

Historic Building Recording at

**LOWER FARM
BOWLING BANK**

For Tony Walsh

Ethan Ellis MA

L~P:ARCHÆOLOGY

Historic Building Recording at

LOWER FARM BOWLING BANK

Client:	Tony Walsh
Local Authority:	Wrexham County Borough Council
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Crynodeb

Cynhaliwyd arolwg adeilad lefel 1-2 yn Lower Farm, adeilad amaethyddol deulawr o'r 18fed ganrif i'r 19eg ganrif, yn Is-y-coed, Wrecsam, LL13 9RY. Paratowyd y ddogfen hon gan Ethan Ellis o L - P : Archaeology ar ran y cleient, Tony Walsh. Cynhaliwyd y gwaith mewn ymateb i amod ar ganiatâd cynllunio ar gyfer newid adeilad amaethyddol presennol yn annedd.

Mae adeiladau rhestredig cofrestredig gerllaw, yn dyddio o'r 15fed ganrif a'r 19eg ganrif, yn ogystal ag Eglwys Sant Paul sy'n dyddio o 1829, yn arwyddion o gymuned hirsefydlog yn Is-y-coed. Yna, mae dogfennau archifol a data mapio yn cyfeirio at weithgarwch amaethyddol sy'n ymestyn yn ôl i 1843.

Mae'r adeiledd sy'n ffurfio'r adeilad wedi'i wneud o frics a mortar yn bennaf, gyda chynheiliaid pren, ac weithiau dur. Mae lefel uchel o'r ffurf wreiddiol wedi'i chynnal ar ochr y de-orllewin, gyda mân-addasiadau wedi'u gwneud i'r trothwy sydd fwyaf i'r gogledd-orllewin. Yna, mae ochrau'r gogledd-ddwyrain a'r de-ddwyrain wedi cael eu hailfodelu'n sylweddol gyda rhagor o estyniadau i'r adeilad. Y tu mewn, gwnaethpwyd gwaith adfer, ac addasiadau cymedrol, i'r glasbrint gwreiddiol, ond cadwyd y prif ystafelloedd a'r parwydydd fel yr oeddynt.

Mae Cam 1 yn cyfeirio at adeiladu'r adeilad gwreiddiol rywbryd rhwng y 18fed ganrif a chanol y 19eg ganrif. Mae Cam 2 yn cyfeirio at ailfodelu'r ôl troed gwreiddiol a'r estyniad ar ochr y gogledd-orllewin, a godwyd ar ôl canol y 19eg ganrif. Mae Cam 3 yn cyfeirio at yr estyniad brics a ffrâm ddur ar ochr y de-ddwyrain a godwyd rywbryd rhwng yr 20fed ganrif a'r 21ain ganrif. Yna, mae Cam 4 yn cyfeirio at adlunio ac adfer y nodweddion mewnol.

Abstract

A level 1-2 building survey was carried out at Lower Farm, an 18th to 19th century two storey agricultural building, in IsY Coed, Wrexham, LL13 9RY. This document has been prepared by Ethan Ellis of L – P : Archaeology on behalf of the client Tony Walsh. The work has been carried out in response to a condition of planning consent, for the conversion of an existing agricultural building into a dwelling.

Nearby scheduled listed buildings dating from the 15th and 19th centuries, in addition to the 1829 Church of St Paul, indicates a long established settled community in IsY Coed. While archival documents and mapping data refer agricultural activity spanning back to 1843.

The fabric which forms the building is made primarily of bricks and mortar with timber, and occasionally steel, structural supports. The south-west elevation maintains a high level of its original form, with minor modifications made to the north-west most threshold. Whilst the north-east and south-east elevations were drastically remodelled with further building extensions. Internally, restoration work, and a moderate amount of adaptations were made to the original blueprint, but the principal rooms and division walls remained intact.

Phase 1 relates to the construction of the original building sometime between the 18th and mid-19th century. Phase 2 relates to the remodelling of the original footprint and extension to the north-west elevation, constructed after the mid-19th century. Phase 3 relates to the contemporary brick and steel framed extension to the south-east elevation, constructed sometime between the 20th and 21st century. Whilst phase 4 relates to the reconstruction and restoration to the internal features.

1. Introduction

- 1.1. This level 1-2 building survey report has been prepared by Blair Poole and Ethan Ellis of L - P : Archaeology on behalf of Tony Walsh.
- 1.2. The fieldwork was carried out by Blair Poole and Ethan Ellis of L – P : Archaeology on the 19th July 2021.
- 1.3. Planning consent has been approved for the conversion of an existing agricultural building into a dwelling (P/2021/0604).
- 1.4. The site is located at Lower Farm, Bowling Bank, Wrexham, LL13 9RY (FIGURE Error: Reference source not found). National Grid Reference (NGR) 340913,350545.
- 1.5. The site code allocated by L - P : Archaeology is LP4028C. The HER event number supplied by the Clwyd Powys Archaeological Trust (CPAT) is PRN 166988.
- 1.6. The work was carried out in line with a written scheme of investigation, approved by CPAT (POOLE 2021), the Code of Conduct as set out by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIFA 2019) and the Cifa's Standards and Guidance for the archaeological investigation and recording of standing buildings or structures (CHARTERED INSTITUTE FOR ARCHAEOLOGISTS 2019). All works were carried out in accordance with Historic England's Understanding Historic Buildings, a guide to good recording practice (HISTORIC ENGLAND 2016).
- 1.7. This report should be read in conjunction with the Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) LP4028C-WSI-v.1.1 prepared by L – P : Archaeology and approved by the Clwyd Powys Archaeological Trust (CPAT).

2. Site Background

2.1.PLANNING

- 2.1.1. The Local Planning Authority is Wrexham County Borough Council (WCBW), who take archaeological and historic environment advice from the Clwyd Powys Archaeological Trust (CPAT).
- 2.1.2. In considering any planning application for development, Wrexham County Borough Council (WCBW) are bound by Welsh Government Planning Policy Wales (FEBRUARY 2021) Section 6.1, and Technical advice note (TAN) 24: the historic environment (2017), and abide by the policies laid out in the Wrexham Unitary Development Plan 1996-2011 regarding archaeology and planning, in this case Policy EC11.
- 2.1.3. CPAT advised that as a condition of planning consent a level 1-2 historic building record be made in accordance with the standards laid out in Historic England's publication '*Understanding Historic Buildings: A Guide to Good Recording Practice*' (2016).
- 2.1.4. Planning consent has been approved for the conversion of an existing agricultural building into a dwelling. Event number (P/2021/0604) has been assigned to this project by CPAT Historic Environment Record.
- 2.1.5. Condition 3 of planning consent reflects this advice to comply with Welsh Government Planning Policy Wales (FEBRUARY 2021) Section 6.1, and Technical advice note (TAN) 24: the historic environment (2017). The condition states:

No works shall commence until an appropriate photographic survey (equivalent to an Historic England Photographic Survey - Understanding Historic Buildings, 2016, 5.5, p.27) of the existing building/s has been carried out by an archaeological contractor, in accordance with details to be submitted to, and approved in writing by, the Local Planning Authority. The resulting digital photographs shall be forwarded on appropriate digital media to the Local Planning Authority and the Development Control Archaeologist (Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust, Coed y Dinas, Welshpool, Powys, SY21 8RP. Email: mark.walters@cpat.otg.uk Tel: 01938 553670). After approval by the Local Planning Authority, a copy of the photographs should also be

sent to the Historic Environment Record Officer, Clwyd Powys Archaeological Trust for inclusion in the regional Historic Environment Record.

2.1.6. This document represents a summary of the survey in line with a brief supplied by CPAT. As such this document will be supplied along with the formal photographic record to all relevant parties to satisfy condition 3 of the planning consent.

2.2. STATUTORY DESIGNATION

2.2.1. The building is not scheduled under the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 or the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979. However, the site lies within the vicinity of six Grade II Listed structures and one Prehistoric Ancient Monument situated within the parish borders of Isycoed. Cobham Cottage (17th CENTURY) south west along Lower Farm Road, the Church of St Paul (1829) and the Plough Inn (15th CENTURY) situated further to the south west where Lower Farm Road connects to Church Lane, Chapel House Farm House (15th CENTURY) directly south along Church Lane, Pear Tree House (19th CENTURY) adjacent Sun Lane, and Pickhill Bridge (18th CENTURY) along the B5130 road located on the boarder between the Sesswick and Isycoed communities. The Scheduled Bronze Age round barrow (2300BC – 88BC) lies near Sutton Green to the south of the site (CADW 2021).

2.2.2. The site does not lie within a conservation area.

2.3. GEOLOGY & TOPOGRAPHY

2.3.1. The bedrock geology of the site is thought to be of Kinnerton Sandstone Formation, a Sedimentary Bedrock formed in an environment dominated by hot deserts approximately 247 to 252 million years ago in the Triassic Period (BGS 2021).

2.3.2. The site is set on a farmstead directly north of Lower Farm Road inside the parish of Isycoed (FIGURE Figure 2), within a comparatively level plain area which presents extensive vistas over the surrounding agricultural landscape (FIGURE 3).

- 2.3.3. The building in discussion is part of a series of agricultural buildings which encompass a large open forecourt area, built in a loose courtyard farmstead style blueprint (LAKE 2015, 5).
- 2.3.4. The site is located 5 miles east of Wrexham, south of the historic village of Holt and Farndon, north of the River Clywedog, and west of the River Dee which marks the English border.
- 2.3.5. Isycoed was a parochial chapelry integrated into the parish of Holt, which was itself a chapelry of Gresford, until 1827 where the assemblage of the community branched into a separate parish incorporating some 3530 acres (GENUKI 2021).

3. Aims

3.1. The aims of the survey were to:

- ◆ Provide a basic understanding of the form, function and any phasing of the standing building,
- ◆ Provide a photographic record of the historic elements of the building, prior to any construction work taking place.

3.2. The objectives were:

- ◆ To undertake historic research on the site at relevant repositories;
- ◆ To make a detailed photographic record of the structure as per Historic England standards and guidance (2016);
- ◆ To produce a formal report on the results of the survey, which is fully illustrated.

4. Historic Background

4.1.1. As is conventional within the Welsh dialect, location names are often associated to the history or geography in which they are set (MATTHEWS 2020). The Welsh name of Isycoed, or rather is-y-coed, translates to ‘*below the tree*’, or ‘*underwood*’, which broadly encapsulating the topographic landscape of its origin.

4.1.2. In terms of archival material, there is limited information on the history of Isycoed. However, the remanence of a Bronze Age round barrow, 19m in diameter and 1.5m in height, is situated within unimproved pastures on the level plains of Sutton Green, north-west of the confluence of the River Clywedog and the River Dee, indicating a presence of human activity in the area spanning back to an approximate 2300BC – 800BC (CADW 2021b). While two sub-medieval cruck frame buildings located beyond Lower Farm Road to the west, date to the 15th century. Including the neighbouring farmstead situated directly to the south west dating to the 17th century, and the Church of St Paul south west along Lower Farm Road dating to 1829 (CADW 2021). The 1843 Dutton Diffaeth Gresford Township Map notes agricultural activity at Lower Farm and the surrounding landscape. indicating a settled community within the vicinity since the medieval period.

MAPS

4.1.3. According to the 1843 Dutton Diffaeth Gresford Township Map (FIGURE 4), the site consisted of four main singular buildings extended over two pastures of land documented as 128 and 129, owned by ‘The Honourable Fredrick West’ and occupied by one Edward Dicken. One of the four structures is recorded as a stable croft building which occupied the central site of the current barn footprint. The complex was surrounded by extensive countryside divided into pastures, and what appears to be possible cultivation activity immediately to the rear of the east elevation. Evidently, the building has not steered from agricultural function since at least 1843, nor the appearance of the surrounding

open landscape.

- 4.1.4. From analysing 1872 OS Map (FIGURE 5), the building had not altered significantly, apart from the north end of the structure which appeared to have been extended outwardly so to form a solid rectangular shaped complex. While the external staircase, which was present on the front facade upon the south-west elevation during the time of the site visit, is present in the 1873 OS Map (FIGURE 6).
- 4.1.5. A rear forecourt is present on the north-west side of the building in the 1899 OS Map (FIGURE 7).
- 4.1.6. The 1911 OS Map (FIGURE 8) demonstrates a clear division line between the centre of the complex, possibly noting two separate functional spaces, which is also evident in the 1970, and 1993 OS Maps. However, compared to the 1899, 1914, 1949 and 1976 OS Maps, only one single structure is visible with no break, which questions the accuracy of the drawn record and possible reconstruction and adaptations implemented on the maps. Nonetheless, evidence for a building complex upon the site is apparent and continuous since 1843. No further alterations were seen in the 1914 OS Map (FIGURE 9)
- 4.1.7. The 1970 OS Map edition (FIGURE 11) depicts a small extension to the north most corner of the complex, and another extension on the south most corner. The south-east expansion had been extended further in the 1993 OS Map (FIGURE 13), while another rectangular complex appears to the north-east, parallel to the barn building, where it is seen on the 2001 OS Map (FIGURE 14).
- 4.1.8. During the time of survey, the 1970 and 1976 (FIGURE 12) expansions, including the 1993 building to the north-east, were absent, while the main 1843 illustrated building complex was present.

5. Methodology

5.1. The survey was carried out in line with a brief supplied by CPAT to a Level 1-2 standard as set out by Historic England in *Understanding Historic Buildings: a guide to good recording practice* (2016), and in accordance with the approved WSI (POOLE 2021). This level of survey creates a descriptive record of the building, and includes:

- ◆ Description and photographic record of the exterior and the interior
- ◆ Detailed account of type, construction, form, function, phasing
- ◆ Past and present use and relationship with setting
- ◆ Identification and recording of original fixtures and fittings
- ◆ Conclusions regarding the building's development and use

5.2. The drawn record annotated accurately measured plans supplied by the architect in order to form:

- ◆ Accurate, measured ground plan, elevations and cross-sections as appropriate
- ◆ Phase plans showing the development of the structure

5.3. A photographic record was made of:

- ◆ Views of elevations
- ◆ Views of external appearance
- ◆ Views of all internal rooms
- ◆ Internal and external structural detail
- ◆ Fixtures, fittings, machinery, related contents

5.4. The written record included a precise location of the building as an address, a note of any statutory designations associated with the structure and the date when the record was made, the name of the recorder and the location of any archive material.

6. Results

- 6.1. This section will outline the results of the level 1-2 historic building recording undertaken at Lower Farm, Bowling Bank, Lower Farm Road, Wrexham, LL13 9RY. The results of this surveys have been divided into two sections below. Section one will discuss the external elevations and construction of the building. Section two will discuss the results of the internal survey.
- 6.2. The property is a two story detached agricultural barn building situated within the rural landscape of Isycoed. The complex appears to have maintained its function as a storage facility for agricultural purposes and the keeping of domesticated animals. Structural fabric reconstruction was evident during the site visit, indicating multiple phases of restoration work.
- 6.3. The fieldwork was carried out by Ethan Ellis and Blair Poole of L – P : Archaeology on the 19th July 2021. The associated archive is to be submitted to CPAT and will comprise a digital archive containing 190 images, a contact sheet as a pdf, and a copy of this report as a pdf.

THE SETTING AND EXTERNAL SURVEY

- 6.3.1. The building is located directly north of Lower Farm Road, part of a series of similar agricultural buildings including a dwelling, set within a large open forecourt and comparatively level plain site, which presents extensive vistas over the surrounding agricultural landscape (PLATE 1).
- 6.3.2. The complex sits on a north-west to south-east axis with access into each floor level made via the south-west elevation. The fabric consists primarily of brick and mortar with timber framing, and a pitch slate gable rooftop with plain ceramic ridge tiles (PLATE 2).
- 6.3.3. The brick course is of english garden wall style, and although generally uniform breaks in formation can be seen, with random rows of stretchers between each row of headers.



Plate 1 - General shot in context



Plate 2 - North-east elevation of rooftop

SOUTH-WEST ELEVATION

6.3.4. The south-west elevation functioned as the front facade and main access point into the building (PLATE 3). Protruding brick end top coursing decorated in dentil fashion, were featured below the slate roofline (PLATE 4).

6.3.5. Three wide barn doorways were evident along the south-west elevation. One located on the far north-west end of the facade, and two adjacent another

situated on the south-east most end.



Plate 3 - South-west elevation

6.3.6. The north-west entranceway functioned as an access point into room B5, comprising of a timber frame, and solid timber beam lintel. There was a clear indication of restoration work to the surrounding fabric of the threshold, with an interruption to the brick bond arrangement which had been chased by a discolouration in mortar (PLATE 5). This may have potentially been the result of a later alteration phase to widen an original stable doorway.



Plate 4 - Dentil top course south- west elevation



Plate 5 - Room B5 threshold

6.3.7. The two much wider entrance points situated on the far south-east elevation, comprised of solid timber beam lintels which were coated in etched plaster so to resemble a stretcher brickwork bond. B8 was marginally wider than the adjacent room B9 to the south-east (PLATE 6).



Plate 6 - Threshold of room B8 (left) and B9 (right)

6.3.8. Situated directly south-east above doorway B8, a small square boarded window absent of a sill but containing a timber lintel. The feature was a component of

room F4 situated on the first floor.

- 6.3.9. Directly south-east above doorway B9, another small square window of similar dimension with a timber lintel and absent sill. The surrounding fabric revealed a later phase of alteration to the original feature, with contrary brick ends and discoloured mortar forming a narrow window edge. Most likely implemented to incorporate the six pane window that was present during the time of survey.
- 6.3.10. A flat arched doorway fashioned with a bonded brick slip lintel, lay directly south-east of the north-west threshold. The entranceway functioned as an access route into room B6. Positioned to the south-east, a small square boarded window baring no lintel, was another component associated with room B6.
- 6.3.11. Situated south-east of the B6 window, a steep protruding outer staircase that ascended south-eastwardly to a narrow doorway located on the upper most elevation. Constructed from brick in typical english bond and large stone slabs, the feature functioned as an access route to the room F3 located on the first floor. The narrow and short sliding doorway entrance above the staircase was positioned directly below the roofline (PLATE 7).
- 6.3.12. Another doorway baring a diminutive timber lintel was positioned south-east of the outer staircase, and directly north-east of the wide bay threshold of B8, and functioned as the access route into room B7.



Plate 7 - External staircase

SOUTH-EAST ELEVATION

- 6.3.13. Ghosting of a previous building marked the south-east elevation wall, which appeared to have resembled a pitched roof. Timber beam slot holes chased the impression in a triangular fashion, further indicating an earlier structure (PLATE 8).
- 6.3.14. The north-east extension can be seen butting against the fabric of the original build for the first four brick courses from the roof edge, but keyed for the next seven courses below.
- 6.3.15. Two timber exposed purlin ends were fused into the wall surface near the roof edge of the north east extension.
- 6.3.16. Three small wooden blocks were implemented in a horizontal, inclining fashion within the extension wall, which were utilized as holding points for guttering.
- 6.3.17. Adjacent the main building complex to the south-east, a modern open extension comprising of a brick wall in common bond with flemish headers every 4th course, forming the south-west and running north-east walls. The north-east wall butts the south-east elevation of the main complex, and had

been purposely keyed into the fabric of the original barn.



Plate 8 - South-west elevation

NORTH-WEST ELEVATION

6.3.18. The gable end was fashioned in english garden wall bond, with rows of stretchers between each row of headers (PLATE 9).

6.3.19. An earlier rectangular shaped opening, located on the lower left corner of the wall, had been bricked up during the time of survey (PLATE 10). The feature would have presented an open void into room B5. A modern gas box meter was fused against the bricked feature.

6.3.20. Later restoration works were evident in the form of re-mortaring to the lower sphere of the elevation wall.

6.3.21. Protruding north-eastwardly in a declining sloping fashion, a later extension which butted against the full extent of the north-east elevation wall of the original building, from its foundation to the roofline. The footprint was positioned some two inches south-eastwardly from the primary build, so that the full extent of the elevation was not flush, and a clear recess was visible.

6.3.22. The sloping extension was fashioned in garden wall bonding with various courses of stretchers between each row of headers. The brick type was evidently

contrary to the brick fabric of the primary structure in both colour and dimension.

6.3.23. Where the inclining roofline ceased, a brick wall continued shortly in a horizontal fashion before terminating north-eastward. It had originally been positioned at a height below the roofline, but a later phase of four course garden wall bond brick was implemented above, and protruded directly below the roof end. The extent of the later elevation wall to the original build measured at 5.65m.

6.3.24. A small square window, with a fashioned lintel made of brick headers, lay flush against the original north east elevation. Probably contemporary to the later adaptation and possibly functioned as an air ventilation system.

6.3.25. Two timber exposed purlin ends were fused into the wall surface near the roof edge.



Plate 9 - North-west elevation



Plate 10 - Sealed feature

NORTH-EAST ELEVATION

6.3.26. The extent of the north-east elevation comprised of a later extension phase, which consisted of three large open planned barns and one internal barn accessed via a single doorway (PLATE 11).

6.3.27. Room B4, located on the south-west most elevation, was the widest of the three open barn features. The supporting south-east wall of room B4 had two sandstone blocks with iron hinges still imbedded, which would have functioned as the support for a barn door (PLATE 12). The adjacent north-west division wall had similar parallel features, but masked with a cement coating to the lower section of the wall. The threshold was made of concrete in a linear fashion separating the internal and external brick floor. A recycled structural timber frame with exposed lapped joints, functioned as the joist below the roofline.



Plate 11 - North-east elevation

- 6.3.28. Situated directly north-west of B4, a doorway entrance leading into the internal B3 room. Extending from a stepped sandstone threshold above a row of brick headers, to the timber joist directly beneath the roofline, complete with a timber lintel (PLATE 13).
- 6.3.29. Directly north-east of the B3 doorway, a damaged brick wall decorated in english garden wall bond, with diverse row of stretchers between each row of headers, from three and nine courses.
- 6.3.30. The north-east area posed the best viewpoint of the original elevated pitched rooftop, and the later adaption of the extended roofline beneath. There was a clear horizontal break in the roofline between the two phases, both characterised by contrastive coloured slate and general deterioration from weathering. The earlier slate rooftop of the original build above, was a defined by a darker shade of tile and the accumulation of decay from the natural elements.



Plate 12 - Sandstone with imbedded iron hinges room B4



Plate 13 - Room B3 threshold

6.3.31. The combination of the original pitched roof, and the later extended roofline, continued in an almost unbroken inclining fashion. However, the lower extended rooftop had a marginally elevated incline compared to the original.

6.3.32. There was a clear break in the lower roofline between room B2 and B3, where the roofline above room B1 and B2, located on the north west side, protruded outward, north-eastwardly, by an approximate foot then that of the roofline

above B3 and B4 located to the south-east. The brick division wall directly below the break also projected outwardly with the protruding roofline. Made from contemporary brick material distinguishable from that of the main fabric, in colour, dimension and form.

6.3.33. Four open voids in the rooftop were evident, each covered by a sheet of glass or plastic. Three upon the original build, two situated on the south-east most end and another smaller narrow opening on the north-west section. While the fourth opening was situated in the centre of the later extension near the break where the two rooftops met.

6.3.34. Room B2 was a large open barn area situated north-west of the brick wall which incorporated the B3 doorway. B2 was the smallest of the open north-east elevation rooms in terms of dimension. The floor surface stepped from the threshold into the internal space, single brick high. A recycled structural timber frame beam with exposed half lapped joints functioned as the support joist beneath the roofline, which evidently functioned as the joist with the adjacent room B1.

6.3.35. Room B1, located in north-west most area of the building complex, was much wider than the adjacent room B2, and slightly narrowed compared to B4 situated on the far south-east elevation. The division wall between B1 and B2 was fashioned in stretcher bond, 24 brick course in height and 4 course wide. Dressed with a protruding top course decorative corbel. The north-west support wall was the outer most wall of the extension phase, visible from the north-west elevation. The threshold consisted of concrete which fused the outer brick floor surface and the stepped internal brick surface.

6.3.36. The forecourt was decorated in red brick (PLATE 14).



Plate 14 - Brick floor

6.4.RESULTS OF INTERNAL SURVEY

GROUND FLOOR/BARN ROOMS

6.4.1. During the time of survey, the ground floor rooms were segregated from each other, designed with a single point of entry for each room made via the external elevation of the complex. An internal doorway was present on the north-east wall of B7 and south-west wall of B3, which formed an access route between B3 and B7.

ROOM B1

6.4.2. Room B1 was a large rectangular floorspace, assessable via a single wide entry point on the north-west elevation. The internal south-west brick wall, decorated in english garden wall fashion, had originally been the external north-east rear facade of the original building complex. The north-west and south-east elevation walls were a later phase of construction that formed the rear extension. Both were fashioned in english garden wall bonding to coincide with the original fabric.

6.4.3. The north-west elevation was the external wall, and the south-east partition was the division wall between B1 and the adjacent B2. Both features were fused

to the south-west wall.

- 6.4.4. A small square pitching hole was positioned in the corner of the upper north-west wall, directly adjacent the south-west wall (PLATE 15). A horizontal timber blank lintel and sill was evident. Parallel to the opening on the south-east elevation wall was another pitching opening in similar dimension, complete with a horizontal timber blank lintel and sill fussed into the brick fabric, which would have created an opening into the adjacent Room 2. Features likely associated to an air ventilation system.



Plate 15 - Air ventilation window north-west wall room B1

- 6.4.5. A horizontal timber blank was imbedded into the north-west and south-east walls, parallel to another and situated one brick course below the two pitching opening. A feature possibly designed to support a vertical feed rack (LAKE 1989, 28).
- 6.4.6. Possible restoration, or reconstruction work was evident to the south-west wall from the tie beam to the south-west partition wall. Where an interruption to the brick bond arrangement had been chased by a discolouration in mortar in a vertical fashion along the full extent of the wall (PLATE 16). A rectangular window with a timber lintel was positioned above the tie beam.

6.4.7. The roof was built from modern timber with the exposed slate rooftop above, whilst a steel joist was positioned behind the timber joist which sat on the north-west and south-east wall end that formed the door lintel situated on the north-east elevation.



Plate 16 - South-west reconstruction wall room B1

6.4.8. A tie beam extended from the south-west wall and sat above the steel joist on the north-west elevation wall. The structural fabric encompassing the tie beam on the south-west wall had been disrupted, which would imply the structural beam was implemented at a later phase. Two purlins sat above the tie beam which were fused into the north-west and south-east walls. A series of common rafters rested above the purlins, extending in a declining fashion from the south-west wall to the steel joist of the north-west access point.

6.4.9. The floor surface consisted of a dark brick in stretcher bond coursing.

ROOM B2

6.4.10. Similarly to B1, room B2 was a large open floorspace, marginally shorter in breadth compared to B1, assessable via a single wide entry point on the north-west elevation. The internal south-west brick wall, decorated in english garden wall fashion, had originally been the external north-east rear facade of the

original building complex. The north-west and south-east elevation walls were a later phase of construction that formed the rear extension. Both butted against the south-west wall and were fashioned in english garden wall bonding to coincide with the original fabric.

6.4.11. A small square pitching opening consisting of a timber lintel and sill was positioned in the corner of the upper north-west wall, directly adjacent the south-west wall. The feature created a void into the adjacent room B1. Directly parallel on the south-east elevation wall, square feature in similar dimension, which had been sealed with brick.

6.4.12. A reconstruction phase was evident as a clear vertical division score within the south-west brick fabric, distinguishable from the dissimilarity in brick colour and a break in bonding from the foundation to the roofline (PLATE 17). The later phase of brickwork extended from the centre of the wall to the north-west wall. Most likely associated to the similar feature seen in room B1 which would have probably been an original wide open Bay into room B6.

6.4.13. A rectangular shaped window consisting of a timber lintel was positioned on the upper right side of the south-west wall. Two purlins were fused into the north-west and south-east walls where a series of common rafters rested above, extending in a declining fashion from the south-west wall to the timber joist of the north-west access point.

6.4.14. The floor surface consisted of dark brick in stretcher bond coursing.



Plate 17 - South-west reconstruction wall room B2

ROOM B3

6.4.15. Room B3 was much smaller in dimension compared to B1, B2, and B4 consisting of a small squared floorspace accessible via two doorways, one located on the north-east wall leading to the rear facade, and another positioned on the south-west partition leading into room B7.

6.4.16. The north-west and south-east patrician brick walls were butted against the south-west elevation fashioned in English garden wall to coincide with the original south-west bind design.

6.4.17. Two purlins were fused into the north-west and south-east walls where a series of common rafters rested above, extending in a declining fashion from the south-west wall to the timber joist of the north-west access point.

6.4.18. A B2 purlin end is exposed on the north-west elevation which protrudes outwardly by a few inches (PLATE 18).

6.4.19. Positioned on the upper north-west wall was a square feature which had been sealed with brick. It would have originally formed a void into the adjacent B2 room (PLATE 19).

6.4.20. The surrounding brick of the south-west wall doorway had been re-fabricated

to accommodate the threshold, suggesting the doorway was inserted at a later phase and not part of the original design (PLATE 20).

6.4.21. The lower sphere of the wall foundation on the north-west wall, directly north-west of the doorway, had been coated in cement render and black paint.

6.4.22. An iron peg was fussed into the north-west elevation, possibly for storing horse equipment such as a harness and tack (LAKE 2013, 36). A division wall made from timber extended from the north-east wall beside the doorway to the centre of the room.

6.4.23. The floor consisted of red brick and concrete.



Plate 18 - Internal features room B3



Plate 19 - Sealed air ventilation window north-west elevation room B3

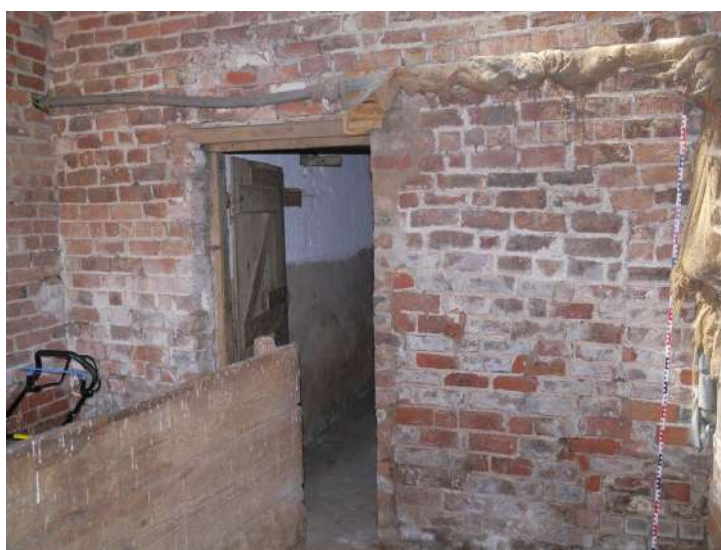


Plate 20 - Threshold south-west elevation room B3

ROOM B4

6.4.24. Room B4 consisted of a large rectangular open space accessible via the north-east elevation. The north-west and south-east division brick walls, in english garden bond, were butted against the south-east elevation wall.

6.4.25. A tie beam extended from the south-west wall and sat above the steel joist on

the north-west elevation wall (PLATE 21). Two purlins sat above the tie beam which were fused into the north-west and south-east walls. A series of common rafters rested above the purlins, extending in a declining fashion from the south-west wall to the steel joist of the north-west access point.



Plate 21 - Open roof with steel joist room B4

6.4.26. A layer of cement render was visible on the lower sphere of the walls.

6.4.27. Possible reconstruction work was evident to the south-west wall near where an interruption to the brick bond arrangement had been chased by a discolouration in mortar (PLATE 22). May have originally been an open threshold into room B9.

6.4.28. The floor consisted of red brick in stretcher bond coursing.



Plate 22 - South-west reconstruction wall room B4

ROOM B5

6.4.29. Room B5 consisted a small rectangular space located on the north-west most elevation of the ground floor level, accessible via a wide entrance doorway on the south-west elevation.

6.4.30. The internal north-west, north-east, and south-east walls consisted of brick material in English garden wall style. A remnant of white paint was present on the upper brick surface and black paint on the lower section, which partially concealed reconstruction marks made from later structural modifications (PLATE 23).

6.4.31. The low ceiling consisted of modern timber joists which ran in a north-west to south-east fashion, while cement infill was visible where the wooden joists fused into the south-east wall. The modern floorboards of the first floor level that were positioned above the joists were exposed. Compared to the other ground floor rooms, B5 was the most diminutive in dimension falling just under 2m in height.

6.4.32. A former open rectangular panel feature situated in the centre of the south-east partition wall was visible, but had been sealed with brick and white washed at

later stage. Originally, the feature would have created an open window between room B5 and the adjacent room B6 (PLATE 24). Possibly an air ventilation system or feeding bay.

6.4.33. The north-west partition was a load bearing wall supporting the structural elements of the upper first floor level. A short rectangular shaped opening stemmed from the foundation by an approximate 1.3m, which is visible from the outer north-west elevation. The feature may have originally been associated to a trough for the discarding of animal waste.

6.4.34. The floor surface consisted of modern concrete.

6.4.35. During the time of survey, a modern steel drop gate had been installed to the entrance while the floorspace was utilised as storage.



Plate 23 - Room B5



Plate 24 - Sealed air ventilation feature north-west elevation room B5

ROOM B6

6.4.36. B6 consisted of an ample squared floor space, accessible via a doorway on the south-west elevation. It was the largest room in terms of dimension compared to B5, B7, B8 and B9, and much spaciou in height compared to B5, B8, and B9 measuring just under 2.5 meters. The walls were coated in white wash along the upper section of the room, and cement render along the lower section. Subsequently, any indication of reconstruction to the original fabric was not visible. A small rectangular window, typical of a stable air ventilation feature (LAKE 2013, 36), sat on the south-west wall situated south east of the doorway.

6.4.37. Five lower courses of brick situated on the south-east wall protruded outward in english garden wall bond style, which was likely a soldier course feature, implemented for additional structural support.

6.4.38. A later phase of reconstruction was evident where a central positioned steel joist, and south-east positioned modern timber framed joist, fused to the north-east and south-west elevation walls (PLATE 25). A series of modern timber framed hanging beams positioned in a north-west to south-east alignment above the steel and timber joists, were fused either end into the north-west and

south-east elevation walls. The upper first floor timber floorboards were exposed above the hanging beams.

6.4.39. The floor consisted of modern concrete which featured structural outlines extending from both the north-west and south-east walls, where stall partitions for the segregation of horses may have originally stood (PLATE 26).

6.4.40. A cast iron hay rack was fused to the south-east wall and another to the north-west wall.

6.4.41. A piece of timber was fused into the upper north-west wall which may have been an original stable feature of a vertical feed rack, or harness rack (LAKE 1989, 28).



Plate 25 - Threshold and Window on south-west elevation in room B6



Plate 26 - An iron cast hey rack and concreted stall foundation

Room B7

6.4.42. Room B7 was accessible via two hung stable doorways, one situated on the south-west wall which led to the main outer courtyard, and another directly opposite on the north-east wall leading into room B3. The two thresholds were positioned adjacent the south-east elevation wall. The room height was similar to that of room B6 but more confined in breadth forming a rectangular shape floorspace, which consisted of modern concrete.

6.4.43. The area was subdivided by two fifteen course high brick walls in english garden wall stretcher bond style, and complete with a top course of headers. One divider stemmed from the south-west elevation and directly north-west of the doorway, and the other from the north-east elevation directly north-west of the B3 doorway (PLATE 27). The two walls formed an open centre where a timber swing gate was fixed.



Plate 27 - Room B7

6.4.44. The footprint is a typical layout for a horse stable where the south-east most side of the room functioned as a corridor and access point, and the north-west subdivision stall for accommodation and feeding. Measuring at an approximate 2.5 meters in height, the area was an adequate space to accommodate a horse (BRUNSKILL 2007, 76).

6.4.45. Disused iron objects were fused to the north-west wall which were likely associated to the original use of the stable.

6.4.46. The outer staircase, positioned on the front facade, protruded marginally within room B7 along the south-west wall. (PLATE 28)



Plate 28 - Intruding staircase room B7

6.4.47. The ceiling consisted of two large, possibly original, timber frame joists, which were fused into the fabric of the north-west and south-east brick walls. A series of eleven wide modern timber framed sister joists were fixed into the two main structural joist. Exposed modern floorboards of the first floor level were positioned above the joists.

6.4.48. The four brick elevation walls were coated in a white wash along the upper section of the room, whilst the lower margin was dressed in cement render. Subsequently, any potential later phase of reconstruction to the original fabric was concealed. However, a former open rectangular panel feature situated in the centre of the south-east partition wall was visible, but had been sealed with brick and white washed at later stage. Originally, the feature would have created an open window between room B7 and the adjacent room B8. Possibly an air ventilation system or feeding bay.

6.4.49. Fixtures and fittings were evident that further suggest the B7 was utilised as a stable. A cast iron hay rack was fixed to the corner wall where the south-west wall and north-west wall joined, an iron peg inserted to the timber joist, and a short protruding iron hanger on the upper south-east wall, for storing horse equipment such as a harness and tack (LAKE 2013, 36).

ROOM B8

6.4.50. Room B8 was assessable via a large open doorway situated on the south-west elevation. The internal features consisted of english garden wall stretcher bond brick on the north-west, north-east, and south-east elevations. A residue of white paint was evident upon the brickwork, primarily surviving on the upper sphere of the foundations (PLATE 29).

6.4.51. Three timber framed joists were fixed to the north-west and south-east walls but appeared to be a continuous structural feature seen in B9. A series of modern timber sister joists positioned in a north-east to south-west fashion were fused to the main timber joists. While the ceiling between the joists, consisted of lath and plaster.

6.4.52. A layer of modern concrete formed the floor surface, which would have originally been constructed of pitched stone or industrial brick (HISTORIC ENGLAND 2017, 9) as seen in room B9.

6.4.53. Three flat romanesque styled arched air ventilation windows were evident in a consecutive horizontal fashion along the centre of the south-east wall. Originally, the features would have formed an opening between room B8 and adjacent room B9, although, all three air ventilation windows were blocked in brick at a later phase (PLATE 30).



Plate 29 - room B8

6.4.54. Fused to the lower section of the south-east wall, directly beneath the feeding bays was an elevated brick built trough, six course in height and styled in stretcher bond. Marginally larger in dimension compared to the structural brick fabric. A perforated brick baring twelve holes is evident in the corner of the top course.

6.4.55. Two cast iron hay racks were fixed to the south-east wall in front of the blocked air ventilation features. While a contemporary water system was fused along the north- east and south-east wall which led to the trough.



Plate 30 - Three sealed air ventilation features on the south-west wall in room B8

ROOM B9

6.4.56. Room B9 fell marginally in breadth compared to room B8, but held similar internal features. The north-west, north-east, and south-east brick walls were fashioned in english garden wall bond. The lower brick surface was plastered in a layer of cement render, while the upper in white paint (PLATE 31).



Plate 31 - Room B9

6.4.57. The two, possibly original, timber framed joists were fixed to the south-east most wall and extended into the north-west wall, possibly the same joist as seen in room B8. A series of modern sister joist aligned in a north-east to south west alignment were fused to the larger structural joists.

6.4.58. A square shaped opening was evident in the centre of the lath and plaster ceiling, where the hatch door was located. A feature often seen in cart buildings where sacks of grain from the granaries above were lowered into the carts below (LAKE 2013, 12), or stables where they could be easily drawn from the loft above (BRUNSKILL 2007, 76).

6.4.59. An elevated brick trough, five course in height and decorated in stretcher bond style was fused to the lower south-east wall, bearing the same brick dimension and colour as the foundation walls.

6.4.60. The floor consisted of Staffordshire blue brick (PAGE 1967, 255) in stretcher bond style, with a drainage channel situated along the north-west wall. During the time of survey, the channel was filled with a different, possibly modern, brick material. The floor surface may be an original feature as the material is a typical engineering brick dating from the mid 19th century, and a common feature often found in stable buildings (ENGLISH HERITAGE 2017, 9).

6.4.61. Two cast iron hay racks were fixed to the south-east wall, while a contemporary water system was inserted to the north-east and south-east wall which led to the trough.

ROOM B10

6.4.62. B10 was a contemporary addition, completely open with exposed steel supporting beams which held up the corrugated metal roof sheeting. The roof gradually sloped north-eastwardly towards the ridge of the north-east brick wall (PLATE 32).

6.4.63. The floorspace consisted of modern concrete and utilised for storage during the time of survey (PLATE 33).



Plate 32 - Room B10



Plate 33 - Internal space room B10

FIRST FLOOR

6.4.64. The brick bonding of rooms F1 to F3 were decorated in english garden wall bond although, the series of headers were not consecutive to the adjacent wall. Room F4 and F5 were concealed with a cement render.

ROOM F1

- 6.4.65. Room F1 was positioned on the upper first floor on north-west most side of the complex, consisting of a small rectangular floorspace made accessible via room F2. Both the south-east and north-west walls were shorter than the north-west and south-east walls, consisting of sixteen course brick in height, so to accommodate the sloping roof.
- 6.4.66. Situated on the south-east elevation wall was a threshold implemented at a later phase, evident from the outline of the doorway which appeared to have disrupted the fabric of the brick. The doorway consisted of timber lintel and threshold (PLATE 34).
- 6.4.67. The threshold stepped down into F1 from B2 by a height of two brick courses, onto a contemporary timber floorboard surface.
- 6.4.68. The upper north-west brick wall had been restored at a later phase from the thirteenth course brick, which was evident from the discolouration of mortar (PLATE 35). The fabric appeared to have accommodated the contemporary timber purlins that protruded in a north-west to south-east fashion, indicating the wall had been reconstructed in conjunction to the restoration of the roof.
- 6.4.69. A series of headers were evident along the fourth lower course of the south-west wall, with a timber frame imbedded directly below (PLATE 36). Possibly the reminiscence of a lintel where a threshold once stood for access into room B5 below.



Plate 34 - Threshold south-east wall room F1

6.4.70. Two modern timber purlins were fused from the north-west to south-east walls. The north-west elevation appeared to accommodate the two purlins, whilst the fabric of the south-east elevation seemed to have been modified to accommodate. A series of common rafters rested above the purlins, extending in a declining fashion from the ridge of the open roof, to the timber wall plate located on the south-east and north-west walls.



Plate 35 - North-west wall room F1



Plate 36 - South-west wall room F1

ROOM F2

6.4.71. Room F2 was located south-east of room F1 and consisted of a large, almost squared shaped, open floorspace. Accessible via two entry points, one narrow threshold situated on the north-west elevation wall from room F1, and another much wider threshold on the south-east wall from room F3.

6.4.72. The south-west and north-east walls comprised of fourteen course high brick and were much shorter in height compare to the north-west and south-east walls, so to accommodate the common rafters.

6.4.73. The ceiling comprised of the open roofline with exposed timber structural framing and slate rooftop. Two protruding brick wall posts, two course wide and eleven course high, were visible in the centre of the room which bore the timber central timber principle rafters above. Two timber purlins were fixed from the north-west to south-east walls, which rested above the principle rafters, whilst a collar beam further supported the central principle rafters. A series of common rafters rested above the purlins, extending in a declining fashion from the ridge of the open roof, to the timber wall plate located on the south-east and north-west walls (PLATE 37).

6.4.74. Two rectangular windows with timber lintels were positioned on the north-east wall, directly above the floor surface (PLATE 38).

6.4.75. Contemporary timber boards formed the floor.



Plate 37 - Room F2



Plate 38 - Two window features and brick wall post

ROOM F3

6.4.76. The short narrow threshold, positioned on the south-west elevation in room F3, functioned as the main and only access route into the first floor level from the external staircase (PLATE 39).

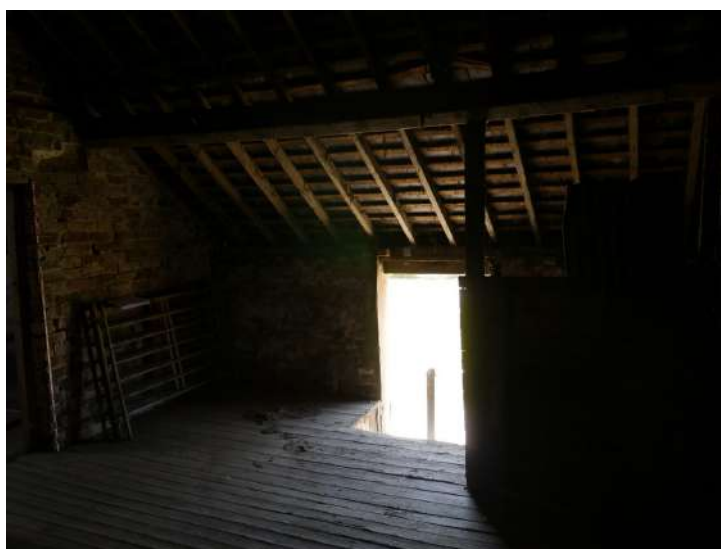


Plate 39 - Threshold south-west elevation room F3



Plate 40 - South-east elevation room F3

6.4.77. Room F2 was assessable via a wide open threshold on the north-west elevation, and room F4 via a much narrower threshold on the south-east elevation (PLATE 40).

6.4.78. Two purlins were fixed from the north-west to south-east walls with a series of common rafters positioned above, which extended from the timber ridge to the timber wall plates positioned on the top course of the south-west and north-east walls.

6.4.79. The south-west and north-east walls comprised of sixteen course high brick and were much shorter in height compare to the north-west and south-east elevations, so to accommodate the common rafters.

6.4.80. The reminiscence of cement render was visible upon the wall surface.

6.4.81. The wooden floor surface was positioned one brick course lower than the floor level in room F2.

ROOM F4

6.4.82. Room F4 was accessible via to two entry points, a doorway situated on the north-west elevation into room F3, and another positioned on the north-west elevation wall into room F5.

6.4.83. The walls were coated in a layer of white wash cement render, and the floor consisted of timber floorboards (PLATE 41).

6.4.84. Two purlins were fixed from the north-west to south-east walls with a series of common rafters positioned above, which extended from the timber ridge to the timber wall plates positioned on the top course of the south-west and north-east walls.

6.4.85. A small square window was positioned o the south-west wall (PLATE 42).



Plate 41 - Room F4



Plate 42 - Window feature room F4

ROOM F5

6.4.86. Room F5 was positioned on the south-east most side of the complex, consisting of a small rectangular floorspace accessible via room F4 (PLATE 43).

6.4.87. The walls were coated in a white wash cement render and the floor of timber

floorboards. A square hatch door was visible in the centre of the floor (PLATE 44).

6.4.88. A small square window was positioned on the south-west elevation wall, in similar dimension to the window in F4 (PLATE 45).

6.4.89. Two purlins were fixed from the north-west to south-east walls with a series of common rafters positioned above, which extended from the timber ridge to the timber wall plates positioned on the top course of the south-west and north-east walls.



Plate 43 - Room F5



Plate 44 - Floor hatch room F5



Plate 45 - Window feature south-west elevation room F5

7. Analysis & Conclusions

ANALYSIS

7.1. The integration of brick material within agricultural buildings developed in the 17th century. Often associated with higher status properties in concurrence with a display of fashion and wealth when used in preference to other local building materials. The use of brick increased throughout the 18th century and soared in the 19th century when the material became common place and easily assessable, particularly where access to stone was limited (ENGLISH HERITAGE 2006a, 25). Buildings made of stone and brick, roofed with tile or slate, became an increasingly widespread fashion from the later 18th century, specifically the Cheshire plain where natural geological clay was utilised for brick making (ENGLISH HERITAGE 2016, 22). Replacing long-rooted traditional earth walling, thatch, and timber frame farm buildings (ENGLISH HERITAGE 2006a, 7).

7.2. Despite Lower Farm falling marginally within Welsh border, the building had evidently become subject to the architectural revolution of brick material use from the neighbouring county of Cheshire. From analysing the footprint and architectural ornamentation of the barn complex, the building is simplistic in design and modest in appearance. Lacking in decorative features to suggest a 17th century construction, but rather an 18th or 19th century build when brick material became widely used and easily accessible. A complex built solely for function rather than the intent for symbolic value. Nonetheless, a horse stable is noted as being present upon the location of the existing structure by 1843 on the Dutton Diffaeth Gresford Township Map. Arguably, it is plausible that the current complex may have been modified for another use or reconstruction altogether after the 1843. However, there are architectural features which associate to a stable, cart house, and upper floor granary, in addition to structural materials that date to the mid 19th century.

7.3. Upper first floor granaries were an additional feature often combined with other functions such as cart sheds, which were assessable by an external staircase (LAKE 2013, 12), and utilised for general crops from the harvest season, but also the implements needed for arable cultivation on the farm (LAKE 2013, 4). Such buildings

were often detached and located near crop fields, main trackway, or forecourt near the farmhouse (ENGLISH HERITAGE 2006b, 8). The 1843 Dutton Diffaeth Gresford Township Map illustrates the stable barn near the open forecourt to the south-west and the immediate cultivation land to the north-east, which appears to be a main access route as demonstrated in the 1873 OS Map. Ground floor stables and cow houses were not an uncommon feature but were often frowned upon as the damp and smells emanating from the animals below could taint the grain (ENGLISH HERITAGE 2006a, 51).

7.4. The floors were often stoutly built to withstand heavy weight, and made of tight fitted and lapped boards to prevent the loss of grain (ENGLISH HERITAGE 2006a, 54). The large parallel timber framed joists visible throughout the ground floor rooms in addition to the four brick division walls, were likely an architectural design intended to support the weight from the upper first floor level. There was often a trap door into the cart shed below with a hoist beside it to allow for the loading of sacks (LAKE 2013, 12), or where they could be easily drawn from the loft above if functioned as a stable (BRUNSKILL 2007, 76). Positioned in the centre of the ceiling in B9, and the shared floor of room F5 located directly above, was a hatch door that would have undoubtedly been utilised for a same function. Additionally, the wide thresholds on the first floor would have presented a spacious floorspace for manoeuvring and storing of materials (ENGLISH HERITAGE 2006b, 50).

7.5. An agricultural building used for housing and protecting carts, waggons and farm implements from the natural elements, are often characterised with a series of wide open-fronted access points. Occasionally, these bays were enclosed with fixed doors in an attempt to better secure agricultural equipment (HISTORIC ENGLAND 2017, 10). Both the original front facade on the south-west elevation, and the later rear facade on the north-east elevation, consisted of wide open thresholds with iron hinges imbedded into the fabric walls. Subsequently, the dimension of a cart shed can reflect the size and function of the associated farm (LAKE 2013, 12). B1, B2, and B4 were much greater in dimension compared to B5, B8 and B9 of the front facade, indicating a later phase of construction so to accommodate more animals, or larger agricultural machinery into the 20th and 21st century as agricultural technologies

improved in function and size. The original internal ground space, B5 to B9, are rather narrow in size indicating the segregation of an animal such as housing of a singular horse or small cart which would coincide with the early 19th century agricultural equipment.

7.6. The segregation of the ground floor level rooms from the other, in addition to the air ventilation features evident throughout, are a typical features found in a horse stables (LAKE 2013, 36). Stoutly built division walls were designed to withstand kicks and prevent hostility between horses (LAKE 1989, 29), while continuous flow of ventilation throughout the building meant moisture was able to evaporate easily (HISTORIC ENGLAND 2017, 9). The ceiling in room B9 was an original lath and plaster feature, a typical design used to prevent dust from the granary above falling into the horses' eyes (HISTORIC ENGLAND 2017, 10). Additionally, the height of each room, apart from B5 where the ceiling was purposely lowered at a later phase, were of suitable dimension for accommodating horses (BRUNSKILL 2007, 76). Nonetheless, the heavy racks and iron objects fused into the internal fabric for the purpose of storing horse equipment, is compelling evidence that the building had been, and continued to function as a horse stable.

7.7. The Staffordshire blue brick floor in B9, is a typical engineering material dating to the mid 19th century (PAGE 1967, 255). Brick material was a later addition to stable flooring, replacing those made of cobbles (HISTORIC ENGLAND 2017, 9).

7.8. The surviving architectural properties, in conjunction with mapping data of Lower Farm, indicates the complex was constructed for a multiple functioning purpose. Primarily, a horse stable, cart house, and granary, possibly constructed in the early to mid 19th century.

CONCLUSIONS

7.9. Phase 1 relates to the construction of the original building sometime between the 18th and mid-19th century. Phase 2 relates to the remodelling of the original blueprint and extension to the north-west elevation, constructed after the mid-19th century. Phase 3 relates to the contemporary brick and steel framed extension to the south-east elevation, constructed sometime between the 20th and 21st century. Whilst phase

4 relates to the reconstruction and restoration to the internal features.

PHASE 1

7.9.1. Phase 1 is the original fabric of the complex, which comprised of the lower ground floor barns B5 to B9 and the upper first floor level rooms F1 to F5, in addition to the external stair, built sometime between the 18th to mid-19th century.

PHASE 2

7.9.2. Phase 2 consisted of the rear facade extension situated on the north-east side of the original building which incorporated room B1, B2, B3, and B4, constructed after the mid-19th century. The threshold positioned on the south-west internal elevation wall in room F3, was likely inserted into the original fabric wall during this phase, in order to create a fluid access route between the entire ground floor level of both phase 1 and phase 2.

7.9.3. Prior to the extension, the north-east wall of room B6 had been closed with brick, so only one access point was possible via the doorway on the south west elevation. The north-east wall in room B9 had also been closed with brick, forming one access point made via the south-west elevation. The bricks used were of similar characteristics as those seen in the fabric of the extension, indicating both the blocking of room B6 and B9, in conjunction to the north-east extension, were contemporary.

PHASE 3

7.9.4. Phase 3 consisted of room B10, the modern open steel and brick framed extension fixed to the south-east elevation of the phase 1 original build, constructed sometime between the 20th and 21st century. Possibly the extension seen in the 1993 OS Map.

PHASE 4

7.9.5. Phase 4 consisted of the restoration and reconstruction to the original internal

blueprint of entire complex. Possibly during phase 2 when the north-east elevations of room B6 and B9 were sealed by brick, however, it is unclear when this later phase of construction took place.

7.9.6. The timber ceiling in room B5, B6 and B7, consisted of modern timber framing inserted at a later phase. The ceiling in room B5, which functioned as the floor in room F1, may have been a later adaptation to the north west part of the complex where originally, room B5 and F1 was one large open barn feature. Gathered as a timber lintel and brick header arch from a former threshold was evident along the lower sphere of the south-west elevation wall in room F1, and cement infill was visible where the wooden joists fused into the south-east wall in room F5.

7.9.7. The B5 south-west doorway may have been reconstructed to incorporate a wider threshold, as the external fabric on the south-west facade had a clear indication of restoration work to the surrounding brickwork. Where the brick header lintel did not extend to the full dimension of the threshold, but was complete on each end with a row of stretchers, with an interruption to the brick bond arrangement which had been chased by a discolouration in mortar. The row of brick headers likely mark the original narrow stable doorway, which closely resembles the dimension of the adjacent B6 threshold. Other internal features in B5 further imply an original stable feature. The closed open window arch situated on the north-east wall is a common feature found in stables, primarily for air ventilation purposes (HISTORIC ENGLAND 2017, 9). The bricked rectangular feature, extending from the foundation of the south-west internal elevation of room B5, was possibly an exit for a trough, while the horizontal timber beam fixed to the lower north-east wall in room F1, may have been a fitting for a hay rack.

7.9.8. The three arched air ventilation features positioned in a consecutive horizontal fashion along the south-east elevation wall in room B8, were blocked in brick.

7.9.9. The concrete flooring found in room B5 to B8 were a modern insertion, while a later concrete layer was inserted into the division stall foundations in room

B6.

7.9.10. The upper north-west brick wall had been restored at a later phase from the thirteenth course brick, which was evident from the discolouration of mortar and brick.

7.9.11. The gable roof of the original phase 1 building, had been reconstructed in contemporary timber and slate.

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FIGURES

FIGURE I // Site Location - General



PROJECT // 4028C - Lower Farm, Bowling Bank

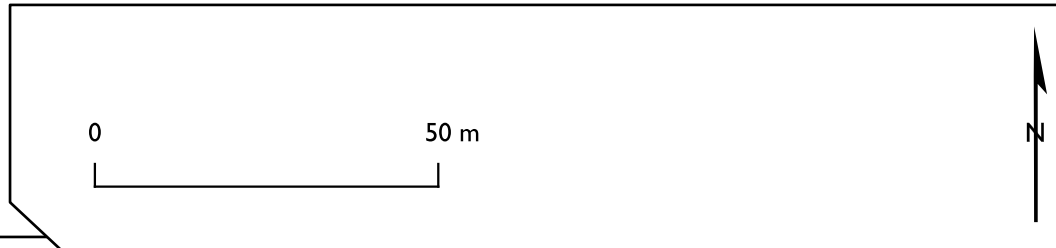
DESCRIPTION // Site Location

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DOC REF: LP4028C-HBR-v1

L-P:ARCHAEOLOGY

FIGURE 2 // Site Location - Detail



PROJECT // 4028C - Lower Farm, Bowling Bank

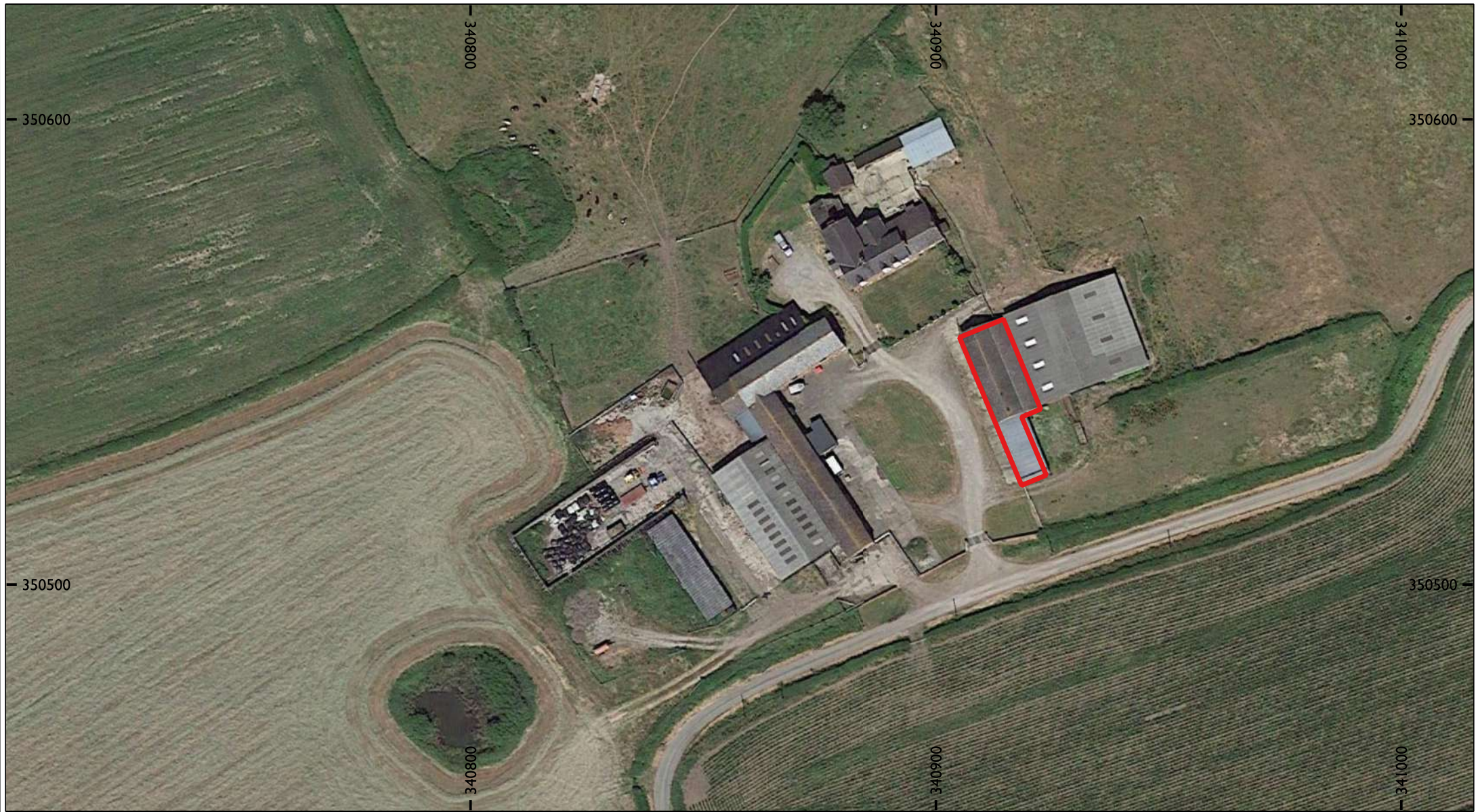
DESCRIPTION // Site Location - Detail

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DOC REF: LP4028C-HBR-v1

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FIGURE 3 // Google Satellite Image



0 50 m



PROJECT // 4028C - Lower Farm, Bowling Bank

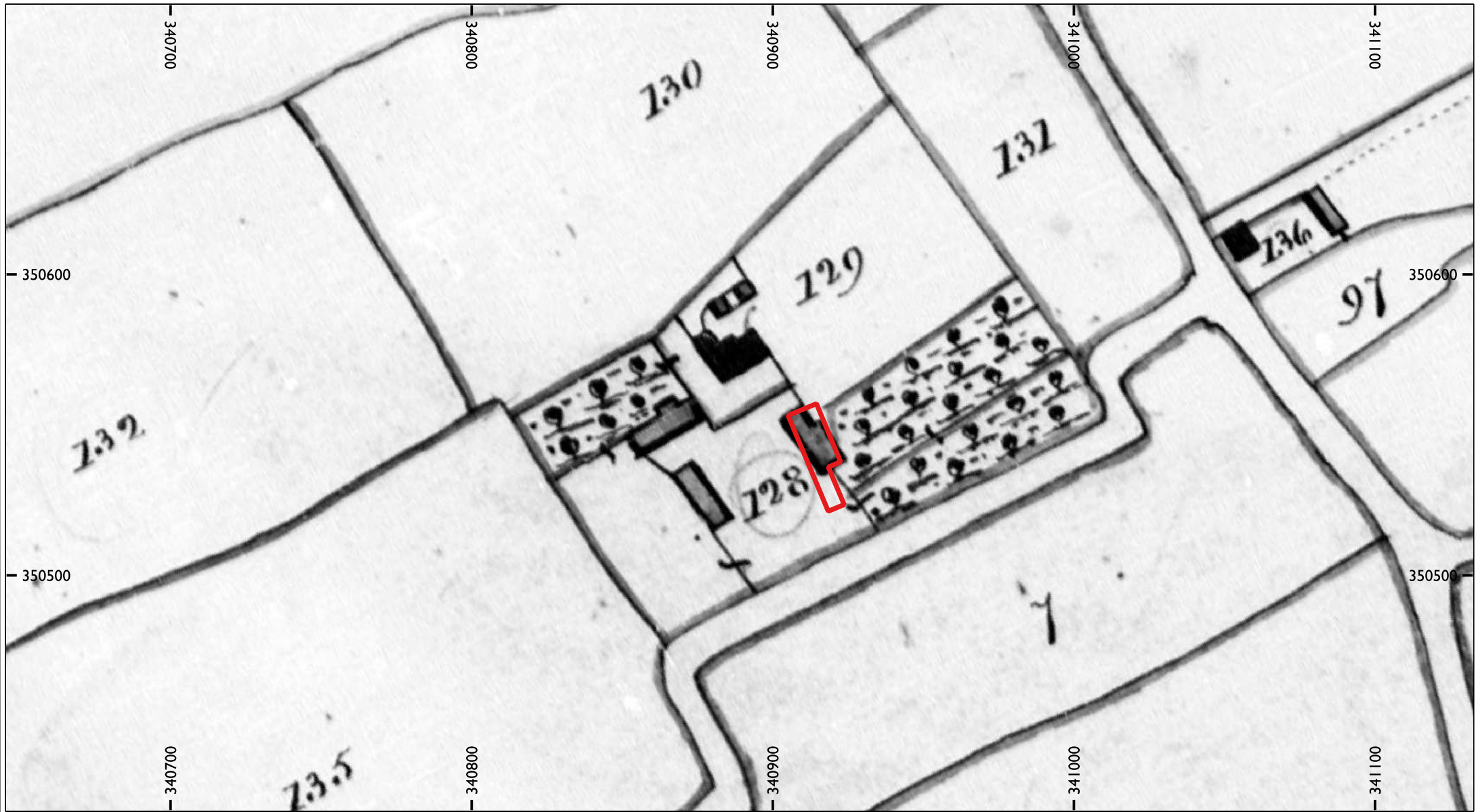
DESCRIPTION // Google Satellite Image

Imagery ©2021 Bluesky, infoterra LTD & COWI A/S, Getmapping plc, InfoterraLrd & Bluesky, Maxar Technologies, Map data ©2021

DOC REF: LP4028C-HBR-v1

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FIGURE 4 // 1843 Township Map



0 50 m



PROJECT // 4028C - Lower Farm, Bowling Bank

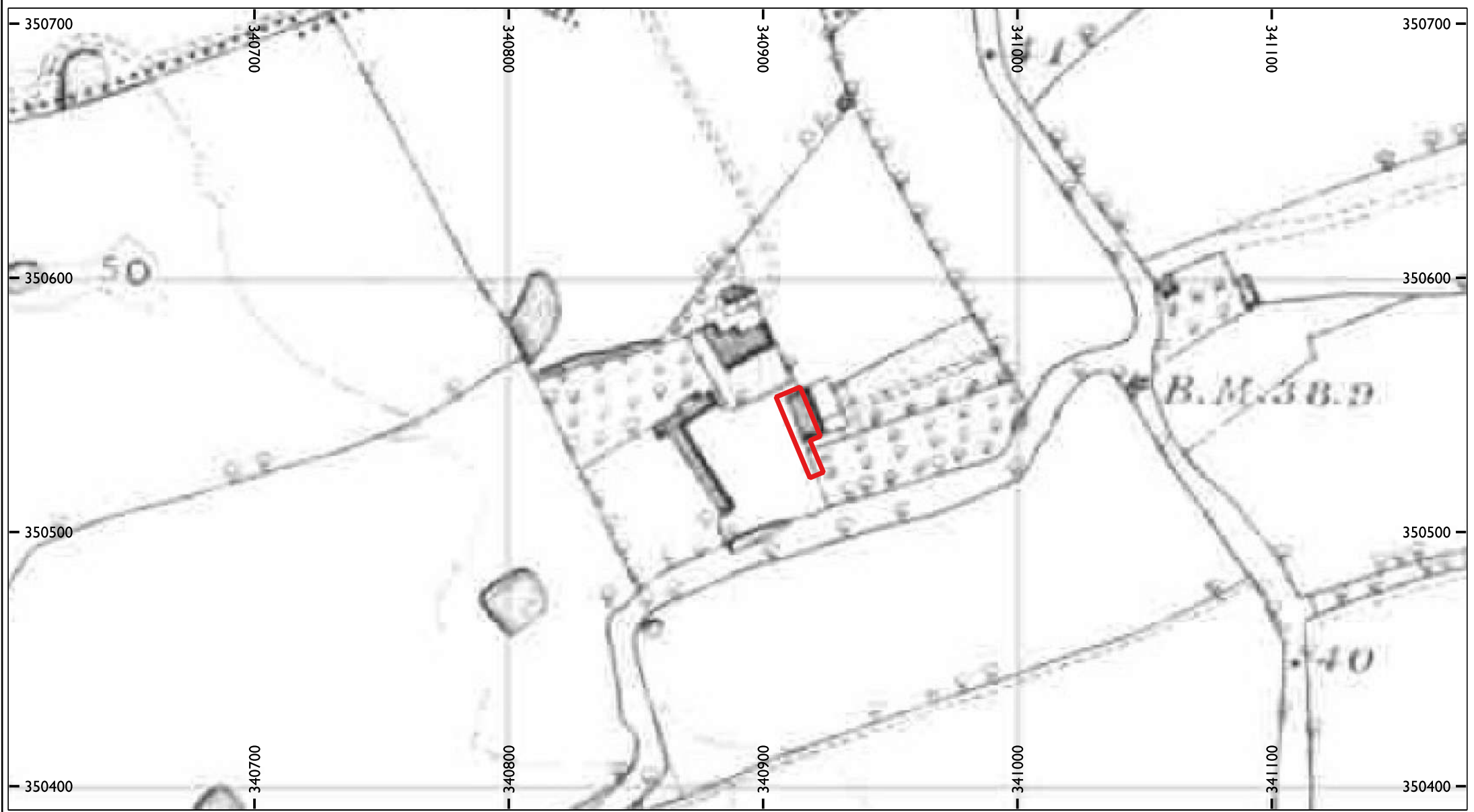
DESCRIPTION // Figure 4 - 1843 Denbigshire Dutton Diffaeth Gresford Township Map

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FIGURE 5 // 1872 OS Map



PROJECT // 4028C - Lower Farm, Bowling Bank

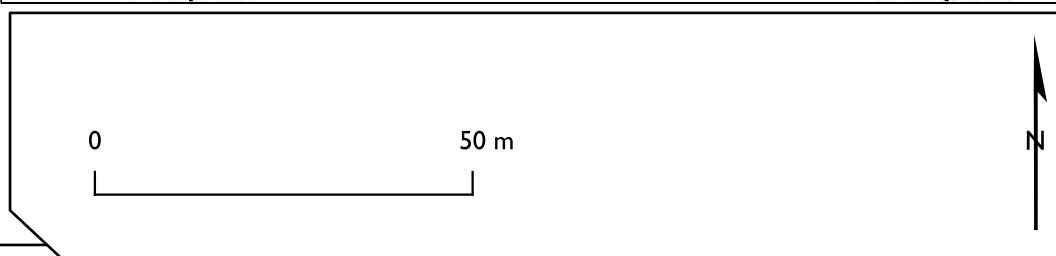
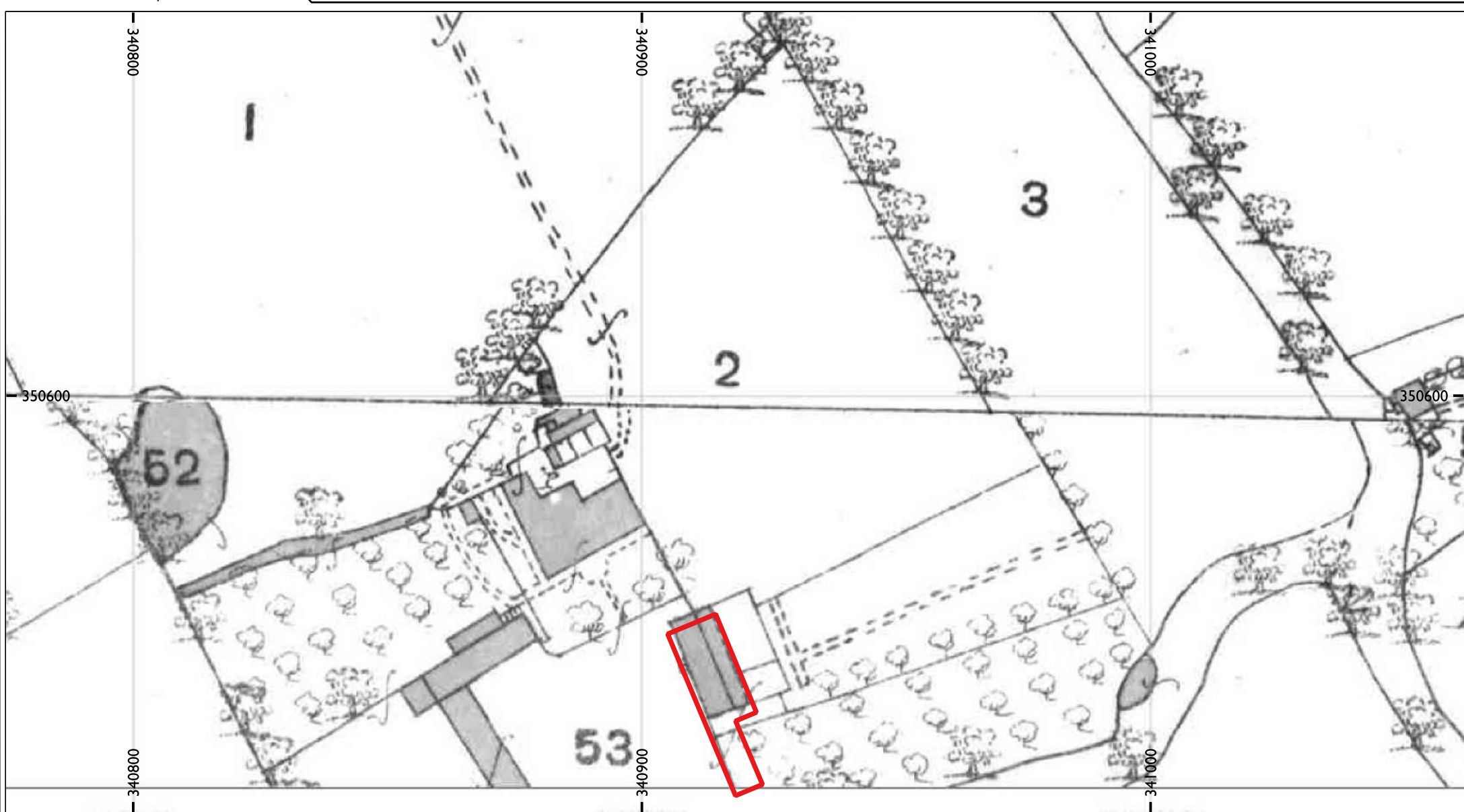
DESCRIPTION // Figure 5 - 1872 OS Map

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FIGURE 6 // 1873 OS Map



PROJECT // 4028C - Lower Farm, Bowling Bank

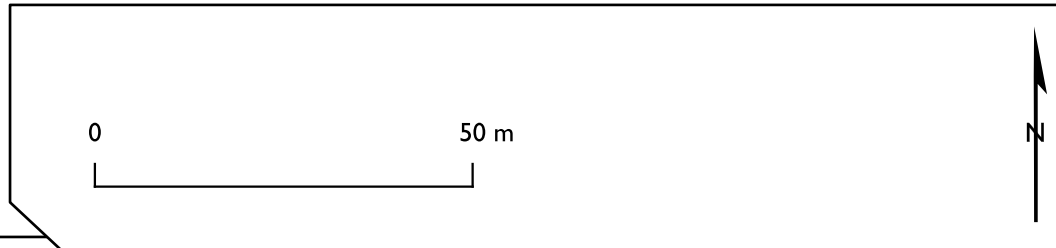
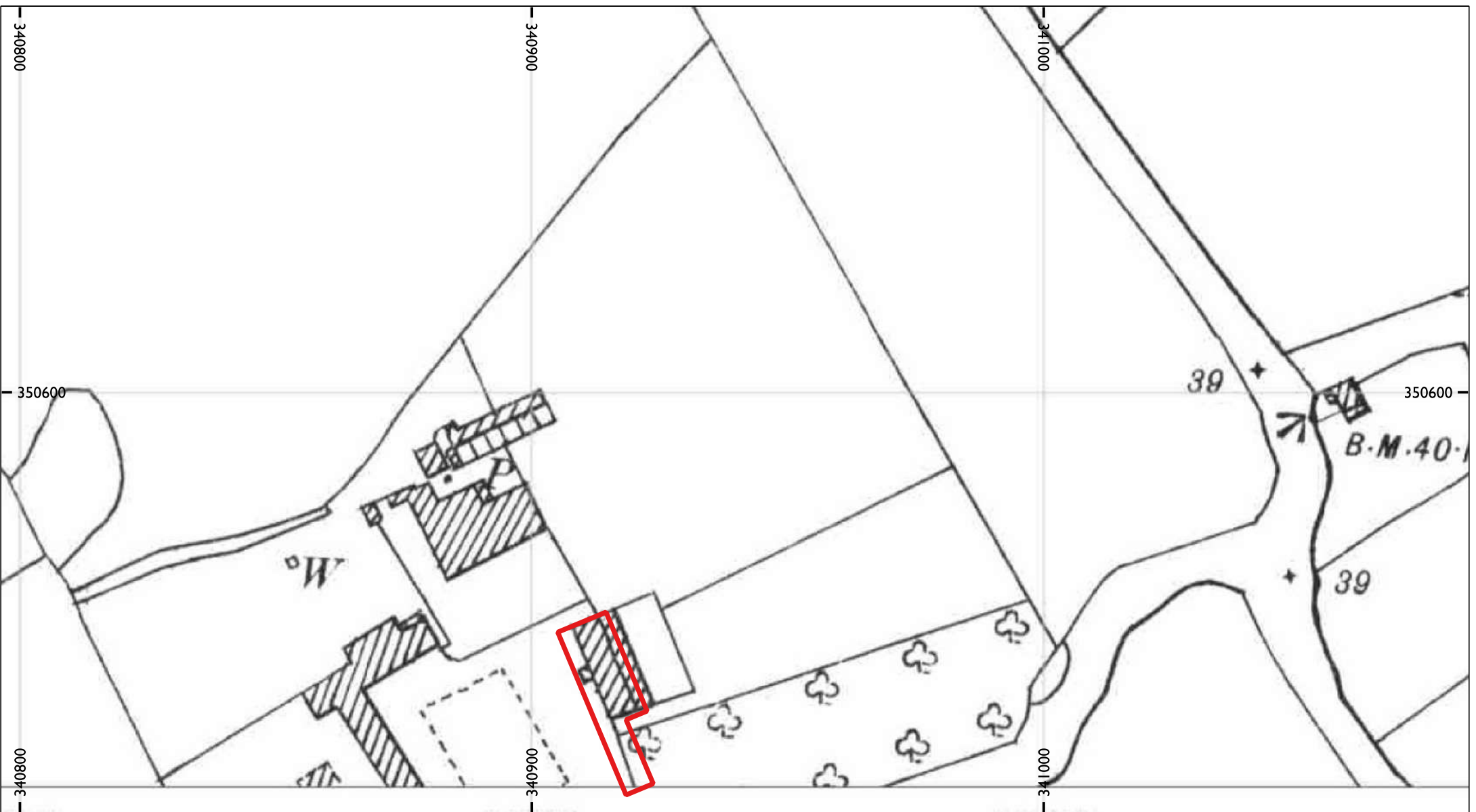
DESCRIPTION // Figure 6 - 1873 OS Map

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DOC REF: LP4028C-HBR-v1

L~P:ARCHAEOLOGY

FIGURE 7 // 1899 OS Map



PROJECT // 4028C - Lower Farm, Bowling Bank

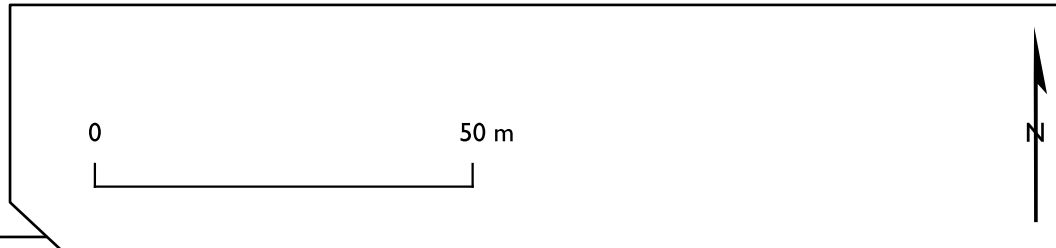
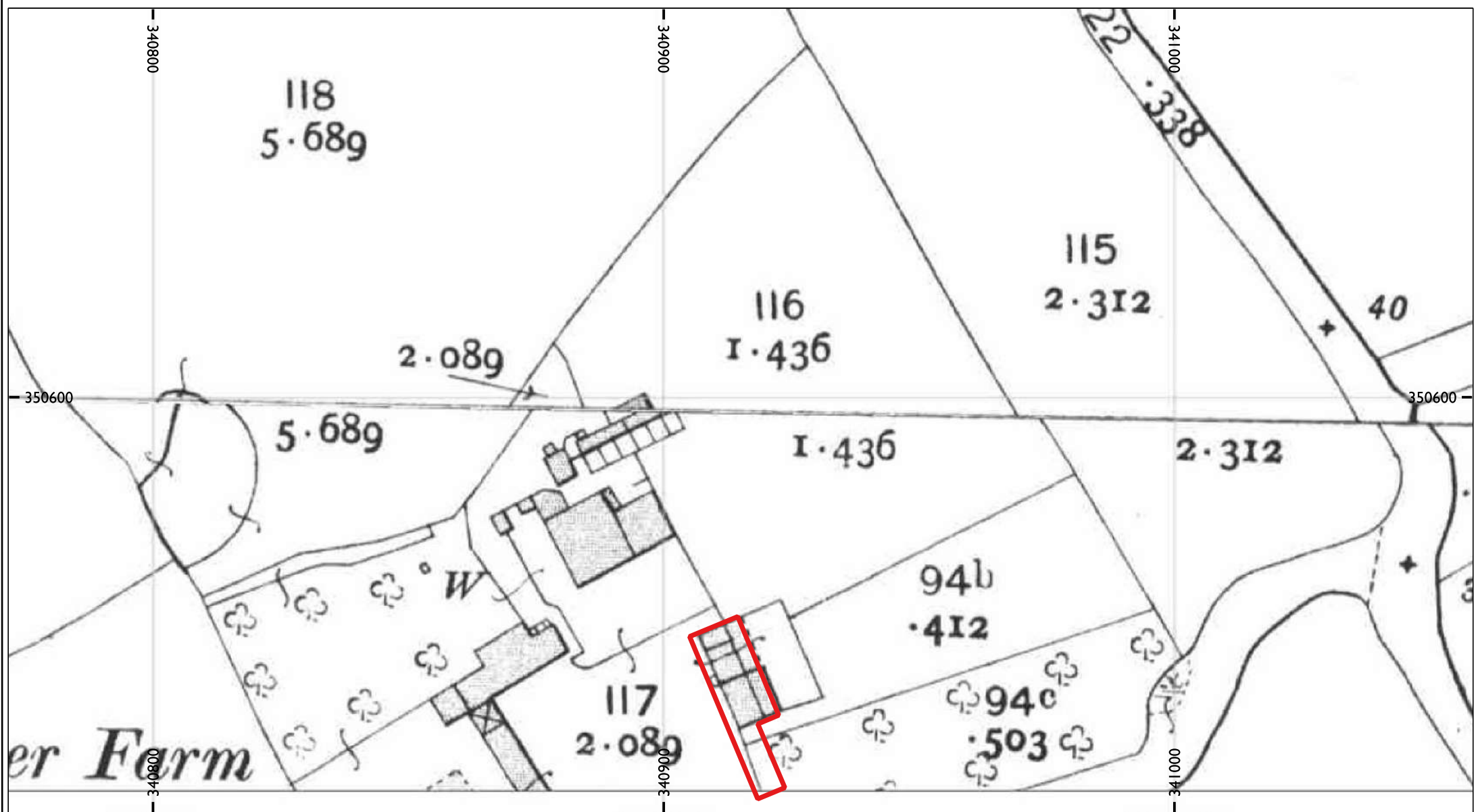
DESCRIPTION // Figure 7 - 1899 OS Map

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FIGURE 8 // 1911 OS Map



PROJECT // 4028C - Lower Farm, Bowling Bank

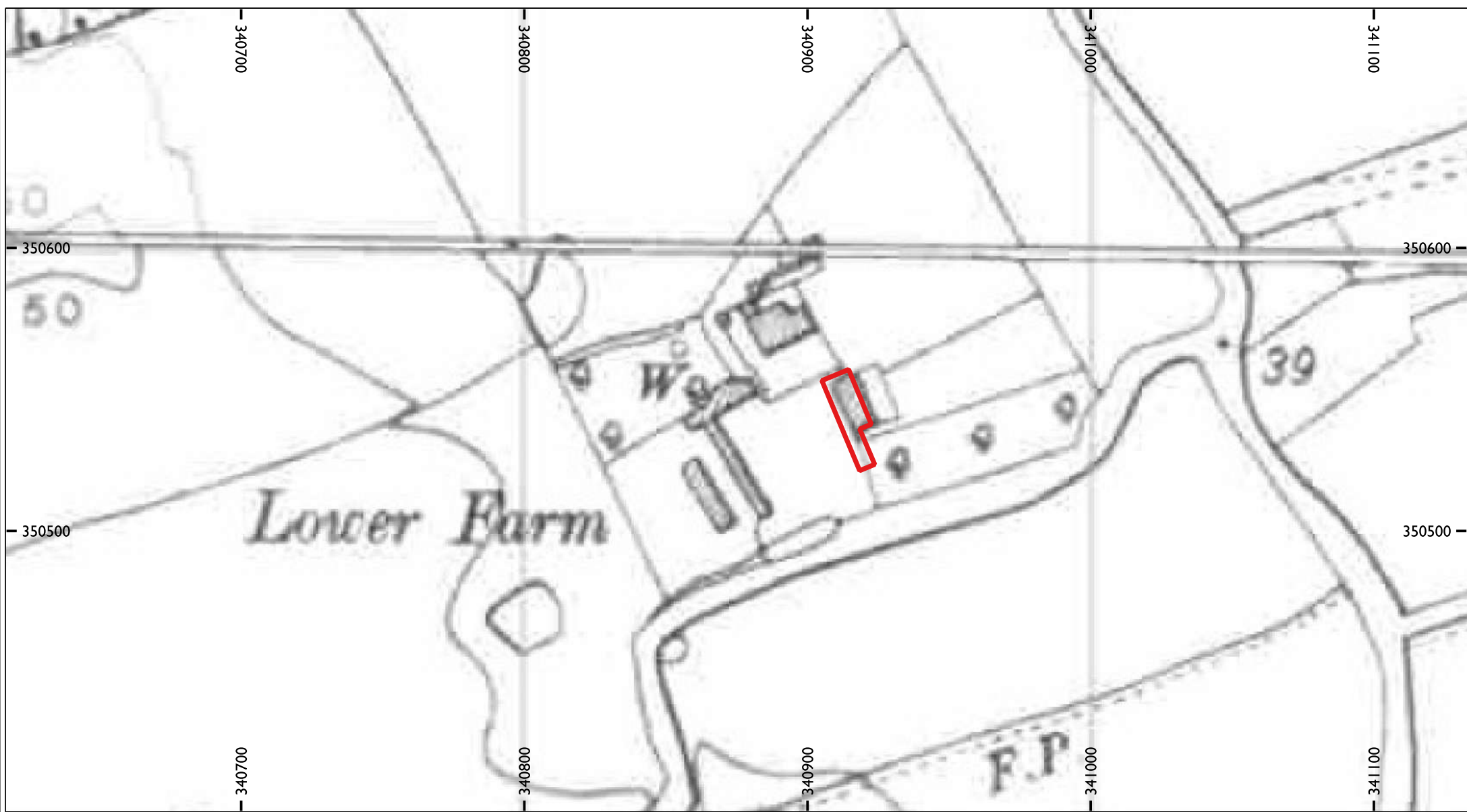
DESCRIPTION // Figure 8 - 1911 OS Map

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FIGURE 9 // 1914 OS Map



PROJECT // 4028C - Lower Farm, Bowling Bank

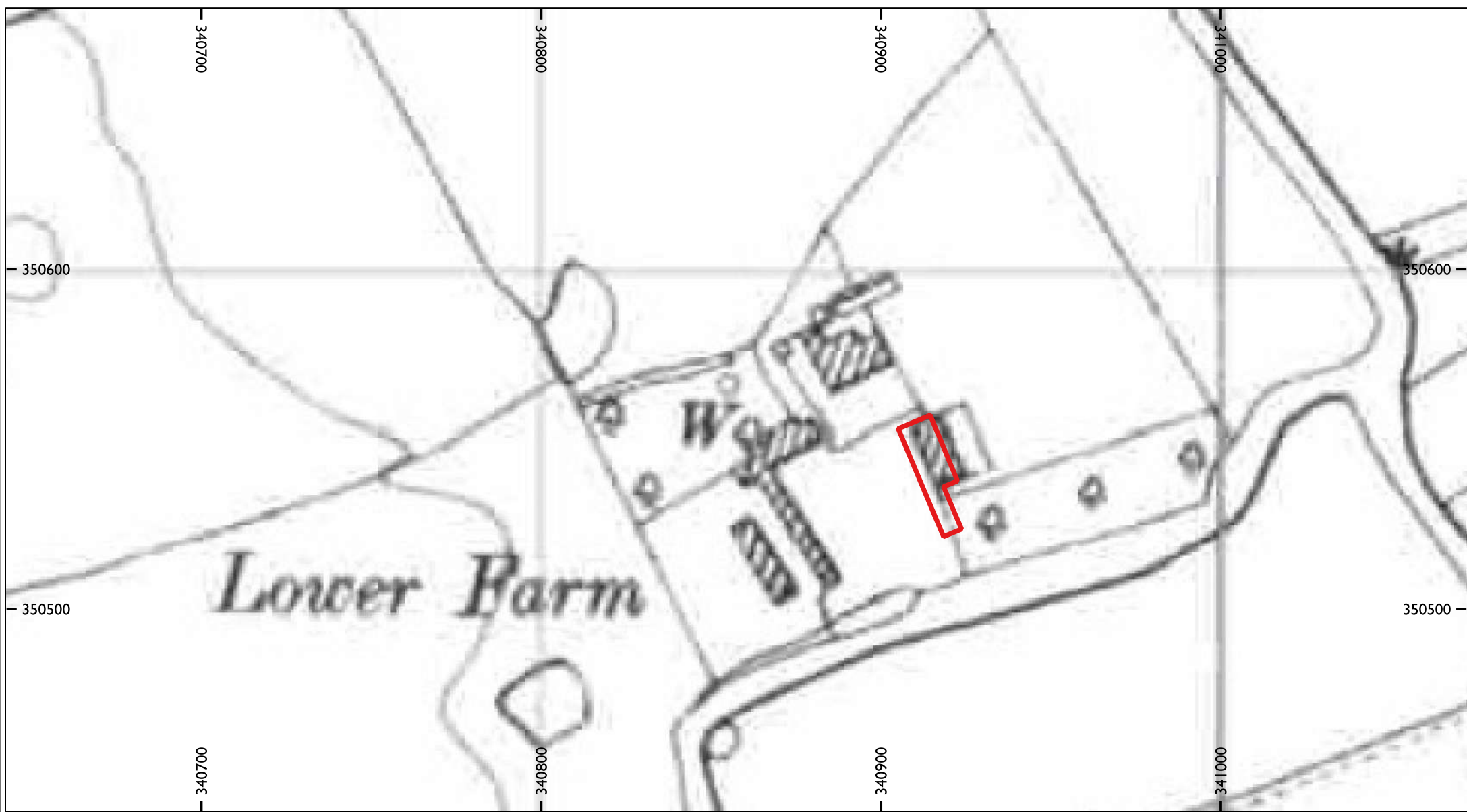
DESCRIPTION // Figure 9 - 1914 OS Map

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FIGURE 10 // 1949 OS Map



PROJECT // 4028C - Lower Farm, Bowling Bank

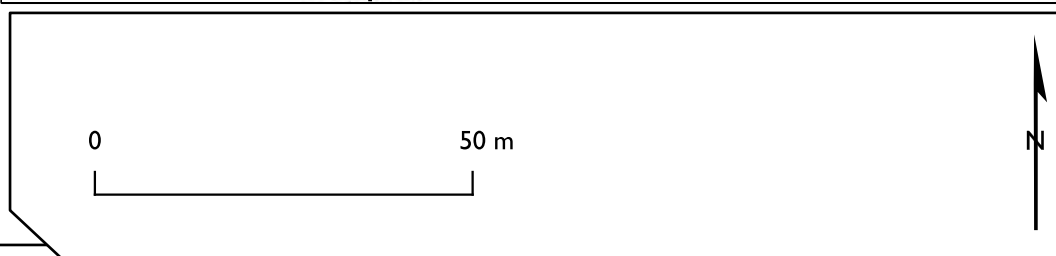
DESCRIPTION // Figure 10 - 1949 OS Map

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FIGURE 11 // 1970 OS Map



PROJECT // 4028C - Lower Farm, Bowling Bank

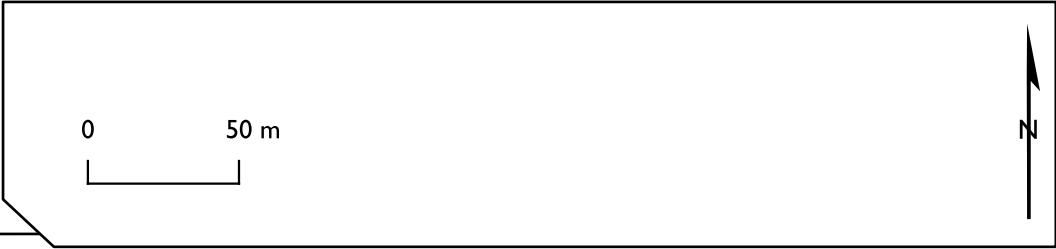
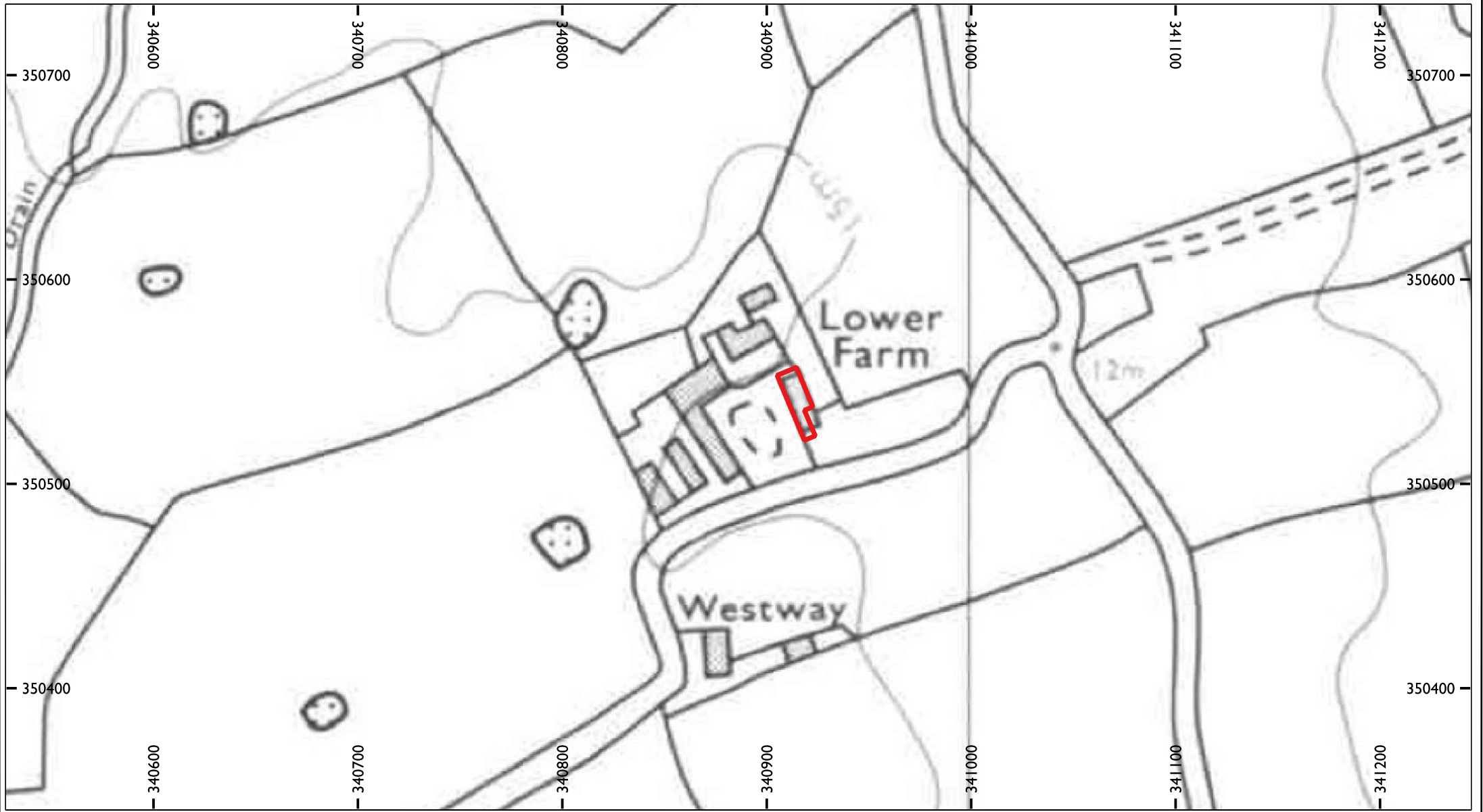
DESCRIPTION // Figure 11 - 1970 OS Map

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FIGURE 12 // 1976 OS Map



PROJECT // 4028C - Lower Farm, Bowling Bank

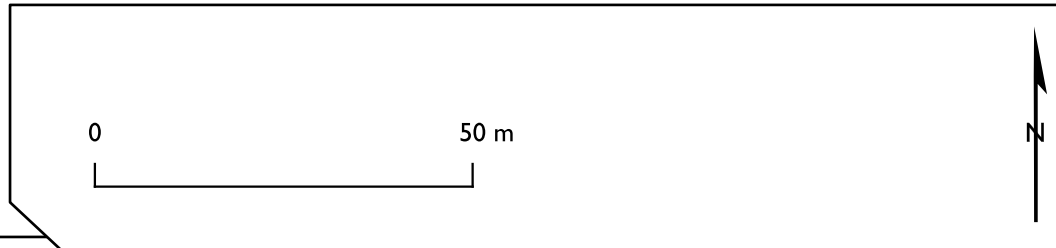
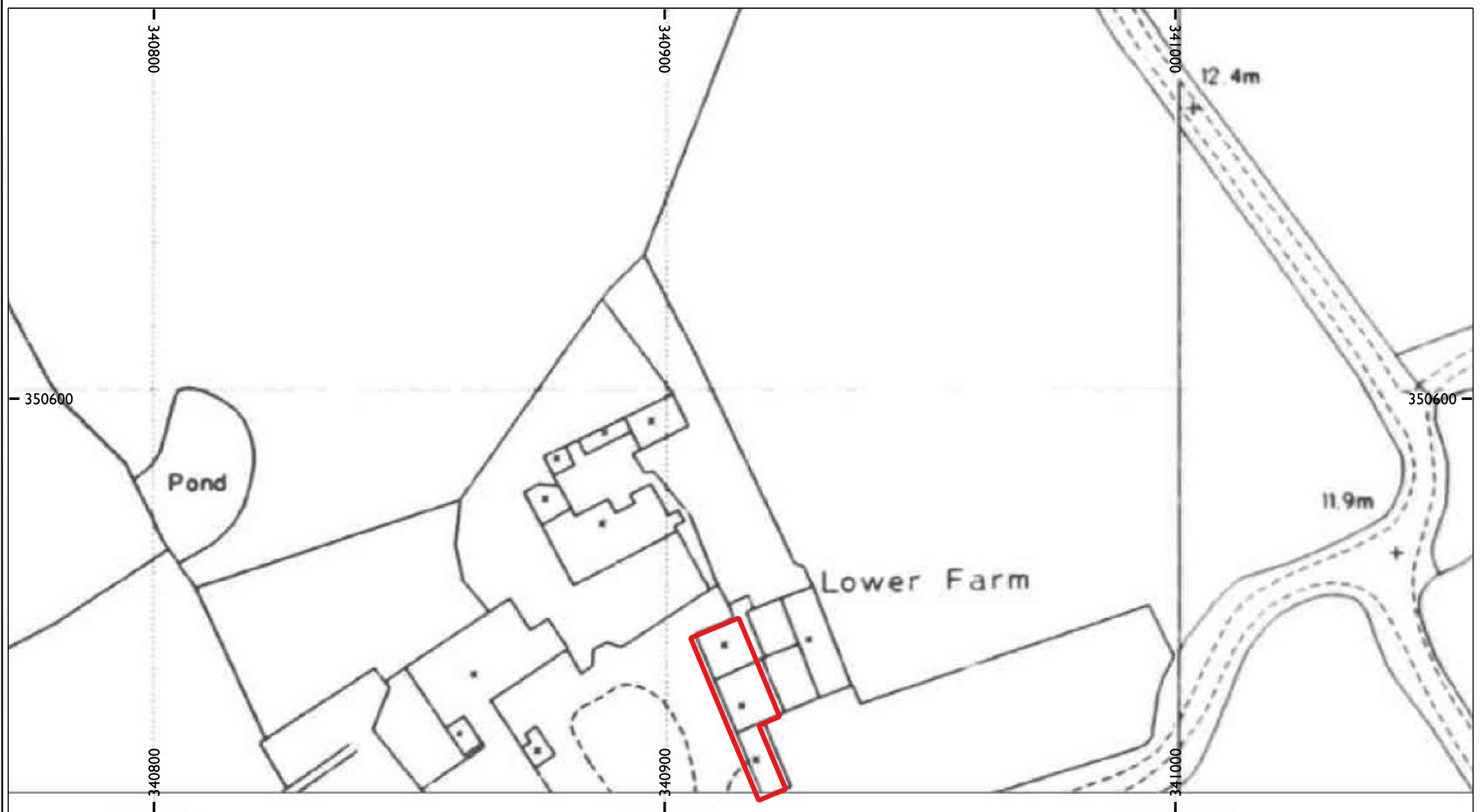
DESCRIPTION // Figure 12 - 1976 OS Map

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FIGURE 13 // 1913 OS Map



PROJECT // 4028C - Lower Farm, Bowling Bank

DESCRIPTION // Figure 13 - 1913 OS Map

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FIGURE 14 // 2001 OS Map



0 50 m



PROJECT // 4028C - Lower Farm, Bowling Bank

DESCRIPTION // Figure 14 - 2001 OS Map

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APPENDIX

Plans and Elevations

Phasing

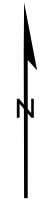
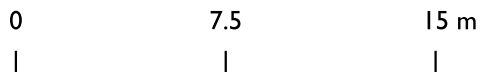
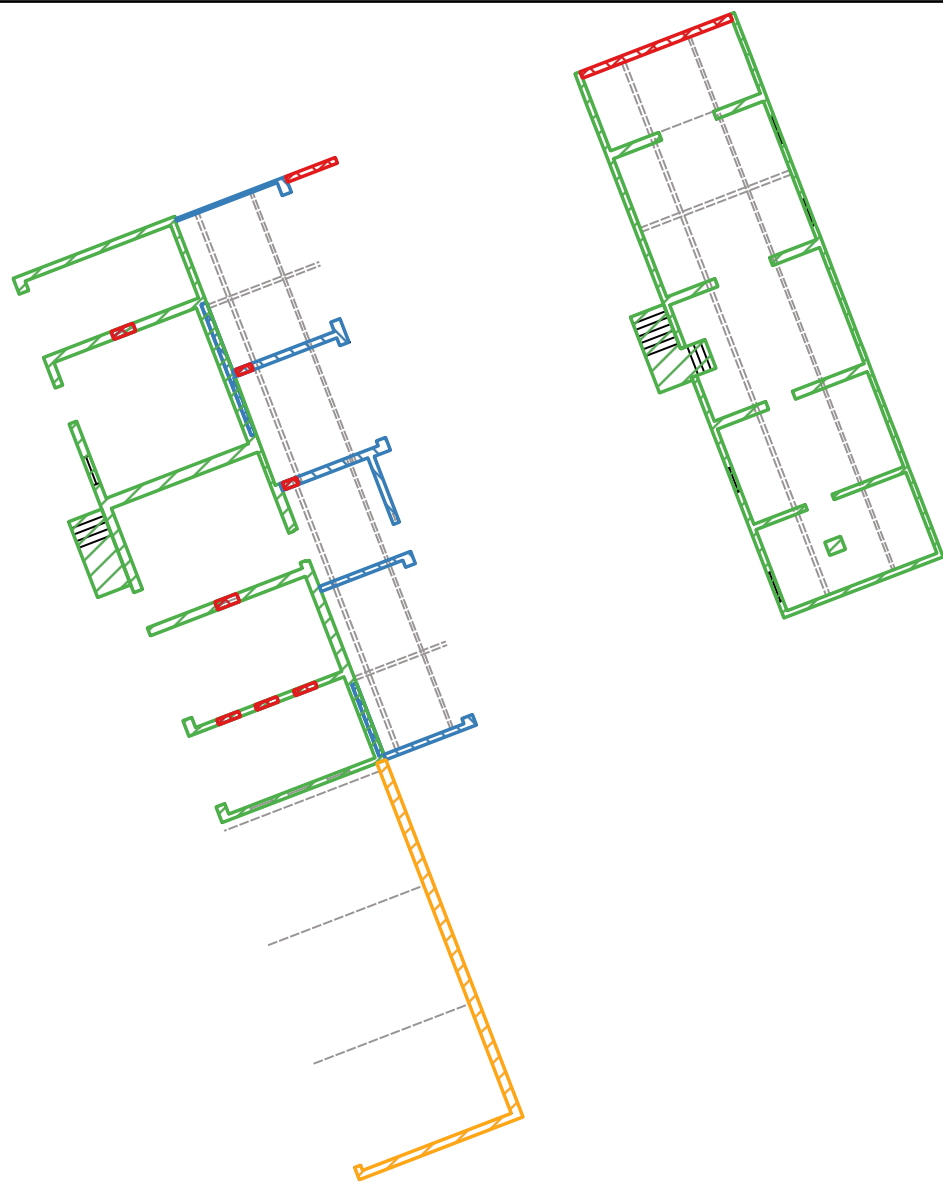
-  1
-  2
-  3
-  4
-  Hatching

Plans and Elevations

-  First Flood Dashed
-  First Floor Detail
-  First Floor Plan
-  Ground Floor Dash
-  Ground Floor Detail
-  Ground Floor Plan

340900

340600

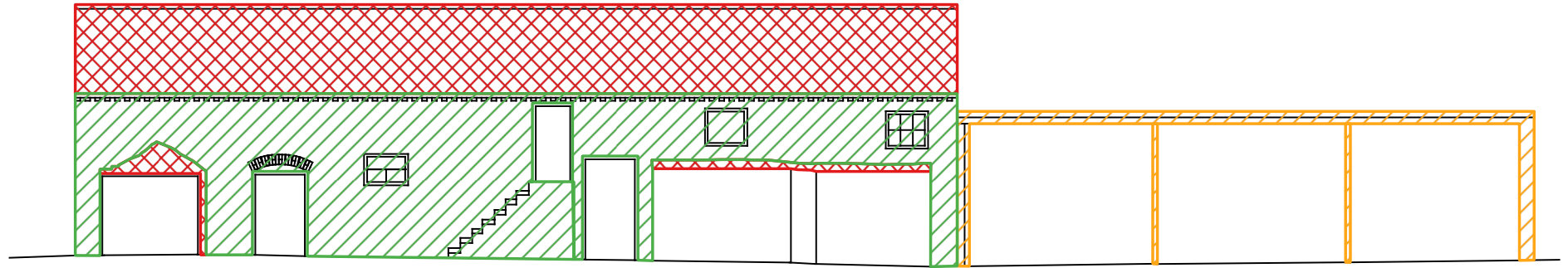


PROJECT // 4028C - Lower Farm, Bowling Bank

DESCRIPTION // Appendix 3 - Phasing





DOC REF: LP4028C-HBR-v1

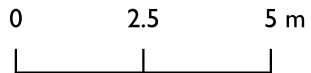
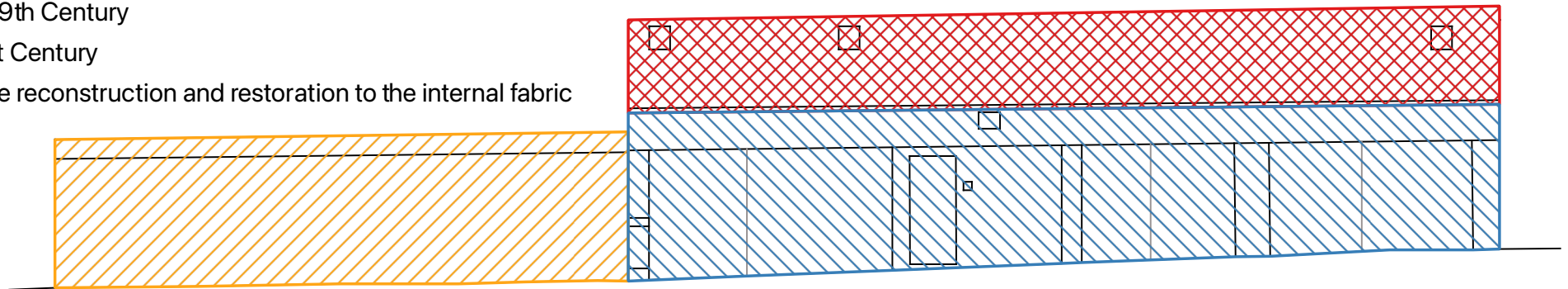
L~P:ARCHÆOLOGY



Plans and Elevations

Phasing

-  1 18th - mid 19th Century
-  2 Post mid 19th Century
-  3 20th - 21st Century
-  4 Undateable reconstruction and restoration to the internal fabric



PROJECT // 4028C - Lower Farm, Bowling Bank




DESCRIPTION // South-west and north-east elevations

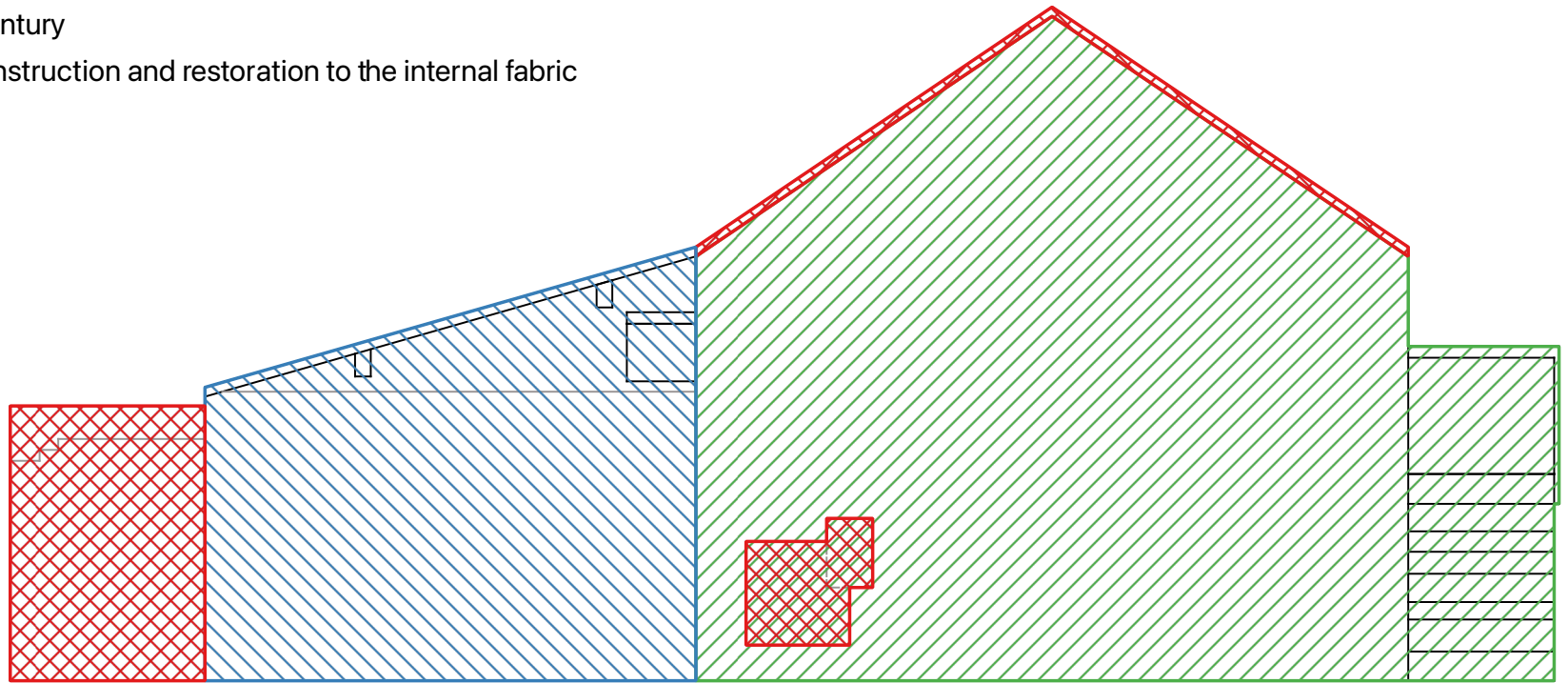
DOC REF: LP4028C-AER-v1

L~P:ARCHÆOLOGY

Plans and Elevations

Phasing

-  1 18th - mid 19th Century
-  2 Post mid 19th Century
-  4 Undateable reconstruction and restoration to the internal fabric

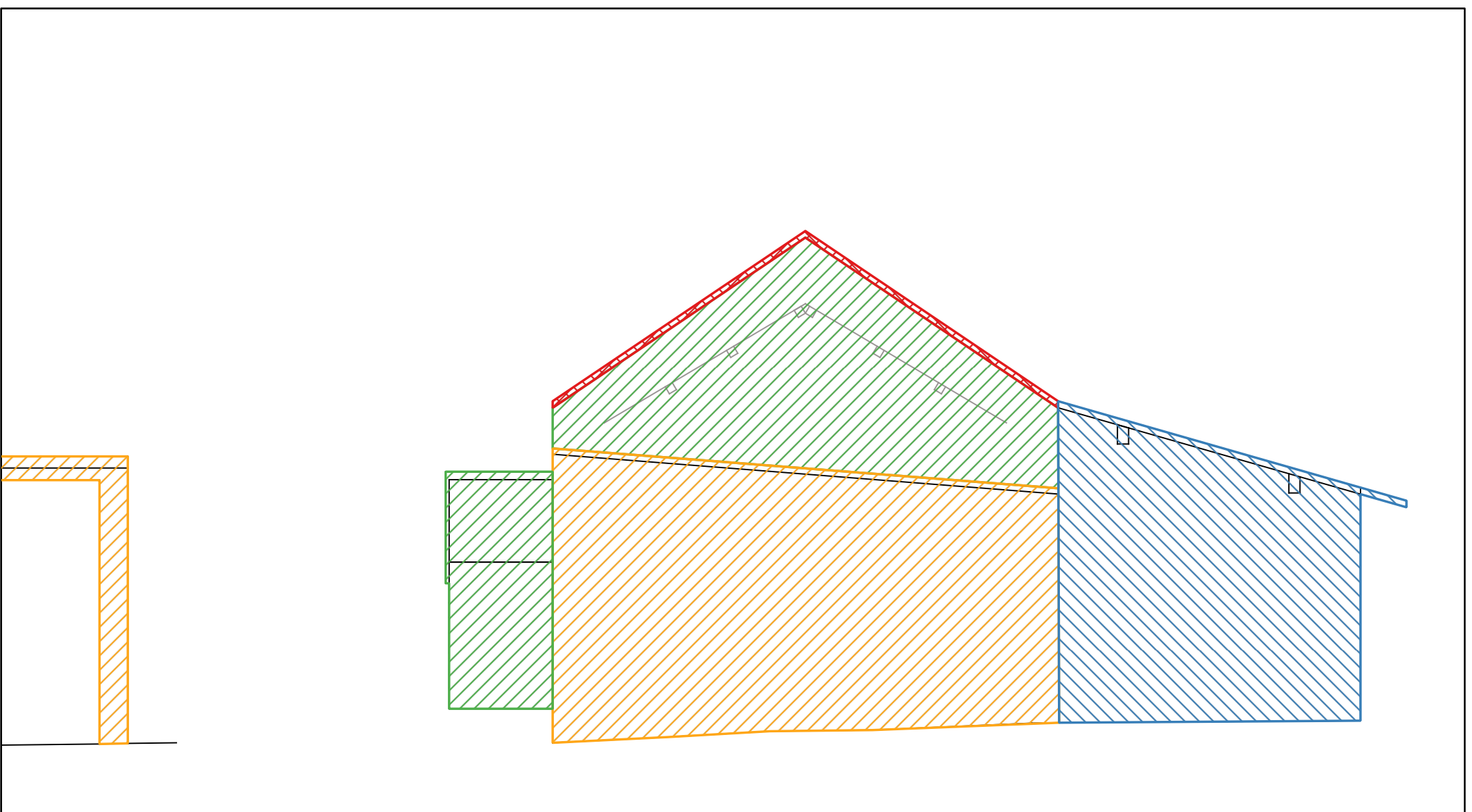


PROJECT // 4028C - Lower Farm, Bowling Bank

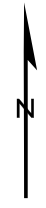
DESCRIPTION // North-west elevation

DOC REF: LP4028C-AER-v1

L~P:ARCHÆOLOGY



0 1 2 m



PROJECT // 4028C - Lower Farm, Bowling Bank

DESCRIPTION // South-east elevation

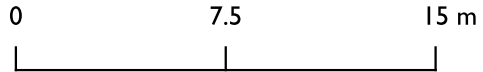
DOC REF: LP4028C-AER-v1

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GAZETTEER OF PHOTOGRAPHS

340900

006900



PROJECT // 4028C - Lower Farm, Bowling Bank

DESCRIPTION // Appendix I - Internal Photo Points

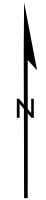
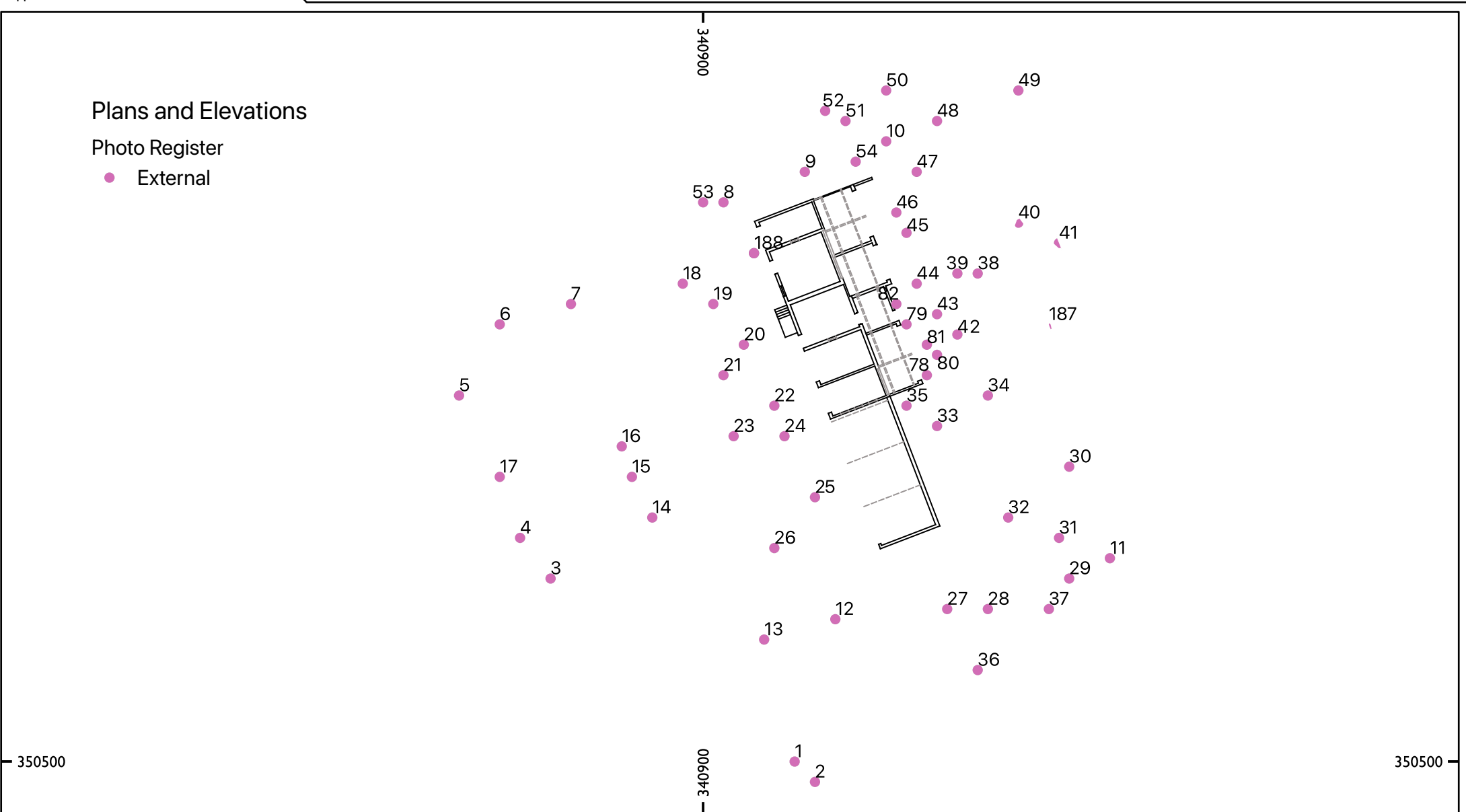
DOC REF: LP4028C-HBR-v1

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Plans and Elevations

Photo Register

- External



PROJECT // 4028C - Lower Farm, Bowling Bank

Appendix 2 - External Photo Points

DOC REF: LP4028C-HBR-v1

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Photo-temp

id	Photo	East	North	Internal/External
1	P1100054	340909	350500	External
2	P1100055	340911	350498	External
3	P1100056	340885	350518	External
4	P1100057	340882	350522	External
5	P1100058	340876	350536	External
6	P1100059	340880	350543	External
7	P1100060	340887	350545	External
8	P1100061	340902	350555	External
9	P1100062	340910	350558	External
10	P1100063	340918	350561	External
11	P1100064	340940	350520	External
12	P1100065	340913	350514	External
13	P1100066	340906	350512	External
14	P1100067	340895	350524	External
15	P1100068	340893	350528	External
16	P1100069	340892	350531	External
17	P1100070	340880	350528	External
18	P1100071	340898	350547	External
19	P1100072	340901	350545	External
20	P1100073	340904	350541	External
21	P1100074	340902	350538	External
22	P1100075	340907	350535	External
23	P1100076	340903	350532	External
24	P1100077	340908	350532	External
25	P1100078	340911	350526	External
26	P1100079	340907	350521	External
27	P1100080	340924	350515	External
28	P1100081	340928	350515	External
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32	P1100085	340930	350524	External
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40	P1100093	340931	350553	External
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50	P1100103	340918	350566	External
51	P1100104	340914	350563	External
52	P1100105	340912	350564	External

Photo-temp

53	P1100106	340900	350555	External
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55	P1100108	340916	350552	Internal
56	P1100109	340915	350551	Internal
57	P1100110	340915	350551	Internal
58	P1100111	340914	350551	Internal
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104	P1100158	340909	350549	Internal

Photo-temp

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Photo-temp

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171	P1100225	340934	350552	Internal
172	P1100226	340933	350552	Internal
173	P1100227	340933	350553	Internal
174	P1100228	340934	350551	Internal
175	P1100229	340934	350550	Internal
176	P1100230	340935	350550	Internal
177	P1100231	340933	350549	Internal
178	P1100232	340937	350547	Internal
179	P1100233	340936	350547	Internal
180	P1100234	340935	350546	Internal
181	P1100235	340933	350543	Internal
182	P1100236	340934	350542	Internal
183	P1100237	340935	350543	Internal
184	P1100238	340937	350543	Internal
185	P1100239	340938	350544	Internal
186	P1100240	340937	350544	Internal
187	P1100241	340934	350543	External
188	P1100242	340905	350550	External
189	P1100243	340905	350550	External

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Description	Direction	Date
Courtyard	N	19/07/21
Courtyard	N	19/07/21
Barn location	E	19/07/21
Barn location	E	19/07/21
Barn location	E	19/07/21
Courtyard	S	19/07/21
Courtyard	S	19/07/21
Opposite Barn	W	19/07/21
View from barn	E	19/07/21
View from barn	E	19/07/21
Entrance	W	19/07/21
Opposite Barn	NW	19/07/21
Farmhouse	N	19/07/21
West Elevation	E	19/07/21
West Elevation	E	19/07/21
West Elevation	E	19/07/21
West Elevation	E	19/07/21
West Elevation	E	19/07/21
West Elevation	E	19/07/21
West Elevation	E	19/07/21
West Elevation	E	19/07/21
West Elevation	E	19/07/21
West Elevation	E	19/07/21
West Elevation	E	19/07/21
West Elevation	E	19/07/21
West Elevation	E	19/07/21
West Elevation	E	19/07/21
West Elevation	E	19/07/21
South Elevation	N	19/07/21
South Elevation	N	19/07/21
South Elevation	NW	19/07/21
South Elevation	NW	19/07/21
South Elevation	NW	19/07/21
South Elevation	NW	19/07/21
South Elevation	NW	19/07/21
South Elevation	NW	19/07/21
South Elevation	NW	19/07/21
South Elevation	N	19/07/21
South Elevation	N	19/07/21
East Elevation	W	19/07/21
East Elevation	W	19/07/21
East Elevation	W	19/07/21
East Elevation	W	19/07/21
East Elevation	W	19/07/21
East Elevation	W	19/07/21
East Elevation	W	19/07/21
East Elevation	W	19/07/21
East Elevation	W	19/07/21
East Elevation	W	19/07/21
East Elevation	W	19/07/21
East Elevation	SW	19/07/21
East Elevation	SW	19/07/21
North Elevation	S	19/07/21
North Elevation	S	19/07/21
North Elevation	S	19/07/21

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North Elevation	SE	19/07/21
Yard Wall	S	19/07/21
Room B1	N	19/07/21
Room B1	N	19/07/21
Room B1	W	19/07/21
Room B1	W	19/07/21
Room B1	W	19/07/21
Room B1	NW	19/07/21
Room B1	S	19/07/21
Room B2	NW	19/07/21
Room B2	W	19/07/21
Room B2	W	19/07/21
Room B2	S	19/07/21
Room B2	W	19/07/21
Room B2	E	19/07/21
Room B2	E	19/07/21
Room B4	N	19/07/21
Room B4	N	19/07/21
Room B4	NW	19/07/21
Room B4	W	19/07/21
Room B4	W	19/07/21
Room B4	W	19/07/21
Room B4	S	19/07/21
Room B4	S	19/07/21
Room B4	NE	19/07/21
Sandstone on front of B4	W	19/07/21
Sandstone on front of B4	W	19/07/21
Trapezoidal brick paving	S	19/07/21
Trapezoidal brick paving	N	19/07/21
Niche next to door to B3	W	19/07/21
Room B3	W	19/07/21
Room B3	W	19/07/21
Room B3	W	19/07/21
Room B3	N	19/07/21
Room B3	N	19/07/21
Room B3	E	19/07/21
Room B3	E	19/07/21
Room B3	W	19/07/21
Room B3	W	19/07/21
Room B3	W	19/07/21
Room B3	W	19/07/21
Room B3	W	19/07/21
Room B3	W	19/07/21
Room B3	E	19/07/21
Room B3	E	19/07/21
Room B3	S	19/07/21
Room B3	S	19/07/21
Room B5	E	19/07/21
Room B5	S	19/07/21
Room B6	S	19/07/21
Room B6	S	19/07/21
Room B6	E	19/07/21
Room B6	E	19/07/21

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Room B6	E	19/07/21
Room B6	N	19/07/21
Room B6	N	19/07/21
Room B6	W	19/07/21
Room B7	E	19/07/21
Room B7	E	19/07/21
Room B7	W	19/07/21
Room B7	W	19/07/21
Room B7	W	19/07/21
Room B7	W	19/07/21
Room B7	S	19/07/21
Room B7	S	19/07/21
Room B7	S	19/07/21
Room B7	E	19/07/21
Room B7	E	19/07/21
Room B8	E	19/07/21
Room B8	E	19/07/21
Room B8	E	19/07/21
Room B8	E	19/07/21
Room B8	S	19/07/21
Room B8	S	19/07/21
Room B8	S	19/07/21
Room B8	S	19/07/21
Room B8	W	19/07/21
Room B8	W	19/07/21
Room B8	W	19/07/21
Room B8	W	19/07/21
Room B9	E	19/07/21
Room B9	E	19/07/21
Room B9	E	19/07/21
Room B9	S	19/07/21
Room B9	N	19/07/21
Room B10	E	19/07/21
Room B10	E	19/07/21
Room B10	N	19/07/21
Room B10	S	19/07/21
Room F1	W	19/07/21
Room F1	E	19/07/21
Room F1	E	19/07/21
Room F1	NW	19/07/21
Room F1	N	19/07/21
Room F1	SE	19/07/21
Room F1	SE	19/07/21
Room F1	S	19/07/21
Room F2	S	19/07/21
Room F2	N	19/07/21
Room F2	N	19/07/21
Room F2	NE	19/07/21
Room F2	NE	19/07/21
Room F2	NE	19/07/21
Room F2	N	19/07/21
Room F2	SW	19/07/21
Room F2	S	19/07/21

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Room F2	S	19/07/21
Room F3	S	19/07/21
Room F3	S	19/07/21
Room F3	N	19/07/21
Room F3	N	19/07/21
Room F3	N	19/07/21
Room F3	E	19/07/21
Room F3	S	19/07/21
Room F3	S	19/07/21
Room F3	W	19/07/21
Room F3	W	19/07/21
Room F3	W	19/07/21
Room F3	W	19/07/21
Room F3	W	19/07/21
Room F3	W	19/07/21
Room F3	W	19/07/21
Room F3	W	19/07/21
Room F3	W	19/07/21
Room F3	W	19/07/21
Room F3	W	19/07/21
Room F4	S	19/07/21
Room F4	SE	19/07/21
Room F4	SE	19/07/21
Room F4	W	19/07/21
Room F5	E	19/07/21
Room F5	N	19/07/21
Room F5	N	19/07/21
Room F5	W	19/07/21
Room F5	W	19/07/21
Room F5	N	19/07/21
Room F5	W	19/07/21
Denticulation on Western Elevation	N	19/07/21
Denticulation on Western Elevation	N	19/07/21
Denticulation on Western Elevation	N	19/07/21