Historic Building Recording at Springfield Farm Marford Hill

Historic Building Recording

Report No. 22/4602C

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Project Manager: Ethan Ellis Site Code: 4602C / PRN 213961

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Abstract

A level 2 building survey was carried out at Springfield Farm, Marford Hill, Marford, LL12 8TD in December 2022 by Ethan Ellis and John Baker of MOLA on behalf of the client Blueprint Architectural Services Ltd.

This building survey was of an 17th-18th century farm building, with 19th and 20th century adaptations and additions. The building lies within the village of Marford in the Marford conservation area. It is grade II listerd and was once a part of the Trevalyn estate.

The building comprises five distinct phases of construction and renovation. An initial modest 17^{th} century construction with a hay loft above, moving towards a large extension with an emphasis on housing cattle. A further extension of a cart shed in the mid 19^{th} century on the south western end and a late 19^{th} century lean to extension on the north eastern end. Finally, a 20^{th} century roof replacement.

The survey was requested by Clwyd Powys Archaeological Trust (hereafter CPAT) prior to the conversion of the barn into office buildings and took the form of a photographic and drawn survey in line with Historic England best practice and an agreed methodology, as laid out in a written scheme of investigation (Ellis 2022).

Haniaethol

Cynhaliwyd arolwg adeiladu lefel 2 yn Springfield Farm, Marford Hill, Marford, LL12 8TD ym mis Rhagfyr 2022 gan Ethan Ellis a John Baker o MOLA ar ran y cleient Blueprint Architectural Services Ltd.

Roedd yr arolwg adeiladu hwn o 17ed-18ed adeilad fferm canrif, gyda 19ed ac 20ed addasiadau ac ychwanegiadau canrif. Mae'r adeilad yn gorwedd o fewn pentref Marford yn ardal cadwraeth Marford. Mae'n rhestredig gradd II ac roedd unwaith yn rhan o ystâd Trefalun.

Mae'r adeilad yn cynnwys pum cam gwahanol o adeiladu ac adnewyddu. Cymedrol cychwynnol 17ed adeiladwaith ganrif gyda llofft wair uwchben, gan symud tuag at estyniad mawr gyda phwyslais ar gadw gwartheg. Estyniad pellach i sied drol yng nghanol y 19eg canrif ar y pen de-orllewinol a diwedd y 19eg ganrif estyniad ar oledd i'r ganrif ar y pen gogledd-ddwyreiniol. Yn olaf, 20ed amnewid to canrif.

Gofynnodd Ymddiriedolaeth Archeolegol Clwyd Powys (CPAT o hyn ymlaen) am yr arolwg cyn troi'r ysgubor yn adeiladau swyddfa ac roedd ar ffurf arolwg ffotograffig a lluniadu yn unol ag arfer gorau Historic England a methodoleg gytûn, fel y nodir yn a cynllun ymchwilio ysgrifenedig (Ellis 2022).

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. This Level 2 Historic Building Report (HBR) has been prepared by John Baker of MOLA on behalf of the client Blueprint Architectural Services Ltd.
- 1.2. The fieldwork was carried out by Ethan Ellis and John Baker on the 7th December 2022.
- 1.3. The site location is at Springfield Farm, Marford Hill, Marford, Wrexham, LL12 8TD (Figure 1 & Figure 2). The site centres around National Grid Reference (NGR) 336026,356410.
- 1.4. The site code allocated by MOLA is 4602C. The HER event number supplied by CPAT is PRN 213961.
- 1.5. The work was carried out in line with a written scheme of investigation, approved by CPAT (Ellis, 2022), the Code of Conduct as set out by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIFA, 2021) and the CIFA's Standard's and Guidance for the recording of standing buildings or structures (CIFA, 2020). All works were carried out in accordance with Historic England's Understanding Historic Buildings, a guide to good recording practice (Historic England, 2016).
- 1.6. This report should be read in conjunction with the Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) 4602-WSI-v1.0 by Ethan Ellis of MOLA (Ellis, 2022).

2. SITE BACKGROUND

2.1. Planning

- 2.1.1. Planning consent has been approved for the conversion of an agricultural building into a class B1 office (P/2022/0710).
- 2.1.2. This document has been prepared in response to a planning condition submitted by CPAT, the archaeological advisor to the local planning authority Wrexham County Borough Council, for a Level 2 building survey prior to any construction works.
- 2.1.3. The Historic Environment (Wales) Act (Welsh Government, 2016) is the most recent legislation for the management of the Historic Environment in Wales 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 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.
- 2.1.4. When considering a planning application, Wrexham County Borough Council is bound by Welsh Government Planning Policy Wales (February 2021) Section 6.1, and Technical Advice Note (TAN) 24: the historic environment (2017).
- 2.1.5. On matters concerning archaeology and the historic environment WCBC take impartial advice from the Clwyd Powys Archaeological Trust (CPAT).
- 2.1.6. An event number has been assigned to this project by CPAT Historic Environment Record (213961).
- 2.1.7. The study structure is a Grade II Listed Building, a barn complex as part of the Springfield farm estate and lies within the Marford Conservation Area. Both Listed Buildings and Conservations Areas have statutory protection.

2.2. Geology and Topography

- 2.2.1. The bedrock geology of the site is thought to be of Kinnerton Sandstone with superficial deposits of Devensian sand and gravel (BGS, 2020).
- 2.2.2. The site is set on a farmstead directly off Chester Road on sloping terrain at 26 mOD (Figure 2).

3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1. The aims of the survey are to:

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

3.2. The objectives are:

- ♦ To undertake historic research on the site at relevant repositories;
- ♦ To make a detailed record to Level 2 standard of the structure as per Historic England standard and guidance (2016);
- ♦ To produce a formal report on the results of the survey, which is fully illustrated.

4. HISTORIC AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGORUND

4.1. HISTORIC BACKGROUND

- 4.1.1. The village of Marford is recorded in the Domesday book of the late 11th Century and mentioned again in the 14th when a former motte and bailey castle was present on top of Marford Hill, likely first made of wood (Dodd, 1957). The castle is recorded throughout the 12th and 13th centuries. By the 14th century, there are no further references to it as it fell into disuse.
- 4.1.2. The 16th century saw the erection of Trevalyn Hall by John Trevor which was under the stewardship of various families of import until the death of John Trevor V. It was then passed to the Boscawen family through marriage of John Trevor's sister. The hall remained in this family until the 20th century (Marford Conservation Plan, 2012).
- 4.1.3. The Springfield farm house was originally built in the 17th century or earlier as evidenced by it's cruck frame. This was later remodelled by the Trevalyn estate in the 18th century. The associated barn which is the subject of this building assessment likely had a similar origin in history and of remodelling when the surrounding buildings were all remodelled and the affixed Springfield cottage was renovated in the early 19th Century (Marford Conservation Plan, 2012; Pevsner, 1994).

4.2. MAP REGRESSION

- 4.2.1. The tithe Map for the area, dated to 1844, (Figure 11) shows the plan of the present building in an L shape with an addition on the north eastern end which is presently Springfield Cottage.
- 4.2.2. The OS map from 1873 (Figure 3) shows the barn as an 'L' shaped complex with a clear division on the south western end. This division could represent the addition of the cart shed (now garage) that currently stands as part of the building.
- 4.2.3. The OS map from 1899 (Figure 4) shows an additional division on the north eastern corner of the 'L' shape of the barn complex. This likely represents the lean to extension discussed below.
- 4.2.4. The OS maps from 1911 through to 1977 (Figures 5,6 & 7) show little to no change in the overall plan of the building in question.
- 4.2.5. There is a slight change on the north western side of the complex though it appears to be associated with the adjoining Springfield Cottage in 1987 (Figure 8).

5 1 11 1 2 1 2 2 2 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
From 1987 up until 2003 (Figures $9\&10$) there appears to be no further changes in the layout of the barn or the adjoining Springfield Cottage.

5. METHODOLOGY

- 5.1. The survey was carried out in line with a brief supplied by CPAT to a Level 2 standard as set out by Historic England in Understanding Historic Buildings: a guide to good recording practice (Historic England, 2016). This level of survey 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
 - ♦ 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
- 5.2. A photographic record was made of 358 photographs (Appendix 1, Figure 12, 13, 14 & 15):
 - Views of elevations
 - Views of external appearance
 - Views of all internal rooms
 - Internal and external structure detail
 - Fixtures, fittings, machinery, related contents
- 5.3. 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.
- 5.4.A summary statement describing the building's setting, type or purpose, historically and at present, its materials and possible dates so far as these are apparent from a visual inspection.
- 5.5. The associated archive is to be submitted to CPAT through Heddos and the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments Wales, and will comprise 358 digital images, a contact sheet as a pdf, and a copy of this report as a pdf.

6. **RESULTS**

6.1. This section will outline the results of the level 2 historic building recording undertaken at Spingfield Farm, Marford, LL12 8TD. The results of this survey 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 (Figure 15).

EXTERNAL

6.2. NORTH WEST FACING ELEVATION

6.2.1. The north west facing elevation the external façade is covered in a white render which obscures the brickwork (Plate 1). There is a slate roof which, according to the owner, was replaced in the 1980's. Towards the north east there is a single story lean to extension (Plate 2). Towards the south west, there is a single story cart shed which forms a further extension to the building (Plate 3).



Plate 1 - North West Facing Elevation



Plate 2 - Lean-To Extension on North West Elevation



Plate 3 - Cart Shed on North West Facing Elevation

6.2.2. There are five windows visible; to the north east of this elevation, three windows are rectangular and partitioned on the lower pane into three, and the upper pane into two (Plate 4, 5 & 6). The upper pane is hinged at the bottom in a hopper light style. The windows are single glazed, and timber framed, with a timber lintel and sill. On the first floor towards the south west of this elevation, the window is covered with a wooden shutter door (Plate 7). It is square, single hinged and timber framed. This window likely permitted access into the hay loft on the first floor. On the ground floor, and towards the south west, there is a single ornate window with an ogee arch (Plate 8). This is typical of the style and character of the Marford area. The window has a metal casement but a more modern sill of brick suggesting a later date for its inclusion.



Plate 4 - Ground Floor Window on North West Facing Elevation

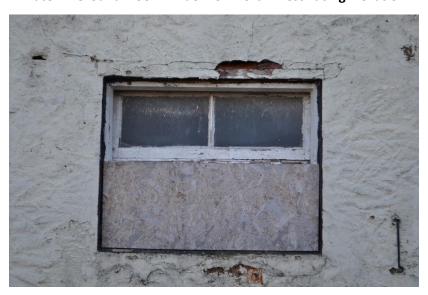


Plate 5 - Ground Floor Window 2 on North West Facing Elevation



Plate 6 - Upper Window on North West Facing Elevation

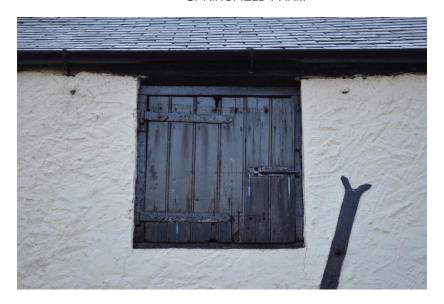


Plate 7 - Upper Window with Wooden Shutter on North West Elevation



Plate 8 - Ogee Window, Ground Floor, North West Facing Elevation

6.2.3. There are five doors present on this elevation. From the north east side, the first three doors are constructed of wood in the batten style (Plate 9). With iron half barrel hinges and iron fittings (Plate 10). Towards the south west end of this elevation, the fourth door is again of wooden construction and split in the Dutch style (Plate 11). The fifth door is currently a modern metal garage style door covering a substantial opening in what was the cart shed for the farm (Plate 12).



Plate 9 - Batten Door, North West Facing Elevation



Plate 10 - Iron Fittings on Batten Door, Detail Shot, North West Facing Elevation



Plate 11 - Dutch Split Door, North West Facing Elevation



Plate 12 - Garage Door, Raised, on North West Facing Elevation

6.2.4. In detail, there is a fire bell attached to the wall on the ground floor level between the first and second windows on the north east side (Plate 13). The inscription on the bell reads 'TANGENT'. Towards the south west side there are two metal wall ties between the ground and first floor which serve to reinforce the structural integrity of the building (Plate 14 & 15).



Plate 13 - Detail Shot of Fire-Bell, North West Elevation



Plate 14 - Detail Shot, Pattress Plate, North West Facing Elevation



Plate 15 - Detail Shot, Pattress Plate, North West Facing Elevation

6.3. SOUTH WEST FACING ELEVATION

6.3.1. The south west facing elevation has been covered in a white render which obscures most of the brick work (Plate 16). The roof observed is identical to the slate roof described above — new blue grey shingles. The shingles themselves were measured on the cart house roof, they have a width averaging 0.25-0.26m.



Plate 16 - South West Facing Elevation

6.3.2. The gable end of the main bulk of the building has a single air vent on the south east side, this suggests that the first floor may have once been utilised as a hay loft (Plate 17).



Plate 17 - South West Facing Elevation Showing Air Vent

6.3.3. The gable end of the cart house is covered in the same white render but for the lower ten courses of brickwork (Plate 18). The bricks themselves are handmade with large inclusions of pebble and stone evident, suggesting a pre 19th century date of construction. The dimensions are 0.27m L x 0.07m D x 0.11m W and they are laid in an irregular bond. There is some evidence of repair work with modern machine made brick on this elevation (see Plate 18).

On the north west lower corner of the cart house on this elevation, the brickwork has been cut to give a rounded finish (Plate 19).



Plate 18 - Detail Shot of Brickwork on South West Facing Elevation



Plate 19 - Detail Shot of Corner of South West Facing Elevation

- 6.3.4. There is a single, large ogee window that has been bricked up on the gable end of the cart house (Plate 16).
- 6.3.5. Further to the south east on this elevation, the building is covered in a pebble dash render that differs from the white render seen on the north west elevation. This render matches that of Springfield Cottage which is attached to

this portion of the building. The render is attached using a lath and plaster technique (Plate 20).



Plate 20 - Detail Shot Showing Lath and Plaster Render on South West Facing Elevation

6.3.6. There are two further windows on this portion of the elevation. The first is small, with a stone sill and presently boarded up (Plate 21). The second appears much higher up towards the centre of the façade. It is single glazed and has a wooden sill and lintel. The lower pane is divided into three and the upper is as a single piece (Plate 22).



Plate 21 - Boarded Window on South West Facing Elevation



Plate 22 - Second Boarded Window on South West Facing Elevation

6.3.7. There is also dental course brickwork towards the roofline on the far south east of this elevation. This motif was not observed elsewhere in the building but is evident on the adjoining cottage (Plate 23).



Plate 23 – Dental course brickwork on South West Facing Elevation

6.4. SOUTH EAST FACING ELEVATION

6.4.1. On this elevation, towards the south west, the white render continues to wrap around the rear of the cart house (Plate 24). This then stops and is replaced with the pebbledash render described in 6.3.5 above. These renders obscure

the brickwork with the exception of the lower ten courses on the cart house as described in 6.3.3.



Plate 24 - South East Facing Elevation

6.4.2. There is a small window to the south west which has been bricked up with machine made brick suggesting a post, mid 19th century modification. It is timber framed and has a timber sill (Plate 25). Adjacent to it is a larger rectangular window which is also timber framed with a wooden sill (Plate 26). The lintel is obscured by the render. Towards the north east end, there is an arched window that is largely obscured by foliage. The arch has been formed in brick and there is a wooden sill still partially extant. This window has also been boarded up (Plate 27).



Plate 25 - Bricked up window, South East Facing Elevation



Plate 26 - South East Facing Elevation, Close Up



Plate 27 - Boarded Up Arched Window, South East Facing Elevation

6.4.3. There are two braces evident on this elevation which compliment those seen on the north west elevation (6.2.4) (Plate 26). There is a wooden batten seen just below the roofline of the cart house, this appears to be modern and supporting the modern UPVC drainage.

6.5. NORTH EAST FACING ELEVATION

6.5.1. The north east facing elevation is entirely taken by the lean to extension and it's roof. The gable roofline of the building is continued by the shed roof of the extension. Three skylights are visible, one in the gable roof and a further two in the shed roof of the extension. All are metal framed and single glazed (Plate 28).



Plate 28 - North East Facing Elevation

6.5.2. The brickwork of the extension is visible on this elevation. The brick is machine made and has the following dimensions: 0.23m L x 0.07m D x 0.10m W. The bond is made up of three rows of stretchers followed by a row of headers.

INTERNAL

6.6. **ROOM G1**

6.6.1. Room G1 is the lean to extension on the north east end of the building. The exposed ceiling in room G1 shows the roof construction (Plate 29). The timber which makes up the superstructure of the roof of this room is modern and saw cut — saw marks were evident on the timber framing, the purlins and rafters are exposed, and a waterproof membrane is also visible.



Plate 29 - Exposed Roof in Room G1

6.6.2. The floor is made up of a layer of concrete. In front of the north west elevation, there is a cobbled surface (Plate 30), it is possible that the floor in rooms G1-5 were also once cobbled.



Plate 30 - Exposed Cobbled Surface in Front of North West Facing Elevation

6.6.3. The north west facing elevation of this room is of brick construction. At the mid point of the elevation to the floor level, there is a render that is designed to protect the brickwork from livestock. The upper portion of the elevation, the brickwork has been whitewashed (Plate 31).



Plate 31 - North West Facing Elevation of Room G1

6.6.4. The south west facing elevation is much lower in height owing to the sloping shed style roof. The lower portion of the wall has been covered in render and the upper exposed brickwork has been whitewashed (Plate 32)



Plate 32 - South West Facing Elevation of Room G1

6.6.5. The south east facing elevation similarly has been covered in a combination of render and white wash. There is also a timber framed window (as described in 6.2.2) with a concrete and brick sill. A door is present in the north east side of this elevation. It is of a batten construction and the wood appears to be modern and saw cut (Plate 33).



Plate 33 - South East Facing Elevation of Room G1

6.6.6. The north east facing elevation has been white washed and rendered for livestock. There are two air vents in the upper portion of the wall which match those seen on the south west facing external elevation. This suggests that the upper portion of room G2 was once used as a hay loft and that this particular elevation of room G1 was once the external façade. The elevation is also

characterised by smaller brickwork in a less regular coursing. The higher courses of this elevation also appear to be made from machine made brick, suggesting that the roof may have been raised at some point since the middle of the 19th century. Towards the south east side of this elevation there is a low doorway capped with a wooden lintel. In the lower corner of the south east side, there is a disused gate hinge which likely served an external gate when this elevation was the external face of the building (Plate 34).



Plate 34 - North East Facing Elevation of Room G1

6.6.7. Within the room there are livestock pens for cows constructed of metal (aluminium and steel) and concrete (Plate 35). These look to be of a modern design.



Plate 35 - Livestock Pens Room G1

6.7. ROOM G2

6.7.1. The roof of room G2 is exposed and the structure can be clearly seen. The structure as a truss frame. Some of the exposed wood appears to be new and machine cut, other pieces appear much older and were likely recycled when the roof was repaired in the 1980s (Plate 36). The upper courses of brickwork also appear to be more modern which would suggest that the roof may have been raised at some point in its life, likely since the middle of the 19th century, given the brick type.



Plate 36 - Exposed Roof in Room G2

- 6.7.2. The floor in room G2 is made up of a layer of concrete.
- 6.7.3. The north west facing elevation is double height with two low doorways in the north east and south west ends (Plate 37). The doorways have been accommodated in the brickwork, though have new metal reinforcements above (Plate 38). The doorways are higher than the beam slots described below (6.7.6) so were likely a later modification. Each doorway has a metal gate suggesting a one way system for cattle. These doorways lead into room G3. In the upper half of the elevation there is a single square opening with a timber frame. The elevation is of handmade brick construction the upper portion of which has been white washed, and the lower has been rendered.



Plate 37 - North West Facing Elevation of Room G2



Plate 38 - Detail Shot of Door Lintel between Rooms G2 and G3

6.7.4. The south west facing elevation is double height and has been whitewashed and rendered (Plate 39). The elevation is made up principally of brick which looks to be handmade. Two air vents are visible in the upper portion of the wall as discussed in 6.6.6. There is also a beam slot in the middle of the elevation in the north west corner (Plate 40). This implies that there was once an upper floor which may have served as a hay loft for the cattle housed below. The air vents on this elevation also suggest its use as a hay loft and the square opening on the north west elevation of this room may have served as access

to the continued loft space above room G3. There is a doorway controlled by a modern cattle gate in the south east corner of this elevation. The wooden lintel above is visible, the frame has been covered in a metal plating.



Plate 39 - South West Facing Elevation of Room G2



Plate 40 - Detail Shot Showing Beam Slot and Air Vent on South West Facing Elevation of Room G2

6.7.5. The south east facing elevation of room G2 is of brick construction and has been whitewashed in the upper portion. The lower has been rendered for livestock. In the centre near the pitch of the roof, there is a square, timber framed window. It is single glazed. The sill is made of brick and the lintel is of

wood. Below and off centre towards the north east is a further window which is of timber construction. It is single glazed and of a similar construction to the window above. To the south west of this elevation, there is a wooden door of batten construction matching the one seen in room G1, which leads to the outside (Plate 41).



Plate 41 - South East Facing Elevation of Room G2

6.7.6. The north east facing elevation is double height and of handmade brick construction. The elevation has been whitewashed in the upper portion and rendered in the lower. In the centre of this elevation there is a large opening. This opening is accommodated in the brickwork so would have been an original feature. This likely permitted access between rooms G2 and G4 in the hay loft. The brickwork directly below this gap appears to have been replaced with more modern material. The whitewash covering makes it difficult to determine. The dimensions of the bricks below the opening are identical to those seen in the rest of the construction of rooms G2, G3 and G4 (i.e. 0.23m L x 0.07m D x 0.12m W). There is a doorway in the south east corner of this elevation allowing access into room G4. The doorway is also shorter than those on the north west facing elevation and below the level of the beam slots suggesting that this opening is original which accommodated the ceiling height. Next to this there is a window of timber frame construction with a stone sill which has been boarded up (Plate 42).

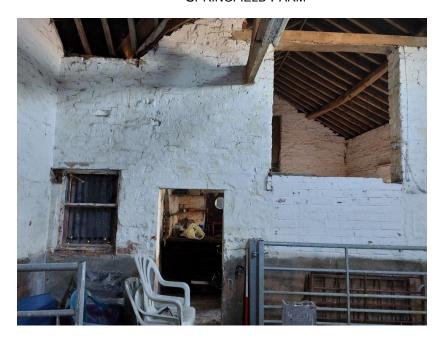


Plate 42 - North East Facing Elevation of Room G2

6.8. **ROOM G3**

6.8.1. The ceiling is entirely exposed in room G3, it is of a timber truss construction and the superstructure and waterproof membrane are clearly visible (Plate 43).



Plate 43 - Exposed Roof in Room G3

- 6.8.2. The floor in room G3 is made up entirely of concrete.
- 6.8.3. In the north west elevation there is a complex of brickwork that is a mix of handmade brick to the rear and machine made brick further forwards. The complex of brickwork houses the chimney breast and, according to the owner, the additional walls were added for soundproofing for the adjoining Springfield

Cottage (Plate 44). The brickwork has been whitewashed and rendered in an identical way to the elevations seen in rooms G2 and G1 again suggesting that this was utilised for livestock.



Plate 44 - North West Facing Elevation of Room G3

6.8.4. The south west facing elevation is of handmade brick construction which has been whitewashed and rendered (Plate 45). Off centre and towards the roofline of this elevation, there is a cruciform opening (Plate 46). This is typical of the surrounding architecture in the village of Marford and a common distinctive marking of the surrounding buildings (along with the ogee windows and white external render).



Plate 45 - South West Facing elevation of Room G3



Plate 46 - Detail Shot of Cruciform Opening on South West Facing Elevation of Room G3

6.8.5. The south east facing elevation of room G3 is covered in white wash and render in the fashion previously described. There is a square upper window into the pitch of the roof and two lower doorways (as described in 6.7.3) (Plate 47).



Plate 47 - South East Facing Elevation of Room G3

6.8.6. The north east facing elevation of G3 is made up of handmade brick which has been whitewashed and rendered. High up and in the centre of this elevation there is a wooden framed single glazed window. The sill and lintel above are both made of timber. The window is accommodated with the brickwork so is likely to be original (Plate 48). Towards the south east side of this elevation,

there is brick air vent. This may suggest a storage purpose for this room or that it was used to house livestock – the vent would regulate heat produced by the animals and encourage air flow (Plate 49).



Plate 48 - North East Facing Elevation of Room G3



Plate 49 - Detail Shot of Air Vent on North East Facing Elevation of Room G3

6.9. **ROOM G4**

6.9.1. The roof of room G4 is a continuation of that seen in G2, the structure is visible as is the waterproof membrane. There is a mix of machine cut timber and older recycled wood that makes up the structure (Plate 50).



Plate 50 - Exposed Roof in Room G4

- 6.9.2. The floor in this room is made up of a layer of concrete.
- 6.9.3. The north west facing elevation in room G4 is of handmade brick construction. The upper portion is covered in a layer of thick white paint, the lower in a cement render for cattle. In the centre, there is an arched opening that has been boarded up (Plate 51). Externally, this opening has a wooden sill and the arch is of brick construction. The cement render makes it difficult to determine, but it is possible that this was once a doorway leading to the roadside façade of the building and later converted to a window.

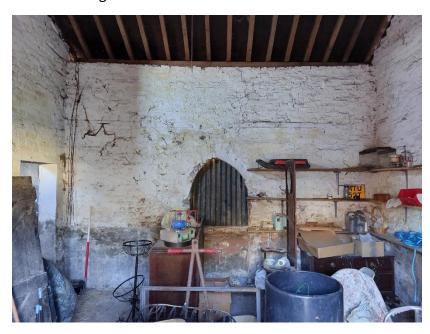


Plate 51 - North West Facing Elevation of Room G4

6.9.4. South west elevation of G4 shows is of brick construction and has been whitewashed and rendered. There is an opening present to the centre of

where the first floor would have been, allowing access into room G2. There is also a doorway to the south eastern end of this elevation (doorway and hay loft opening described in detail in 6.7.6) (Plate 52)



Plate 52 - South West Facing Elevation of Room G4

6.9.5. The south east facing elevation of G4 is built of handmade brick and has been covered in white paint and render on the lower portion (Plate 53). There is a central batten door which matches those seen in rooms G2 and G1. This doorway is a later amendment to the original design. Above the current doorway, there is a flat archway wider than the current entrance (Plate 54). Modern brick has also been cut and inserted either side of the door to narrow the entrance and accommodate the current doorway (Plate 55). The original, taller, wider, arched entryway was likely constructed for ease of access for livestock or horses.



Plate 53 - South East Facing Elevation of Room G4



Plate 54 - Detail Shot Showing Brick Flat Arch Above Doorway on South East Facing Elevation of Room G4



Plate 55 - Detail Shot Showing Modern Brick Used to Narrow the Doorway in G4

6.9.6. The north east elevation is of handmade brick construction and is covered in a combination of white wash and render. In the centre of this elevation is a rectangular opening not dissimilar from that seen on the south west elevation. However, this opening is smaller and begins two courses of brickwork higher up. The surrounding brickwork for this opening also appears to have been damaged suggesting that this opening was a later addition permitting an extension of the hay loft above rooms G1-4 through to room F1. This would suggest that room F1 initially had a different purpose that was not necessarily connected to the storage of fodder (Plate 56).



Plate 56 - North East Facing Elevation of Room G4

6.10. **ROOM G5**

6.10.1. The ceiling of room G5 looks to be original (though see 6.10.4 and 6.10.6 below). The thick wooden beams are not machine saw cut and the floor-boards look to be contemporary (Plate 57). Towards the east corner of the room, there is a section of the floor above which has been replaced by a modern piece of compound wooden board (Plate 58). This may indicate the presence of a previous access to room F1 above.



Plate 57 - Ceiling in Room G5

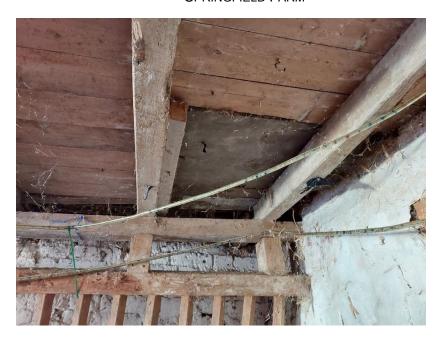


Plate 58 - Boarded Opening in Ceiling of Room G5

- 6.10.2. The floor in room G5 is current covered in a carpet owing to its apparent recent use as a games room. Directly beneath the carpet is a concrete floor similar to that seen in rooms G1-4.
- 6.10.3. The north west facing elevation of room G5 is of brick construction, the brick is handmade with clear large inclusions (0.23m L x 0.08m D x 0.13m W). The upper half of the brickwork has been mostly whitewashed though the lower half covered in a cement render which has been painted red. The render, along with the concrete floor would strongly suggest that G5 was once used to house livestock (Plate 59). Towards the north east side, there is a large boarded up window with a wooden frame and lintel (Plate 60). The brickwork around this window is modern and so this is likely a later insertion. Behind where there is currently a dartboard and white wooden support, there is a bricked up window, though a clear image was difficult to attain given the dart board and surrounding wooden support affixed to the brickwork. Next to this and towards the south west, there is a further bricked up small window. The wooden lintel is still extant though the sill appears to have been replaced with brick of the same type that is currently blocking it (Plate 61). This series of smaller windows along this elevation may allude to the room's use as horse stalls.



Plate 59 - North West Facing Elevation of Room G5



Plate 60 - Detail Shot of Boarded Window on North West Elevation of Room G5

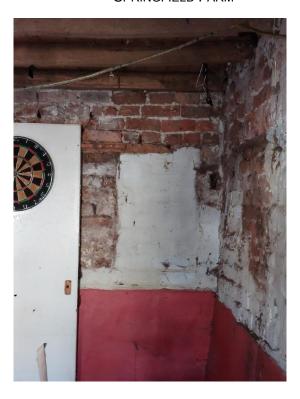


Plate 61 - Detail Shot of Bricked up Window on North West Facing Elevation of Room G5

6.10.4. The south west elevation is largely obscured by a hay feeder that is still attached to the wall (Plate 62) again suggesting that the room was once used to house cattle or horses. The elevation is of brick construction, handmade and identical to that seen elsewhere in G5. In this elevation the brickwork is exposed but for the lower half which is covered in a cement render. There are also four beam slot holes (two along this elevation and two along the north east) which suggests that the ceiling was raised at some point.



Plate 62 - South West Facing Elevation of Room G5

6.10.5. The south east facing elevation of room G5 is made up of brick which has been painted white on the upper half, and rendered and painted red on the lower (Plate 63). Towards the north eastern side, there is a split Dutch style door of timber construction. The lintel above is made of wood and outside in front, there is a drain with a maker's mark of 'Hancock and Co' (Plate 64). To the south western edge, there is the ogee window. From the inside there is evidence that this was a later addition. Modern builder's block makes up the support for the ogee arch, and expanding foam has been used to bridge the gap between the window and the brickwork (Plate 65).



Plate 63 - South East Facing Elevation of Room G5



Plate 64 - Detail Shot Showing Frogged Drain



Plate 65 - Detail Shot Showing Modern Materials Used to Fit Ogee Window

6.10.6. North east facing elevation of G5 is constructed of handmade brick which has been painted and rendered. Running across this elevation is a wooden insert capped with a row of headers, likely used to aid in tackle storage for livestock (Plate 66). There are also two beam slot holes that have been filled with

modern brick (complimenting those on the south west elevation). This suggests that the roof was once lower and the ceiling may not be entirely original.



Plate 66 - North East Facing Elevation of Room G5

6.11. **ROOM G6**

6.11.1.Room G6 comprises of what was the cart shed, with the modern garage door opening. The ceiling in room G6 looks to have been replaced in it's entirety. All of the visible timber is new and machine cut, likely this was done in the 1980s with the rest of the roof repair for the building (Plate 67).



Plate 67 - Exposed Roof in Room G6

6.11.2. Similar to rooms G1-G5 the floor in room G6 is made up of concrete.

6.11.3. The north west facing elevation of G6 is of handmade brick the brick wall has been whitewashed from floor to ceiling (Plate 68).



Plate 68 - North West Facing Elevation of Room G6

6.11.4. The south west façade is similarly made of handmade brick and has been whitewashed (Plate 69). In the lower south east corner of this elevation there is a large piece of sandstone inserted into the brickwork. The stone has chisel marks and sits atop a course of bricks (Plate 70). This stone may have been placed to fill a void once present in room G5. This is further evidenced by the large wooden lintel still visible above it. The obverse of the stone is not visible from the inside of room G5 as the lower portion of that wall is covered in a cement render.

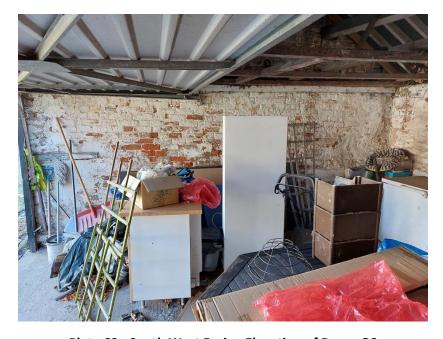


Plate 69 - South West Facing Elevation of Room G6



Plate 70 - Detail Shot of Stone Insert and Wooden Lintel on South West Elevation of G6

- 6.11.5. The south east facing elevation is entirely taken by the new metal garage door. As this building was a cart shed, this opening would have originally been left exposed.
- 6.11.6. The north east facing elevation of G6 is built of handmade brick which has been painted white (Plate 71). The blocked ogee window is visible in the upper portion of this elevation, however, it appears an additional wall has been built in front of this window after it had been bricked up (Plate 72). There is also evidence of a wooden extension towards the north west of this elevation.



Plate 71 - North East Facing Elevation of Room G6



Plate 72 - Detail Shot of Bricked-Up Ogee Window on North East Facing Elevation of Room G6

6.12. **ROOM F1**

- 6.12.1.Room F1 is the first floor room which sits atop room G5. Access to this room was limited due to safety concerns over the stability of the floor.
- 6.12.2. The roof of F1 is a continuation of that seen in G1-4. The truss style structure with a mix of new timber and recycled older wood. There is also a king post extant.
- 6.12.3. The floor is made of wooden boards, the underside of which can be seen clearly in room G5.
- 6.12.4. The north west facing elevation is made of handmade brick which is still exposed.
- 6.12.5. The south west facing elevation could not be observed.
- 6.12.6. The south east facing elevation is made of handmade brick and has a central wooden framed window which gives access to the outside with a wooden door.
- 6.12.7. The north east facing elevation is of exposed handmade brick. In the centre there is a void that has been bricked up. This was likely the main access point to F1 prior to the access made through from the hay loft in G4. When this was blocked up, a vent was incorporated to better control the humidity and airflow (Plate 73).



Plate 73 - General shot of Room F1, Facing South West

7. DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

- 7.1. A level 2 historic building survey was carried out at Springfield Farm, Marford, LL12 8TD, during December 2022 by Ethan Ellis and John Baker of MOLA. The works were conducted as part of a planning condition prior to any construction work completed in relation to the conversion of the building into offices.
- 7.2. The building is made up of five distinct phases, an initial constructing likely dating to the 17th century, followed by a large extension to the north east. The addition of the cart shed on the south west can be dated to the mid 19th century, and the addition of the lean to extension can be dated to the late 19th or early 20th century. Finally, the roof replacement can be confidently dated to the late 20th century.

PHASE 1

7.3. The first phase of the building is of handmade brick and from the internal and external survey, comprises of rooms G5 and F1 above. The large inclusions within the brick for these rooms as well as the known associated date of the Springfield farmhouse of the 17th century would reasonably date this first phase of construction to this period.

PHASE 2

7.4. The second phase of the building comprises of rooms G2, G3 and G4. These are also of handmade brick as seen in G5 and F1. The external render and internal white wash makes it challenging to distinguish if this was a later addition to the complex or part of the initial design. As part of this phase, there would have been a hay loft included above rooms G2-G4, the external door blocked in F1 and the access made between F1 and G4. The inclusion of a hay loft and the animal husbandry for the surrounding area suggests that this was a 18th or 19th century cattle barn (Historic England, 2014). The brick used suggests an early date of pre machine made; and potentially coincided with the renovations by the Trevallyn estate on the surrounding buildings.

PHASE 3

7.5. Phase three is the addition of the cart shed. This may be contemporary to phase two, a similar hand made brick is used and room G5 once housed horses as evidenced from the hay feeder on the south west elevation and the provision for tackle storage on the north east, so an associated cart shed would have been required. This portion of the building is clearly defined on the 1873 OS map so certainly predates the final quarter of the 19th century.

PHASE 4

7.6. Phase four is the lean to extension – room G1. This is constructed of machine made brick, and so can confidently dated to the late 19th or early 20th century and

therefore much later than any of the other parts of the building. The bonding is also distinctly different running in three courses of stretchers followed by two of headers. The map regression strongly suggests a date of construction between 1873 and 1899.

PHASE 5

7.7. Phase five is the addition of a new roof, which at some point has been raised in rooms G1, G2 and in G5. According to the owner, the roof was replaced in the 1980s. Throughout rooms G1 – G6 and in room F1 it is evident that newer machine cut timber has been put in place, though some older pieces are visible. The waterproof membrane also evidences the relative modernity of the roof construction as do the clean slate shingles.

CONCLUSION

- 7.8. The date for the initial construction of the building is not known, though it can be reasonably attributed to the 17th or 18th century a contemporary to the associated Springfield farmhouse. The initial phase of building and phase two are difficult to separate and could be contemporary to one another. It is likely that rooms G5 and F1 were the initial standing building and later extended and modified to accommodate the hayloft in the larger building complex. It is possible that G5 and F1 were once a domestic dwelling and later converted to agriculture when phase two of construction necessitated larger housing for livestock. The addition of a cart shed can be confidently dated between 1844 and 1879 from cartographic analysis. The final addition of a lean-to extension on the north east end of the building likely dates to the late 19th century at the earliest, given it's construction of machine made brick and the evidence from the ordinance survey maps. The new roof can confidently be attributed to the late 20th century given the attestation of the owner and the visible materials used.
- 7.9. The North East Wales research framework outlines the need to quickly record and research the what remains of the post medieval period in order to inform higher standards of conservation. This building assessment helps to achieve this aim and will contribute to the historical record of the region (Research Framework for the Archaeology of Wales, 2003).

8. TRAFODAETH A CHASGLIADAU

- 8.1.Cynhaliwyd arolwg adeiladau hanesyddol lefel 2 yn Springfield Farm, Marford, LL128TD, yn ystod Rhagfyr 2022 gan Ethan Ellis a John Baker o MOLA. Cyflawnwyd y gwaith fel rhan o amod cynllunio cyn i unrhyw waith adeiladu gael ei gwblhau mewn perthynas â throsi'r adeilad yn swyddfeydd.
- 8.2. Mae'r adeilad yn cynnwys pum cam gwahanol, ac mae'r adeiladwaith cychwynnol yn dyddio'n ôl pob tebyg i'r 17ed ganrif, ac yna estyniad mawr i'r gogledd ddwyrain. Gellir dyddio ychwanegu'r sied gertiau ar y de orllewin i ganol y 19eg ganrifed ganrif, a gellir dyddio ychwanegu'r estyniad croes i ddiwedd y 19eg ganrifed neu 20 cynnared canrif. Yn olaf, gellir dyddio'r to newydd yn hyderus i'r 20 hwyred canrif.

CAM 1

8.3. Mae rhan gyntaf yr adeilad o frics wedi'u gwneud â llaw ac o'r arolwg mewnol ac allanol mae'n cynnwys ystafelloedd G5 ac F1 uchod. Mae'r cynhwysiadau mawr o fewn y brics ar gyfer yr ystafelloedd hyn yn ogystal â dyddiad cysylltiedig ffermdy Springfield o'r 17eg ganrif yn dyddio'n rhesymol i'r cyfnod adeiladu cyntaf hwn i'r cyfnod hwn.

CAM 2

8.4. Mae ail gam yr adeilad yn cynnwys ystafelloedd G2, G3 a G4. Mae'r rhain hefyd o frics wedi'u gwneud â llaw fel y gwelir yn G5 ac F1. Mae'r rendrad allanol a'r gulch gwyn mewnol yn ei gwneud hi'n heriol i gwahaniaethu a oedd hwn yn ychwanegiad diweddarach i'r cymhleth neu ran o'r dyluniad cychwynnol. Fel rhan o'r cam hwn, byddai llofft wair wedi'i chynnwys uwchben ystafelloedd G2-G4, y drws allanol wedi'i gau yn F1 a'r mynediad rhwng F1 a G4. Mae cynnwys llofft wair a hwsmonaeth anifeiliaid ar gyfer yr ardal gyfagos yn awgrymu mai 18ed oedd hon neu 19ed ysgubor wartheg canrif (Lloegr Hanesyddol, 2014). Mae'r fricsen a ddefnyddiwyd yn awgrymu dyddiad cynnar o wneud cyn-beiriant; ac mae'n bosibl ei fod yn cyd-daro â'r gwaith adnewyddu gan ystâd Trevallyn ar yr adeiladau cyfagos.

CAM 3

8.5. Cam tri yw ychwanegu'r sied gert. Gall hyn fod yn gyfoes â cham dau, defnyddir bricsen tebyg o waith llaw ac roedd ystafell G5 ar un adeg yn gartref i geffylau fel y dangoswyd o'r porthwr gwair ar y drychiad de orllewin a'r ddarpariaeth ar gyfer storio offer yn y gogledd ddwyrain, felly byddai sied drol cysylltiedig wedi'i gosod. wedi bod yn ofynnol. Mae'r rhan hon o'r adeilad wedi'i diffinio'n glir ar fap AO 1873 felly mae'n sicr yn rhagddyddio chwarter olaf y 19eg canrif.

CAM 4

8.6.Cam pedwar yw'r estyniad croes – ystafell G1. Mae hwn wedi'i adeiladu o frics peiriant, ac felly gellir ei ddyddio'n hyderus i'r 19 hwyred neu 20 cynnared ganrif ac felly lawer yn hwyrach nag unrhyw un o rannau eraill yr adeilad. Mae'r bondio hefyd yn dra gwahanol yn rhedeg mewn tri chwrs o stretsier ac yna dau o benawdau. Mae atchweliad y map yn awgrymu'n gryf ddyddiad adeiladu rhwng 1873 a 1899.

CAM 5

8.7.Cam pump yw ychwanegu to newydd, sydd ar ryw adeg wedi'i godi yn ystafelloedd G1, G2 ac yn G5. Yn ôl y perchennog, cafodd y to ei newid yn y 1980au. Ar draws ystafelloedd G1 – G6 ac yn ystafell F1 mae'n amlwg bod pren wedi'i dorri â pheiriant mwy newydd wedi'i osod yn ei le, er bod rhai darnau hŷn i'w gweld. Mae'r bilen sy'n dal dŵr hefyd yn dystiolaeth o fodernrwydd cymharol adeiladwaith y to ynghyd â'r eryr llechi glân.

CASGLIAD

- 8.8. Nid yw dyddiad adeiladu cychwynnol yr adeilad yn hysbys, er y gellir ei briodoli'n rhesymol i'r 17ed neu 18ed ganrif yn gyfoeswr i ffermdy Springfield cysylltiedig. Mae cam cychwynnol yr adeiladu a cham dau yn anodd eu gwahanu a gallent fod yn gyfoes â'i gilydd. Mae'n debygol mai ystafelloedd G5 ac F1 oedd yr adeilad sefydlog cychwynnol a'u bod wedi'u hymestyn a'u haddasu'n ddiweddarach i gynnwys y llofft wair yn y cyfadeilad adeiladu mwy. Mae'n bosibl bod G5 ac F1 unwaith yn annedd ddomestig ac wedi'u trosi'n ddiweddarach i amaethyddiaeth pan oedd cam dau o'r gwaith adeiladu yn golygu bod angen mwy o dai ar gyfer da byw. Gellir dyddio'r ychwanegiad o sied drol yn hyderus rhwng 1844 a 1879 o ddadansoddiad cartograffig. Mae'r ychwanegiad olaf o estyniad croes ar ben gogledd-ddwyreiniol yr adeilad yn dyddio'n ôl pob tebyg i ddiwedd y 19eg ganrifed ganrif ar y cynharaf, o ystyried ei fod wedi'i adeiladu o frics a wnaed â pheiriant a'r dystiolaeth o fapiau'r arolwg ordnans. Gellir priodoli'r to newydd yn hyderus i'r 20 hwyred ganrif o ystyried ardystiad y perchennog a'r deunyddiau gweladwy a ddefnyddiwyd.
- 8.9. Mae fframwaith ymchwil Gogledd Ddwyrain Cymru yn amlinellu'r angen i gofnodi ac ymchwilio'n gyflym i'r hyn sy'n weddill o'r cyfnod ôl-ganoloesol er mwyn llywio safonau cadwraeth uwch. Mae'r asesiad adeiladu hwn yn helpu i gyflawni'r nod hwn a bydd yn cyfrannu at gofnod hanesyddol y rhanbarth (Fframwaith Ymchwil Archaeoleg Cymru, 2003).

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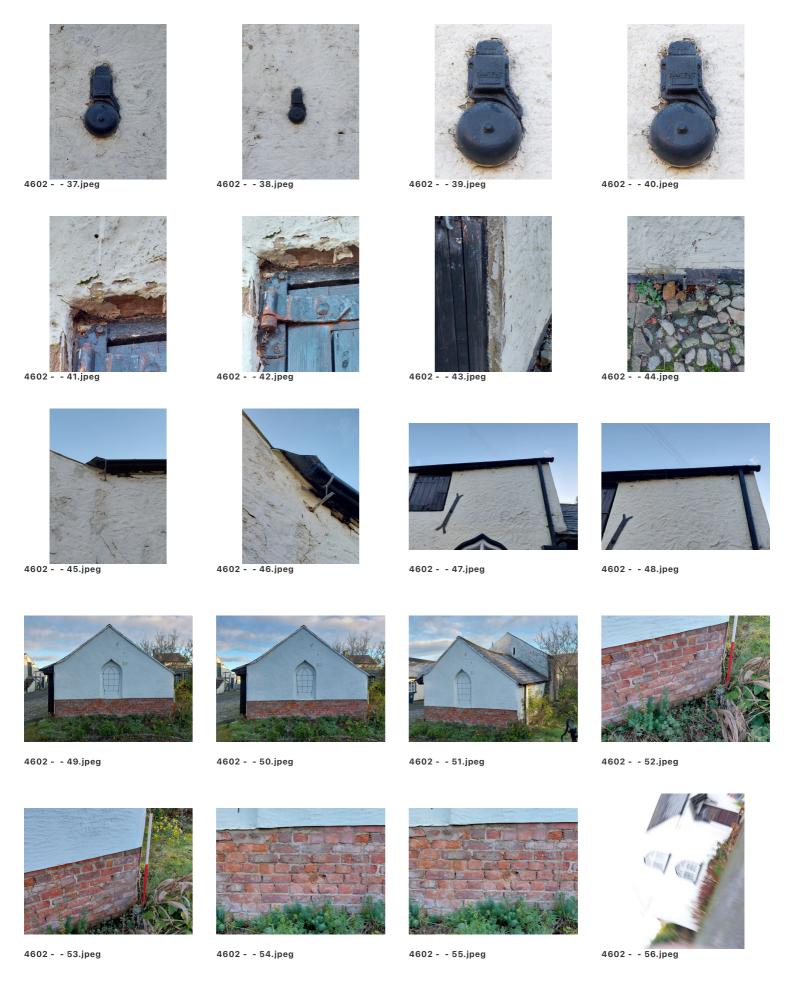
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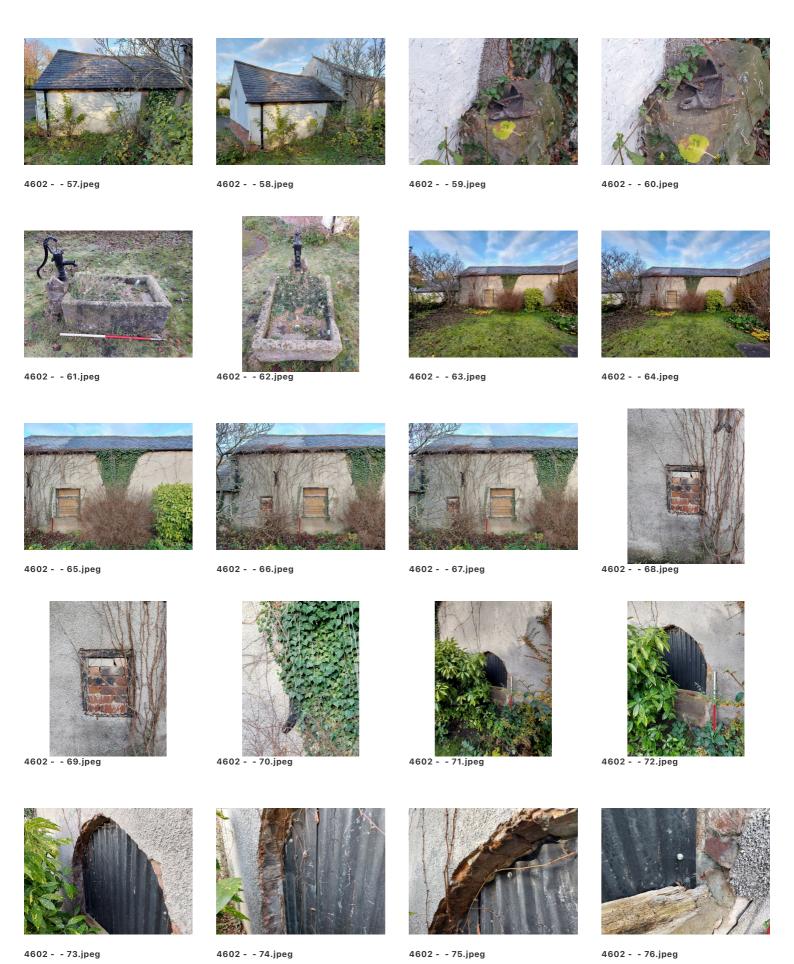
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APPENDIX 1 – PHOTOGRAPHIC GAZETEER









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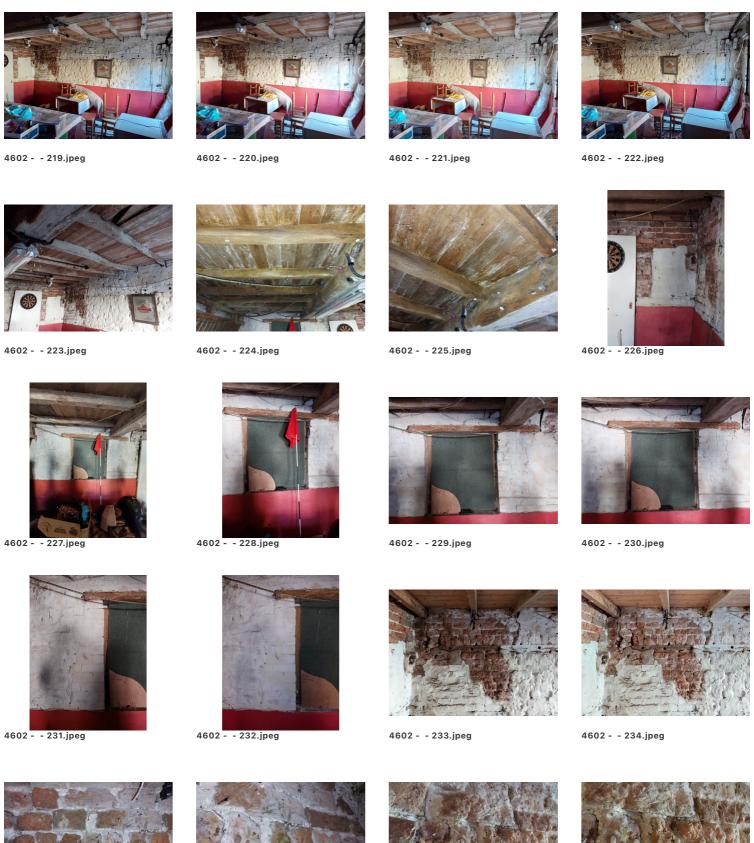
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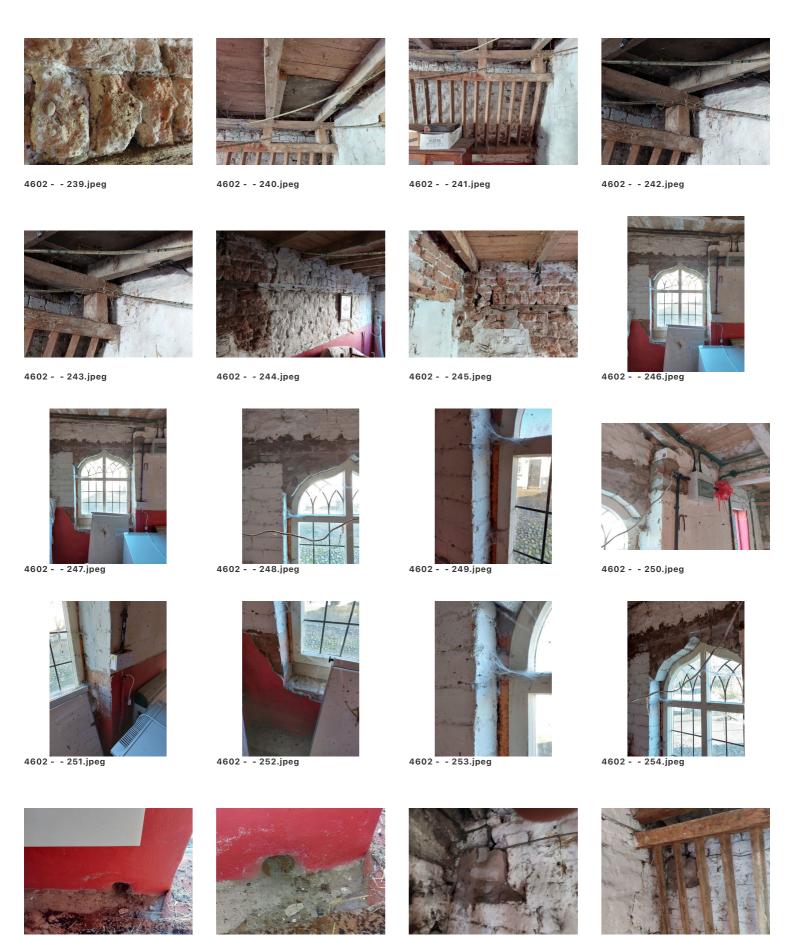
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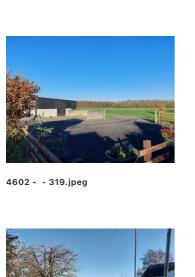
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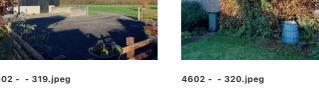


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SPRINGFIELD FARM

FIGURES

