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Outbuildings at Brunette Farm, Lower Wych Road, Ty Broughton, Wrexham SY13 3BA

August 2021 V 1.0



Historic Building Record Level 2

Project Code: A0318.1

Report no. 0304

Ref: (P/2013/0505)





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Report no. 0304

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Date: 25/08/2021
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Outbuildings at Brunette Farm, Lower Wych Road, Ty Broughton, Wrexham SY13 3BA

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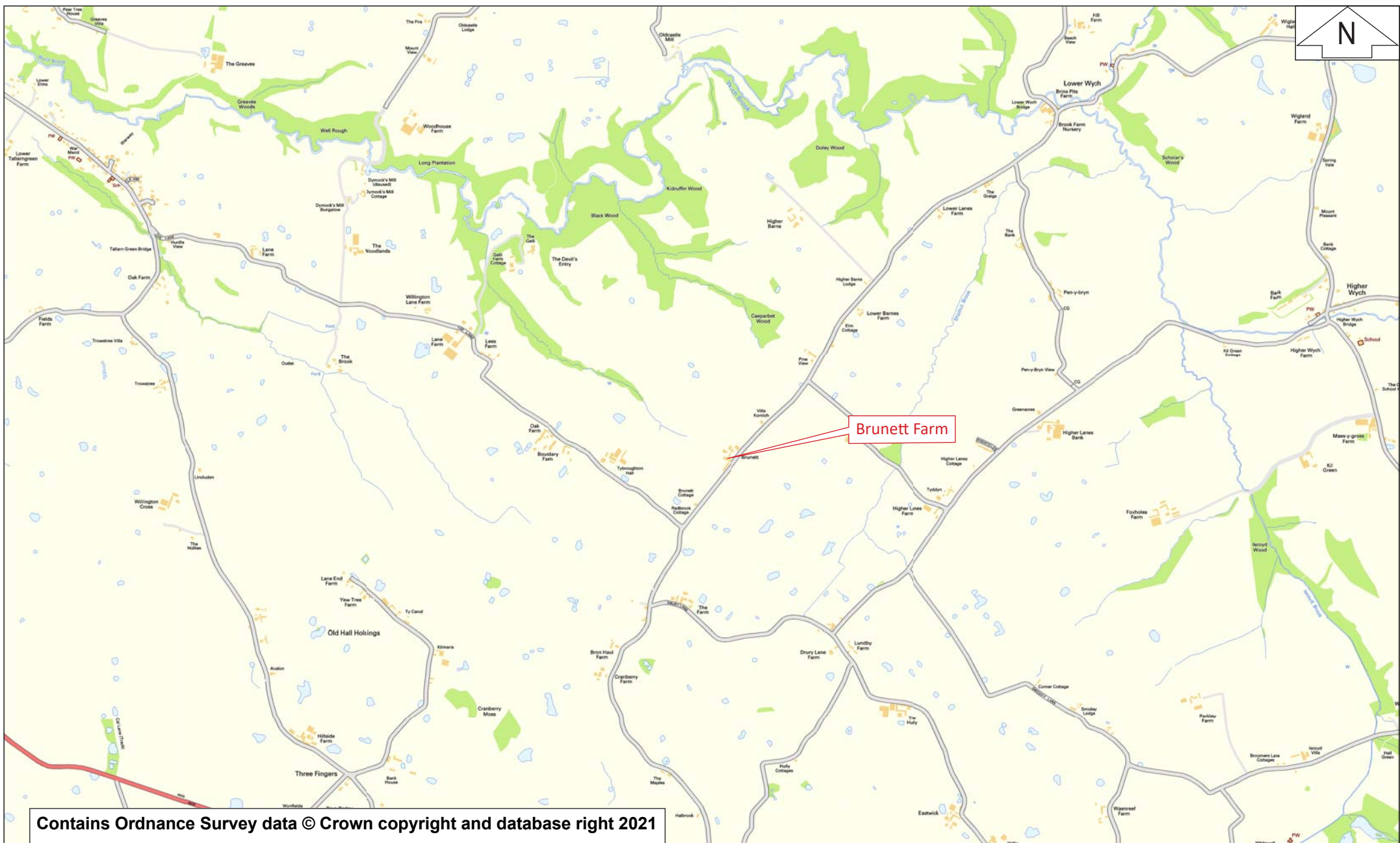
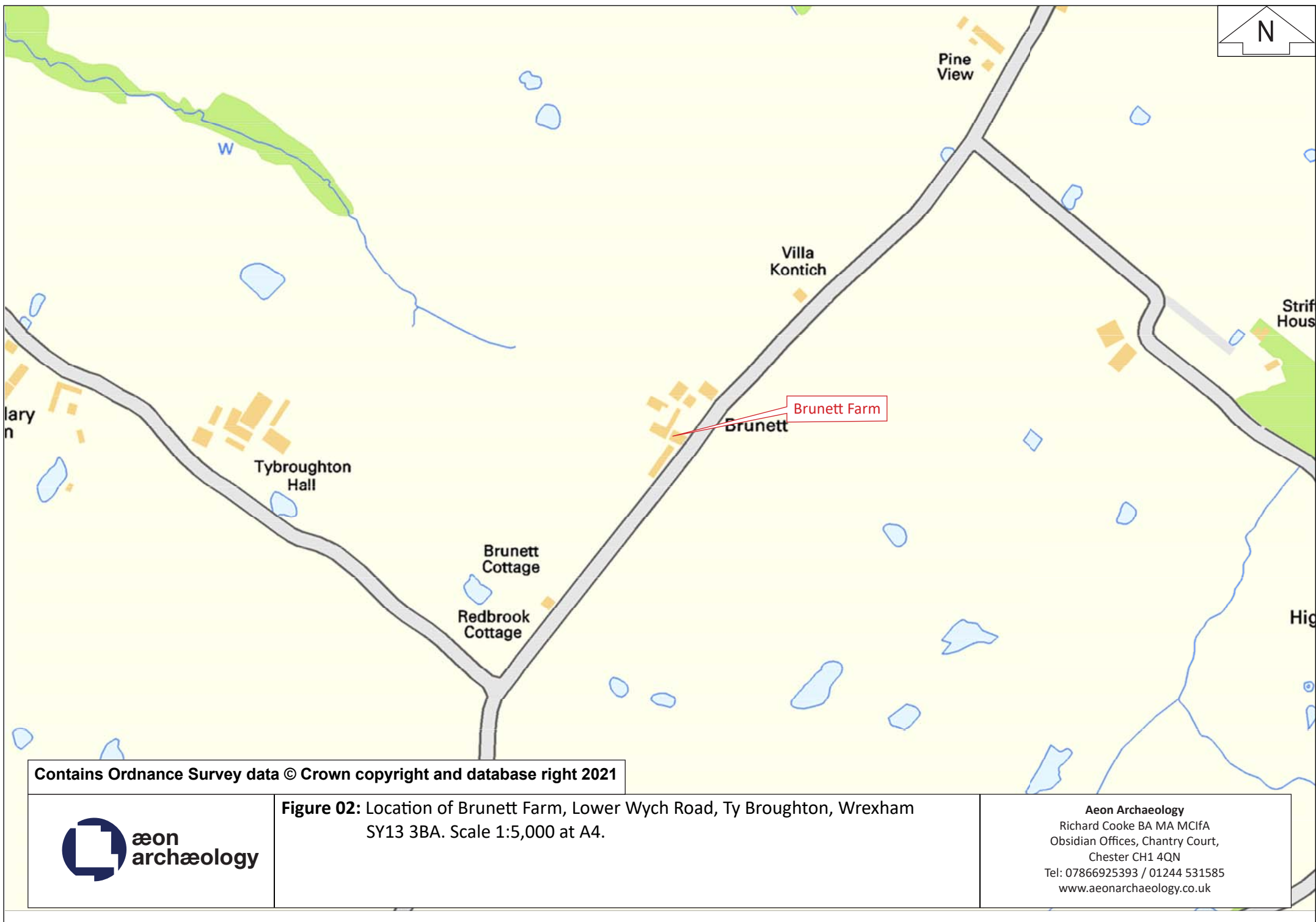
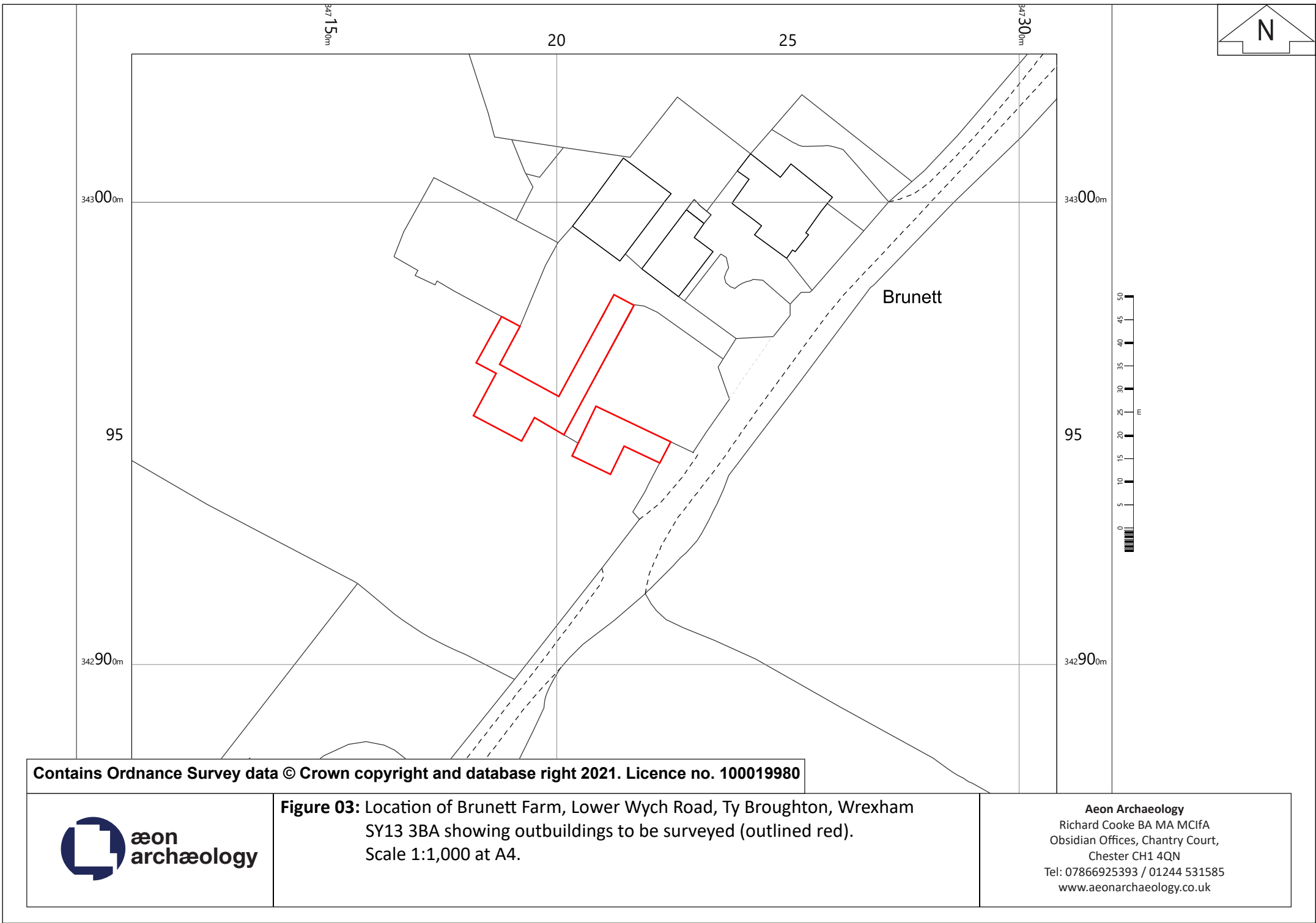


Figure 01: Location of Brunett Farm, Lower Wych Road, Ty Broughton, Wrexham
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1.0 INTRODUCTION

Comisiynwyd Aeon Archaeology gan Mr. Thomas Jones, y Cleient o hyn ymlaen, i gynnal cofnod adeiladu hanesyddol lefel 2 o adeiladau fferm yn Burnett Farm, Lower Wych Road, Ty Broughton, Wrecsam SY13 3BA (wedi'i ganoli ar NGR SJ 47205 42959) cyn ei drawsnewid ar gyfer llety preswyl (ffigur 01 a 02).

Rhodddwyd caniatâd cynllunio llawn (cyf: P / 2013/0505) i'r Cleient ar 18 Hydref 2013 ar gyfer trosi'r Beudy ffrâm bren a hefyd Beudy wedi'i adeiladu â brics i ffurfio annedd. Roedd hyn i gynnwys newid adeilad y stabl at ddefnydd preswyl, dymchwel tri Beudy, gweithdy a storfa, mynediad newydd i gerbydau a cherddwyr a newid defnydd tir ar gyfer ceffylau (marchogaeth). Cymhwyswyd yr amodau cyn cychwyn canlynol ynghylch archeoleg i'r caniatâd:

Aeon Archaeology was commissioned by Mr. Thomas Jones, hereafter the Client, to carry out a level 2 historic building record of outbuildings at Brunette Farm, Lower Wych Road, Ty Broughton, Wrexham SY13 3BA (centred on **NGR SJ 47205 42959**) in advance of conversion to residential accommodation (figure 01 and 02).

Full planning permission (**ref: P/2013/0505**) was secured by the Client on 18th October 2013 for the conversion of the timber framed Shippon and brick Shippon to form a dwelling, the alteration of the stable building for ancillary residential use, the demolition of three Shippons and workshop and store, new vehicular and pedestrian access, and the change of use of land for horses (equestrian). The following pre-commencement conditions concerning archaeology have been applied to the consent:

15. No development of any kind shall commence until the applicant has secured the implementation of a Level 2 (English Heritage) archaeological study of the Brunette Farm outbuildings in accordance with a design brief, or approved specification, which have been submitted to the applicant and approved by the Local Planning Authority. A copy of the resulting report shall be submitted to the Local Planning Authority and the Development Control Archaeologist, Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust, 41 Bread Street, Welshpool, Powys, SY21 7RR tel: 01938 553670.

REASON: To ensure that the buildings are surveyed and recorded for historical Purposes.

This design and all subsequent mitigation conformed to the guidelines specified in Historic England's 'Understanding Historic Buildings: a guide to good recording practice' (2016) & *Standard and Guidance for the Archaeological Investigation and Recording of Standing Buildings or Structures* (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2020).

The survey focused on the timber framed and brick Shippons which form an L-shaped range, and the stable building located to the east (see figure 03). The L-shaped range is a grade II Listed Building (ref: 85483) and is listed as a:

An C18 farm building shown on the 1839 Tithe map.

A lofted farm building, timber-framed and incorporating full-height diagonal tension braces, with partly replaced brick nogging, and corrugated-iron roof. Facing the yard are 8 original doorways, 2 of which are blocked, 2 have replacement doors, and 4 have been converted to windows. In the loft are 3 inserted windows and 2 loading doors to the L. The R gable end has an inserted door to the R, 4 large diamond pattern ventilators forming a diamond pattern around a loft opening now glazed. The L gable end has diamond-pattern breathers and loft opening.

In the rear, where part of the framing has been replaced in brick, are 5 inserted doorways and 2 small inserted windows (Cadw Listed Building description).

2.0 POLICY CONTEXT

At an international level there are two principal agreements concerning the protection of the cultural heritage and archaeological resource – the UNESCO *Convention Concerning the Protection of World Cultural and Natural Heritage*¹ and the *European Convention on the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage*², commonly known as the Valetta Convention. The latter was agreed by the Member States of the Council of Europe in 1992, and also became law in 1992. It has been ratified by the UK, and responsibility for its implementation rests with Department for Culture Media and Sport.

The management and protection of the historic environment in Wales is set out within the following legislation:

- The Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 (As amended)
- The Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2016
- The Town and Country Planning Act 1990
- The Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979
- The Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development Order) 1995 (As amended)

The Historic Environment (Wales) Act is the most recent legislation for the management of the Historic Environment and amends two pieces of UK legislation — the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 and the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990. The new Act has three main aims:

- to give more effective protection to listed buildings and scheduled monuments;
- to improve the sustainable management of the historic environment; and
- to introduce greater transparency and accountability into decisions taken on the historic environment.

With respect to the cultural heritage of the built environment the *Planning (Conservation Areas and Listed Buildings) Act*³ 1990 applies. The Act sets out the legislative framework within which works and development affecting listed buildings and conservation areas must be considered. This states that:-

“In considering whether to grant planning permission for development which affects a listed building or its setting, the local planning authority or, as the case may be, the Secretary of State shall have special regard to the desirability of preserving the building or its setting or any features of special architectural or historic interest which it possesses” (s66(1))

Other known sites of cultural heritage/archaeological significance can be entered onto county-based Historic Environment Records under the *Town and Country Planning 1995*.

Planning Policy Wales sets out the land use planning policies of the Welsh Government. Chapter 6 covers the historic environment and emphasises that the positive management of change in the historic environment is based on a full understanding of the nature and significance of historic assets and the recognition of the benefits that they can deliver in a vibrant culture and economy.

¹ UNESCO, 1972, *Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage*

² Council of Europe, 1992, *European Convention on the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage*

³ Great Britain. *Planning (Conservation Areas and Listed Buildings) Act*. Elizabeth II.(1990), London: The Stationery Office

Various principles and policies related to cultural heritage and archaeology are set out in the Planning Policy Wales which guide local planning authorities with respect to the wider historic environment.

The following paragraphs from Planning Policy Wales are particularly relevant and are quoted in full:

Paragraph 6.5.5 concerns planning applications:

The conservation of archaeological remains is a material consideration in determining a planning application, whether those remains are a scheduled monument or not. Where nationally important archaeological remains, whether scheduled or not, and their settings are likely to be affected by proposed development, there should be a presumption in favour of their physical protection in situ. It will only be in exceptional circumstances that planning permission will be granted if development would result in an adverse impact on a scheduled monument (or an archaeological site shown to be of national importance) or has a significantly damaging effect upon its setting. In cases involving less significant archaeological remains, local planning authorities will need to weigh the relative importance of the archaeological remains and their settings against other factors, including the need for the proposed development.

Planning Policy Wales is supplemented by a series of Technical Advice Notes (TAN). Technical Advice Note 24: The Historic Environment contains detailed guidance on how the planning system considers the historic environment during development plan, preparation and decision making on planning and listed building consent applications. TAN 24 replaces the following Welsh Office Circulars:

- 60/96 Planning and the Historic Environment: Archaeology
- 61/96 Planning and the Historic Environment: Historic Buildings and Conservation Areas
- 1/98 Planning and the Historic Environment: Directions by the Secretary of State for Wales

3.0 SPECIFICATION AND PROJECT DESIGN

The requirements were for an archaeological building record of the outbuilding at Brunette Farm prior to alteration, however should observations or desk-based research have suggested the potential for significant features to be encountered during the renovation and site clearance/ground work, the archaeological contractor should make arrangements to undertake any appropriate supplementary recording work during the development. The Development Control Archaeologist (DCA) at the Clwyd and Powys Archaeological Trust (CPAT) had requested that this building record should be roughly commensurate with the Historic England's '*Understanding Historic Buildings: a guide to good recording practice*' (2016) **Level 2**.

Both the exterior and the interior were be viewed, described and photographed. This record will present conclusions regarding the building's development and use, but will not discuss in detail the evidence on which these conclusions are based.

The detailed photographic record will consist of Historic England's '*Understanding Historic Buildings: a guide to good recording practice*' (2016) elements:

written account: 1-3, 6

drawings: sometimes 1, sometimes one or more of 2-7

photographs: 1,2,4

4.0 METHOD STATEMENT

4.1 Level 2 Record

4.1.1 Written Account

The written account will include:

- The building's precise location as a National Grid Reference and address form;
- A note of any statutory designation and non-statutory designation;
- The date of the record, name(s) of the recorder(s) and archive location;
- A summary of the building's form, function, date, and sequence of development.

4.1.2 Photographs

The photographic record will include:

- A general view or views of the building;
- The building's external appearance. Typically a series of oblique views will show all external elevations of the building and give an impression of its size and shape;
- The overall appearance of the principal rooms and circulation areas.

A Digital SLR (Canon 600D) set to maximum resolution will be used throughout.

4.1.3 Drawings

The drawn record will include:

- A site plan showing the location and orientation of photographs. This will label all room spaces and indicate any architectural features of note.

4.2 Processing data, illustration, report and archiving

Following completion of the record as outlined above, a report will be produced incorporating the following:

- A copy of the design brief and agreed specification
- A site location plan
- A plan illustrating the location and direction of photographs
- Basic background and relevant historical, descriptive or analytical detail
- A full bibliography of sources consulted
- Illustrations, including plans and photographs, will be incorporated within the report.

5.0 DISSEMINATION AND ARCHIVING

A full archive including plans, photographs, written material and any other material resulting from the project will be prepared. All plans, photographs and descriptions will be labelled, and cross-referenced, and lodged with the RCAHMW within six months of the completion of the project.

Upon completion of the project copies of the report will be sent to the Client, regional HER and DCA at CPAT.

The project report and archive will adhere to the Welsh Trusts' and Cadw's *Guidance for the Submission of Data to the Welsh Historic Environment Records (HERs)* (2018) including the translation of a non-technical summary into the medium of Welsh.

The report document will be retained by Aeon Archaeology under the unique job reference number **A0318.1**.

6.0 DIGITAL DATA MANAGEMENT PLAN

6.1 Type of study

Level 2 historic building record of the farm buildings at outbuilding at Brunette Farm, Lower Wych Road, Ty Broughton, Wrexham SY13 3BA (centred on **NGR SJ 47205 42959**).

6.2 Types of data

Photographs, digital text, annotated plans.

6.3 Format and scale of the data

Photographs taken in *RAW* format and later converted to *TIF* format for long term archiving and *JPEG* format for use in the digital report, converted using *Adobe Photoshop*. All photographs renamed using *AF5* freeware with the prefix (*project code_frame number*) and a photographic metadata created using Microsoft Excel (*.xlsx*) or Access (*.accdb*).

Written descriptions taken in digital *.txt* format and sent via email to ensure a digital backup copy at time of record.

Annotated plans scanned as *.PDF* files.

- 176 digital photographs (TIF file)
- 1 photographic metadata file (*.accdb* file)
- 1 annotated floor plan (scanned as a PDF file)
- External and internal building descriptions (*.txt* file)

6.4 Methodologies for data collection / generation

Digital data will be collected / generated in line with recommendations made in the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) *Standard and Guidance for the Creation, Compilation, Transfer and Deposition of Archaeological Archives* (2014. Rev 2020). Sections 3.3.1 and 3.3.3 are relevant:

3.3.1 Project specifications, research designs or similar documents should include a project specific Selection Strategy and a Data Management Plan.

3.3.3 Project designs or schedules of works etc should outline the methodology used in recording all information, in order to demonstrate that all aspects of archive creation will ensure consistency; for instance in terminologies and the application of codes in digital data sets, highlighting relevant data standards where appropriate

6.5 Data quality and standards

Consistency and quality of data collection / generation shall be controlled and documented through the use of standardised procedure as outlined in the WSI. This will include the use of standardised data capture file formats, digital proformas, data entry validation, peer review, and use of controlled vocabularies.

6.6 Managing, storing and curating data.

All digital data will be organised into Aeon Archaeology proforma project file systems and backed up to the cloud using *Digital River's Crashplan* with additional copies made to external physical hard drive.

6.7 Metadata standards and data documentation

Digital metadata created using Microsoft Excel (.xlsx) or Access (.accdb) of all photographic plates.

Paper metadata created from Aeon Archaeology proformas for contexts, artefacts, environmental samples, watching brief day sheets, trench sheets, and basic record sheets and then scanned to create digital .PDF copies.

6.8 Data preservation strategy and standards

Long term data storage will be through the submission of digital (.PDF) reports to the regional Historic Environment Record (HER); submission of digital (.PDF) reports; submission of the scanned (.PDF) archive, photographic plates (.TIF), and metadata (.xlsx) (.accdb) to the Archaeology Data Service (ADS); and retention of copies of all digital files at Aeon Archaeology on physical external hard drive and uploaded to the cloud.

6.9 Suitability for sharing

All digital data will be placed within the public realm (through the channels in 6.8) except for where project confidentiality restricts the sharing of data. All data sets will be selected / discriminated by the Senior Archaeologist at Aeon Archaeology and written permission will be sought from all project specific Clients prior to the sharing of data.

6.10 Discovery by potential users of the research data

Potential users of the generated digital data (outside of the organisation) will be able to source the data and identify whether it could be suitable for their research purposes through access granted via the Welsh Trusts HER website *Archwilio*. Requests can also be made for data through the regional HER's and directly to Aeon Archaeology (info@aeonarchaeology.co.uk).

6.11 Governance of access

The decision to supply research data to potential new users will be via the associated website request (*Archwilio*/HER) or via the Senior Archaeologist when made directly to Aeon Archaeology.

6.12 The study team's exclusive use of the data

Aeon Archaeology's requirement is for timely data sharing, with the understanding that a limited, defined period of exclusive use of data for primary research is reasonable according to the nature and value of the data, and that this restriction on sharing should be based on simple, clear principles. This time period is expected to be six months from completion of the project however Aeon Archaeology reserves the right to extend this period without notice if primary data research dictates.

6.13 Restrictions or delays to sharing, with planned actions to limit such restrictions

Restriction to data sharing may be due to participant confidentiality or consent agreements. Strategies to limit restrictions will include data being anonymised or aggregated; gaining participant consent for data sharing; and gaining copyright permissions. For prospective studies, consent procedures will include provision for data sharing to maximise the value of the data for wider research use, while providing adequate safeguards for participants.

6.14 Regulation of responsibilities of users

External users of the data will be bound by data sharing agreements provided by the relevant organisation or directly through Aeon Archaeology.

6.15 Responsibilities

Responsibility for study-wide data management, metadata creation, data security and quality assurance of data will be through the Senior Archaeologist (Richard Cooke BA MA MCIfA) at Aeon Archaeology when concerning data generation and early/mid-term storage. Upon deposition with digital depositories the study-wide data management, metadata creation, data security and quality assurance of data will be the responsibility of the specific organisations' themselves.

6.16 Organisational policies on data sharing and data security

The following Aeon Archaeology policies are relevant:

- Aeon Archaeology Archive Deposition Policy 2019
- Aeon Archaeology Quality Assurance Policy 2019
- Aeon Archaeology Conflict of Interest Policy 2019
- Aeon Archaeology Outreach Policy 2019
- Aeon Archaeology Digital Management Plan 2020

7.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL RECORD

General Setting

The agricultural outbuildings at Brunette Farm lie in a rural setting in the community of Ty Broughton, Wrexham. It lies approximately 3.66km northeast of Hanmer village and 9.94km east of Overton and is accessed via the northern junction at Eglwys Cross on the A525 after which Drury Lane is followed for a distance of 2.35km. This general region is historically acknowledged as the *Maelor Saesneg* which is believed to relate specifically to the area's religious administration as it was historically part of the ancient Diocese of Lichfield and Chester. However, the Welsh word *Maelor* can be transliterated into “*land of the prince*” or more specifically translated into prince from “*Mael*” and low ground from the Welsh word “*llawr*”.

History

(The following has been reproduced from the *The Settlement Landscape* section of CPAT's *Historic Landscape Characterisation, Maelor Saesneg*, available online see bibliography for web address).

Environmental evidence from Fenn's Moss and elsewhere is lacking in specific detail about the precise dating and extent of forest clearance and cultivation in *Maelor Saesneg* and there is little other evidence of early settlement during the prehistoric and Roman periods. Late Neolithic or Bronze Age activity, perhaps in the period between about 2500-1200 BC is represented by a number of burial mounds, including a single mound at Bryn Rossett (Hanmer) to the east of Horseman's Green, a pair of large mounds within about a hundred metres of each other just to the north of Whitewell (Bronington) and a loosely defined group of three mounds to the west of Iscoyd Park (Bronington) at Warren Tump, Crossfield, and Waenreef Farm.

Little certain evidence has been forthcoming of later prehistoric settlement or Roman settlement though possible rectangular and sub rectangular enclosure sites of these periods may be represented by cropmark evidence recorded by aerial photography near Pigeon House (Hanmer), south-west of Horseman's Green, and on Blackhurst Farm, Bettisfield (Maelor South). Iron Age settlement is perhaps indicated by the earthwork remains of a double bank and ditch defending a slight promontory of less than a hectare in Gwernheylod Wood (Overton) overlooking the banks of the Dee. Roman activity is represented by a single coin of early to mid-2nd-century date at Cloy House (Bangor Is-y-coed) and eight coins of late 3rd and early 4th century date from Eglwys Cross (Hanmer) but the nature or extent of settlements in the area at this date is speculative.

Settlement in at least part of the area in the late 6th century is indicated by the early medieval clas at Bangor Is-y-coed, a major regional centre of learning, evangelising and education, sited on a river bluff next to one of the important strategic crossing points across the River Dee. Maelor Saesneg together with the neighbouring border counties of Cheshire and Shropshire appears to have been fully integrated within the Anglo-Saxon kingdom of Mercia by the mid-8th century at the latest. By the later 8th century it fell well within the boundaries of the kingdom demarcated by Offa's Dyke, up to 10km to the west of the Dee. Possible evidence of settlements of the 10th century is provided by two further place-names, noted above, the place-name Croxton, just to the east of Horseman's Green, which may be derived from an Old Norse root meaning 'crook, bend', and Worthenbury whose name seems to be derived from a compound of wordig and burh, the former element with meanings encompassing 'enclosure, yard, homestead' and the latter element meaning 'stronghold'. Again there is little evidence apart from the place-name evidence, although possible traces of defensive outworks have been identified to the east of Worthenbury which may form part of a defensive structure.

Many elements of the modern settlement pattern in Maelor Saesneg, appear to have their origin the Middle Ages, similar in many respects to neighbouring areas of Cheshire and Shropshire, which have shared a similar topography and farming economy. Distinctive elements in this diverse pattern, quite distinct from those to be found in many other areas of Wales, include large villages, moated halls, and parishes with only a few large farms, occasionally clustered in small hamlets. Overton was an Edwardian planted town of the 13th century which simply adopted the name of a pre-existing manor, and the present-day settlement at Bronington has the appearance of a relatively late 'green' settlement.

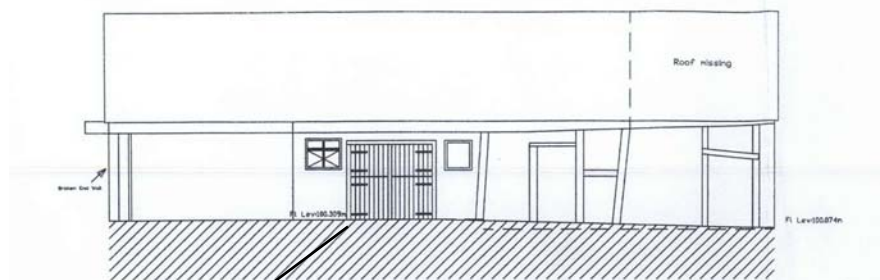
With a predominantly agricultural economy and few natural resources Maelor Saesneg escaped the rapid industrial development that engulfed many of the adjacent areas of north-east Wales, and consequently the modern pattern of settlement of small villages and scattered farms shows many elements of direct continuity from the medieval period. A wide variety of different settlement types made their appearance in the landscape of Maelor Saesneg between the 16th century and the modern day, representing a broad and diverse social spectrum. New farms and smallholdings were created following the enclosure of former open arable and the drainage and enclosure of the mosses, as estate owners strove to maintain or increase their revenue. New small nucleated settlements resulted from encroachment onto the 'greens' or rapidly diminishing areas of common grazing. Country houses set in parkland sprang up in many areas of the landscape of Maelor Saesneg, in many cases in direct succession to medieval manorial centres. As communications improved, new wayside linear settlements sprang up at road junctions, along the turnpike roads, canal and railways, some with more ancient township or area names.

A distinctive phase in the settlement history of Maelor Saesneg was the emergence of the country houses which sprang up particularly in the period between the mid-18th and 19th centuries, matching similar developments in the neighbouring counties of Cheshire and Shropshire. In many instances these country houses developed in direct succession to medieval manorial centres, though in other cases they were new creations of the late 18th to early 20th century, and often forming the centres of a number of the larger estates that were growing to prominence during this period. Iscoyd Park (Bronington) has survived relatively intact within its landscape park, though in many other instances, old and established family seats at Emral (Bangor Is-y-coed), Broughton (Willington Worthenbury), Gwernheylod, Knolton, and Bryn-y-Pys (Overton), Gredington and Bettisfield Park (Bronington) the original country houses were entirely demolished or substantially reduced in size during the 20th century, leaving only elements of the original parkland, stable blocks or gate lodges. So effective has the transformation been in some instances, as in the case of Bryn-y-Pys, that the name of this once important estate is no longer to be found on modern maps. A number of later country houses have survived, including Llannerch Panna (Penley), renamed Tudor Court, built in the later 19th century, and a series of small country houses on the edge of existing settlements, such as The Brow in Overton, and The Manor and Quinton in Worthenbury.

Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton

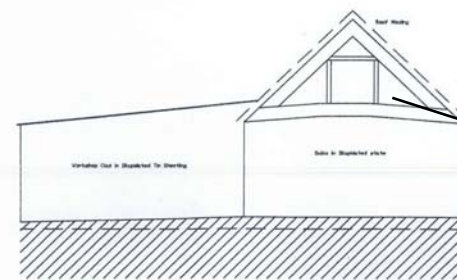
The 1839 tithe *A plan of the township of Ty Broughton in the parish of Hanmer in the County of Flint* records on the map apportionment that the plot number is 76 and is described as *House Outbuildings Yard Gardens Croft & Meadow* with the land use set as a *Pasture*. The landowner at this time is one *Sir Bart John Hanmer* and the occupier at this time is noted as *John Maddocks*. The plot is noted as consisting of *3 acres, 1 rood and 22 perches* and is valued at *5(s) shillings and 3(d) pence*.

The timber framed Shippon at Brunette Farm is comprised of hand-hewn timber framing which is infilled by brick infill (noggings), the building is listed as '*An C18 farm building shown on the 1839 Tithe map*' (grade II Listed Building ref: 85483). However, upon closer



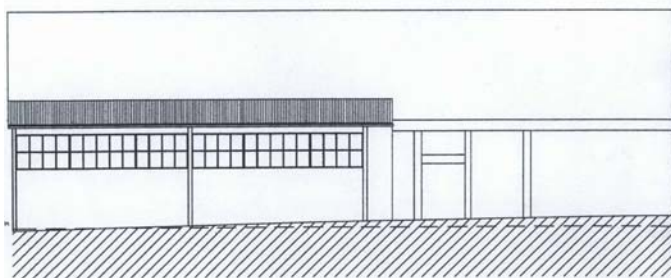
Former Cart Door

Northeast Elevation

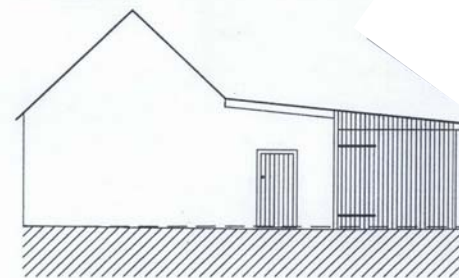


Breached Truss
in gable
for loft access

Southeast Elevation



Southwest Elevation



Northwest Elevation

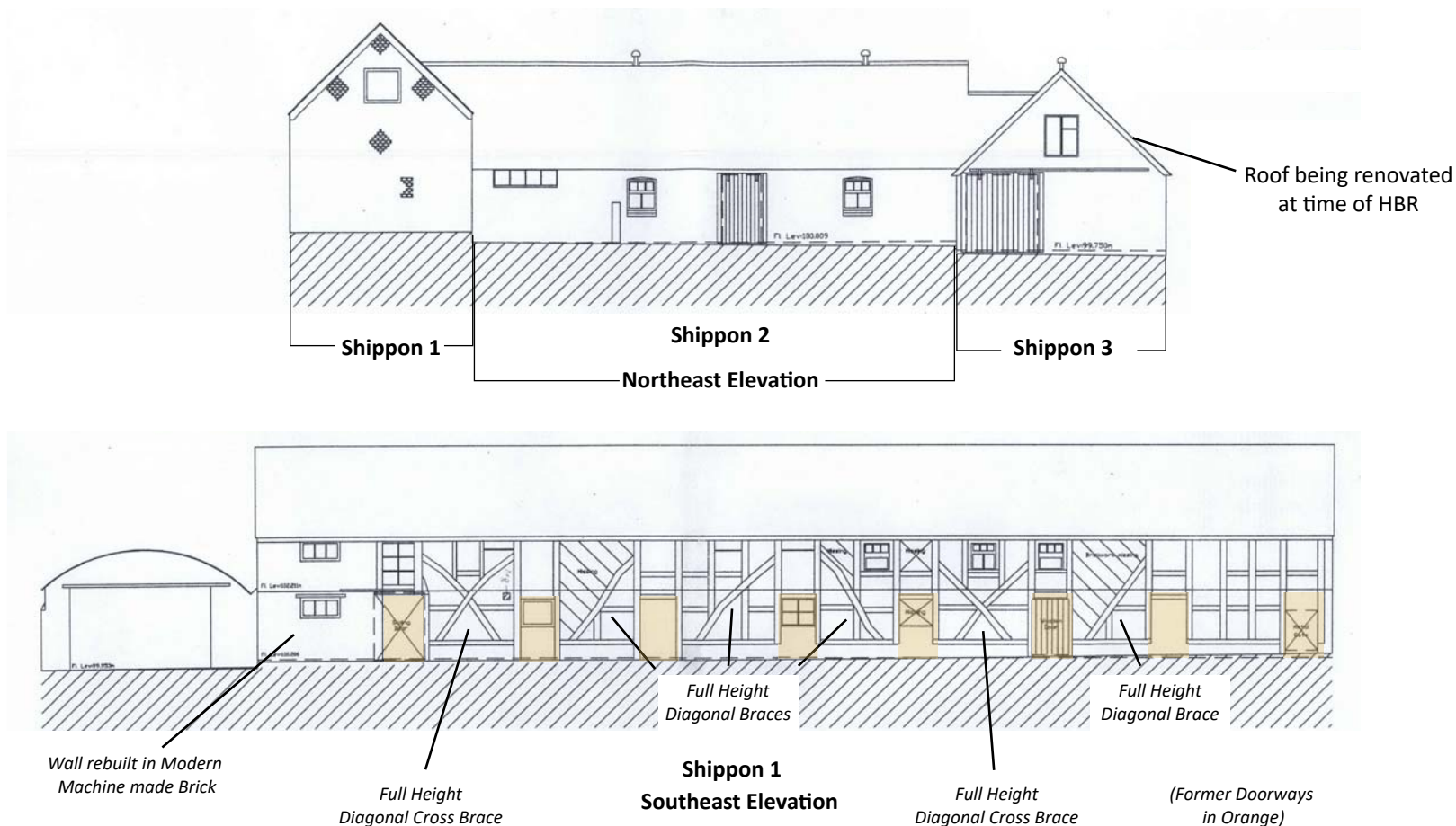
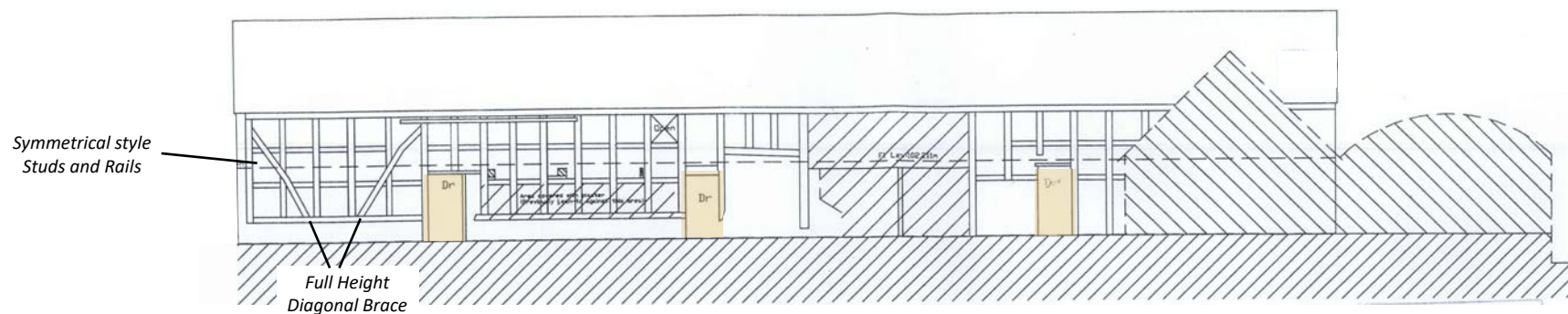
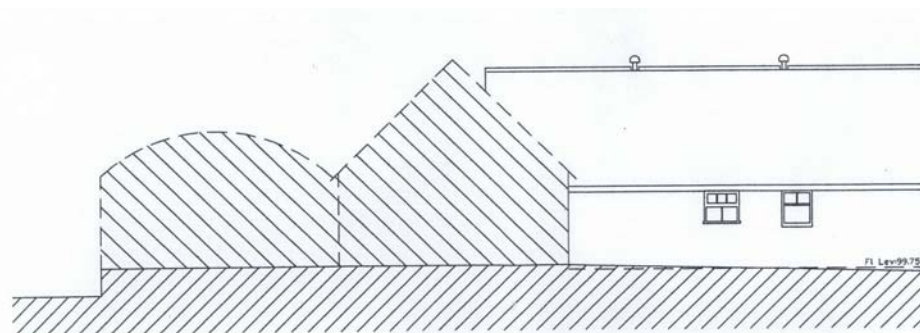


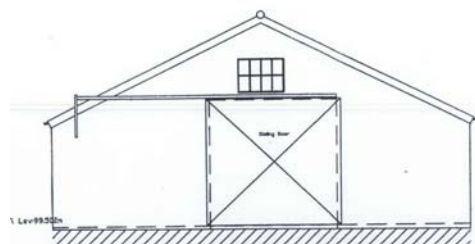
Figure 05: Northeast elevation showing Shippons 1,2 & 3 and the southeast elevation of the Shippon 1 showing details and locations of doorways. Brunett Farm, Lower Wych Road, Ty Broughton, Wrexham, SY13 3BA. Scale 1:200 at A4.



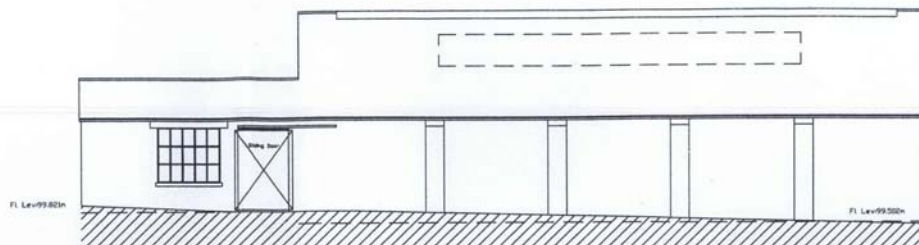
**Northwest Elevation
Shippon 1**



**Southwest Elevation
Shippon 3**



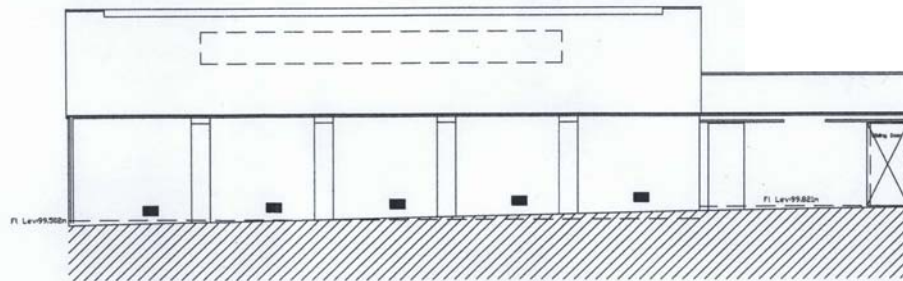
Southeast Elevation



Southwest Elevation



Northwest Elevation



Northeast Elevation

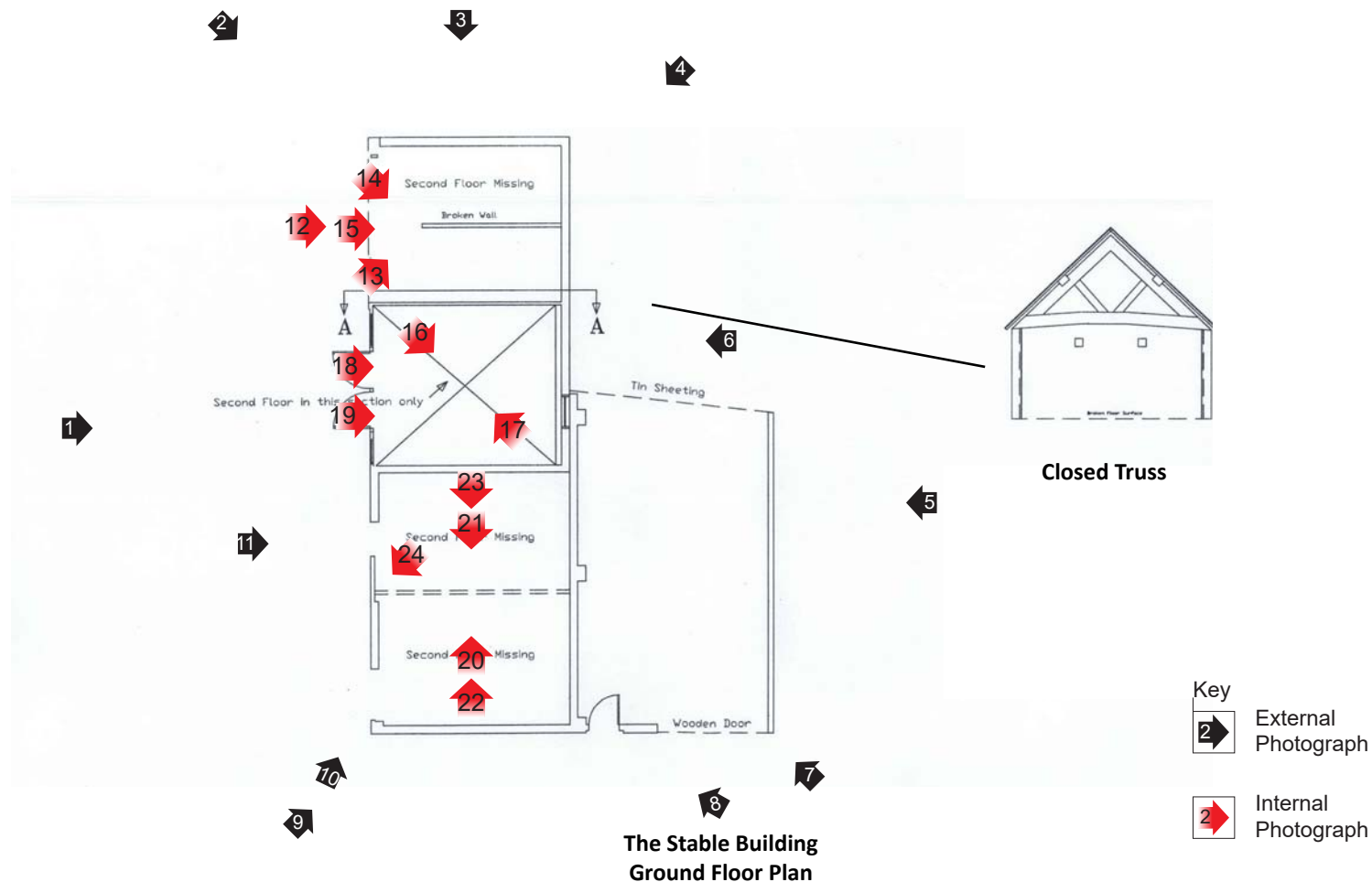
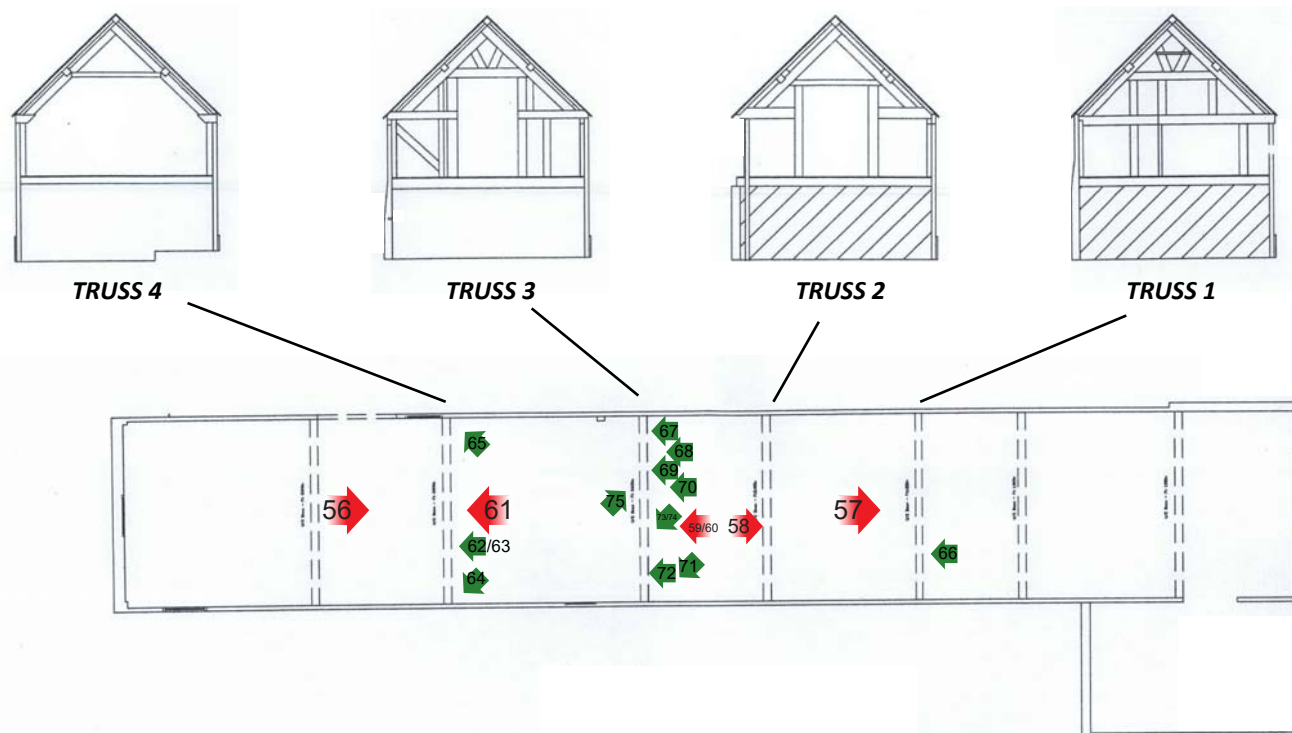


Figure 08: Floor Plan of the Stable Building showing the direction of photographic plates at Brunett Farm, Lower Wych Road, Ty Broughton, Wrexham, SY13 3BA. Scale 1:200 at A4.



Figure 09: Floor Plans of Shippons 1,2 & 3 showing the direction of photographic plates at Brunett Farm, Lower Wych Road, Ty Broughton, Wrexham, SY13 3BA. Scale 1:200 at A4.



First Floor Plan
Shippon 1

Key

 Detail Photograph

 Internal Photograph

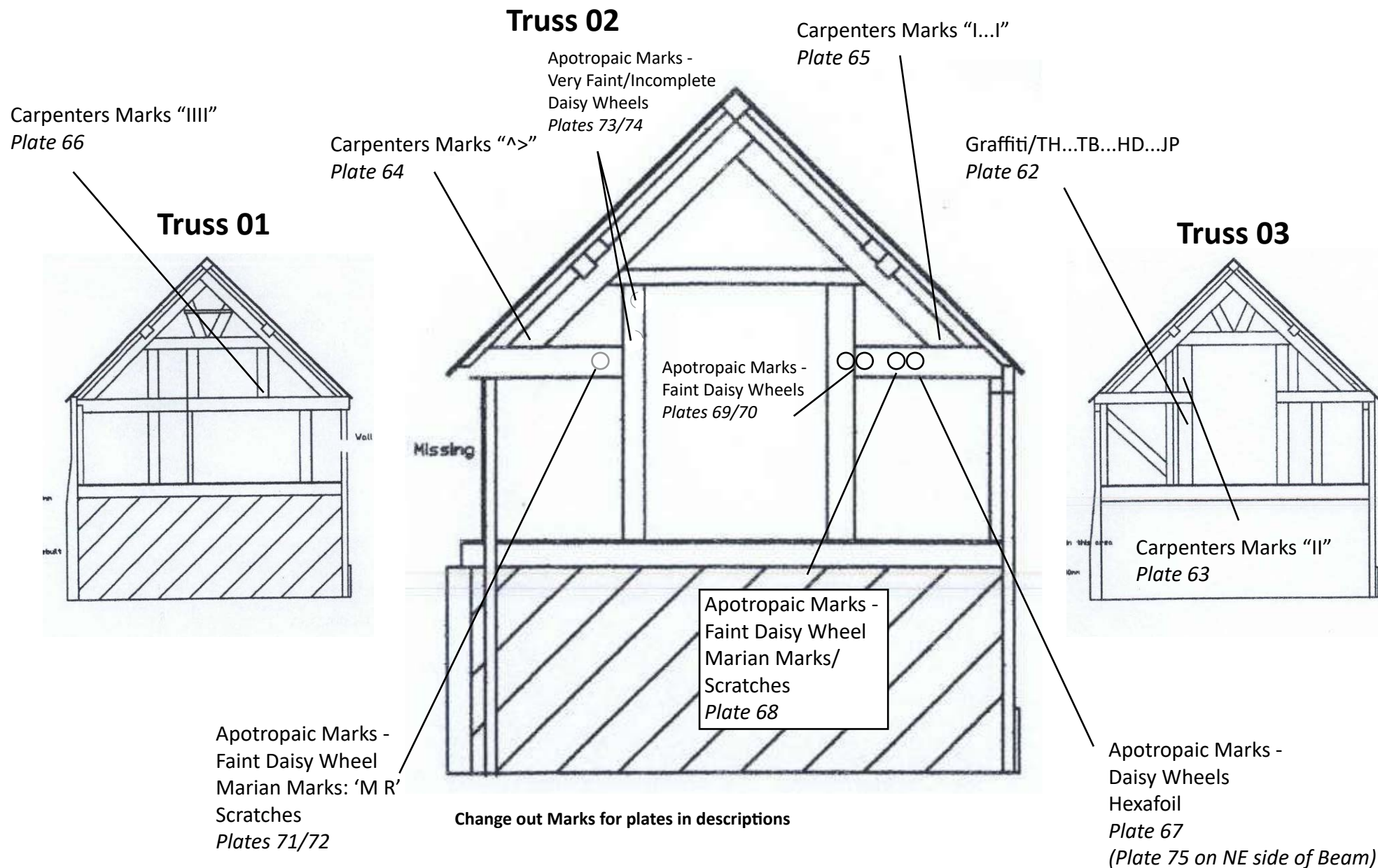
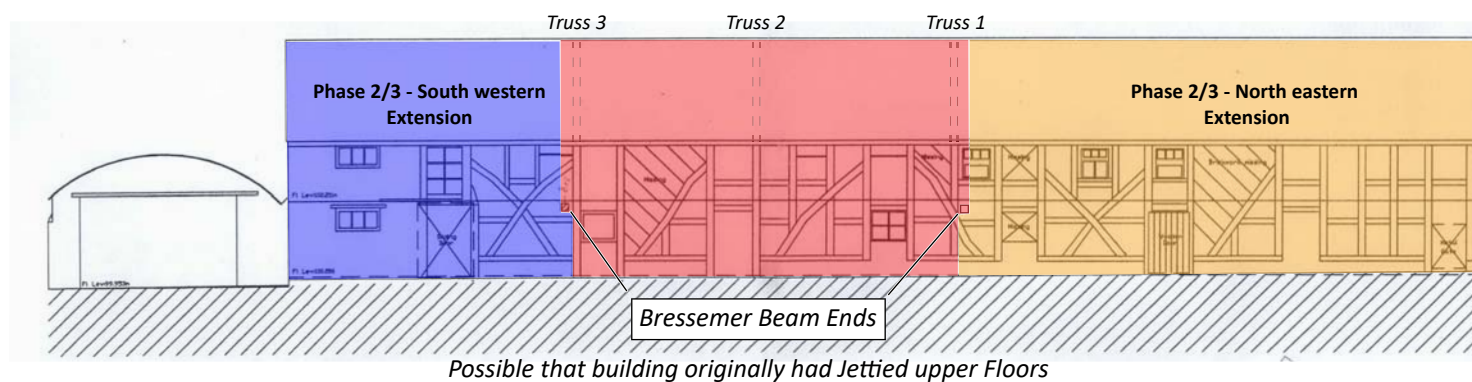


Figure 11: Apotropaic Marks and Carpenters' Marks at Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton, Wrexham. Scale 1:50 (1:100 Truss 01 & 03) at A4.

Phase 1 - Original Construction



Southeast Facing Elevation of Shippon 1 - Showing Primary Building Phase (Red)

Open Hall Form?

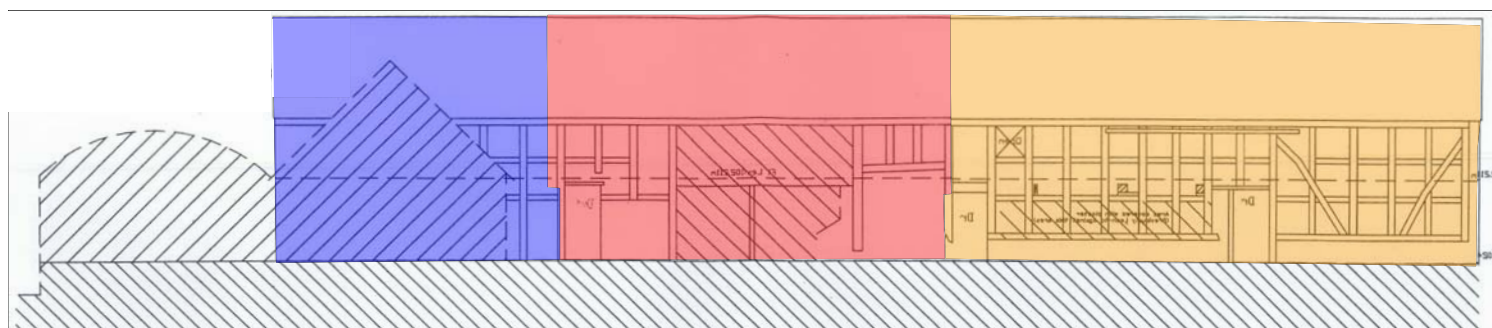
2 Bay

3 Queen Post struts on Trusses?

Diminished Principal Rafters

Small Square Panels

Early 16th Century?



Northwest Facing Elevation of Shippon 1 - Showing Primary Building Phase (Red)

Details Largely demolished aside from timber panels

inspection of the timber framing style and features it is postulated that this date may be pushed back to the early to mid-16th century and that the Shippon may have originally begun as an open hall timber framed house.

Carpenters Marks

Carpenters' marks were created with a race (scribe) knife by the carpenter who crafted and assembled the timber framed building. These were used as tags to distinguish various elements of a timber frame and how the entire structure should be pieced together. These marks are formed using a straight line often gouged with the u-shaped, or scooped, end of the knife.

Roman numerals were commonly used to mark up the timber elements of a timber framed building. At their simplest these look fairly familiar, though four is usually represented by IIII, rather than IV (*as seen on Truss 1 – Plate 66*). The convention for representing four as IV and nine as IX only emerged as the 16th century progressed and took a considerable time to be universally adopted.

Apotropaic Marks

The word *Apotropaic* comes from the Greek word for averting/warding against evil. Apotropaic marks were carved onto stone or woodwork near a building's entrance point, particularly doorways, windows and fireplaces, to protect inhabitants and visitors from witches and evil spirits. They were also common in agricultural Tithe barns to protect crops.

The most common apotropaic mark is the daisy wheel, or hexafoil, which is a six petal "flower" drawn with a pair of compasses. Daisy wheels comprise a single, endless line which supposedly confused and entrapped evil spirits (*Plates 67 – 72*).

Also various combinations of letters seem to have been used on timbers and these are difficult to ascertain with any degree of certainty. A very common type of marking found in older buildings are generally known as Marian symbols, for their supposed association with the Virgin Mary. Often the letters *AM*, thought to be for Ave Maria, simply *M* (*Plates 71-72*) for Mary or *VV* for Virgin of Virgins are found scribed onto the fabric of early houses and churches. The *VV* and *M* markings are particularly common, and could easily be mistaken for an upright or upside-down W. These are however difficult to interpret and there is some academic dispute as to their meaning.

8.0 BUILDING DESCRIPTIONS

Brunette Farm, The Stables.

External Descriptions

This is a rectangular building orientated northwest to southeast and measuring 17.21m in length by 5.76m in width (external wall face to external wall face). The principal elevation of the stable building is orientated to the northeast - opening onto a former farmyard area to the northeast, the north western boundary of this area is formed by the long *Shippon* or *Cowhouse* building to the north. Furthermore, there is evidence that this yard was once cobbled with the remnants of a cobbled surface and larger roughhewn angular kerb stones visible external to the principal elevation, although the area is now covered in grass turf. The building is of one and a half storeys and has a double pitched gable roof which has been reroofed in modern corrugated metal. The building is mostly constructed from hand-moulded, red-brick which appears to have been bonded/repointed with Portland cement in a common bond (six stretcher, single header bond).

The north east principal elevation is separated into three distinct bays dictated by the location of upright posts of the timber frame. At eaves height, the central bay and the right-hand bay have hand-hewn oak wall plates, with three vertical upright posts forming part of the original timber frame. The left-hand most bay is open, without brickwork noggings (infill) or timber framing and forms a large open façade permitting access directly into Bay/Room 1. The central bay (Bay/Room 2) has a double-sized doorway opening that may have previously been a cart door and in modern times has had a sawn timber frame added, splitting it into two distinct single-sized doorway openings. To the left and right of the store doorways, the lower half of the elevation is comprised of unfrosted, handmade, red-brick. However, the upper half of the elevation has been rebuilt in machine made unfrosted red-brick, thus making the original form of the elevation in this location difficult to ascertain. Furthermore, to the left and right-hand side of the central bay's doorway openings are two window openings, but these are without frames and glass. The right-hand bay (Bay/Room 3) has a double doorway opening at the left-hand end permitting access to the interior via a timber batten and plank door on cast iron horizontal roller with cast iron casters.

The southeast gable elevation displays a closed A-frame truss constructed from hand-hewn oak with a now blocked up centralised access hatch into a former hayloft. At ground floor level there are four embrasure openings now blocked up with red-brick. At the first-floor level are two projecting ends of the bearer floor beams which project beyond the level of the elevation.

The left-hand half of the southwest elevation is obscured by a modern lean-to shed constructed from breeze block and corrugated iron and upon inspection the internal elevation in this location has been rebuilt in breezeblock. The right-hand half of the elevation has largely been rebuilt in machine made red-brick however there are the remains of hand-hewn oak timber framing towards the centre of the elevation which have been infilled by wire cut red bricks bonded by Portland cement in a stretcher bond. The northwest Gable is largely featureless but appears to have been extended to the right to accommodate an out-shut for the modern shed extension.

Internal Descriptions

Bay/Room 1

This is a rectangular room orientated northwest to southeast and measures 5.60m in length by 4.13m in width (internal wall face to internal wall face). The room is open to the roof pitch with a hand-hewn oak ridge beam visible at the apex. Two hand-hewn oak purlins are also

visible, these are not complete timbers and are composite constructions, having been tied into one another with a combination of primitive scarf joints with and without stops. These purlins are orientated northwest to southeast within the building. The southeast gable has a hand-hewn closed truss which has had the cross beam cut through in order to accommodate a timber framed loft hatch. To the northwest the elevation has a hand-hewn closed oak truss with two diagonal strut braces. The purlins have been morticed into both trusses via hand-hewn oak blades with tenons.

The first floor/hay loft level has been removed but there are still two hand-hewn oak bearer beams running northwest to southeast. The walls are all made of handmade unfrogged red-brick bonded by mortar in a common bond. The northeast elevation of the bay is open and fronts onto the exterior of the property (the former yard). The southeast elevation has four blocked up embrasure openings at ground floor level. The southwest and northwest elevations are featureless aside from a shallow timber framed, recessed niche. The floor is of poured concrete and against the southeast elevation there are the remains of a brick-built animal pen/stall which has been largely demolished.

Bay/Room 2

This is a rectangular room orientated southwest to northeast and measuring 5.60m in length and 4.63m in width (internal wall face to internal wall face). The upper floor is visible here but has been raised and replaced with sawn timber joists and floorboards, these are supported on a combination of rough sawn timbers and old metal scaffolding poles. The original hand-hewn timber beams having been cut through and removed, the ends of these are visible in the brick-built southeast elevation. Above this floor the ceiling is open to the roof space showing the continuation of the hand-hewn ridge beam and hand-hewn purlins. A hand-hewn closed truss with diagonal strut braces is visible above the southeast elevation, with a matching truss visible above the northwest elevation.

The southeast and southwest elevations are of handmade red-brick bonded by mortar with the remains of hand-hewn wooden framing visible in the southwest elevation. The northwest elevation is of modern timber cladding attached to three original hand-hewn oak uprights. The northeast elevation has been rebuilt in modern times and is as described externally. The floor is of poured concrete and a modern timber partition separates the room on a northeast southwest alignment.

Bay/Room 3

This is a rectangular room orientated northwest to southeast and measures 7.26m in length and 5.55m in width (internal wall face to internal wall face). The upper floor has been removed at this location and the ceiling is open to the roof pitch showing the continuation of the hand-hewn ridge beam and purlins. There is a hand-hewn closed truss with two diagonal strut braces above the southeast elevation and a matching truss within the centre of the roof space, however this has been heavily repaired in modern times with a new sawn timber crossbeam. This beam is supported by primitive hammer beam construction to the northeast but due to the rebuild on the southwestern wall this is not present.

The northeast and northwest elevations are of handmade, unfrogged, red-brick bonded by mortar. While the southwest elevation has been reconstructed in modern breezeblock. The southeast elevation is not visible due to furniture storage within the room although this is assumed to comprise of modern wooden cladding (*see Bay 2*).

The northeast elevation has an opening at the left-hand end which may be a former doorway but is now covered over with corrugated metal and plastic sheeting supported by timber. There is a single doorway opening at the right-hand end permitting access to the exterior of the property. The southeast and southwest elevations are featureless. The northwest elevation

has the remains of eight rectangular beam slots visible within the masonry at eaves height demonstrating the previous location of a former first storey level. The floor is of poured concrete.



Plate 01: Northeast facing elevation of the Stable Building at Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton, Wrexham - from the northeast - scale 1m



Plate 02: Oblique shot of northeast facing elevation of the Stable at Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton, Wrexham - from the east - scale 1m



Plate 03: Southeast facing gable elevation of the Stable at Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton, Wrexham - from the southeast - scale 1m



Plate 04: Southeast and southwest elevations of the Stable at Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton, Wrexham - from the south - scale 1m



Plate 05: Southwest facing elevation of the Stable at Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton, Wrexham - from the southwest - scale 1m



Plate 06: Right hand end of southwest elevation of the Stable at Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton, Wrexham - from the southwest - scale 1m



Plate 07: Southwest and northwest elevations of the Stable at Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton, Wrexham - from the west - scale 1m



Plate 08: Oblique shot of northwest elevation of the Stable at Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton, Wrexham - from the west - scale 1m



Plate 09: Oblique shot of northwest elevation of the Stable at Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton, Wrexham - from the north - scale 1m



Plate 10: Northwest and northeast elevations of the Stable at Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton, Wrexham - from the north - scale 1m

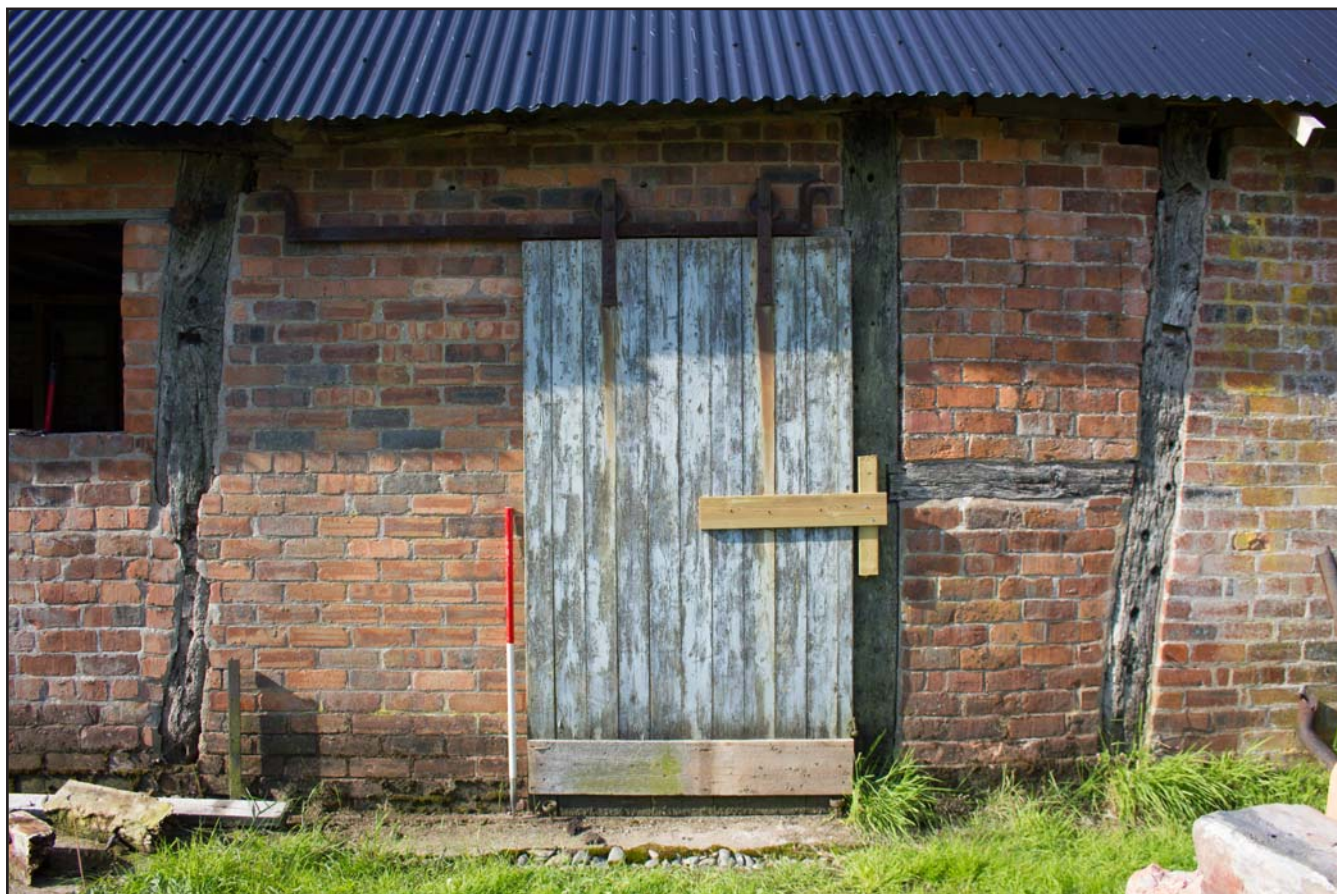


Plate 11: Right hand end of northeast elevation of the Stable at Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton, Wrexham - from the northeast - scale 1m



Plate 12: Room 1 within the Stable at Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton, Wrexham - from the northeast - scale 1m



Plate 13: South eastern handhewn truss in Room 1, Stable at Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton, Wrexham - from the north - no scale



Plate 14: North western handhewn truss and blades in Room 1, Stable at Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton, Wrexham - from the east - no scale



Plate 15: Handhewn purlins, ridgebeam and blade in Room 1, Stable at Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton, Wrexham - from the northeast - no scale



Plate 16: Room 2 within the Stable at Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton, Wrexham - from the east - scale 1m



Plate 17: Room 2 within the Stable at Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton, Wrexham - from the west - scale 1m

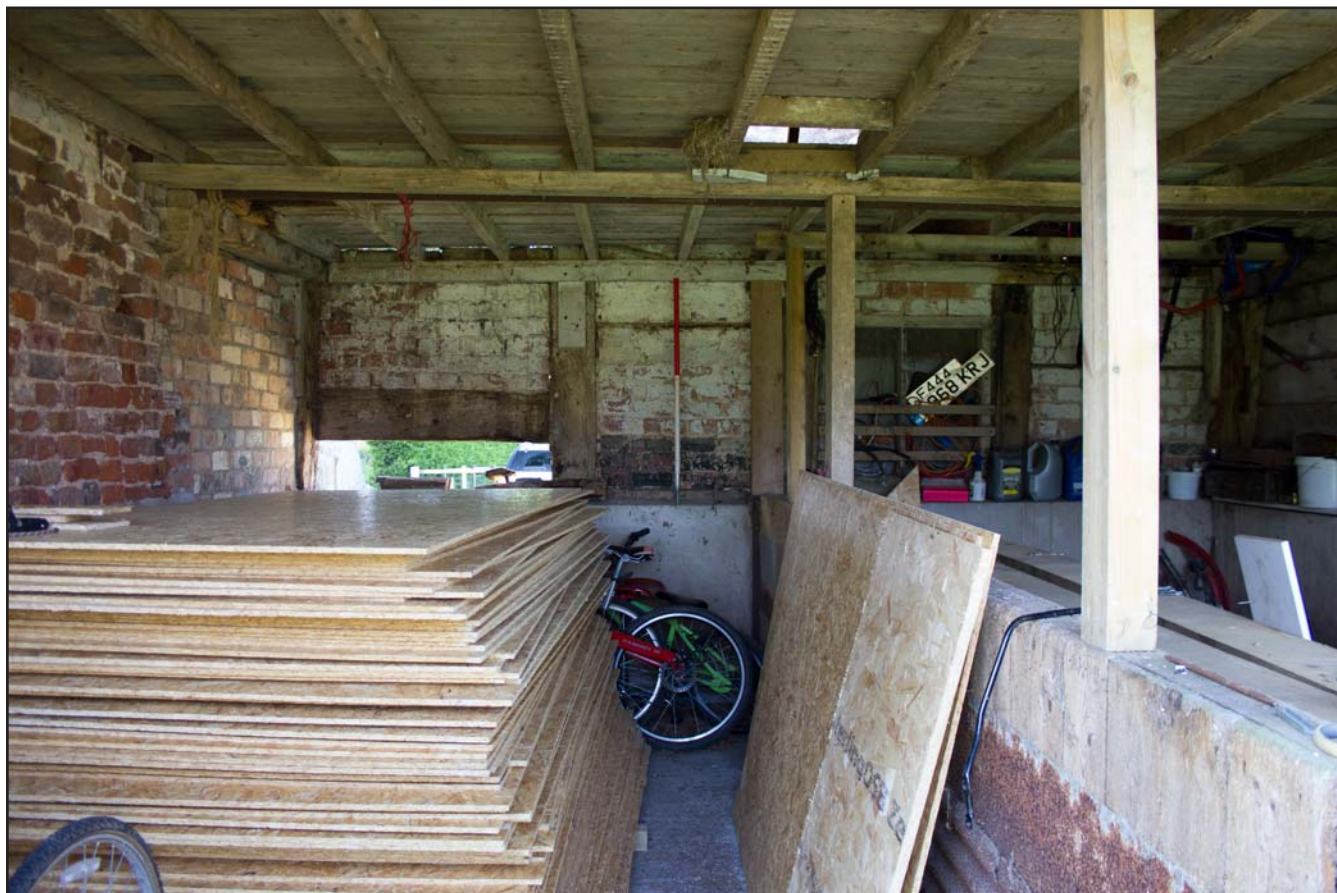


Plate 18: Room 2 (left) within the Stable at Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton, Wrexham - from the northeast - scale 1m

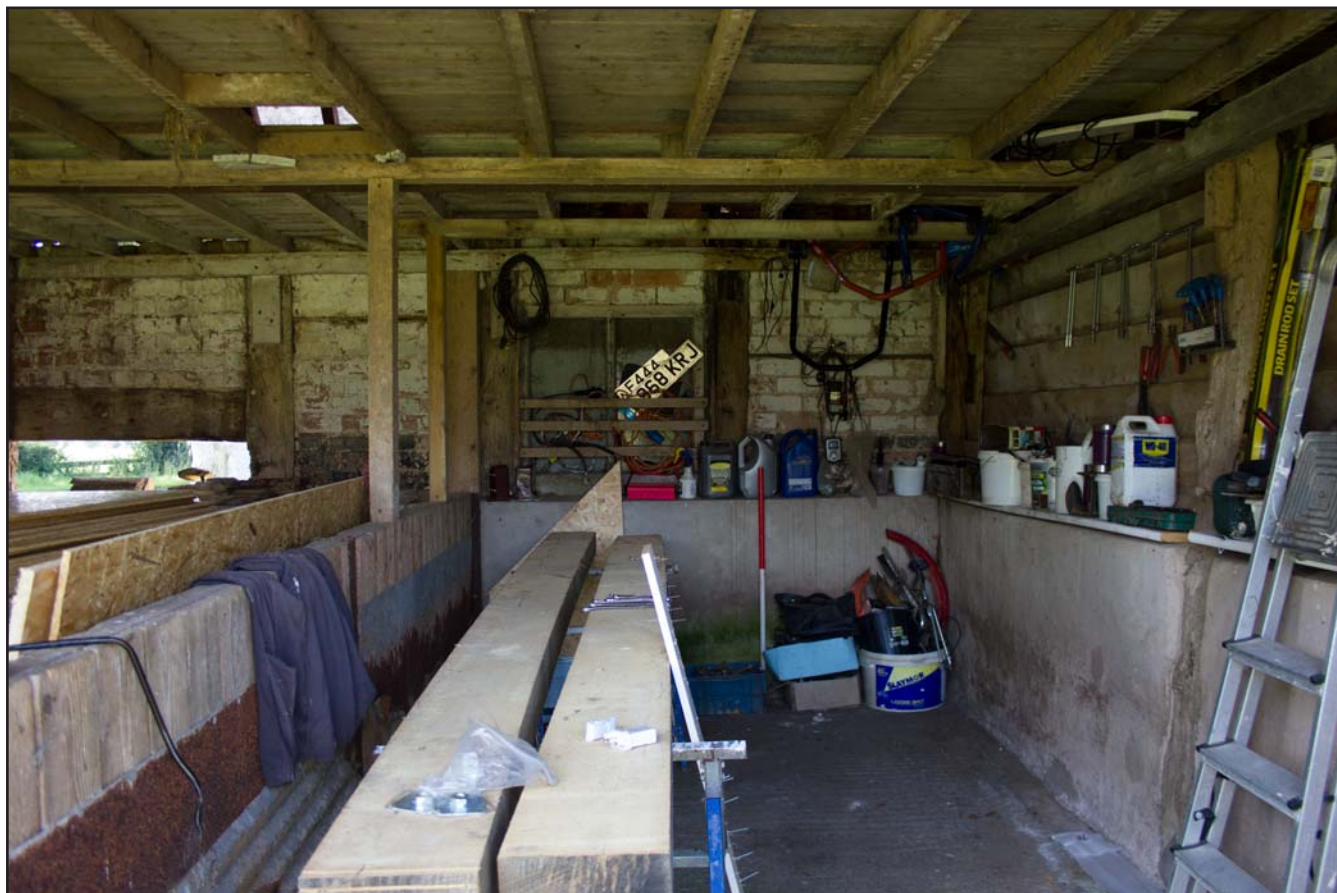


Plate 19: Room 2 (right) within the Stable at Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton, Wrexham - from the northeast - scale 1m



Plate 20: Room 3 within the Stable at Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton, Wrexham - from the northwest - scale 1m



Plate 21: Room 3 within the Stable at Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton, Wrexham - from the southeast - scale 1m



Plate 22: South eastern handhewn truss in Room 3, Stable at Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton, Wrexham - from the northwest - no scale



Plate 23: North western handhewn truss in Room 3, Stable at Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton, Wrexham - from the southeast - no scale



Plate 24: Handhewn upright post supporting north eastern trusse in Room 3, Stable at Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton, Wrexham - from the south - no scale

Brunette Farm, The Timber-Framed *Shippon* (1) or *Cowhouse*.

Shippon (1) External Descriptions

This is a large, lofted, rectangular building orientated northeast - southwest measuring 31.77m in length by 5.15m in width. It has a double pitched, gabled roof which has been removed and is currently being renovated. The principal elevation lies to the southeast fronting onto a former farmyard area (suspected cobbled, *see above*). This building is timber framed incorporating distinctive full height diagonal tension braces with partly replaced brick nogging. Facing the yard are eight original doorways two of which are blocked, of the remaining doorways two have replacement doors and four have been converted to windows. In the loft level there are three inserted windows and two loading doors to the left.

Original Building (Phase 1) 16th Century

Southeast Elevation

Following an inspection, a basic chronology of three distinct building phases is postulated for the *Shippon* or *Cowhouse*. The initial construction and oldest part of the building is the central part (*see figure 12*) namely the part which is located to the southwest of centre, this measures 10.80m in length by 5.15m in width (35 feet 4" by 16 feet 9"). This building unit originally had three doorways on the south eastern elevation, the left and right of which have now been blocked up and turned into windows. At the original gable ends are two hand-hewn bressummer beams, the exposed ends of which now denote the original limits of the building which perhaps previously had a jettied first floor. It is also useful to mention the colour of the timber framing on this original building which is of a darker hue, whether this is due to any treatment or age is unclear. The original structure consists of seven upright timber posts and three diagonal tension braces, however the right-hand most brace has been removed for renovation. Between the doorway openings there is a projecting brick-built cill wall.

Northwest Elevation

The northwest facing elevation demonstrates that the oldest and central part of the building has had much of the brickwork removed but still retains the hand-hewn timber frame consisting of three upright posts as part of the internal trusses. At ground floor level the elevation opens up directly into rooms 4 and 5.

North eastern extension (Phase 2) 17th-18th century

Southeast Elevation

The building has been extended to the northeast most likely in a single construction phase by 7.60m in length. This extension is also of hand-hewn oak framing and has three window insertions at loft level. The framing comprises of ten upright timber posts topped with a hand-hewn timber wall plate and the projecting brick-built cill wall is continued. This extension incorporated four equally spaced doorways originally. To the left of the left-hand most doorway a window has been blocked up with breezeblocks and to the right of this doorway is a hand-hewn timber cross-brace. This diagonal cross brace design is repeated on the southwestern extension also, which might suggest contemporaneous construction for these two extensions. To the right of the left-hand most doorway is the second doorway and beyond this is a full-sized diagonal tension brace.

Northwest Elevation

Where the building has been extended to the northeast there are two doorway openings at ground level. The hand-hewn timber framing consists of fourteen upright stud posts with two levels of timber rail forming two banks of square panels infilled with brick noggings and with two diagonal braces at the left-hand end. The timber framing on this elevation differs from the south eastern facing elevation in that the timber is of a more symmetrical design. At first floor height there are two inserted windows at each end.

Northeast Gable

The northeast gable is comprised of handmade red-brick bonded by Portland cement and lime mortar. The upper half of the elevation has been rebuilt in modern breezeblock with a reinstated loft access door. Beneath this is a diamond patterned ventilator, there are further ventilation holes at ground level at the right-hand end and at the right-hand corner the wall has been remade in machine-made red-brick. Furthermore a window opening on the left-hand side of ground level has also been blocked up with machine-made red-brick.

South western extension (Phase 2/3)**Southeast Elevation**

The building has further been extended to the southwest to include a rectangular bay measuring 13.54m long by 4.51 m wide. The majority of this part of the building is also of hand-hewn timber frame (lighter colour) with mortise and tenon joints secured by wooden dowels. There are two equally spaced former doorway openings at ground floor level. At the right-hand end there is a full-sized diagonal tension brace and between the two doorway openings there is a timber cross brace. At the far left-hand end the elevation has been rebuilt in machine-made brick bonded by mortar.

Northwest Elevation

Where the building has been extended to the southwest there is a single doorway opening at ground floor level and one inserted window to the right of this. Although the majority of this elevation is obscured by *Shippon Two*.

Southwest Gable

The south western gable of the Shippon is entirely made from handmade, red-brick bonded by lime mortar in a Common/American bond. The gable end has diamond pattern ventilators and a loft opening at eaves height and two hourglass pattern ventilators at ground level.



Plate 25: Oblique shot of southwest elevation of Shippon 1 at Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton, Wrexham - from the east - scale 1m



Plate 26: Right hand end of southeast elevation of Shippon 1 at Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton, Wrexham - from the southeast - scale 1m



Plate 27: Far right hand end of southeast elevation of Shippon 1 at Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton, Wrexham - from the southeast - scale 1m



Plate 28: Centre of southeast elevation of Shippon 1 at Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton, Wrexham - from the southeast - scale 1m



Plate 29: Far left hand end of southeast elevation of Shippon 1 at Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton, Wrexham - from the southeast - scale 1m



Plate 30: Left hand end of southeast elevation of Shippon 1 at Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton, Wrexham - from the southeast - scale 1m



Plate 31: Southwest facing gable elevation of Shippon 1 at Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton, Wrexham - from the southwest - scale 1m



Plate 32: Oblique shot of northwest elevation of Shippon 1 at Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton, Wrexham - from the west - scale 1m



Plate 33: Right hand end of northwest elevation of Shippon 1 at Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton, Wrexham - from the northwest - scale 1m



Plate 34: Centre of northwest elevation of Shippon 1 at Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton, Wrexham - from the northwest - scale 1m



Plate 35: Left hand end of northwest elevation of Shippon 1 at Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton, Wrexham - from the north - scale 1m



Plate 36: Oblique shot of northwest elevation of Shippon 1 at Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton, Wrexham - from the west - scale 1m



Plate 37: Northwest and northeast elevations of Shippon 1 at Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton, Wrexham - from the north - scale 1m



Plate 38: Northeast facing gable elevation of Shippon 1 at Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton, Wrexham - from the northeast - scale 1m



Plate 39: Northeast and northwest elevations of Shippon 1 at Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton, Wrexham - from the east - scale 1m

Shippon (1) Internal Descriptions

Ground Floor

Room 1

This is a rectangular room orientated northeast to southwest and measuring 8.94m long by 4.83m wide. The ceiling is open to the floor joists which support the floor above, this consists of sawn wooden timbers running northeast to southwest. These are supported by three chamfered, sawn timber beams running northwest to southeast, apart from the second one from the southwest which is hand-hewn and likely reused.

The northwest and southeast elevation are of hand-hewn timber framing and unfrosted, red-brick inserts (noggings). The northeast elevation is entirely of red-brick and partly clad in render. The southwest elevation is a modern, machine-made red-brick insert. The northeast elevation has a single doorway opening at the left-hand end but which has now been blocked up with breeze blocks. The southeast elevation has three equally spaced doorway openings between the timber frame. The southwest elevation has a doorway opening at the left-hand end permitting access to *Room 2* and its accompanying corridor. The northwest elevation has a single doorway opening to the left of centre permitting access to the exterior of the property through the timber framing. The floor is of poured concrete.

Room 2

This is a rectangular room orientated northeast to southwest and measures 3.53m long by 3.43m wide. The ceiling is open to the floor joists above which are of sawn timber orientated northeast to southwest and are supported on a chamfered, sawn wooden beam at the northeast end and a steel girder at the southwest which in turn are supported on three brick pillars. All of the elevations are of modern machine-made red-brick bonded by mortar, aside from the north western elevation which is of timber frame with handmade red-brick noggings. The northeast elevation is featureless. The southeast elevation has a doorway opening at the right-hand end permitting access to an adjoining corridor. The southwest elevation is featureless as is the northwest elevation. The floor is of laid red-brick. It is suspected that this room was constructed during the early to mid-20th century.

Room 3

This is a rectangular room orientated southeast to northwest and measures 4.51m long by 3.37m wide. The ceiling is open to the floor joists above which consist of sawn wooden timbers orientated northeast to southwest and which are supported on three hand-hewn chamfered, timber beams running northwest to southeast. The walls are all of machine-made red-brick and clad in render. The northeast elevation has a single doorway opening at the right-hand end permitting access to an adjoining corridor. The southeast elevation has an inserted window opening at the right-hand end consisting of four pane fixed window, in white painted wooden frame. The southwest elevation is featureless. The northwest elevation has a single doorway opening at the right-hand end permitting access to the rear of the property via a batten and plank door set within the hand-hewn timber framing. The floor is of poured concrete and machine-made red-brick. It is suspected that this room was constructed during the early to mid-20th century.

Room 4

This is a rectangular room orientated southeast to northwest and measures 4.57m long 2.57m wide. The ceiling is open to the floor joists above which consist of sawn wooden timbers running northeast to southwest and which is supported on a hand-hewn wooden beam at the northeast end and a sawn wooden beam at the southwest end. The walls are all of modern machine-made brick and are clad in render. The northeast, the southeast and the southwest elevations are all featureless. The northwest elevation is open to the external yard. The floor is of poured concrete.

Room 5

This is a rectangular room orientated southeast to northwest and measures 4.57m long by 1.97m wide. The ceiling is open to the floor joists above which consist of sawn wooden timbers running northeast to southwest and which are supported on a hand-hewn wooden beam at the southwest end and a sawn wooden beam at the northeast end. The walls are all of modern machine-made brick and are clad in render. The northeast, the southeast and the southwest elevations are all featureless. The northwest elevation is open to the external yard. The floor is of poured concrete.

Room 6

This is a rectangular room orientated northeast to southwest and measures 9.87m long by 4.62m wide. The floor above has been removed and is open to the roof pitch which consists of two queens post trusses. The two trusses in this location have been renewed with modern sawn timber, aside from the braces which appear to be the retained hand-hewn struts. The roof rafters have been replaced with sawn wooden timber and are supported by hand-hewn wooden purlins running northeast to southwest. These purlins are not single pieces of timber, rather they are composite pieces of timber joined by primitive scarf joints both with and without stops. The southwest truss is supported by upright posts which have hand-hewn struts connecting with a sawn wooden floor beam. The north eastern floor beam is of hand-hewn timber.

The southeast and northwest elevations are of hand-hewn timber framing with handmade brick noggings, while the northeast elevation is of machine-made, red-brick and the southwest elevation is of handmade red-brick bonded by Portland cement and lime mortar. The northeast elevation is featureless. The southeast elevation has two equally spaced doorway openings through the timber framing and at the right-hand end the elevation has been rebuilt in machine-made red-brick. The southwest elevation appears to be a double skin of red brick. On the outer skin two diamond shape ventilation holes are visible. This elevation has a window opening at first floor height without glass and frame. Beneath this is a second window opening which has been blocked up with red-brick. At ground floor level there are two equally spaced window openings blocked up with red-brick, both of which have sawn wooden lintels.

The northwest elevation has a bricked-up doorway at the left-hand end and a centralised single doorway opening permitting access to *Shippon 2* via a modern wooden board door. At the right-hand end is a third doorway opening permitting access to the rear yard. The timber framing on this elevation is only visible from inside *Room 6*. At the left-hand end there would have originally been two full-sized diagonal braces which sat upon a timber wall plate. However, the diagonal brace on the right has been cut through to facilitate access to *Shippon 2* via a loft hatch. To the right of this the same symmetrical timber framing seen on the external elevation of the north eastern extension (*same as phase 2*) is repeated.

First Floor (Hayloft)

The loft of *Shippon 1* forms a long rectangular room orientated northeast to southwest and measures 31.00m in length and is 4.89m in width. The ceiling is open to the roof pitch which consists of a hand-hewn ridge beam and two hand-hewn purlins all of which are segmented together and joined via primitive scarf joints with and without stops. These support a new roof comprising of sawn wooden rafters. A series of seven closed roof trusses sit on timber wall plates, these wall plates are mostly original however have been renewed in some areas.

The oldest (central part) of the building consists of three collar and queens post trusses with double-crown struts – these are all of mortice and tenon construction and have been fixed with wooden dowels/pegs. The northeast truss (*Truss 3*) is no longer closed as it was cut through in the mid-20th century (*pers comm.*), it however retains the handmade brick noggings

at the apex between the double-crown struts, demonstrating that it was once the original north eastern gable of the building end prior to the first extension. The central truss within this configuration (*Truss 2*) is intriguing as both the tie beam and the collar have a number of carved mortice joints visible to the northeast this suggests that it may have been reused. A repair at the left-hand end has been made using hand-hewn timber and wooden dowels which is also of considerable age. The south western most truss (*Truss 1*) crossbeam also has stops showing that it has also probably been reused. These three trusses (*Trusses 1, 2 and 3*) are the oldest in the whole building. The substantial cross beams of truss 2 and 3 have also been sawn through and removed to create openings between the bays at first floor height.

Where the building has been extended to the northeast the purlins are supported on two equally spaced hand-hewn trusses, the lower parts of which have been sawn through and removed. Where the building has been extended to the southwest the trusses are as described in Room 6. The southeast and northwest elevations are of hand-hewn timber frame with handmade brick noggings, while the northeast and southwest elevations are of handmade red-brick. The floor is of wooden boards which are orientated northwest to southeast.



Plate 40: Room 1, ground floor within Shippon 1 at Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton, Wrexham - from the northeast - scale 1m



Plate 41: Room 1 , ground floor within Shippon 1 at Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton, Wrexham - from the southwest - scale 1m



Plate 42: Northwest elevation within Room 1, ground floor, Shippon 1 at Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton, Wrexham - from the southeast - scale 1m



Plate 43: View of passageway to southeast of Room 2, ground floor, Shippon 1 at Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton, Wrexham - from the northeast - no scale



Plate 44: Full height diagonal cross braces in Room 1 and passageway, ground floor, Shippon 1 at Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton, Wrexham - from the north - no scale



Plate 45: Room 2, ground floor, Shippon 1 at Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton, Wrexham - from the east - scale 1m



Plate 46: Room 3, ground floor, Shippon 1 at Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton, Wrexham - from the southeast - scale 1m



Plate 47: Room 3, ground floor, Shippon 1 at Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton, Wrexham - from the northwest - scale 1m



Plate 48: Room 4, ground floor, Shippon 1 at Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton, Wrexham - from the northwest - scale 1m



Plate 49: Handhewn beam within Room 4, ground floor, Shippon 1 at Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton, Wrexham - from the west - scale 1m



Plate 50: Room 5, ground floor, Shippon 1 at Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton, Wrexham - from the northwest - scale 1m



Plate 51: Handhewn beam within Room 5, ground floor, Shippon 1 at Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton, Wrexham - from the north - scale 1m



Plate 52: Room 6, ground floor, Shippon 1 at Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton, Wrexham - from the northeast - scale 1m



Plate 53: Room 6, ground floor, Shippon 1 at Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton, Wrexham - from the southwest - scale 1m



Plate 54: Full height diagonal cross braces in Room 6, ground floor, Shippon 1 at Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton, Wrexham - from the west - no scale



Plate 55: Northwest elevation within Room 6, ground floor, Shippon 1 at Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton, Wrexham - from the southeast - scale 1m



Plate 56: First floor, Shippon 1 at Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton, Wrexham - from the northeast - scale 1m



Plate 57: Truss 1, First floor, Shippon 1 at Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton, Wrexham - from the northeast - no scale



Plate 58: Truss 2, First floor, Shippon 1 at Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton, Wrexham - from the northeast - no scale



Plate 59: Truss 3, First floor, Shippon 1 at Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton, Wrexham - from the southwest - scale 1m



Plate 60: Crown/ridge of Truss 3, First floor, Shippon 1 at Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton, Wrexham - from the southwest - no scale

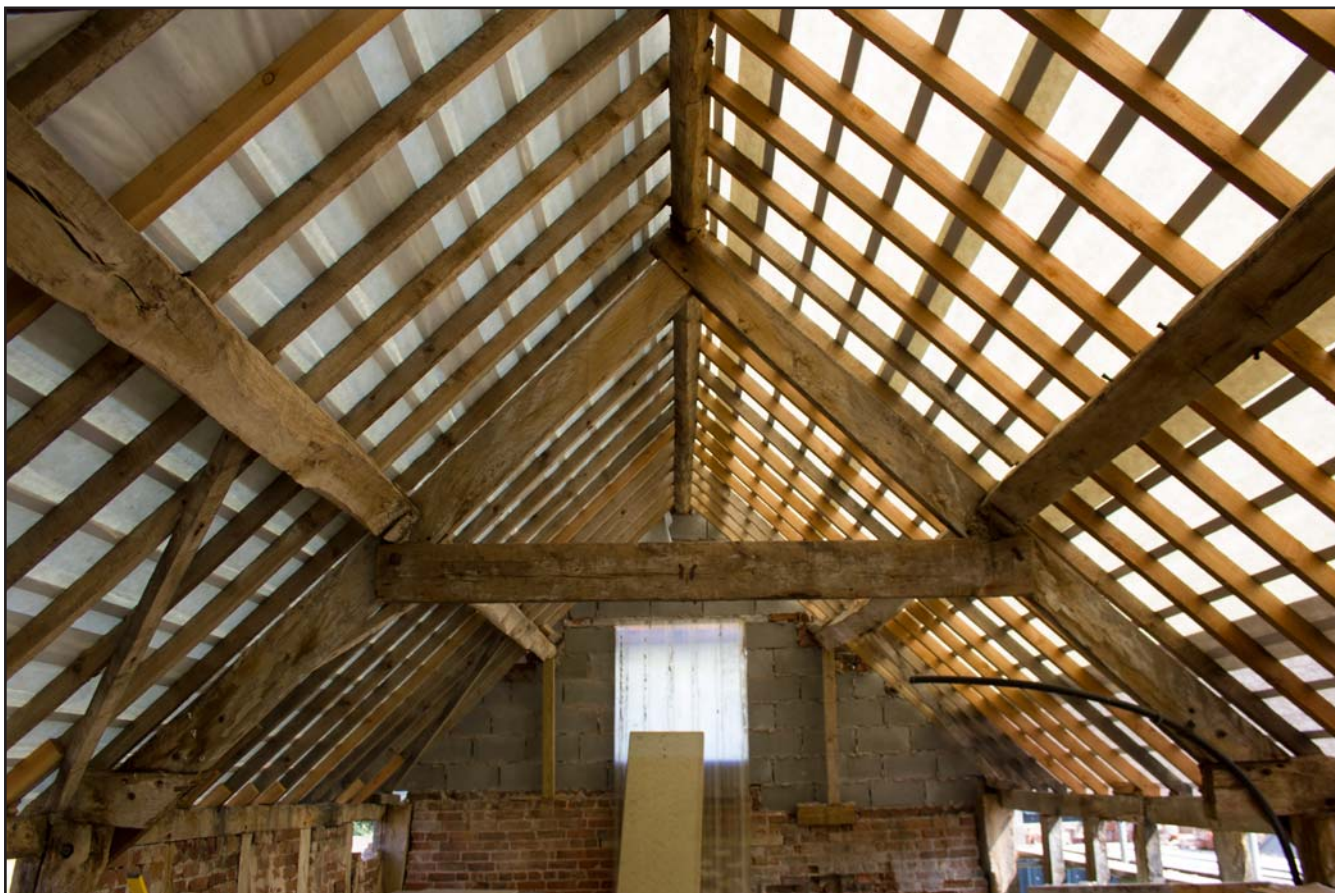


Plate 61: Truss 4, First floor, Shippon 1 at Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton, Wrexham - from the southwest - no scale



Plate 62: Carved graffiti on northwest stud, Truss 2 within Shippon 1 at Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton, Wrexham - from the southwest - no scale



Plate 63: Carpenter's marks (II) on northwest stud, Truss 2 within Shippon 1 at Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton, Wrexham - from the southwest - no scale

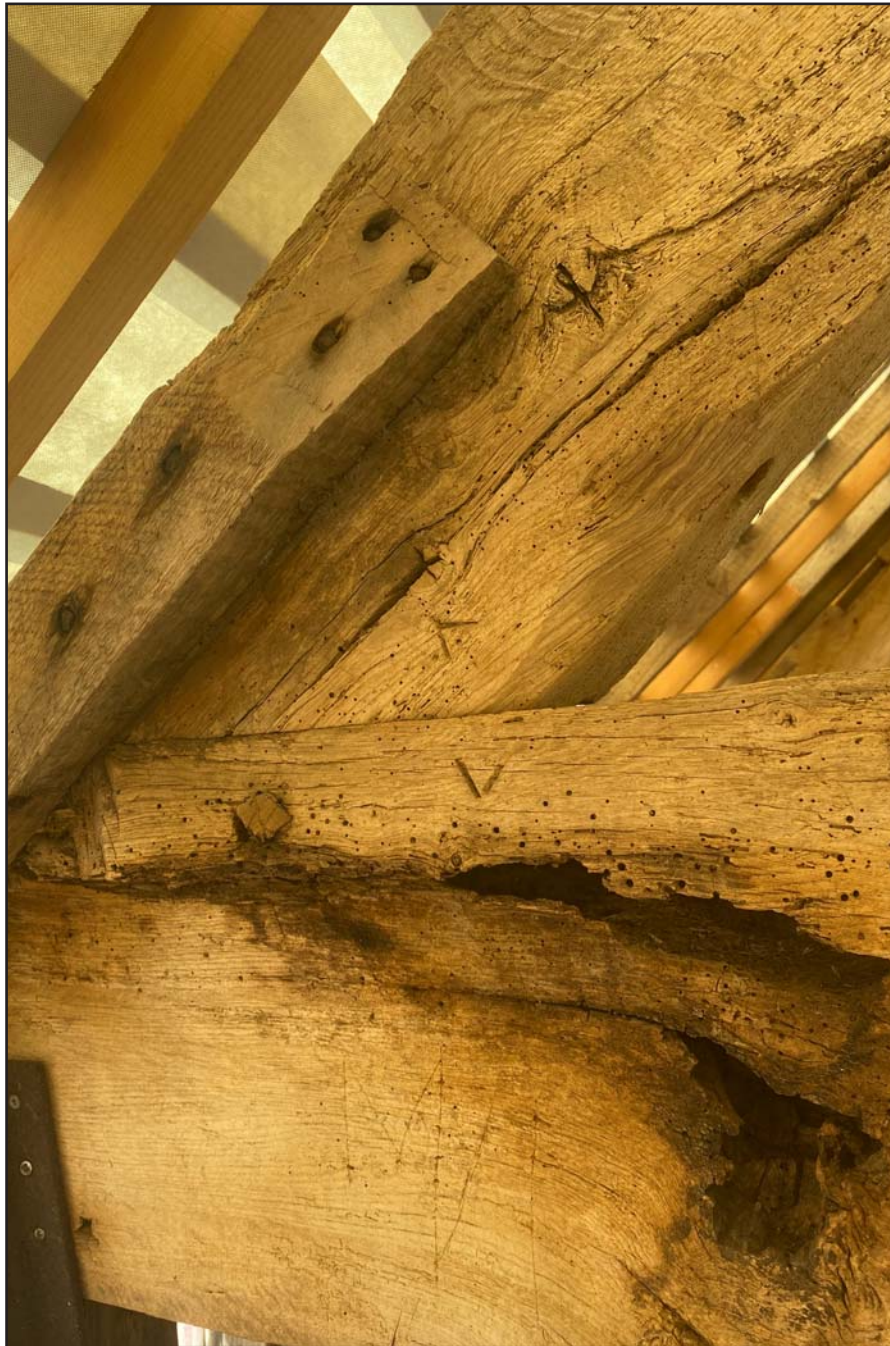


Plate 64: Carpenter's marks (^>) on northwest rafter/tie-beam, Truss 3 within Shippon 1 at Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton, Wrexham - from the southwest - no scale

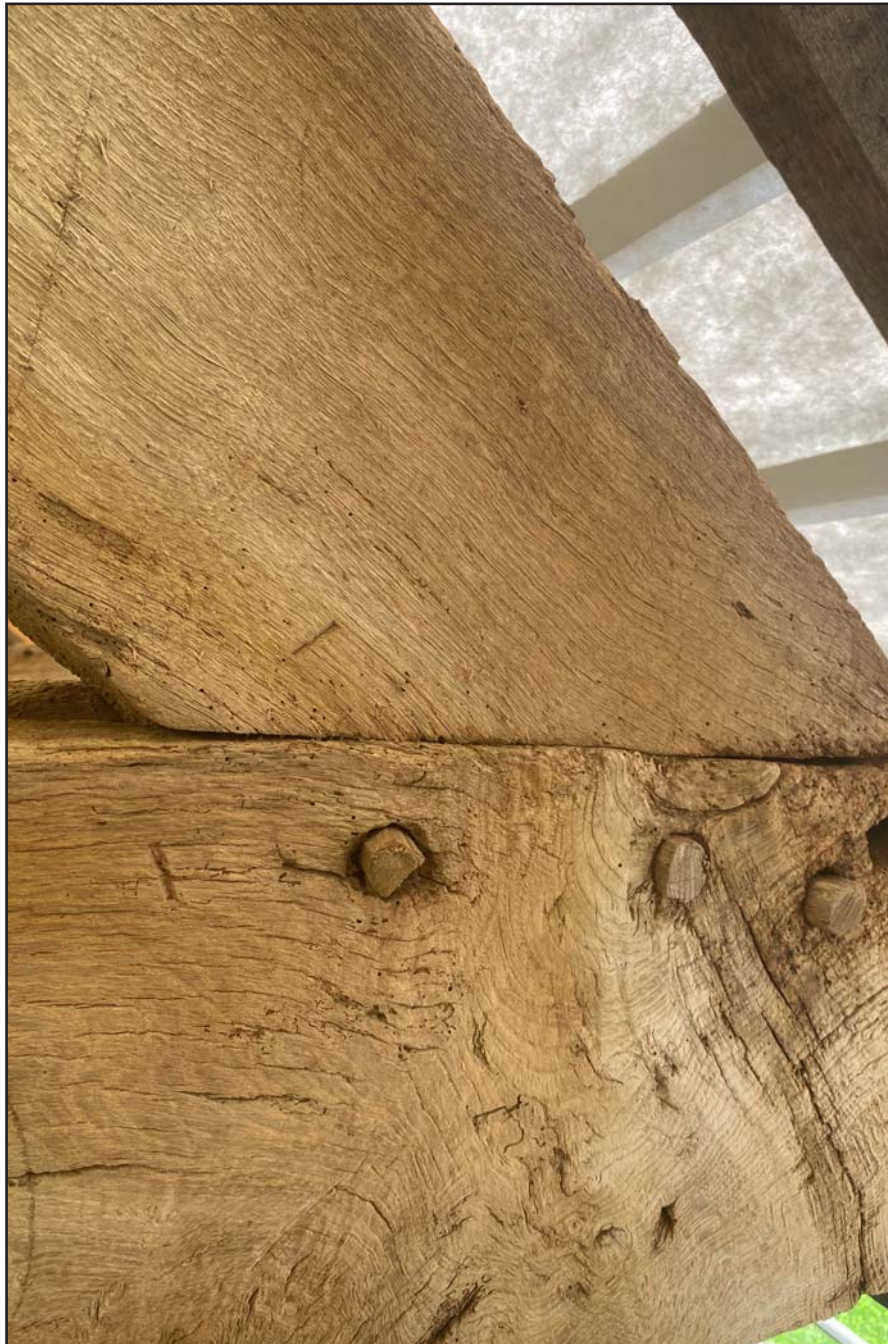


Plate 65: Carpenter's marks (II) on northwest rafter/tie-beam, Truss 3 within Shippon 1 at Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton, Wrexham - from the southwest - no scale

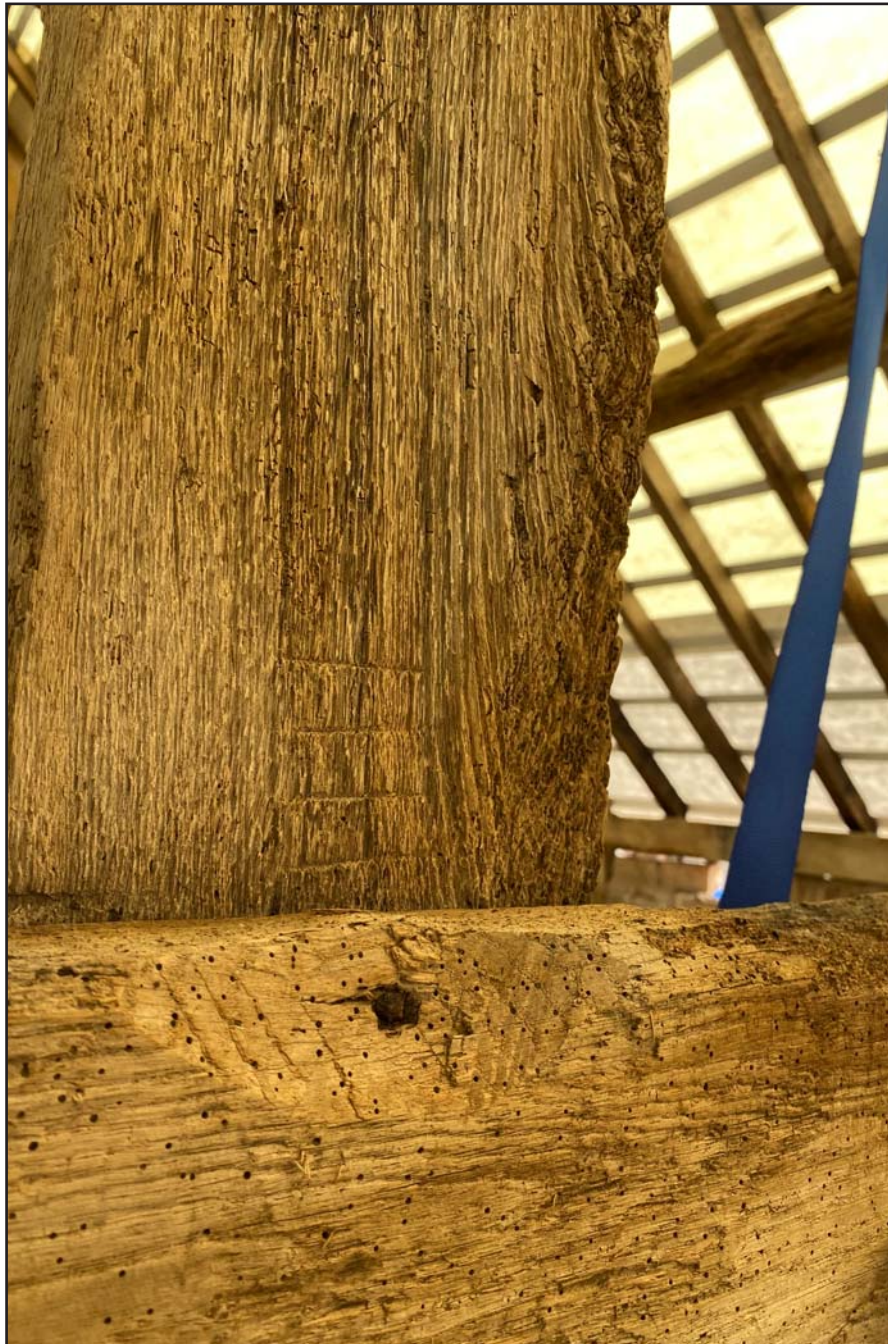


Plate 66: Carpenter's marks (III) on northwest stud, Truss 1 within Shippon 1 at Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton, Wrexham - from the southwest - no scale



Plate 67: Apotropaic Mark, Hexafoil 'Daisy-Wheel' on southeast side of handhewn tie beam of Truss 2, within Shippon 1 at Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton, Wrexham - from the southwest - no scale



Plate 68: Apotropaic Mark, Hexafoil 'Daisy-Wheel' on southeast side of handhewn tie beam of Truss 2, within Shippon 1 at Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton, Wrexham - from the southwest - no scale



Plate 69: Apotropaic Mark, Hexafoil 'Daisy-Wheel' on southeast side of handhewn tie beam of Truss 2, within Shippon 1 at Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton, Wrexham - from the southwest - no scale



Plate 70: Apotropaic Mark, Hexafoil 'Daisy-Wheel' on southeast side of handhewn tie beam of Truss 2, within Shippon 1 at Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton, Wrexham - from the south - no scale



Plate 71: Apotropaic Mark, Hexafoil 'Daisy-Wheel' on northwest side of handhewn tie beam of Truss 2, within Shippon 1 at Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton, Wrexham - from the east - no scale



Plate 72: Faint Apotropaic Marks on northwest side of handhewn tie beam: Marian & Hexafoil? Truss 2, within Shippon 1 at Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton, Wrexham - from the southwest - no scale



Plate 73: Possible faint Apotropaic Marks on northwest stud of Truss 2, within Shippon 1 at Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton, Wrexham - from the east - no scale



Plate 74: Possible faint Apotropaic Marks on northwest stud (near collar) of Truss 2, within Shippon 1 at Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton, Wrexham - from the east - no scale



Plate 75: Possible faint Apotropaic Marks on northwest side of handhewn tie beam: Marian & Hexafoil? Truss 2, within Shippon 1 at Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton, Wrexham - from the southwest - no scale

Brunette Farm, The Brick-Built *Shippon* (2).

External Descriptions

This is a rectangular building orientated southeast to northwest and measuring 14.32m in length by 6.06m in width. This is a single-storey building with a double pitched roof of synthetic slate with cement roof ridge tiles. The elevations are all of handmade red-brick bonded by Portland cement in a Common Bond. The building butts up against *Shippon 1* and therefore there is no south eastern elevation to the building.

The principal elevation lies to the northeast. There is a single doorway opening to the right of centre which permits access to the interior of the building via a horizontal sliding timber frame door. To the left and right of the door are two equally spaced five-pane casement windows in grey painted wooden frames, with radiating brick voussoirs and ceramic tile sills. At the left-hand end a second doorway opening has been blocked up with a red-brick and a four-pane fixed window inserted. The south western elevation has a single doorway opening at the right-hand end permitting access to the interior of the property via a wooden board door in plain wooden frame. The remaining part of the elevation is featureless. The northwest gable has partially been rebuilt in the upper half but is otherwise featureless.

***Shippon* (2) Internal Descriptions**

This is a large rectangular room orientated northwest to southeast measuring 13.86m long by 5.61m wide. The ceiling is open to the roof pitch which consists of sawn wooden batons, sawn wooden rafters and three equally spaced sawn King post trusses which support sawn wooden purlins. The elevations are all of handmade brick bonded by mortar and painted white. The northeast elevation has a single doorway opening to the left of centre permitting access to the external yard via a horizontally sliding wooden board door. There are two equally spaced windows to the left and right of this door consisting of five-pane casement windows in grey painted wooden frames. At the right-hand end is a four-pane fixed window in grey painted wooden frame.

The southeast elevation is that of *Shippon 1* and is described above. The southwest elevation has a single doorway opening at the left-hand end permitting access to the rear of the building via a batten and plank door in plain unpainted wooden frame. The north western elevation has a single doorway opening at the right-hand end permitting access to *Shippon 3*, now without door but with blue painted wooden frame. The floor is of poured concrete with linear drainage channel suggesting that this room was probably used as a cow house.



Plate 76: Northeast facing elevation of Shippon 2 at Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton, Wrexham - from the northeast - 1m scale



Plate 77: Northwest facing elevation of Shippon 2 at Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton, Wrexham - from the northwest - 1m scale



Plate 78: Southwest facing elevation of Shippon 2 at Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton, Wrexham - from the southwest - 1m scale



Plate 80: Internal shot of Shippon 2 at Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton, Wrexham - from the northwest - 1m scale



Plate 81: Kingspost truss within Shippon 2 at Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton, Wrexham - from the northwest - no scale

Brunette Farm, The Brick-Built *Shippon* (3).

External Descriptions

This is a rectangular building orientated northeast to southwest and measuring 11.71m in length by 6.03m in width. It has a double pitched roof however all of the slates have been removed revealing the timber rafters beneath. The elevations are all of handmade red-brick bonded by mortar with areas of machine-made red-brick repair. The principal elevation lies to the southeast. This elevation has two window openings to the right of centre consisting of five-pane and a three-pane casement windows in unpainted wooden frames. At the left-hand end and within *Shippon 2* is a single doorway opening permitting access to the interior of the building.

The northeast gable has a three-pane fixed window at loft height and at ground floor level there is a double doorway opening accessed via a horizontally sliding wooden ledged and braced door. The northwest elevation is featureless. The southwest gable has a single doorway opening at the left-hand end permitting access to the interior of the building but now without door and only partially retaining some of the unpainted wooden frame. Given an examination of the brickwork in this area it appears as if there has been a modern infill with machine-made red-brick in the top right-hand corner and all of the bricks appear to abut *Shippon 2*.

***Shippon* (2) Internal Description**

This is a rectangular room orientated northeast to southwest and measuring 11.18m long by 5.57m wide. The ceiling is open to the roof pitch consisting of sawn wooden rafters, two sawn wooden purlins running northeast to southwest which are supported on two equally spaced sawn wooden King post trusses. The elevations are all of exposed handmade red-brick with areas of render cladding.

The northeast elevation has a three-pane fixed window in white painted wooden frame at eaves height and at ground floor level there is a double doorway opening at the right-hand end permitting access to the front of the building via a horizontally sliding green painted wooden ledged and braced door.

The southeast elevation has two equally spaced windows to left of centre consisting of a five-pane and a three-pane casement window in wooden frames. At the right-hand end a single doorway opening permits access into *Shippon 2*. The south western elevation has a single doorway opening at the right-hand end permitting access to the rear of the building now without door and frame. The northwest elevation is featureless. The floor is of bare earth.



Plate 82: Southeast facing elevation of Shippon 3 at Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton, Wrexham - from the southeast - 1m scale



Plate 83: Oblique shot of northeast and southeast elevations of Shippon 3 at Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton, Wrexham - from the east - scale 1m



Plate 85: Northwest facing elevation of Shippon 3 at Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton, Wrexham - from the northwest - 1m scale



Plate 84: Northeast facing elevation of Shippon 3 at Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton, Wrexham -
from the northeast - 1m scale



Plate 86: Oblique shot of northwest and southwest elevations of Shippon 3 at Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton, Wrexham - from the south - scale 1m



Plate 87: Southwest facing elevation of Shippon 3 at Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton, Wrexham - from the southwest - scale 1m



Plate 88: Internal shot of Shippon 3 at Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton, Wrexham - from the southwest - 1m scale



Plate 89: Internal shot of Shippon 3 at Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton, Wrexham - from the northeast - 1m scale



Plate 90: Kingspost truss within Shippon 3 at Brunette Farm, Ty Broughton, Wrexham - from the southwest - no scale

9.0 CONCLUSION

Specific features of timber framing can be reasonably well associated with specific phases of construction which have been observed on other timber framed buildings both regionally and elsewhere within the United Kingdom. Following an examination of the timber framing within *Shippon 1* at Brunette Farm it has been possible to postulate on a date for the initial phase of construction via an examination of these features.

Within the loft area of the Shippon it was possible to isolate three closed trusses (two of these trusses were breached in modernity 2 & 3, *pers. comm*). These three trusses may well pertain to an earlier iteration of a two-bay timber framed building (Figure 12). The trusses 1, 2 & 3 (Figures 10, 11 & 12) are of hand-hewn oak which likely originally conformed to a three queen-post strut design with a dropped tie beam (Alcock et al. 1996), there are two crown struts visible above a timber collar visible on trusses 1 & 3 but absent on 2. Furthermore, visible on truss 1 there are trenched stops which no longer carry timber but which may once have accommodated timber wind braces or blades. Sited halfway along the principal rafters, to either side, are offset segmented purlins – thus forming diminishing principal rafters.

As previously alluded to the dropped tie beams on trusses 2 & 3 were previously breached creating open trusses where they were previously closed. Infilling between the crown struts on Truss 3 are brick noggings which are a key feature on the external elevations of the property – the presence of this feature within Truss 3 alludes to it previously being contingent with the former north eastern gable end of a building that was subsequently enclosed when the Shippon was extended to the northeast. When viewed from the southeast the building presents with a type of timber framing which are formed of small square panels with four instances of *full height diagonal braces* and two instances of *full height diagonal cross braces*. The building also features small square panelling (*1m x 1m approx.*) formed by the framing of struts and rails – this feature is most prominent on the north eastern end of the building, visible from both the southeast and the northwest. Also of note are the ends of two hand-hewn bressummer beams (Figure 12) which were visible from the southeast, these timbers were cut short within the confines of the wall suggesting that they could once have formed part of a *jettied storey* (Alcock et al. 1996) – these beam ends might constitute a remnant feature associated with partially jettied gabled ends, however no morticed stops for jetty brackets were observed in the timber posts near the bressummers.

In summation the building is of a two-bay open hall form, with hand-hewn oak trusses with three queen-post struts and diminishing principal rafters. Furthermore the frame of the building presents as small square panel framing. These features are useful dating criteria for timber-framed dwellings although not entirely comprehensive. A study conducted in Surrey (Wild & Moir 2013) sought to date timber features of 177 timber framed buildings supported by a programme of dendrochronological analysis.

Below is a table which has been annexed from a table in the survey of the Surrey buildings (Wild & Moir 2013) which details the date spans for the key features of timber framed buildings. The table includes data taken from 247 individual buildings but this annexed table only concerns itself with five fields which specifically pertain to the features observed at Brunette Farm:

	Key Feature	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Range	SD
Building Type	Open Hall	1254	1593	1461	199	58.5
Plan Detail	2 Bay	1309	1571	1452	202	58.7
Roof Trusses	Queen Struts 3	1436	1627	1581	77	28.5
Roof Framing	Diminishing Principal Rafters	1411	1642	1542	152	46.6
Wall Framing	Small Square Panels	1547	1705	1604	105	31.9
				1528	147	

Table 1. Sample of table from Key dating features for timber-framed dwellings in Surrey.
**SD – Standard Deviation.*

Given this survey covers an entirely different county in a different country it cannot be relied upon to provide exact dating evidence for phase one of the Shippon at Brunette Farm. However, this is an excellent example of how specific architectural features may be tested against dendrochronologically acquired dating evidence - which produces a compelling case study in order to provide context for the construction methods/choices observed within Shippon 1. The mean date suggested by the comparison of the Shippon's features with the Surrey survey is 1528 with a mean percentile date range of 147. Therefore, the date range for the building could be said to range between *1381–1675*, but can be said to generally trend toward a mid-16th century date based on its architectural features. Open hall forms of building construction have shown to been ubiquitous until they stopped being built in the 1540s. This date seems to be critical in terms of changes in the timber-framed building tradition, coinciding with the Dissolution of the Monasteries (Wild & Moir 2013). Furthermore, the implementation of diminishing principal rafters above purlins was used for all queen-strut roofs, from their introduction in the 15th century. According to the Surrey survey, the change to notched principal rafters was another remarkably sudden switch, at about 1580 (Wild & Moir 2013).

Following an examination of the timber framing, the joinery of the building and with cross-reference to the Surrey survey it is possible to state that the earliest phase of the building may date to the early/mid-16th century although there is a mean date range of 150 years (1381-1675). With the subsequent extensions to the northeast and southwest which forms the Shippon as it appears today, taking place during the 16th – 18th centuries. These are only preliminary dates based on an analysis of known historic features and more specific dates would require data collection and analysis of samples from the building's timbers – making Brunette Farm an interesting candidate for dendrochronological testing. In light of this investigation it is recommended that the historic building listing be updated by Historic England and CADW at their discretion.

This historic building record can be seen as having fulfilled the spirit and intent of the condition recommended by the CPAT Development Control Archaeologist. As such no further mitigatory works are recommended as part of the development.

10.0 SOURCES

Maps.

Ordnance Survey 1st edition 6-inch map 1879.

Ordnance Survey 2nd edition 6-inch map 1900.

Ordnance Survey 3rd edition 6-inch map 1914.

Secondary Sources

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