

# Colchester Archaeological Trust



**CAT Report 1934  
issued May 2023**

**Historic building recording of two WWII-era huts at  
Great Easton Manor, Dunmow Road, Great  
Easton, Essex, CM6 2DL**



**CAT project ref.: 2023/03f  
ECC code: GEAGE23**

**Historic building recording of two WWII-era huts at  
Great Easton Manor, Dunmow Road, Great  
Easton, Essex, CM6 3DL**

**April 2023**

**NGR: TL 61184 24894**

**Planning ref.: UTT/22/3361/HHF**

**CAT project ref.: 2023/03f  
CAT Report 1934**

**ECC code: GEAGE23  
OASIS id: colchest3-514061**

**report prepared by  
Sarah Veasey**

**fieldwork by Sarah Veasey with Xander Smith**

**commissioned by Samuel Brampton  
(Pelham Structures)  
on behalf of the homeowner**

<b>Prepared by:</b>	Sarah Veasey	Junior Project Officer
<b>Reviewed by:</b>	Chris Lister	Contracts Manager
<b>Reviewed and approved by:</b>	Philip Crummy	Director of Archaeology
<b>Issued:</b>	31/05/2023	

**Colchester Archaeological Trust**

Roman Circus House,  
Roman Circus Walk,  
Colchester,  
Essex CO2 7GZ

*tel.:* 01206 501785

*email:* [sv@catuk.org](mailto:sv@catuk.org)

*web:* [www.catuk.org](http://www.catuk.org)

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## 1 Summary

*A programme of historic building recording was carried out by Colchester Archaeological Trust on two WWII-era military huts at Great Easton Manor, Dunmow Road, Great Easton, Essex. The huts recorded were a concrete-asbestos Handcraft Hut and a sectional timber hut, which were likely relocated from the nearby RAF Great Dunmow in the early 1950's. Both huts were probably first used for barrack accommodation on the temporary airfield, sold off after RAF Great Dunmow was closed and subsequently used for farm storage.*

## 2 Introduction (Fig 1)

This is the archive report of a historic building recording carried out on two WWII era huts at Great Easton Manor, Dunmow Road, Great Easton, Essex. The recording work was commissioned by Samuel Bampton (Pelham Structures) on behalf of the homeowner and was carried out by Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT) on 3rd April 2023. The site is located in the grounds of Great Easton Manor at NGR TL 61184 24894 (Fig 1).

A planning application (UTT/22/3361/HHF) was submitted to Uttlesford District Council in 2022 for the *proposed demolition of 2 no. existing outbuildings and construction of additional garaging, a workshop and tractor store.*

In response to this application, the Place Services Historic Environment Advisor (HEA) recommended to the council that a Historic England building recording be made of the huts prior to any demolition works (ECC 2023). This recommendation was given due to the huts association with the 20th-century house of Battailes. The recommendation was based on the National Planning Policy Framework (MHCLG 2021).

A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for the building recording was prepared by Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT 2023) and agreed with the HEA. All work was carried out in accordance with this WSI.

All work was carried out according to standards and practices contained in the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (2014a), *Standard and guidance for archaeological investigation and recording of standing buildings or structures* (2014b), *Management of research projects in the historic environment* (Historic England 2015), *Standards for field archaeology in the East of England* (EAA 14) and *Research and Archaeology Revised: A Revised Framework for the East of England* (EAA 24). In addition, the guidelines contained in *Understanding Historic Buildings: A guide to good recording practice* (Historic England 2016) were followed.

## 3 Aims

The aim of the building recording was to provide a detailed record and assessment of the huts prior to any demolition work. The building recording was carried out to Level 3 (Historic England 2016) which is defined as:

*"Level 3 is an analytical record and will comprise an introductory description followed by a systematic account of the building's origins, development and use. The record will include an account of the evidence on which the analysis has been based, allowing the validity of the record to be re-examined in detail. It will also include all drawn and photographic records that may be required to illustrate the building's appearance and structure and to support an historical analysis.*

*The information contained in the record will for the most part have been obtained through an examination of the building itself. The documentary sources used are likely to be those which are most readily accessible, such as historic Ordnance Survey maps, trade directories and other published sources. The record may contain some*

*discussion the building's broader stylistic or historical context and importance. It may form part of a wider survey of a number of buildings which will aim at an overall synthesis, such as a thematic or regional publication, when the use of additional source material may be necessary as well as a broader historical and architectural discussion of the buildings as a group."*

In particular the record considered:

- Plan and form of the site.
- Materials and method of construction.
- Date(s) of the structure(s).
- Original function and layout.
- Original and later fixtures and fittings.
- The significance of the site in its immediate local context.

#### 4 Methodology

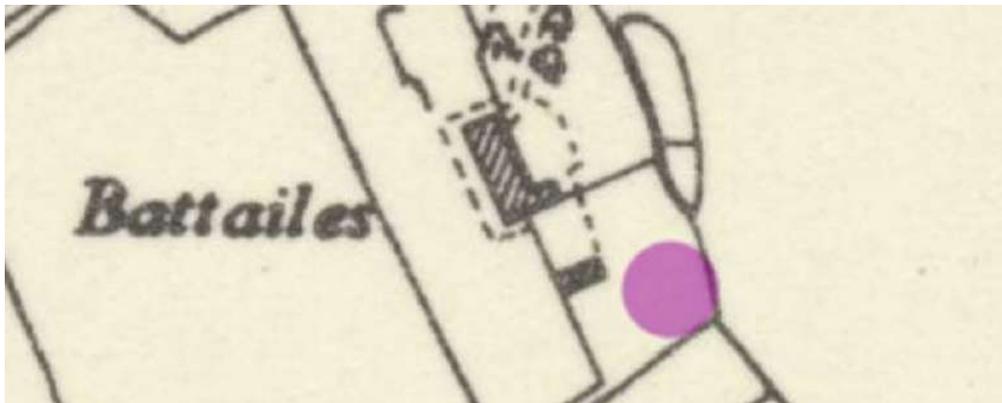
The following are included in this report:

- A documentary, cartographic and pictorial survey of the evidence pertaining to the history and evolution of the site.
- A large-scale block plan of the site.
- Annotated and phased floor-plan of the building at a scale of 1:50.
- A description of the building. The description addresses features such as materials, dimensions, method of construction and phasing.
- A photographic record, comprising digital photographs of both general shots and individual features. Selected examples of the photographic record are clearly tied into the drawn record and reproduced as fully annotated photographic plates supporting the text. The photographic record is accompanied by a photographic register detailing location and direction of shot (Appendix 1).

#### 5 Historical background (Fig 1)

The following background includes extracts of the Essex Historic Environment Records (EHER) held at Essex County Council, County Hall, Chelmsford, Essex (accessed via <http://www.heritagegateway.org.uk>) and the RAF Museum Archive.

The two huts detailed in this report are dated to the Second World War and are associated with the temporary airfields of the RAF. One is a Handcraft Hut and the other a sectional timber hut. They are located in the grounds of Great Easton Manor, formerly known as Battailles, which was also constructed in the early 20th century. Cartographic evidence indicates the huts were erected at Great Easton Manor between 1951 and 1953. They do not appear on the 1951 6-inch OS map (Map 1) but are present on the 1952/3 OS National Grid Map (Map 2). They were most likely relocated from the nearby RAF Great Dunmow.



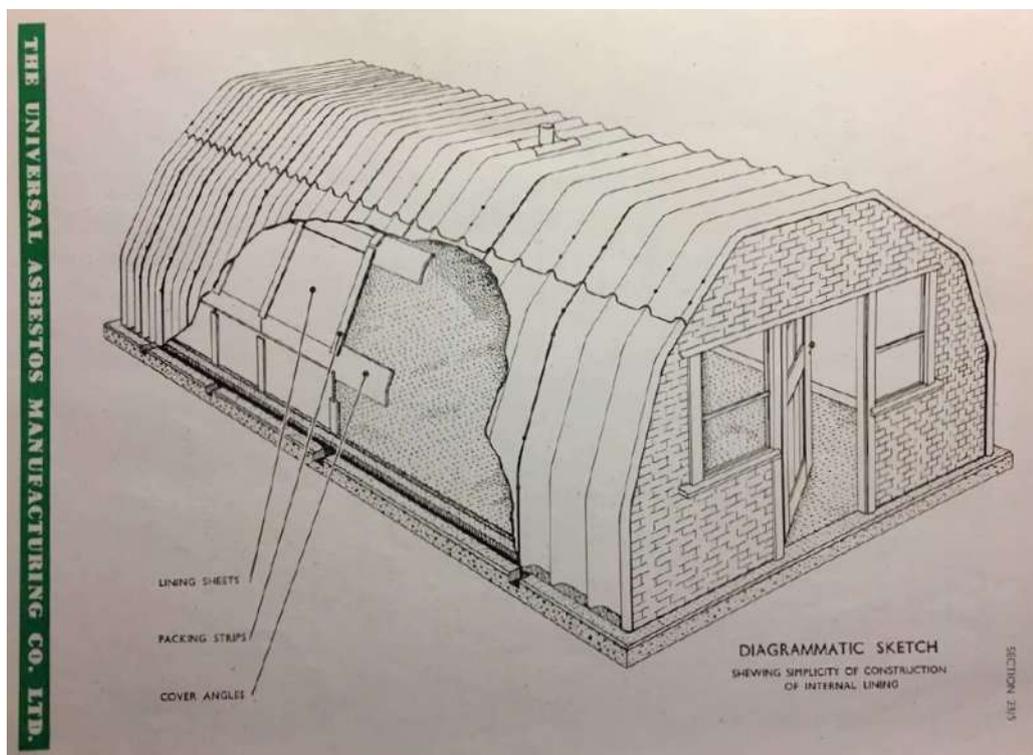
**Map 1** Extract of the 1951 6-inch OS map, the rough location of the huts highlighted in purple.



buildings of pre-war airfields were neither economical in materials used, nor in speed of construction, therefore a rapid redesign using temporary structures was needed (Francis 2016).

The buildings were primarily constructed from timber but, by 1940, timber shortages became so severe that the Ministry of Supply<sup>1</sup> were forced to develop huts that utilised alternative materials. By 1942, the Ministry of Works<sup>2</sup> were in charge of supplies and had introduced pre-fabricated asbestos hutting. After the end of the war, many of the temporary airfields were shut, the land either returned to previous owners or sold, and many of the buildings auctioned off (Francis 2016).

The Handcraft Hut was a prefabricated concrete-asbestos hut produced by the Universal Asbestos Company. The hut came into production around 1942 and was used primarily for barrack accommodation (Draper 2017). The Handcraft Hut is often misidentified as a Nissen Hut due to its similar shape, however, the Handcraft Hut is a seven-side arch whereas a Nissen Hut has a curved arch shape.

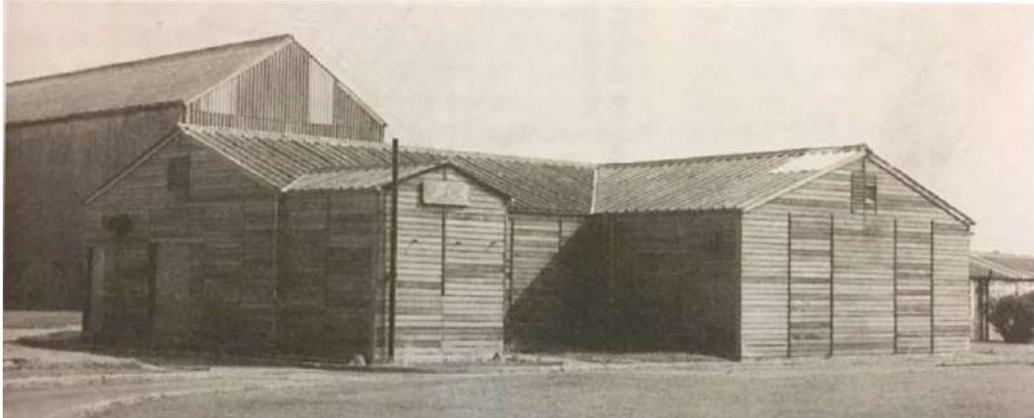


**Plate 2** The Handcraft Hut diagrammatic sketch (courtesy of the Airfield Research Group)

Prior to the start of the war, the Air Ministry<sup>3</sup> predominantly relied on two standard sectional timber hut designs: Type A and Type B. They were designed to be adaptable and extendable, to fulfil a variety of purposes, as they were constructed from sectional units bolted together (Draper 2017). However, it became necessary, in the interest of timber economy and production speed, to develop alternatives to the Type A and B huts and the 'X', 'Y' and 'Z' huts were conceived (MoD 1997). They represented less-sturdy iterations of the earlier huts by using less timber. The Ministry of Supply Timber Hut (also known as the Magnet Timber Hut) was designed to be an improvement on the 'X', 'Y' and 'Z' huts. The Ministry of Supply Timber Hut was manufactured by Magnet Limited and came into production around 1941. Due to the similarities in design

- 1 The Ministry of Supply was a government department, formed in 1939, that co-ordinated the supply of equipment to all three British armed forces.
- 2 The Ministry of Works was a government department, formed in 1940, that organised the requisitioning of properties for wartime use.
- 3 The government department responsible for managing the affairs of the RAF from 1918 until 1964.

between all the types of sectional timber huts developed around this time, it's difficult to assign a hut-type to the sectional timber hut recorded at Great Easton Manor.



**Photograph 1** Air Ministry Type A Hut (photograph reproduced from British Military Airfield Architecture: From Airships to the Jet Age, 1996).

## 6 Building recording descriptive record (Fig 2-11)

### Handcraft Hut

#### *Exterior*

The Handcraft hut is aligned roughly north-east/south-west. It measures 11.43m by 6.45m, covering an area of approximately 74m<sup>2</sup>. It is supported on a concrete plinth on the northern and southern elevations. The main body of the hut is constructed from corrugated concrete-asbestos sheets in a seven-sided arch shape. The eastern and western elevations are constructed from frogged red brick (brick dimensions: 225 x 105 x 65mm) laid in English bond. The brickwork at either end of the hut is not original to hut and was likely added when the hut was relocated. Damage to the brickwork on the western elevation has revealed the brick manufacturer to be Whittlesea Central Brick Company.



**Photograph 2** Northern elevation of the handcraft hut. Photograph taken facing south south-west.

The western elevation is dominated by set of timber double doors, which are strengthened by diagonal wind-braces in the frame. The lintel of the doorway is two rows of brick, laid header bond. The eastern elevation has a single timber stable door with a slightly arched brick lintel. The top course of bricks on both elevations are stretchers laid on edge.

The northern and southern elevations both have two metal framed windows. They are all three-light with a top awning opening and appear to be original to the hut.



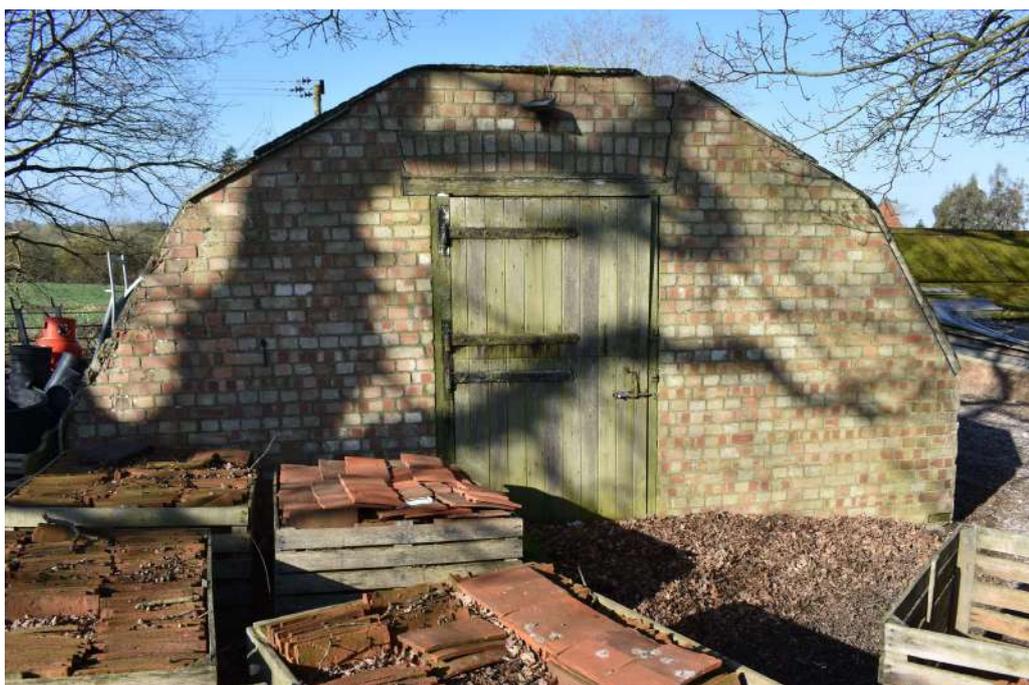
**Photograph 3** Detail of bricks above door of western wall of the handcraft hut. Photograph taken facing west.



**Photograph 4** Western elevation of the handcraft hut. Photograph taken facing north-east.



**Photograph 5** Southern elevation of the handcraft hut. Photograph taken facing north-west.



**Photograph 6** Eastern elevation of the handcraft hut. Photograph taken facing south-west.



**Photograph 7** Detail of window on southern elevation of the handcraft hut. Photograph taken facing north-west.

*Interior*

On the interior, the arch of the Handcraft Hut is lined with the original asbestos-cement sheeting, while the eastern and western walls are plain brick. The floor is poured concrete with a step at the eastern end. There are four windows – two in the northern wall and two in the southern wall. There is a door at the eastern and western ends of the hut.



**Photograph 8** Internal view of the handcraft hut. Photograph taken facing south.



**Photograph 9** Internal view of the handcraft hut. Photograph taken facing north.

### **Sectional Timber Hut**

For ease of description, the sectional timber hut has been divided into 'the sectional timber hut', 'extension 1', 'extension 2' and 'extension 3'. See Fig 6 for locations. Extension 2 was inaccessible at the time of recording.



**Photograph 10** Western elevation of the sectional timber hut. Photograph taken facing north-east.

### **Exterior**

The sectional timber hut is aligned north-west/south-east with later additions to the north-east. It measures 9.21m by 3.68m covering an area of 34m<sup>2</sup> (with extensions: 11.62m by 9.21m covering 107m<sup>2</sup>). The sectional timber hut is supported on concrete foundations while the extensions are on red brick foundations.

The roof of the sectional timber hut is gabled at both ends and clad in corrugated concrete-asbestos. The roof of extensions 1 and 2 are both mono-pitched and clad in corrugated concrete-asbestos while extension 3 has an open roof covered with chicken wire.



**Photograph 11** Northern elevation of sectional timber hut. Photograph taken facing south-east.

The western elevation is clad in weatherboard. There are two twelve-light casement windows, one at each end of the elevation, and a set of double timber doors which are offset from the centre. The doors and windows are all replacement.

On the northern elevation, the sectional timber hut and extension 1 are clad in weatherboard. Extension 1 has a single timber door and a single-light fixed window. The lower half of extension 3 is red brick laid in Flemish bond (brick dimensions: 225 x 110 x 65mm) and the upper is a timber frame covered with chicken wire. There is a single door in the centre of extension 3.

On the eastern elevation extension 2 is red brick laid in Flemish bond (brick dimensions: 230 x 105 x 65mm). The lower half of extension 3 is red brick laid in Flemish bond and the upper is a timber frame covered with chicken wire.

On the southern elevation, the sectional timber hut and extension 1 are clad in weatherboard. Extension 1 has a single timber door. Extension 2 is red brick laid in Flemish bond with weatherboard above.



**Photograph 12** Southern elevation of the sectional timber hut. Photograph taken facing north-west.

*Interior*

The roof of the sectional timber hut comprises pairs of double rafters, which straddle the tie-beams and rise to meet at the apex of the roof. There are three through-purlins on each roof pitch and king posts rising from the tie-beams. The tie-beams are supported on wall-plates on both walls. All of the timbers in the frame of the sectional timber hut are machine cut.

The northern, southern and western walls are clad in white fibreboard while the eastern wall is the bare timber-frame. There is a door and two windows in the western wall and an inserted door in the eastern wall. The floor is poured concrete.



**Photograph 13** Internal view of sectional timber hut. Photograph taken facing north-west.



**Photograph 14** Internal view of sectional timber hut. Photograph taken facing east.

The roof of extension 1 consists of single rafters rising from the eastern wall plate to meet the western wall, with two through-purlins.

The western wall is the original eastern elevation of the sectional timber hut and is clad in weatherboard, while the eastern wall is red brick in a rough Flemish bond. There is an inserted door in the western wall. The northern and southern walls are both timber. The northern wall has a door and window and the southern wall a single blocked doorway. There is a crude dividing wall, constructed from timber, chicken wire and fibreboard, segregating roughly the north third of extension 1. The floor is poured concrete.



**Photograph 15** Internal view of extension 1. Photo taken facing north-west.

Extension 3 is a flat-roofed timber-frame supported on a red brick plinth. The timber frame is covered in chicken wire. There is a door in the northern and southern wall. The floor is poured concrete.

## 7 Discussion

During the interwar period, the RAF initially decreased in size as the nation believed another major war was unlikely. After 1934, it became clear that Germany had begun an extensive rearmament programme and were once again becoming a threat. In the years leading up to and during WWII, the RAF saw a period of rapid expansion during which a number of temporary airfields were established. In the course of the conflict, some 450 new service airfields were established (Francis 2016).

Constructed solely of buildings with a transitory nature, the newly-constructed airfields were designed to only last the duration of the war. The buildings were a complete contrast to the those of a permanent airfield – mainly single-storey brick or prefabricated as opposed to the comprehensive, uniform architecture previously adopted by the RAF (Francis 2016). Over 50 different types of temporary hut were developed for the WWII, this wide variety can be attributed to the governments reliance on civilian engineers, architects and builders (in WWI, the Royal Engineers were primarily responsible for hut designs, but they were generally deployed during WWII) (Draper 2018).

At the beginning of the war, the standard prefabricated huts used were the Type A and B huts, sectional timber huts that could be adapted for many uses. They were subsequently replaced by the 'X', 'Y' and 'Z' huts and then the Magnet Hut due to timber shortages (MoD 1997). All similar in style and constructed from pre-made panels bolted together, the main difference between the huts was the quality of materials used. Due to the similarities in design between all the types of sectional timber huts developed around this time, its difficult to assign a hut-type to the sectional timber hut recorded at Great Easton Manor.

As the war progressed and construction materials became sparser and sparser, particularly timber and steel, it became essential to develop different designs that utilised other materials. Methods of control were applied to some construction materials, mainly timber and steel, which was integral to the development of temporary hutting. Builders and architects from around the country responded to the need for temporary hutting with designs which incorporated materials such as concrete, asbestos, plywood, plasterboard and sawdust (Draper 2018). At this time, the pre-fabricated concrete-asbestos hut came to the forefront.

The Handcraft Hut was a prefabricated concrete-asbestos hut produced by the Universal Asbestos Company from 1942 onwards. The Handcraft Hut required no framing and was constructed from ready-shaped concrete-asbestos sheets that needed bolting together. The short-ends of the hut could be constructed from whatever material was readily available at the time, at no time during the war was there sufficient stocks of any one type material that led to the long-term adoption of one particular type (MoD 1997).

At the end of the war, many of the temporary airfields were closed and the land either returned to the owner or sold off. In many cases, the temporary buildings of the airfields were auctioned separately, after the landowner was given first refusal (Francis 2016).

It seems likely the two huts recorded at Great Easton Manor were purchased from RAF Great Dunmow, after its closure in 1950. At first glance the huts seem uninteresting due to their modern age and lacklustre appearances, particularly considering modern-day knowledge on the dangers of asbestos, but the survival and utilisation of these huts does attest to the 'make do and mend' attitude adopted and embraced by the

British people after the war. The armed forces may have seen the temporary hutting of the Second World War as disposable but the local farmers saw an opportunity to expand their existing stock of farm-buildings with ready-made, transportable and easily adaptable structures. This secondary use preserved these military buildings which otherwise would probably have completely disappeared from the historic record.

## 8 Acknowledgements

Colchester Archaeological Trust would like to thank Samuel Brampton (Pelham Structures) for commissioning and the homeowner for funding the historic building recording. The recording was carried out by Sarah Veasey and Xander Smith. Figures are by Sarah Veasey, based on original architects drawings Pelham Structures Ltd. The project was monitored by Kate Lee-Smith for Essex County Council.

## 9 References

Note: all CAT reports, except for DBAs, are available online in .pdf format at <http://cat.essex.ac.uk>

Brown, I, Burridge, D, Clarke, D, Guy J, Hellis, J, Lowry, B, Ruckley, N & Thomas R	1996	<i>20th Century Defences in Britain: An Introductory Guide</i>
Bowyer, M J F	1979	<i>Action Stations: 1. Military Airfields of East Anglia</i>
CAT	2023	<i>Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for historic building recording at Great Easton Manor, Dunmow Road, Great Easton</i> by S Veasey
CifA	2014a (updated 2019)	<i>Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials</i>
CifA	2014b (updated 2019)	<i>Standard and guidance for archaeological investigation and recording of standing buildings or structures</i>
Draper, K L	2018	<i>Wartime Huts: The Development, Typology and Identification of Temporary Military Buildings in Britain 1914-1945</i>
Francis, P, Flagg, R & Crisp, G	2016	<i>Nine Thousand Miles of Concrete: A Review of Second World War Temporary Airfields in England</i>
MHCLG	2021	<i>National planning policy framework</i>
Ministry of Defense	1997	<i>The Royal Airforce Builds for War: a History of Design and Construction in the RAF, 1935-1945</i>
EAA 14	2003	<i>Standards for field archaeology in the East of England</i> East Anglian Archaeological occasional papers 14 by D. Gurney
EAA 24	2011	<i>Research and Archaeology Revisited: A Revised Framework for the East of England</i> , East Anglian Archaeological occasional papers 24 by M Medlycott
ECCPS	2023	<i>Brief for Historic Building Recording at Great Easton Manor, Dunmow Road, Great Easton</i> by K Lee-Smith
Historic England	2015	<i>MoRPHE: Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment</i>
Historic England	2016	<i>Understanding Historic Buildings. A guide to good recording practice</i>

## 10 Abbreviations and glossary

beam horizontal members in timber-frames

CAT	Colchester Archaeological Trust
ClfA	Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
Dispersed site	a military site selected to reduce concentration and vulnerability by its separation from other military targets or a recognized threat area
EHER	Essex Historic Environment Record, held by the ECC
English-bond	a brickwork bond created from alternate courses of headers and stretchers
ERO	Essex Records Office
Flemish-bond	a brickwork bond created from alternating headers and stretchers within a single course
HE	Historic Environment
header	a brick laid at right-angles to the face of a wall, i.e. widthways
modern	period from the 19th century onwards to the present
NGR	National Grid Reference
OASIS	Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations, <a href="http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main">http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main</a>
RAF	Royal Air Force
rafter	an inclined timber following the slope of the roof
stretcher	a brick laid parallel to the face of the wall, i.e. lengthways
wall-plate	a timber running horizontally along the top of a wall to receive the ends of common rafters
WWI	First World War
WWII	Second World War

## 11 Archive deposition

The archive is currently held by the Colchester Archaeological Trust at Roman Circus House, Roman Circus Walk, Colchester, Essex CO2 7GZ, but will be permanently deposited with the Archaeological Data Service.

## 12 Contents of digital archive

The CAT WSI  
The report (CAT Report 1934)  
Digital plans  
Site digital photos and log

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### Distribution list

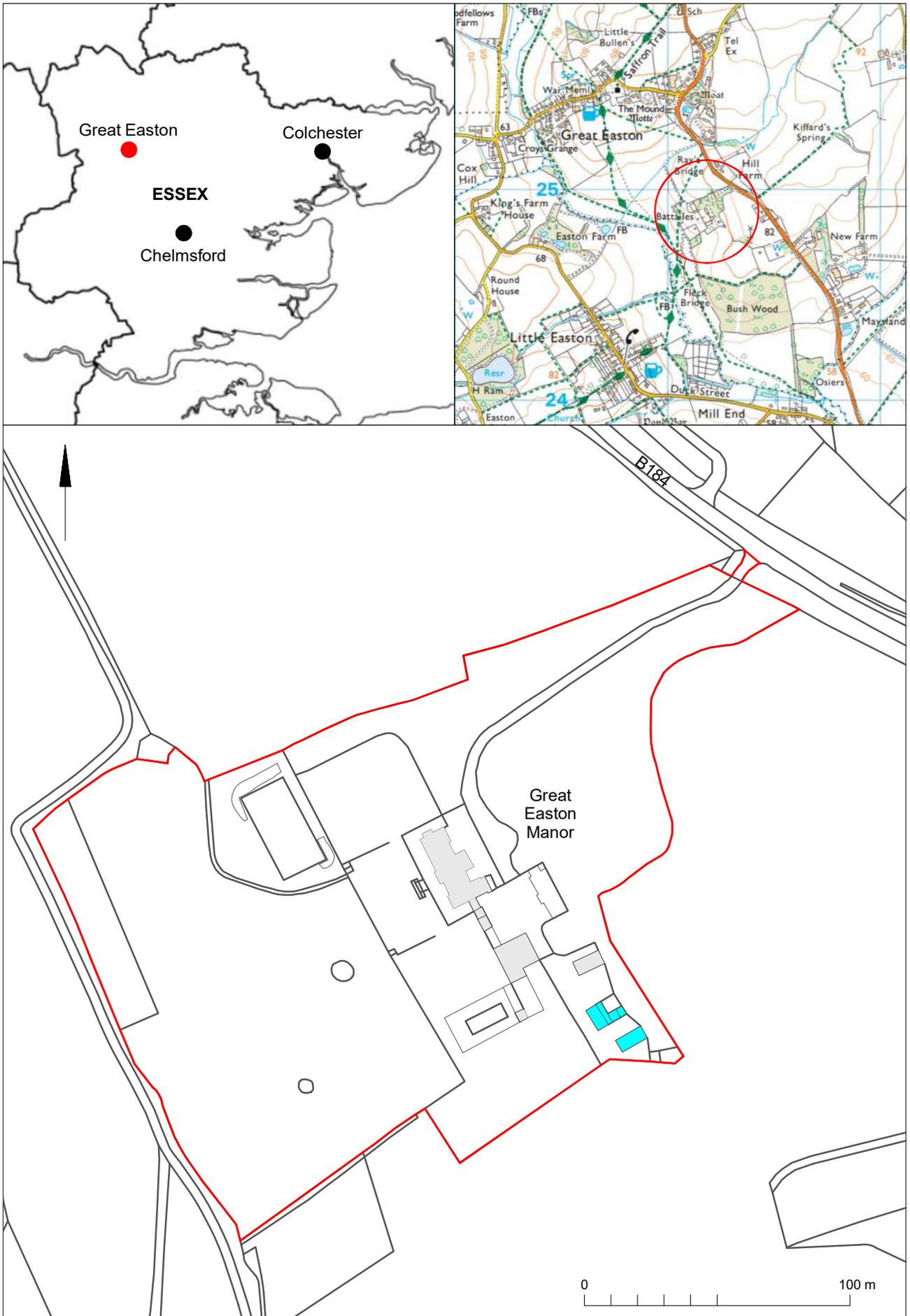
Homeowner  
Katie Lee-Smith, ECCHEA  
EHER

## Appendix 1:

### Full digital photographic record

GEAGE23_PhotoGraph_001.JPG	Western elevation of the handcraft hut. Photograph taken facing north-east.
GEAGE23_PhotoGraph_002.JPG	Detail of door on western elevation of the handcraft hut. Photograph taken facing south-east.
GEAGE23_PhotoGraph_003.JPG	Northern elevation of the handcraft hut. Photograph taken facing east.
GEAGE23_PhotoGraph_004.JPG	Northern elevation of the handcraft hut. Photograph taken facing south south-west.
GEAGE23_PhotoGraph_005.JPG	Detail of window on northern elevation of the handcraft hut. Photograph taken facing south-east.
GEAGE23_PhotoGraph_006.JPG	Detail of window on northern elevation of the handcraft hut. Photograph taken facing south-east.
GEAGE23_PhotoGraph_007.JPG	Eastern elevation of the handcraft hut. Photograph taken facing south-west.
GEAGE23_PhotoGraph_008.JPG	Detail of door on eastern elevation of the handcraft hut. Photograph taken facing south-west.
GEAGE23_PhotoGraph_009.JPG	Detail of light fixture on eastern elevation of the handcraft hut. Photograph taken facing west.
GEAGE23_PhotoGraph_010.JPG	Southern elevation of the handcraft hut. Photograph taken facing north-west.
GEAGE23_PhotoGraph_011.JPG	Detail of window on southern elevation of the handcraft hut. Photograph taken facing north-west.
GEAGE23_PhotoGraph_012.JPG	Detail of window on southern elevation of the handcraft hut. Photograph taken facing north-west.
GEAGE23_PhotoGraph_013.JPG	Detail of window on northern wall of the handcraft hut. Photograph taken facing north-west.
GEAGE23_PhotoGraph_014.JPG	Detail of window on northern wall of the handcraft hut. Photograph taken facing north-west.
GEAGE23_PhotoGraph_015.JPG	Detail of window on southern wall of the handcraft hut. Photograph taken facing south-east.
GEAGE23_PhotoGraph_016.JPG	Detail of window on southern wall of the handcraft hut. Photograph taken facing south-east.
GEAGE23_PhotoGraph_017.JPG	Internal view of the handcraft hut. Photograph taken facing north-east.
GEAGE23_PhotoGraph_018.JPG	Internal view of the handcraft hut. Photograph taken facing north.
GEAGE23_PhotoGraph_019.JPG	Internal view of the handcraft hut. Photograph taken facing south.
GEAGE23_PhotoGraph_020.JPG	Internal view of the handcraft hut. Photograph taken facing south-west.
GEAGE23_PhotoGraph_021.JPG	Detail of bricks above door of western wall of the handcraft hut. Photo graph taken facing west.
GEAGE23_PhotoGraph_022.JPG	Detail of bricks above door of western wall of the handcraft hut. Photo graph taken facing north-east.
GEAGE23_PhotoGraph_023.JPG	Detail of doorway of western wall of the handcraft hut. Photograph taken facing south-west.
GEAGE23_PhotoGraph_024.JPG	Detail of doorway on eastern wall of the handcraft hut. Photograph taken facing north-east.
GEAGE23_PhotoGraph_025.JPG	Detail of post-hole in floor of the handcraft hut.
GEAGE23_PhotoGraph_026.JPG	Detail of roof of the handcraft hut. Photograph taken facing north-east.
GEAGE23_PhotoGraph_027.JPG	Detail of roof of the handcraft hut. Photograph taken facing south-west.
GEAGE23_PhotoGraph_028.JPG	Western elevation of the sectional timber hut. Photograph taken facing north-east.
GEAGE23_PhotoGraph_029.JPG	Detail of doorway on western elevation of the sectional timber hut. Photograph taken facing north-east.
GEAGE23_PhotoGraph_030.JPG	Detail of window on western elevation of the sectional timber hut. Photograph taken facing north-east.
GEAGE23_PhotoGraph_031.JPG	Detail of window on western elevation of the sectional timber hut. Photograph taken facing north-east.
GEAGE23_PhotoGraph_032.JPG	Southern elevation of the sectional timber hut. Photograph taken facing north-west.
GEAGE23_PhotoGraph_033.JPG	Southern elevation of sectional timber hut showing modern extensions. Photograph taken facing north-west.
GEAGE23_PhotoGraph_034.JPG	Detail of doorway on southern elevation of modern extension of sectional timber hut. Photograph taken facing north-west.

GEAGE23_PhotoGraph_035.JPG	Eastern elevation of sectional timber hut. Photograph taken facing south-west.
GEAGE23_PhotoGraph_036.JPG	Northern elevation of sectional timber hut. Photograph taken facing south-east.
GEAGE23_PhotoGraph_037.JPG	Detail of doorway on northern elevation of modern extension of sectional timber hut. Photograph taken facing south-east.
GEAGE23_PhotoGraph_038.JPG	Detail of window on northern elevation of modern extension of sectional timber hut. Photograph taken facing south-east.
GEAGE23_PhotoGraph_039.JPG	Detail of doorway on northern elevation of modern extension to sectional timber hut. Photograph taken facing south-east.
GEAGE23_PhotoGraph_040.JPG	Detail of brick plinth on northern elevation of modern extension of sectional timber hut. Photograph taken facing south.
GEAGE23_PhotoGraph_041.JPG	Internal view of sectional timber hut. Photograph taken facing east.
GEAGE23_PhotoGraph_042.JPG	Internal view of sectional timber hut. Photograph taken facing south.
GEAGE23_PhotoGraph_043.JPG	Internal view of sectional timber hut. Photograph taken facing north-west.
GEAGE23_PhotoGraph_044.JPG	Internal view of sectional timber hut. Photograph taken facing north.
GEAGE23_PhotoGraph_045.JPG	Detail of window in western wall of sectional timber hut. Photograph taken facing south-west.
GEAGE23_PhotoGraph_046.JPG	Detail of window in western wall of sectional timber hut. Photograph taken facing south-west.
GEAGE23_PhotoGraph_047.JPG	Detail of internal door in eastern wall of sectional timber hut. Photograph taken facing north-east.
GEAGE23_PhotoGraph_048.JPG	Detail of stamp on rafter in sectional timber hut. Photograph taken facing south-east.
GEAGE23_PhotoGraph_049.JPG	Detail of truss in sectional timber hut. Photograph taken facing north-west.
GEAGE23_PhotoGraph_050.JPG	Detail of exterior doorway in western wall of sectional timber hut. Photograph taken facing south-west.
GEAGE23_PhotoGraph_051.JPG	Detail of interior wall cladding in sectional timber hut. Photograph taken facing north-west.
GEAGE23_PhotoGraph_052.JPG	Internal view of extension 1. Photograph taken facing north.
GEAGE23_PhotoGraph_053.JPG	Internal view of extension 1. Photo taken facing north-west.
GEAGE23_PhotoGraph_054.JPG	Internal view of extension 1. Photograph taken facing south-east.
GEAGE23_PhotoGraph_055.JPG	Internal view of extension 1. Photograph taken facing south-east.
GEAGE23_PhotoGraph_056.JPG	Detail of internal door between sectional timber hut and extension 1. Photograph taken facing south-west.
GEAGE23_PhotoGraph_057.JPG	Detail of original exterior wall of sectional timber hut within extension 1. Photograph taken facing south-west.
GEAGE23_PhotoGraph_058.JPG	Internal view of extension 1. Photograph taken facing north.
GEAGE23_PhotoGraph_059.JPG	Internal view of extension 1. Photograph taken facing east.
GEAGE23_PhotoGraph_060.JPG	Detail of partition wall in extension 1. Photograph taken facing south-east.
GEAGE23_PhotoGraph_061.JPG	Detail of window of northern wall of extension 1. Photograph taken facing north-west.
GEAGE23_PhotoGraph_062.JPG	Detail of window in northern wall of extension 1. Photograph taken facing north-west.
GEAGE23_PhotoGraph_063.JPG	Internal view of extension 3. Photograph taken facing south.
GEAGE23_PhotoGraph_064.JPG	Internal view of extension 3. Photograph taken facing north-west.
GEAGE23_PhotoGraph_065.JPG	Detail of poultry door between extension 1 and 3. Photograph taken facing south-west.
GEAGE23_PhotoGraph_066.JPG	Detail of door in northern wall of extension 3. Photograph taken facing north-west.
GEAGE23_PhotoGraph_067.JPG	Internal view of extension 2. Photograph taken facing east.
GEAGE23_PhotoGraph_068.JPG	Detail of doorway between extensions 2 and 3. Photograph taken facing south-east.
GEAGE23_PhotoGraph_069.JPG	Location shot. Photograph taken facing south-east.
GEAGE23_PhotoGraph_070.JPG	Location shot. Photograph taken facing south-east.
GEAGE23_PhotoGraph_071.JPG	Location shot. Photograph taken facing north.



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Fig 1 Site location with buildings recorded shaded blue.

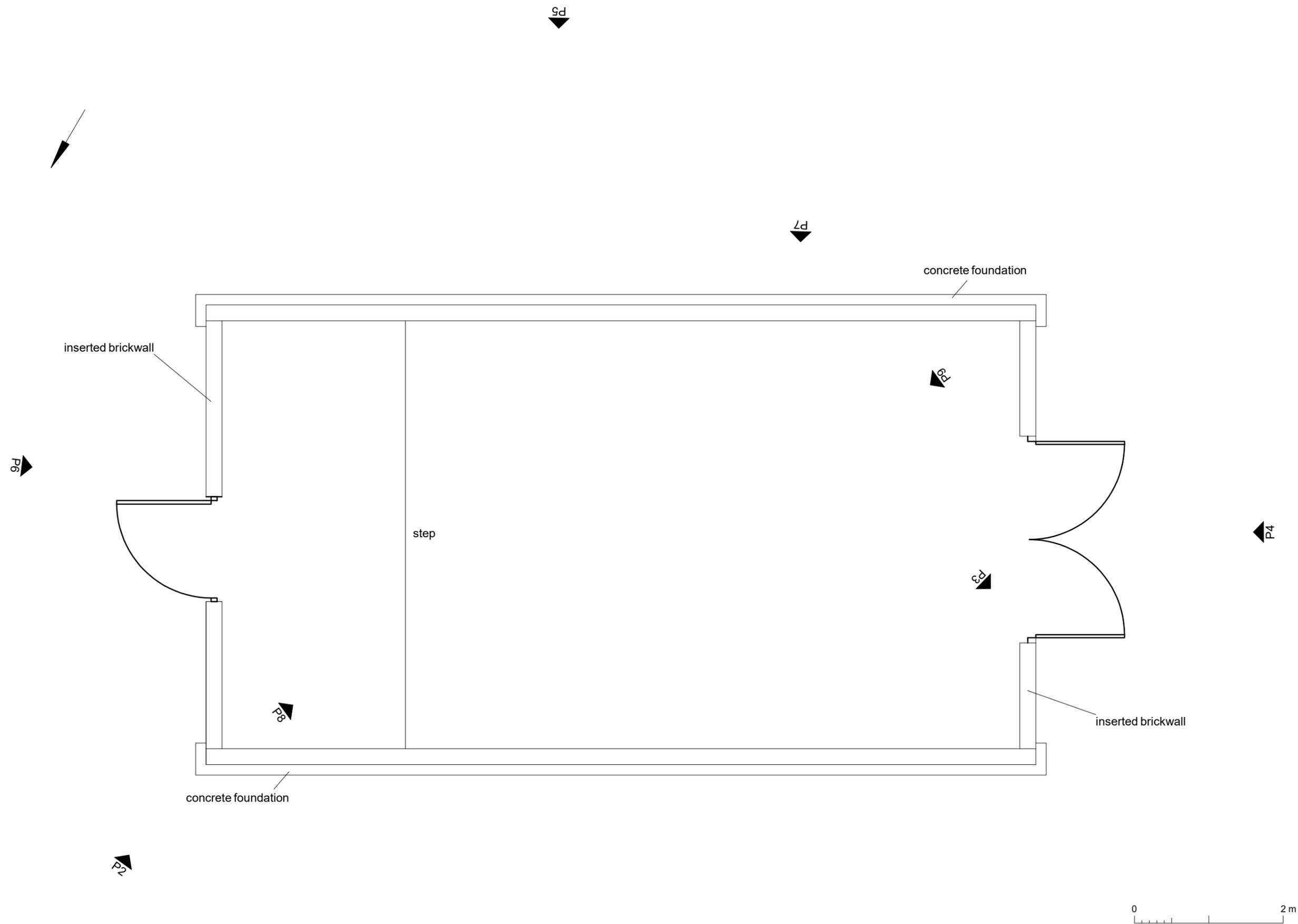


Fig 2 Handcraft hut floor plan. Location and direction of photographs reproduced in the text shown.

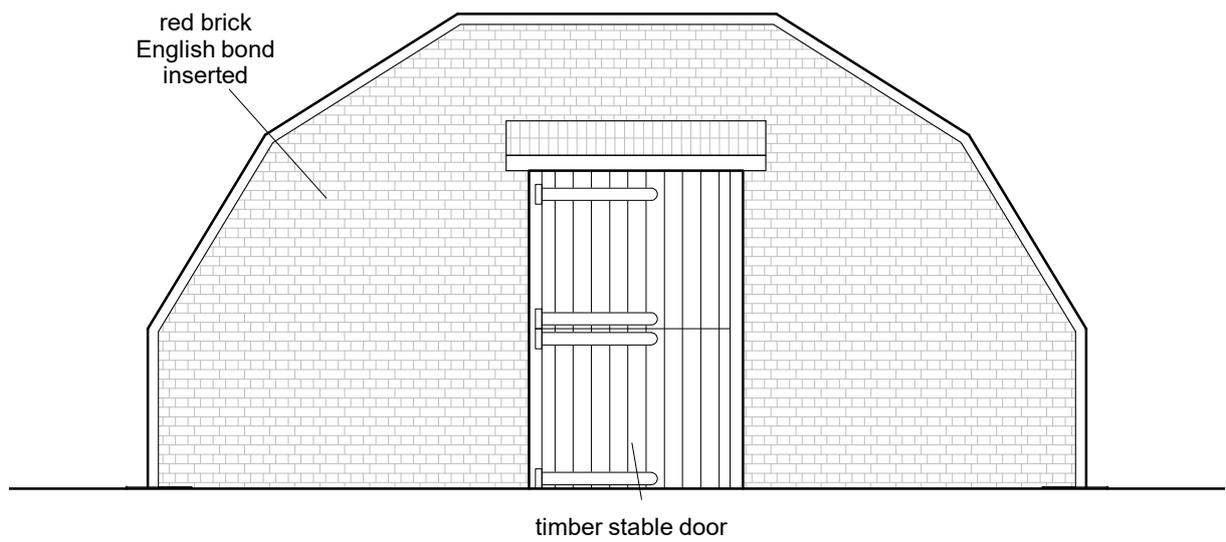
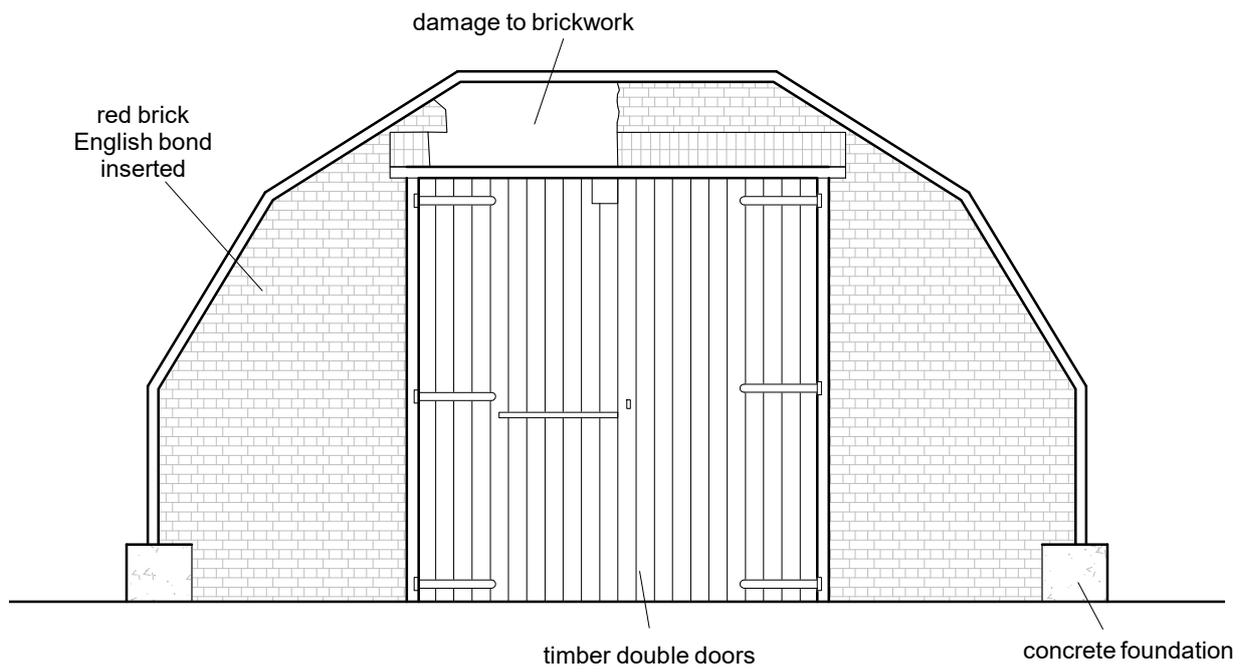


Fig 3 Eastern (bottom) and western (top) elevations of the Handcraft hut.



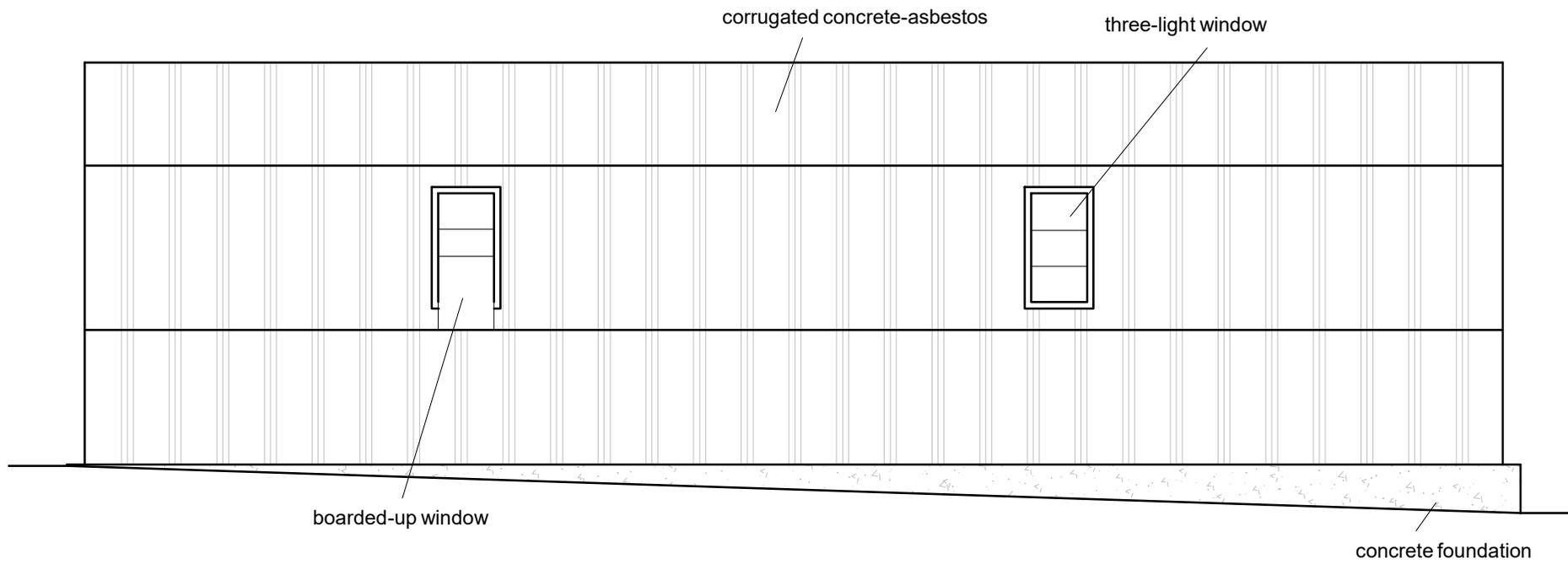


Fig 4 Northern elevation of the Handcraft hut.

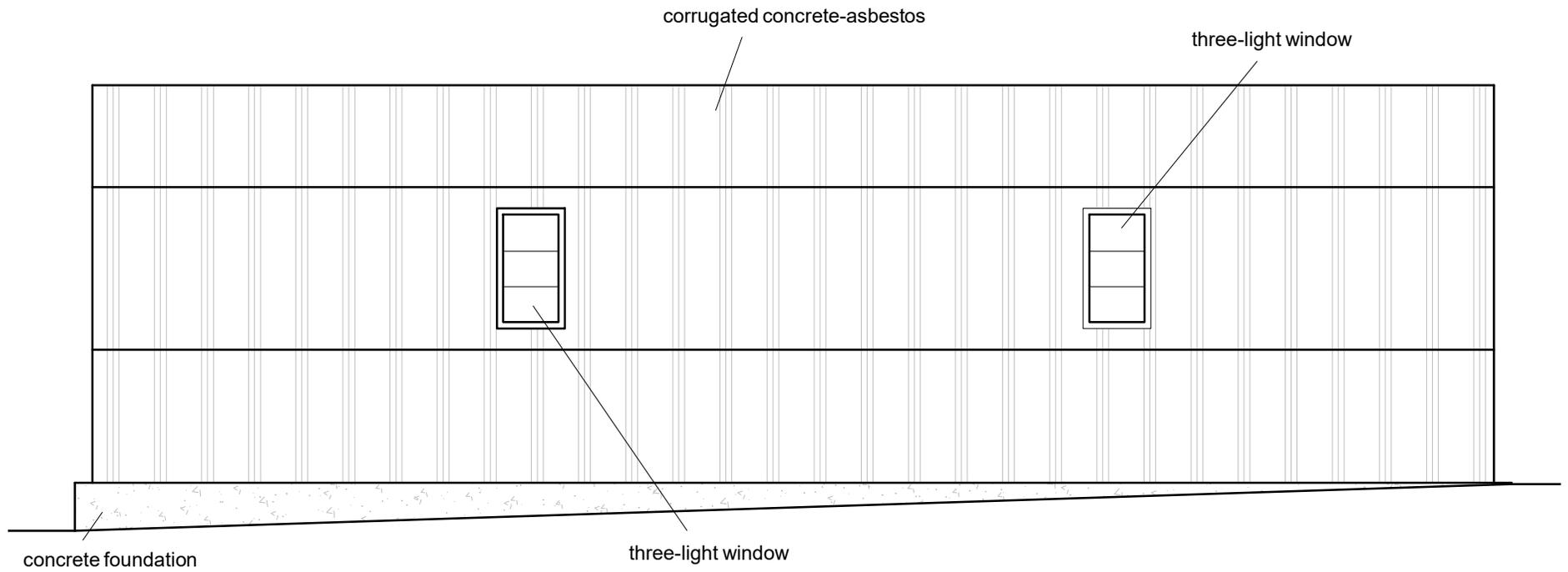


Fig 5 Southern elevation of the Handcraft hut.

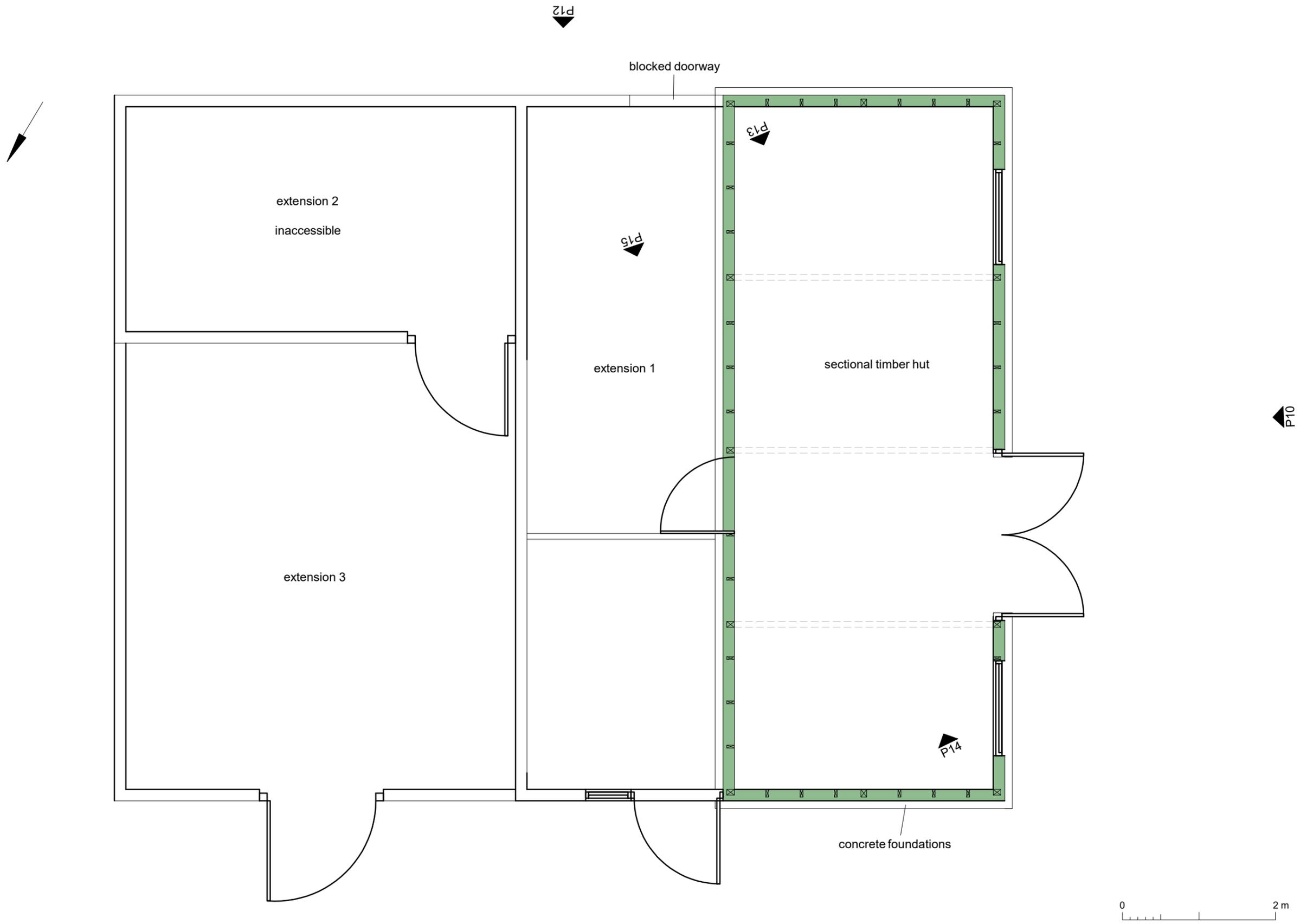


Fig 6 Sectional timber hut floor plan. The original footprint of the hut highlighted in green. Location and direction of photographs reproduced in the text shown.

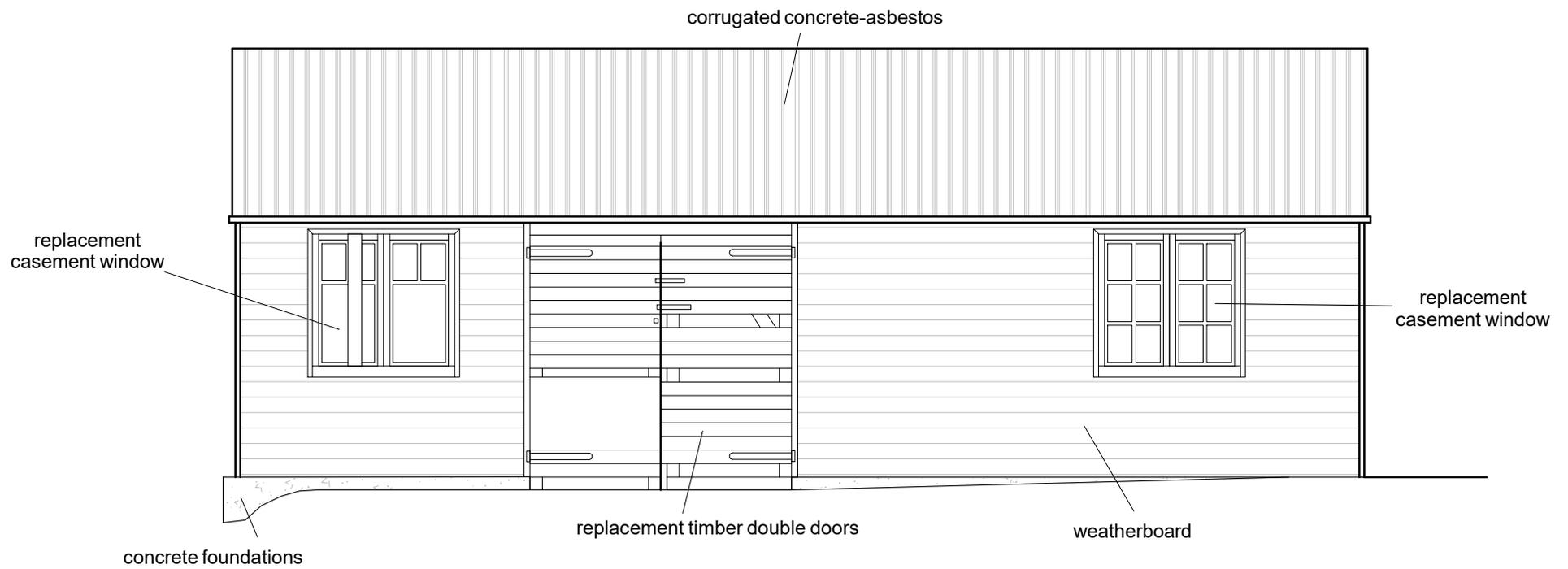


Fig 7 Western elevation of the sectional timber hut.

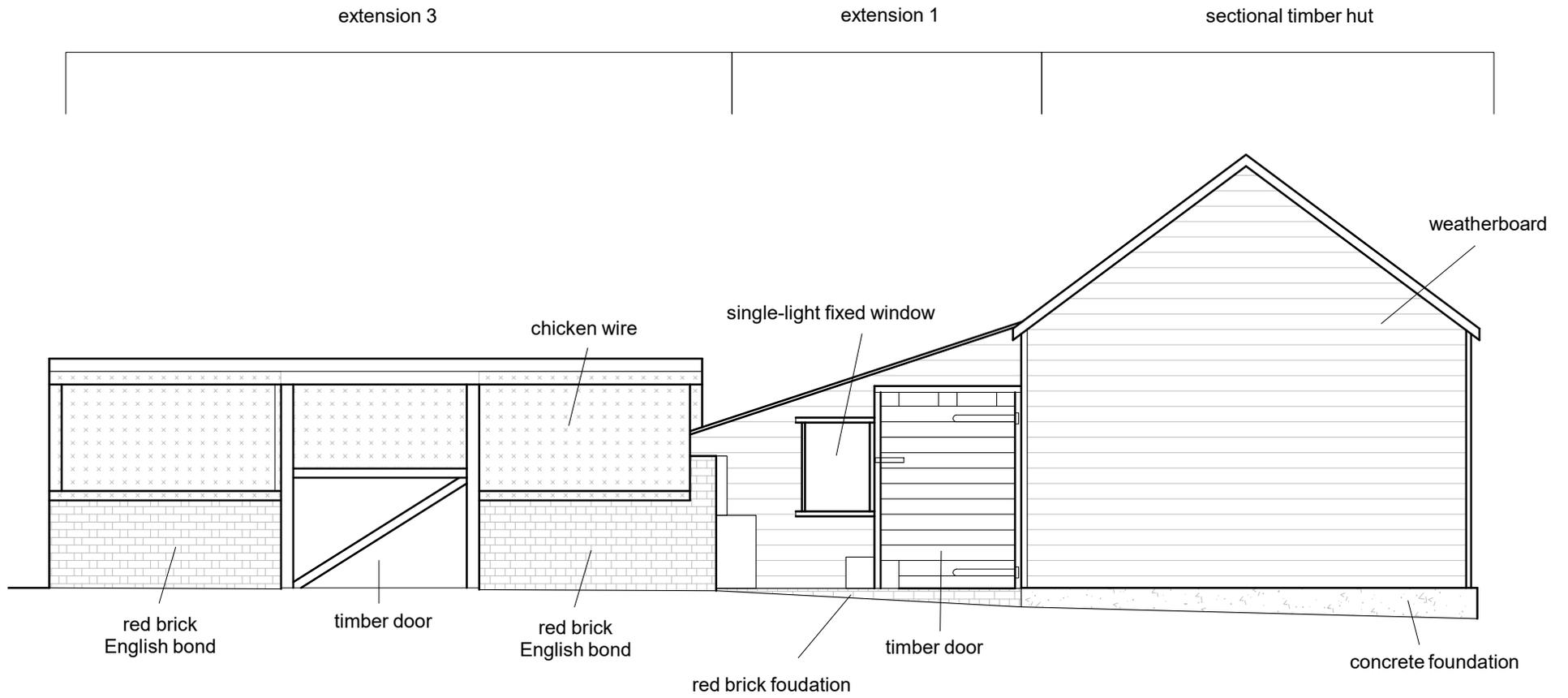


Fig 8 Northern elevation of the sectional timber hut.

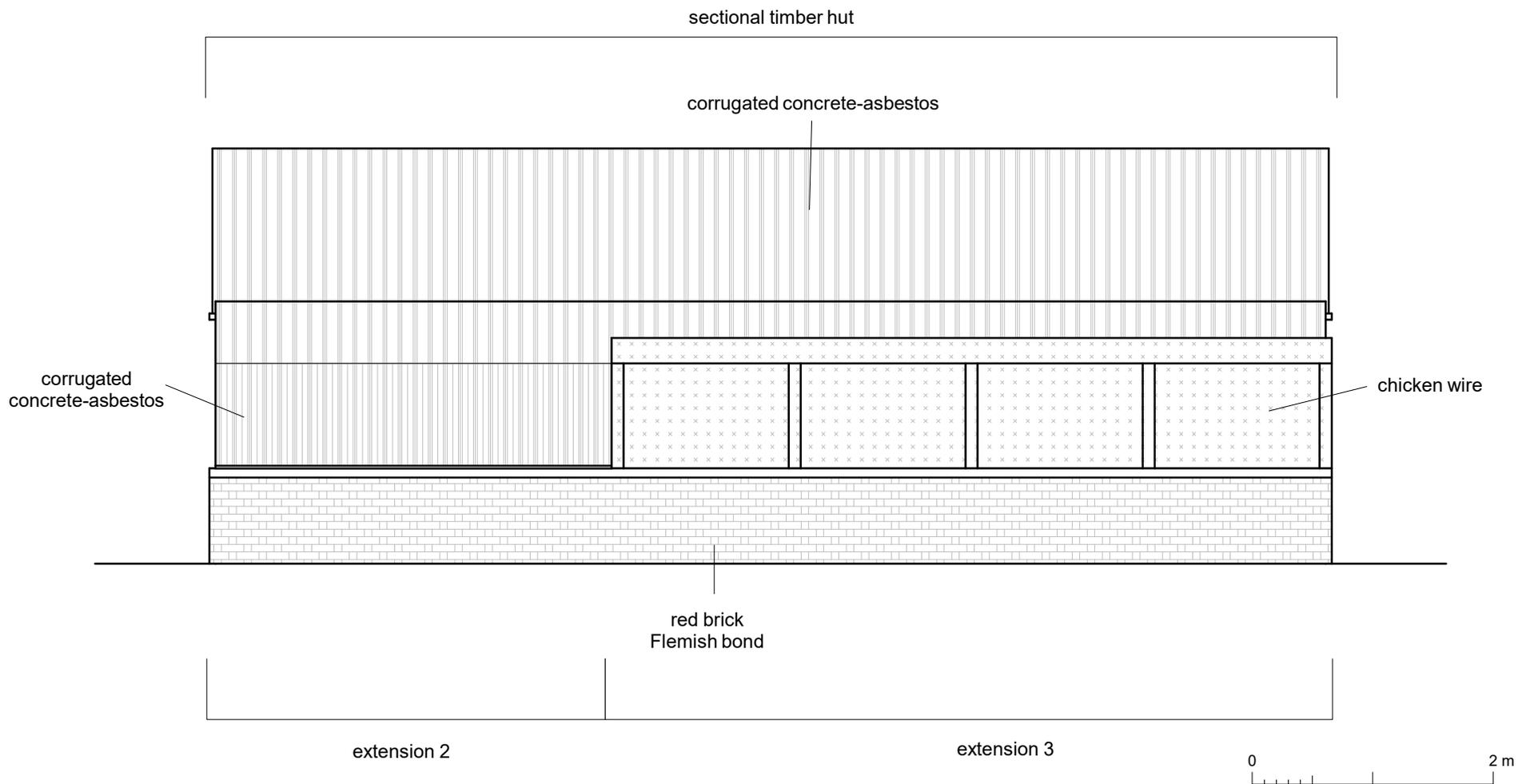


Fig 9 Eastern elevation of the sectional timber hut.

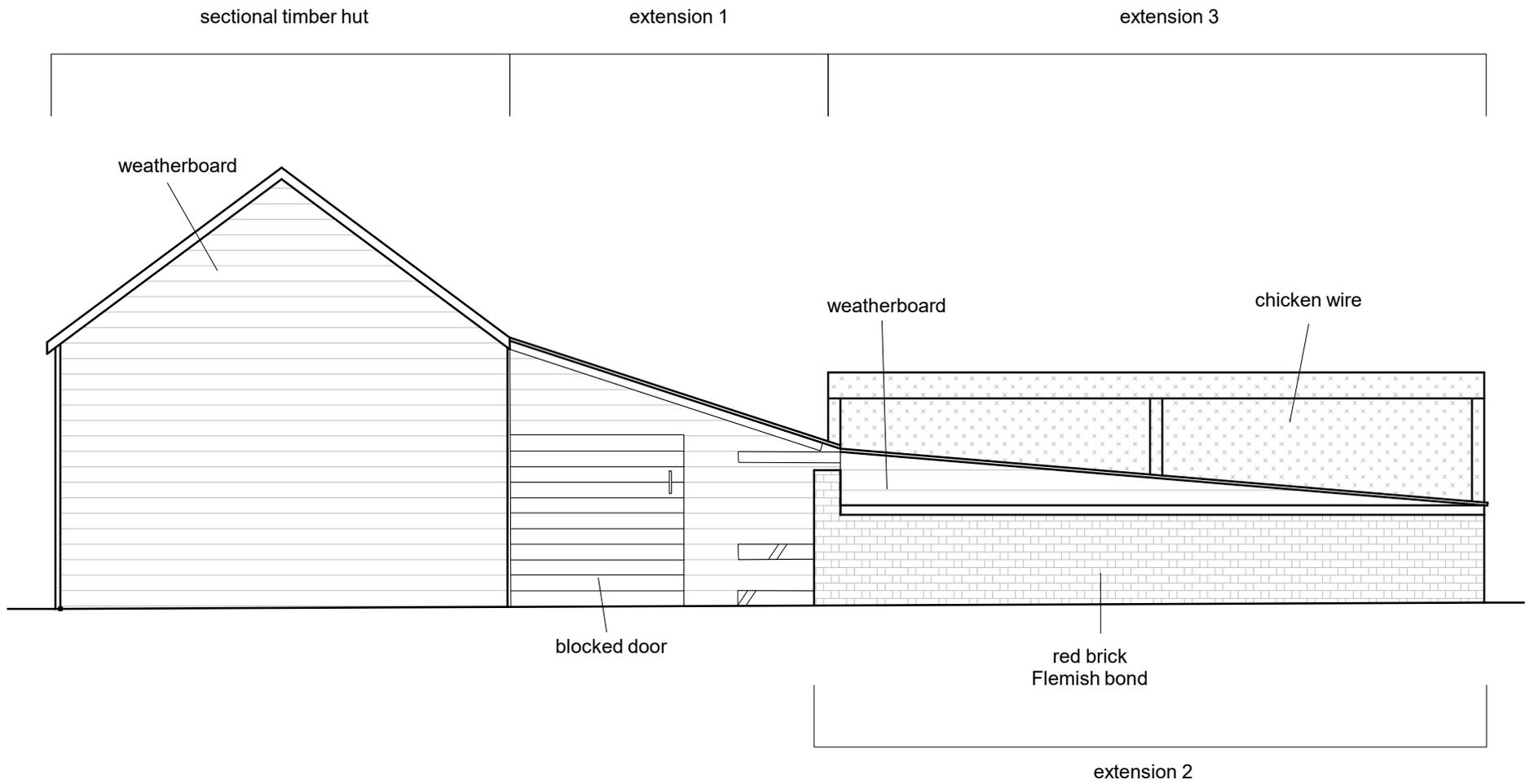


Fig 10 Southern elevation of the sectional timber hut.

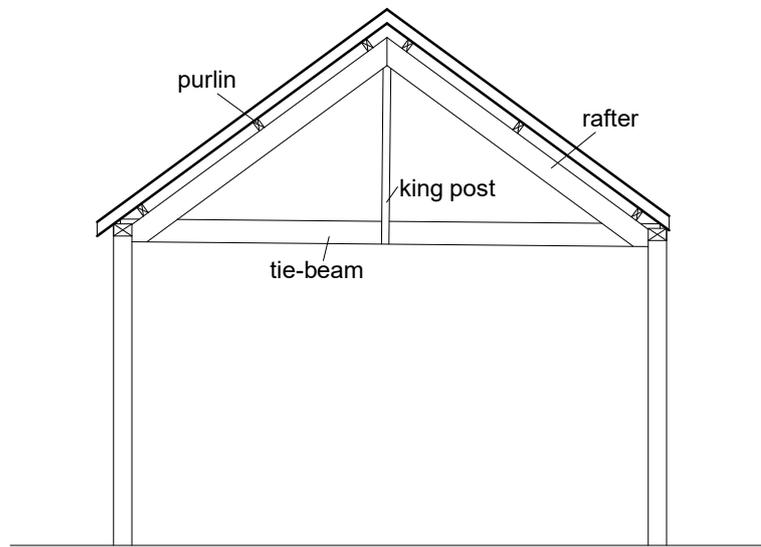


Fig 10 Truss cross section of the sectional timber hut.



GEAGE23\_PhotoGraph\_001.JPG Western elevation of the handcraft hut. Photograph taken facing north-east.



GEAGE23\_PhotoGraph\_002.JPG Detail of door on western elevation of the handcraft hut. Photograph taken facing south-east.



GEAGE23\_PhotoGraph\_003.JPG Northern elevation of the handcraft hut. Photograph taken facing east.



GEAGE23\_PhotoGraph\_004.JPG Northern elevation of the handcraft hut. Photograph taken facing south-south-west.



GEAGE23\_PhotoGraph\_005.JPG Detail of window on northern elevation of the handcraft hut. Photograph taken facing south-east.



GEAGE23\_PhotoGraph\_006.JPG Detail of window on northern elevation of the handcraft hut. Photograph taken facing south-east.



GEAGE23\_PhotoGraph\_007.JPG Eastern elevation of the handcraft hut. Photograph taken facing south-west.



GEAGE23\_PhotoGraph\_008.JPG Detail of door on eastern elevation of the handcraft hut. Photograph taken facing south-west.



GEAGE23\_Phograph\_009.JPG Detail of light fixture on eastern elevation of the handcraft hut. Photograph taken facing west.



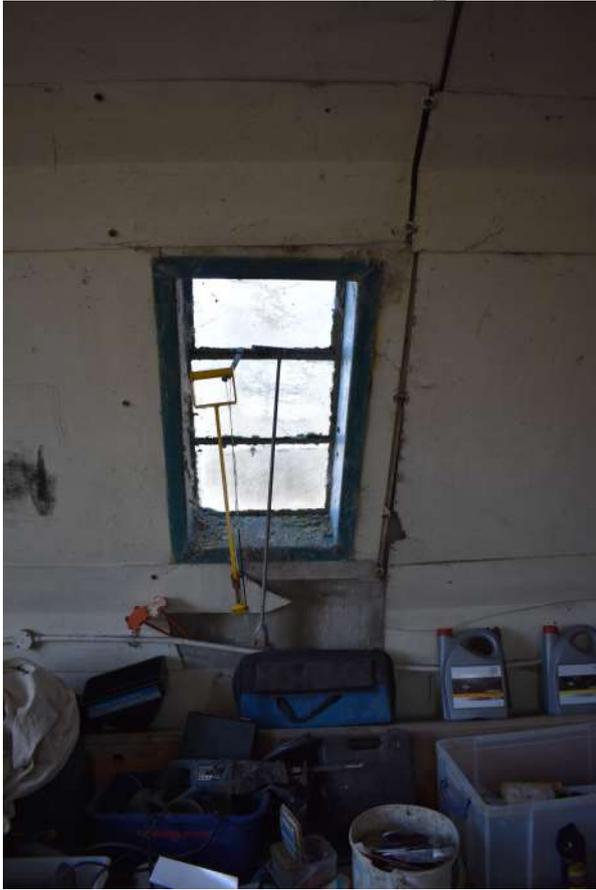
GEAGE23\_Phograph\_010.JPG Southern elevation of the handcraft hut. Photograph taken facing north-w est.



GEAGE23\_Phograph\_011.JPG Detail of window on southern elevation of the handcraft hut. Photograph taken facing north-west.



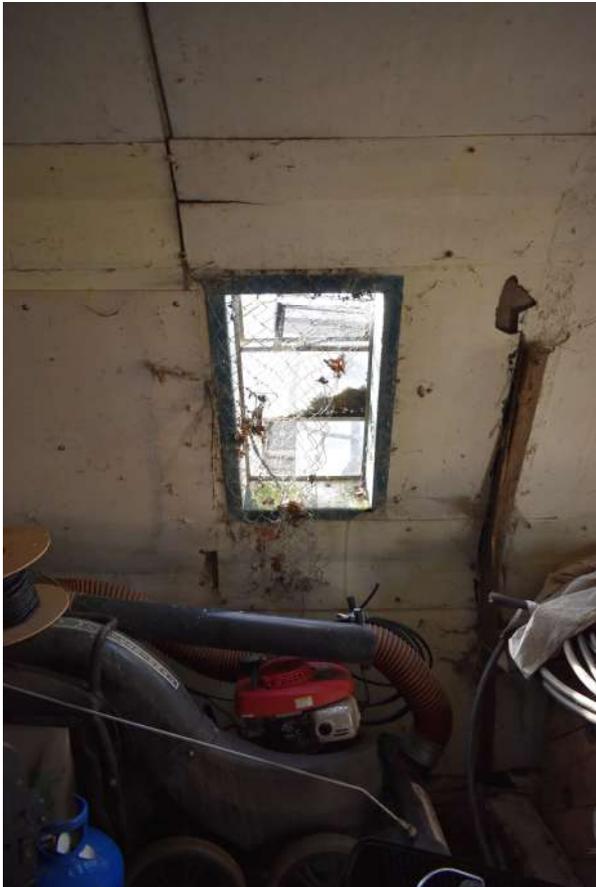
GEAGE23\_Phograph\_012.JPG Detail of window on southern elevation of the handcraft hut. Photograph taken facing north-west.



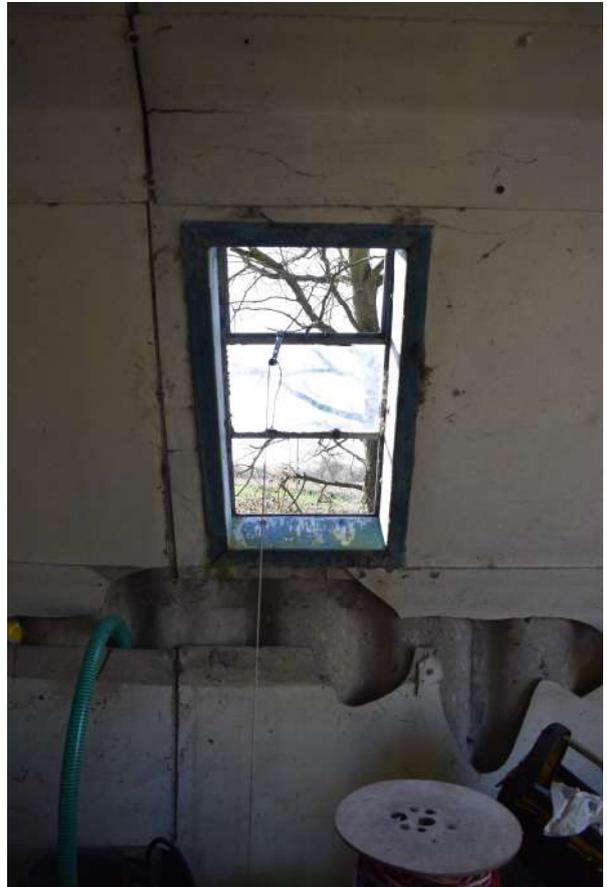
GEAGE23\_PhotoGraph\_013.JPG Detail of window on northern wall of the handcraft hut. Photograph taken facing north-w est.



GEAGE23\_PhotoGraph\_014.JPG Detail of window on northern wall of the handcraft hut. Photograph taken facing north-w est.



GEAGE23\_PhotoGraph\_015.JPG Detail of window on southern wall of the handcraft hut. Photograph taken facing south-east.



GEAGE23\_PhotoGraph\_016.JPG Detail of window on southern wall of the handcraft hut. Photograph taken facing south-east.



GEAGE23\_PhotoGraph\_017.JPG Internal view of the handcraft hut. Photograph taken facing north-east.



GEAGE23\_PhotoGraph\_018.JPG Internal view of the handcraft hut. Photograph taken facing north.



GEAGE23\_PhotoGraph\_019.JPG Internal view of the handcraft hut. Photograph taken facing south.



GEAGE23\_PhotoGraph\_020.JPG Internal view of the handcraft hut. Photograph taken facing south-west.



GEAGE23\_Photo graph\_021.JPG Detail of bricks above door of western wall of the handcraft hut. Photo graph taken facing west.



GEAGE23\_Photo graph\_022.JPG Detail of bricks above door of western wall of the handcraft hut. Photo graph taken facing north-east.



GEAGE23\_Photo graph\_023.JPG Detail of door way of western wall of the handcraft hut. Photograph taken facing south-west.



GEAGE23\_Photo graph\_024.JPG Detail of door way on eastern wall of the handcraft hut. Photograph taken facing north-east.



GEAGE23\_PhotoGraph\_025.JPG Detail of post-hole in floor of the handcraft hut.



GEAGE23\_PhotoGraph\_026.JPG Detail of roof of the handcraft hut. Photograph taken facing north-east.



GEAGE23\_PhotoGraph\_027.JPG Detail of roof of the handcraft hut. Photograph taken facing south-west.



GEAGE23\_PhotoGraph\_028.JPG Western elevation of the sectional timber hut. Photograph taken facing north-east.



GEAGE23\_Photo graph\_029.JPG Detail of doorway on western elevation of the sectional timber hut. Photograph taken facing north-east.



GEAGE23\_Photo graph\_030.JPG Detail of window on western elevation of the sectional timber hut. Photograph taken facing north-east.



GEAGE23\_Photo graph\_031.JPG Detail of window on western elevation of the sectional timber hut. Photograph taken facing north-east.



GEAGE23\_Photo graph\_032.JPG Southern elevation of the sectional timber hut. Photograph taken facing north-west.



GEAGE23\_Photo graph\_033.JPG Southern elevation of sectional timber hut showing modern extensions. Photograph taken facing north-w est.



GEAGE23\_Photo graph\_034.JPG Detail of doorway on southern elevation of modern extension of sectional timber hut. Photograph taken facing north-w est.



GEAGE23\_Photo graph\_035.JPG Eastern elevation of sectional timber hut. Photograph taken facing south-w est.



GEAGE23\_Photo graph\_036.JPG Northern elevation of sectional timber hut. Photograph taken facing south-east.



GEAGE23\_Photograph\_037.JPG Detail of doorway on northern elevation of modern extension of sectional timber hut. Photograph taken facing south-east.



GEAGE23\_Photograph\_038.JPG Detail of window on northern elevation of modern extension of sectional timber hut. Photograph taken facing south-east.



GEAGE23\_Photograph\_039.JPG Detail of doorway on northern elevation of modern extension to sectional timber hut. Photograph taken facing south-east.



GEAGE23\_Photograph\_040.JPG Detail of brick plinth on northern elevation of modern extension of sectional timber hut. Photograph taken facing south.



GEAGE23\_PhotoGraph\_041.JPG Internal view of sectional timber hut. Photograph taken facing east.



GEAGE23\_PhotoGraph\_042.JPG Internal view of sectional timber hut. Photograph taken facing south.



GEAGE23\_PhotoGraph\_043.JPG Internal view of sectional timber hut. Photograph taken facing north-west.



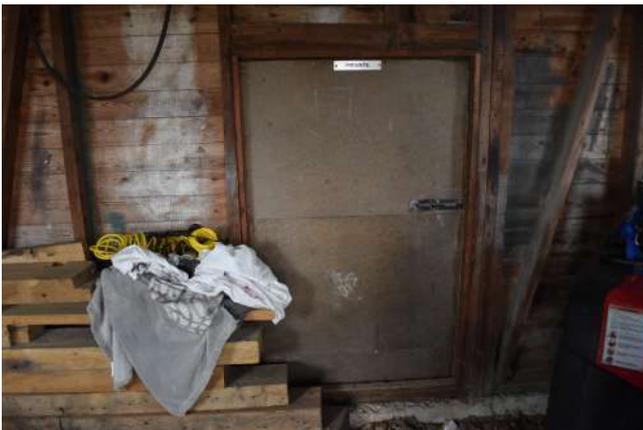
GEAGE23\_PhotoGraph\_044.JPG Internal view of sectional timber hut. Photograph taken facing north.



GEAGE23\_Photograph\_045.JPG Detail of window in western wall of sectional timber hut. Photograph taken facing south-west.



GEAGE23\_Photograph\_046.JPG Detail of window in western wall of sectional timber hut. Photograph taken facing south-west.



GEAGE23\_Photograph\_047.JPG Detail of internal door in eastern wall of sectional timber hut. Photograph taken facing north-east.



GEAGE23\_Photograph\_048.JPG Detail of stamp on rafter in sectional timber hut. Photograph taken facing south-east.



GEAGE23\_PhotoGraph\_049.JPG Detail of truss in sectional timber hut. Photograph taken facing north-w est.



GEAGE23\_PhotoGraph\_050.JPG Detail of exterior doorway in western wall of sectional timber hut. Photograph taken facing south-w est.



GEAGE23\_PhotoGraph\_051.JPG Detail of interior wall cladding in sectional timber hut. Photograph taken facing north-w est.



GEAGE23\_PhotoGraph\_052.JPG Internal view of extension 1. Photograph taken facing north.



GEAGE23\_PhotoGraph\_053.JPG Internal view of extension 1. Photo taken facing north-w est.



GEAGE23\_PhotoGraph\_054.JPG Internal view of extension 1. Photograph taken facing south-east.



GEAGE23\_PhotoGraph\_055.JPG Internal view of extension 1. Photograph taken facing south-east.



GEAGE23\_PhotoGraph\_056.JPG Detail of internal door betw een sectional timber hut and extension 1. Photograph taken facing south-w est.



GEAGE23\_PhotoGraph\_057.JPG Detail of original exterior w all of sectional timber hut w ithin extension 1. Photograph taken facing south-w est.



GEAGE23\_PhotoGraph\_058.JPG Internal view of extension 1. Photograph taken facing north.



GEAGE23\_PhotoGraph\_059.JPG Internal view of extension 1. Photograph taken facing east.



GEAGE23\_PhotoGraph\_060.JPG Detail of partition w all in extension 1. Photograph taken facing south-east.



GEAGE23\_PhotoGraph\_061.JPG Detail of window of northern wall of extension 1. Photograph taken facing north-west.



GEAGE23\_PhotoGraph\_062.JPG Detail of window in northern wall of extension 1. Photograph taken facing north-west.



GEAGE23\_PhotoGraph\_063.JPG Internal view of extension 3. Photograph taken facing south.



GEAGE23\_PhotoGraph\_064.JPG Internal view of extension 3. Photograph taken facing north-west.



GEAGE23\_PhotoGraph\_065.JPG Detail of poultry door between extension 1 and 3. Photograph taken facing south-west.



GEAGE23\_PhotoGraph\_066.JPG Detail of door in northern wall of extension 3. Photograph taken facing north-west.



GEAGE23\_PhotoGraph\_067.JPG Internal view of extension 2. Photograph taken facing east.



GEAGE23\_PhotoGraph\_068.JPG Detail of doorway between extensions 2 and 3. Photograph taken facing south-east.



GEAGE23\_PhotoGraph\_069.JPG Location shot. Photograph taken facing south-east.



GEAGE23\_PhotoGraph\_070.JPG Location shot. Photograph taken facing south-east.



GEAGE23\_PhotoGraph\_071.JPG Location shot. Photograph taken facing north.

# Summary for colchest3-514061

OASIS ID (UID)	colchest3-514061
Project Name	Analytical Buildings Record (Level 3) at Great Easton Manor, Dunmow Road, Great Easton, Essex, CM6 2DJ
Sitename	Great Easton Manor, Dunmow Road, Great Easton, Essex, CM6 2DJ
Activity type	Analytical Buildings Record (Level 3)
Project Identifier(s)	2023/03f
Planning Id	UTT/22/3361/HHF
Reason For Investigation	Planning: Post determination
Organisation Responsible for work	Colchester Archaeological Trust
Project Dates	03-Apr-2023 - 03-Apr-2023
Location	Great Easton Manor, Dunmow Road, Great Easton, Essex, CM6 2DJ NGR : TL 61184 24894 LL : 51.8992806379996, 0.341316451924191 12 Fig : 561184,224894
Administrative Areas	Country : England County : Essex District : Uttlesford Parish : Great Easton
Project Methodology	<p>The aim of the building recording was to provide a detailed record and assessment of the huts prior to any demolition work. The building recording was carried out to Level 3 (Historic England 2016) which is defined as:</p> <p>“Level 3 is an analytical record and will comprise an introductory description followed by a systematic account of the building’s origins, development and use. The record will include an account of the evidence on which the analysis has been based, allowing the validity of the record to be re-examined in detail. It will also include all drawn and photographic records that may be required to illustrate the building’s appearance and structure and to support an historical analysis.</p> <p>The information contained in the record will for the most part have been obtained through an examination of the building itself. The documentary sources used are likely to be those which are most readily accessible, such as historic Ordnance Survey maps, trade directories and other published sources. The record may contain some discussion of the building’s broader stylistic or historical context and importance. It may form part of a wider survey of a number of buildings which will aim at an overall synthesis, such as a thematic or regional publication, when the use of additional source material may be necessary as well as a broader historical and architectural discussion of the buildings as a group.”</p> <p>In particular the record considered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plan and form of the site.</li> <li>• Materials and method of construction.</li> <li>• Date(s) of the structure(s).</li> <li>• Original function and layout.</li> <li>• Original and later fixtures and fittings.</li> <li>• The significance of the site in its immediate local context.</li> </ul>

Project Results	A programme of historic building recording was carried out by Colchester Archaeological Trust on two WWII-era military huts at Great Easton Manor, Dunmow Road, Great Easton, Essex. The huts recorded were a concrete-asbestos Handcraft Hut and a sectional timber hut, which were likely relocated from the nearby RAF Great Dunmow in the early 1950's. Both huts were probably first used for barrack accommodation on the temporary airfield, sold off after RAF Great Dunmow was closed and subsequently used for farm storage.
Keywords	Handcraft Hut - Second World War - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types Sectional Hut (Type A) - Second World War - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types
Funder	
HER	Essex HER - unRev - STANDARD
Person Responsible for work	S, Veasey
HER Identifiers	HER Event No - GEAGE23
Archives	Digital Archive - to be deposited with Archaeology Data Service Archive;