragmentary examples of roof tile were recovered from the site, all probably of a post-medieval to Imperial date (late 16th-early 19th centuries).

Cntxt	No	Wt	Comment
1/29	6	697	Red-orange fabric with inclusions 12mm, 13mm,
			17mm and 20mm deep.
1/40	2	357	Red-orange fabric with inclusions, both with nail
			holes and 13mm deep.
1/66	2	50	Red-orange fabric 14mm deep.

Though numerous bricks occurred across the site only a few samples were recovered from contexts 1/34 and 1/40.

Cntxt	No	Wt	Comment
1/34	2	1269	Red-orange fabric with few inclusions 112mm x
			40mm (681g). Red-purple fabric with indications
			of vitrification 105mm x 48mm (588g). 16 th to
			early 18 th century.
1/40	5	4131	Predominantly red-orange fabrics with moderate to
			large inclusions. Brick 219mm x 110mm x 28mm
			(1431g). Brick 110mm x 38mm (261g). Brick
			40mm deep (383g). Two of the bricks have a darker
			red fabric. Brick 105mm x 40mm (807g). The
			darkest brick is a red-purple colour with indications
			of vitrification. Brick 105g x 55g (1289g). 16 th to
			early 18 th century.

4.4 Clay tobacco pipes (by Simona Denis)

A total of 28 moulded clay tobacco pipe fragments were recovered from nine different contexts. The largest part of the assemblage (21 examples, or 75%) consists of plain, undecorated and unmarked stem fragments, of little diagnostic value. The remaining 7 examples are bowls, of which three are completely preserved, including base and rim. None of the examples is decorated, a common feature of the 17^{th} century production; a single fragment from context (1/29) shows the moulded initials of the manufacturer.

The diagnostic fragments indicate a dating for the assemblage between the late 17th and the early 18th centuries.

Bowls

1-27 – Incomplete bowl with base, L17th-E18th C.

Description: moulded long bowl (length 44mm; diameter 19mm) with thick spur and thick stem. Undecorated and unmarked.

Dating: the bowl shape has similarities to examples of a late 17th century to an early 18th century date.

References: Oswald (1975) type no. 9 (c. 1680-1710).

1/28 - Incomplete bowl with base, 17th C.

Description: short, moulded bowl fragment (diameter 19 mm) with rounded spur and milling along the partly preserved rim line, not parallel to the thick stem. Undecorated and unmarked.

Dating: the thick stem and the milled rim suggest a 17^{th} C date, supported by the rim at an angle to the stem line, as the lip parallel to stem is a change occurred *c*. 1700 (Grooves 1984). The shape of the bowl and the rounded spur are similar to a West Country or Midlands type, dated ca. 1660-1680 (Ayto 1994).

References: Atkinson & Oswald (1969) AO8 (1610-1640); Grooves no. 15 (1660-1680); Ayto (1994) p. 5 (1660-1680).

1/29 – Complete bowl with base and stem, L17th-E18th C.

Description: complete moulded long bowl (length 48 mm; diameter 17 mm), with shallow pedestal spur and narrow stem. Rim not parallel to stem line. Undecorated and unmarked. Dating: Pre-1700, based on the angle rim/stem line. The type of spur is considered late (Grooves 1984).

References: Grooves no.19 (1690-1710).

1/29 – Complete bowl with base, E18th C.

Description: complete bowl (length 42 mm; diameter 19 mm), with rim parallel to stem line. Two letters, possibly sans-serif, are moulded sideways on both sides of the shallow pedestal spur, with the Christian name initial generally placed on the left hand side (Atkinson & Oswald 1969). The initials on the fragment should therefore read RC.

Dating: bowls with thin wall sections and pedestal spur are dated to c. 1720-1750. The rim parallel to the stem line also indicated a date post-1700. Marks on spurs appear c. 1680 but become widespread in 1710 (Atkinson & Oswald 1969).

References: Grooves no.25 (1700-1770); Ayto p. 7 (1720-50).

1/29 – Bowl rim fragment, undated

The small fragment (length 24 mm) includes the milled rim. No decorations or marks were observed.

1/55 - Incomplete bowl with base and stem, ?E18th C.

Description: fragment with wall sections of uneven thickness and flat heel base. Undecorated and unmarked. Rim not preserved.

Dating: flat heels are generally considered an indicator of an early date, as they were replaced by spurs after 1640 (Ayto 1994).

References: possible variant of AO20 (1680-1810); possible variant of Grooves no. 20 (1680-1710).

1/66 – Complete bowl with base and stem, L17th C

Description: complete bowl (length 37 mm, diameter 18 mm), with forward protruding spur and rim at an angle to stem line. Undecorated and unmarked. Dating: forward protruding spur are a common feature ca.1660-1680. (Ayto 1994) References: AO15 (1660-1680).

Stems

21 plain stem fragments were found during the excavation. The incomplete state of the evidence precludes any attempt to determine the overall length of the pipes. Also, the lack of any decoration or mark prevents any secure dating. However, the larger diameter of both the stem and the bore hole are indicators of a relatively earlier date (Ayto 1994).

4.5 Glass (by Simona Denis)

A total of 27 glass fragments were recovered during the excavation. A single example of thin, white glass from context (1/60) was identified as window. The largest part (75%) of the assemblage is composed of bottle fragments; one example was tentatively identified as possible vessel, due to the large (50 mm) reconstructed diameter of the rim and the thin, fine quality of the glass. The remaining five examples were too fragmentary and therefore only tentatively identified as bottle/vessel.

Bottles

Of the 21 fragments certainly identified as belonging to bottles, the largest part (16 examples, or 76% of the assemblage) is composed of green to dark-green bottle body shards. Thick, green glass bottles with push-up bases appear in the mid-17th C and are produced with little variation for over two centuries, and therefore have little dating value (Jones 2011, http://www.sha.org/bottle/colors.htm#Greens& Blue-greens; http://www.sha.org/bottle/bases.htm#Push-Up).

Context	Туре	Colour	Diameter (mm)	Imperfections	Manufacturing technique	Comments	Date range
1/29	Base	Olive green	92 (reconstructed)	Bubbles, orange-peel surface	Free-blown	?Dome shaped push up base with rounded heel	M18th- E20th C
	Heel	Green	?150 (reconstructed)	Bubbles	Free-blown	Patination	?Pre 1900
1/40	Base	Dark green	100 (reconstructed)	Bubbles	Free-blown	Push-up base with rounded heel. Patination	?Pre 1900
	Neck and finish	Olive green	Lip 32, bore 21	Bubbles, stretch marks	Free-blown	?Champagne string rim with irregular lip	E19th C
1/66	Base	Dark green	120	Bubbles, orange-peel surface	Free-blown	Push-up base with rounded heel and pontil mark	M17th- E19th C

Only 5 of the collected fragments preserved diagnostic elements:

The combination, in free-blown glass, of imperfections as bubbles, straw-marks, and the socalled 'orange-peel' surface point to a general earlier dating for the assemblage found at Warren Farm, between the mid- 17^{th} and the early 19^{th} C.

1/40 - Champagne string-rim bottle finish, E19th C

The fragment includes neck and finish of a thick, olive-green bottle. The neck shows stretch marks and several small bubbles, quite common features in free-blown bottles (<u>http://www.sha.org/bottle/body.htm#Body%20Irregularities</u>). The finish is of the 'champagne' type, a particular 2-part finish composed by a V-shaped string rim with a tapered-out lip of the same thickness as the glass in the neck; this was formed by cracking-off and then fire-polishing the top of the bottle. This kind of finish is typical of early English 'wine' bottles, dated to the mid-17th C (Jones 1986) and commonly used in European-made bottles until the early 19th C (<u>http://www.sha.org/bottle/finishstyles3.htm#String%20Rim</u>). The fire-polished technique though, popular from the mid-19th C, suggests a later date for this fragment.

1/66 – Push-up bottle base, M17th-E19th C

The near-complete bottle base shard found in context (1/66) displays a clear 'disk pontil' scar at the bottom, common in English 'wine' bottles between the mid-17th and the early 19th centuries. The free-blown bottle fragment also shows uneven thickness, several bubbles and 'orange-peel' surface.

Vessel

One of the shards found in context (1/28) is a very thin, opaque white curved glass fragment, including shoulder, neck and rim. The reconstructed diameter of the object is over 50 mm, suggesting the identification of the item as belonging to a vessel.

Window

A single, small and very poorly preserved fragment of window glass was recovered from context (1/60). The original colour remains undetermined, due to the heavy patination of the surfaces.

4.6 Metal objects

Coin by Andrej Čelovský

A single copper coin was recovered from the fill (1/60) of wall construction cut during the evaluation. The coin was identified as halfpenny of William III (1694-1702), minted in 1700 in London (Pl. 1)

Obverse: [GV]LI[E]LMVS TER[TIV]S, a classical style bust facing right, worn. Reverse: BRITAN-NIA, date 1700 in exergue, Britannia seated with right hand on knee, worn.

Dimensions: diameter 28.2 mm, weight 8.84 g, Die-axis 5 O'clock References: S.3556 Archaeological information: SF 1, context (1/60).

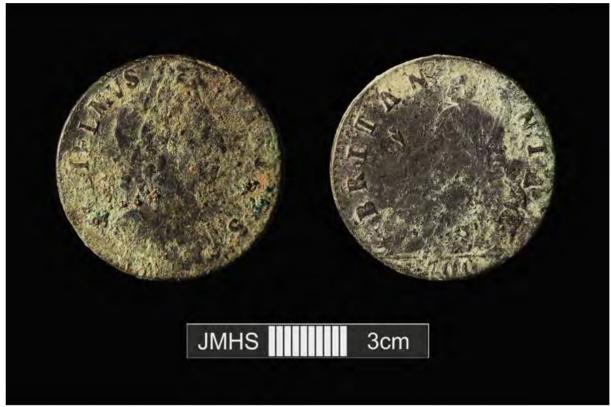


Plate 48: Halfpenny of William III (1694-1702)

Other metal finds (by Simona Denis)

Nails, 17th-E19th century

A small assemblage of seven iron nails was recovered during the excavation. The very poor state of preservation of the items, affected by heavy oxidation and mostly incomplete, prevented a positive identification in most of the cases.

The collection is composed almost entirely of common or general purpose nails, with the exception of a single example found in context (1/29), possibly an L-shaped rectangular-section spike, too fragmentary and corroded to be certainly identified. Two of the nails recovered from contexts (1/29) and (1/39) are square-section machine-cut nails, dated to the $18^{\text{th}}-19^{\text{th}}$ century.

Hand wrought iron exposed to air has a distinctive pattern of erosion leading the progressive detachment of layers (Bodey 1983) Such degradation was observed on three of the fragments: one incomplete, missing both head and point from context (1/29), one example with a possibly handmade round rose head from the same context, and one with an handmade flat head found in context (1/28). Hand wrought nails were produced between the 17^{th} and the early 19^{th} century with little variation in the manufacturing technique.

Buttons, 19th century

The British military brass button $\Delta 5$ was recovered from context (1/29). The well-preserved object is a cast round, 2-piece button; the semi-domed, decorated face is crimped to the flat back and has a shank-through-back-plate. The cast face shows the full United Kingdom Coat of Arms, used on military buttons between 1837 and 1901 (Wilkinson-Latham 2006);

the back plate is stamped with the maker's mark 'Player Bros.', a manufacturing company founded in Birmingham in the 1880s (<u>www.ukdfd.co.uk</u>). The button can be dated to the last quarter of the 19th century.

The copper alloy button $\Delta 2$, found in context (1/60), shows advanced oxidation; only a minor undecorated portion of the face is visible. The button is a round, 1-piece flat disc with concave back. The shank is poorly preserved, bent and heavily degraded, possibly a soldered omega type. The state of preservation of the object prevents from an accurate dating, although the general aspect of the button suggests a post-1800 date.

Miscellaneous

The fragmentary copper alloy buckle $\Delta 4$ from context (1/29) is an undecorated, rectangular cast frame. The specific function and dating of the object are undetermined.

A copper alloy cylindrical object (Δ 3) of unidentified function, heavily corroded, was found in context (1/58).

An undated lead object, possibly a cylindrical fishing net weight (Δ 7) was found in context (1/39).

Three fragments of a flat band iron pipe fitting ($\Delta 6$) were recovered from context (1/29), as was a flat scrap of iron weighing 25 gr.

4.7 Animal Bone (by Simona Denis)

A small assemblage of seven animal bone fragments was recovered during the excavation; four, or 57% of the fragments were recognised as belonging to birds.

Context	Туре	Weight (gr)	Identification		
1/28	?Antitrochanter	2	Unidentified Bird		
1/29	Scapula, coracoid	<2	Duck/Mallard		
	Complete left clavicle	5			
	Rib, costal grove	6	?Sheep/Goat		
1/40	Rib, costal grove	2	Unidentified ?Mammal		
	Unidentified	2	Unidentified		
1/43	Right clavicle, acornial end	6	Duck/Mallard		

Three fragments, recovered from context (1/29) and (1/43) were positively identified as belonging to a duck or mallard; one additional example, tentatively identified as an antitrochanter fragment, was attributed to an unidentified bird.

The two rib fragments found in contexts (1/29) and (1/40) were identified as ovine and unidentified mammal due to the visible dense trabecular structure.

5 ASSESSMENT

5.1 Phases

The building assessment and archaeological investigation indicated that Warren Farm or the Kings Farm was a complex site with a long period of evolution. There are eight basic phases of activity that can be detected across the site, of which the earliest construction period for Warren Farm occurs in the Middle Ages, and its reworking continued until the 20^{th} century.

The earliest finds from the site, as noted above, are the flints that are scattered across the site. These flints are blades that appear to have a technology and form of the late Mesolithic to the Early Neolithic. Other flints recovered are flakes of various forms, which show higher levels of impact and are thus considered to be of a Late Bronze Age to Early Bronze Age date. These periods of activity have effectively been counted as Phase 1 on the site. Associated with this activity there would appear to be a posthole and a ditch, the reason for the association is that these features cannot be seen to be directly related to later activity on the site and the posthole contained a Late Neolithic to Early Bronze Age flint flake. The site is located on a bluff on the south side of an east to west valley that runs from the central area of Windsor Forest to the River Loddon. The features here are probably a standing post or totem acting as a landscape marker in a forest landscape, with the ditch and presumably up cast bank, now gone, representing a barrier behind which hunters could hide. That this is not part of a high medieval date is suggested by the fact that the post does not fit into a recognisable structure of that period. Standing isolated posts are recorded in early medieval chartera; for example a Worcestershire charter refers to the standing beam while a charter from Southam in Gloucestershire refers to an animal head presumably mounted on a standing post in the form Hengestes heafod c. 780 (Smith 1964, ii.92).

In Phase 1b it is apparent that the brown grey sand soil layer continues to develop. There appears to be an interface near the surface of the lower deposits with finds dating from the medieval period to the 17th century.

From the 14th to 16th century there are fragmentary indications of the remains of a timber frame cruck hall, which probably had four bays. This is known from the remains of part of a cruck that survived in a wall, and also two beam slots, possibly three. What can be ascertained from this cruck is that the span was possibly about 4m wide at least (Fig. 21). There is a possibility that this was as wide as 4.5m, and if so the wall line represented by the post pads would have been destroyed by later construction on the south side, and thus not appeared as surviving details. Indeed, when the calculation and subsequent plan is marked up it is apparent how much of the later building had its plan develop from the size and location of this hall. It is not possible to say precisely it is likely that the half cellar may have originated as a game or Warren House for hanging quarry at this same time. These two components must represent Phase 2 on the site (Fig. 22).

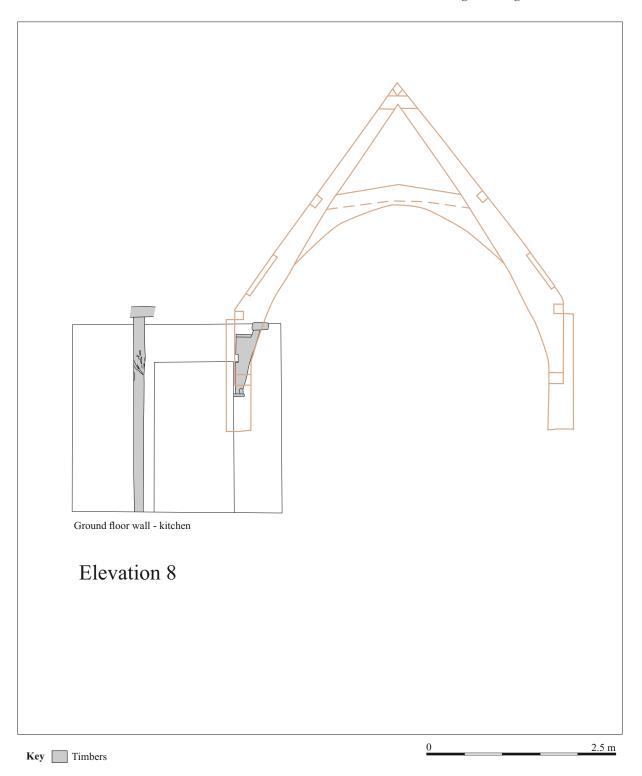


Figure 21: Location of cruck

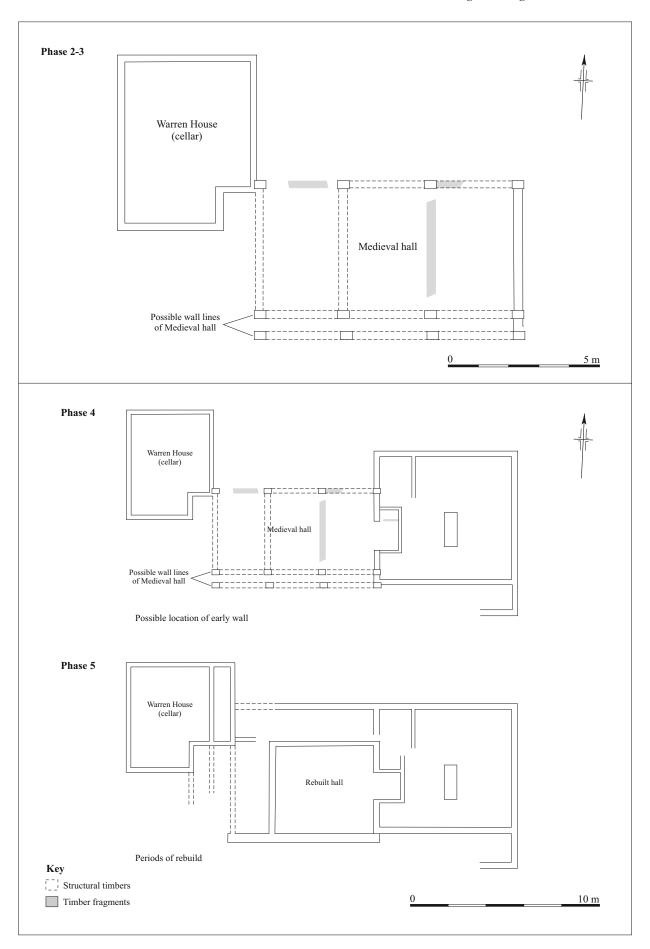


Figure 22: Early hall and periods of rebuilding

There are indications of reworking of surfaces and supports on the north side of the hall, which include a brick filled pit, which appears to have been a foundation for a later cruck. This activity may also be associated with the latter part of the 16th century or the first decades of the 17th century, and is considered to be Phase 3, although it may have been closely linked to the development of the eastern extension.

Such halls were often designed with no initial chimney breast only a central fire with louvre shutters to evacuate the smoke, and it is likely to be the case here. Traditionally it was not until the 16th century that vernacular medieval halls started to add chimneybreasts and fireplaces to replace the louvre shutters and central fire, and thus create a more pleasant internal atmosphere. The western chimney of part A of the building has always been considered unusual in that the fireplaces attached to it did not form part of the recognised 16th to 17th century part of the building. The identification of the earlier hall makes this development understandable, in that the west chimney was built as a fireplace and chimneybreast for the medieval hall. The bricks at the base of this chimney were of a narrow depth and a piece of pottery recovered with a 16th century profile was recovered from the cinder deposits at the base of the chimney. It is possible that this chimneybreast. There are other single early brick walls that survived in the area of part A, and it is possible that these were part of a structure constructed either at the very end of the 16th century or at the beginning of the 17th century. This is Phase 4.

In the 17th or very early 18th century it is apparent that the medieval hall was replaced by a series of walls built of bricks of a narrow depth. The north wall of the building appears to have been extended and a more substantial plinth built. A sherd with a 17th century profile was recovered from the foundation cut of the north wall, along with a clay tobacco pipe bowl dated 1660-80. Other wide walls that were probably replaced at this time include the south wall of the hall, and an internal wall between two crucks. A further internal wall was built near the line of the north wall of the hall. The end bay of the hall may have survived at this time. Two of the walls in the half cellar appear to date to this period, based on the size of their bricks. This is the first indication of a date for the cellar. It should be noted that a number of the walls orientated north to south may already have been in existence at this date, as the wall lines in the cellar and those slightly to the north and east appear to conform to the recognisable dimensions of the hall and other 17th century walls. This represents the development of Phase 5.

Phase 6 saw the reconstruction of the east wall of the building and the addition of part B of the building on the south side of part A. Part of part A was refurbished at this time and some wall foundations replaced. The two chimneys were probably rebuilt to a common design with the third one in part B of the structure. The date of the early 19th century for this work was assessed from the stairwell.

Further activity appears to have continued in Part C and D where walls were rebuilt in the mid to late 19th century. It is apparent in the map of 1842 that the dwelling is a large rectangular area, which would have included the remains of the former medieval hall and probable late 16th century development, and the 17th century reworking of this building. The 'Warren House' or half cellar for the game is shown as a continuation of the barn and is shown in grey to indicate that it is not considered to be an area of occupation, but an outbuilding. This would equate to its use as a storage location for hanging game. Part B

does not appear to be shown on this map, and thus it has to be considered that the early 19th century development is later than claimed or that the Tithe Map was based on an earlier map that is no longer extant. If the claimed stylistic dating evidence is maintained as Phase 6, then it should be considered that any further alterations in wall lines in the western part of the structure between the 1842 map and the First Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1877, would imply that there was a further 19th century phase associated with Parts D and C of the building. This is phase 7.

Phase 8 saw the reconstruction of parts C and D in the 20th century. It was at this time that the cellar was filled in and the shape of the original building lost to some extent.

5.2 Historic and Architectural Assessment

The site had eight phases but the building presently called Warren Farm can be seen as containing seven phases of activity, forming four surviving component parts. The significance of the site can be emphasised in a number of ways. The building contained a small piece of a cruck. Such a feature is a surviving component of medieval construction. This indicates that the building was of a national importance, and was only one of two cruck buildings that have been recognised in the whole of the Borough of Wokingham. Therefore, there was a local significance to this building also. It was possible to show the plan of the hall and that this plan had a subsequent impact on the later development of the building, and in a sense the only loss of design or plan occurred in phase 8.

The excavations also contain important details about the archaeological process and how it is difficult to properly ascertain the true archaeological development of a timber framed structure. Often with a timber building, and sometimes with a stone or brick structure, it is possible to show that the surviving upper part of the standing structure is of an early date. However, due to the process in the 17th and 18th century of reworking the foundations and infilling walls with later brick an archaeological investigation will suggest that the date of the wall construction is possibly later.

Archaeologically it is also worth noting that the process by which timber beam-slots are formed may also produce significantly later material. There is a tendency in archaeology to associate a negative feature precisely with the dating evidence that comes from it. In certain cases this is wholly justified, however, with beam-slots and large ditches this is not necessarily the case. Here the beam-slots appear to be associated with a medieval hall, which was presumably constructed at a date between the 14th and 16th centuries. The material recovered from the beam-slot is generally of a 17th to 18th century date. What has to be factored in here is how long a large English oak beam would take to rot fully. In this case it may occur over a period of some 300 years, thus when decayed material from above will fall into the void and consequently provide a later date.

The half cellar that was identified on the northwest side of the building is significant, and can be shown to be an integral part of a hunting lodge in a royal forest. Excavations at other hunting lodges have shown that such cellars were constructed. An example was excavated at Brize's Lodge in Wychwood, Oxfordshire. Here a half cellar was shown to originally have timber posts and walling and later to have been constructed in stone in the post-medieval period (Hart and Moore 2005, 14-17, 24). Other excavations have also

identified the remains of a quarry cellar including those at the Royal Lodge of Kingsclere. In the latter example it is apparent that the cellar was in existence in the medieval period.

Historical analysis of the area coupled to the development of the building indicates that this is the location of a hunting lodge, and probably one of a royal origin. The building can be shown on maps to be part of an extra-parochial area of land. This in Royal Forests is invariably known to be an indicator of association with Royal hunting grounds. On the 1824 map by Greenwood the farm is called the Kings Farm, which emphasises this previous association with the forest and the monarchy. This association means that the building from historical analysis should have been recognised as one being of national importance. The components of the building, the medieval hall and the half cellar are features that one would expect to identify in a hunting lodge in a royal forest. These factors add to the reference identified for circa 1440 in which timber was cut in Windsor Royal Park to be taken to a building in or near Wokingham. It is possible that this was the building.

6 **CONCLUSIONS**

Permission was granted through appeal for the demolition of Warren Farm, which lay to the north of Wokingham. This action was preceded by photography and recording of the building, and subsequently by an evaluation and excavation.

This research produced evidence for a number of archaeological phases across the site of Warren House, Warren Farmhouse or Kings Farm, for which it appears to have been known as over time. This research has also determined that Warren Farm was an important building in Windsor Forest and probably a previously unrecognised Royal Lodge.

The finds indicate that in the Later Mesolithic the site became an observation location for hunters in what later became known as Windsor Forest. The site lies on the southern side of a valley that runs through the Forest and extends into the area of Windsor Great Park and Windsor. The flint tool technology would indicate that the site was used from the Later Mesolithic to the Early Bronze Age. At some time, probably in the latter part of this period, a post was erected as a landscape marker. It is assumed that this marker was of an Early Bronze Age date as there was a flake with later flint technology. The tradition of these marker posts can be identified in certain later early medieval charters.

Rocque's map in the 18^{th} century shows Warren Farm to be located in an area of common and woodland that extends south to north. It is presumably in a landscape like this that the earliest hunting lodge on the site was established at some time between the 14^{th} and the 16^{th} century. It is known from physical evidence, including the partial remains of a cruck that underlying parts C and D of the house there was a medieval hall. More circumstantial evidence refers to timber being cut in Windsor Great Park for a building in the vicinity of Wokingham in *c*. 1440. The location of this royal building is not known historically in the Wokingham area, but there is a good chance that this structure was located at Warren Farm. The reasons behind this suggestion are that the farm was located on an area of extra-parochial land, which in a Royal Forest normally implies that the land is part of the king's forest manor, and the second indication is that on a map of 1823 the farm is referred to as King's Farm, thus implying its original associations. It is apparent in the later development of the structure that the location of the medieval hall affected the further development of the building. The special evidence for the hall indicates that it was probably a structure of three bays with four associated crucks. On the northwest corner of this hall a Warren House in the form of a half cellar was constructed. This was a cold area to store game and possibly wine reserves. Royal Lodges, for example that at Kingsclere in Hampshire, are known to have had a half cellar in the 13th century. One should consider that these features may be earlier, due to a necessity to hang the game over a period of time. There are also some indications that later repairs and underpinning was carried out on the hall in the 16th to 17th century.

Vernacular building traditions appear to affect the building from the latter part of the 16th century; it is probably at this time that a chimney and timber structure was added to the east end of the hall. This structure probably had a timber structure supported on single row brick walls. A stair tower was probably located on the north side of the chimneybreast added to the east end of the hall. It is likely at this time that the structure contained a bed chamber above a ground floor room. What the space between the two chimneybreasts was used for is not known at this time, but was later used as a hall and landing with a stairwell. The initial inspiration to develop this part of the structure may have been as a response to the construction of Billingbear Park, which was erected by Sir Henry Neville, a verderer of Windsor Forest about 1593 (Tyack, Bradley et al. 2010, 167). This association is not to suggest that Warren Farm was associated with Billingbear in any way, it is simply implied that the development of Billingbear would have created a precedence in the area for the inclusion of new and innovative design. There are also the indications associated with the position of Neville in that he was a Verderer of the Forest of Windsor. The position of Verderer was one that was developed post the Norman Conquest to administer Forest Law on behalf of the King. As such it would be the case that the Verderer probably had access to the king's hunting lodges and that a complex relationship occurred between Neville as a verderer on behalf of Elizabeth I, and Neville as an individual. In certain circumstances these associations may have become blurred and confused historically, and in some cases it may not be known under whose authority Neville was acting.

In the 17th century or at the very latest the early 18th century it is apparent that some of the walling was replaced, with wider underlying walls, which was also built of bricks with a narrow depth. It is at this time that the medieval hall must have been replaced in some form. The length of the hall may have been reduced at this time to include only the two eastern most bays, while the western part of the hall was separated and reworked, forming a further room (Fig. 22). The timber framed wall at the west end of the building may have survived at this date. There are various north south wall lines in this area, one of which may have been used at this time, but were later reused. This probable 17th century redevelopment is represented by Phase 5.

In the early 19th century the eastern part of the building was reworked as Phase 6, with the rebuilding of the east wall, and the extension that formed part B. There appear to be various walls rebuilt in the west part of the building and around the cellar in the mid to later part of the 19th century, which is classed as Phase 7. The underlying development and reworking of the building, on the whole, appears to have maintained a coherent and perpetuated plan on the structure. The only problem is that the apparent moving of the stairwell from the probable stair turret, has caused a probable redevelopment of space in the west part of part A of the building, and it is not apparent how or what this area was

originally used for. Perhaps on the ground floor this was a new lobby area, with a room above. If this was always the location of the stairwell and a central passage, without part B it is not overly apparent what was being connected. The chimneybreast for the hall fire was rebuilt at this time as it subsequently blocked a window in the gable end. The eastern chimney was also probably rebuilt, due to its foundation, but was probably in the same place as it was necessary to support the roof structure and provide stability.

It was in the 20th century with the development of parts C and D that the influence the medieval hall and Warren House or half cellar cease to be relevant.

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