

**CPAT Report No. 1832**


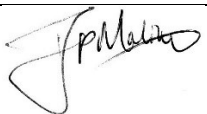
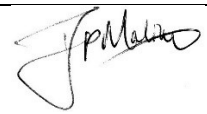
# **Lower Bryntalch, Abermule, Powys**

Historic Building Survey



YMDDIRIEDOLAETH ARCHAEOLEGOL CLWYD-POWYS  
CLWYD-POWYS ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST

Client name: Mr R. Jerman  
 CPAT Project No: 2584  
 Project Name: Lower Bryntalch, Abermule, Powys  
 Grid Reference: SO1753595835  
 County/LPA: Powys  
 Planning Application: 20/0070/FUL  
 CPAT Report No: 1832  
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 Report status: Final

Prepared by:	Checked by:	Approved by:
		
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25 <sup>th</sup> October 2021	5 <sup>th</sup> November 2021	5 <sup>th</sup> November 2021

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## **Summary**

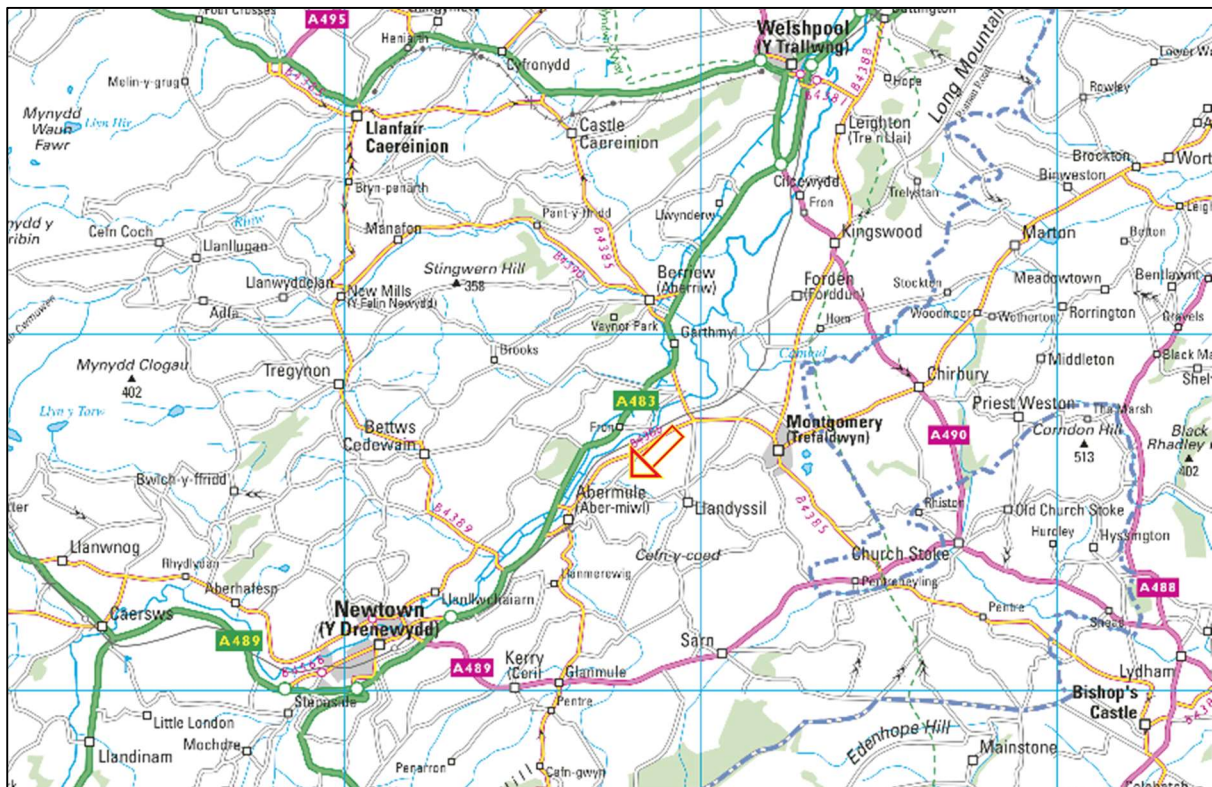
In October 2021 the Clwyd Powys Archaeological Trust carried out a building survey of a redundant cowshed at Lower Bryntalch, Abermule, Powys. A building is recorded in this location as early as 1840, although most of the current fabric is believed to date from the 1930s.

## **Crynodeb**

Fis Hydref 2021, bu Ymddiriedolaeth Archaeolegol Clwyd-Powys yn cynnal arolwg adeilad o feudy segur yn Lower Bryntalch, Aber-miwl, Powys. Mae adeilad wedi'i gofnodi yn y lleoliad hwn mor gynnar â 1840, er mai'r gred yw bod yr adeiladwaith presennol yn dyddio o'r 1930au.

# 1 Introduction

- 1.1. In August 2021 the Field Services Section of the Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust carried out a programme of building recording on behalf of Mr R Jerman in respect of a planning application (20/0070/FUL) for the conversion of an agricultural building to form 3 dwellings, alterations to existing vehicular access and installation of sewage treatment plant and soakaway at Lower Bryntalch, Abermule, Montgomery, Powys SY15 6LA (NGR: SJ 05449 00560).



*Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2018*

*Fig. 1 Location of Lower Bryntalch (arrowed)*

- 1.2. Planning permission for the development was approved in April 2021, with the following planning condition relating to historic environment;

Development shall not begin until an appropriate photographic survey, (equivalent to an Historic England Photographic Survey - Understanding Historic Buildings, 2016) of the existing buildings has been carried out in accordance with details to be submitted to, and approved by, the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: To secure a full photographic record of the original building prior to alteration, conversion or demolition.

## 2 Historical Background

- 2.1. The 1840 Tithe Map for Llandyssil Parish records a building in the same location as the extant barn, although it is unclear whether it is the same building or an earlier barn in the same location. The farmstead is recorded in 1840 as Bryntalch (*tally hill*)
- 2.2. The 1885 Ordnance Survey map records the barn in a recognisable modern form including a yard area to the south-east in the vicinity of the two livestock boxes.
- 2.3. The barn was destroyed in a fire and rebuilt during the 1930s (*pers. comm.*). It is notable that the newly rebuilt barn was apparently a like for like replacement with a similar footprint and layout to the building it replaced.

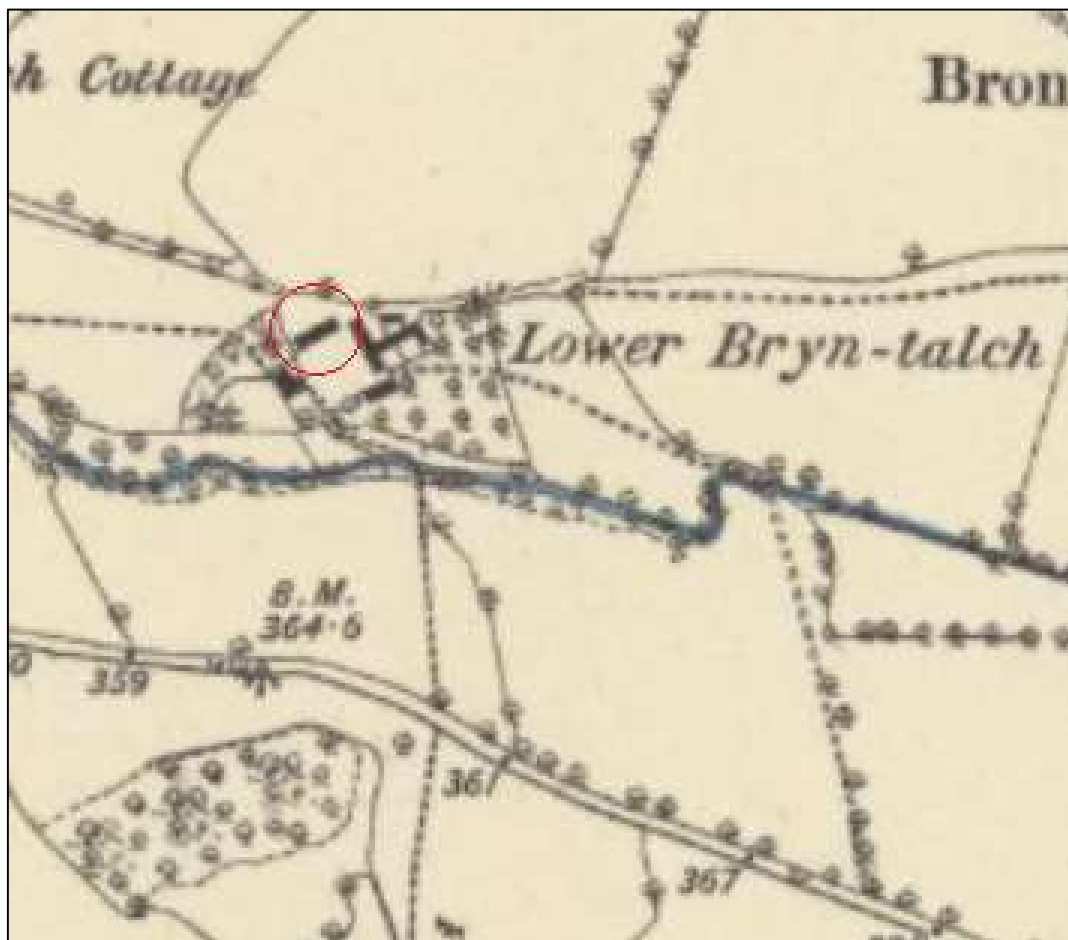


Fig. 2 Extract from the Ordnance Survey 6" Map of 1885 showing the barn (circled in red)

## 3 Building Survey

- 3.1. The survey was conducted according to the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' (CIfA) *Standard and Guidance for the archaeological investigation and recording of standing buildings or structures* (2020), and took the form of a Level 1 building survey as defined by Historic England (2016) *Understanding Historic Buildings: a guide to good recording practice*. This is principally a photographic survey. A plan showing the direction of photographs is reproduced as Figure 12, and contact prints of all photographs are Figures 10 and 11.



- 3.2. The barn measured approximately 28m by 6m and was essentially a five bay design with the south-western most bay occupied by two boxes, probably for keeping calves. The other four bays formed an open cowshed on the lower floor with an access corridor running along the south-east elevation. A cross corridor also ran through the central bay. The upper floor comprised a hayloft accessed from the south-east side by four high level doorways (Figure 4).



*Fig. 3 North-west elevation of the barn Photo CPAT 4956-002*



*Fig. 4 South-east elevation*

- 3.3. The barn was constructed in machine cut timber on a lime mortared brick plinth built in a running bond with a header course every three courses. The frame at the south-west end of the building was constructed upon a raised wall, constructed from random uncoursed grey sandstone approximately 1.8m in height (Figure 5).



*Fig. 5 Stonework on the south-west extent of the building Photo CPAT 4956-004*

- 3.4. The roof frame comprised a simple collared truss supporting three purlins and a ridge beam located in the recess between the top of the principal rafters. The roof frame appeared to be fairly modern in date and lacked any rafters or battens. The roof was sheathed in tin sheeting. The wall frames comprised a simple box frame construction, with cross bracing in some of the frames. The horizontal wall beams were mounted on timber supports (Figure 6). Part of the north-east wall and the hayloft floor had been removed to allow access for loader tractors and telehandlers.



*Fig. 6 View from the north-east of the interior of the barn Photo CPAT 4956-014*





*Fig. 7 General view of the barn interior Photo CPAT 4956-026*



*Fig. 8 Internal view of the boxes at the south-west end of the barn Photo CPAT 4956-024*

## Conclusions

- 3.5. The structure of the extant barn is believed to date from the 1930s, when it was rebuilt following a fire. The timber framing seems quite modern in appearance, with little age related fading or deterioration. Interestingly the design appears to be very similar to the earlier form of the barn, as suggested by the shape of the building recorded on late 19<sup>th</sup> century mapping and also the design of the adjacent range on the north-eastern side of the farmyard (Figure 9).
- 3.6. The boxes at the south-west end of the building are rather too small to be loose boxes and were probably used as a calf shed (Figure 8).



*Fig. 9 Barn constructed in a similar style to the north-east of the cowshed (left of shot) Photo CPAT 4956-012*

## 4 Sources

### Published sources

Historic England., 2013, *National Farm Building Types*

### Cartographic sources

1840 Tithe Map for Llandyssil Parish

1885 Ordnance Survey 6" Map Montgomeryshire Sheet 37 NW

## 5 Archive deposition Statement

- 5.1. The project archive has been prepared according to the CPAT Archive Policy and in line with the CIfA *Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives guidance* (2014). The archive is entirely digital and will be deposited jointly with the Historic Environment Record, Clwyd Powys Archaeological Trust and the National Monuments Record (RCAHMW).

### Archive summary

33 digital photographs, CPAT film no 4937

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## Appendix 1: CPAT WSI 2584

### 1 Introduction

1.1 The Field Services Section of the Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust has been invited by Ian Pryce to undertake an archaeological building survey in connection with a planning application (20/0070/FUL) for the conversion of a redundant farm building into three dwellings, including associated works and access junction improvements at Lower Bryntalch, Abermule, Powys (NGR: SO1753595835).

1.2 A planning condition in respect of historic environment has been recommended which was as follows:

Development shall not begin until an appropriate photographic survey, (equivalent to an Historic England Photographic Survey - Understanding Historic Buildings, 2016) of the existing buildings has been carried out in accordance with details to be submitted to, and approved by, the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: To secure a full photographic record of the original building prior to alteration, conversion or demolition.

### 2 Objectives

- 2.1. The objective of the survey is:
- to provide a basic visual record of the barn complex at Lower Bryntalch in order to make a record of the building's original layout and any internal and external features that are of architectural significance.

### 3 Methodology

3.1. The archaeological works will be conducted according to the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' (CIfA) *Standard and Guidance for the archaeological investigation and recording of standing buildings or structures* (2020) and *Standard and Guidance for Historic Environment Desk-based Assessment* (2020).

#### Building Survey

3.2. The survey will take the form of the equivalent to an Historic England Level 1 Building Survey - Understanding Historic Buildings, 2016, 5.2, p.25), and will include:

- External photographs, with some internal photographs if necessary to record significant details
- Sketch drawings, if required to record any additional architectural details.

3.3. The photographic survey will be conducted using digital photography with a minimum resolution of 12 mega pixels to include:

- general views
- external appearance
- internal views (if necessary)
- elevations and structural detail
- overall appearance

- fixtures, fittings etc

## 4 Site archive

- 4.1. The overall archive will conform to guidelines described in Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE), Historic England 2015, the CIfA (2020) *Standard and Guidance for the Creation, Compilation, Transfer and Deposition of Archaeological Archives* and *The National Standard and Guidance to Best Practice for Collecting and Depositing Archaeological Archives in Wales* (NPAAW, 2017) and *Guidance for the Submission of Data to the Welsh Historic Environment Records (HERs) V1* (July 2018).
- 4.2. The archive will be deposited with the National Monuments Record (NMR), RCAHMW. This archive will include all written, drawn, survey and photographic records relating directly to the investigations undertaken. NMR Digital archives will follow the standard required by the RCAHMW (RCAHMW 2015). A copy of the digital archive only will also be lodged with the Historic Environment Record, Clwyd Powys Archaeological Trust, within two months of the approval of the project report.

### ***Data management plan***

- 4.3. The project will be conducted in accordance with CPAT's data management policy. All paper records will be collated, catalogued and labelled with the unique project code. All digital data will follow strict file naming, to include the unique project code, and be sorted into a standard series of sub-folders. The digital data will be catalogued, including a list of file types and relevant software.

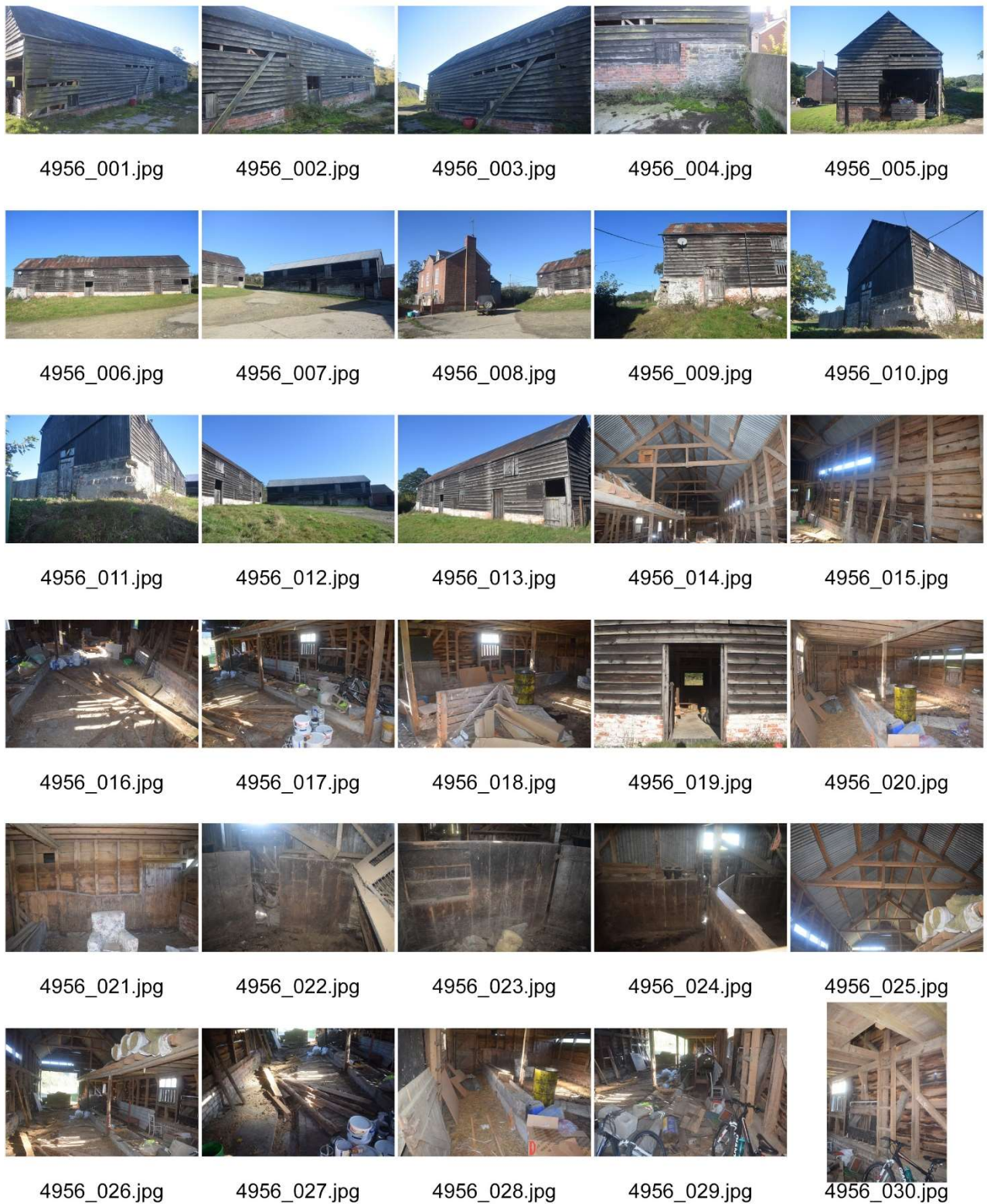
## 5 Resources and programming

- 5.1. The survey will be undertaken by a single skilled archaeologist under the overall supervision of Tim Malim, CPAT's Principal Archaeologist who is also a member of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA). CPAT is also a CIfA Registered Organisation and as such agrees to abide by their *Code of Conduct* (2020).
- 5.2. All report preparation will be carried out by, or with the assistance of, the same field archaeologist(s) who conducted the fieldwork and completed within two months of the commencement of the survey.
- 5.3. Requirements relating to Health and Safety regulations will be adhered to by CPAT and its staff.
- 5.4. CPAT is covered by appropriate Public and Employer's Liability insurance, as well as Professional Indemnity insurance. A project-specific Risk Assessment and Method Statement (RAMS) will be prepared prior to the commencement of fieldwork.

W Logan

13 October 2021



*Fig. 10 Contact Sheet 1*



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*Fig. 11 Contact Sheet 2*

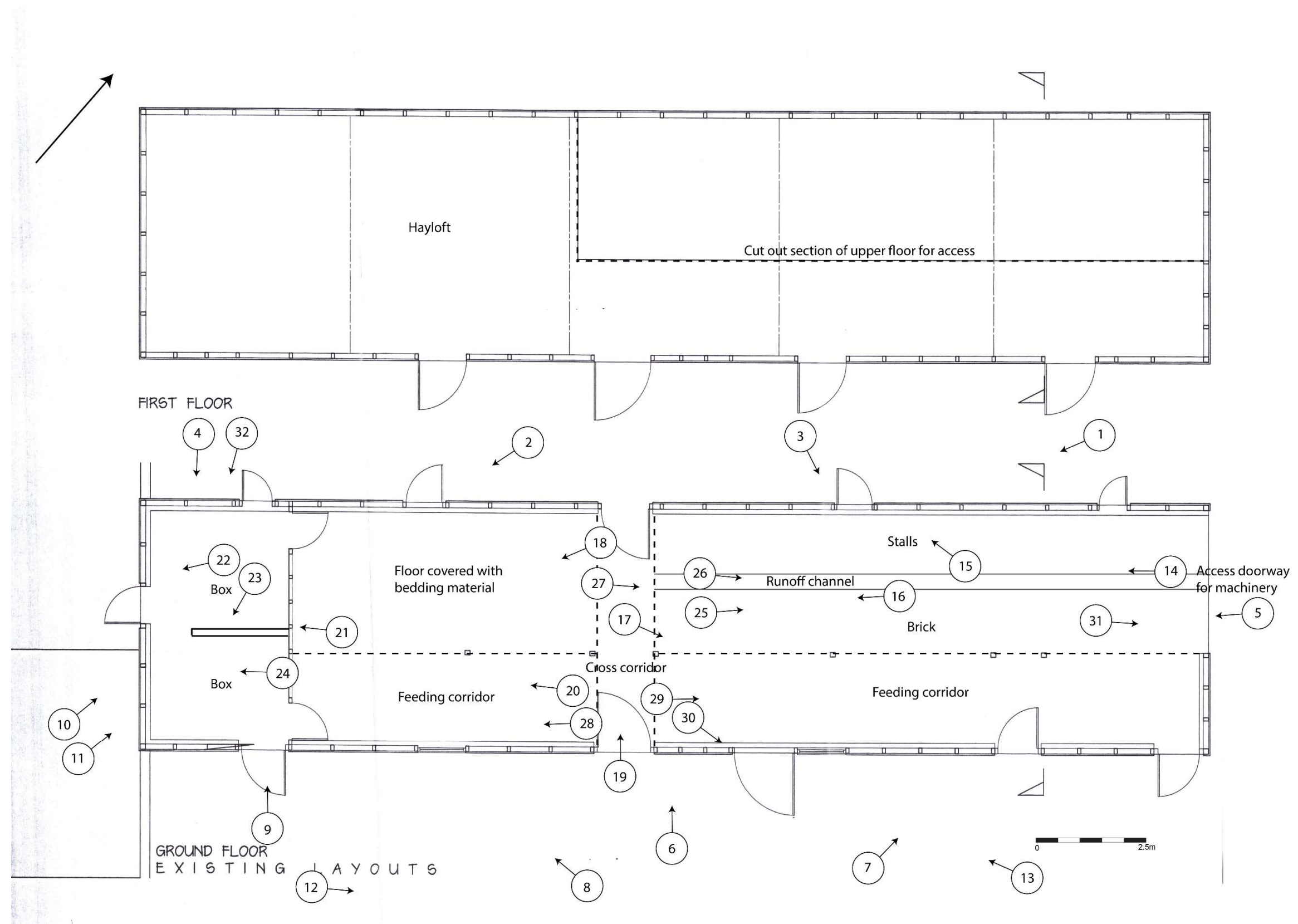


Figure 12 Photographic plan