

FENTON HOME FARM, CRUNDALE, HAVERFORDWEST, PEMBROKESHIRE

**BUILDING RECORDING,
OCTOBER 2005**



Paratowyd gan Archaeoleg
Cambria
Ar gyfer Steve Morgan
Prepared by Cambria
Archaeology
For Steve Morgan



ARCHAEOLEG CAMBRIA ARCHAEOLOGY

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FENTON HOME FARM, CRUNDALE, HAVERFORDWEST, PEMBROKESHIRE

BUILDING RECORDING, OCTOBER 2005

Gan / By

Neil Ludlow

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Llofnod / Signature Dyddiad / Date 16/09/2005

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**FENTON HOME FARM,
CRUNDALE, HAVERFORDWEST, PEMBROKESHIRE**

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Project Record No. 55439

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1.0 SUMMARY

Fenton Home Farm is a model farmstead of good quality buildings, of fairly high status. The buildings, which are not listed, are grouped around a rectangular yard, lying to the north of the farmstead which, in terms of size and detail, represents a gentry-house 'mansion'. The residence is still occupied today but in October 2005 the farm buildings were derelict, and subject to conversion into residential and holiday accommodation. They were archaeologically recorded to Level 2, as a condition of the planning permission for the conversion, but conversion work was well-progressed before the recording was commissioned.

For the purposes of the archaeological recording, twelve buildings were identified, representing three building phases, the phasing being suggested by the building materials and detail. Phase 1, recognisable by the use of red brick, dates from the early-mid 19th century and is represented by Buildings D and E, a cart house and a threshing barn respectively, which form the west and north sides of the farmyard. During Phase 2, which is indicated by the use of blue bullnose bricks and dates from the third quarter of the 19th century (c.1860-c.1880), the southern side of the yard was closed off by a parallel building (Building G), probably a stable, while an 'L'-shaped block of cow sheds (Buildings A and B) was built immediately north of Buildings D and E. Other phase 2 work included the construction of Building J to the southwest, probably a barn, and of a pigsty complex (Building K) to the east of the site. Phase 3 work, which was of rather poorer quality, was mainly represented by additions and alterations to these buildings, but included the partial enclosure of the east side of the farmyard by Buildings H and I.

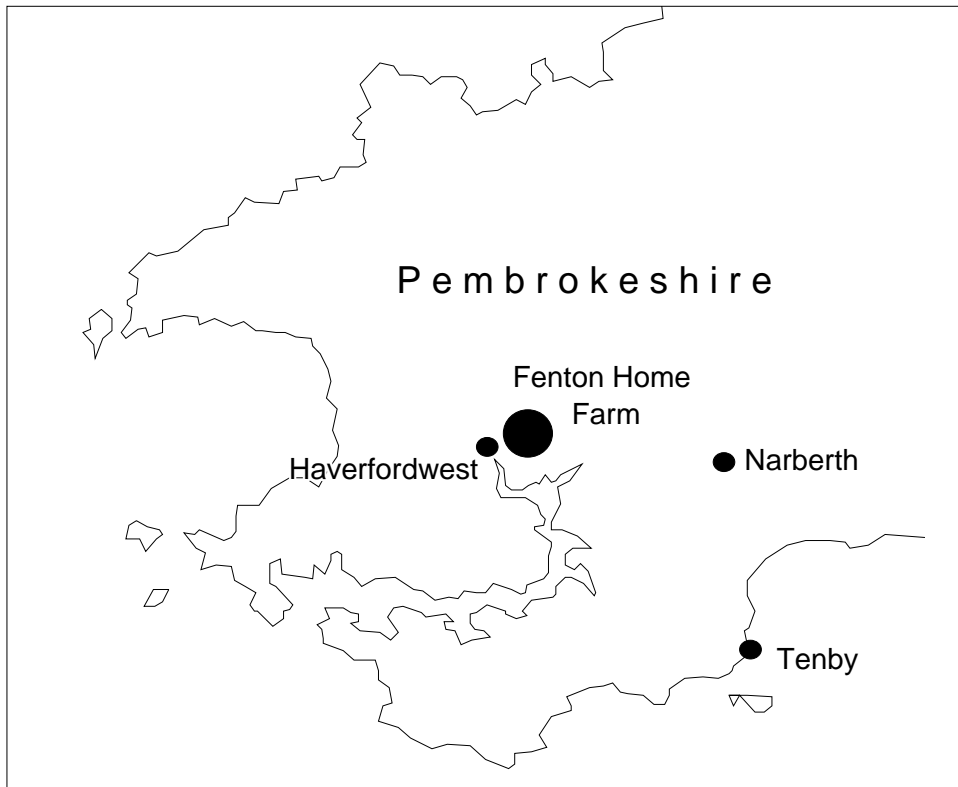
2.0 INTRODUCTION

Fenton Home Farm (PRN 50813) is centred on SM98901738 in the community, and former parish, of Wiston, Pembrokeshire. It is set within a gently rolling landscape of medium to large fields, which tend to the regular. This landscape was in place by the time of the Ordnance Survey Original Surveyors drawings of 1810 and has changed little since. Settlement in the area is dispersed and as well as the model farm, two smaller farmsteads also lie within the farm boundary.

Fenton, a large single pile mansion (PRN 17762) in the Georgian style with model farmstead and some other estate features, is a typical small gentry estate within the region. Few landscape features as such can be identified, although a formal pond (PRN 50815) flanks the approach to the house. A possible garden west of the farm buildings, defined on two sides by plantation trees on the Ordnance Survey 1:2500 map of 1889, is now obscured by modern sheds.

The lands belonging to Fenton, as listed in the Wiston tithe apportionment of 1838, were not particularly extensive but include several features which suggest high status. The farmstead continued to improve and the model farmstead with courtyard plan was completed by the time of the First Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1889. Fenton Lodge (now outside of the farm boundary) was newly constructed and two smaller estate farmsteads were also identified with the Fenton place-name at this time. The true significance of the name is not known. The earliest known reference to 'Fenton' dates from 1419 but it may derive from the Anglo-Saxon *fenn tun* suggesting proximity to marshy land (Charles 1992, 457).

Fig. 1 – Location map



3.0 DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS AND BRIEF

The farmhouse at Fenton Home Farm lies at the centre of a large range of redundant agricultural outbuildings. These are now derelict, and in a deteriorating condition. The buildings are not listed. They are subject to an application for conversion into 15 residential units, 14 of which will be permanent accommodation, and one of which will be for holiday let (Application No. 03/0370/PA). None of the buildings is currently listed, but they are considered to be an important example of a typical, small gentry model farmstead of the late 18th-early 19th century.

The primary objectives of the project were therefore to provide an appropriate record of the buildings and to ensure an adequate understanding of the buildings, including if possible their date, original function and alterations through time, prior to any conversion works being carried out. The project would aim to ensure that the buildings would be preserved, in their present form, by record.

These objectives were achieved in two stages –

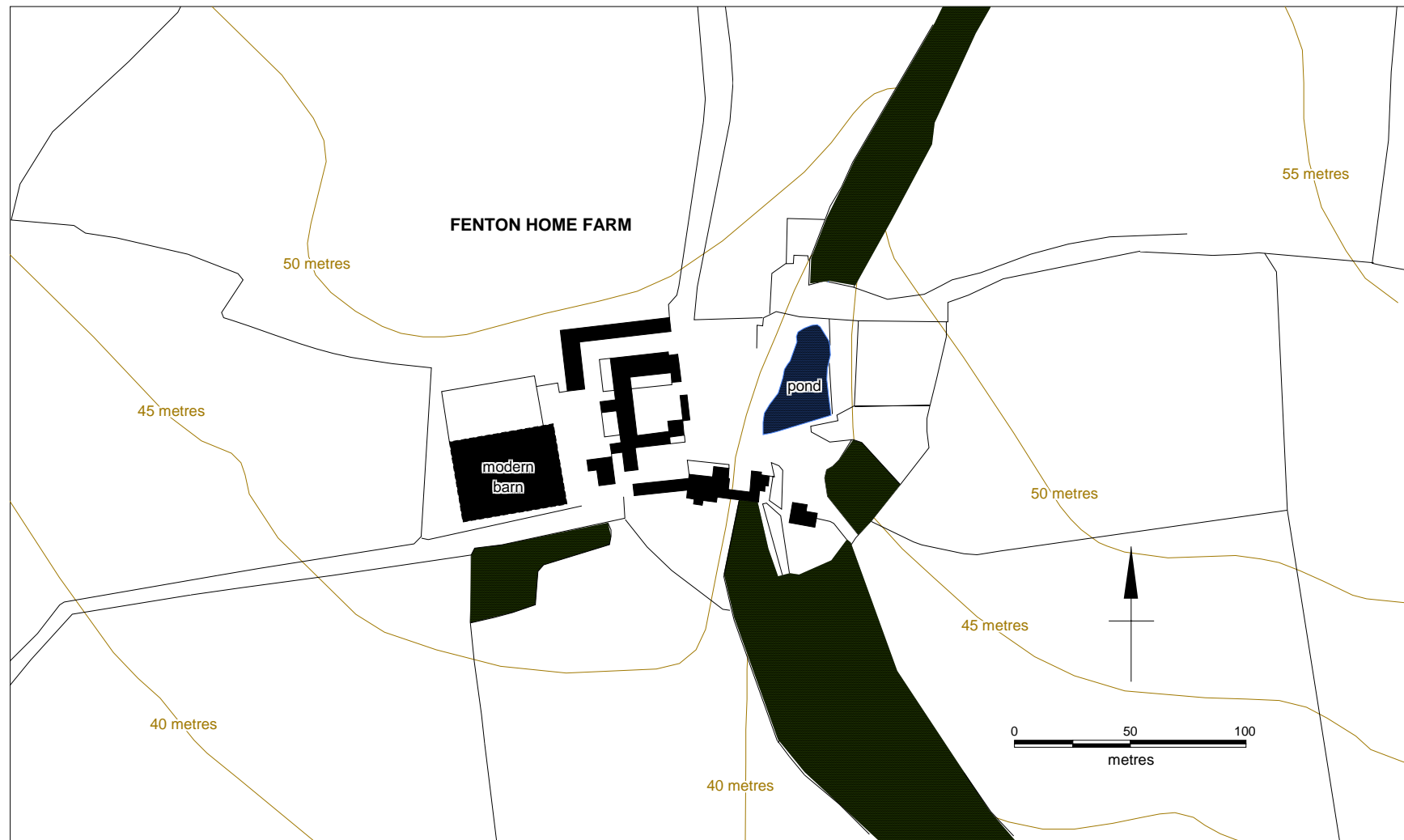
1. A rapid desk-top assessment of the site. This was a cartographic and documentary search for all available sources of historic information relating to the site.
2. Building recording. All buildings were subject to photographic building recording. This should have been undertaken prior to the commencement of conversion and consolidation, but due to a delay in awarding the contract, the work was already in progress when the recording was undertaken.

Two further stages were represented by the preparation and deposition of a project archive, and the production of a report.

The farmstead is subject to a Tir Gofal management agreement, signed in early October 2005 and backdated to 15 June 2005. Much of the information contained within the introduction to this report has been taken from the Tir Gofal HE2 report (Steele 2004).

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Fig. 2 – Fenton Home Farm



4.0 SITE DESCRIPTION

Fenton Home Farm is a model farmstead built around a rectangular yard, the 'mansion' or farmhouse (PRN 17762), lying to the south (see Figs. 2 and 3). The residence is still occupied today but the farm buildings are derelict, and undergoing conversion.

The farmstead first appears on the Ordnance Survey Original Surveyors drawings of 1810, although the small scale, and badly damaged state of the Wiston tithe map, of 1838 (which has a hole where the farmstead should be located) means that no clear information on the layout of individual buildings is given until the Ordnance Survey 1:2500 map of 1889. It is clear that the farmstead continued to develop throughout the 19th century, and this is mirrored stylistically in the buildings themselves. Copies of historic maps are included in Section 9.0.

All of the present farm buildings are shown on the 1889 Ordnance Survey 1:2500 map. They are stone rubble built with slate roofs. They belong to at least three main phases of development, characterised by the use of red brick in the original work (Phase 1 – early-mid 19th century), blue bullnose bricks in the Phase 2 work (mid-late 19th century), and poorer quality red-brick surrounds, often with lintels, during Phase 3 (later 19th century). There was some subsequent work, in brick and breeze-block, during the 20th century. The phasing is discussed at greater length below, under the individual building sections, and in Section 4.0.

An impressive L-shaped threshing barn and cart house range with red segmental brick arched openings faces onto the yard, which is enclosed on all other sides by abutting outbuildings. A long L-range cow shed is situated behind the courtyard to the north. These are differentiated by blue bullnose brick window and door dressings. Other later buildings emulate this theme, featuring blue-brick door heads, but lacking other dressings.

The farmhouse (PRN 50814; NGR SM 9890 1738) is essentially a gentry house or 'mansion', to the south of the agricultural buildings, is a large single pile building in the Georgian style with modifications including some Victorian features detracting from its historic appearance. It is still occupied and lies outside the proposed development, as does an earlier wing adjoining to the west.

Other buildings (both agricultural and domestic) flank the mansion on both sides; those to the east define a U-shaped yard, with the stone outline of a circular walk for a horse gin still exposed in the centre. A pigsty (PRN 50820) and associated enclosure lie some 15m to the southwest. There is no evidence for any formally designed parkland or gardens, as such at Fenton Home Farm, other than a rectangular enclosure, enclosed by trees to the west of the farmyard, which appears on the 1:2500 map of 1889. Modern sheds now obscure the site. A formal pond (PRN 50815), with stone revetment walling visible on the approach to the house is still a prominent feature today.

This description includes plans of each building annotated with the direction and field of view of each record photograph. The record photographs are contained on a CD in the back cover of the report. Six general shots of the farmstead are included in hard copy on pp. 25-27 of the report.

The interpretations below owe a lot to Nash (1989) *The Historical Farm Buildings of Pembrokeshire* and and William (1986) *The Historical Farm Buildings of Wales*, though neither mentions Fenton Home Farm by name. Nor is the farm described in Lloyd *et. al* (2004) *The Buildings of Wales: Pembrokeshire*, or in Jones (1996) *The Historic Houses of Pembrokeshire and their Families*.

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OVERALL SITE PLAN HERE (FIG. 3)

4.1 Buildings A and B – Cow Sheds (NGR SM 9889 1745)

A large cow shed range forming an 'L', to the northeast of the main group of buildings around the farmyard (represented by Buildings D and E), from which they are separated by a narrower yard. The range is represented by a long east-west limb, Building A, and a shorter north-south limb leading southwards from its west end, Building B. Construction is in local rubble with bullnose, blue-brick surrounds. Both ranges are of a single storey beneath shallow-pitched gable roofs, and were well-ventilated with a large number of windows and doorways in both side walls, important considerations for cattle during the later 19th century. There is no evidence for the presence of a loft.

The buildings were already under conversion when the site was visited, with new roofs and concrete-screed floors, while the wall-tops had been raised to form level wall-plates in breeze-block. Most internal features had been lost, a number of internal partitions, in breeze-block, having been inserted, while much of the internal wall surface had been roughcast. Nevertheless, most of the original window- and door-openings survived and formed a regular rhythm, particular on the south side of Building A. They define six bays, each with a doorway and two windows to the south (towards the yard), except the eastern- and westernmost bays which feature entries in the end walls. A number of the north wall windows have been rebuilt, or are new, smaller insertions following the style of the original, in slightly harder, bluer bullnose brick. The two doorways and window in this wall are original, and it may be that they relate to a double feeding-passage system along the side walls, with the stalls between them. The pigeon holes above these openings, high up in the gable, are *de novo* introductions from 2005 and imitate original features seen elsewhere on the farm. The doorway and window in the west gable wall were (re)built in 2005, and the gable above rebuilt in breeze-block. This westernmost bay may have been a feed-preparation area.

Building B comprised three bays, again defined by four windows and two doorways in the east wall, towards the yard, and four windows and a doorway to the west; not all windows here may be original. There is a wide entry in the south, end wall which is probably original, but has been rebuilt; the gable above has been rebuilt in breeze-block during 2005.

The buildings are first shown on the Ordnance Survey 1:2500 map of 1889. Although the tithe map of 1838 is badly damaged, as noted, the area occupied by these buildings is sufficiently well-preserved to suggest that they had yet to be built. The blue-brick openings suggest a date after the 1860s, ie. Phase 2.

Fig. 4 - Building A

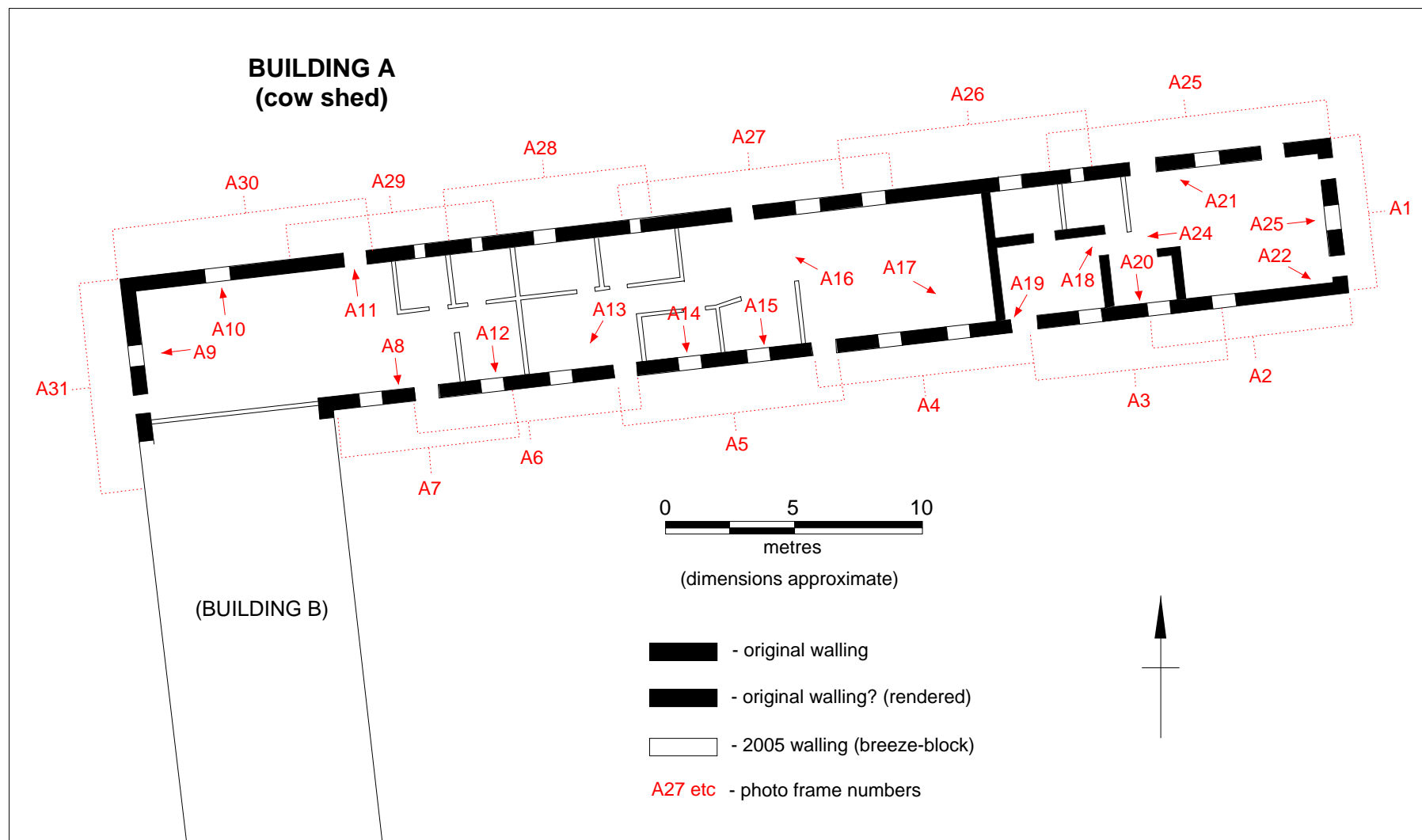
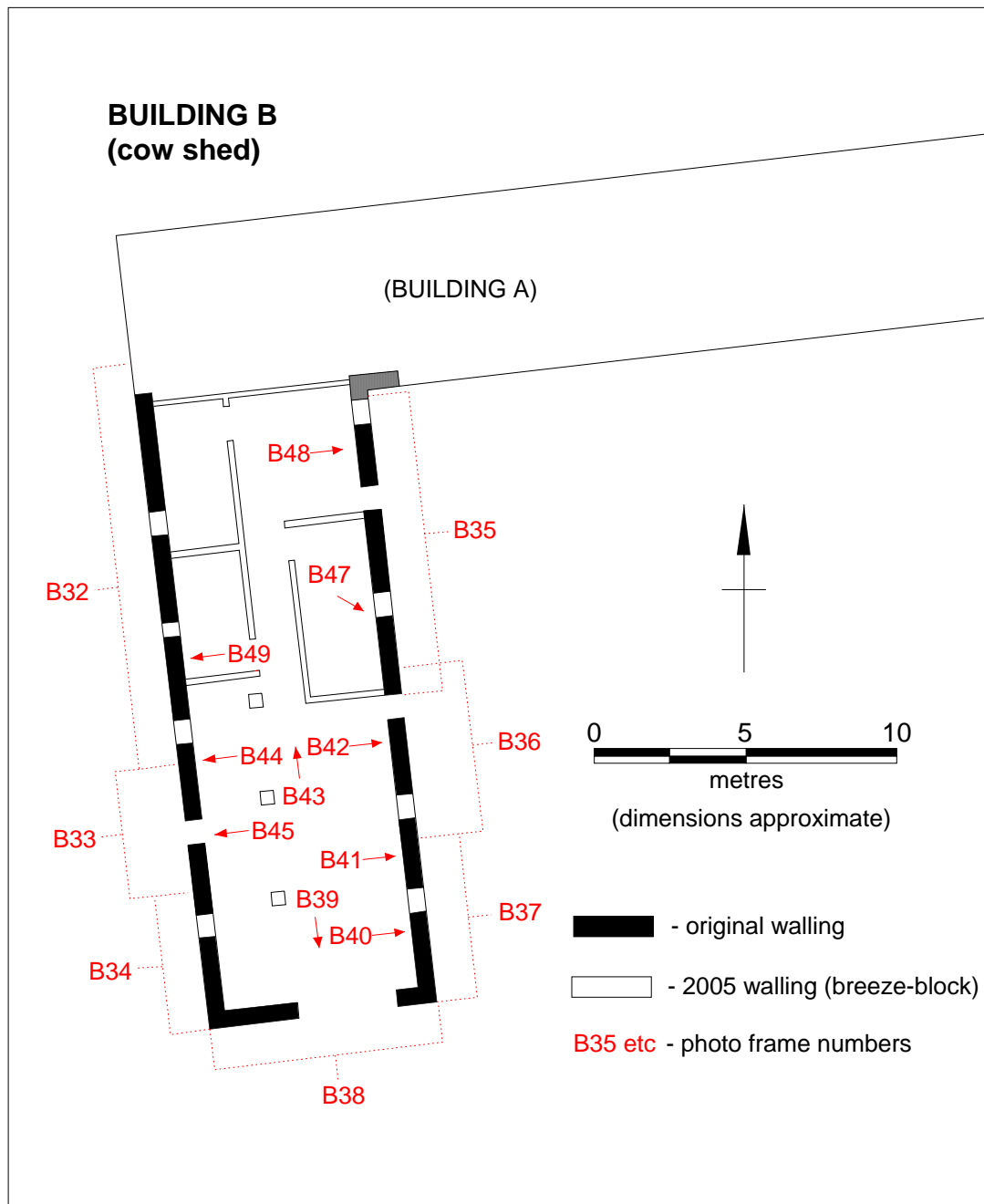


Fig.5 - Building B



4.2 Buildings C, D and M – Cart House (NGR SM 9891 1744)

Building D is a large, single-storey east-west building forming the northern side of the farmyard proper. It forms an 'L' with Building E (below), with which it is contemporary ie. Phase 1. It is a cart house, of five bays defined by large, open semicircular arches in the north wall. The arches are of a similar shape to those in the primary work in Building E, with the same simple red-brick surrounds. Walling above and between the arches was in rubble masonry, which exhibited no visible joint with Building E.

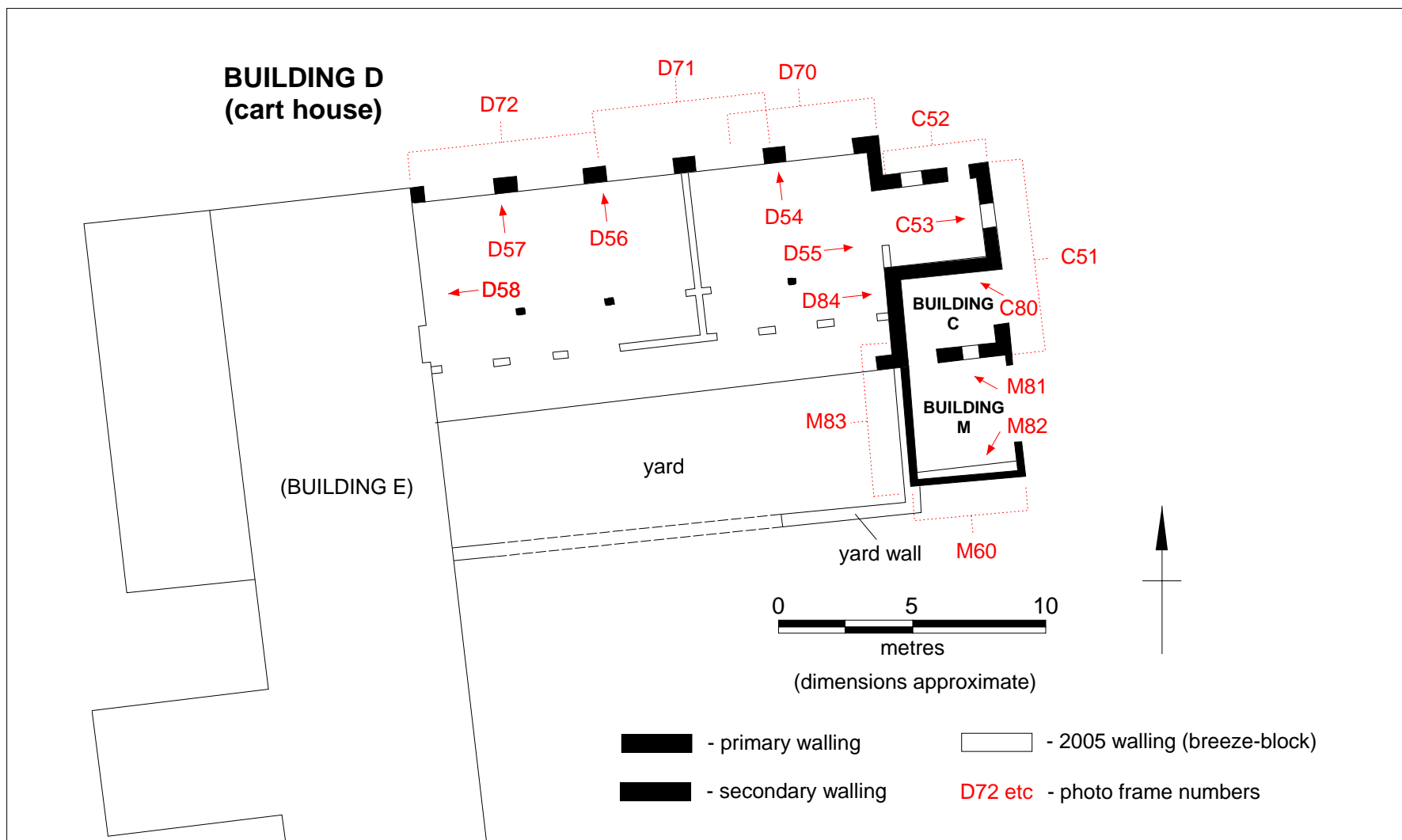
Building D has been much altered, both during 2005, and earlier. Its south wall had entirely gone, having been removed sometime prior to 2005 and replaced by an open side, the roof eaves being supported on an iron joist (now gone). By October 2005, a number of breeze-block partitions and pillars had been built, replicating the spatial division of the building. The roof, formerly gabled, had been taken off and the floor covered with a concrete screed.

Building D belongs to the early-mid 19th century. However, unlike Building E it is not shown on the Ordnance Survey 1" Old Series map of 1831. However, this may not be reliable, while the building shown on the site of Building E may not, be the same one.

A narrower bay, Building C, leads off from the east end of Building D. Its blue-brick surrounds, though not bullnosed, suggest that it is an addition from after c.1860 (Phase 2); the pigeon holes in the east (gable) wall are like those in the contemporary Building A (and were also inserted into the east gable of Building D). Building C is divided into two by an east-west wall. The northern 'room' is lit by a window in the east and north walls, the latter also featuring a doorway, while it is open to the rest of Building D. Building D had, during the 20th century, been used as a milking-parlour (Steve Morgan, owner, *pers. comm.*) and the internal render in this northern 'room' suggests that it had been the accompanying dairy during this period. Its original function is not known. The southern 'room' is contemporary, but continues Building C's roof slope to form a lean-to. It is now entered from the east through a wide opening, which seems to have been adapted from an original doorway, the segmental brick head of which can be seen above the timber lintel. There is a further window and door in the south wall.

A yard lies to the south of Building D, enclosed by a low masonry wall. This was formerly a lean-to building, lying against Building D, whose roof-line can be seen on the east wall of Building E (see Building E where it is regarded as Phase 3). It is shown on the Ordnance Survey 1:2500 maps of 1889 and 1908, but seems to have become disused, and truncated, early in the 20th century when a small brick building, Building M (not shown in 1908), was erected over its truncated east wall, and against the south wall of Building C. It is of poor construction, with simple openings and a tin roof that may be original. It may always have been used for storage.

Fig. 6 - Buildings C, D and M



4.3 Building E – Threshing barn (NGR SM 9890 1742)

A very large building aligned north-south, Building E forms an 'L' with Building D with which it may be contemporary; no joints are visible and both feature the same plain red-brick surrounds. An east-west wing from the centre of the east front of Building E, a small brick-built annexe at the south end of the same front, and a parallel north-south building abutting the north end of this front, are additions.

Building E, although undergoing conversion at the time of the visit, had been less affected and most of its original features had survived and it could be seen to be a gabled building of ten bays. As built, it was a large, double threshing barn which appears to have been open to the roof throughout. Lying centrally within both side walls were two large, arched openings with semicircular red-brick heads, lying side-by-side, and divided by an internal wall. These appear to be primary, opening onto the threshing floors within. That to the south survived as a slab floor; to the north, the floor has been lost through the excavation of all original levels in the northern half of the building during 2005. The arches were in plain red-brick as in Building D.

Northern half

The northern half of the building is still open to the roof, but in this area the roof-timbers had all been replaced in 2005, using the concrete pads in which the previous trusses (apparently of softwood and possibly not original), had rested. As noted above, the internal floor levels had all been truncated, to a depth of up to 0.30m, into the natural bedrock. Apart from the threshing-floor arch, the only other Phase 1 opening in the east wall was a doorway, later blocked in breeze-block (before 2005). It communicated with a former lean-to which was built, possibly at a later date, against the south wall of Building D. This has gone but its roof-line can be seen against the east wall of Building E. This had a segmental red-brick head. An area of rough cement, visible on the interior of the north end of the wall may represent a patch, or an area of blocking.

A large window high up in the east wall, north of the threshing-floor arch, had a segmental head in blue bullnose bricks and was clearly secondary (Phase 2); it may have replaced a circular *oculus* as seen south of the southern threshing floor arch. A further secondary opening lay low down in the wall immediately south of the arch. This opening had a red-brick lining and surround, and a slate lintel, but was clearly an insertion, probably Phase 3, the cement infill being visible. It had a peculiar splay to the exterior and appears to have been associated with machinery, perhaps a belt from an engine, powering the thresher, located in the yard. It may therefore be contemporary with the engine house in the west wing (see below).

The window in the north (gable) wall is from Phase 1, with a segmental red-brick head, but this was lowered in Phase 2, with blue bullnose brick surround, and later still, but before 2005, part-blocked with breeze-blocks. The entry in this wall is also an insertion, with a red-brick surround and a timber lintel, probably from Phase 3.

Four of the five bays in the west wall are pierced by large, segmental 'window' openings, probably for ventilation rather than light, that were blocked with breeze-blocks prior to 2005. They appear to be secondary openings and may belong to Phase 3, being apparently of rather poor construction, although they are much obscured by the cement render that seems to form part of their construction. They were subsequently blocked with breeze-block, before 2005.

At some point after those openings with breeze-block infill were blocked, the interior was given a coat of whitewash.

Southern half

The southern half of the barn was much more extensively altered in Phases 2 and 3 than the northern half. The threshing-floor arches were lowered during Phase 2, and a first floor was inserted, converting this half into a 2-storey building. The Phase 2 arches are segmental, in blue bullnose brick, with rubble infill up to the Phase 1 arches. The western arch was also narrowed in similar rubble masonry to receive the end of the south wall of the Phase 2 west wing. During Phase 3, both arches were further blocked in brick- and blockwork, each are with a simple doorway and window; the doorway to the west was subsequently (but before 2002) blocked with breeze-block. The Phase 1 slabbed surface of the threshing floor survives; elsewhere in the southern half of the barn, the flooring is represented by a concrete screed.

There are few other Phase 1 openings. A circular *oculus* with a red-brick surround lies immediately north of the eastern threshing-floor arch, but the ground-floor window to the south of this, and the first floor window above, are Phase 2 insertions. The doorway to the south of this led into a lean-to building along the north side of Building G. This has now gone but whose roof-line can be seen against the east face of Building E. The doorway has a lintel and appears to belong to Phase 3; the lean-to may therefore have been contemporary.

The west wall windows, at ground floor level, have similar Phase 2 surrounds. Those at first floor level have simple lintels at eaves level and may belong to Phase 3. A doorway into the southernmost bay of Building E pierces this wall and has a poor-quality brick head. It appears also to belong to Phase 3, as does the first floor doorway here, with its simple lintel. It is approached via a flight of concrete steps, on a stone base, which lie against the north face of the brick-built wing here. Both the wing, and the steps, are shown on the 1889 Ordnance Survey map.

Internally, the southernmost bay of Building E is separated from the rest by a dividing wall. A change in floor levels suggests that the wall may be primary, ie. Phase 1, but the simple timber lintel in the doorway piercing the wall may indicate that it is later. The doors connecting this bay to the Phase 2 Buildings F and G are also probably Phase 2.

West annexe

A rectangular, gabled wing was built against the west face of the barn, after the western threshing-floor arch had been narrowed. It is shown on the 1889 Ordnance Survey map. Construction is in rubble masonry and there is an entry and a window in each of the north, south and west walls of this wing, while it communicates with the northern half of the barn via an open gorge. The window- and door-surrounds feature some blue bricks, but are of rather poor quality, while the western entry has a simple timber lintel. It is therefore assigned to Phase 3. It appears to have been purpose-built as an engine-house to serve the threshing machinery, via the gorge into Building E, and still houses a later (20th century) corn-dryer and hoist. The gorge was narrowed, before 2005, with breeze-blocks.

Southwest annexe

A small, rectangular wing lies against the southwest corner of Building E, and against Building F. It is also shown on the 1889 Ordnance Survey map. The west (gable) wall is in rubble masonry but the side walls are in red-brick. The west wall is pierced by a doorway with a segmental brick head, and a similar doorway and window (now blocked) pierce the south wall. The surrounds are similar to those in the engine-house wing and the building is therefore also assigned to Phase 3. Its purpose is not known, but an open gorge leading into the southernmost bay of Building E is part filled with what appears to have been a trough, now altered; at some period therefore the building appears to have been a cow- or calf-house.

Northwest building

The remains of a north-south rubble-walled building lie against, and parallel to the west wall of the northern half of Building E. This building is now ruinous and the west (side) wall has largely gone, but the north and south end walls survive to a fair degree and suggest that it was a lean-to structure. Both walls are pierced by a window and a door, similar in style to the openings in the other two wings, and this building is therefore also assigned to Phase 3. It is shown on the 1889 Ordnance Survey map. Its purpose is unknown, but its floor level lies nearly 1 metre lower than that in Building E (and the external ground surface) which clearly involved excavation and may therefore be significant.

Phasing

Building E and its annexes appear to represent three main building phases, which can only be roughly dated.

Phase 1 - belongs to the early-mid 19th century. It may have been built during the earlier part of this period, as a building is shown here on the Ordnance Survey 1" Old Series map of 1831. It may not, however, be the same one (and Building D is not shown).

Phase 2 – the use of blue bullnose bricks suggests a date after 1860, while the buildings are shown on the 1889 map. However, as Phase 3 is also pre-1889, this phase belongs to the earlier part of this period, c.1860-70s?, after which, although much building went on, its quality entered something of a decline. Phase 2 is contemporary with Buildings A and B.

Phase 3 - is also shown on the 1889 map and probably belongs to the 1870s-80s. The poorer quality has been remarked upon.

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BUILDING E PLAN HERE (FIG. 7)

4.4 Building F (NGR SM 9891 1739)

Building F is a gabled, single-storey north-south building in line with, and leading from the south end of Building E. It is in local rubble, of three bays defined by windows and doorways in all walls. All have segmental surrounds in mixed brickwork, as in elements of Building E, suggesting that the building was built new in Phase 3. It communicates with Building E via a further doorway. The building had not been significantly affected by the 2005 conversion, but the floor already lay beneath a concrete surface with a shallow drainage channel down the middle. The building may, at least at some period, have been used as a cow shed, like Building G.

4.5 Building J – Barn? (NGR SM 9889 1739)

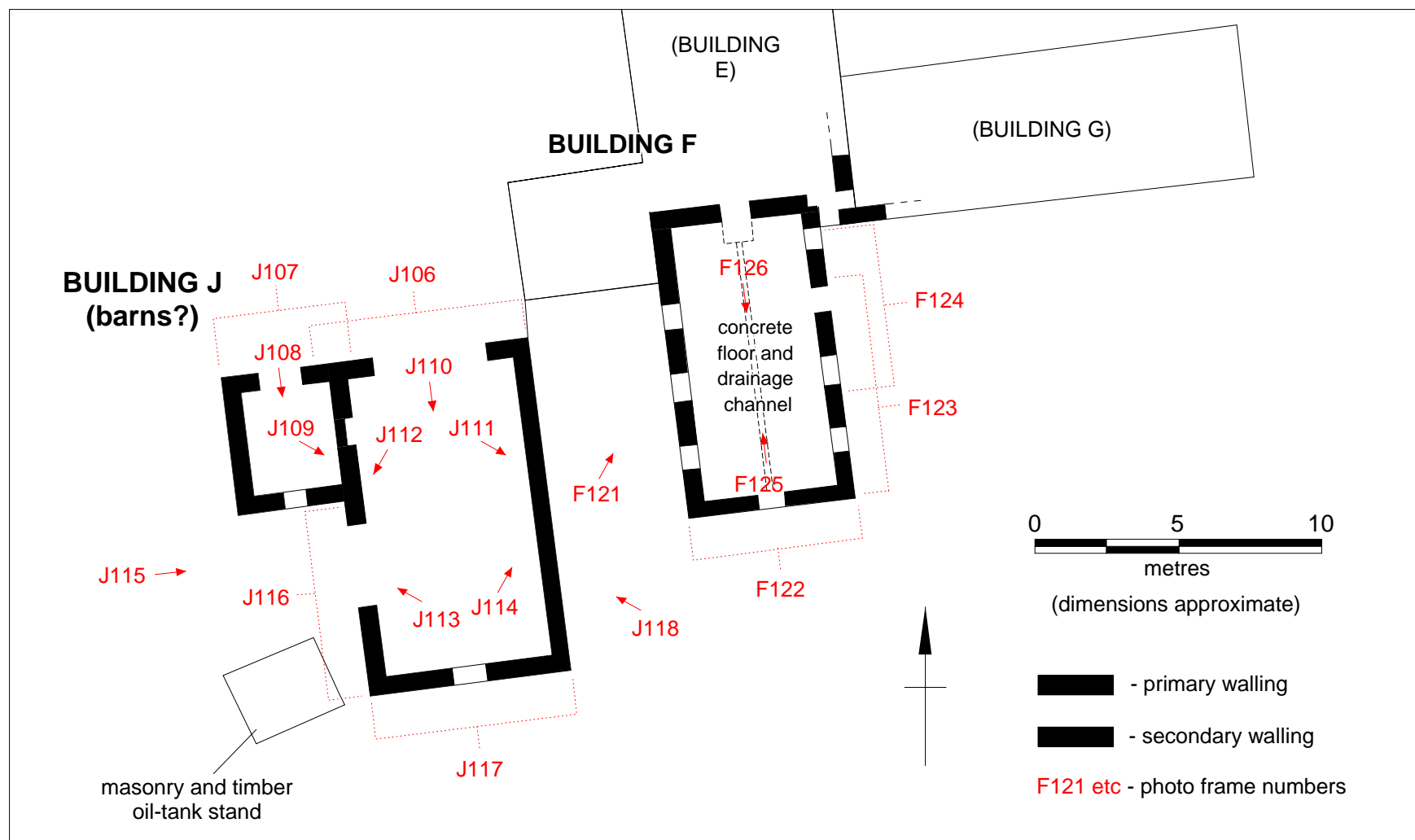
Building J was a north-south, single-storey gabled building lying immediately to the southwest of the main farmyard complex. It was later altered by the addition of a second, north-south gabled building adjoining its west side, the butt-joint between the two builds being prominent.

The original building is in rubble masonry with blue bullnose brick surrounds characteristic of Phase 2. A large vehicular entry occupies most of the north gable wall, a second, similar entry lying in the west (side) wall. There is a window in the south (gable) wall; a second window, in the west wall, was blocked when the adjoining building was added.

This additional building is smaller, but again has a wide vehicular entry in its north wall. The south wall is pierced by a window. The segmental heads in mixed brick are characteristic of Phase 3.

Both buildings may have been barns. They had not been affected by the 2005 development, and were in fair condition, but under a heavy growth of ivy.

Fig. 8 - Buildings F and J



4.6 Building G – Stable? (NGR SM 9891 1740)

A gabled, single-storey east-west building leading from the east side of Building E to form the southern side of the yard, Building G is in rubble masonry with blue bullnose brick surrounds, and is therefore assigned to Phase 2 (c.1860-1889).

Building G had not been affected by the 2005 development. It was in good condition retaining some fittings. It comprises four bays, defined by two windows and two doorways in the south wall. Its proximity to the farmhouse suggests that it may have been a stable from the first, with a loft that was lit by an original window high in the east (end) wall. The ground-floor window in the same wall is a later insertion, from Phase 3, with a red-brick surround and segmental yellow-brick head. The north wall is blind, and shows the remains of a whitewash finish relating to a later lean-to that was built against it. The lean-to appears to have belonged to Phase 3 (see Building E) but is now gone, and is represented only by its roof crease, visible on the east wall of Building E, and by the stump of its north wall at the northwest corner of Building H (see below).

Internally, Building G still possessed a number of features that, if not Phase 2, are early. Four stalls, reflecting the arrangement of bays, occupy the northern half of the building. Three of them are in timber, with upright posts at the ends of the divisions and either side of the doors. The fourth has a rendered masonry division, and features a manger. The tile floor, with a drainage channel, may be 19th century.

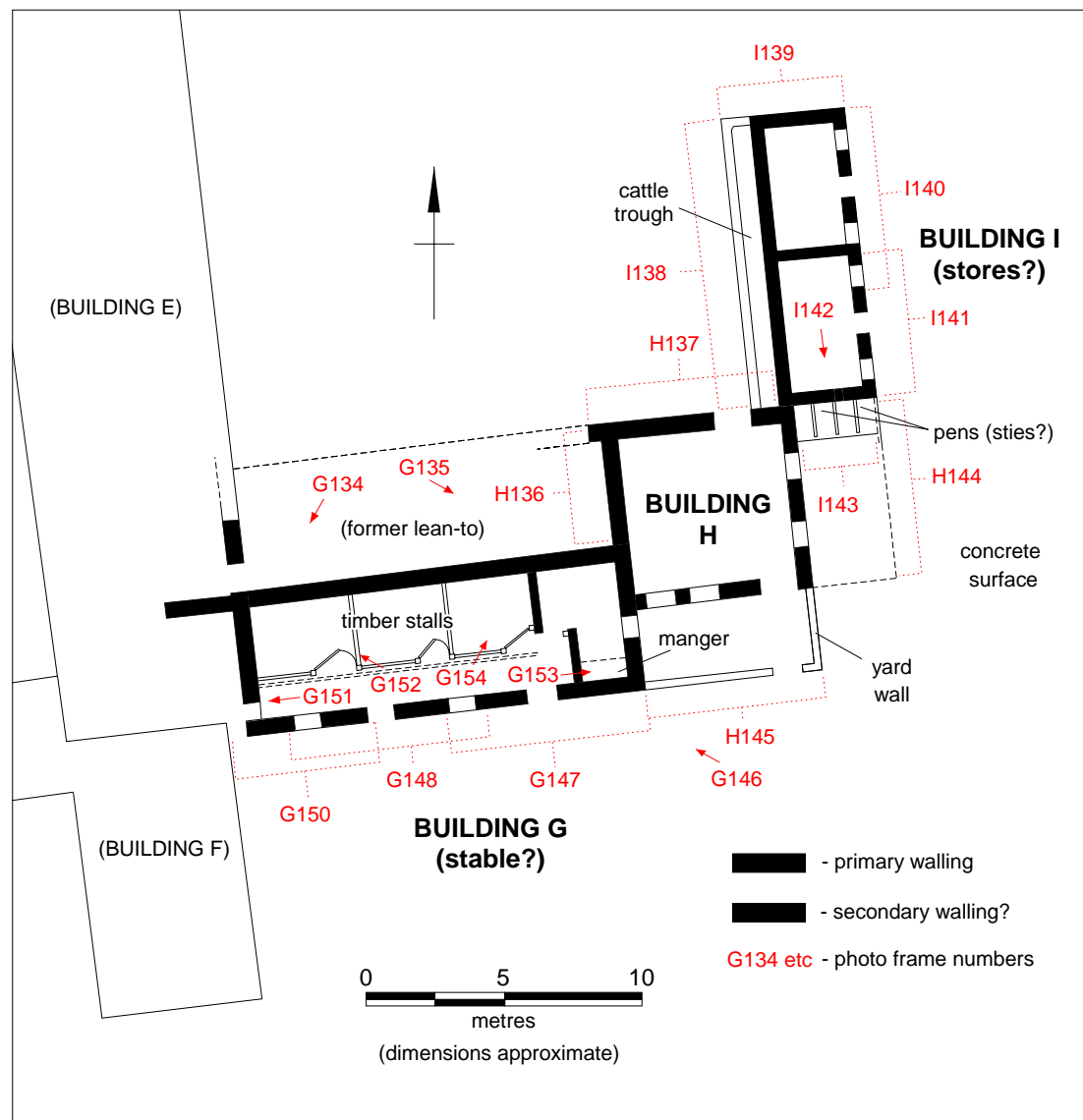
4.7 Building H (NGR SM 9892 1741)

Building H is a square, single-storey rubble building with an east-west gable, connecting the northeast corner of the pre-existing Building G with the southwest corner of Building I, with which it may be contemporary. Both Buildings H and I are shown on the 1889 Ordnance Survey map and between them, close off the southeast corner of the farmyard. There is a doorway in each of the north and south walls, and two windows each in the east and south walls. All openings have segmental heads in mixed brick, characteristic of Phase 3, and the north wall appears to be of one build with the stump of the north wall of the former lean-to against Building G, also assigned to Phase 3. There are pigeonholes high up in the east gable, reflecting those in Phase 2 work (ie. Building A etc.). The purpose of this building is not known, but it may have been a calf shed. It had not been affected by the 2005 development, and was in fair condition.

4.8 Building I (NGR SM 9893 1742)

A small, gabled, single-storey building running north-south from the northeast corner of Building H, with which it appears to be contemporary, to partly close off the east side of the farmyard. Building I is in rubble masonry, and is divided into two rooms by an internal wall. The north (end) wall, and the west (side) wall are blind, but there are four windows and two doorways in the east wall. All openings have segmental heads in mixed brick, characteristic of Phase 3, but pigeonholes above each of the end windows reflect those in Phase 2 work. A cattle trough, which may be contemporary, runs down the west wall.

Building I had not been affected by the 2005 development, and was in fair condition. Its original purpose is not known; it may always have been used for storage. However, a concrete hard stand south of the building, in the angle with Building H, features the remains of brick divisions built against the south wall,



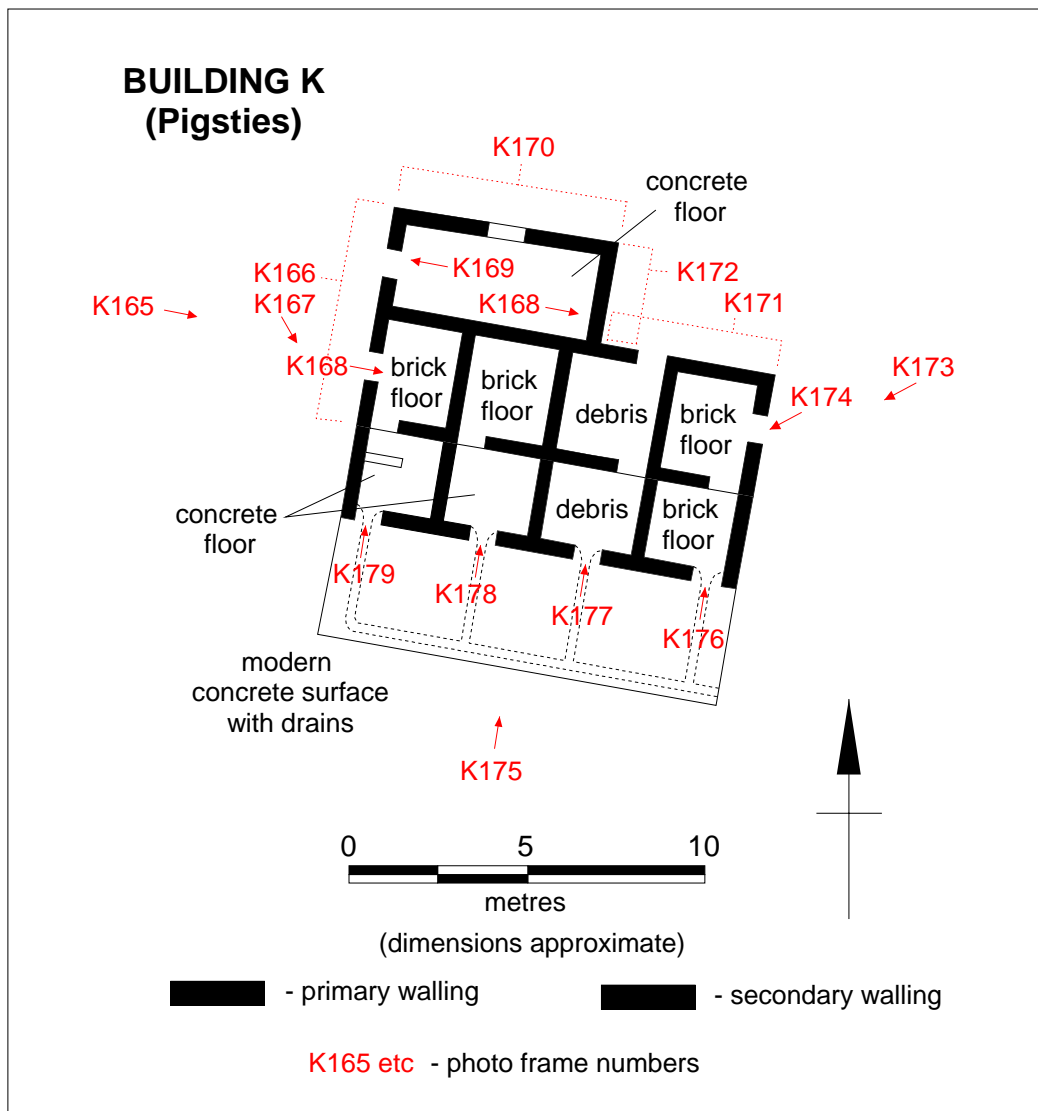
4.9 Building K – Pigsties (PRN 50820; NGR SM 9898 1737)

Building K (PRN 50814) is a pigsty, now ruinous, lying some 50 metres east of the of the main farmyard complex.

It is of rubble stone construction, originally with a slate roof, and follows a two unit plan. The pigsty, with gabled roof, includes a row of four parallel in-out sties which face on to a large stone walled enclosure c.500 sq m. The function of an adjoining unit against the rear wall, also with a gabled roof, is less clear. It may have been associated with feed storage or preparation. The building features blue bullnose brick window and door dressings, characteristic of Phase 2 (c.1860-1889), and is shown on the Ordnance Survey 1:2500 map of 1889. All floors were originally of brick, but some have been replaced with concrete. A concrete surface, with drainage channels, forms an 'apron' to the front (south) of the building; this belongs to the later 20th century.

The building had not been affected by the 2005 development, and was ruinous, roofless and partly obscured by heavy vegetation growth.

Fig. 10 - Building K

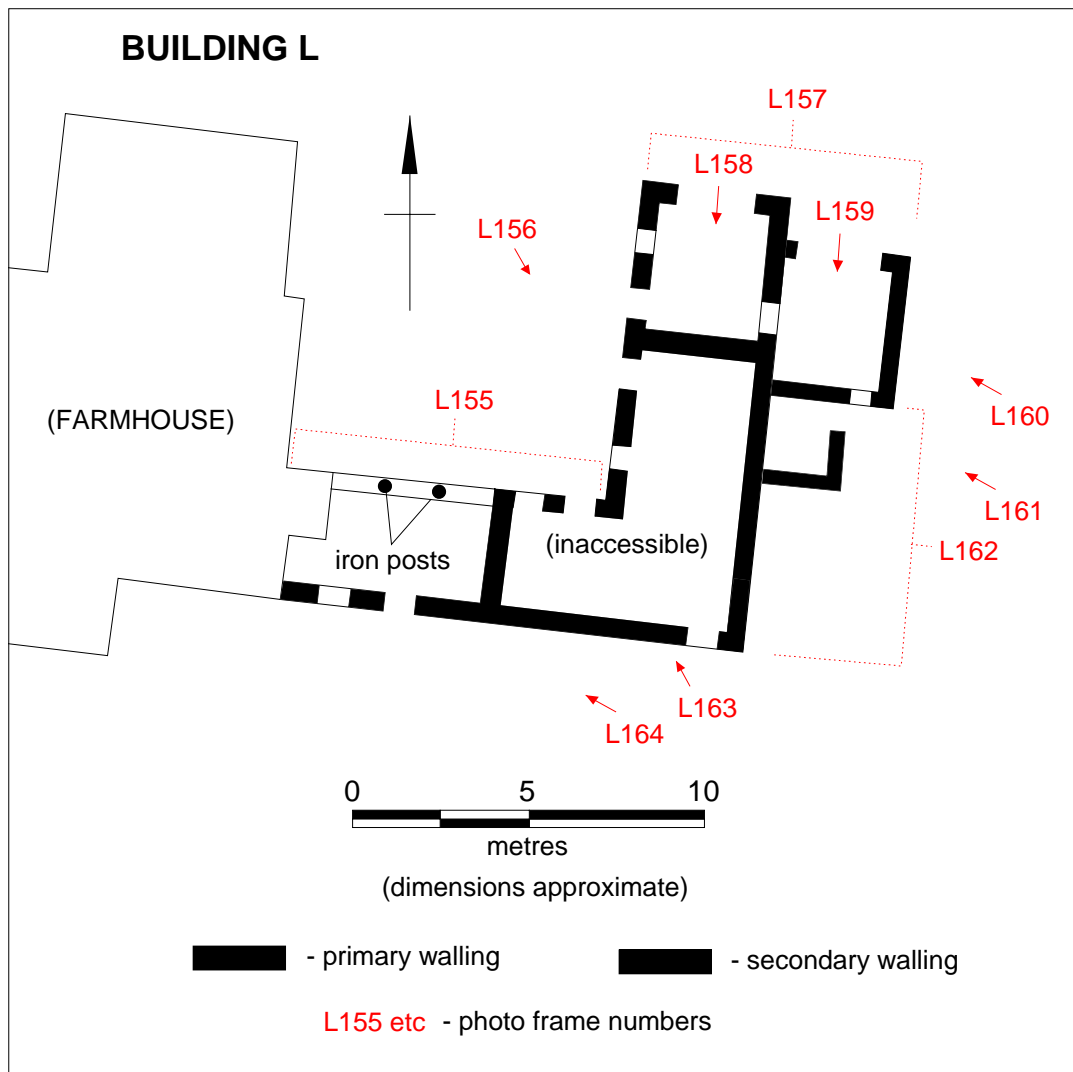


4.10 Building L (NGR SM 9896 1738)

A single-storey 'L'-shaped block east of, and adjoining the farmhouse, with the east of which it forms three sides of a square yard. Construction is in rubble masonry and roofs are slated gables. The building has been subject to much alteration, but in its original form appears to have comprised four rooms, with dividing walls, each pair at right angles. A parallel-gabled annexe, against the east wall of the north-south limb, appears to be contemporary. Original detail throughout is in mixed brick, characteristic of Phase 3, the openings having segmental heads. The northern room, and the annexe, each have wide vehicular openings in their end walls. The middle two rooms were inaccessible but are entered, and lit, from the yard. The western room was, at some point during the 20th century, radically altered with the removal of its north wall and the insertion, beneath eaves level, of three segmental relieving arches supported on two iron columns, to form an open 'verandah'.

Building I had not been affected by the 2005 development, and was largely in good condition. A small 'shed' lies in the angle between the east wall of the building and the annexe; it is ruinous but appears to be secondary. Nevertheless it is shown on the 1889 Ordnance Survey map.

Fig. 11 - Building L



5.0 CONCLUSION

Fenton Home Farm is a model farmstead of good quality buildings, of fairly high status. The buildings are grouped around a rectangular yard, lying to the north of the farmstead which, in terms of size and detail, represents a gentry-house 'mansion'. The residence is still occupied today but in October 2005 the farm buildings were derelict, and subject to conversion into residential and holiday accommodation. They were archaeologically recorded to Level 2, as a condition of the planning permission for the conversion, but conversion work was well-progressed before the recording was commissioned.

For the purposes of the archaeological recording, twelve buildings were identified, representing three building phases, the phasing being suggested by the building materials and detail. Phase I, recognisable by the use of red brick, dates from the early-mid 19th century and is represented by Buildings D and E, a cart house and a threshing barn respectively, which form the west and north sides of the farmyard. During Phase 2, which is indicated by the use of blue bullnose bricks and dates from the third quarter of the 19th century (c.1860-c.1880), the southern side of the yard was closed off by a parallel building (Building G), probably a stable, while an 'L'-shaped block of cow sheds (Buildings A and B) was built immediately north of Buildings D and E. Other phase 2 work included the construction of Building J to the southwest, probably a barn, and of a pigsty complex (Building K) to the east of the site. Phase 3 work, which was of rather poorer quality, was mainly represented by additions and alterations to these buildings, but included the partial enclosure of the east side of the farmyard by Buildings H and I.

Fig. 12 – Phase plan of buildings

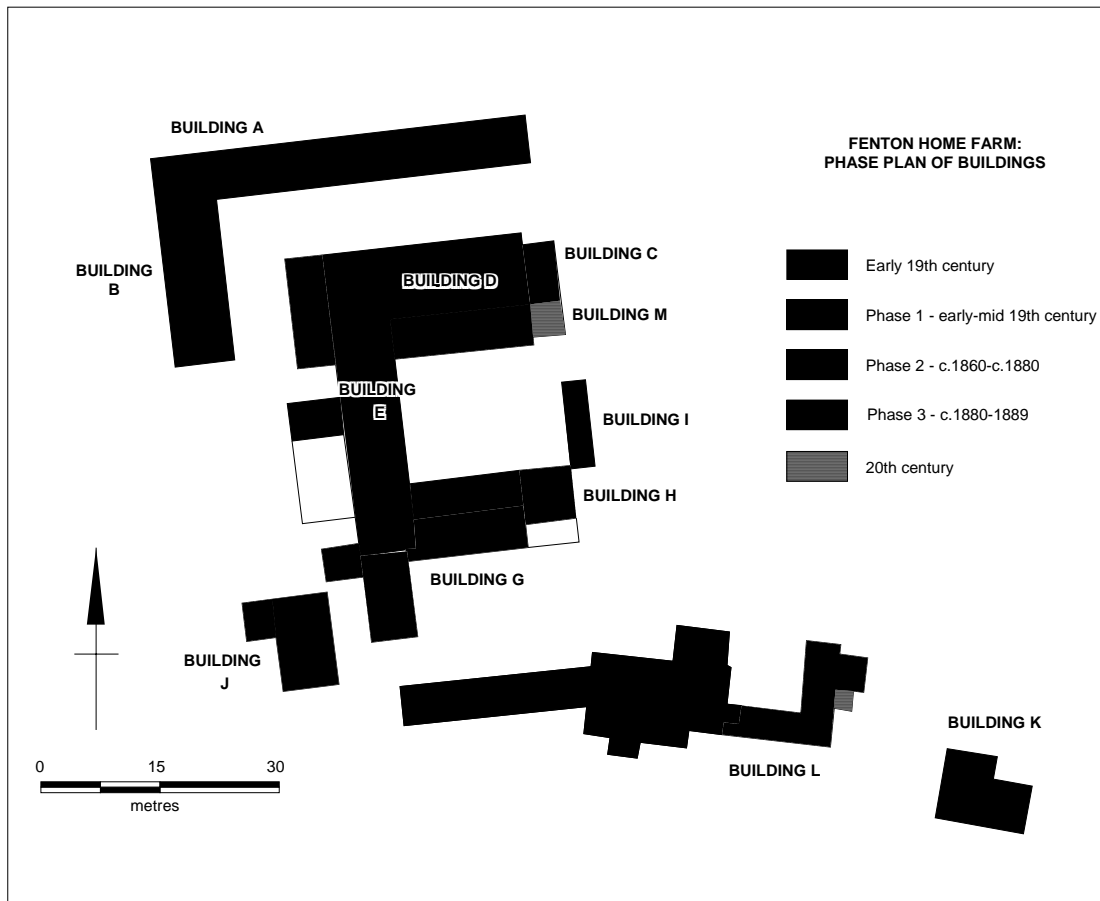


Fig. 13 - Farmhouse from north



Fig. 14 - Building F from east, Building G to right



Fig. 15 - Looking northwest towards Buildings I, D and A



*Fig. 16 – Looking west across the farmyard towards Building E;
Building M to right*



*Cambria Archaeology
Fenton Home Farm recording*

Fig. 17 – Buildings C and D from northeast, Building A to right



Fig. 18 - Looking east towards Building B; Buildings C and D to left, Building A to right



6.0 ARCHIVE DEPOSITION

The archive, indexed according to the National Monuments Record (NMR) material categories, will be deposited with the National Monuments Record, RCAHMW, Crown Buildings, Plas Crug, Aberystwth. It contains the following: -

A.1. Copy of the final report

A.4. Disk copy of report

C.2. Site drawings

D.1. Catalogue of site photographs

G.1. Source documentation

I.4. Final report - disk

M.1. Non-archaeological correspondence

There is no material for classes **B, E, F, H, J, K** and **N**.

7.0 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The fieldwork and reporting were undertaken by Neil Ludlow of Cambria Archaeology. Thanks to Steve Morgan, owner of Fenton Home Farm, and to Alice Pyper and Will Steele of Cambria Archaeology for comments on this report.

8.0 REFERENCES

Maps

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Ordnance Survey 1" Old Series, 1819, Sheet 40

Ordnance Survey 1" Old Series, 1831, Sheet 41

Ordnance Survey 1:2500, 1889, Pembrokeshire XXIII SW

Ordnance Survey 1:2500, 1889, Pembrokeshire XXVIII NW

Ordnance Survey 1:2500, 1907, Pembrokeshire XXIII SW

Ordnance Survey 1:2500, 1907, Pembrokeshire XXVIII NW

Tithe Map & Apportionment, 1838, Wiston Parish

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William, E., 1986 *The Historical Farm Buildings of Wales* (Edinburgh)

9.0 APPENDIX – COPIES OF HISTORIC MAPS

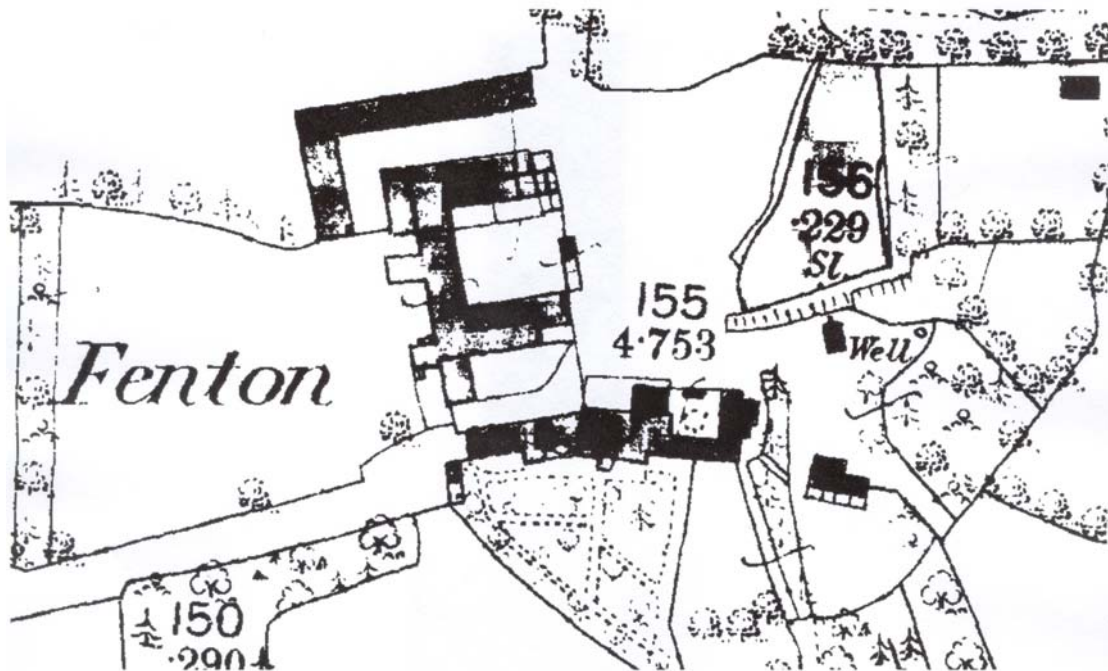
9.1 Copy of Ordnance Survey Old Series, 1831



9.2 Copy of Tithe Map, 1838, Wiston Parish



9.3 Copy of Ordnance Survey 1:2500, 1889



9.4 Copy of Ordnance Survey 1:2500, 1907

