



# Parkside Link Road, Newton-le-Willows, St Helens

## Historic Building Recording and Watching Brief

February 2023

**Client: The Environment Partnership**

Issue No: V. 1

OA Reference No: L11430

NGR: SJ 61413 94008

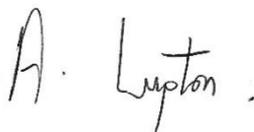




Client Name: TEP on behalf of Ramboll UK  
Document Title: Parkside Link Road, Newton-le-Willows, St Helens  
Document Type: Historic Buildings Recording and Watching Brief Report  
Report No.: 2022-23/2254  
Grid Reference: SJ 61413 94008  
Planning Reference: P/2018/0249/FUL  
Site Code: PLR22  
Invoice Code: L11430  
Receiving Body: National Museums Liverpool

OA Document File Location: X:\Paul\Projects\L11430\_Parkside\_Link\_St\_Helens\Report  
OA Graphics File Location: X:\Paul\Projects\L11430\_Parkside\_Link\_St\_Helens\OAN\_CAD

Issue No: V. 1  
Date: February 2023  
Prepared by: Andy Phelps (Project Officer)  
Checked by: Paul Dunn (Senior Project Manager)  
Edited by: Paul Dunn (Senior Project Manager)  
Approved for Issue by: Alan Lupton (Operations Manager)  
Signature:



**Disclaimer:**

*This document has been prepared for the titled project or named part thereof and should not be relied upon or used for any other project without an independent check being carried out as to its suitability and prior written authority of Oxford Archaeology being obtained. Oxford Archaeology accepts no responsibility or liability for the consequences of this document being used for a purpose other than the purposes for which it was commissioned. Any person/party using or relying on the document for such other purposes agrees and will by such use or reliance be taken to confirm their agreement to indemnify Oxford Archaeology for all loss or damage resulting therefrom. Oxford Archaeology accepts no responsibility or liability for this document to any party other than the person/party by whom it was commissioned.*

**OA South**

Janus House  
Osney Mead  
Oxford  
OX2 0ES

t. +44 (0)1865 263 800

**OA East**

15 Trafalgar Way  
Bar Hill  
Cambridge  
CB23 8SQ

t. +44 (0)1223 850 500

**OA North**

Mill 3  
Moor Lane Mills  
Moor Lane  
Lancaster  
LA1 1QD

t. +44 (0)1524 880 250

e. [info@oxfordarch.co.uk](mailto:info@oxfordarch.co.uk)  
w. [oxfordarchaeology.com](http://oxfordarchaeology.com)

Oxford Archaeology is a registered Charity: No. 285627



Chief Executive Officer  
Ken Welsh, BSc, MCIFA  
Private Limited Company, No: 1618597  
Registered Charity, No: 285627  
Registered Office: Oxford Archaeology Ltd  
Janus House, Osney Mead, Oxford OX2 0ES

## Parkside Link Road, Newton-le-Willows, St Helens

### *Historic Buildings Recording and Watching Brief Report*

*Written by Andy Phelps*

*With illustrations by Debbie Lewis and Anne Stewardson*

## Contents

Summary.....	ix
Acknowledgements.....	x
<b>1 INTRODUCTION.....</b>	<b>1</b>
1.1 Project Background.....	1
1.2 Location, topography and geology .....	1
<b>2 AIMS AND METHODOLOGY.....</b>	<b>2</b>
2.1 Aims.....	2
2.2 Methodology .....	2
<b>3 BACKGROUND HISTORY .....</b>	<b>4</b>
3.1 Introduction.....	4
3.2 General Historical Background .....	4
3.3 Specific History .....	5
3.4 Map regression.....	6
<b>4 DESCRIPTIONS (BARN) .....</b>	<b>12</b>
4.1 Introduction.....	12
4.2 Exterior .....	12
4.3 Northern Extension Exterior .....	22
4.4 Interior.....	25
4.5 First Floor.....	31
4.6 Roof Structure .....	33
<b>5 DESCRIPTIONS (COTTAGE) .....</b>	<b>34</b>
5.1 Exterior .....	34
5.2 Interior.....	37
5.3 Roof Structure .....	43
5.4 Outbuilding.....	44
<b>6 WATCHING BRIEF.....</b>	<b>46</b>
6.1 Results .....	46

---

7	DISCUSSION .....	48
7.1	Introduction.....	48
7.2	Origin .....	48
7.3	Development .....	49
7.4	Watching brief .....	50
APPENDIX A	BIBLIOGRAPHY .....	51
APPENDIX B	WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION .....	53

## List of Figures

Fig 1	Site location
Fig 2	Rough Barn ground floor plan
Fig 3	Rough Barn first floor plan
Fig 4	East-facing elevation of Rough Barn
Fig 5	Rough Cottage ground floor plan
Fig 6	Rough Cottage first floor plan
Fig 7	East-facing elevation of Rough Cottage
Fig 8	Rough Cottage outbuilding plan
Fig 9	Location of watching brief areas

## List of Plates

Plate 1	John Speed's Map of Lancashire 1610
Plate 2	Map of the County Palatine of Lancaster, Yates 1786
Plate 3	Tithe Map of Newton in Makerfield 1839
Plate 4	Lancashire Sheet CIX Surveyed: 1845 to 1847, Published: 1849, 1:10,560 (NLS Maps)
Plate 5	Lancashire CIX.1, 1893 1:2500
Plate 6	Lancashire CIX.1 Revised: 1906, Published: 1907, 1:2500 (NLS Maps)
Plate 7	Lancashire CIX.1 Revised: 1926, Published: 1928
Plate 8	Exterior of Barn, facing north-west, note rebuilding of south-eastern corner
Plate 9	Western elevation of Barn, facing south-east
Plate 10	Eastern elevation, facing west
Plate 11	Double height entrance at northern end of eastern elevation, facing west, with 1m scale
Plate 12	Pintle hinge, with threshold notch to left and OS bench mark to right, facing west
Plate 13	Pedestrian entrance at centre of eastern elevation, facing west with 1m scale
Plate 14	Southern entrance on eastern elevation, facing west with 1m scale
Plate 15	Sliding sash window at southern end of eastern elevation, facing west with 0.5m scale
Plate 16	First floor apertures on eastern elevation, facing north-west
Plate 17	Diamond pattern ventilation loop at southern end of eastern elevation, facing west
Plate 18	Horizontal sliding sash window at eastern end of the southern gable
Plate 19	Southern gable elevation, facing north
Plate 20	Western elevation, facing east
Plate 21	Blocked double width entrance on western elevation, facing east with 1m scale
Plate 22	Inserted window at centre of western elevation, facing east with 0.5m scale
Plate 23	Crudely inserted window towards southern end of western elevation, facing east with 0.5m scale
Plate 24	Inserted first-floor window on western elevation, with ventilation loop to right, facing east
Plate 25	Lean-to structure at southern end of western elevation, facing north-east

- Plate 26 Northern elevation, facing south
- Plate 27 Date stone at apex of northern elevation
- Plate 28 Northern extension, facing south-west
- Plate 29 Four-light fixed-frame window at centre of elevation, facing south with 1m scale
- Plate 30 Western elevation, facing east with 1m scale
- Plate 31 Blocked aperture at base of wall, with 1m scale
- Plate 32 Interior of the southernmost cell, facing west with 1m scale
- Plate 33 Southern cell, facing north-east with 1m scale. Note the timber pegs to right and ladder to left
- Plate 34 Diagonal scar on the northern wall denoting former position of Hayrack, facing north with 1m scale
- Plate 35 Central Cell, facing east
- Plate 36 Northern partition, constructed in vertical timber boards, facing north with low door to right of frame
- Plate 37 Interior of northern cell, facing west
- Plate 38 Ladder in south-western corner of northern cell, facing south-west with 0.5m scale
- Plate 39 Interior of northern cell, facing south-east. Note the trimmer in the ceiling to right of frame indicating the position of a former floor hatch
- Plate 40 Interior of the Northern extension, facing south with 1m scale
- Plate 41 Interior of Northern extension, facing north-west
- Plate 42 Internal view of small brick cell in north-western corner of Northern extension
- Plate 43 First floor of southern cell, facing west
- Plate 44 First floor, northern cell, facing south-east
- Plate 45 Rough Cottage, facing north-west
- Plate 46 Eastern elevation, facing north-west
- Plate 47 Exposed brickwork at the base of the north-eastern corner, facing south-west
- Plate 48 Southern elevation, facing north
- Plate 49 Western elevation, facing east
- Plate 50 Living Room, facing south-west
- Plate 51 Lathe and plaster revealed in inspection hole to west of ceiling beam
- Plate 52 Reception room, facing north-west
- Plate 53 Plank and Batten door to cellar, facing south-east
- Plate 54 Kitchen, facing west
- Plate 55 First floor corridor, facing south
- Plate 56 Master Bedroom, facing south-west
- Plate 57 Bedroom Two, facing north-east
- Plate 58 Bedroom Three, facing south
- Plate 59 Bathroom, facing north
- Plate 60 Limited view in the roof space, facing north
- Plate 61 Outbuilding, facing west
- Plate 62 Interior of Outbuilding, facing south-east
- Plate 63 Western doorway, showing brick jambs in cross-section, facing north-west
- Plate 64 West-facing view of cellar, 1m scale

- 
- Plate 65      Location of Rough Cottage following its demolition and removal of ground floor slab, looking north-east
- Plate 66      Location of Rough Barn following its demolition and removal of ground floor slab, looking south-west

## Summary

Oxford Archaeology (OA) North was commissioned by The Environment Partnership (TEP) on behalf of Ramboll UK to undertake historic building recording of Rough Cottage and Rough Farm Barn, and watching brief following their demolition, on Winwick Lane, Newton-le-Willows in advance of construction of a new road to link the proposed Parkside development to the east of the A49 and the M6 (NGR: SJ 61413 94008).

This work was undertaken as condition 24 of Planning Permission (planning ref. P/2018/0249/FUL). During consultation for the application, the archaeological advisors to St Helens Council and Warrington Borough Council, Merseyside Environmental Advisory Service (MEAS), recommended that Rough Cottage and Rough Farm Barn be subject to historic building recording. A written scheme of investigation (WSI) was produced by TEP detailing the Local Authority's requirements for work necessary to discharge the planning condition. OA North were subsequently commissioned to undertake the necessary fieldwork; the building recording was carried out over two days, 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> of May 2022, whilst the watching brief was carried out over three days, 13<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> September 2022.

Both the Cottage and Barn were fully recorded, however, the Cottage had been heavily modified through the nineteenth and twentieth centuries meaning that much of the original form and fabric of the building was not visible during the survey. The Cottage was clearly residential in nature, providing lodging for the farmer, his family and often accommodating the dairy and other domestic functions. The Barn was erected as a multi-function building, reflecting the mixed agricultural system that operated on the farm. The buildings appeared to correspond well with documentary and cartographic evidence, in that they appeared to have been constructed in the early to mid-nineteenth century, then having their layout and usage modified through to modern times.

The watching brief undertaken following the demolition of the upstanding Cottage and Barn buildings did not identify any evidence of earlier structural remains, although, the watching brief in the location of the Cottage did allow closer inspection of the cellar in the western part of the building, which could not be investigated during the building recording. The fabric of the cellar does lead to the suggestion of a mid- to late-eighteenth century date for its construction, due to the use of hand-made brick and sandy lime mortar, which corresponds fairly well with the historical research undertaken.

## Acknowledgements

Oxford Archaeology (OA) North would like to thank Sarah Hannon-Bland, Amir Bassir and Jason Clarke of The Environment Partnership (TEP) and Robert Ridge of Ramboll UK for commissioning this project. Thanks are also extended to Alison Plummer, Planning Archaeologist for Merseyside Environmental Advisory Service (MEAS), who monitored the work on behalf of St Helens Council.

The project was managed for OA North by Paul Dunn. The fieldwork was directed by Andy Phelps, who was supported by Megan Daniels. Survey and digitisation was undertaken by Andy Phelps, Debbie Lewis, Anne Stewardson and Mark Tidmarsh.

## 1 INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Project Background

1.1.1 Oxford Archaeology (OA) North was commissioned by The Environment Partnership (TEP) on behalf of Ramboll UK to undertake historic building recording of Rough Cottage and Rough Farm Barn, and watching brief following their demolition, on Winwick Lane, Newton-le-Willows in advance of construction of a new road to link the proposed Parkside development to the east of the A49 and the M6 (NGR: SJ 61413 94008; Fig 1).

1.1.2 This work was undertaken as condition 24 of Planning Permission (planning ref. P/2018/0249/FUL). Condition 24 stated:

***No development shall take place until a written scheme of investigation for archaeological work, which includes reporting mechanisms, has been submitted to and agreed in writing with the Local Planning Authority. The development shall be carried out in accordance with the agreed scheme.***

1.1.3 During consultation for the application, the archaeological advisors to St Helens Council and Warrington Borough Council, Merseyside Environmental Advisory Service (MEAS), recommended that Rough Cottage and Rough Farm Barn be subject to historic building recording (Fig 1). A written scheme of investigation (WSI; *Appendix B*) was produced by TEP detailing the Local Authority's requirements for work necessary to discharge the planning condition. OA North were subsequently commissioned to undertake the necessary fieldwork; the building recording was carried out over two days, 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> of May 2022, whilst the watching brief was carried out over three days, 13<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> September 2022.

### 1.2 Location, topography and geology

1.2.1 The farm lies on the northern edge of the civil parish of Croft, approximately 2km north-west of the village of the same name. It falls within the administrative Borough of Warrington, and geographically lies upon the northern edge of the Mersey Valley. It is set within a gently undulating landscape of medium and large scale fields defined by a network of fragmented hedgerows, low banks and ditches. The site occupies a position at a height of 33m aOD. Historically, this area has seen a mixed pattern of agriculture set against a pattern of dispersed settlement with occasional areas of nucleation.

1.2.2 The underlying geology is comprised of Sandstone, of the Chester Formation, a sedimentary bedrock formed approximately 250 to 247.1 million years ago in the Triassic Period. No sedimentary geology is recorded in the area surrounding the farm, but the wider area records Devensian Till a sedimentary deposit of glacial origin (BGS 2022). The surrounding soils are recorded as slightly acid loamy and clayey soils of moderate fertility (Farewell *et al* 2011) and today are intensively cropped for arable.

## 2 AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

### 2.1 Aims

2.1.1 The following programme of works was designed to best meet the work required as defined in the above condition and was completed to Historic England Level 2/3 measured survey standards (Historic England 2016a). Following completion of the fieldwork, the data has been collated, processed and interpreted to produce a written and illustrated report outlining a narrative history of the two buildings origin, development, and use with reference to its wider landscape. The following report will also form part of an archive for submission to the Archaeology Data Service, as per National Museums Liverpool guidelines (NML 2021).

### 2.2 Methodology

2.2.1 The full methodology was outlined in the WSI (*Appendix B*) which was adhered to in full and was fully compliant with prevailing guidelines and established industry best practice (CIfA 2019; 2020a; 2020b; 2020c; 2022; Historic England 2015; 2016). A programme of field observation accurately recorded the character of the structures and deposits identified during the building recording and watching brief.

#### *Historic building recording*

2.2.2 **Descriptive Record:** written records using OA North *pro-forma* record sheets were made of all principal building elements, both internal and external, as well as any features of historical or architectural significance. Particular attention was paid to the relationship between those areas of the buildings where their development, and any alterations, could be observed.

2.2.3 **Site Drawings:** floor plans and elevations were produced using a combination of hand measurements and a Leica TCR805 reflectorless total station, with elevations recorded using photogrammetric techniques and, subsequently, processed using Agisoft Metashape. Hand-drawn sketches of the building were also produced, recording pertinent details regarding the development, construction and function of the building. The final plans (Figs 2, 3, 5, 6 and 8), elevations (Figs 4 and 7) were created within an industry-standard CAD package (Autocad 2016), enhanced and annotated to show the form and location of all architecturally and historically significant features.

2.2.4 **Photographic Record:** a Canon EOS 2000D digital SLR (24 megapixel) camera, with a selection of lenses, was used for the photographic record. The record comprises landscape and detailed photography; the detailed photographs of archaeological features incorporated a scale bar where appropriate. Archive photographic locations are presented on the relevant plots (Figs 2, 3, 5, 6 and 8). Archival images comprise jpgs and Canon RAW format files (cr2) saved as 8-bit TIFFs. The data are stored on two separate servers on different sites, with appropriate back-up and disaster plans in place.

#### *Watching brief*

2.2.5 The area monitored was set out and all service checks were undertaken by the client prior to the commencement of the excavation. The concrete slab lifting was

undertaken by a 360° 30-tonne tracked mechanical excavator, fitted with a toothed bucket.

- 2.2.6 All information identified during the course of the fieldwork was recorded stratigraphically, using a system adapted from that used by the former English Heritage Centre for Archaeology with an accompanying pictorial record (digital photographs). Primary records were available for inspection at all times.
- 2.2.7 Results of all field investigations were recorded on *pro forma* context sheets. The site archive includes a photographic record and watching brief record sheets.

#### *Archive*

- 2.2.8 A full professional archive has been compiled in accordance with current ClfA (2020c), Historic England (2015) and National Museums Liverpool (NML 2021) guidelines. As the archive is principally a paper and digital archive, with no material archive, it will be deposited with the Archaeology Data Service (ADS), in due course. An online access to index of archaeological investigations (OASIS) form will also be uploaded, along with a copy of this report.

## 3 BACKGROUND HISTORY

### 3.1 Introduction

3.1.1 The following section offers a brief historical overview of the area drawing upon readily available historical sources to provide the context for the development of the farmstead. It is accompanied by a map regression that reveals the development of the farmstead through time.

### 3.2 General Historical Background

#### 3.2.1 *Medieval Period*

3.2.2 While both prehistoric and Roman occupation are known from the surrounding area the story of Rough Farm can reasonably be traced to the medieval period, long before the farmstead was actually established. Local settlement is attested at both Winwick to the south-west, where a tenth century cross was recovered in the graveyard and Southworth to the south, where both archaeological and documentary evidence points to a village, associated with a substantial cemetery (WBC 2007, 34).

3.2.3 Winwick is referred to in the Domesday book as St Oswald, where it was held prior to the Norman conquest by King Edward (Phillimore, Cheshire R2,1). In 1086, Roger Poitou was the tenant in chief, and had six free tenants, 12 villagers and four small holders. Arable cultivation is inferred by the reference to nine ploughs, but the wider area appears to have been extensively wooded and it is likely that large areas of mossland and heathland would have been unsuitable for cultivation.

3.2.4 The field pattern in the area around the village at Croft preserves the shallow S-shaped field boundaries defining numerous long narrow fields, characteristic of open field agriculture, and although, now much altered the area around Newton preserved the same pattern into the mid-nineteenth century. Prior to the mid-fourteenth century, population growth had led to an expansion of arable cultivation across the country and it is likely this field pattern was once far more extensive across the area (WBA, 2007 288). Beyond these cultivated fields, however, there would still have been areas of waste or common land reserved for the rough grazing of livestock and names such as Heath Lane and Moss Pits attest to the former presence of these areas to the north of Croft.

3.2.5 The population expansion of the high medieval period was checked during the mid-fourteenth century by climatic deterioration, a series of failed harvests, and catastrophic disease. With insufficient labour available and less mouths to feed, large areas of formerly cultivated land was left to revert to waste.

#### 3.2.6 *Post-medieval Period*

3.2.7 The early post-medieval period was characterised by a continued development of regional specialisation in agriculture and a recovery of the population to pre-plague levels (English Heritage, 2006, 6). Across the country arable fields were converted to pasture during the sixteenth century to support stock rearing, with an emphasis on woollen production (Barnwell and Giles, 1997, 3). Locally this event may be preserved in the survival of isolated area of ridge and furrow cultivation in what is now

pastureland. Aerial photography has identified examples to the west of Rough Farm adjacent to St Oswald Well, with more extensive examples in the areas surrounding Winwick (Historic England Aerial Viewer).

3.2.8 During the medieval and early post-medieval periods local transport networks were poorly maintained and difficult to use, making it costly to move goods beyond the immediate locality, although during the eighteenth century a number of improvements made it easier to move produce to local, and later regional markets. The Warrington and Wigan Turnpike opened in 1726 passing through Winwick, providing a more reliable route to Warrington to the south and Wigan to the north. Thirty years later the opening of the Sankey Canal (1757) signalled the beginning to the industrial revolution. The canal was designed to move coal from the coal fields to the north down to Warrington and Liverpool but it could also carry agricultural produce.

### 3.2.9 *Industrial Period*

3.2.10 With improvements in drainage techniques and methods aimed at improving fertility such as marling, new areas of previously unworkable land could be brought under cultivation for the first time. In the local area the drainage of areas such as Highfield Moss to the north opened up significant new areas for cultivation. The need to supply the developing urban centres of Manchester, Liverpool and Warrington provided a lucrative market for farmers on their hinterlands and the transport of good was further improved with the opening of the Liverpool to Manchester Railway in 1830.

3.2.11 This in turn made the Mersey Valley more attractive to the establishment of new farms and the growth of existing farms from the later eighteenth century. Gradually land ownership was reorganised into more efficient parcels, the irregular field boundaries associated with piecemeal enclosure were removed to amalgamate smaller fields into larger ones and new farmsteads were established in locations more convenient to these newly organised fields. Farming had entered a profitable period and a range of newly built farm buildings were erected in an effort to maximise returns.

3.2.12 Following the boom years of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries the end of the nineteenth century saw the beginning of an extended period of agricultural depression, in part a result of competition from global markets that were able to return produce at much greater economies of scale. There was little investment in new farm buildings during this period and existing structure were maintained at minimum cost and adapted where necessary. One of the most significant developments during this period, however, was the replacement of the horse as the principal motive source of power, with the introduction of the tractor. As tractors and other machinery grew larger the cartsheds, barns and other structures were altered to accommodate them.

## 3.3 **Specific History**

3.3.1 In 1212, Gilbert de Croft is recorded as holding the manors of both Southworth and Croft, granting Gilbert son of Hugh de Croft the manor of Southworth in 1219 (Farrer and Brownbill 1911, 168-170). The latter was the founder of the Southworth family whose descendants subsequently acquired the manor of Croft and retained the land

until the seventeenth century (*ibid*). Both Manors were sold to Thomas Ireland of Bewsey in 1621 and then subsequently to the Gerards of Ince.

- 3.3.2 Thomas Claughton, a trustee of the Legh family, acquired the manor of Southworth in 1820, which appears to have included the area of Rough Farm, but his bankruptcy forced him to sell the manor in 1825 (Farrer and Brownbill, 1911, 168-170). The sales particulars include the first direct documentary reference to Rough Farm, when it included a modest 19 acres and 93 perches (TEP 2018, 18). The manor was acquired by Edward Greenall and subsequently sold to the Brooks family who were in possession in the early twentieth century Farrer and Brownbill, 1911, 168-170.
- 3.3.3 The 1825 sales particulars for the manor records Roger Mason as the occupant of Rough Farm, who is the first documented resident (TEP 2018, 18). Mason's daughter went on to marry Gilbert Marsh and their descendants were to continue to live in the property for the next hundred years (OnLine Parish Clerks 2022).
- 3.3.4 The cottages were occupied by Gilbert Winter Marsh and his wife Annie in 1918, when their son John was baptised at St Oswalds in Winwick. Gilbert is recorded as a farmer (*ibid*). But they may have moved into the farmhouse by 1921 when their son Gilbert was born, for in the same year, the Davidsons are recorded at the cottages, with John Davidson working as an asylum attendant. In 1927, Reginald and Emily Arnold lived at the Farmhouse, with Reginald being recorded as a boilermaker (*ibid*). Most recently the farm was used as a kennel for greyhounds, with alterations to the outbuilding made to accommodate this function. The farm has been redundant since 2018.

### 3.4 Map regression

- 3.4.1 **Early Maps:** Winwick (*Wynwyke*) is significant enough to appear on Gough's Map of 1360 (not shown) denoted as a single smaller building to the north of the Mersey, possibly the chapel, but the major route north across the Amounderness Plain is shown instead to the west, perhaps indicating that the route through the village was of lesser importance at this time. Wynwick also appears on Saxton's map of 1577 (not shown), with Risleigh shown to the east, Newton to the north and to the south, the development of Warrington as a market town is reflected in its depiction in bold at the crossing of the Mersey. Both Saxton's map and John Speed's Map of Lancashire (1610, Plate 1) shows the boundary of the medieval Newton Park, and the latter also depicts Southworth Hall, a reflection of its status in the early seventeenth century.

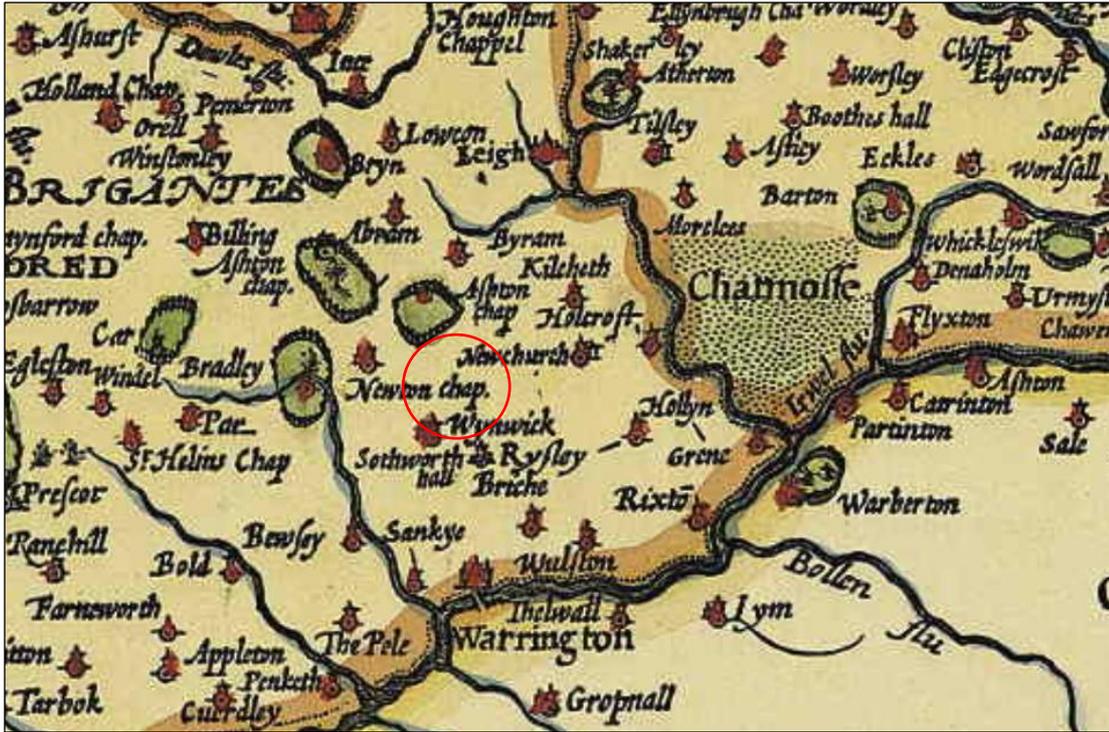


Plate 1: John Speed's Map of Lancashire 1610

- 3.4.2 **Estate Map of Newton:** Benjamin Yoxhall's estate map of 1745 (not shown) appears to depict two structures in approximately the position of Rough Farm (TEP 2018) although the lack of detail prevents their positive identification.
- 3.4.3 **Yate's 1786 Map of Lancashire and Hennet's Map of 1830:** Yate's map is the first to depict the area in any detail and shows a network of smaller roads converging upon Winwick and the major turnpike route to the north connecting the villages of Winwick and Newton (Plate 2). The boundary of Newton Park can be identified as a slightly sinuous lane broadly parallel and to the east of the turnpike (today known as Parkside Road), while Winwick Lane is depicted as one of the minor lanes extending in a northeasterly direction towards Kenyon Hall. Although not mentioned by name it is possible to identify several structures in approximately the position of Rough Farm, suggesting it had already been established by this date. The farm is named for the first time on Hennet's Map of 1830 (not shown), although the detail is insufficient to identify specific buildings with any certainty.



Plate 2: Extract from Map of the County Palatine of Lancaster, Yates 1786

**Tithe Map of Newton 1839:** the tithe map of Newton reveals a pattern of small regular fields, with ponds set into the corners and boundaries (Plate 3). Rough Farm can be identified to the east, with four buildings adjacent to the northern-western edge of Winwick Lane. The largest at the centre probably represents the original farmhouse, with a smaller roughly L-shaped structure to the south facing the road and another uninhabited structure to west, in the position of the surviving barn. The fourth structure lies to the north within its own enclosure, and is a rectangular elongated structure aligned to the road and of similar proportions to the Rough Cottage. It is denoted as being inhabited.



Plate 3: Tithe Map of Newton in Makerfield 1839

3.4.4 **First Edition Ordnance Survey 1849, 1:10,560**: depicts a network of regular field boundaries set upon a north-east/south-west-alignment that extends from the eastern boundary of Newton Park to Winwick Lane, at this time known as Back Lane (Plate 4). The pattern of enclosure to the south of Winwick Lane is more variable and perhaps of a slightly earlier date. The fields are punctuated by a series of small ponds and there is a sandstone quarry immediately to the east of the farm and another to its west. Rough Farm is shown as a series of rectangular structures, with what is probably the Farmhouse at its centre, the cottages to the north, and a yard to south defined by a rectangular building fronting the road to the east and another smaller range to the west. The smaller of these structures is likely to be the surviving Barn. An orchard and pond lie to the west of the cottages and farmhouse.



Plate 4: Lancashire Sheet CIX; Surveyed: 1845 to 1847, Published: 1849, 1:10,560

3.4.5 **Ordnance Survey 1893, 1:2500**: shows the farmstead in more detail than the previous map and demonstrates that several new buildings have been constructed in the intervening period (Plate 5). The farmhouse has a projection extending from its western side and its depth might indicate a building of double pile construction. In contrast, the cottages to the north are narrower in proportion, but there may be an extension to the northern end. The structure fronting the road remains, as does the barn to its west, although the latter now appears to have a small projection attached to its western elevation and a small enclosure appended to its northern side. A new square building has been erected in close proximity to the south-western corner of the barn and to the south-west of this a large rectangular structure has been built on an east/west-alignment. This building appears to be open-sided to the north. Notably a square structure has been built in the orchard to the west of the cottages and a boundary wall now divides this building and the cottages from the remainder of the

farmstead. The presence of an OS benchmark is also denoted, although its exact location is difficult to determine.

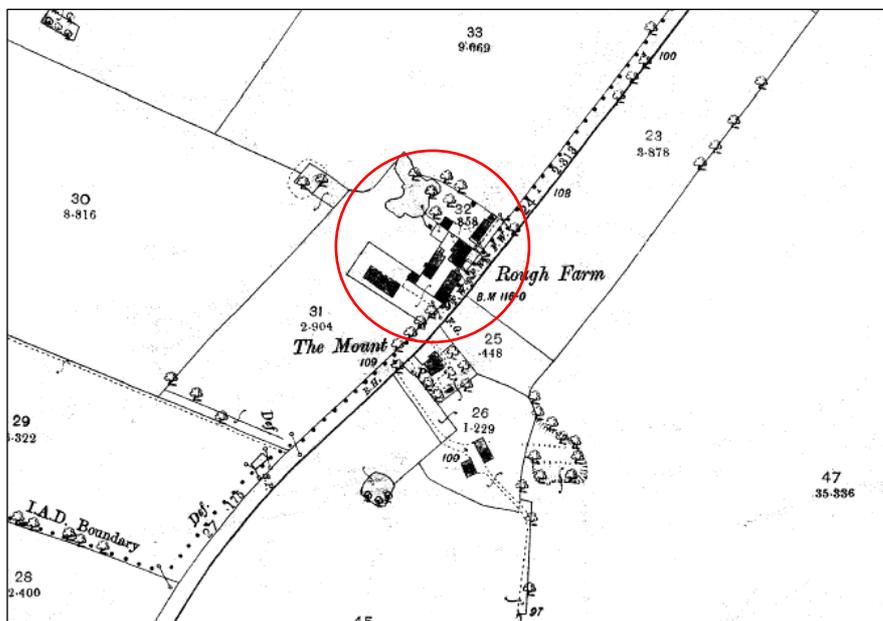


Plate 5: Lancashire CIX.1, 1893 1:2500

3.4.6 **Ordnance Survey 1907, 1:2500:** The 1907 OS map provides further detail regarding the existing structures and reveals several new ones (Plate 6). An elongated rectangular structure has been added to the western side of the farmhouse and it is now possible to see a row of what are probably pigsties beyond to the west. The orchard is no longer visible, but the small square structure within it remains and now has an extension to its south beneath a glazed roof. The barn has now had a small extension appended to the northern end of its west side and the large open-sided barn is now depicted as open to all sides, suggesting a Dutch-style barn used for the storage of hay and straw. The pond at the western end of the orchard has been much reduced in size.

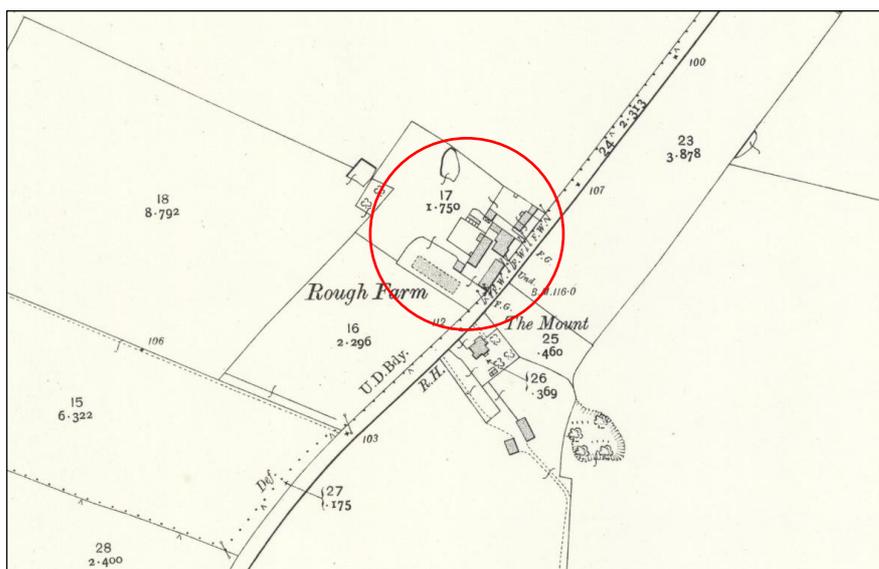


Plate 6: Lancashire CIX.1 Revised: 1906, Published: 1907, 1:2500

- 3.4.7 **Ordnance Survey 1926, 1:2500 and later:** probably shows the farm at its greatest extent, with additions to the existing building ranges, newly constructed buildings and changes to the arrangement of the enclosed yards (Plate 7). The square structure to the west of the cottages is now shown with a small extension to its northern side and there are clear internal divisions depicted at both the northern end of the barn and the eastern end of the Dutch-style barn. Furthermore, an entirely new building has been erected to the west of the barn. This small rectangular building was built upon a north/south-alignment, is shown with an extension to its southern end and forms the western side of a small yard to the south of the pigsties and west of the barn. To the south, the enclosure in which the Dutch barn sits has been extended to the west. It is also notable that the location of the OS benchmark can clearly be identified on this map at the south-eastern corner of the barn fronting the road.
- 3.4.8 Although the detail is less specific most of the major building survived until at least 1955, but the building fronting the road to the south-east of the Farmhouse was demolished before 1966, perhaps to accommodate a road widening scheme following the construction of junction 22 of the M6.

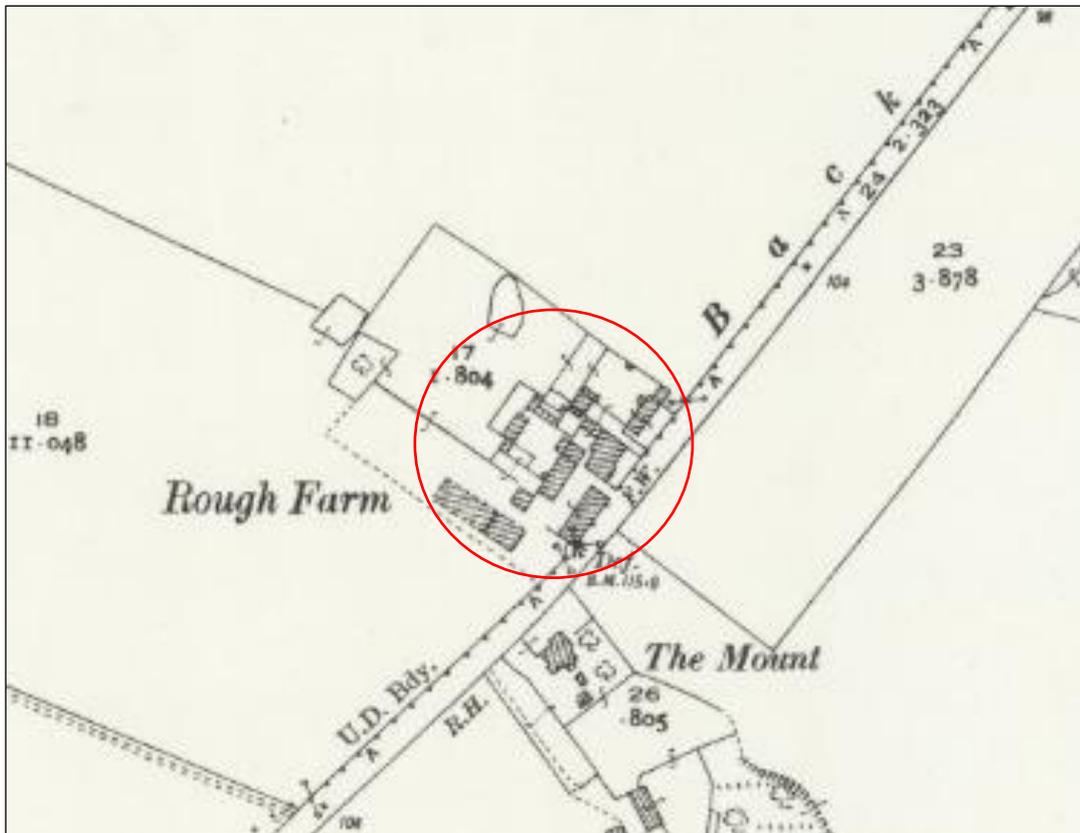


Plate 7: Lancashire CIX.1 Revised: 1926, Published: 1928

## 4 DESCRIPTIONS (BARN)

### 4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 In the following sections, the external elevations of the Barn are described first, followed by the interior elements. This is followed by descriptions of the house and outbuilding in the same format. The descriptions should be read in conjunction with the accompanying drawings (Figs 2-8). To simplify description, the orientation of the building has been abbreviated to north/south, although its true alignment is closer to north-east/south-west.

### 4.2 Exterior

4.2.1 The Barn was a rectangular building, two storeys in height, with a single-storey brick built lean-to adjoining its northern elevation and an open-sided timber lean-to appended to the southern end of its western elevation (Plates 8 and 9). It was a brick-built structure beneath a gabled slate roof but several of the openings incorporated sandstone surrounds. Its principal elevation lay to the east, where a series of pedestrian entrances lay to the south of a large double-height cart entrance occupying the northern end.



*Plate 8: Exterior of Barn, facing north-west, note rebuilding of south-eastern corner*



*Plate 9: Western elevation of Barn, facing south-east*

4.2.2 **Eastern elevation:** was constructed from hand-made red brick laid in a lime mortar with areas of repointing in cementitious mortar (Plate 10). It had a double height entrance at the northern end beneath a three-centred brick arch, although the upper arch had been later infilled in brick upon the conversion of the opening to accommodate a sliding timber door with a horizontal steel lintel (Plate 11). The mounting points for the original doors were indicated by the presence of iron pintle hinges set into three sandstone blocks arranged at regular intervals upon each jamb (Plate 12). The jambs were recessed to receive the doors and a square notch cut into the lowest sandstone block to affix the threshold during threshing. The same block carried an OS benchmark on its external face.



*Plate 10: Eastern elevation, facing west*



*Plate 11: Double height entrance at northern end of eastern elevation, facing west, with 1m scale*



*Plate 12: Pintle hinge, with threshold notch to left and OS bench mark to right, facing west*

- 4.2.3 A pedestrian width entrance with a cambered arch occupied a position at the centre of the elevation (Plate 13). It had a timber door of vertical planks with a rectangular window in its upper half and an overlight above. A two-light timber window lay to the north of this door under a wooden lintel and to the north of this again lay the infilled

remnants of a second window, denoted by a vertical joint and a change in the character of the brickwork (Plate 11).



*Plate 13: Pedestrian entrance at centre of eastern elevation, facing west with 1m scale*

- 4.2.4 To the south of centre lay a third doorway, slightly wider than the last and set beneath a horizontal, tapered sandstone lintel (Plate 14). The northern jamb featured a sandstone block at the top and bottom, again to receive the pintle hinges upon which the timber door was mounted. A third block on the opposing jamb was presumably located to receive an attachment point for a latch of some kind. The present door was evidently a replacement and a horizontal iron rail affixed to the lintel indicated the former presence of an earlier sliding door which would itself have been a replacement.



*Plate 14: Southern entrance on eastern elevation, facing west with 1m scale*

- 4.2.5 At the southern end of the elevation there lay a window with a central mullion dividing a pair of four-light, sliding sashes over a projecting sill (Plate 15).

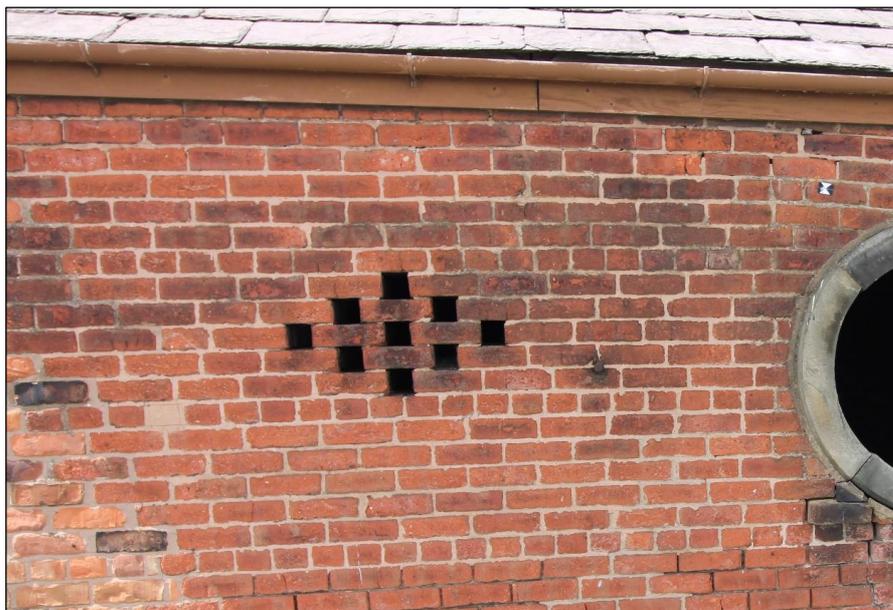


*Plate 15: Sliding sash window at southern end of eastern elevation, facing west with 0.5m scale*

- 4.2.6 At first floor height there was a rectangular pitching hole to the north of centre with a timber frame, and to the south a circular opening framed in sandstone surrounds (Plate 16). A ventilation loop lay to the north of the former and south of the latter opening, both formed during construction of the wall by omitting headers to create a diamond pattern (Plate 17). There was evidence at the south-eastern corner of the building to suggest this corner of the structure had been extensively rebuilt (Plate 8).



*Plate 16: First floor apertures on eastern elevation, facing north-west*



*Plate 17: Diamond pattern ventilation loop at southern end of eastern elevation, facing west*

*Southern elevation:*

- 4.2.7 The southern gable elevation featured a single, ground floor, horizontal sliding sash window of four lights at its eastern end (Plate 18). It was topped by a tapered sandstone lintel and incorporated a projecting sandstone sill. The jambs employed bull-nosed bricks, the western of which was separating from the wall. The southern western corner of the elevation also showed signs of progressive structural failure and the lower third of the wall preserved a series of stain lines indicating the probable location of a midden or gravel heap (Plate 19). Power entered the building at the apex of this elevation via an overhead cable.



*Plate 18: Horizontal sliding sash window at eastern end of the southern gable*



*Plate 19: Southern gable elevation, facing north*

*Western Elevation:*

4.2.8 The western elevation (Plate 20) had a double-width entrance at the northern end, opposing that on the eastern elevation (Plate 21). It too had brick-recessed jambs and externally-mounted pintle hinges set into sandstone blocks, but unlike the eastern example, it did not extend to double height and had a horizontal timber lintel above. The entrance had been infilled with handmade red brick and a vertically-arranged rectangular window inserted into its northern end. This window had a timber frame supporting a single large pane of glass.



*Plate 20: Western elevation, facing east*



*Plate 21: Blocked double width entrance on western elevation, facing east with 1m scale*

- 4.2.9 A window of similar character but slightly larger dimensions occupied a position at the centre of the elevation and was, to judge by the form of its brick jambs, a later insert into the existing wall (Plate 22). A third single pane window with timber surrounds had been crudely inserted into the wall to the south of centre (Plate 23). A partially blocked aperture immediately above suggested that this window may have been adapted from an earlier opening with a timber lintel into what may have been an existing opening.



*Plate 22: Inserted window at centre of western elevation, facing east with 0.5m scale*



*Plate 23: Crudely inserted window towards southern end of western elevation, facing east with 0.5m scale*

4.2.10 At first floor height there were three more diamond-pattern ventilation loops distributed at intervals across the southern half of the elevation and to the north of centre a fixed-frame window with timber surrounds incorporating a ventilator above and projecting brick sill beneath (Plate 24). The character of this opening's brick surrounds demonstrated that this window was a later insertion.



*Plate 24: Inserted first-floor window on western elevation, with ventilation loop to right, facing east*

4.2.11 A series of vertical timber brackets affixed to the wall beneath the eaves line denoted the former position of the gutter, with a cast-iron downpipe surviving at the southern corner. As was noted on the southern gable mineral staining at the northern end of this elevation suggested the build-up of a midden heap either on this elevation or the reverse of the same wall.

4.2.12 At the southern end an open-sided lean-to had been erected in reused timber to project in a westerly direction from the elevation (Plate 25). It had a corrugated iron roof and was internally subdivided by a central half-height partition.



*Plate 25: Lean-to structure at southern end of western elevation, facing north-east*

### *Northern elevation*

4.2.13 The lower half of the northern elevation had been obscured by the erection of a single-storey brick-built lean-to and the only externally visible feature of interest was a small square date stone that was set into the wall just beneath the apex (Plate 26). The stone was incised with the date 1843 below the initials BM (Plate 27). Just beneath eaves height at the north-western corner of the elevation there appear to be an external light fitting, partially detached from the wall. Behind it several bricks had been displaced and lay scattered across the floor beneath (Plate 26).



*Plate 26: Northern elevation, facing south*



*Plate 27: Date stone at apex of northern elevation*

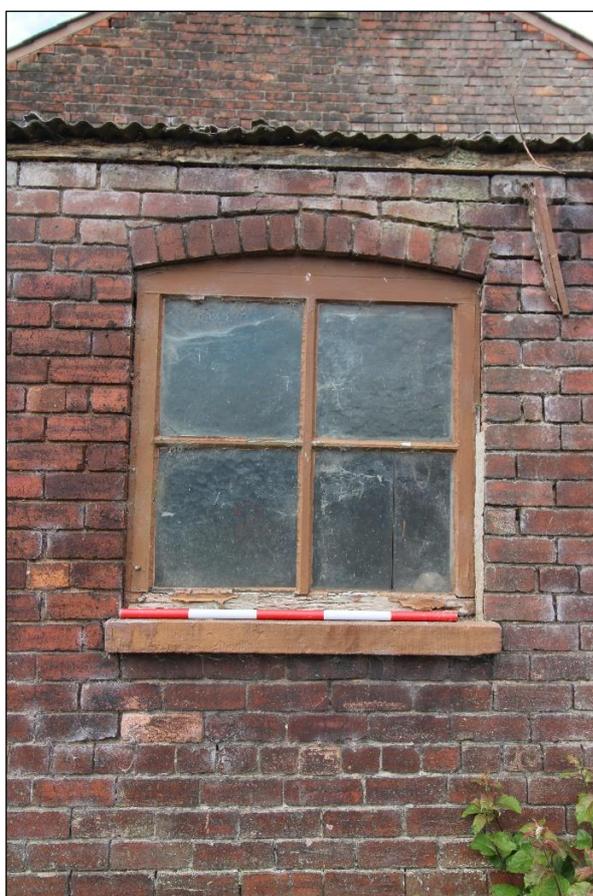
### **4.3 Northern Extension Exterior**

4.3.1 The northern extension was constructed from machine-made brick of between 5-6 stretcher courses to each course of headers and had a single pitch roof with a covering

of corrugated iron (Plate 28). The building's only window lay upon the northern elevation, positioned to the east of centre, it was of four lights set within a fixed timber frame with a cambered brick arch above and a projecting stone sill beneath (Plate 29). A cast-iron downpipe was attached to the eastern end of this wall but the gutter had been lost, leaving only the timber battens in place.



*Plate 28: Northern extension, facing south-west*



*Plate 29: Four-light fixed-frame window at centre of elevation, facing south with 1m scale*

4.3.2 The western elevation had a door at each end, both topped by a cambered brick arch and provided with timber surrounds and a vertical plank and batten door mounted upon pintle hinges (Plate 30). The tops of the planks in the northern door were rounded to leave ventilation between the planks and there was a stone step at the foot of the opening. A chamfered timber block was attached to the wall immediately to the south of the opening at head height, probably an attachment point for an external light. The southern entrance was slightly lower, its arch constructed of a double row of headers, and the threshold was lower to ease the entry of livestock. Between the two doors there lay a small rectangular aperture, set just above the ground with a stone sill and timber surrounds (Plate 31). The opening had been bricked up but almost certainly once provided a hatch for the removal of night soils. A barge board was attached to the head of the wall beneath the roof.



*Plate 30: Western elevation, facing east with 1m scale*



*Plate 31: Blocked aperture at base of wall, with 1m scale*

4.3.3 The eastern elevation had no openings, but its north-eastern corner carried a radius to protect it from the passage of livestock (Plate 28). Unlike the opposing elevation, the original barge board had been removed and a later covering applied associated with the replacement of the roof. A diagonal stain across the brick work however denoted its former position.

#### 4.4 Interior

4.4.1 The ground floor of the Barn was sub-divided into four distinct spaces, with a solid brick wall defining a stable at the southern end and a timber partition dividing a narrower central cell from a slightly larger multi-functional northern cell (Fig 2). The fourth room occupied the footprint of the northern extension, with the barn's original northern wall partially removed to connect it to the adjoining space.

4.4.2 The southern cell was entered from the east and had exposed brick walls coated in limewash and a modern concrete floor that preserved a cobbled drain running longitudinally across its centre (Plate 32). A low timber partition projected at right angles from the western wall, terminating at a substantial, vertical post that rose to the underside of the southernmost first-floor joist. A row of timber panelling had been attached to the southern wall to mirror this partition and protect the wall from rub. There may once have been a second partition beneath the northern floor joist but the replacement of the floor in concrete obscured any conclusive evidence for it.



*Plate 32: Interior of the southernmost cell, facing west with 1m scale*

4.4.3 On the eastern wall a row of timber pegs projected from a horizontal plank mounted upon the wall at head height, probably associated with the storage of tack equipment (Plate 33). On the northern partition wall, a wide doorway to the east of centre internally connected the Stable to the central cell. Immediately to the east of this doorway a series of foot holes had been cut into a vertical plank attached to the wall to serve as a basic ladder. The replacement of the floorboards above had removed the floor hatch and the upper three-quarters of the ladder appeared to have been truncated at this time. At the western end of the northern wall a diagonal scar and truncated timber beam were all that remained of the hayrack that had once spanned the western wall (Plate 34).



*Plate 33: Southern cell, facing north-east with 1m scale. Note the timber pegs to right and ladder to left*



*Plate 34: Diagonal scar on the northern wall denoting former position of Hayrack, facing north with 1m scale*

4.4.4 The central cell had an external entrance to the east and was lit by a window on the same wall and two more on the western wall (Plate 35). The concrete wall and drain continued across this floor in the same character, although it incorporated a low, raised platform in the north-eastern corner. Three of the four walls were of lime washed, exposed brick with the fourth constructed in vertical timber planks and featured a low doorway at the eastern end fitted with a door of regular softwood vertical planks (Plate 36).



*Plate 35: Central Cell, facing east*



*Plate 36: Northern partition, constructed in vertical timber boards, facing north with low door to right of frame*

- 4.4.5 The ceiling was divided in two by a lateral central joist and was supported at its centre by a modern softwood post. A second post was attached to the western wall and, although no partition survived, there was some evidence from the face of this post and the underside of the beam to suggest there had once been one. In addition, the continuation of the longitudinal drain into this cell would support such a hypothesis.
- 4.4.6 The walls of the northern cell did not appear to have been lime-washed but a concrete render had been applied to the lower third of the north-western corner (Plate 37). The floor had been laid in stone slabs to create a durable, hardwearing surface and based on the height of the original eastern entrance a first floor had been inserted into what had previously been a room open to the roof.



*Plate 37: Interior of northern cell, facing west*

4.4.7 A timber ladder attached to the western end of the room's southern partition ascended to the first floor through a hatch in the floor, but a timber trimmer to its north-east indicated the former presence of another floor hatch since sealed by the replacement of the floorboards (Plates 38 and 39). The only external entry to the northern cell lay to the east through the double height doorway but, following the infilling of the opposing doorway, additional light had been provided with the incorporation of the rectangular window identified externally (*Section 4.2.8*).



*Plate 38: Ladder in south-western corner of northern cell, facing south-west with 0.5m scale*



*Plate 39: Interior of northern cell, facing south-east. Note the trimmer in the ceiling to right of frame indicating the position of a former floor hatch*

- 4.4.8 At its northern end a large aperture had been cut through the centre of the wall and a substantial timber lintel installed to support the wall above (Plate 40). The jambs of the opening had been rendered in concrete. This opening connected the northern cell of the original barn with the interior of the northern extension.



*Plate 40: Interior of the northern extension, facing south with 1m scale*

- 4.4.9 The interior of the northern extension was an elongated rectangular space with an external entry point to the west and a window on the northern wall to the east of centre (Plate 41). The exposed brick walls showed no evidence of having been lime-washed or rendered and the floor formed a single concrete slab. The exposed roof was supported upon three timber purlins that spanned the full width of the structure.



*Plate 41: Interior of northern extension, facing north-west*

4.4.10 The north-western corner of the room had been partitioned off to form a small brick cell with independent entry from the exterior (Plate 42). The shared character of the bricks and relationship between the wall junctions indicated that the partition was contemporary with the northern extension.



*Plate 42: Internal view of small brick cell in north-western corner of northern extension*

## 4.5 First Floor

4.5.1 The first floor of the barn was divided into a larger northern cell and a smaller southern cell by the continuation of the brick partition described on the ground floor (Fig 3). A doorway at the centre of this partition connected the two cells together and neither cell showed any evidence for the application of a render or lime wash. The southern cell was lit by the oculus window and a diamond vent to the east and by two more diamond ventilation loops to the west but otherwise revealed no additional features of interest (Plate 43).



*Plate 43: First floor of southern cell, facing west*

- 4.5.2 The northern cell had a rectangular window and a diamond ventilation loop to the east, with a further ventilation loop at the southern end of the western wall and a larger rectangular window to its north (Plate 44). It was similarly scant of detail, but at the northern end of the western wall there lay a steel electrical box which distributed power to the remainder of the building.



*Plate 44: First floor, northern cell, facing south-east*

## 4.6 Roof Structure

- 4.6.1 The roof was divided into three roughly equal bays with intermediary support provided by the brick partition wall at the southern end and a king-post truss at the northern end resting upon a pair of engaged brick piers (Plate 44). An iron bolt threaded through the underside of the tie beam secured it to the king-post, but the remainder of the truss appeared to be jointed using traditional carpentry techniques. The purlins were supported upon the backs of the principal rafters with the common rafters resting in turn upon the upper face of each purlin. The common rafters may have been replaced and a weatherproof membrane had been laid beneath the slates.

## 5 DESCRIPTIONS (COTTAGE)

### 5.1 Exterior

5.1.1 The Cottage was a two storey, rectangular building predominantly of brick construction but with a textured cement render applied to all four elevations and over the alternating quoins at each corner (Plate 45, Fig 7). It had a gable roof with a covering of ceramic tiles, a single-storey modern extension projecting from the northern end of the western elevation and a modern conservatory attached to the southern end of the same elevation. A single axial chimney projected from the roof.



*Plate 45: Rough Cottage, facing north-west*

#### *Eastern elevation*

5.1.2 The principal elevation lay to the east and was divided into four equal bays, with a modern porch under a tile roof enclosing the buildings main entrance within the penultimate southern bay of the ground floor (Plate 46). The remaining three bays of the ground floor displayed large rectangular windows fitted with uPVC double glazed units, all of identical character. Each window was fitted with a top-mounted steel shutter. Only at the base of the elevation was there any evidence to hint at an earlier origin where render had been omitted from the lower portions to leave three courses of red brick coated in black paint (Plate 47). At the base of the north-eastern corner the quoins were also exposed to reveal their stone construction



*Plate 46: Eastern elevation, facing north-west*



*Plate 47: Exposed brickwork at the base of the north-eastern corner, facing south-west*

### *Southern elevation*

5.1.3 This exposed brick course continued around on to the southern gable elevation unbroken and had no openings of any kind or other features of potential historic interest save for its timber barge boards beneath the eaves (Plate 48).



*Plate 48: Southern elevation, facing north*

#### *Western elevation*

5.1.4 The ground floor of the western elevation was encumbered by the later single storey extension to the north and conservatory to the south, leaving only a pair of modern uPVC patio doors exposed between the two (Plate 49). At first-floor level there was a large modern window occupying the centre of the southern half of the elevation, another slightly smaller unit to the north of centre and a narrow uPVC window to the north of this. A plastic gutter ran across the head of the elevation mounted upon a timber fascia.



*Plate 49: Western elevation, facing east*

### *Northern elevation*

- 5.1.5 The lower portion of the northern gable was obscured by a modern extension and vegetation which restricted direct access, but it was possible to identify a soil stack extending vertically up the centre of the wall and a plastic downpipe at the eastern corner. On the ground floor to the west of the soil stack there lay a large modern uPVC window, with another immediately above it on the first floor.

## **5.2 Interior**

### *Ground floor*

- 5.2.1 Internally, the building was divided into three cells, with a larger reception room at the centre, a living room to the south and a kitchen to the north (Fig 5).
- 5.2.2 The principal entry from the east led into a small lobby entrance, with the stairs leading to the first floor to the west, a doorway into the living room to the south and another to the north leading into the dining room. The living room was a large rectangular space lit by a window on the eastern wall and with a set of double uPVC doors to the west opening into the modern conservatory beyond (Plate 50). A stone-clad chimney breast projected from the centre of the southern wall flanked to the east and west by a low shelf or bench clad beneath in the same stone. The ceiling and walls had all received modern finishes, with a faux waney-edge timber beam projecting longitudinally from the centre of the ceiling. To the west of this beam the ceiling was slightly higher, and an inspection hole revealed its lathe and plaster construction perhaps indicating the presence of a false ceiling to the east (Plate 51). A moulded coving had been latterly applied to the junction of the wall and ceiling, with a skirting board, possibly of greater antiquity, attached to the base of the wall. The floor was covered in a modern laminate.

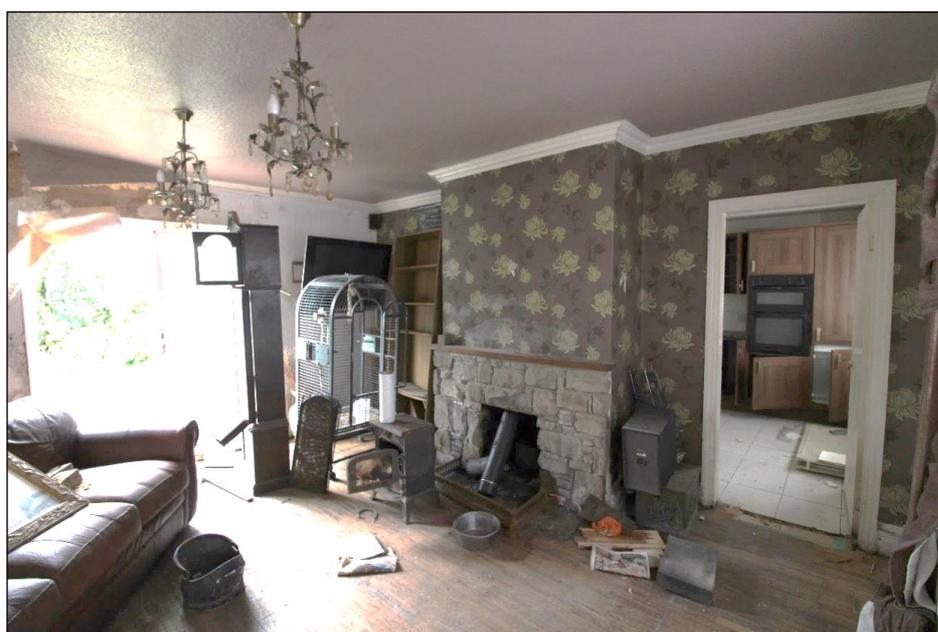


*Plate 50: Living room, facing south-west*



*Plate 51: Lathe and plaster revealed in inspection hole to west of ceiling beam*

5.2.3 To the north of the entrance lobby the reception room was slightly larger than the last room but was decorated in a similar manner and where wallpaper had been removed modern plaster finishes were revealed. It had a projecting chimney breast to the centre of the northern wall, the lower third clad in stone, and a set of double uPVC doors on the western wall (Plate 52). A doorway in the south-western corner beneath the main staircase led down into the basement (Plate 53). The door itself was of plank and batten construction and perhaps one of the few original fittings identified within the house. As with the living room the cornice was likely a later addition, but the skirting board may have been original and in this room the moulded door architraves may also have survived from the nineteenth century. A doorway to the east of the chimney breast led into the kitchen.



*Plate 52: Reception room, facing north-west*



*Plate 53: Plank and batten door to cellar, facing south-east*

5.2.4 The kitchen was an elongated rectangular room lit by windows to the north and east and with a door at the southern end of the western wall leading into a modern extension (Plate 54). A chimney breast projected from the centre of the southern wall. No historic elements were noted save for the presence of a lathe and plaster ceiling, exposed behind a modern plaster finish during the asbestos survey inspection.



*Plate 54: Kitchen, facing west*

5.2.5 The remaining rooms on the ground floor, including the utility room, porch and conservatory to the west, were constructed of modern concrete blockwork and were of no historic interest.

## *First Floor*

5.2.6 At the top of the staircase a corridor extended north along the western side of the house with an entrance into the master bedroom to the south and access to the remaining rooms to the north (Plate 55). The corridor was illuminated by a large window on its western side and had modern finishes throughout.



*Plate 55: First floor corridor, facing south*

5.2.7 The master bedroom was illuminated by windows on the eastern and western walls and had a set of built in cupboards set against the eastern half of its northern wall. There appeared to be a second chimney breast located against the centre of the southern wall, with an arch-topped alcove on either side (Plate 56). Modern finishes had been applied to the walls and ceiling, although again an inspection hole had revealed lathe and plaster construction behind the textured ceiling finish. The coving was also modern, but the door architrave and skirting boards may have been of nineteenth century date. The floor was covered in laminate, with floorboards beneath.



*Plate 56: Master Bedroom, facing south-west*

5.2.8 Bedroom two was accessed via a doorway part way along the western corridor and was a large square room lit by a window on its eastern wall (Plate 57). It had a modern built-in cupboard on its southern wall and a blocked projecting chimney breast on its northern wall. The ceiling had been lowered with the application of modern plasterboard sheeting on to a secondary row of battens attached to the original ceiling and the skirting board may have been original, but all other finishes were modern in character.



*Plate 57: Bedroom Two, facing north-east*

5.2.9 At its northern end the corridor turned to the east, where it was lit from its western wall by a narrow window. A doorway on the opposing wall opened into bedroom three, the smallest of the bedrooms and illuminated by a large window to the east. The only feature of note was a projecting chimney breast on the southern wall that continued into the corridor and had been intersected by the bedroom's western wall, which was probably a later stud partition (Plate 58). All other wall, floor and ceiling finishes were modern.



*Plate 58: Bedroom Three, facing south*

5.2.10 The bathroom lay to the west of bedroom three and was a small room entered from the south and with a window in the opposing wall (Plate 59). Its southern and eastern walls were modern stud partitions, reflecting the later insertion of the room to create an internal bathroom and all visible finishes were modern.



*Plate 59: Bathroom, facing north*

### 5.3 Roof Structure

- 5.3.1 A hatch in the corridor ceiling outside the bathroom provided the only access to the roof space and the insertion of a remotely operated camera revealed only limited information as to its construction (Plate 60). It was evident that the roof structure used machine-cut softwood and likely consisted of pairs of purlins spanning between the gable ends and intermediary brick-built partition walls. The common rafters were nailed to the backs of the purlins and tiles attached to these in turn.



*Plate 60: Limited view in the roof space, facing north*

## 5.4 Outbuilding

5.4.1 The Outbuilding lay to the west of the Cottage and north-west of the Barn and was a small single storey structure with a shallow pitch gabled slate roof (Plate 61). Originally a rectangular building, modern extensions to the south and west had obscured its original plan form. Its eastern elevation had a central door covered by a shallow open side porch and fixed-frame timber windows to the north and south.



*Plate 61: Outbuilding, facing west*

5.4.2 Internally, there was little to indicate its original character with modern finishes to the ceiling and the majority of the walls clad in modern plywood sheeting (Plate 62). The floor had a covering of modern ceramic tiling with a narrow, covered drain running east/west along its centre. A second doorway at the centre of the western wall led into a modern extension, but an examination of the jambs indicated that this opening was not original and had been cut through perhaps contemporary with the construction of the extension. The exposure of these jambs however did allow an inspection of the brick used in the building's construction which was elsewhere hidden by render, and they appeared to be of late nineteenth century date (Plate 63).



*Plate 62: Interior of Outbuilding, facing south-east*



*Plate 63: Western doorway, showing brick jambs in cross-section, facing north-west*

## 6 WATCHING BRIEF

### 6.1 Results

- 6.1.1 Following the demolition of the upstanding structures of the Barn and the Cottage, the lifting of the ground floor slabs of the buildings was monitored under archaeological conditions (Fig 9). This work was undertaken over the course of three days, two during the lifting of the ground floor slab of Rough Cottage and one during the lifting of the ground floor slab of Rough Barn.
- 6.1.2 The only archaeological remains of note identified in either area were the remains of the cellar in the western part of Rough Cottage, which was inaccessible during the building recording (*Section 5.2.3*; Plate 53). The cellar was L-shaped in form, measuring approximately 5m long by 3m wide, constructed from handmade brick bonded with sandy lime mortar and coated in limewash. The northern wall of the cellar appeared to have a shallow slope to it, suggesting it was angled to provide additional support or retention to material behind it (Plate 64). There was evidence of later division within the cellar, with a vertical un-limewashed section of the southern wall.



*Plate 64: West-facing view of cellar, 1m scale*

- 6.1.3 There was no evidence of any earlier structural remains on the sites of either Rough Cottage or Rough Barn. Natural geology, of yellow sandy clay, was identified in both locations, overlain by a thin layer of made ground, approximately 0.2m thick, below the ground floor slabs of the structures (Plate 65 and 66).



*Plate 65: Location of Rough Cottage following its demolition and removal of ground floor slab, looking north-east*



*Plate 66: Location of Rough Barn following its demolition and removal of ground floor slab, looking south-west*

## 7 DISCUSSION

### 7.1 Introduction

7.1.1 The following section brings together the documentary and archaeological evidence presented within the preceding report to provide a discussion upon the origins of the buildings, placing them within their social context and, so far as is possible, suggesting a broad date for their construction. This is followed by an explanation of the original function of the various elements of the structures before outlining a basic sequence of historical development up to the present day. It concludes with an overview of the significance of the structures.

### 7.2 Origin

7.2.1 It is not clear from the evidence available exactly when Rough Farm was established, although the regular boundaries of the surrounding field pattern to which it conforms are likely to be a result of the eighteenth century reclamation of wastes, perhaps the result of drainage on the periphery of High Field Moss to the north. This was a period of agricultural prosperity, with landholdings being extensively reorganised, the enclosure of formerly common land and new farmsteads established across the region in an effort to boost profits and meet the demands of the growing urban populations.

7.2.2 There may have been buildings on the site of Rough Farm by the middle of the eighteenth century, but if so, they would likely have been of less robust construction, perhaps in timber and no physical trace remains of these structures. The documentary record demonstrates, however, that it was certainly there in some form by 1825. It was likely a mixed farm, consisting of a farmhouse and one or two outbuildings to meet the needs of the farmstead. It perhaps formed a linear plan aligned to the Winwick Road or a loose collection of structures around a small central yard. There may also have been a dwelling to the north on the site of Rough Cottage, although it is not clear if the two were directly associated at this point.

#### 7.2.3 Function

7.2.4 Both Rough Cottage and the Farmhouse were clearly residential in nature, providing lodging for the farmer, his family and often accommodating the dairy and other domestic functions. In some cases where space allowed seasonal farm labourers were also accommodated within the house or else were provided with their own basic sleeping arrangements. Given its proximity, it is not implausible that Rough Cottage was originally built to house farm labourers, although this cannot be substantiated in anyway.

7.2.5 The Barn was erected as a multi-function building, reflecting the mixed agricultural system that operated on the farm. The southern cell was clearly designed as a stable, with a wide entrance and probably space for three working animals divided by two partitions stalled with their heads to the western end. A hayrack and probably a trough were affixed to this wall and a central drain was provided to the rear of the stalls to allow clearance of the manure. The wooden hooks attached to the eastern wall would have served to store the tack and other accessories required and it is likely the original first floor was designed with hatches to ease the feeding of the horses.

- 7.2.6 The original function of the adjoining bay is less defined, and it is possible it also served as a stable, perhaps separating the draft animals in the southern bay from those for riding. The raised concrete platform in the north-eastern corner, the provision of additional lighting to the western wall and the aperture at the southern end of this same wall, possibly for the conveyance of motive power, all suggest that latterly this room was converted to serve a feed preparation or processing function.
- 7.2.7 The northern bay was used in part for the processing of harvested crop. During harvest the fully laden cart would have entered the barn from the west, where the additional lintel height was required, and left the building to the east through the lower double-width door following unloading. During the winter months it was common practice to thresh the crop to remove the seed and then separate the wheat from the lighter chaff using the through draft created by the opposing doors. The straw could then be stored on the mezzanine above the northern byre, where the air circulation provided by the ventilation loops kept it dry and fresh, ready for distribution throughout the year.

### 7.3 Development

- 7.3.1 The farm may never have been particularly large, but it appears that it was profitable enough to allow it to invest in the construction of new buildings throughout the nineteenth century. One of the largest of these investments appears to have been the multi-purpose brick barn to the south-west of the farmhouse. The date stone on the Barn does not necessarily date the structure, and the cartographic evidence demonstrates a building in this location in 1839. Its character is not, however, inconsistent with a mid-nineteenth century date and given there is no indication the date stone was inserted; a date of 1843 does not seem unreasonable. The identity of the initials BM on the date stone is not known, although we know that the Mason family occupied the farm as either owners or tenants from 1825 and a generation later the Marsh family were residence.
- 7.3.2 While there may have been a building on the site of Rough Cottage by the mid-eighteenth century, the date of the construction of the cottages cannot be confidently determined due the comprehensive nature of the alterations. During the survey no element of the structure could be dated to before the late nineteenth century and contrary to the suggestion in the heritage assessment that the building had once been two adjoining cottages, no physical evidence could be found to support this hypothesis. If there were once two cottages it is possible an earlier structure was replaced during the mid-nineteenth century with a single cottage.
- 7.3.3 By the last quarter of the nineteenth century, the farmyard was defined to the north by the Farmhouse, to the east by a barn fronting the road and the to the west by the multi-purpose barn. In addition, an open sided Dutch-style barn had been raised to the south, and the small ancillary structure had erected to the west of Rough Cottage.
- 7.3.4 The agricultural depression that took hold in the 1880s may have checked the farms development to some degree, and the squeeze in profits meant that existing buildings like the barn were modified, patched and repaired where necessary, while others probably fell into disrepair.

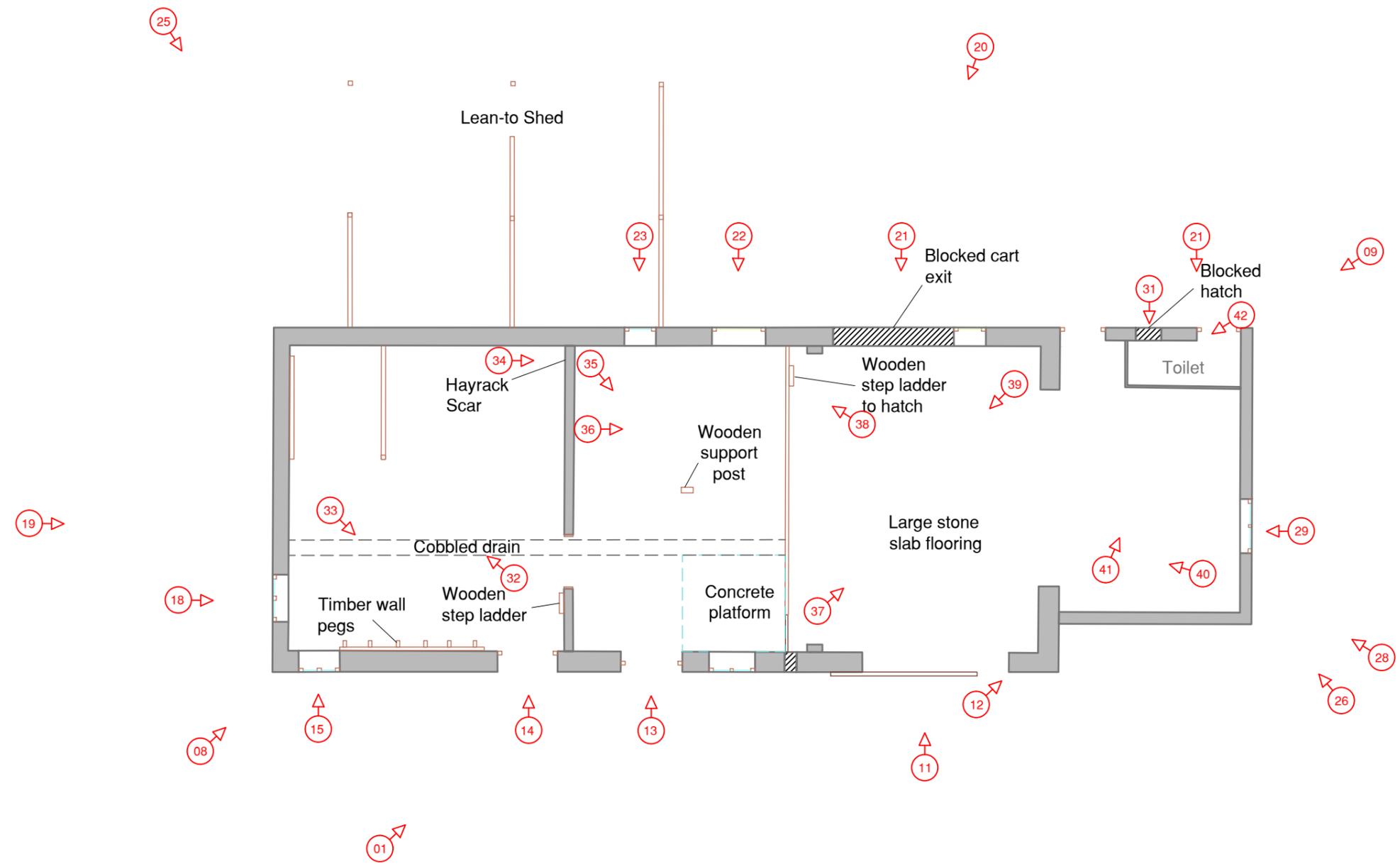
- 7.3.5 Despite this further structures followed before 1926 with the addition of a range of pigsties and a small rectangular building defining the northern and western limits of a western yard. Minor additions and a series of steel and brick sheds were added to the west before 1965 and the open-sided lean-to was appended to the southern end of the western elevation of the Barn during this period, but the earlier road side barn was demolished when Winwick Lane (now Waterworks Lane) was widened as part of the construction of the M6 in the mid 1950s.
- 7.3.6 By this date the mechanisation of the harvesting and processing of crop had reduced the need for labour and during the mid-twentieth century the tractor gradually superseded the horse as the prime motive force. These events are represented in modifications to the multi-purpose Barn, with the stables repurposed, the central cell modified to serve as a processing room with automated plant in one corner and the extension of the first floor across the northern bay. In addition, the western double width opening was no longer required and was bricked up. It is difficult to determine the date of the northern extension from cartographic evidence, although it is clearly identifiable from the 1965 OS maps. The character of its bricks, along with its surviving doors and windows would suggest a late nineteenth century date is most probable.
- 7.3.7 The Farmhouse was apparently demolished in 1997, and despite this relatively late date no description of the structure or images of the building have been identified during the present survey. The HER entry records a visit to the Farm in 1985 but despite briefly describing the Barn, oddly the Farmhouse itself does not seem to have warranted a description. From this same visit it is evident that Rough Cottages had already been extensively altered, although it does describe the building as a mid-eighteenth century cottage. The Cottage saw numerous extensions to the its west side during the early twenty-first century, probably as part of its conversion to a greyhound kennel and it may have been at this time that the small ancillary structure was altered.

## 7.4 Watching brief

- 7.4.1 The results of the watching brief following the demolition of Rough Cottage and the Barn did not reveal any evidence of any earlier structures. The only archaeological remains encountered were those of the cellar in the western part of Rough Cottage. The placement of this cellar and its size do suggest that Rough Cottage may in fact have been two cottages originally. The fabric of the cellar does lead to the suggestion of a mid- to late-eighteenth century date for its construction, due to the use of hand-made brick and sandy lime mortar, which corresponds fairly well with the historical research undertaken (*Section 7.2.2*) and also that it was likely contemporary with the construction of the cottage.



Figure 1: Site location

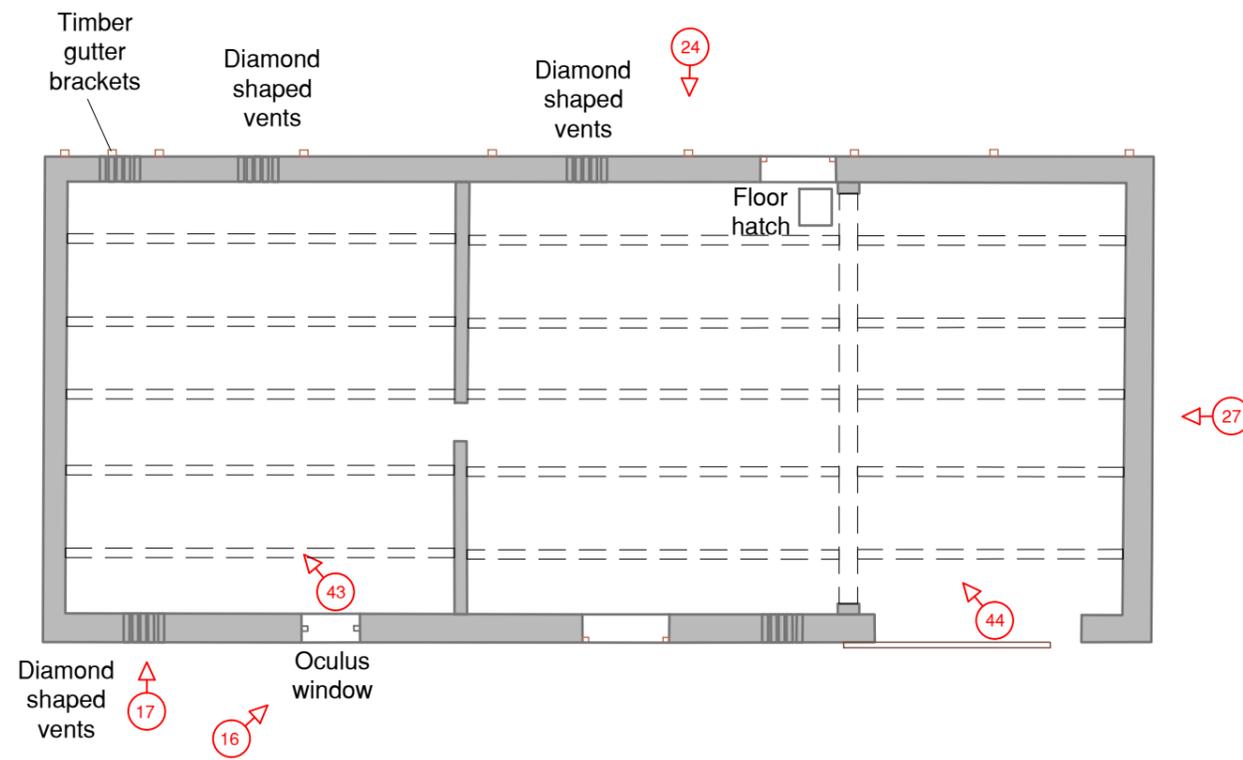


-  Wall
-  Photo location
-  Glazing
-  Concrete
-  Wood
-  Blocking

0 2.5 m  
1:100 @ A3



Figure 2: Rough Barn ground floor plan



- |   |                |   |          |
|---|----------------|---|----------|
|  | Wall           |  | Concrete |
|  | Photo location |  | Wood     |
|  | Glazing        |  | Blocking |

0 2.5 m  
1:100 @ A3



Figure 3: Rough Barn first floor plan

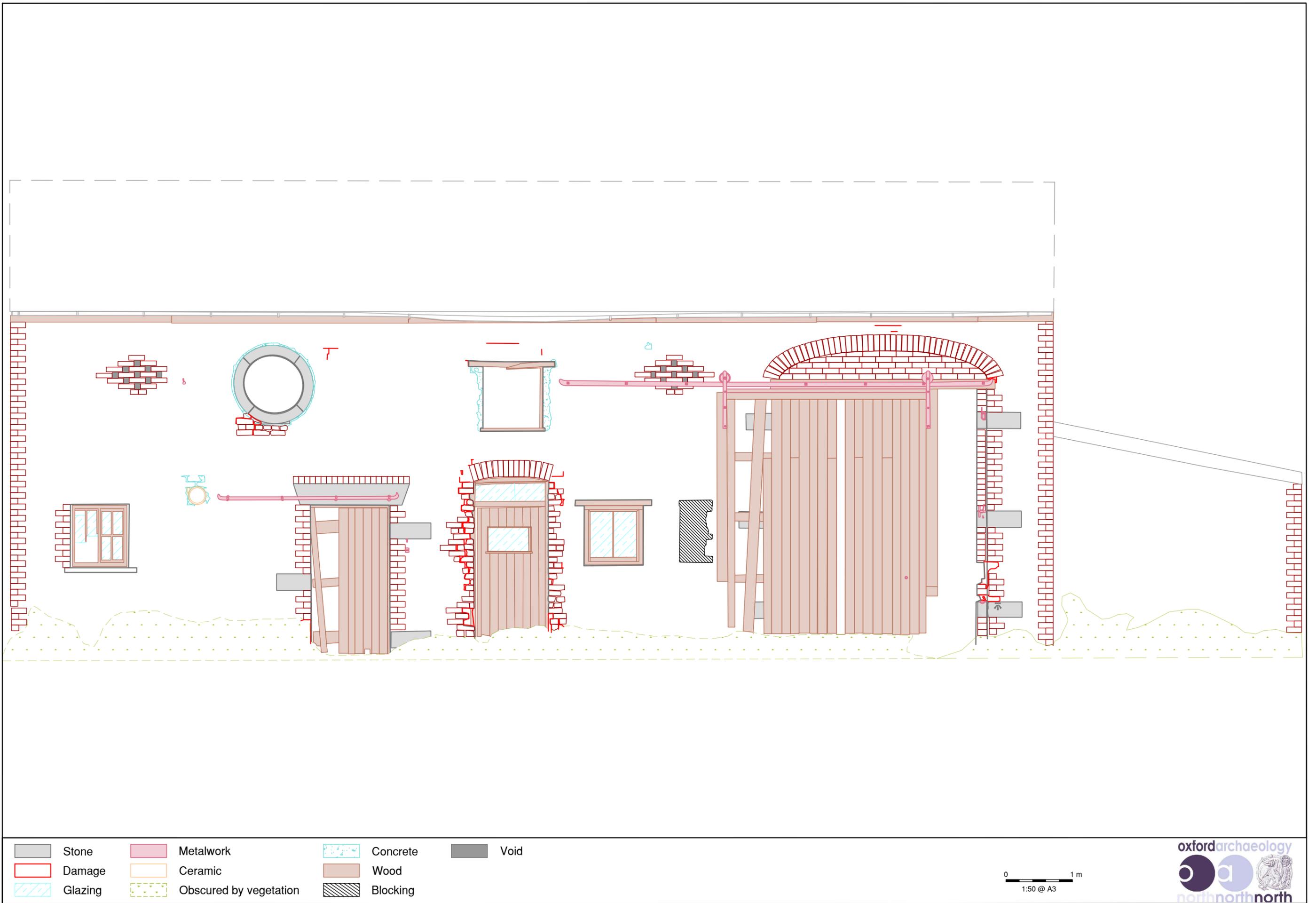
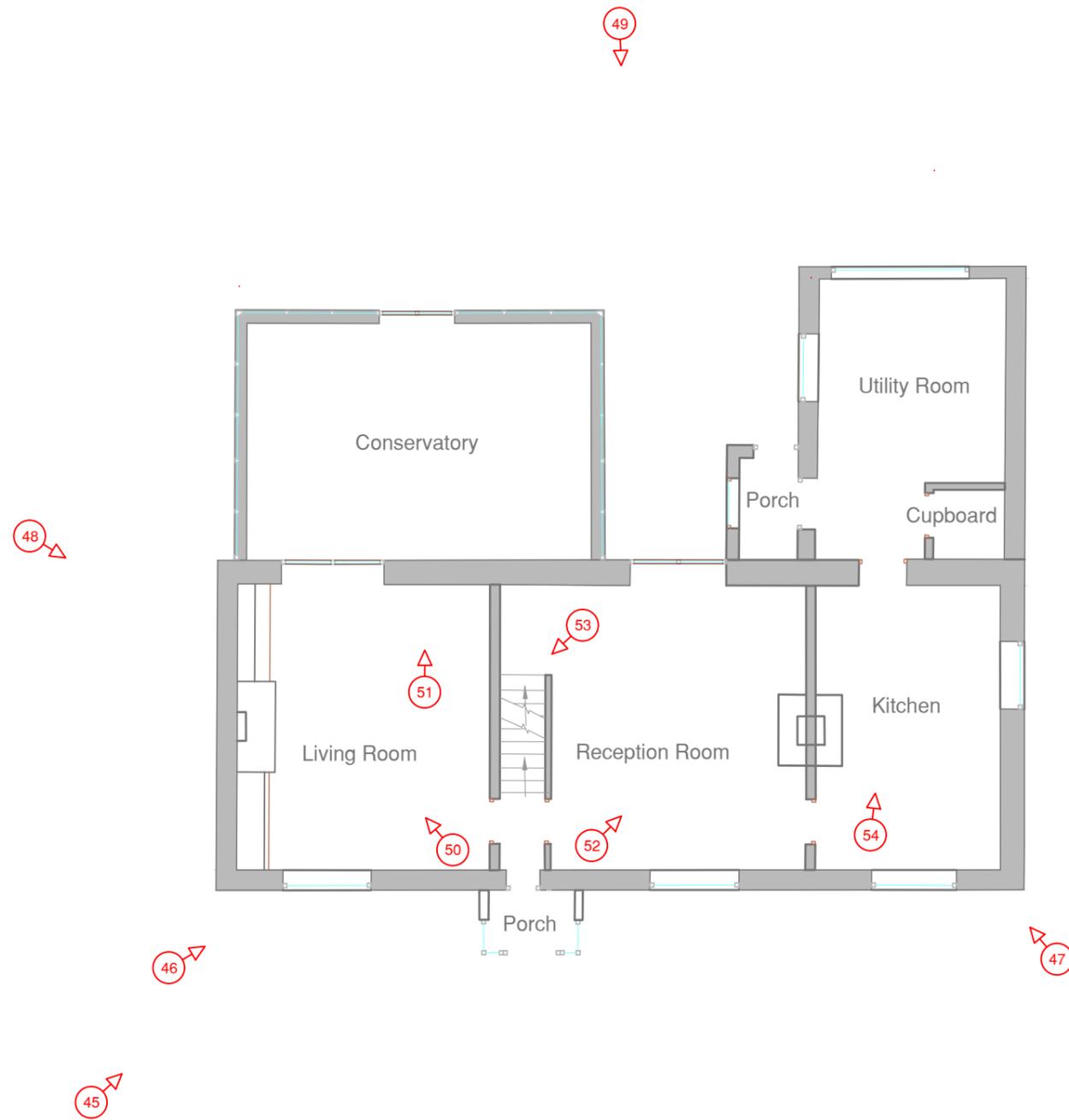


Figure 4: East-facing elevation of Rough Barn



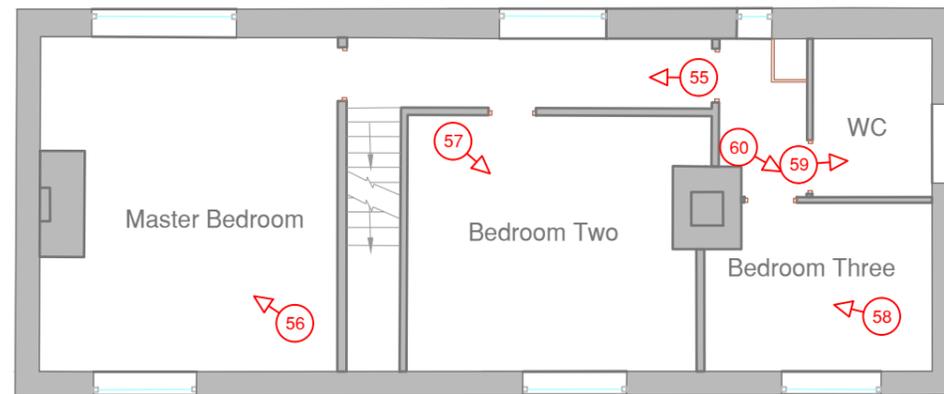
PD\*L11430\*AMS\*31012023

- |  |  |
|--|--|
|  Wall           |  Concrete |
|  Photo location |  Wood     |
|  Glazing        |  Blocking |

0 2.5 m  
1:100 @ A3



Figure 5: Rough Cottage ground floor plan



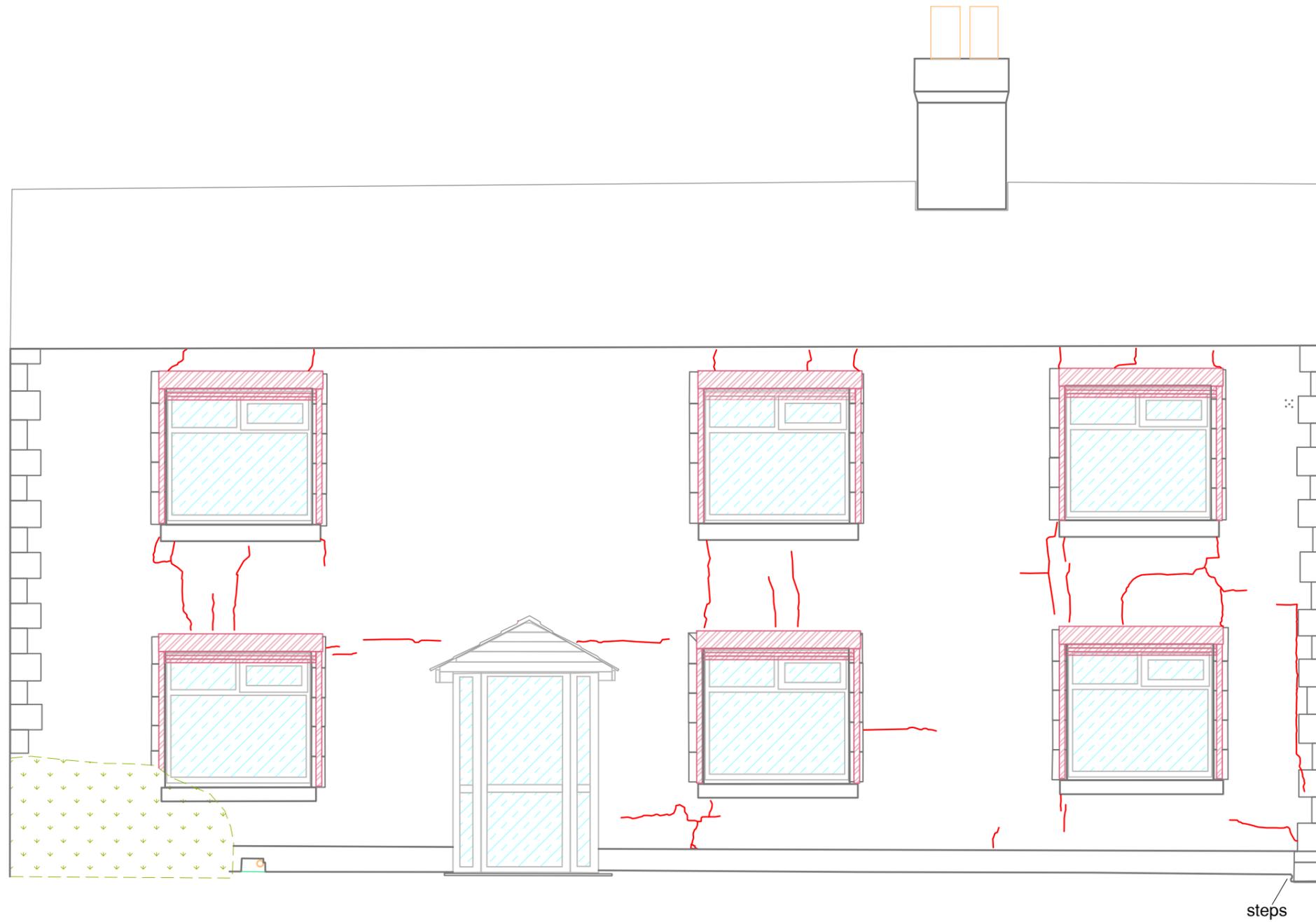
PD\*L11430\*AMS\*31012023

- |   |                |   |          |
|---|----------------|---|----------|
|  | Wall           |  | Concrete |
|  | Photo location |  | Wood     |
|  | Glazing        |  | Blocking |

0 2.5 m  
1:100 @ A3



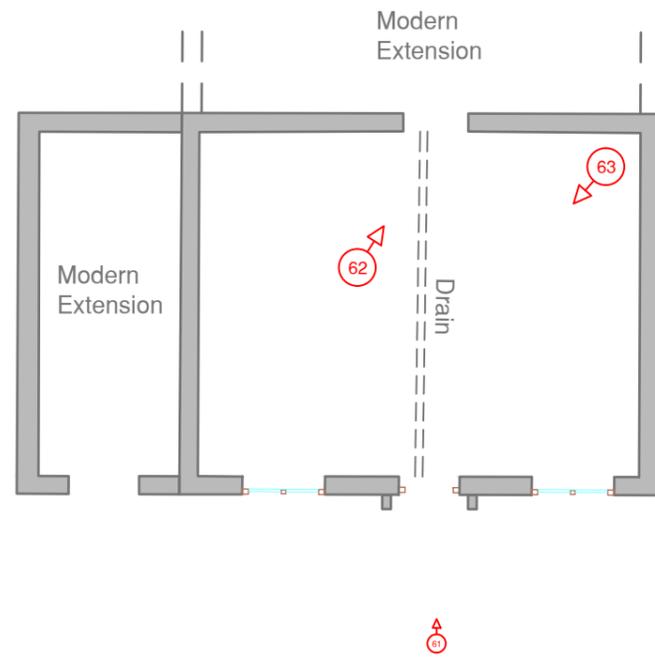
Figure 6: Rough Cottage first floor plan



- |  |                    |  |                        |
|--|--------------------|--|------------------------|
|  | Stone under render |  | Metal roller shutters  |
|  | Damage             |  | Ceramic                |
|  | UPVC Door/Windows  |  | Obscured by vegetation |

0 1 m  
1:50 @ A3

Figure 7: East-facing elevation of Rough Cottage



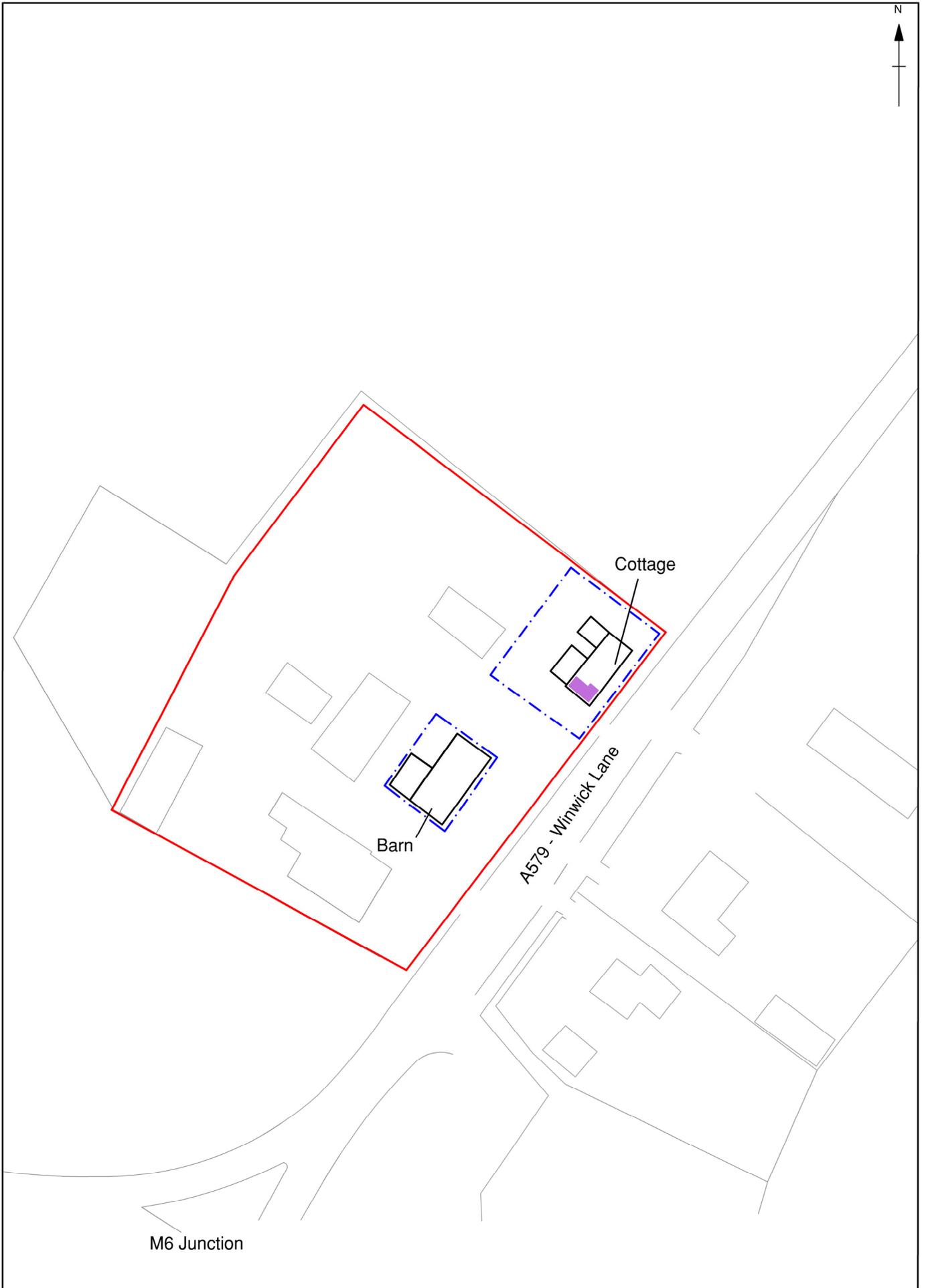
PD\*L11430\*AMS\*31012023

- |   |                |   |          |
|---|----------------|---|----------|
|  | Wall           |  | Concrete |
|  | Photo location |  | Wood     |
|  | Glazing        |  | Blocking |

0 2.5 m  
1:100 @ A3



Figure 8: Rough Cottage outbuilding plan



- Site Boundary
- Watching brief area
- Site of buildings
- Cellar

0  25 m  
1:1000 @ A4



PD\*L11430\*AMS\*31012023

Figure 9: Location of watching brief areas

## APPENDIX A      BIBLIOGRAPHY

### ***Cartographic Sources:***

John Speeds Map of Lancashire, 1610

Benjamin Yoxhall Estate Map of of Newton-in-Makerfield 1745

Yates, W, 1786 *A Map of the County of Lancashire*

Hennet, G 1830 *Map of the County Palatine of Lancaster*

Tithe Map of Newton in Makerfield 1839

Ordnance Survey, 1849 1:10,560 *Lancashire CIX*, Surveyed 1845 to 1847

Ordnance Survey, 1893 1:2500 *Lancashire CIX.1*, Surveyed: 1891

Ordnance Survey, 1907 1:2500 *Lancashire CIX.1*, Revised: 1906

Ordnance Survey, 1928 1:2500 *Lancashire CIX.1*, Revised: 1926

### ***Secondary Sources:***

Barnwell PS and Giles C, 1997, *English Farmsteads 1750-1914*, RCHME

British Geological Survey (BGS) 2022 *Geology of Britain Viewer* [Online], Available at: <http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html> (accessed 17th November 2022)

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA), 2019 *Standard and guidance for the archaeological investigation and recording of standing structures*, Reading

CIfA, 2020a *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Desk-based Assessments*, Reading

CIfA, 2020b *Standard and guidance for an archaeological watching brief*, Reading

CIfA, 2020c *Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives*, Reading

CIfA, 2022 *Code of conduct: professional ethics in archaeology*, Reading

Domesday Book, Phillimore reference: Cheshire R2,1, available online at: <https://opendomesday.org/place/SJ5995/newton-le-willows/> (accessed 15th November 2022)

Farewell TS, Truckell, IG, Keat, CA, Hallett, SH, 2011 *The derivation and application of Soilscapes: soil and environmental datasets from the National Soil Resources Institute*, Cranfield University

Farrer and Brownbill 1911, *A History of the County of Lancaster: Volume 4*. Victoria County History, London

Historic England, 2015 *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)* - Revised, London

Historic England, 2016a *Understanding Historic Buildings, A Guide to Good Recording Practice*, Swindon

Historic England, 2006 *Historic Farmsteads, Preliminary Character Statement: North West Region*

Historic England Aerial Viewer [Online] Available at: <https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/> accessed 17th November 2022)

Keery R 1992, *Historic Culcheth: The Story of a Village*

National Museums Liverpool (NML), 2021 *Guidelines for the transfer of archaeological archives to the Museum of Liverpool* [online] available at: <https://images.liverpoolmuseums.org.uk/2021-02/Archive-deposition-guidelines-v8-2021.pdf> (accessed 24/01/2023)

OnLine Parish Clerks project for the County of Lancashire [Online] Available at: <https://lan-opc.org.uk/> (accessed 17th November 2022)

TEP 2018, *Rough Farm Barn and Rough Cottage, Winwick Lane, Croft, Heritage Impact Assessment*, Unpublished Report

Warrington Borough Council 2007, *Warrington: A Landscape Character Assessment*

### ***Trade Directories:***

Baines, E, 1825. *History, Directory, and Gazetteer, of the County Palatine of Lancaster*. W. Wales & Company

## **APPENDIX B      WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION**

Intended for

**Balfour Beatty / St Helens Council**

Document type

**Report**

Date

**September 2019**

# **PARKSIDE LINK ROAD ARCHAEOLOGICAL WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION**

**PARKSIDE LINK ROAD  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL WRITTEN SCHEME OF  
INVESTIGATION**

Status **Final**  
Revision **03**  
Date **04/09/2019**  
Made by **The Environment Partnership (TEP)**  
Checked by **Sarah Hannon-Bland**  
Approved by **Jason Clarke**  
Description **Archaeological Written Scheme of Investigation**

Ref PD-RAM-01-00-REP-EN-3003

## CONTENTS

<b>1.</b>	<b>INTRODUCTION</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>2.0</b>	<b>POLICY, STANDARDS AND GUIDANCE</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>3.0</b>	<b>BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>4.0</b>	<b>ARCHAEOLOGICAL MITIGATION WORKS</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>5.0</b>	<b>REPORTING</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>6.0</b>	<b>ARCHIVE</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>7.0</b>	<b>HEALTH AND SAFETY</b>	<b>15</b>
	<b>REFERENCES</b>	<b>15</b>

## 1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) has been commissioned by Ramboll UK, on behalf of St Helens Metropolitan Borough Council, in association with obtaining planning permission for the Parkside Link Road project.
- 1.2 The development is located to the east of Newton-Le-Willows and comprises a new road to link the proposed Parkside Development to the east of the A49 and the M6. It will also link the A49 and the M6 for through traffic. The proposed development is centred on Ordnance Survey Grid Reference 360670E 394450N.
- 1.3 This WSI sets out the mitigation measures that will be undertaken to achieve the aims and commitments of the Environment Statement (ES) and consultation response of MEAS in relation to mitigating the predicted effects of the Parkside Link Road on archaeology, geo-archaeology and the built environment.
- 1.4 This WSI provides a method for undertaking an archaeological controlled strip, map and sample, historic building recording and archaeological observation, and has been prepared by TEP, a Registered Organisation with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA), it has been approved by a full member of the CIfA. The programme of work outlined in this WSI will be undertaken by suitably qualified and experienced archaeological contractor that is also registered with the CIfA.

### **Aims and Objectives**

- 1.5 The following programme has been designed to identify any archaeological deposits or features which may be present within the area of mitigation and to record any built heritage affected by the development.
- 1.6 The programme of work is designed to then allow the recording of any heritage assets, proportionate to their heritage significance, effected by the development. This approach is in accordance with paragraphs 189 and 199 of the National Planning Policy Framework.
- 1.7 The research objectives for the archaeological mitigation works will be determined by what, if any, archaeological remains are present within the defined mitigation area. However, ensuing assessment and analysis will be in accordance with relevant objectives outlined in the Archaeological Research Framework of the North-West of England (2006).

## 2.0 POLICY, STANDARDS AND GUIDANCE

- 2.1 Section 16 of The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), February 2019, describes the provisions specifically relating to conserving and enhancing the historic environment.
- 2.2 Paragraph 189 advises local planning authorities to require an applicant to describe the significance of any heritage assets affected by their proposal, including any contribution made by their setting, including *"where a site on which development is proposed includes, or has the potential to include heritage assets with archaeological interest, local planning authorities should require developers to submit an appropriate desk-based assessment and, where necessary, a field evaluation"*. It states that *"the level of detail should be proportionate to the assets' importance and no more than is sufficient to understand the potential impact of the proposal on their significance"*.
- 2.3 Paragraph 199 states that *"local planning authorities ... should require developers to record and advance understanding of the significance of any heritage assets to be lost (wholly or in part) in a manner proportionate to their importance and the impact, and to make this evidence (and any archive generated) publicly accessible"*. The condition attached to planning consent, and this corresponding WSI, are in accordance with this policy provision of the NPPF.

### **Guidance**

- 2.4 The guidance most relevant to this WSI is provided in:
- Chartered Institute for Archaeologists 2014, Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Brief,
  - Historic England, 2015 Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE),
  - English Heritage, 2011, Environmental Archaeology, A Guide to the Theory and Practice of Methods, from Sampling and Recovery to Post-excavation (second edition), and
  - Historic England, 2016 Understanding Historic Buildings: A Guide to Good Recording Practice.

### **Monitoring**

- 2.5 The implementation of the works outlined in this WSI will be monitored by Merseyside Environmental Advisory Service (MEAS), advisers to the local planning authorities of St Helens Council and Warrington Borough Council (LPAs). MEAS will be kept up to date with progress during all phases of the archaeological works.
- 2.6 All archaeological field work will be undertaken by a suitably qualified archaeologist, working under the direction of a full Member of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, or equivalently qualified project director.

## 3.0 BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

### Geology and Topography

- 3.1 The solid geology is recorded by the British Geological Survey as Chester Pebble Beds Formation in the west and east of the site, the centre of the site is recorded as a combination of Pennine Middle Coal Measures Formation and Collyhurst Sandstone Formation, overlain by mudstone, siltstone, and sandstone, and deposits of sand and gravel.
- 3.2 The topography of the site is undulating, varying from 32m Above Ordnance Datum (AOD) to 21m AOD.

### Historic Background

- 3.3 An Environmental Statement Chapter has been undertaken by TEP in 2017 which contains a detailed historic background of the site and wider area. A summary of the information included follows below:

#### Prehistoric

- 3.4 There is an absence of evidence for early prehistoric activity within the vicinity of the proposed development, with the exception of a broadly dated prehistoric flint dagger found during the 1960s at Croft. However, there is evidence to suggest that the area and beyond was a focus of Bronze Age funerary activity. In Newton le Willows lies Castle Hill scheduled monument. It is believed to be a Bronze Age barrow. To the south of the proposed development site lies the scheduled monument Bowl Barrow West of Highfield Lane, a Bronze Age round barrow. There are also a number of non-designated barrows within the study area; Kenyon Hall tumulus, Southworth Hall Barrow (NDHA1) and Highfield Lane East Barrow, the former containing a number of cremation burials.

#### Roman

- 3.5 The route of the Wilderspool to Wigan Roman road is believed to broadly follow the alignment of the modern A49, which runs east of the site.
- 3.6 There is evidence for Romano-British rural settlement within the area. To the south east of the site lies Southworth Hall Farm Romano-British farmstead, found through cropmarks identified during aerial reconnaissance in 1992, and confirmed through a later programme of trial trenching and excavation. The finds evidence indicates a relatively brief two-phase period of occupation during the mid-2nd century.

#### Early medieval to Medieval

- 3.7 There is evidence to suggest varied and continuous occupation of the surrounding area of the proposed development throughout the early to later medieval period. South east of site lies Southworth Hall Farm Cemetery: an extensive Anglo-Saxon Christian cemetery containing several hundred grave plots, and church, were revealed around and over a Bronze Age burial mound. There is further evidence of re-use of prehistoric monuments, Castle Hill was occupied during the Bronze Age Period and later re-used as a motte and bailey.

- 3.8 During the early medieval period, a site of religious veneration was located north of the hamlet of Hermitage Green. St Oswald's Well, a holy well was believed to be referred to by Bede in AD 642. The monument includes a stone well chamber supposedly on the spot where St Oswald was killed at the battle of Maserfelth. Therefore, it is possible that the battle between Oswald of Northumbria and Penda of Mercia took place within or near to the study area during the mid-7th century.
- 3.9 The site is situated south of Newton le Willows. The settlement is first mentioned in 1086 in the Domesday Book as Neweton. Newton is a very common name that derives from Old English, meaning 'the new farmstead, estate, or village'. The affix, le Willows, means 'by the Willows' (Mills 2003). Newton-le-Willows developed as a medieval market town that was focused on a typical linear 'High Street' plan. The economy of the town and surrounding area was agricultural with marked associated commodities. At this time, the site was likely situated within the agricultural land that supported the local town.
- 3.10 From the 14th century, the site was partly within Newton Park(s), with the earliest documentary evidence for Newton Park dating to 1322. There are a number of subsequent sales documented in the historical record. The park was used to graze cattle and sheep until the 17th century, when arable cultivation was also introduced. In the mid-17th century Newton Parks is recorded as having two hundred acres of 'closes closures and parcels of land...and barn'.
- 3.11 From the mid-15th century, gallows were located to the south west of Newton Park. The place name 'Gawlehille' occurs in the estate survey of 1465, later named Gallows Croft on the Tithe map of 1839.
- Post Medieval
- 3.12 In the 16th century, following the Dissolution of the Monasteries, large land sales took place, which meant that other landowners and farmers were able to acquire more land. As a result of this the post-medieval period in the North-West of England was also characterised by a continued period of enclosure, as well as the exchange and consolidation of farms, the growth of farm size and the development of the landlord-tenant system. Up until 1750 however it was uncommon for farmsteads to consist of more than a barn and a house.
- 3.13 In the 17th century, the Red Bank Civil War Battle (also known as the Battle of Winwick and the Battle of Winwick Pass), took place to the north of Winwick on the 19th August 1648. Conflict took place between Lieutenant-General Cromwell and the rear of the Duke of Hamilton's retreating army, commanded by Lieutenant-General Bailey. Hamilton's army was defeated, and the foot soldiers took refuge in Winwick Church. Local tradition records that some soldiers were executed in Gallows Croft, on the opposite side of Hermitage Green Lane to Red Bank. The battlefield site crosses the boundaries between Newton-le-Willows and Winwick, and has recently been designated a Registered Battlefield (List Entry Number: 1412878).

- 3.14 From 1750 agricultural productivity increased to match the demands of a quickly growing population and the following 100 years were an important time for farm building development. The style of small farmstead at Rough Farm appears on historic mapping to have started out as a linear plan in the late-18th century, which developed into a loose courtyard plan, with the buildings arranged around a yard with agricultural buildings to the north and west and the farmhouse to the east corner, forming this side of the farmyard with Rough Cottage to the north.
- 3.15 The rural landscape of the Mersey Valley area is characterised by continual changes to the medieval field systems, with many improvements and modifications made to the agricultural land in the 18th, 19th and 20th centuries. Cartographic evidence demonstrates that the buildings at 19th century Rough Farm comprise a long open barn in the south-west, the stable and cart shed to the north-west of the farmhouse. Rough Farm Barn is first clearly shown on the 1839 tithe map for Newton-in-Makerfield, to the north of a large house, likely Rough House, the farmhouse for the farmstead. Rough Cottage is shown on the 1839 tithe map as two cottages, which are then combined to make one large cottage by 1891.
- 3.16 Written records from the 19th century show that the land at Rough Farm was part of the borough of Newton, and large areas of the surrounding land had been under the ownership of the Legh family since at least the 17th century. The population and settlement size of Newton-le-Willows altered little until the mid-18th century, when the rapid industrialisation of nearby St Helen's, along with the arrival of the North Western Railway and Viaduct, resulted in a population increase. A number of listed buildings and former sites of post medieval houses testify to this period of growth within the study area.

#### Modern

- 3.17 During the modern period the wider area was urbanised, with the introduction of more residential housing around Newton-le-Willows and Winwick and the construction of the M6. Rough Farm underwent a further small period of expansion at this time. Cartographic evidence shows to the north west of the stable building, a small building comprising four pigsties is shown by the time of the 1906 OS map as part of a secondary yard to the north of the stable. This second yard was constructed in the 20th century to the west of the post medieval farmyard as the farm expanded, and further smaller outbuildings were added. The 19th century buildings were largely replaced by large modern outbuildings and in 1997 Rough House was demolished.
- 3.18 The modern period also saw the establishment of Parkside Colliery. The development site is partially within the area of the former colliery in the west. In the decade following Nationalisation, the National Coal Board embarked on a major programme of investment in the industry, most of which was spent on reconstructing existing pits rather than sinking new ones. One of the few new pits to be established was Parkside Colliery, which was one of the results of an intensive programme of deep boring carried out in the Lancashire coalfield in the 1950s. The first shaft of this colliery was sunk in 1957, and was closed in 1993.

## 4.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL MITIGATION WORKS

- 4.1 The archaeological mitigation works will comprise three elements of fieldwork. The first element will comprise an archaeological strip, map and sample of an area measuring 20m by 20m immediately to the south of evaluation trench 4.
- 4.2 The second element will be a Level 2-3 Historic Building Survey (Historic England) of Rough Farm Barn, the associated remains of 19th century farm structures, and Rough Cottage.
- 4.3 The third element will comprise archaeological observation and monitoring of the removal of foundations or site clearance of the footprints of the barn and cottage to inspect works for underlying earlier structures. The archaeological observation will also be undertaken during the stripping of the historic farmstead area (shown on Figure PD-TEP-02-00-RP-EN-249).
- 4.4 All field work will be carried out by suitably qualified archaeologists, working under the direction of a full Member of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, or equivalently qualified project director.

### **Archaeological Strip, Map and Sample at Trench 4**

- 4.5 Archaeological strip, map and sample aims to remove overburden under the direction of a suitably qualified archaeologist, within the defined mitigation area.
- 4.6 The objective is to allow the monitoring archaeologist a clear view of previously undisturbed horizons which may reveal archaeological features, sites, artefacts or structures.
- Method
- 4.7 All stripping of overburden within an area designated for the strip, map and sample would be carried out by 360° excavator equipped with a toothless ditching bucket, and under constant archaeological supervision.
- 4.8 Archaeological excavation initially requires the removal of overburden in areas of impact scheduled in the construction programme, down to the first archaeological horizon, or the natural substrata, whichever is encountered first. The overburden and depth of subsoil removed, therefore, will be under the direction of a suitably qualified archaeologist.
- 4.9 The site will be fenced prior to excavation works and fitted with adequate signs, describing that there is an archaeological site and that access is restricted until the archaeological mitigation work is completed. Construction staff will be made aware of the presence of archaeological sites and the need to preserve them through the site induction, as well as regular toolbox talks.
- 4.10 The site will be excavated and recorded according to accepted professional standards described in the relevant Chartered Institute for Archaeologist Standard and Guidance Documents and in Historic England guidance documents, by the archaeological contractor, and in accordance with the asset-specific or archaeological mitigation proposal method statements. Features will be recorded and excavated stratigraphically and all relationships will be investigated. All archaeological features and deposits will be sampled in order to provide the information required.

- 4.11 The archaeological works will provide an accurate record of any archaeological and paleo-environmental finds, features, artefacts or ecofacts identified.
- 4.12 In the event that any such finds or features are identified, subsequent excavations will be undertaken by hand. Any archaeological surfaces that are present will be cleaned sufficiently to enhance any features, site levels will be related to the Ordnance Survey National Grid and Datum. The general site plans will be hand drawn at a scale of 1:50 or 1:100.
- 4.13 Discrete features will be half-sectioned, or fully excavated if features are part of recognisable structures, contain deposits or artefacts of particular value, or likely to hold significant artefact or environmental assemblages. Intersections will be investigated to establish strategic relationships. Representative sections of linear and curvilinear features will be sample excavated away from intersections or other features or deposits, to obtain unmixed samples of material. Sections will be drawn at a scale of 1:10 or 1:20, as appropriate. Environmental bulk samples (usually 40 litres) will be taken where the deposit is likely to contain significant environmental assemblage. All records will be undertaken using pro form record sheets.
- 4.14 Sampling strategies will be in accordance with the archaeological sub-contractor fieldwork manual and described in their method statement as well as the requirements of MEAS.
- 4.15 The archaeological contractor will make appropriate pre-and post-excavation site records. All finds and features will be accurately located and planned accurately at appropriate scales. All site photographs will be taken using a digital SLR camera with a sensor of a minimum of 12 megapixels and supplemented with black and white film photography. All photography will be undertaken in accordance with Historic England guidance, Digital Image Capture and File Storage: Guidelines for Best Practice, 2015

#### Finds

- 4.16 All finds or environmental samples recovered during the archaeological works will be assessed and reported on by external specialists. A list of specialists for the project will be provided by the archaeological sub-contractor when required.
- 4.17 All finds will be treated in accordance with current best practice as set out in Chartered Institute for Archaeologists and Historic England guidance. All metal detecting will be undertaken by the archaeological contractors

#### Human Remains

- 4.18 If human remains are encountered during the archaeological mitigation works, they will be left in situ and the coroner notified. If it is deemed appropriate to excavate human remains, this will be done in accordance with appropriate Historic England and Chartered Institute for Archaeologists guidance (e.g. CIfA Technical Paper 13 Excavation and Post-excavation Treatment of Cremated and Inhumed remains). Excavation, removal from site, analysis and final placing will all be subject to the requirements of the appropriate Ministry of Justice licence.

#### Treasure

- 4.19 If any artefacts are encountered that would constitute 'treasure' as defined by The Treasure Act, 1996, they will be reported to the local Coroner and relevant Finds Liaison Officer. Any artefacts deemed to be Treasure should be excavated on the day they are discovered and removed to a secure site. If this is impractical then appropriate security provided until full excavation and removal can occur.

#### Paleo-environmental sampling and analysis

- 4.20 The paleo-environmental assessment aims to identify areas within the development footprint where conditions are such that deposits suitable for the development of past environments are preserved. These most commonly occur in the form of subsurface peat layers, but are also taken to include all waterlogged deposits. The identification of any suitable areas will take place during the archaeological works.

- 4.21 Should any such deposits exist within the area of impact, samples will be taken by a suitably qualified specialist sub-contractor and in accordance with Historic England's guidance, *Environmental Archaeology, A Guide to the Theory and Practice of Methods, from Sampling and Recovery to Post-excavation*.

- 4.22 The samples would be assessed for their potential by a specialist, and suitable techniques applied to sub-sample from select cores to determine the preservation and taxonomic diversity within the samples. This is likely to include assessing for one or more of the following:

- Pollen (focussing on organic units)
- Diatoms (focussing upon lithological transitions within and at the base of the Holocene sediment stack)
- Foraminifera (focussing on mineral strata and in particular on transitions)
- Plant macro-remains (focussing on organic units)

- 4.23 Having assessed the potential for analysis a project design will be produced that will provide a detailed proposal for analysis (including, for example, C14 dating, loss-on-ignition to measure organic carbon content, humification and mass specific magnetic susceptibility) of any present selected samples.

- 4.24 If necessary and appropriate the advice of the Historic England Science Advisor for the North West will be sought.

#### **Historic Building Record**

- 4.25 The historic building recording of Rough Farm Barn, associated 19<sup>th</sup> century structural remains, and Rough Cottage will be undertaken by a suitably qualified archaeologist and comprise a Level 2-3 (Historic England 2016) historic building survey and photographic record. The survey will be undertaken prior to demolition and when the buildings are vacant.

- 4.26 The photographic survey will be undertaken using high resolution digital photography, using a camera of at least 12 megapixels. The camera will take images in TIFF or RAW format, the resulting files will be saved in TIFF file format for archive stability.

- 4.27 The survey will comprise photographs of external and internal elevations, interior spaces and roof interiors (if safe to access), as well as general context shots, including the remains of the 19th century smaller outbuildings. The survey will also record any architectural or decorative detail. Where appropriate a scale will be placed with any detail shots. A photographic register will include a brief written description and photograph location, with photographs of external features and elevation to include dimensions where possible. Photographs will be accurately located to a base map at a suitable scale.
- 4.28 A written description of the building will be undertaken, which will include a description of the buildings' history and development, as well as its historic context and a description of the site historic land use. Evidence for phasing and alterations will also be noted, along with detail of construction techniques and materials as appropriate.
- 4.29 A drawn record of the building's plan will be provided, as well as internal and external elevations where appropriate.
- 4.30 The survey outlined above will provide a record and advance understanding of the heritage assets in a manner that is proportionate to their importance. The record will be made publically accessible (see Section 6.0). This level of record is therefore considered to be a proportionate response to the significance of the non-designated heritage assets.

#### **Archaeological Observation and Recording at Rough Farm**

- 4.31 Archaeological observation aims to determine whether the buildings of Rough Farm Barn and Rough Cottage were constructed to overlie earlier 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> century structures, and will explore any remains of the earlier farmstead, should any evidence of this still be extant within the site. Therefore archaeological observation will also take place during the stripping of the defined mitigation area of the historic farmstead, comprising an area of approximately 60m by 25m.
- 4.32 The objective is to allow the monitoring archaeologist a clear view of previously undisturbed horizons which may reveal archaeological features, sites, artefacts or structures associated with the earlier occupation of the Rough Farm site.

#### **Method**

- 4.33 After demolition of the standing structures of Rough Farm Barn and Rough Cottage, removal of the foundations and site clearance of the buildings' footprint would be undertaken under archaeological supervision.
- 4.34 All stripping of overburden within the defined mitigation area, would be carried out by 360° excavator equipped with a toothless ditching bucket, and under constant archaeological supervision.
- 4.35 Archaeological excavation initially requires the removal of overburden in areas of impact scheduled in the construction programme, down to the first archaeological horizon, or the natural substrata, whichever is encountered first. The overburden (including any hardstanding) and depth of subsoil removed, therefore, will be under the direction of a suitably qualified archaeologist.

- 4.36 The site will be fenced prior to excavation works and fitted with adequate signs, describing that there is an archaeological site and that access is restricted until the archaeological mitigation work is completed. Construction staff will be made aware of the presence of the archaeological site and the need to preserve it through the site induction, as well as toolbox talks.
- 4.37 Any surviving archaeological features or structures will be excavated by hand and recorded according to accepted professional standards described in the relevant Chartered Institute for Archaeologists Standards and Guidance Documents and in Historic England guidance documents, by the archaeological contractor, and in accordance with the asset-specific or archaeological mitigation proposal method statements.
- 4.38 The archaeological works will provide an accurate record of any archaeological features, structures and artefacts identified. The general site plans will be hand drawn at a scale of 1:50 or 1:100.
- 4.39 Discrete features will be half-sectioned, or fully excavated if features are part of recognisable structures, contain deposits or artefacts of particular value, or likely to hold significant artefact assemblages. Intersections will be investigated to establish strategic relationships. Sections will be drawn at a scale of 1:10 or 1:20, as appropriate. All records will be undertaken using pro forma record sheets.
- 4.40 The archaeological contractor will make appropriate pre-and post-excavation site records. All finds, features and structures will be accurately located and planned accurately at appropriate scales. All site photographs will be taken using a digital SLR camera with a sensor of a minimum of 12 megapixels and supplemented with black and white film photography as appropriate. All photography will be undertaken in accordance with Historic England guidance, Digital Image Capture and File Storage: Guidelines for Best Practice, 2015.

#### Finds

- 4.41 All finds or environmental samples recovered during the archaeological works will be assessed and reported on by external specialists, as necessary. A list of specialists for the project will be provided by the archaeological sub-contractor when required.
- 4.42 All finds will be treated in accordance with current best practice as set out in Chartered Institute for Archaeologists and Historic England guidance.

#### Human Remains

- 4.43 If human remains are encountered during the archaeological mitigation works, they will be left in situ and the coroner notified. If it is deemed appropriate to excavate human remains, this will be done in accordance with appropriate Historic England and Chartered Institute for Archaeologists guidance (e.g. CIfA Technical Paper 13 Excavation and Post-excavation Treatment of Cremated and Inhumed remains). Excavation, removal from site, analysis and final placing will all be subject to the requirements of the appropriate Ministry of Justice licence.

#### Treasure

- 4.44 If any artefacts are encountered that would constitute 'treasure' as defined by The Treasure Act, 1996, they will be reported to the local Coroner and relevant Finds Liaison Officer. Any artefacts deemed to be Treasure should be excavated on the day they are discovered and removed to a secure site. If this is impractical then appropriate security provided until full excavation and removal can occur.

#### **Organisation and Key Personnel**

- 4.45 TEP is a Registered Organisation with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA). The heritage team is under overall management of **Ian Grimshaw, Director (TEP)**.
- 4.46 The archaeological works will be undertaken by an Archaeological Contractor and will be managed by **Jason Clarke BSc MA MCIfA Principal Historic Environment Consultant (TEP)**.

## 5.0 REPORTING

- 5.1 In accordance with the principles of Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE) (Historic England 2015) and the Management of Archaeological Projects, 2nd Ed (MAP2) (English Heritage 1991), a programme of reporting will be undertaken for the archaeological controlled strip and historic building survey, to commence on completion of each element of the archaeological works.
- 5.2 The programme will be proportionate to the findings of the fieldwork, and it may be that a single phase of assessment, analysis and reporting is sufficient in the event of non-complex findings. A report will be produced detailing the results of fieldwork within 4 weeks of the end of surveys and archived within 6 months.
- 5.3 In the event of complex findings requiring specialist input, the 'MAP2' assessment and analysis approach would be adopted, with a post-excavation assessment report produced within six months of the completion of fieldwork, and a post excavation analysis report, a publication report, and site archive prepared within two years of the completion of fieldwork.
- 5.4 In the event of negative, or non-complex findings, separate reports will be produced detailing the results of each phase of fieldwork within eight weeks of the end of the fieldwork and archived within six months. The reports will include;
- a front cover to include the NGR, and HER reference number
  - a concise, non-technical summary of the results
  - the circumstances of the project and the dates on which the fieldwork was undertaken
  - description of the methodology, including the sources consulted
  - the historical background of the development area
  - the results of the archaeological survey
  - a copy of this project design, and indications of any agreed departure from that design
  - the reports will also include a complete bibliography of sources from which data has been derived, and a list of any further sources identified but not consulted
  - a site location plan related to the national grid
  - appropriate plans showing the location and position of features or sites located
  - plans and sections showing the positions of deposits and finds
  - illustrative photographs as appropriate
  - coordinates (latitude/longitude) of relevant sites if archaeological remains have been discovered
  - coordinates of the archaeological mitigation areas to be accurately located by means of four 12-figure NGRs (i.e. one at each corner) in order to enable them to be plotted on the HER GIS
  - a detailed description of the form, layout and any architectural detail of the buildings
  - appropriate plans showing the location and floor plan of the building
  - plan showing the positions of where the survey photographs were taken
  - illustrative photographic survey of the building as appropriate

- 5.5 In the event of archaeologically significant finds, the results of fieldwork will also be published in a relevant and appropriate journal, or other publically disseminated publication, as appropriate.

## 6.0 ARCHIVE

- 6.1 A copy of the report provided as a PDF, will be submitted to the Merseyside HER within 6 months of the completion of the report.
- 6.2 An archive of the results of the archaeological work will be produced, in accordance with current English Heritage guidelines (Management of Archaeological Projects, Appendix 3, 2nd edition, 1991), Chartered Institute for Archaeologists Standards and Guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives (CIfA 2014) and Guidelines for the Transfer of Archaeological Archives to the Museum of Liverpool (2015). The archive will contain any site matrices, and summary reports of the artefact record, context records, and any other records or materials recovered.
- 6.3 The original record archive of projects (paper, magnetic and plastic media), and a full copy of the record archive (microform or microfiche), together with the material archive (artefacts, ecofacts, and samples) will be deposited with the National Museums of Liverpool.
- 6.4 Details of the work will be entered on the OASIS database at <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/projects/oasis>. The OASIS record for this site will be created upon the commencement of the fieldwork, and the final report will be entered on to OASIS within 6 months of the completion of the project.

## 7.0 HEALTH AND SAFETY

- 7.1 All work on site would be undertaken strictly in accordance with the project health and safety plan and task specific risk assessments. All companies working on the project will adhere to the main works contractor required quality, health, safety and environment controls.
- 7.2 Access routes to working areas would be specified by the client and access would only be permitted to those routes and the area of the fieldwork.
- 7.3 All site staff, including subcontractors and visitors, will prove that they have attended a site induction and have the necessary competencies (e.g. CITB training for machine operators) and any other necessary health and safety qualifications.

## REFERENCES

CIfA, 2014, *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials*. Chartered Institute for Archaeologists

CIfA, 2014, *Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives*. Chartered Institute for Archaeologists

CIfA, 2014, *Standard and guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief*. Chartered Institute for Archaeologists

CIfA, 2017, *Code of Conduct*. Chartered Institute for Archaeologists

CIfA, 2019, *Standard and guidance for Archaeological Investigation and Recording of Standing Buildings or Structures*. Chartered Institute for Archaeologists.

Cheshire Historic Environment Record

Cheshire Shared Services: Archaeological Planning Advisory Service

English Heritage, 1991, *The Management of Archaeological Projects*, 2nd edn, London

English Heritage, 2011, *Environmental Archaeology, A Guide to the Theory and Practice of Methods, from Sampling and Recovery to Post-excavation* (second edition)

Historic England, 2015, *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (MoRPHE)

Historic England, 2015 *Digital Image Capture and File Storage: Guidelines for Best Practice*.

Historic England, 2016, *Understanding Historic Buildings: A Guide to Good Recording Practice*.

Magnitude Surveys, 2017, *Report Geophysical Survey of Land at Parkside Link Road, Warrington*: Magnitude Surveys Ref: MSSJ208

Merseyside Environmental Advisory Service (MEAS)

Merseyside Historic Environment Record (MHER)

National Planning Policy Framework, 2019

National Museums of Liverpool 2015 *Guidelines for the Transfer of Archaeological Archives to the Museum of Liverpool*

Mills, A., 2003, *Oxford Dictionary of British Place Names*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Oxford Archaeology North, 2018, *Parkside Link Newton-le-Willows, Archaeological Evaluation Report*: OA Ref: L11104

Stratascan, 2007, *Geophysical Survey Report, Newton-Le-Willows, Merseyside*. Stratascan Report: J2324

Websites:

British Geological Survey <https://www.bgs.ac.uk/>

Past Scape [www.pastscape.co.uk](http://www.pastscape.co.uk)

Old Maps <http://www.old-maps.co.uk>

British History Online <http://www.british-history.ac.uk>



**Head Office/Registered Office/  
OA South**

Janus House  
Osney Mead  
Oxford OX2 0ES

t: +44 (0) 1865 263 800  
f: +44 (0) 1865 793 496  
e: [info@oxfordarchaeology.com](mailto:info@oxfordarchaeology.com)  
w: <http://oxfordarchaeology.com>

**OA North**

Mill 3  
Moor Lane  
Lancaster LA1 1QD

t: +44 (0) 1524 541 000  
f: +44 (0) 1524 848 606  
e: [oanorth@oxfordarchaeology.com](mailto: oanorth@oxfordarchaeology.com)  
w: <http://oxfordarchaeology.com>

**OA East**

15 Trafalgar Way  
Bar Hill  
Cambridgeshire  
CB23 8SQ

t: +44 (0) 1223 850500  
e: [oaeast@oxfordarchaeology.com](mailto: oaeast@oxfordarchaeology.com)  
w: <http://oxfordarchaeology.com>



Chief Executive Officer  
Ken Welsh, BSc, MCIFA  
Oxford Archaeology Ltd is a  
Private Limited Company, N<sup>o</sup>: 1618597  
and a Registered Charity, N<sup>o</sup>: 285627