

# BODLOESGOD, FFESTINIOG, GWYNEDD

[NPRN 28181]

## Architectural Record



### FINAL REPORT

January 2012



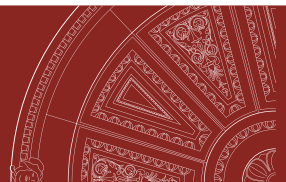
A report commissioned by  
**The North West Wales Dendrochronology Project**  
in partnership with  
**The Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historic Monuments of Wales**



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# BODLLOGED

## Ffestiniog, Gwynedd

[NPRN: 28181]

### Architectural Record

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#### Summary

*Bodlloged occupies a relatively isolated site on the north side of the Cwm Cynfal c.1km south-east of Llan Ffestiniog at an elevation of c.195m AOD, centred on NGR SH 70955 41104. It is a Grade II listed building and is included on the RCAHMW on-line database Coflein, NPRN 28181. The building was recorded in January 2012 as part of the North-West Wales Dendrochronology Project, undertaken in partnership with the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales.*

*Bodlloged originated in the middle years of the 16<sup>th</sup> century as a fully-storeyed, stone-built house of the classic 'Snowdonia' type, viz. Smith's 'Type A' end chimney plan. The house comprised a three-bay, two-unit plan with two-bay hall to the north side of a cross-passage between opposing doors in the lateral walls, heated by a mural fireplace in the north gable end and, to the south, an unheated parlour and service room. The surviving partition wall at the southern end of the hall is of post-and-panel form and of superior quality with moulded uprights and paired, four-centred doors. First floor level, reached by means of an integral stone winder-stair to the west of the main fireplace was divided to form two chambers, a small, unheated one-bay chamber to the north at the head of the stair, and the principal chamber occupying the two southern bays, heated by a fireplace in the south gable end and spanned by an open, collar beam truss. The partition between first floor chambers was of stud and rail construction with infill panels of wattle and daub. Dendrochronological analysis has established a date of 1561 or within a year or two of this date for the construction of the Snowdonia plan house.*

*At ground floor level, modifications have been relatively minor, involving the partitioning off of a small area of the primary hall to form a small entrance lobby, the reorganisation of the lower bay and changes to the doors of the primary post and panel partition. At first floor level, the primary plan of two unequal chambers has been extensively modified and a central passage introduced serving a series of smaller rooms, all ceiled below collar level. None of the modifications can be securely dated though the presence of stencilled panels to the west wall of the first floor axial passage suggests an 18<sup>th</sup>-/early 19<sup>th</sup>-century date for modifications at that level.*

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## 1 INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background to the Project

- 1.1.1 Bodlloged,<sup>1</sup> Ffestiniog, Gwynedd was recorded in January 2012 as part of the North-West Wales Dendrochronology Project,<sup>2</sup> undertaken in partnership with the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historic Monuments of Wales (RCAHMW).

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<sup>1</sup> Rendered variously as Bod Lloged, Bodloesygad, Bodloesgod; see fn.4

- 1.1.2 Bodllosged occupies a relatively isolated site on the north side of the Cwm Cynfal c.1km south-east of Llan Ffestiniog at an elevation of c.195m AOD, centred on NGR SH 70955 41104 (Figures 1 and 2). It is a Grade II listed building (CADW Listed Building ID 5209)<sup>3</sup> and, as such, is accepted as being of national significance, while it is also included on the RCAHMW on-line database Coflein, 28181.<sup>4</sup> The house was featured in Peter Smith's *Houses of the Welsh Countryside* (1988, see Figure 3).
- 1.1.3 The current building recording project was undertaken subsequent to a programme of dendrochronological sampling, undertaken by the Oxford Dendrochronology Laboratory in August 2011 (Bridge 2011; see section §.5).

## 1.2 Scope of Report

- 1.2.1 The Historic Building Record was undertaken in accordance with a 'Design Brief for Historic Building Recording' prepared by the Project Director; a copy of the brief is included below as **Appendix A**.
- 1.2.2 This report outlines the results of the building survey, and has been prepared in accordance with English Heritage guidelines as published in *Understanding Historic Buildings: A Guide to Good Recording Practice* (EH, 2006), the Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for the Archaeological Recording of Standing Buildings or Structures* (IfA, 2008) and the Association of Local Government Archaeological Officers' *Analysis and Recording for the Conservation of Works to Historic Buildings* (ALGAO, 1997).
- 1.2.3 This report has been prepared based upon information current and available as of January 2012.

## 2 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 2.1 The general objective of the architectural record, as outlined in the design brief, was to generate a drawn, photographic and written record of Bodllosged to compliment the dendrochronological study, previously completed.
- 2.2 Specific aims of the recording action are listed at section §.5 of the project brief, reproduced at **Appendix A** below.

## 3 METHODOLOGY

### 3.1 Documentary Research

- 3.1.1 No programme of documentary research into the building has been undertaken as part of the current Historic Building Record.

### 3.2 Historic Building Record

- 3.2.1 The Historic Building Record comprised an exterior and interior examination of the structure of the house and the compilation of drawn, photographic and written records of the same as follows:

#### *The Drawn Record*

- 3.2.2 Measured plans were generated on site at principal floor levels, marking significant architectural and

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<sup>2</sup> <http://www.datingoldwelshhouses.co.uk/>

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.britishlistedbuildings.co.uk/wa-5209-bodloesygad-ffestiniog>, date of listing 10<sup>th</sup> May 1988.

<sup>4</sup> <http://www.coflein.gov.uk/en/site/28181/details/BOD+LLOSGED%3BBODLOESYGAD/>

archaeological detail, together with transverse cross sections at the two principal trusses. Drawings were prepared on site at a scale of 1:50, using pencil on archival stable drafting film, measurements being captured by a combination of hand tape and hand-held laser measurement. A register of project drawings is included below as **Appendix B**.

#### *The Photographic Record*

- 3.2.3 The photographic record comprised high resolution digital photography using a Nikon D3000 digital single lens reflex camera (10MP) and was commensurate with a 'Level 3' record as defined by English Heritage (2006, 14), extending to include both general and detail shots, contextual views and accessible exterior elevations, visible structural and decorative details (interior and exterior), and general interior views of principal rooms and circulation areas. Where possible, photographs included graded photographic scales. All photographs were recorded on *pro-forma* recording sheets detailing subject, orientation, photographer and date. A register of project photographs is included below as **Appendix C**; digital copies of photographs in \*.jpg format are included on CD appended to the rear cover of the report.

#### *The Written Record*

- 3.2.4 To accompany the drawn and photographic records, a written account of the house was made as free text; this forms the basis of the following description.

## **4 BUILDING DESCRIPTION**

### **4.1 Overview**

- 4.1.1 Bodllosged is essentially of a single phase with limited modifications. The house is built on a rectangular plan aligned approximately NE-SW, though this has been simplified for the purposes of the following description and discussion such that the range is assumed to be aligned north-south, with the principal entry via the east elevation (see Figure 4). It is stone built of 1½ storeys beneath a pitched, slate-clad roof, gabled to north and south with ridge stacks above the end gables (Plate 1).

### **4.2 The Exterior**

- 4.2.1 The house is built on a rectangular plan with exterior measurements of 11.25m (37ft) north-south x 7.5m (24½ ft) east-west and standing 7m tall from interior floor level to ridge. The **east elevation** (Plate 2) is stone-built of rubble construction, rising to 1½ storeys above an offset boulder footing beneath a pitched, slate-clad roof, gabled to north and south; ridge stacks rise above the northern and southern gables, that to the north being the larger, principal stack serving the ground floor fireplace. The principal doorway (Plate 3) is offset towards the south end of the range, and is furnished with a roughly semi-circular head of stone voussoirs of a type similar to nearby Bryn Yr Odyn<sup>5</sup> of c.1557 and Cwm Farm.<sup>6</sup> Ground floor fenestration comprises a small, square opening to the south with monolithic stone head (Plate 4), while a larger window to the north of the door houses a 9-pane fixed light with a single opening panel; the first floor is lit by two inserted, gabled semi-dormers housing two-light timber casements. While the windows have been renewed throughout, it would appear that all openings reflect primary locations.
- 4.2.2 The **west elevation** (Plate 5) closely reflects the arrangements of the east front. It is again stone-built of rubble construction, rising to 1½ storeys above an offset boulder footing (Plate 6) to a pitched, slate-clad roof, gabled to north and south and with ridge stacks rising above the gable ends. A former doorway, offset towards the south of the elevation, and opposing the principal doorway to the east, has been blocked (Plate 7); it is of smaller dimensions than the eastern door though it displays the same distinctive

<sup>5</sup> NPRN 28829: <http://www.coflein.gov.uk/en/site/28229/details/BRYN-YR-ODYN%3B+BRYNRODYN/>

<sup>6</sup> NPRN 28320: <http://www.coflein.gov.uk/en/site/28320/details/CWM+FARM%2C+CWM+CYNFAL/>

vousoired head. Ground floor fenestration comprises a small, square opening to the south while a larger window to the north houses a 2/2 double-hung horned sash; the first floor is lit by two windows set hard beneath the eaves, that to the south retains its original aspect (Plate 8) though that to the north has been enlarged. Again, all openings would appear to reflect primary locations.

- 4.2.3 The **north** and **south elevations** (Plates 9 and 10) present blind gables of stone rubble construction above projecting boulder footings, capped by square ridge stacks.

### 4.3 The Interior

#### *Ground Floor* (Figure 4)

- 4.3.1 Internally, the house is arranged on a three bay (here numbered 1 to 3 from south to north), two-unit plan. Access to the **ground floor** level is via the original doorway opening offset towards the southern end of the east elevation (Plate 3), which opens onto lobby [GF01] (Plates 11/12), formed by the closing in of the south-east corner of Bay 2 with studwork partitions. Doors lead to north and south onto [GF02] and kitchen [GF03] respectively. The south wall of [GF01] comprises the eastern part of a finely detailed, primary post-and-panel partition (Plate 11) which survives almost entirely intact, continuing within [GF02] to the west (Plate 14) and the rear of which is exposed in [GF03] (Plate 20) and [GF04]. The screen is made up of vertical posts, 10in. to 1ft wide x 3in. deep, regularly spaced at c.2ft centres with planking panel infill let into grooves within the lateral faces of the posts. The northern face of the posts are moulded throughout (see Figure 4 inset profile **B**). Paired doorways are located to the centre of the screen, separated by a single post forming a common jamb (Figure 6); the western door survives intact within [GF02], where it has been modified to form a shallow cupboard, retaining its original timber four-centred head (Plate 15), set low at only 1.50m (5ft) above interior floor level. The eastern door, serving kitchen [GF03], is wider and the original head has been reset somewhat higher – the original, double-pegged socket survives to the primary jambs, however, most clearly visible within [GF03] (see Plates 22/3) indicating an original low height, similar to the western door.
- 4.3.2 To the north side of the transverse post and panel partition, Bays 2 and 3 originally comprised a single space [GF02] (Plate 13) constituting the main hall, though this has been encroached upon at the south-east by the introduction of walls forming lobby [GF01], previously noted. The main hall of the house was lit by windows in the lateral walls at Bay 3 and heated by the wide mural fireplace in the north gable wall, to the west of which an integral stone winder-stair rises to first floor level (Plate 16). The ceiling over the hall is carried on a massive central transverse beam (1ft wide x 14 in. deep; Plate 17), plain chamfered with stepped run-outs, by a plain chamfered beam (11 x 6in.) above the fireplace and by a moulded beam (10 x 4in.) at the head of the southern screen wall. The upper floor is carried by a total of 16 common joists, 4½ x 3½ in. scantling at 1ft centres with moulded soffits matching the detailing of the partition posts (Plate 18; see Figure 4 inset profile **A**).
- 4.3.3 Beyond the post and panel partition to the south, Bay 1 is currently occupied by two rooms, kitchen [GF03] (Plate 19) and bathroom [GF04]; this bi-partite plan reflects a historic division, though the original partition was located 1m to the west on the axis of the range, where pegged mortices and a groove within the soffit of an axial ceiling beam (Plate 21) evidence a former post and panel partition. Each primary room would thus originally have been served by one of the paired doorways in the screen wall. The posts of the transverse partition and ceiling joists of the original south-west room are plain (Plate 20) while to the south-east, all are moulded reflecting a distinction in status between the two rooms, presumably service to west, parlour to east.

#### *First Floor* (Figures 5)

- 4.3.4 **First floor** level is accessed via the winder stair adjacent to the northern mural fireplace (Plates 16 and 24) which rises to a first floor axial passage [1F01] (Plate 25). In its present state, the first floor is divided to

form three bedrooms ([1F02-04]) with a small store [1F05] to the west, all accessed from [1F01]. This layout pays little respect to the original arrangements, however, which would have been on a two-unit plan with two-bay chamber to the south and single bay room to the north at the head of the stair, reversing the pattern of room division of the ground floor. The ogee-stopped western jamb (with iron pintles to the south) and head of a central primary door within the original partition between upper rooms survives, partly incorporated into the west wall of [1F01] (Plate 26), set below the northern roof truss **T2** with a primary wattle and daub infill panel over. A triple-pegged mortice within the post forming this jamb, visible within [1F04] indicates a former rail.

- 4.3.5 The principal bedroom [1F02] is located within Bay 1 to the south of the range, lit by windows within the lateral walls and heated by a projecting mural fireplace within the south gable wall (Figure 6; Plate 27). The eastern widow is an insertion, forming a gabled semi-dormer, though that to the west, small and square set hard beneath the eaves, represents an original opening (Plate 28). To the east, the foot of the eastern principal rafter of truss **T1** is exposed, the lower arrises being here plain chamfered (Plate 29).<sup>7</sup>
- 4.3.6 The lower principals of **T2** are exposed within [1F03] and [1F04] to east and west respectively (Plates 30/31), again plain-chamfered and each including two halved joints to their northern face formerly receiving vertical studwork infill (implied 6in. studs at 18in. to 2ft centres, halved and lapped, single-pegged).<sup>8</sup> Exposed to the west, south and east walls of bedroom [1F04] are a number of decorated planks with stencilled paintwork and borders in imitation of wallpaper (Plate 32), probably of 18<sup>th</sup> or early 19<sup>th</sup>-century date (Suggett R, *pers. comm.*; see Kightly 2005, 61);<sup>9</sup> to the west, the decorated planks extend onto the soffit of the roofslope.

#### Roof (Figures 6 and 7)

- 4.3.7 The roof is of three bays (here numbered 1 to 3 from south to north) defined by two primary collar beam trusses, **T1** and **T2** to south and north respectively. Truss **T1** (Figure 6; Plates 32/3), above the primary principal chamber, was originally open; principals (14in. x 5in. scantling) rise to a bridled apex (triple-pegged) and are joined by a collar beam (set somewhat higher than that in **T2**; Plate 33), secured with seven closely set pegs to the principals (Plate 34). Truss **T2** (Figure 7; Plate 35) is similarly of collar beam form, the collar being here set slightly lower than to the south, secured by five pegs to the principals (Plate 36) and with plain raking-struts, double-pegged, over (Plate 35). The lower arrises of the collar are plain chamfered and include further halved and lapped studs (some cut off) to the northern face (Plates 36/7) indicating that the truss was originally closed; a section of wattle and daub infill survives beneath the central section of the collar, also visible at first floor level above the primary doorway within [1F01].
- 4.3.8 The roof is carried on two tiers of through purlins (9in. x 3½ in.), trenched into the outer face of the principal and a square section ridge piece (4in. x 4in.), notched into the apex. Side purlins are scarfed using a plain, splayed joint, single-pegged (Plate 38), no evidence for longitudinal wind-bracing was recorded. Wide section, machine-cut common rafters measure 4in. x 2½ in. and are set at 18in. centres, c.6 per bay.

## 5 TREE-RING DATING

- 5.1 A programme of tree-ring dating was undertaken by the Oxford Dendrochronology Laboratory in August 2011 (Bridge, 2011). Samples were taken from both roof trusses, the bresummer of the first floor fireplace and from the ground floor ceiling; samples are summarised in tabulated form overleaf and locations are indicated in Figures 4-7.

<sup>7</sup> The western principal rafter foot is also discernible, though much obscured by shelving.

<sup>8</sup> Further halved and lapped joints and cut-off studs survive at attic level (see Figure 7; Plate 36/7; section §.4.3.8 below)

<sup>9</sup> A technique related to the bypassing of wallpaper tax, introduced in 1712 and not fully abolished until 1836.



Sample number	Timber and position	Date of series	H/S boundary date	Sapwood complement	No of rings	Felling date range
*blg01	Collar <b>T2</b>	1418-1515	---	---	98	after 1526
*blg02	East principal <b>T2</b>	1404-1500	---	---	97	after 1511
*blg03	East strut <b>T2</b>	1399-1508	---	---	110	after 1519
blg04	East principal <b>T1</b>	---	---	H/S+21NM	64	---
*blg05	Collar <b>T1</b>	1378-1517	1517	H/S	140	1528-1558
*blg06	FP bresummer, [1F02]	1380-1540	1540	H/S	161	1551-1581
*blg07	Main transverse ceiling beam, [GF02]	1386-1560	1522	38%C	175	Spring 1561
*blg08i	North ceiling beam, [GF02]	1368-1435	---	---	68	after 1446
* = included in site master <b>BODLSYGD</b>		<b>1368-1560</b>			<b>193</b>	

Table 1:

Summary of Dendrochronological samples (from Bridge, 2011, table 1).

Key: H/S bdry = heartwood/sapwood boundary - last heartwood ring date; C = complete sapwood, winter felled; ½C = complete sapwood, felled the following summer; NM= not measured.

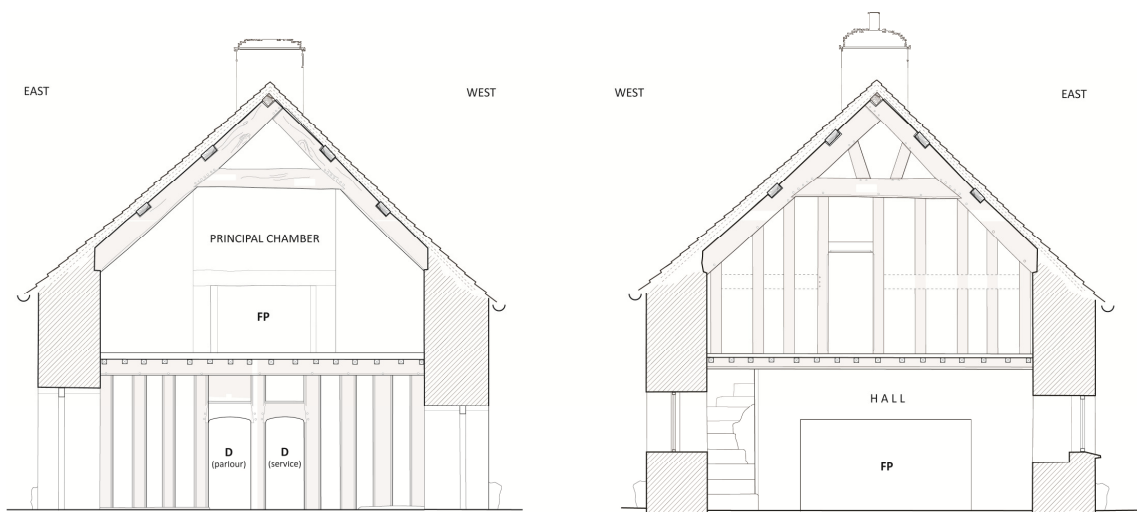
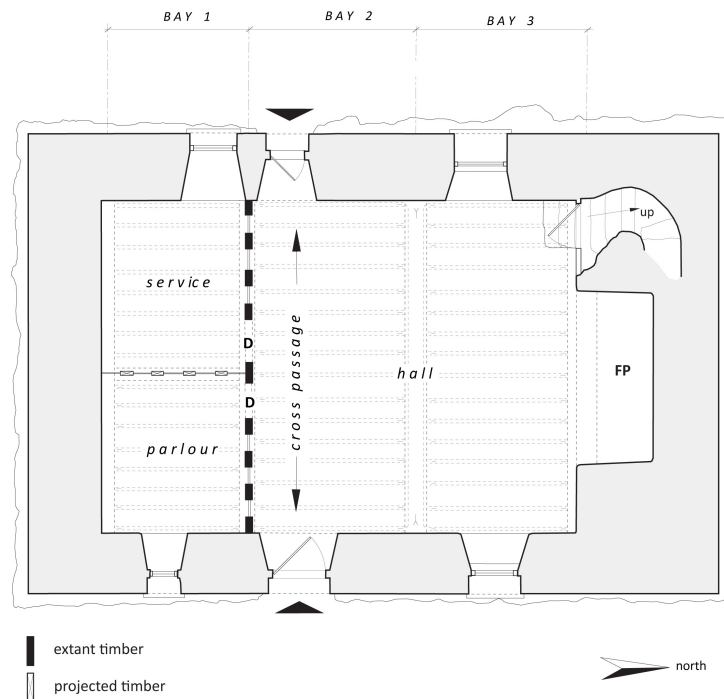
- 5.2 Seven timbers from the roof structure and the ground floor ceiling matched each other and produced a site master chronology spanning 193 years (1368-1560). One timber retained complete sapwood having been felled in 1561; other timbers where the heartwood/sapwood boundary was present have felling ranges incorporating this date, so it seems likely that construction took place in **1561** or within a year or two of this date.

## 6 INTERPRETATION

### 6.1 Origins

- 6.1.1 Bodlloged originated in the middle years of the 16<sup>th</sup> century as a fully-storeyed, stone-built house on the classic 'Snowdonia' plan, viz. Smith's 'Type A' end chimney plan; (Smith 1988, 157). The house comprised a three-bay, two-unit plan with two-bay hall to the north side of a cross-passage between opposing doors, heated by a mural fireplace in the north gable end and, to the south, an unheated parlour and service room (see sketch plan overleaf).<sup>10</sup> The surviving partition wall defining the lower end of the hall is of post-and-panel form and of superior quality with moulded uprights and paired, four-centred doors.
- 6.1.2 The range was fully storeyed, the first floor level being reached by means of an integral stone winder-stair to the west of the main fireplace in the north gable. First floor level was divided to form two chambers, a small, unheated one-bay chamber to the north, at the head of the stair and the principal chamber occupying the two southern bays, heated by a fireplace in the south gable end and spanned by an open, collar beam truss. The partition between first floor chambers, beneath **T2** (closed and with v-struts above collar level) was of stud and rail construction with infill panels of wattle and daub, though the precise details of the partition have been lost; a total of nine vertical studs are indicated by cut-off timbers and/or redundant halved joints to collar/principal rafters but the arrangement of horizontal rails is not so clear, being evidenced only by a single mortice within the western post beneath the collar of **T2**. It is not readily apparent whether the horizontal members formed short rails between full-height posts/studs or whether longer rails were combined with two part vertical studs. The former arrangement is illustrated in field drawings prepared by Peter Smith and Dylan Roberts in 1969,<sup>11</sup> though the triple-pegging of the surviving rail mortice and single pegging to the uprights may suggest the latter arrangement is more likely; in the absence of definitive evidence, both have been illustrated in the reconstructed cross-sections overleaf.

<sup>10</sup> Parlour to south-east and service room to south-west, clearly distinguished by variations in the quality and detailing of the carpentry.  
<sup>11</sup> NMR Cat. No. C441166.



*Bodlloged: Primary arrangements, ground floor plan and reconstructed transverse cross-sections, T1 (left) and T2 (right)*

## 6.2 Modifications

- 6.2.1 At ground floor level, modifications have been relatively minor - the major change being the subdivision of Bay 1, altered from a symmetrical plan of two rooms of equal size to the present, asymmetrical arrangement housing kitchen and bathroom. The western door of the post-and-panel screen has been blocked off to form a shallow cupboard and the head of the eastern door has been raised, though the partition remains otherwise intact. Ephemeral stud partitions have been inserted to the south-east corner

of the primary hall to create an enclosed lobby. At first floor level, the primary plan of two unequal chambers has been extensively modified and a central passage introduced serving a series of smaller rooms, all ceiled below collar level.

- 6.2.2 None of the modifications can be securely dated though the presence of stencilled panels to the west wall of the first floor axial passage (visible within [1F04]) suggests an 18<sup>th</sup>-/early 19<sup>th</sup>-century date for the rearrangement of this level.

### 6.3 Conclusion

- 6.3.1 Bodllosged represents a well preserved example of a classic 'Snowdonia plan' house and retains a number of features of note, in particular the finely detailed ground floor partition with paired doorways. Modifications to the primary building are not overly intrusive, and the original plan remains easily readable from the extant fabric. Though the original layout at first floor level has been lost, the inclusion of stencilled planking within the inserted partition walls at this level is itself of interest and adds to the cumulative historical and aesthetic value of the building.
- 6.3.2 It is fortunate that dendrochronological analysis has been able to establish a firm date of 1561, or within a year or two of that date, for the construction of the primary house.

## 7 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- 7.1 The project was commissioned by Mrs Margaret Dunn, Project Director of the North-West Wales Dendrochronology Project, to whom thanks are given for help and cooperation throughout. Thanks also to Mr Adam and Mrs Penny Rattenbury, owners of Bodllosged, for forbearance and generous hospitality during the course of survey work and to Mr Richard Suggett of the RCAHMW for comments on the draft text of the current report.
- 7.2 Site recording and assessment were undertaken by Mr Ric Tyler AlFA who also wrote, collated and illustrated the current report.

## 8 SOURCES

### a) Published Sources

ALGAO, 1997. *Analysis and Recording for the Conservation of Works to Historic Buildings*.

English Heritage, 2006. *Understanding Historic Buildings: A Guide to Good Recording Practice*.

Institute for Archaeologists, 2008. *Standard and Guidance for the Archaeological recording of Standing Buildings and Structures*. University of Reading, IfA.

Kightly C, 2005. *Living Rooms: Interior Decoration in Wales 400-1960*. Cardiff, Cadw.

Smith P, 1988. *Houses of the Welsh Countryside: A Study in Historical Geography*. 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition. RCAHMW, Aberystwyth

### b) Unpublished Sources

Bridge M, 2011. 'The Tree-ring Dating of Bodloesygad, Ffestiniog, Gwynedd'. Oxford Dendrochronology Laboratory report No. **2011/\*\***.

### c) Online Sources

- <http://www.britishlistedbuildings.co.uk>
- [www.coflein.gov.uk](http://www.coflein.gov.uk)
- <http://datingoldwelshhouses.co.uk>

## APPENDIX A: Project Brief

### DATING OLD WELSH HOUSES NORTH WEST WALES DENDROCHRONOLOGY PROJECT DESIGN BRIEF FOR HISTORIC BUILDING RECORDING.

#### 1 Project Background

- 1.1 The North West Wales Dendrochronology Project (2009-2012) aims to identify, sample and date using dendrochronology, and record Tudor buildings with suitable original timber. Volunteers will undertake documentary research and the results will be widely disseminated and deposited in regional Historic Environment Records (HERs) and Coflein. The copyright of all project reports and materials will belong to the Project.
- 1.2 Project Phase 1 [September 2009 - June 2010] will include buildings in the following areas i) parts of south Denbighshire; ii) Anglesey; iii) parts of Arfon & Dwyfor in Gwynedd. Project Phase 2 [April 2010 – March 2012] will include buildings in iv) Conwy, v) parts of Merioneth in Gwynedd and vi) some possibly other buildings across the region.
- 1.4 Grants have been obtained for the Project costs from a wide range of organisations, each with their own conditions. In order to meet these conditions it was necessary as part of the grant application to identify potential buildings and obtain the owner's written permission. A long list of potential buildings has been drawn up for each area, with a short list in order of potential priority.

#### 2 Site Locations

- 2.1 The dendrochronologists will block several days work in an area. They will visit the buildings on the short list for that area in order of priority and will determine whether or not there are sufficient suitable timbers to sample. They will move down the priority short list visiting and sampling buildings until the money allocated for dendrochronology in that area has been used.
- 2.2 As it will not be certain beforehand how many building phases are contained within any particular building, it cannot be stated how many buildings will be involved. See the accompanying letter. There may be additional buildings located elsewhere.
- 2.3 Most of the buildings are scattered farmhouses, but in some areas town houses will be included.
- 2.4 Some may have already been surveyed in detail by RCAHMW or others.

#### 3 Background of each Site

- 3.1 As part of 1.4., existing sources of information were consulted. This included the RCAHMW inventories and records, Cadw listed building schedules and local knowledge. All buildings were visited. Most but not all buildings are listed grade II or II\*.
- 3.2 The teams of trained volunteers will be undertaking further documentary research whilst the professional dendrochronology and building recording work proceeds.

3.3 Some recording may take place alongside the dendrochronologists and / or the volunteers.

#### **4 General Requirements**

4.1 The building recording must be undertaken by an appropriately qualified individual or organisation, fully experienced in work of this character. Access to small awkward loft spaces may be necessary.

4.2 Contractors and sub-contractors are expected to

- i) conform to standard professional guidelines;
- ii) meet all Health and Safety requirements, including the Project's risk assessments;
- iii) possess current adequate insurance cover

4.3 If contingencies arise, such as the need for additional work to record unexpected and important features, the Project Director should be contacted immediately and before any additional work is undertaken.

4.4 Many people in North Wales speak Welsh as their first language, and many of the archive and documentary references are in Welsh. Contractors should therefore give due consideration to their ability to understand and converse in Welsh.

#### **5 Building Detail Record of each Building**

5.1 The amount of recording required will depend on what has already been undertaken by RCAHMW or others. The aim is to provide sufficient information of the early historic features to identify their significance. Detailed recording will be reserved for components which have been dendro-dated during this Project. Because of the nature of the timber samples required (certain numbers of rings) it is likely that the timbers will be structural timbers and probably, mostly, roof trusses and ceiling/floor beams.

5.2 An important component of the dating programme will include a detailed, measured and drawn, record of the timbers to be dated.

5.3 Particular attention should be paid to diagnostic features, detail and structure, as the association of dendrochronological dates with the shape or style of the timbers has the potential to contribute to the development of a dated typology of such features.

In particular, attention should be paid to details such as:

- i) the scale and positioning of collar beams and tie beams
- ii) the detail of major joints, for example, mortice and tenon, lap-joints, scarf joints
- iii) the presence or otherwise of struts springing from collars or king-posts
- iv) the number and position of peg holes at joints and any re-pegging
- v) the presence, or indication, of panelling between the spaces of structural members of trusses (seen as grooves/dowel holes)
- vi) the presence of decorative features, such as cusping, bosses, chamfering and fancy stops; and mortices below collars, tie-beams or floor/ceiling beams to accommodate stud partitions
- vii) the presence, or indication (seen as mortices), of arched braces and wind braces;
- viii) that some collar beam trusses with arched braces exhibit an arched profile at the level of the collar - some are more pointed than others and this is likely to be a chronological feature



- ix) the number of purlins (distinguish between butt purlins and through-purlins with scarfed joints); re-cutting of purlin slots and positioning and re-pegging of joists could be an indication of a reset truss or a re-vamped roof.

5.4 The minimum requirement for recording of dendrochronologically-dated timbers should include:

#### 5.4.1 Contextual Information

- i) Brief description of the building from which the sample is taken.
- ii) Summary of period phases represented in the building.
- iii) Brief description of the relationship to other contemporary features and other relevant, non-contemporary features within the building. (Written description, preferably supplemented by sketch plans/elevations and/or photographs)

#### 5.4.2 Detailed Recording

Structural features being dated require measured drawings, in elevation and cross section, including associated components. That is, if part of a truss is being dated, the complete truss should be recorded. Similarly, if a ceiling/floor beam is recorded, the style of chamfer/chamfer stops, cross section of beam and style and spacing of joists should be recorded.

#### 5.4.3 Brief Written Statement of Possible Potential for Future Recording.

5.5.1 **Photographs** should be used not only to show the appearance of the building but also to record the evidence on which the analysis of its historic development is based. Each print should be clearly labelled with the subject, orientation and the date taken, and cross-referenced to its negative and or digital file.

5.5.2 If utilising digital technology, high resolution images (preferably in tiff. format) must be produced. These should be presented within the report as a hard copy and a compact disc must be included as an archive to accompany the report.

## 6 Time Scale

It is expected that the dates when the dendrochronologists will be in each area will be known by late January 2011. It is hoped that the building recording can take place very soon after the results of the dendrochronological sampling has been received, with further visits arranged with the owner of a building as necessary.

## 7 Reports

Reports will be required by the deadline (given in advance) for each block of work, usually within 3-4 weeks of site visits.

## 8 Monitoring

The Project will be monitored by experienced members of the Project to ensure the fulfilment of the brief and specifications.

## 9 Payment

- 9.1 Only a finite amount of money has been allocated to this aspect of the project.
- 9.2 Once the work has been satisfactorily completed, invoices, including VAT etc, should be sent to the Project Director.

## 10 Summary re. Surveys & Reports:

1. Follow the attached RCAHME Recording Historic Buildings Specification. It has to be adjusted to for digital survey. Copies are available from Margaret Dunn.
2. The emphasis should be on SURVEY & DRAWINGS and PHOTOGRAPHY. By and large others cover the history and interpretation though sometimes detailed descriptions are needed.
3. A ground-floor plan is always needed, simplified first-floor plan with position of roof trusses and fireplaces, cross-sections with the key historic trusses; architectural detail. Location of samples if possible.
4. Photography – as RCAHME specification.
5. Each site is different and some have been recorded before. There will to be a different specification for each site.
6. Final report in digital format is essential with hard copies including plans at relevant scale, with summary: i) Description. ii) Ground-floor plan, roof plan, cross-section of historic trusses (= level 3); iii) Photography (= level 3.) ; iv)Final report in digital form and hard copy.
7. **Copyright:** North-west Wales Dendro Project with agreement to put the report as PDF on Coflein RCAHMW's on-line dabase as part of partnership.
8. **Archive.** Archive to be deposited in RCAHMW's archive (National Monuments Record for Wales) as part of partnership.
9. **Logos.** Partnership with RCAHMW to be noted on cover of report.

**APPENDIX B:** Register of Project Drawings

**NB:** All site drawings were prepared in pencil on archivally stable drafting film at a scale of 1:50 and/or 1:20 as appropriate.

<b>Drg. No.</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Format</b>	<b>Scale</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Recorder</b>
2011-013d/001	Ground Floor Plan	A3	1:50	09.01.12	R Tyler
2011-013d/002	First Floor Plan	A3	1:50	09.01.12	R Tyler
2011-013d/003	Transverse cross sections (x2)	A3	1:50	09.01.12	R Tyler

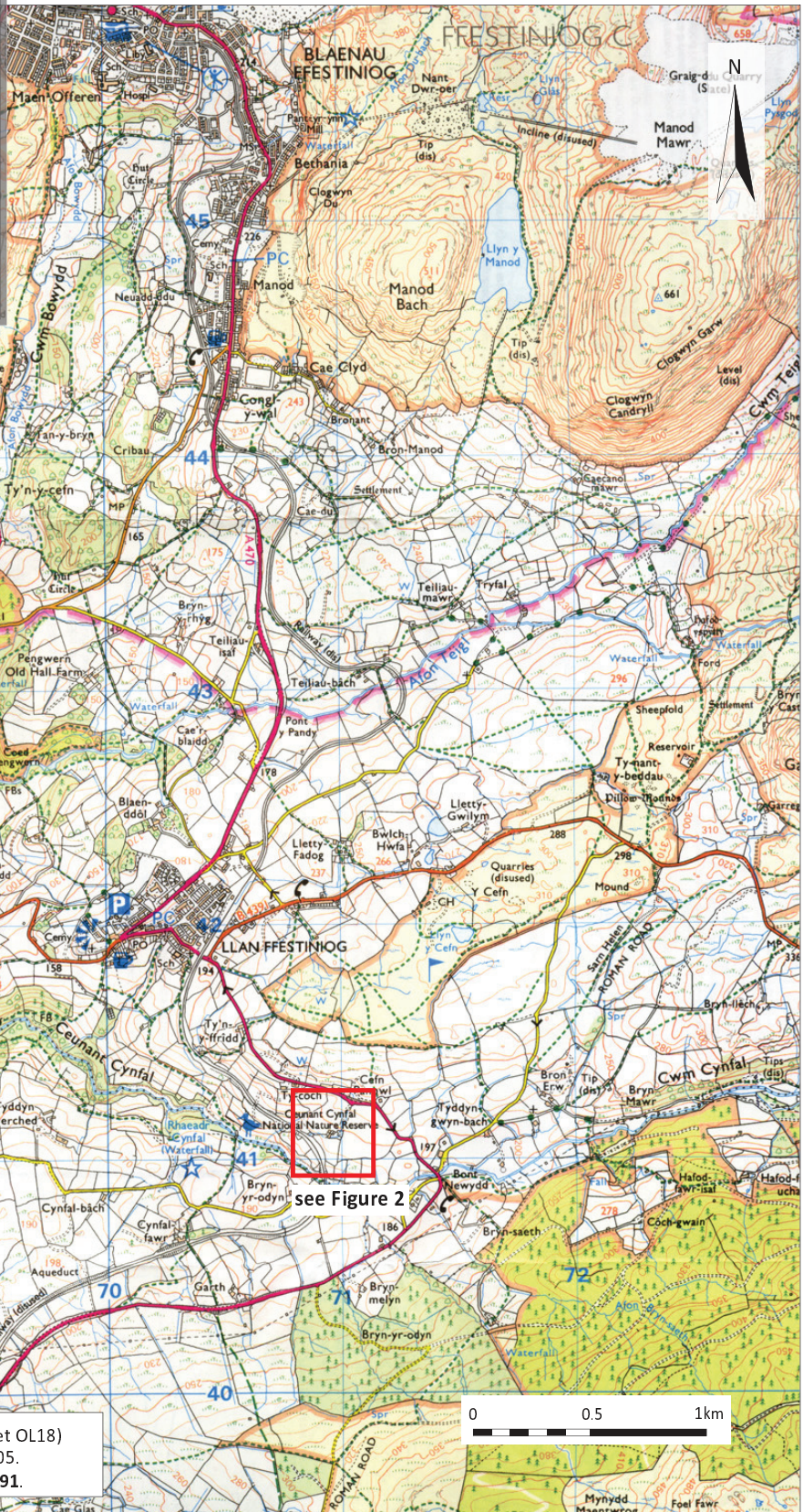
## APPENDIX C: Register of Project Photographs

**NB:** All photographs taken with Nikon D3000 digital SLR camera, 10 mega-pixels. Files are included in \*.jpg format on the CD appended at the back of this report. Photos marked with an asterisk (\*) are reproduced as plates within the current document.

Photo No.	Plate No.	Subject	Orientation	Date	Photographer
*DSC_0240	1	General view from north-east	→ SW	09.01.12	R Tyler
DSC_0241		General view from north-east	→ SW	09.01.12	R Tyler
*DSC_0242	2	East elevation	→ W	09.01.12	R Tyler
*DSC_0243	3	East elevation; principal doorway	→ W	09.01.12	R Tyler
*DSC_0244	4	East elevation; GF window to S with monolithic head	→ W	09.01.12	R Tyler
DSC_0245		East elevation; 1F dormer	↑	09.01.12	R Tyler
*DSC_0246	9	North elevation	→ S	09.01.12	R Tyler
*DSC_0247	5	West elevation oblique	→ SE	09.01.12	R Tyler
DSC_0248		West elevation oblique	→ SE	09.01.12	R Tyler
DSC_0249		West elevation, 1F window (N)	↑	09.01.12	R Tyler
*DSC_0250	6	West elevation; offset boulder footing	→ S	09.01.12	R Tyler
*DSC_0251	7	West elevation; blocked primary door at W end of cross passage	→ E	09.01.12	R Tyler
DSC_0252		West elevation; doorway and southern windows	→ E	09.01.12	R Tyler
*DSC_0253	8	West elevation; 1F window (S)	↑	09.01.12	R Tyler
DSC_0254		West elevation, oblique	→ NE	09.01.12	R Tyler
*DSC_0255	10	South elevation	→ N	09.01.12	R Tyler
DSC_0256		South elevation	→ N	09.01.12	R Tyler
DSC_0257		South elevation, offset boulder footing	→ NW	09.01.12	R Tyler
*DSC_0258	11	Room [GF01]; post and plank partition to south side of primary hall	→ SE	09.01.12	R Tyler
*DSC_0259	12	Room [GF01]; post and plank partition to south side of primary hall	→ SW	09.01.12	R Tyler
DSC_0260		Room [GF01]; main door	→ E	09.01.12	R Tyler
*DSC_0261	14	Room [GF02] looking south	→ S	09.01.12	R Tyler
DSC_0262		Room [GF02] looking south	→ S	09.01.12	R Tyler
*DSC_0263	15	Room [GF02] looking south; primary door in P & P partition wall	→ S	09.01.12	R Tyler
DSC_0264		Head of door in P&P partition wall	→ S	09.01.12	R Tyler
DSC_0265		Room [GF01] looking south; primary door in P & P partition wall (raised head)	→ S	09.01.12	R Tyler
*DSC_0266	13	Room [GF02] looking north-east	→ NE	09.01.12	R Tyler
DSC_0267		Room [GF02] looking north-west	→ NW	09.01.12	R Tyler
*DSC_0268	16	Winder stair to west of FP	→ N	09.01.12	R Tyler
DSC_0269		Window in west wall, Bay 3	→ W	09.01.12	R Tyler
DSC_0270		Room [GF02]; ceiling structure	↑	09.01.12	R Tyler
*DSC_0271	17	Room [GF02]; ceiling structure	↑	09.01.12	R Tyler
*DSC_0272	18	Room [GF02]; ceiling structure – moulded common joist	↑	09.01.12	R Tyler
*DSC_0273	19	Room [GF03] looking west	→ W	09.01.12	R Tyler
*DSC_0274	20	Room [GF03]; rear of P&P partition	→ N	09.01.12	R Tyler
*DSC_0275	21	Room [GF03]; ceiling structure with evidence for former longitudinal partition	↑	09.01.12	R Tyler
*DSC_0276	22	Room [GF03]; door to [GF01] – primary with raised head	→ N	09.01.12	R Tyler
DSC_0277		Raised head of above	→ N	09.01.12	R Tyler
*DSC_0278	23	Redundant mortice for original door head	→ N	09.01.12	R Tyler
*DSC_0279	24	Door at head of winder stair	→ NW	09.01.12	R Tyler
DSC_0280		Cupboard door [1F01]	→ W	09.01.12	R Tyler
DSC_0281		Room [1F04] looking south	→ S	09.01.12	R Tyler
*DSC_0283	32	Stencilled panels, Room [1F04]	→ S	09.01.12	R Tyler
DSC_0284		Stencilled panels, Room [1F04]	→ SW	09.01.12	R Tyler
DSC_0285		Stencilled panels, Room [1F04]	→ SE	09.01.12	R Tyler
*DSC_0286	31	Room [1F04]; stencilled panels and principal rafter foot of T2 (W)	→ SW	09.01.12	R Tyler
*DSC_0287	25	Passage [1F01]	→ S	09.01.12	R Tyler
DSC_0288		Door to [1F03]	→ E	09.01.12	R Tyler
*DSC_0289	30	Room [1F03] looking SE	→ SE	09.01.12	R Tyler
DSC_0290		Room [1F03]; principal rafter foot of T2 (E)	→ S	09.01.12	R Tyler

DSC_0291		Room [1F02]; FP to south wall	→ S	09.01.12	R Tyler
*DSC_0292	27	Room [1F02]; FP to south wall	→ S	09.01.12	R Tyler
*DSC_0293	29	Room [1F02]; principal rafter foot, T1 (E)	→ NE	09.01.12	R Tyler
DSC_0294		Room [1F02]; principal rafter foot, T1 (E)	→ N	09.01.12	R Tyler
DSC_0295		Room [1F02] looking west	→ W	09.01.12	R Tyler
*DSC_0296	28	Room [1F02], window in west wall, Bay 1	→ W	09.01.12	R Tyler
DSC_0297		Room [1F02], window in west wall, Bay 1	→ W	09.01.12	R Tyler
DSC_0298		Room [1F02]; principal rafter foot, T1 (E)	→ E	09.01.12	R Tyler
DSC_0299		Room [1F02]; principal rafter foot, T1 (E)	→ E	09.01.12	R Tyler
DSC_0300		Truss T1, apex detail	→ S	09.01.12	R Tyler
*DSC_0301	33	Truss T1, apex detail	→ S	09.01.12	R Tyler
*DSC_0302	34	Truss T1, multi-pegged collar joint	→ SW	09.01.12	R Tyler
DSC_0303		Truss T1, apex detail	↑	09.01.12	R Tyler
DSC_0304		Truss T2, apex detail	→ N	09.01.12	R Tyler
*DSC_0305	35	Truss T2, apex detail	→ N	09.01.12	R Tyler
DSC_0306		Truss T2, W&D infill below collar	→ N	09.01.12	R Tyler
DSC_0307		Truss T2, apex detail	→ N	09.01.12	R Tyler
DSC_0308		Truss T2, apex detail (v-strutting)	→ N	09.01.12	R Tyler
DSC_0309		Truss T2, W&D infill below collar	→ S	09.01.12	R Tyler
*DSC_0310	36	Truss T2, multi-pegged collar joint	→ SE	09.01.12	R Tyler
DSC_0311		Truss T2, lapped studs beneath collar	→ S	09.01.12	R Tyler
*DSC_0312	37	Truss T2, lapped studs beneath collar	→ S	09.01.12	R Tyler
DSC_0313		Truss T2, lapped stud beneath collar (truncated)	→ S	09.01.12	R Tyler
DSC_0314		General view along roofspace	→ S	09.01.12	R Tyler
DSC_0315		Purlin detail	→	09.01.12	R Tyler
*DSC_0316	38	Detail of splayed purlin scarf	→	09.01.12	R Tyler
DSC_0317		Truss T2, apex detail	→ N	09.01.12	R Tyler
DSC_0318		Truss T2, apex detail	→ N	09.01.12	R Tyler
DSC_0319		Room [1F01] looking north	→ N	09.01.12	R Tyler
DSC_0320		Wattle and daub panel below T2, visible within [1F01]	→ N	09.01.12	R Tyler
*DSC_0321	26	Ogee stopped door jamb, [1F01]	→ SW	09.01.12	R Tyler
DSC_0322		Ogee stopped door jamb, [1F01]	→ SW	09.01.12	R Tyler





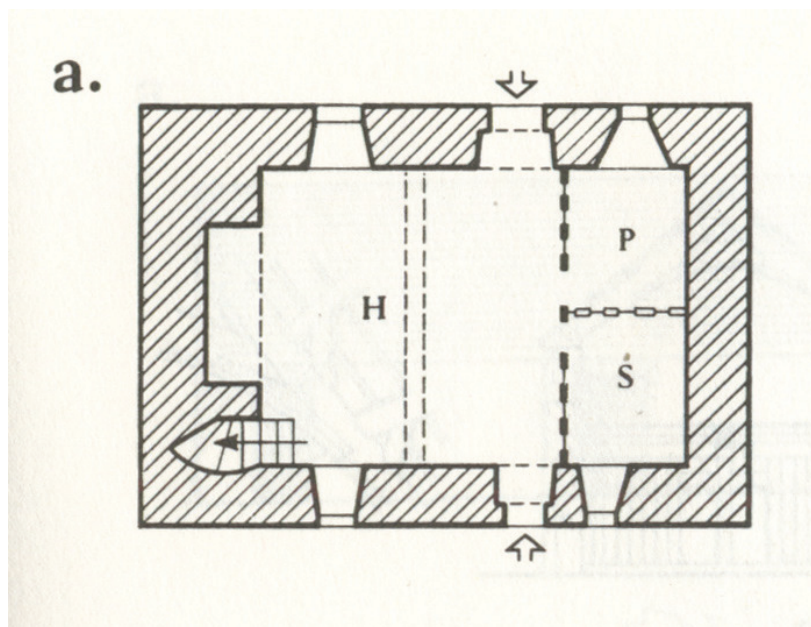
Based upon Explorer 1:25,000 map (Sheet OL18)  
 Ordnance Survey © Crown Copyright 2005.  
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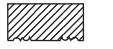
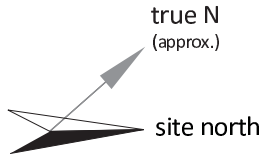
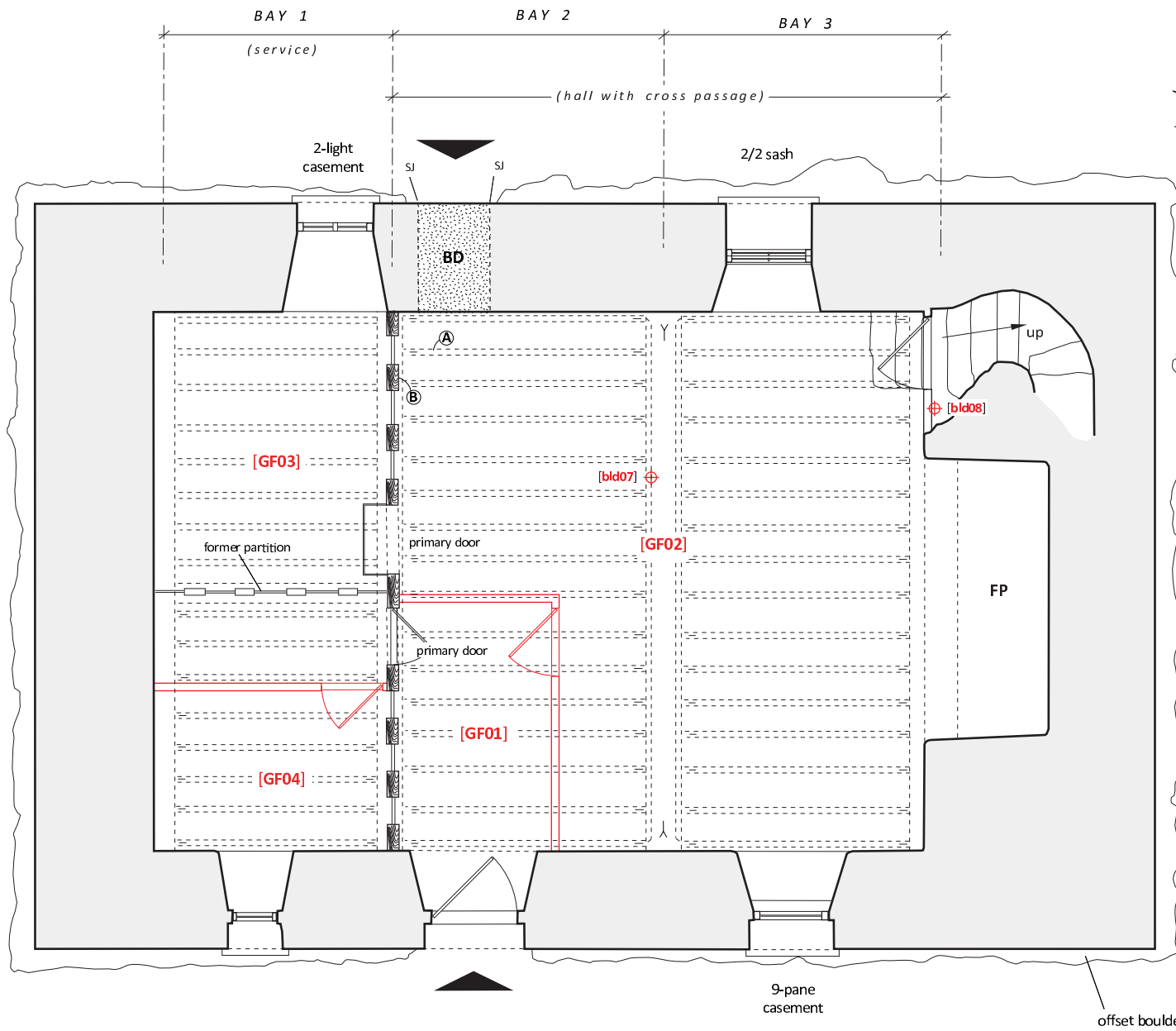


(a) Photograph from north-east, from Peter Smith's *Houses of the Welsh Countryside* 2nd Edition (1988), plate 39.

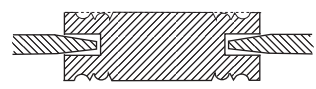


(b) Published plan, from Peter Smith's *Houses of the Welsh Countryside* 2nd Edition (1988), figure 82a, p.175.








joist profile at A  
(scale 1:20)

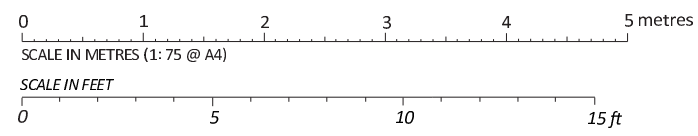


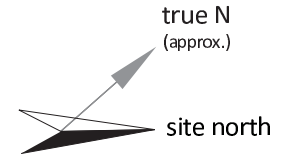
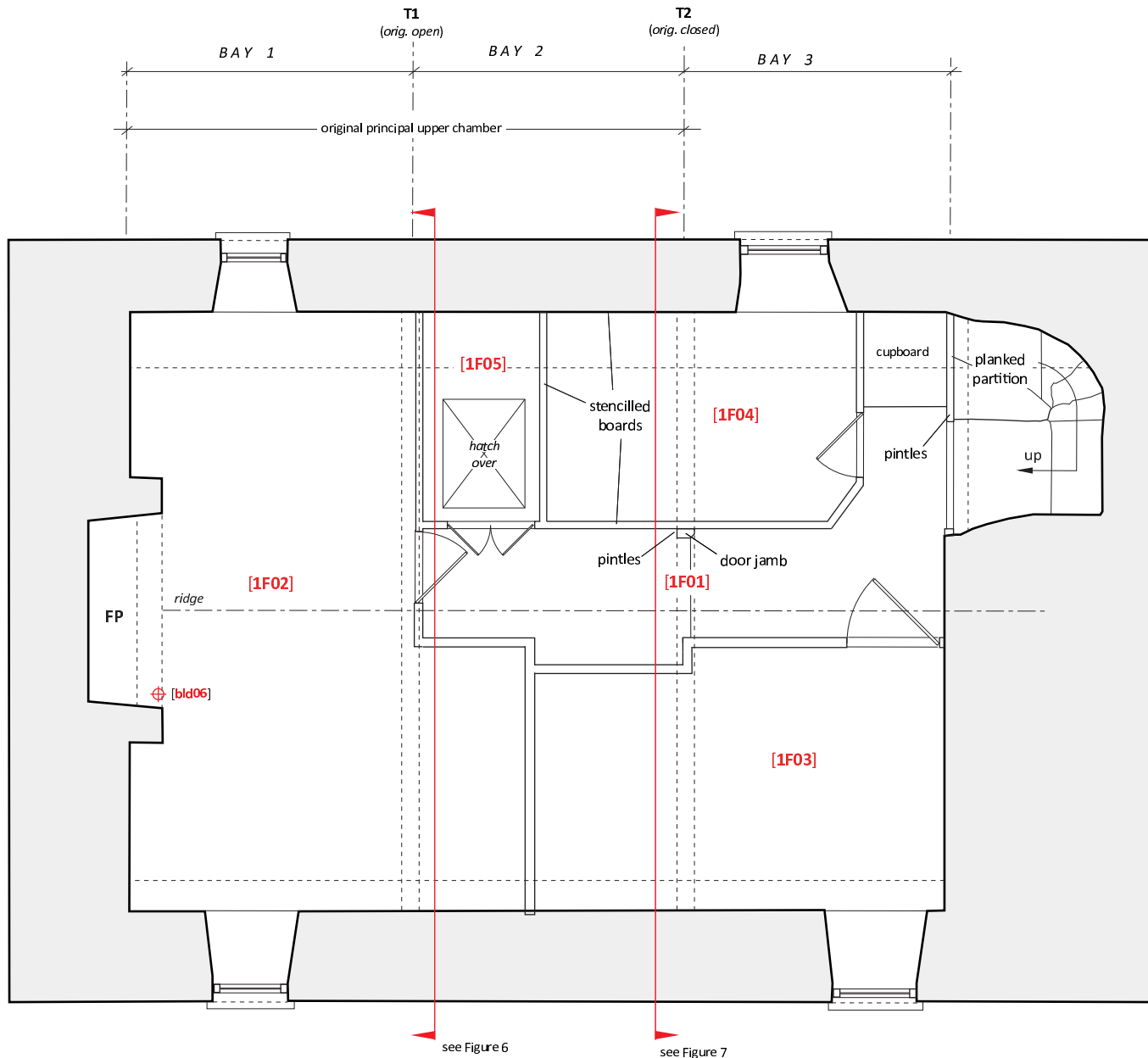
stud profile at B  
(scale 1:20)




NB: south face moulded to [GF04], plain to [GF03]

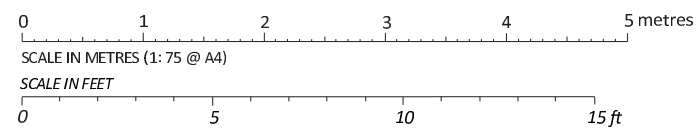
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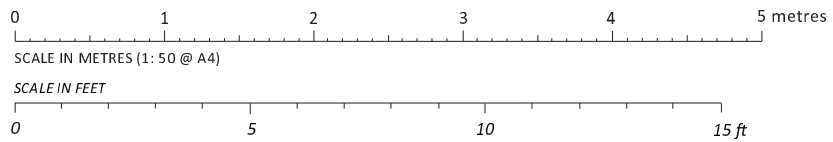
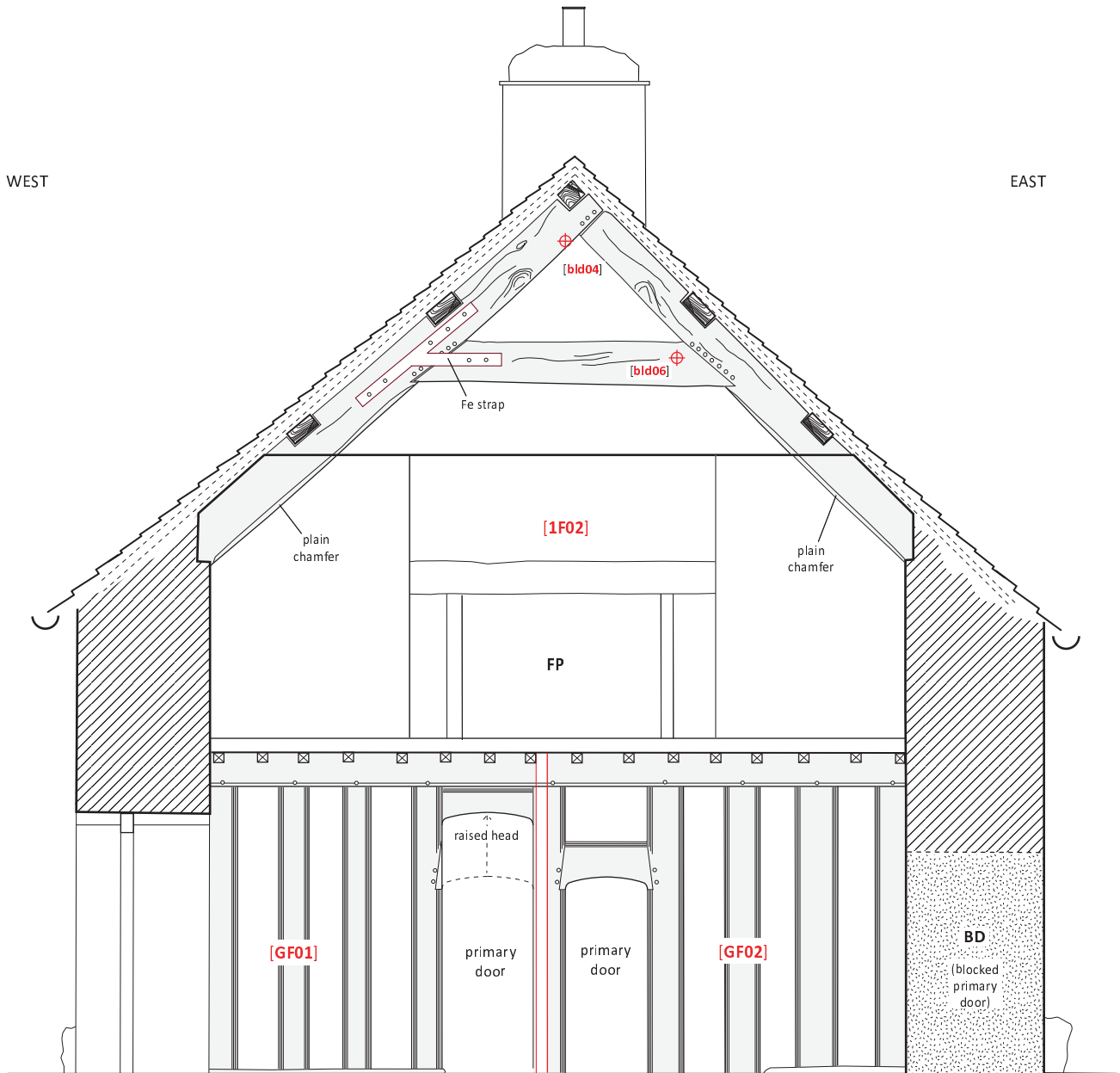
-  location of dendro sample
-  blocking
-  inserted features








- KEY**
-  location of dendro sample
  -  blocking
  -  inserted features



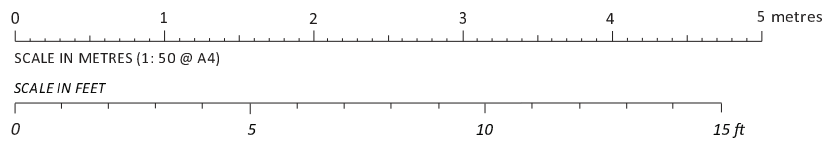
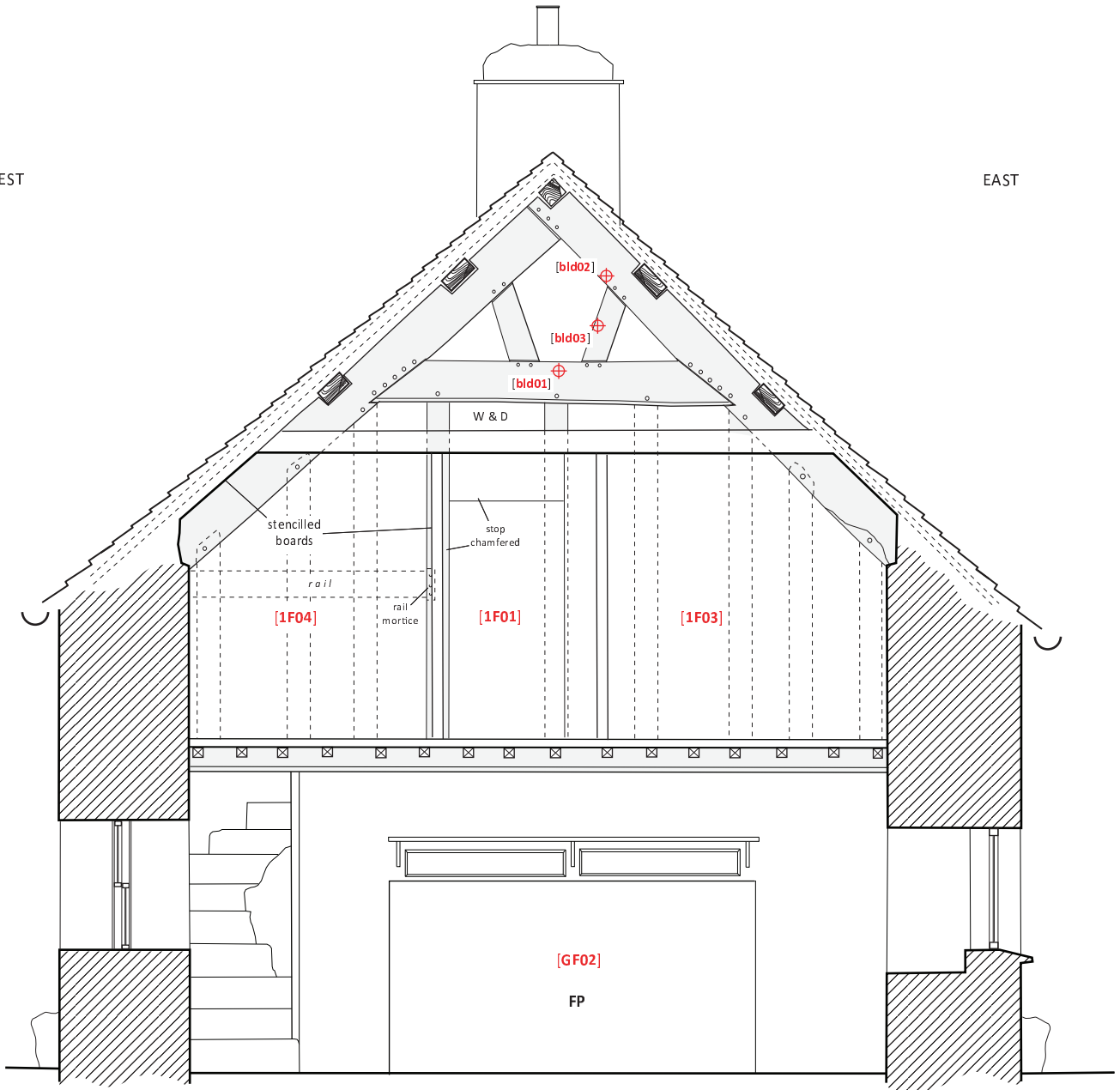


**KEY**

-  location of dendro sample
-  blocking
-  inserted features

WEST

EAST



**KEY**




-  location of dendro sample
-  blocking
-  inserted features





Plate 1: General view from north-east.



Plate 2: East elevation.





Plate 3: Principal doorway.



Plate 4: Primary window with monolithic head.



Plate 5: West elevation (oblique).





Plate 6: Offset boulder footing to west elevation.



Plate 7: Blocked primary door to west elevation.



Plate 8: Primary window to west elevation, first floor (south).





Plate 9: North elevation.



Plate 10: South elevation.



Plate 11: Entrance lobby [GF01] with primary screen partition.



Plate 12: [GF01]; primary door with raised head (see also Plates 22-3).





Plate 13: Room [GF02] looking north-east.



Plate 14: Room [GF02] looking south with primary screen partition to right.



Plate 15: Primary door in screen partition.



Plate 16: Primary winder stair to west of mural FP.



Plate 17: Ceiling structure over [GF02].





Plate 18: Detail of moulded common joist, [GF02].



Plate 19: Kitchen [GF03] looking west.



Plate 20: Rear of post and panel partition visible within [GF03].





**Plate 21:** Ceiling structure of [GF03] with redundant mortices and groove indicating former lateral partition; NB: common joists to east are moulded, those to west are plain.



**Plate 22:** Door to [GF03] with raised head.



**Plate 23:** Notched joint evidences original door head location (see Figure 6).





Plate 24: Head of winder stair.



Plate 25: Central passage [1F01] including primary doorframe beneath T2.



Plate 26: Ogee-stopped door jamb and head below T2.



Plate 27: [1F02] FP to south gable.





Plate 28: [1F02]; primary window opening to west wall.



Plate 29: Room [1F02], east principal of truss T1.



Plate 30: Room [1F03] looking east; note east principal of truss T2 with lap joints for former vertical studs.



Plate 31: [1F04], west principal of T2 displaying lap joints for former vertical studs.



Plate 32: [1F04]; detail of stencilled painting to boards.





Plate 33: Apex of truss T1 looking south.



Plate 34: Truss T1, multi-pegged collar joint.



Plate 35: Apex of truss T2 looking north.





Plate 36: Truss T2; collar joint, NB. cut off studs.



Plate 37: Truss T2, halved and lapped stud.



Plate 38: Detail of splayed scarf at T2 (W).