



**Wiltshire Archaeological and Natural History Society
Archaeology Field Group**

**Report of Survey of Barn Ground Barn,
Bottom Farm, Malmesbury, Wilts.**



Barn Ground Barn, eastern aspect March 2007 (© Brian Clarke)

Surveyed 17th March 2007 under the direction of David Hughes (WBR) by the following members of the WANHS Archaeology Field Group: Lynn Amadio, Caroline & Dave Godwin, Stella Maddock, Mary Roblin, Judith Roseaman, Christina Staff, Sue & Mike Teale, Mike Williams, Sarah Morgan and Brian Clarke.

April 2007

The Barn is situated in Barn Ground at ST 933 817 in the parish of St Paul Without Malmesbury. The barn and associated field are part of Bottom Farm, Rodbourne, Malmesbury, Wiltshire, SN16 0EY.

The barn is recorded as one of a group of buildings within an enclosing boundary on the 1842 Tithe Map of Rodbourne (Figure 1), but does not appear on the Andrew's and Dury's Map of Wiltshire 1773.

Figure 1. A section of the 1842 tithe map of Rodbourne.

The Barn Ground barn is just visible at the centre of the lower edge (Picture courtesy of the Wiltshire Records Office, Trowbridge).



The barn probably dates to the first half of 19th century and is now considered a remote barn, but it may once have been part of an outlying farmstead. Constructed from course rubble, oolitic limestone, possibly from a quarry on the same estate such as that at ST 928 826. The northern side of the western aspect has a course of cut stone blocks at ground level. Later repairs are of brick and breeze block. It has a rectangular plan with 5 bays and timber lintels. The hipped roof is much repaired with reused timber and is currently covered with galvanised corrugated iron. It is possible that if it was built in the early 1800's it may originally have had an early corrugating iron roof, as corrugating iron is said to have been invented by Henry Palmer (1795-1844) in 1828 (<http://www.corrugated-iron-club-info/iron1.html>). The east facing wall has double plank doors with iron hinges. The brick surround may be a later infill as the doorway on the west side is larger. There is a weatherboard infill to the southern side of the door which is post 1989 (Figures 2 and 3) and a ventilation opening to the northern side of the door. A buttress supports the eastern end of the northern wall. The southern end of the barn is currently in a state of disrepair but had a pitching hole in 1989 (Figure 4.).

Christina Staff
23rd March 2007



Figure 2. Barn Ground barn, eastern aspect, August 2006 (© Christina Staff).

Figure 3. Barn Ground barn, eastern aspect July 1989 (© Christina Staff).



Figure 4. Barn Ground Barn, southern aspect, July 1989 (© Christina Staff).

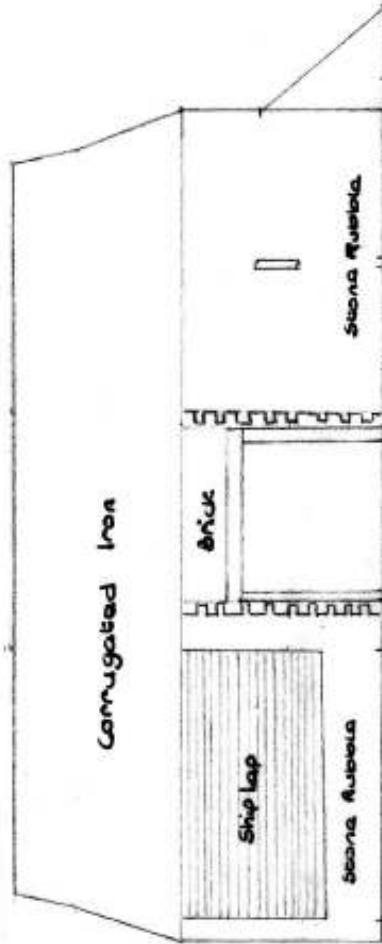
Figure 5. Barn Ground Barn,
western aspect March 2007
(© Brian Clarke)



Figure 6. Barn Ground
barn,
Roof trusses, north end.
(© Brian Clarke)

Figure 7. East Elevation – drawn by Lynn Amadio

BARNFIELD BARN,
RODBOURNE,
WILTS.
17.3.07
Grid ref. ST 932817



Scale 0 1 2 3 m

Figure 8. Plan – Drawn by Lynn Amadio

BARNFIELD BARN, — PLAN
RODBOURNE,
WILTS
17.3.07
Grid ref. ST932817

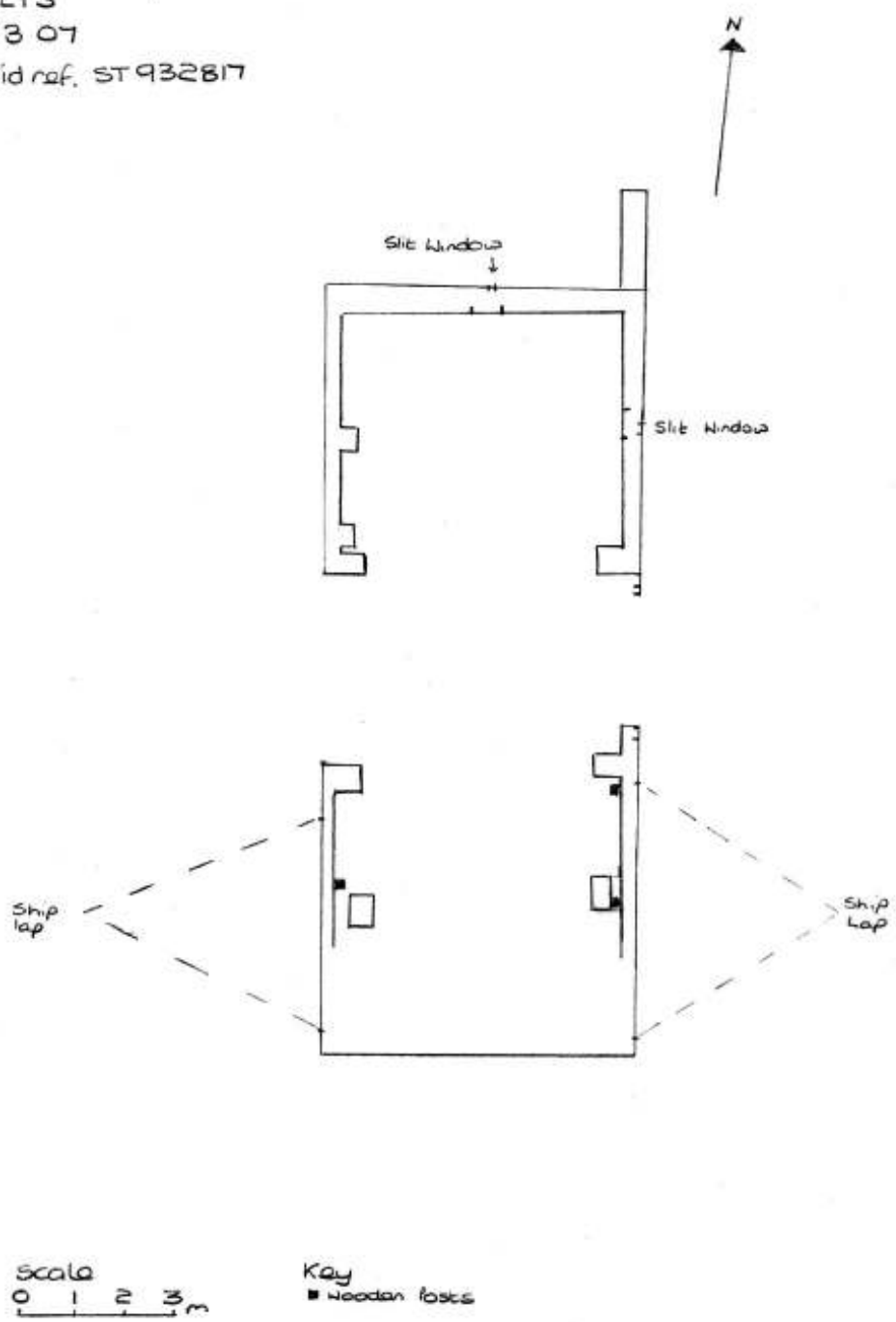


Figure 9. Cross section A-frame 1 – Drawn by Lynn Amadio

BARNFIELD BARN
RODBOURNE,
WILTS
Grid ref. ST932817
'A' FRAME 1
scale 0 1 2 3 4m

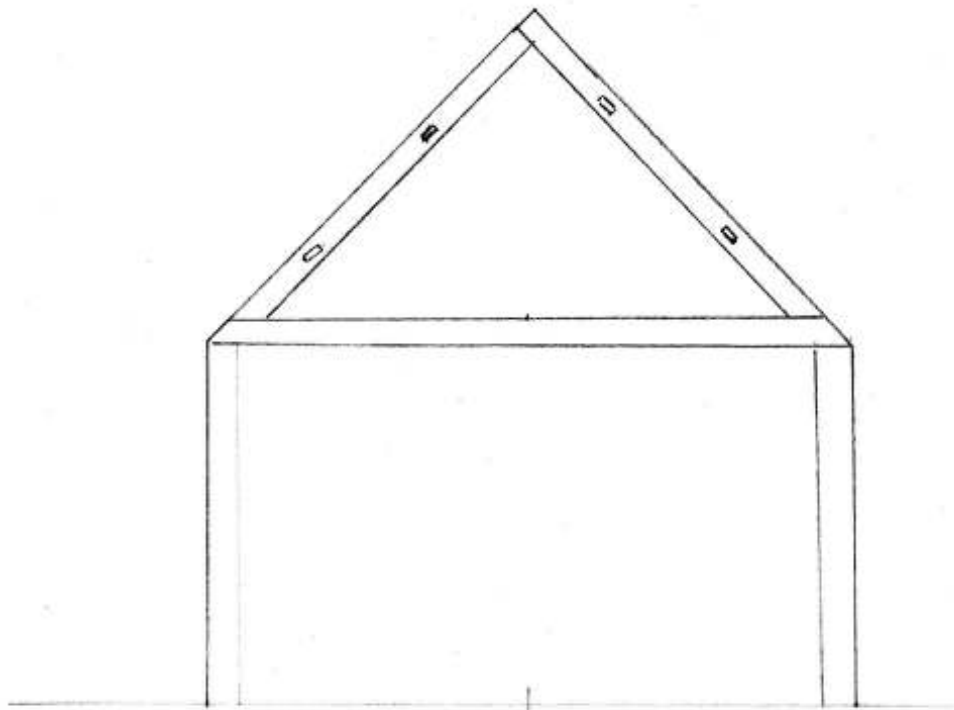
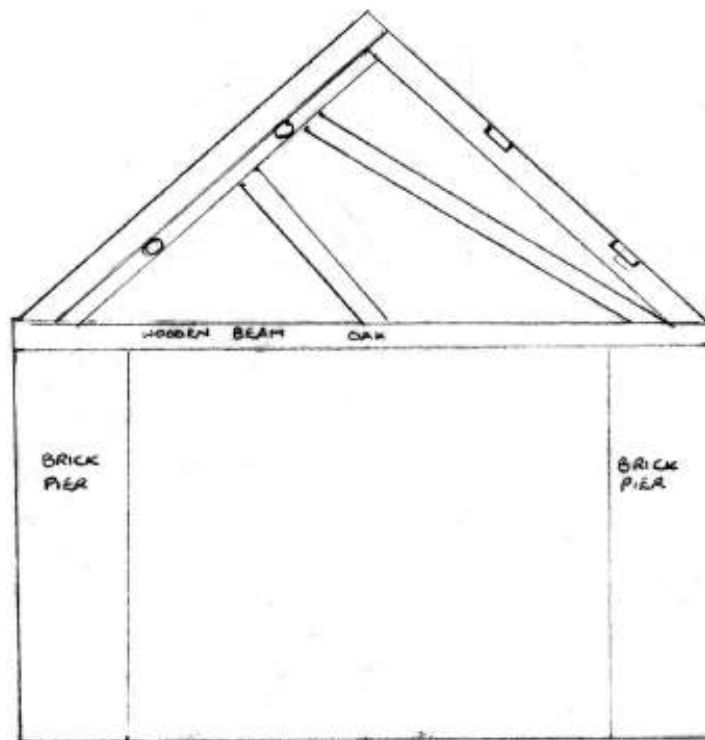
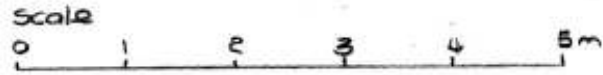


Figure 10. Cross Section A-frame 3 – Drawn by Lynn Amadio

BARNFIELD BARN, RODBOURNE, WILTS
CROSS SECTION Grid Ref ST 932 817 17.307
'A' FRAME 3



Barn Ground Barn in April 2012



Photo: Christina Staff 2012



Photo: Christina Staff 2012