Comisiwn Brenhinol Henebion Cymru

Royal Commission

on the

Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales



DYMOCK ARMS, PENLEY

County: Flintshire

Community: Maelor South

NGR: SJ 4199 3969 **NPRN:** 35796

Date of Survey: 26th July 2012

Surveyed by: Geoff Ward & Dan Jones

Report Author: Geoff Ward **Illustrations:** Geoff Ward

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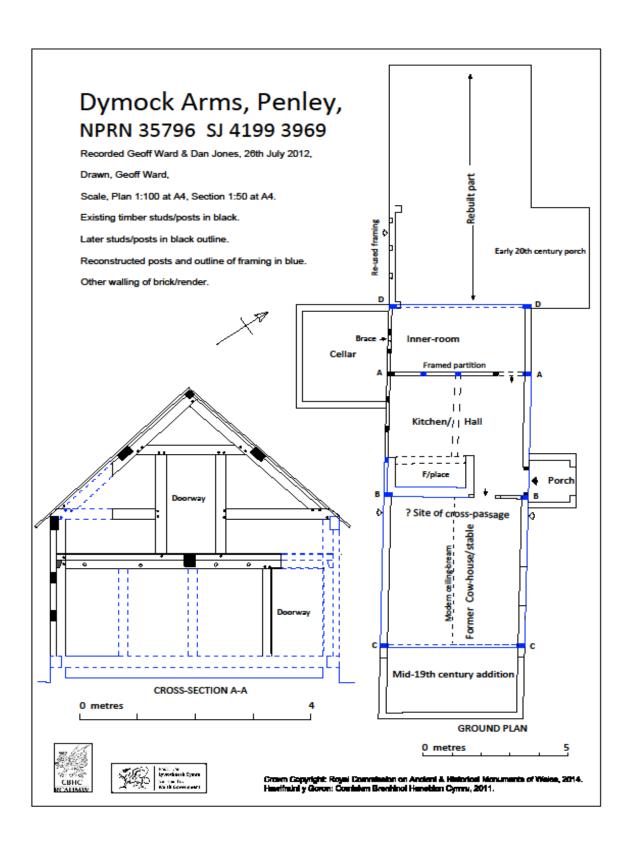
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The Dymock Arms is situated in Penley village alongside the A539 road between Ruabon and Whitchurch. The much altered building was originally a c1600, timber-frame farmhouse, but now has rendered mostly brick walls. It consisted of three units a hall and inner-room, with attic over, and a cowhouse/stable beyond the hall. Its walls were of three-tier square framing with wattle and daub infill. An added bay beyond the cow-house/stable end-truss is built with early-19th century brick. Alterations of the early-20th century to the north-west include earlier timber-frame material (perhaps a former barn), along with new timbers for the front projection. The porch to front was probably added at the same time. The site is shown as a public house on the first edition OS map of 1873, without the small porch, but with additions at each end, and the rear cellar part. The pub's name is said to be after the local landed Dymock family.

The present plan is an end-chimney lobby entry type, but it may have once had a hearth-passage entrance backing onto the rear of the fireplace. The hall has a brick fireplace with a heavy chamfered timber bresummer with run-out stops. The room's spine ceiling is medium chamfered with straight-cut stops and has square plain joists, once with side ceiling-beams pegged to the wall-frame. The spine-beam is tenoned between the bresummer and the inner-room truss partition (section A-A). This partition once had three studs, with wattle and daub infill, one a chamfered doorway. The framing over the partition has studs for a central doorway that are morticed to the girding-beam, all with carpenter's assembly marks. This forms part of an interrupted tie-beam collar truss, supported on the only existing principal-post. The roof has single side purlins and a ridge purlin. A tie-beam and collar-truss (B-B) partly survive at the back of the hall fireplace chimney. The former cow-house/stable part has a similar tie-beam and collar type of truss at (C-C) here with rather long continuous purlins that extend to the end of the bay. The end-truss to the inner-room did not survive, but must have been similar.

Despite alterations and fire damage, the hall room space, with its fireplace and ceiling-beam, and square-framing to rear side wall provide good original features. As does the interrupted tie-beam truss partition at section A-A.

The site was visited after fire damage, prior to refurbishment, at the request of Anna Irwin Wrexham conservation officer.

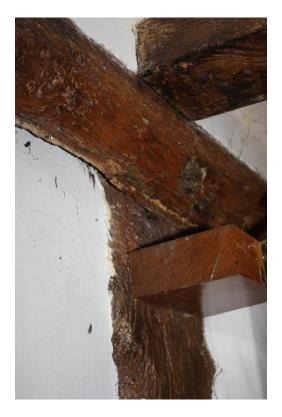
Visited, Geoff Ward, & Dan Jones, 26th July 2012.



Front south-east elevation



Hall fireplace bresummer, with ceiling-beam and joists



Hall side beam supporting joists.



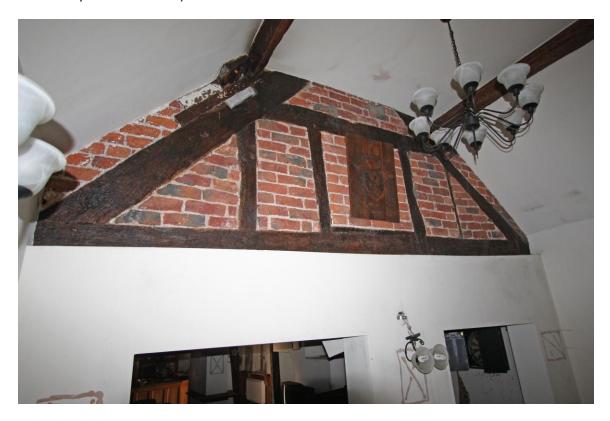
Assembly marks to truss partition in hall



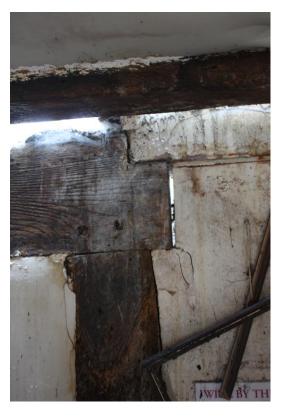
Interupted tie-beam truss between hall and inner-room at first-floor.



Cowhouse/stable end truss, from inside.



Cowhouse/stable end truss, from former outside.



Chamfered doorway to stud in partition.

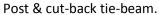


Partition post with mortices to square framing.



Main Façade, view from south







Stair in former cow-house/stable, against the front wall.





Re-used timber studs, in doorway beside fireplace, viewed from former cow-house/stable, and to right hand, stud with groove for wattle, with head mortices for a doorway.

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