





## Conservation and restoration

Carpenter Oak & Woodland are award winning conservation experts and have taken on some of the biggest conservation projects in the UK.

## Our approach

Carpenter Oak & Woodland is one of very few companies with the expertise to handle the restoration and conservation of important timber framed buildings. Protecting the UK's unique heritage in timber framed buildings is a key part of our business. Whether it is the conservation (preservation of as much of the original historic fabric as possible) or restoration (sympathetic replacement of missing structure to match the original as closely as possible) of timber framed buildings we have the skills and experience to deliver projects successfully.

Carpenter Oak & Woodland works with many of the UK's heritage organisations, including Historic Scotland, English Heritage, Landmark Trust and the National Trust.

## All sizes of projects

We've won awards and acclaim for high-profile projects, such as the restoration of the roofs at Windsor Castle and Stirling Castle and worked on unusual and challenging projects, such as the restoration of Shackleton's huts in Antarctica. We also conserve and restore houses and barns.



I would like to express my thanks to Carpenter Oak & Woodland...for a thoroughly professional and good quality job at my clients Barn reconstruction in Essex. It was always going to be very difficult to re-build the barn and stables to its original condition after the fire. I think that the team worked very well with the tenant in the house, minimising any possible disturbance.

Stuart Moulder FRICS, SC Moulder





## Your project is in safe hands

Carpenter Oak & Woodland's track record makes us the logical choice for many timber frame conservation and restoration projects.

### Safe hands

Carpenter Oak & Woodland have an unrivalled history in the field of conservation and restoration of timber structures, and as such have a keen sense of responsibility to the appropriate preservation of our heritage assets. As such we are widely regarded as industry professionals as being the safe pair of hands that these buildings demand.

As well as the delivery of high quality repairs and restorations through our highly knowledgeable and skilled crafts people, we also provide advice on:

- Vernacular building styles and methods of construction appropriate to each building
- Timber history, condition, structural performance and repair methodology
- Different conservation approaches and the appropriateness of each in specific circumstances
- Liaison with local conservation officers and other interested parties

### Breadth of knowledge

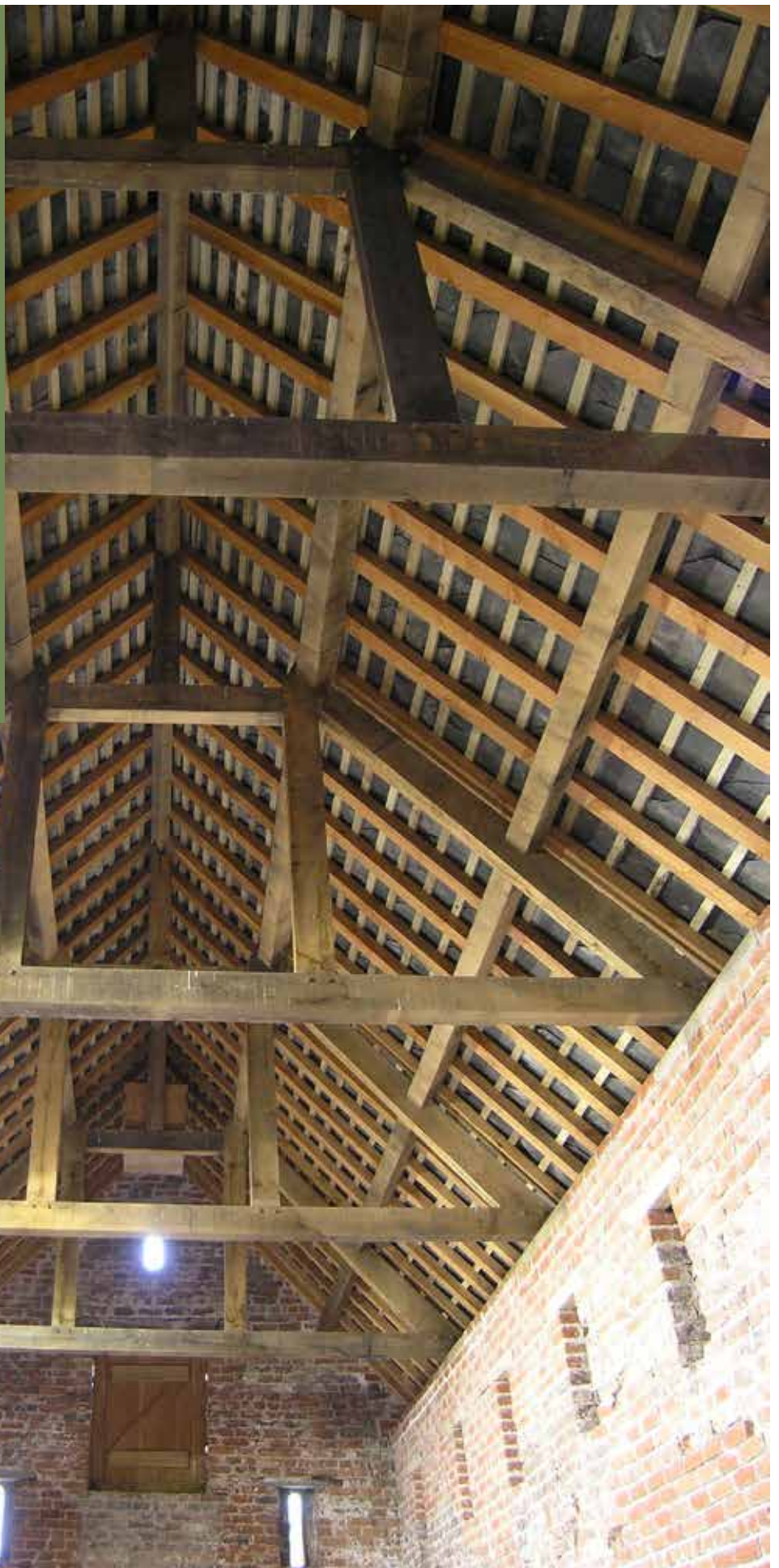
One of the great advantages we can bring to a conservation project is the sheer breadth of our knowledge in conservation. Our skills and knowledge ensure we make the most appropriate repair, now, this may mean that it would be more aesthetically pleasing to remove the timber but due to its historical significance we would use other methods to repair. Or, due to the historical significance of the timber all repairs may need to be reversible to retain the maximum amount of historical fabric. Either way we have the knowledge and skills to do so which is highly relevant when exploring the best options for oak frame conservation.



Esther and I would like to pass on our thanks for all the hard work, commitment and effort that you put into our project. Out of all the builders and various trades that we have had to deal with your company has been the best on every front.

Mr & Mrs Shipp, Wiltshire

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## Major restoration

Rebuilding the medieval roof in the Great Hall at Stirling Castle is one of our biggest conservation projects to date.

## Stirling Castle, Stirling

Stirling Castle's Great Hall is the largest ever built in Scotland and was intended for great celebrations and occasions of state. When the military left the premises in 1964; the work began to restore it as the designers originally intended in 1500.

Engaged by Historic Scotland, this was a major restoration project. We provided a new rood screen, doors and external staircase, however the rebuilding of the vast medieval roof is what really stands out. The images here hardly do justice to the scale and complexity of this beautiful hammer-beam roof structure.

The setting out of the roof was inevitably complicated as the west wall of the Hall was so severely out of alignment. The west side of every truss, therefore, had to be set out individually to match the curve in the wall-head; the angle of every joint was also slightly altered as the pitch changed to meet the wall head.

RIBA award winning project.





## Challenging working environment

At the turn of the century, pioneers Scott and Shackleton defined the golden age of exploration. Today their original huts are still standing with the help of Carpenter Oak & Woodland.

## Shackleton and Scott huts, Antarctica

Prefabricated in England for quick construction, these 'kit' structures at Cape Royds and Cape Evans are on the World Monuments Watch List.

Carpenter Oak & Woodland have, for several expeditions, supplied expert conservators to the repair of these remarkable buildings. Under the auspices of the Antarctica Heritage Trust, work was carried out during the 'summer' seasons – a remarkably tight window of two months when it is possible to get in and out and repairs made.

The work was meticulous, not only in the execution of the repairs to the structures, but in the recording of repairs and artefacts (including a gramophone needle!) discovered during the conservation work. More importantly, working the hours required to maximise the access in the most inhospitable environment imaginable, required not only our renowned skills but an exceptional level of passion for this unique project.







## Innovative solutions

The conservation of this ancient barn was restored in 2001; later the project became a Civic Trust award winner.

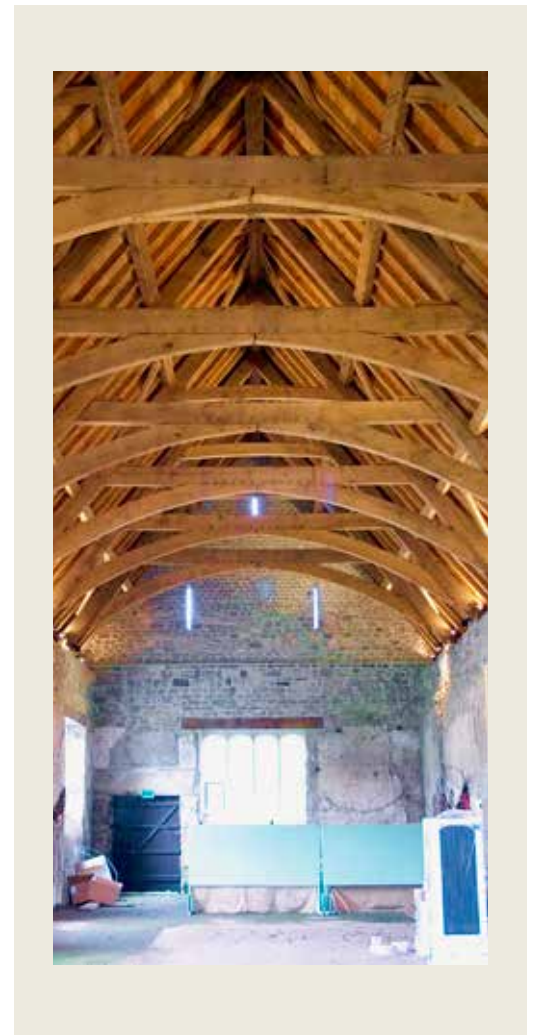
## The Commandery, Wiltshire

It is thought that the original hospice built by the Knights Hospitalier at Ansty was replaced by a large building, probably a banqueting house, in 1596. Despite a fire in 1922 which destroyed the roof, the building was reconstructed in 2001 including the restoration of the vaulted roof which won a Civic Trust award in 2002.

The oak structure includes striking shallow arch brace trusses and are approximately 30 meters long and 6m wide with the ridge rising 6m above the wall plate. Compared to trusses with a tie beam, arch braced trusses are prone to spread, pushing the walls out. When a new building is commissioned, this can be overcome by designing in adjacent braced structures, or buttresses as restraints to the walls, or alternatively steel can be selectively inserted to minimise the effect.

In the case of this structure, providing new buttressing was clearly not an option, meaning that the threat to the ancient walls was significant. As a result, having constructed these trusses, the bases were rested on specially designed Teflon pads to allow a certain amount of settling in without asking the walls to move to accommodate excessive outward forces.

Civic Trust award winner.





## Sympathetic conservation

An exemplar of Welsh period vernacular and of historical importance, Dolbelydr is regarded as the home of the modern Welsh language.

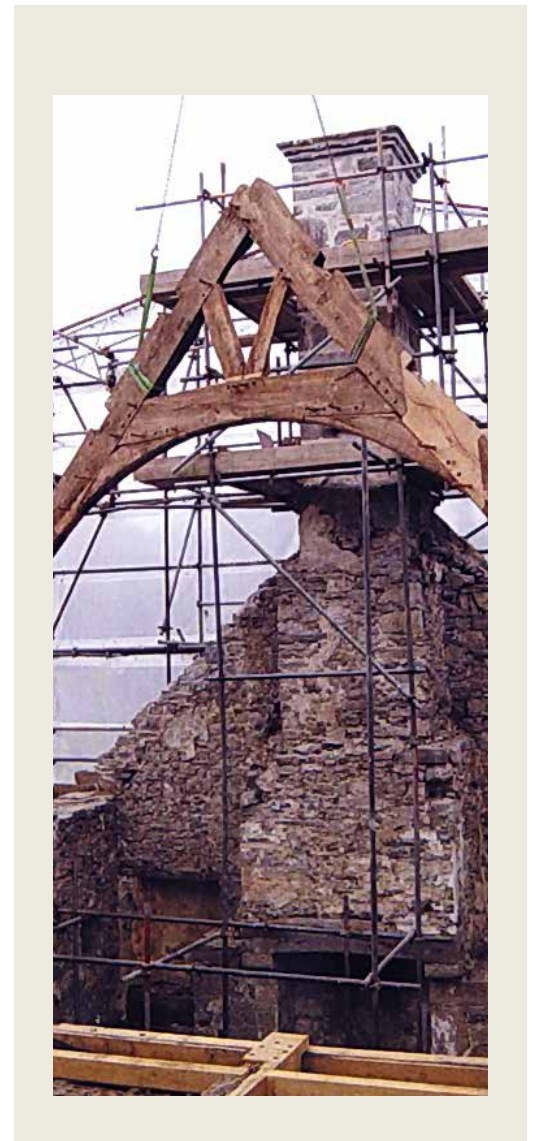
## Dolbelydr, Denbighshire

Dolbelydr is a 16th Century house in a remote location near St. Asaph, in the ownership of the Landmark Trust. The house is both historically important and a fine example of the vernacular building which dominated the domestic architecture of North Walian lesser gentry in the Tudor period. It is perhaps best known as the home of the grammarian and physician Henry Salesbury, where he wrote the first Welsh grammar book, the Grammatica Britannica in 1593, and therefore Dolbelydr could be considered the home of the modern Welsh language.

Our involvement in this project included the provision of advice to the team of professionals, and ranged from the conservation of the structural timber frame to the repair of the joinery.

As with any building of this degree of historical importance it was paramount that we retained as much of the historical fabric as possible. Every repair had to be carefully considered and expertly executed.

This project has won numerous awards, including the Conservation category at the Wood awards, and the RICS award for building conservation.







## Award winning

We are very proud to have many awards for our conservation work including the converted RIBA awards and Civic Trust awards

## Key projects and awards

### RIBA awards

Stirling Castle

### Civic Trust awards

Bursledon Windmill  
Commandery, Ansty  
Whitchurch Silk Mill

### Wood awards

Charlton Court Barn  
Dolbelydr  
Windsor Castle

## Your next steps

Whether you have a project you'd like to discuss or even a set of drawings you would like us to price, then we'd really love to hear from you.

Call us on 01225 743089 or email:  
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