

PARKS VIEW BARN UPPER SETTLE - CONVERSION TO A DWELLING

One of the more interesting aspects of the study of vernacular buildings often occurs when a property is being converted from one use to another. This small building was recorded as 'old' from its outward appearance. Once the roof came off some unique and possibly very ancient features have come to light. A pair of King block jointed tie beams were seen in place, possibly over 400 years old, but re-used incorporating fragments of 'cruck' blades that may be much older. Further investigation of the inside has led us to believe that this incorporates an original small rectangular 'cruck framed' building dating from the medieval period.



Left: Photo showing the small narrow structure, the walls of which appears to have been raised many years ago when it was converted to a workshop or small barn.

Below right:

Photo taken in passing when through the gable window the King Block was first recorded.



Below:

Photo taken inside after access showing the two sets of re-used tie-beams, which to the practiced eye of one of your neighbourhood 'house decectives', set the stage for more investigation.



Above Right: Cruck blade fragment showing old use holes and slots, its curved form, and the socketed King Block at its end. Other clues, beaten earth floor, wider rough stone built foundation plinth and in the gloom top right what appears to have been a pad-stone (the base) for one of the crucks.