

# Colchester Archaeological Trust



**CAT Report 1943  
issued June 2023**

**Historic building recording of a barn at  
Tylde Hall Farm, Heath Road, Ramsden Heath,  
Billericay CM11 1HP**



**CAT project ref.: 2023/04f  
ECC code: RHTHF23**

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Tylde Hall Farm, Heath Road, Ramsden Heath,  
Billericay CM11 1HP**

**June 2023**

**NGR: TQ 69490 95392**

**Planning ref.: 22/00472/FUL**

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## 1 Summary

*A programme of historic building recording was carried out by Colchester Archaeological Trust on a barn at Tylde Hall Farm, Heath Road, Ramsden Heath, Billericay. The HER records the barn at Tylde Hall Farm as being designed and constructed by Frederic Chancellor, a prolific local architect, in 1870. This is, however, inaccurate as the barn appears on earlier-dated mapping.*

*The barn is a late 18th/early 19th century timber-framed threshing barn with later extensions, including stables and a garage. The timber-frame of the barn is visible from the exterior, where a large number of carpenters' marks were observed. Further carpenters' marks, along with Baltic timber marks, were observed on the interior of the barn. A large number of reused timbers are present through the frame of the barn and its extension. Two floors and a number of windows have been inserted into the barn.*

## 2 Introduction (Fig 1)

This is the archive report of a historic building recording carried out on a barn at Tylde Hall Farm, Heath Road, Ramsden Heath, Billericay. The recording work was commissioned by Phil Thornton and was carried out by Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT) on 26th April 2023. The site is located at NGR TQ 69490 95392 (Fig 1).

A planning application (22/00472/FUL) was submitted to Chelmsford City Council in March 2022 for the *conversion of a redundant barn into two residential dwellings including a cycle 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 barn prior to any conversion works (ECC 2023). This recommendation was given as the barn is a non-designated heritage asset. 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 barn prior to its conversion. 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)

*with contributions from Dr Pip Parmenter*

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 Essex Records Office (ERO))

John Speed's 1610 map of Essex (Map 1) shows Billerecay (Billericay) and Ramsden Bellows (now Ramsden Bellhouse). Tylde Hall Farm is located in the area between the two. The earliest mention of Tylde Hall Farm in the HER is in an historic court roll, in the form of a detailed survey (Plate 1). Whilst the date of the document is unknown, it is proposed to be from roughly 1675.



**Map 1** Extract of John Speed's 1610 map of Essex.

**Tyldes Hall in Ramsden Crayes.**

The fields with y <sup>e</sup> number of acres belonging to this farme } The names of y <sup>e</sup> fields.				The Woods & springs with y <sup>e</sup> number of acres belonging to this farme. } The names of y <sup>e</sup> woods & springs.			
	Ac.	Ro.	Pa.	A.	R.	P.	
Banhatt	18	1	24	Mossell hedgrow	2	0	1
White field	23	2	14	Great Harvill brook	7	0	4
The farme house y <sup>e</sup> yard & orchard	2	0	8	Little Harvill brook	4	2	33
Bush meade	11	2	10	Great Wood	36	0	2
Kitchen road	3	2	27	Home mead & Marke hill springe	11	3	0
Pease meade	3	1	29	Marke Hedgrow	1	2	7
Hillw field fram hill	26	1	25	Home meade Little springe	1	1	15
Eastfield meade				2	0	6	
2 kitcher crofts	1	3	36	Marke at y <sup>e</sup> East corner	0	2	2
Another croft North	1	3	8	Marke Garden	6	0	25
Another croft South	1	0	9	A springe between Marke	0	2	17
Murrell land North	10	0	3	Hullam hill springe	4	1	35
Murrell land South	1	1	3	Crofts springe	4	0	16
Part of Murrell land	1	1	3	Mosey groue	24	0	15
Chappell field	4	0	29	Hillw springe	1	0	0
Perse land	10	3	18	Lockland groue	11	3	3
Little Dumpits	5	1	23	A springe between y <sup>e</sup> 2 crofts	0	0	37
Great Dumpits	11	2	14	Perse Land hedgrowe	0	3	33
Hullam hill	5	2	20				
Great field	15	2	29				
Marke hill	8	2	18				
Home meade	4	1	12				
Slynes	6	2	1				
West Marke	3	3	20				
East Marke	4	0	11				
The chace	1	0	32				
Brackles Pits	0	2	0				
<b>Suma Totals</b>	<b>190</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>23</b>				

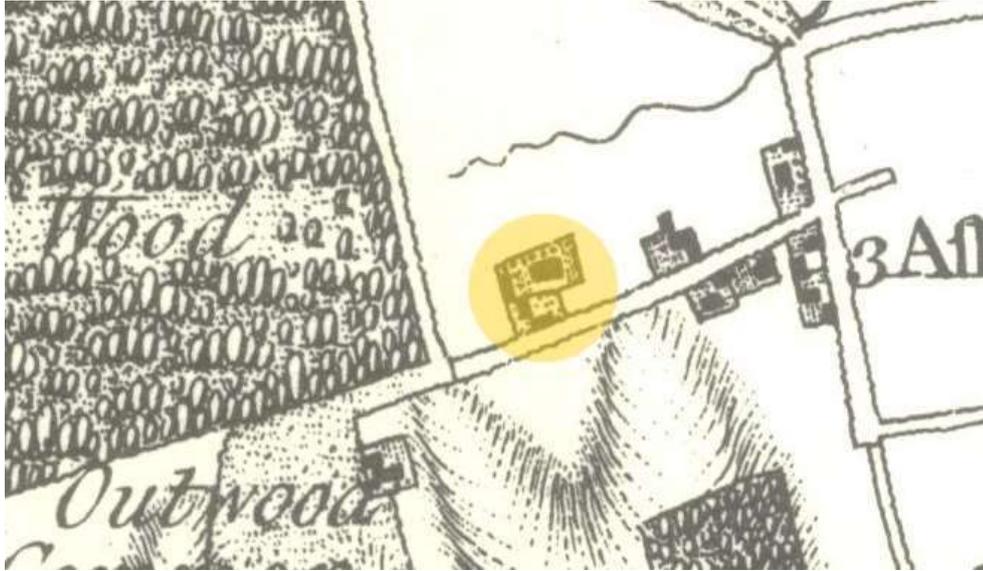
The yearly Rent of y<sup>e</sup> farme } # 8 - 0 - 0  
house with those grounds } 50 - 0 - 0

**Coppe hold land belonging to y<sup>e</sup> Mann of Ramsden Crayes.**

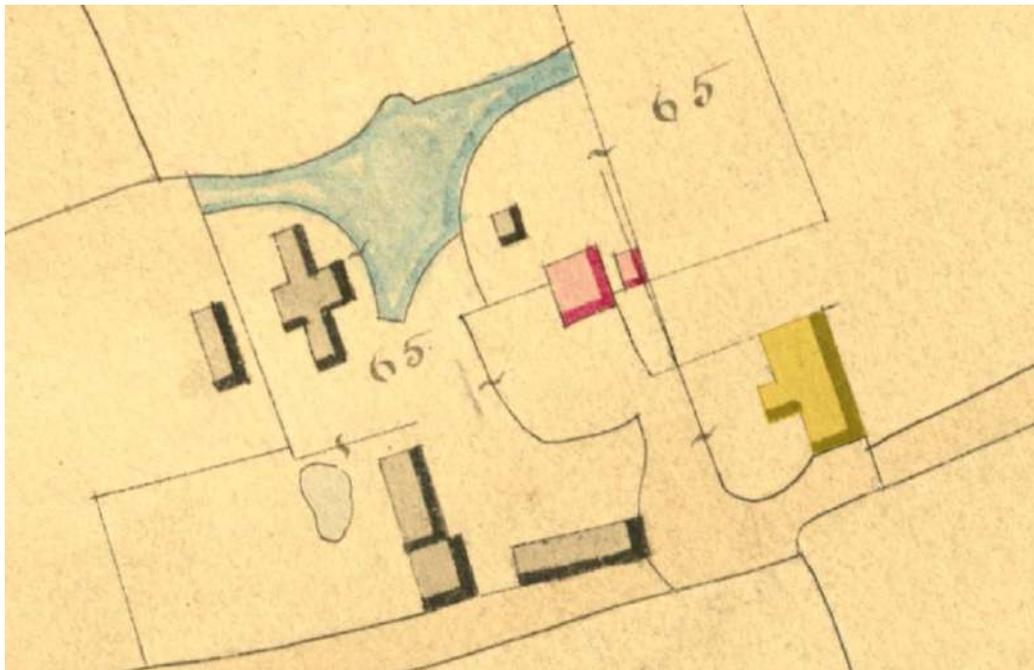
The particulars of y <sup>e</sup> rents with y <sup>e</sup> number of y <sup>e</sup> grounds & number of acres.		
For one mess with y <sup>e</sup> appurtenances called Woodridden 20 acres of meadow & pasture appertaining	8	0
For a house new built upon piece of y <sup>e</sup> messes 4 ydars in breadth & 9 yds in length also appertaining	4	0
For a cottage & 24 acres of land piece of Woodridden	10	17
For a tenement called Bigge one mess garden orchard & 20 acres of land meadow & pasture horet	10	0
For one mess & pasture lands horet	2	0
For a house & piece of clarkes beinge one third part horet	4	17
For a house piece of clarkes & piece of another 3 <sup>d</sup> pte	2	17
For a field called stone hills & horet field piece of clarkes & y <sup>e</sup> residue of y <sup>e</sup> 3 <sup>d</sup> pte horet	2	17
For a house & land piece of clarkes & y <sup>e</sup> other 3 <sup>d</sup> pte	3	17
For another piece of clarkes by appertaining	2	17
For y <sup>e</sup> halfe acre piece thereof by appertaining	0	17
For a Cottage & 5 acres horet piece of clarkes called Harpes	2	17
For a Cottage & piece of ground built upon the wast	0	17
For part of Woodridden	0	17
For a Cottage & halfe an acre of ground called Pye piece of Woodridden	0	17
For a Cottage built upon the wast	0	17
<b>The Total sume of these rents</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>17</b>

Plate 1 Detail survey of Tyldes Hall Farm, possibly dating from 1675 (ERO D/DXf 9A).

The 1777 Chapman and André map is more detailed than John Speed's map and shows a small group of buildings comprising Tyldes Hall Farm, just to the east of Norsey Wood. The map depicts four buildings within the farm complex, which the barn detailed in this report does not appear to be part of.



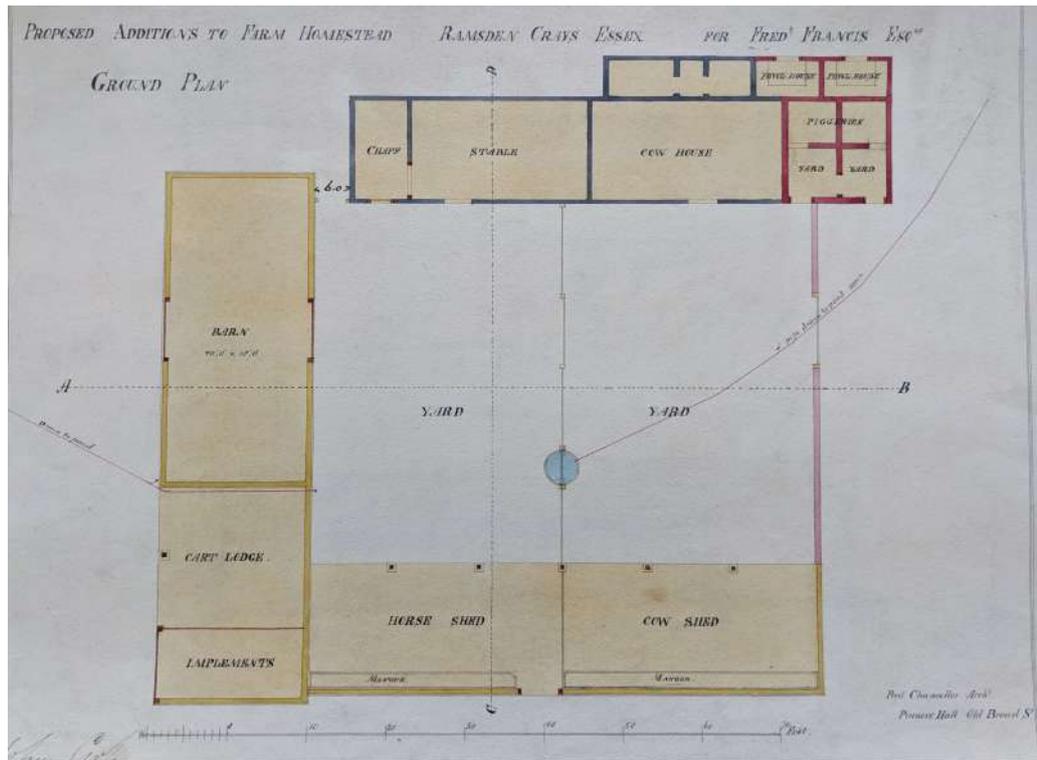
**Map 2** An extract from the 1777 Chapman and André map of Essex with the approximate location of Tylde Hall Farm highlighted in yellow.



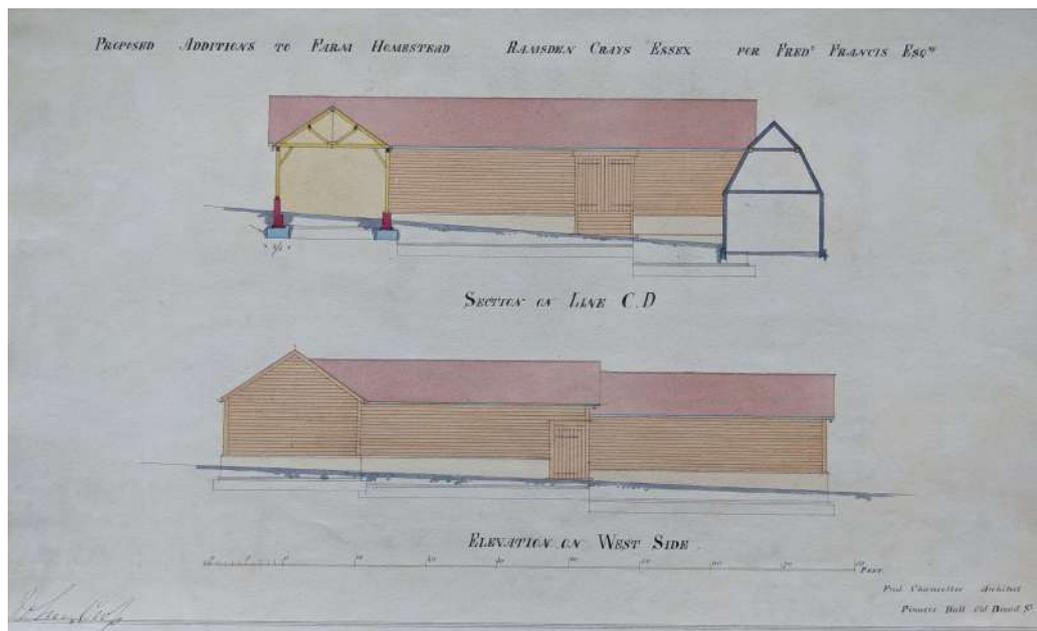
**Map 3** Extract from the 1845 Tithe Apportionment map, the barn highlighted in yellow.

The Tithe Apportionment Map (Map 3), produced in 1845, depicts Tylde Hall Farm in detail. It shows the large pond – reportedly remnants of a moat – to the north, with various buildings to the south. This is the first time the barn is portrayed on a map, giving it a construction date of between 1777 and 1845. The footprint is that of a threshing barn with a visible midstrey projecting to the west.

This cartographic evidence disputes the EHER listing (EHER 15439), which suggests the barn is part of a model farm, designed by Frederic Chancellor and constructed in 1870. This listing was based on plans held by the ERO (ERO D/F 8/102/1-8), which an English Heritage survey in 1998 misinterpreted as Tylde Hall Farm. Besides from being of the wrong date, the plans are also show a different farm layout with a much smaller barn (Plate 2 and 3).



**Plate 2** Example of Chancellor's 1870 plan of Farm Homestead (ERO D/F 8/102/5).

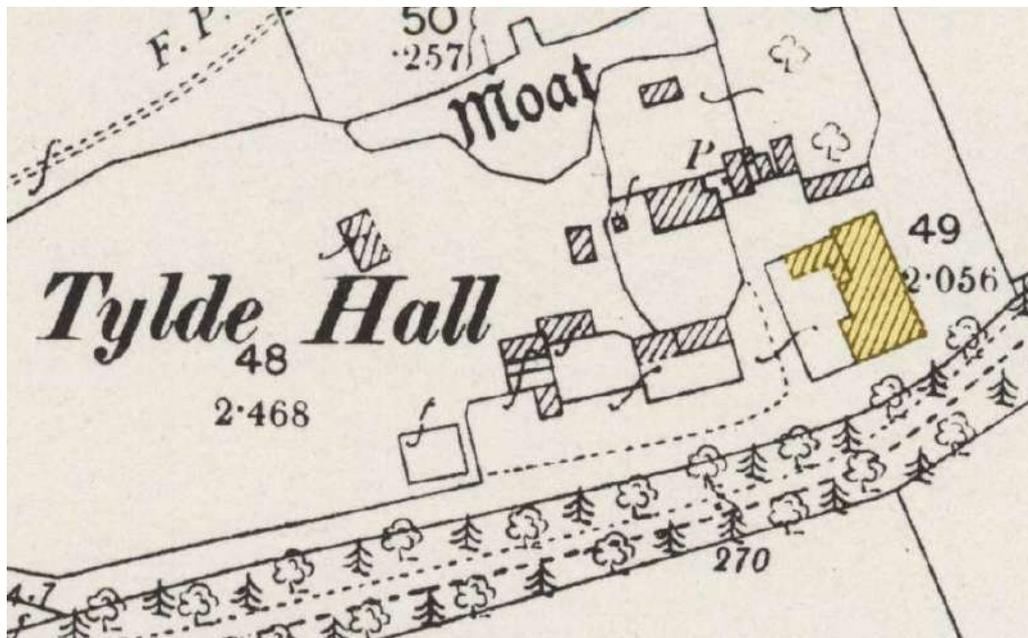


**Plate 3** Example of Chancellor's 1870 plan of Farm Homestead (ERO D/F 8/105/7).

The first edition OS Map (surveyed 1866-1874) shows the barn at Tylde Hall Farm had been extended at either end of the western elevation and also to the north, meaning it no longer has the typical T-shape of a threshing barn. The southern extension is the barn extension which is still present today while the north-western extension has been replaced with the garage. The extension on the northern elevation has been replaced with the stable block.

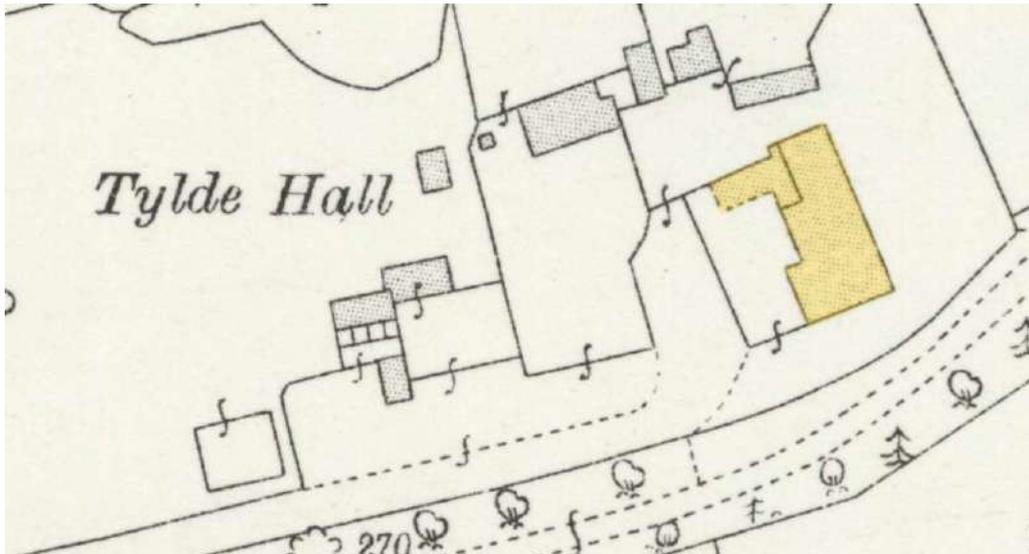


**Map 4** An extract from the 1st edition 6-inch OS Map (1866-1874). The barn highlighted yellow.



**Map 5** An extract from the 1895 25-inch OS Map. The barn highlighted yellow.

The 1895 Ordnance Survey map shows Tylde Hall Farm in better detail. The extension on the north-western corner of the barn appears to be open-fronted and L-shaped, it seems plausible this extension was a cart-lodge or covered work area. The layout of the barn does not appear to change between the 1895 map and the 1938 OS map. By the 1961 OS Map, the garage has replaced the L-shaped extension. Similarities in construction indicate the stables were also probably built at this time. The office and kitchen still are not present, meaning they were constructed sometime in the last 50 years.



**Map 6** An extract from the 1919 25-inch OS Map showing the barn in yellow.



**Map 7** Extract from the 1938 6-inch OS Map showing the barn in yellow.



**Map 8** Extract from the 1961 6-inch OS Map. The barn highlighted in yellow.

## 6 Building recording descriptive record (Fig 2-10)

The building detailed in this report is a seven-bay threshing barn with modern extensions. The barn is timber-framed and aligned north-west/south-east. The original barn is roughly 22.31m by 11.71m and covers an area of approximately 195m<sup>2</sup>.

### Exterior

The roof of the barn is hipped at both ends while a catslide roof covers the barn's extension and the midstrey. The roofs of the garage and the office are hipped at one end and gabled at the other, where they meet the barn. The stables and kitchen both have a mono-pitch roof. All of the roofs are clad in S-tiles except that of the office which is plain-tile.

The barn and midstrey are supported on plinth of red brick laid in English bond while all the later additions are built on red brick plinths in Flemish bond.

Building	Brick dimensions (mm)
Barn and midstrey	220 x 105 x 60
Barn extension	225 x 105 x 70
Garage	215 x 105 x 65
Stables and kitchen	215 x 105 x 65
Office	225 x 110 x 65

**Table 1** Brick dimensions.

On all elevations the timber-frame is exposed and painted black with a mortar infill, painted white. In many areas, the timber-frame of the barn has been altered or rebuilt – particularly where the windows have been inserted. All windows are timber-framed except those on the kitchen. All dormer windows have a flat roof covered with roofing felt.



**Photograph 1** Eastern elevation. Photograph taken facing south-west.



**Photograph 2** Detail of barn entrance (eastern elevation). Photograph taken facing south-west.

In the centre of the barn's eastern elevation is a set of replacement double doors (only the top half of which are surviving). A wall has been inserted above the doors, the original barn doors having been the full height of the elevation. This elevation has 16 windows, including three dormer windows inserted into the barn's roof and a further 10 two and three-light windows inserted into the barn's elevation.

Some of the timbers in the frame of the barn's eastern elevation have evidence of reuse, carpenters' marks or scarf joints:

- Bay 1:
  - XII on the three most-northern studs, upper register
  - ?X on the central stud, upper register
  - X on southern-most stud, upper register
- Bay 3:
  - VII on southern wind-brace and sill-beam, lower register
  - VIII on northern wind-brace and sill-beam, lower register
  - VII on northern end of girding beam and on adjacent post
  - VIII on northern wind-brace and adjacent post, upper register
  - VII on southern-most stud, upper register
  - southern post is reused
- Bay 7:
  - II on northern studs, upper register
  - I on southern studs, upper register
  - Corner post and girding beam are reused
  - a side-halved scarf-joint in the sill-beam



**Photograph 3** Detail of carpenters' marks on eastern elevation of barn (upper register). XX on the central stud and 'XII' on last three studs (outlined in blue). Photograph taken facing west.

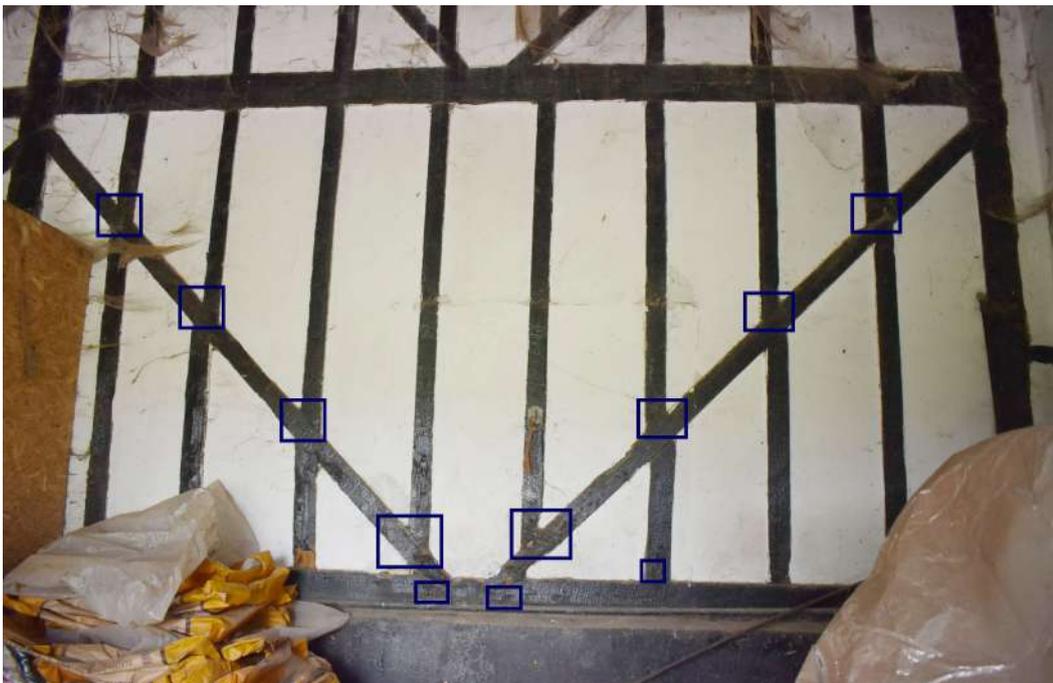
The northern elevation has nine windows, three windows on the stables, three on the garage and three on the office, including a dormer window in the roof of the office. There are four timber stable-doors on the stables and a set of PVC double doors on the office.

The barn displays a number of carpenters' marks, reused timbers and scarf joints in its frame on this elevation:

- Eastern half of cross-frame:
  - central stud is reused, upper register
  - II on two western-most studs, upper register
  - II at top of western wind-brace, upper register
- Western half of cross-frame
  - III on top of eastern wind-brace and adjacent post, upper register
  - III on two eastern-most studs, upper register
  - IIII on two western-most studs, upper register
  - IIII at top of western wind-brace and adjacent post
  - III on all studs, wind-braces and sill-beam, lower register (visible in stable 4)
  - X on bottom on third stud from the south, lower register (visible in stable 4)
  - a side-halved scarf joint in the sill-beam (visible in stable 4)
  - corner post is reused



**Photograph 4** Detail of carpenters' marks (outlined in blue) on northern elevation of barn (upper register). 'IIII' on the principal post and the two studs to the left. Also, detail of reused timber for corner post. Photograph taken facing south.



**Photograph 5** Detail of northern elevation of barn (lower register) visible in stable 4. carpenters' marks outlined in blue. Photograph taken facing south-east.

The northern elevation of the midstrey has a blocked doorway and a number of carpenters' marks and reused timbers:

- IIII on eastern end of eastern girthing-beam
- III on western end of eastern girthing-beam
- III on second stud from west (upper)
- II on upper wind-brace and adjacent post
- II on second stud from the east (lower)
- II on eastern end of western girthing beam and adjacent post

- Reused upper wind-brace
- Reused post
- Reused western corner-post
- Four reused studs

It seems likely that some of the timber-frame on this elevation of midstrey has been rebuilt as the frame does not align with the barn's timbers.



**Photograph 6** Northern elevation. Photograph taken facing south south-west.



**Photograph 7** Northern elevation of midstrey. Photograph taken facing south-east.

The northern elevation of the barn extension does not have mortar infill between the timber-frame, instead it is red-brick laid in English bond. Most of the brick has been painted white to match the barn's infill.



**Photograph 8** Northern elevation of barn extension. Photograph taken facing south-east.

The western elevation of the barn has four inserted awning windows in the walls and two inserted dormer windows in the roof. The midstrey and the barn extension have four awning windows, including a dormer window on the roof of the extension. There is an inserted section of wall in midstrey, which has replaced the original barn doors. It seems likely the midstrey has also reduced in height; the original midstrey doors would have been the same height at the original barn doors on the eastern elevation. This is evidenced by the change in bond in the brick plinth between the two posts (possibly the original door frame) and the change in style of the timber-framing.



**Photograph 9** Detail of dormer windows on western elevation of barn and barn extension. Photograph taken facing north-east.

The garage has a set of timber double garage doors and two fixed windows on this elevation.

Reused timbers and carpenters' marks were visible on the barn, midstrey and barn extension on the western elevation:

- Bay 1
  - Reused posts
  - VIII on girding-beam and adjacent post
- Bay 2
  - VI on girding-beam and adjacent post (partially obscured by a metal plate)
  - Reused girding-beam
- Bay 3
  - Reused girding beam
- Midstrey
  - Reused intermediate northern post (possible original door-frame post)
  - Reused northern corner-post
- Barn extension
  - Reused southern corner-post



**Photograph 10** Detail of reused corner post on western elevation of barn extension. Photograph taken facing north-east.



**Photograph 11** Detail of carpenters' marks 'VI' on girding-beam on western elevation of barn. Photograph taken facing east north-east.



**Photograph 12** Southern elevation of barn and extension. Photograph taken facing north north-west.

On the southern elevation, the barn has four inserted awning windows while the office has three. A number of carpenters' marks, reused timbers and scarf joints are present on this elevation:

- Western half of cross-frame
  - Reused girding-beam
  - II on eastern-most stud (upper register)
  - Reused eastern wind-brace (lower register)
  - Scarf joint in sill beam
- Eastern half of cross-frame
  - II on western-most stud (upper register)

- VII on second stud from the west (upper register)
- VIII (above wind-brace) and I (bottom) on second stud from the east (upper register)
- Barn corner post replaced with a telegraph pole
- Reused western corner-post in barn extension

The southern elevation of the kitchen has a single PVC awning window and a single PVC door. The southern elevation of the garage has three awning windows.



**Photograph 13** Detail of reused girding-beam in southern elevation of barn (upper register). carpenters' mark 'II' on right-hand stud. Both outlined in blue. Photograph taken facing north north-west.



**Photograph 14** Detail of side-halved scarf joint in sill-beam on southern elevation of barn. Photograph taken facing north north-west.

## **Interior**

### **Barn and extension**

The interior of the barn has had two floors inserted, along with various inserted walls. The barn comprises seven bays, which, for ease of description, have been labelled bays 1-7 from north to south (see Fig 2-4).

The two inserted floor levels have timber floor-boards while the ground floor of the barn is poured concrete, although the central bay (bay 4) would have originally had a threshing floor, most likely made from brick. The brick plinth has been sheathed in concrete and painted black throughout the interior of the barn.

The roof of the barn has been constructed from pairs of rafters, which rise from the wall-plates and meet at a ridge-board at the apex of the roof. Several of the principal rafters exhibit Baltic timber marks. Separating each bay is a tie-beam, which are secured by iron straps and supported with straight braces. The iron straps are fastened to the beams with iron nails and large staples. Empty mortices in corresponding places on all of the tie-beams indicate the straight-braces are replacements. Each tie-beam has a single corresponding collar.

There are two clasped purlins on each roof pitch, the upper clasped by the collar and the lower by an inserted post, and evidence of a third having been removed. The upper purlin appears to be a replacement, as it is smaller than the notches present in the rafters. The lower purlin has several splayed scarf joints: between bays 3 and 4 on both walls, between bays 4 and 5 on both walls and between bays 6 and 7 on the eastern wall. Some of the purlins also have signs of reuse.



**Photograph 15** Example of notch in rafter from removed purlin and Baltic timber mark in western roof pitch of barn (between bays 5 and 6). Photograph taken facing north-west.



**Photograph 16** Example of empty mortice from removed brace in tie-beam (between bays 6 and 7) of barn. Photograph taken facing east south-east.



**Photograph 17** Detail of splayed scarf joint in purlin on eastern roof pitch of barn, between bays 6 and 7. Photograph taken facing north-east.



**Photograph 18** Example of tie-beam iron strap (eastern end of tie-beam between bays 1 and 2). Photograph taken facing east.

The timber-frame consists of a mixture of original hand-sawn and later machine-cut timbers and is supported by through-bracing in the upper and lower registers. Each bay of the barn has a girding-beam separating the registers, which are interrupted by the corner and intermediate posts. A decorative curbed corbel is bolted to the top of each intermediate post. In some areas the timber frame has been altered or rebuilt, mainly the studs and bracing, particularly where the windows have been inserted.

The roof of the barn's extension and midstrey comprise single rafters, which rise from the western wall-plate to meet the western wall-plate of the barn. The midstrey roof is a replacement, supported on a single purlin while the barn extension roof has two purlins. A series of short posts have been added on the first floor to increase support of the roof.

The inserted first floor is supported on an inserted steel I-beam, which runs the length of the barn and is supported on a series of steel I-beam posts, and the girding-beams. The second floor is supported on the tie-beams.

#### *Ground Floor*

The ground floor of the barn has been divided by an inserted plywood-wall, creating a wood-store in bays 1-3.



**Photograph 19** Interior of barn, bays 1-3, ground floor. Photograph taken facing east.



**Photograph 20** Interior of barn, bays 1-3, ground floor. Photograph taken facing north.

In the western wall of bay 1, the most northerly bay, a doorway has been inserted, and subsequently blocked. A side-halved scarf joint is present in the northern sill-beam and some of the timbers in the frame show signs of reuse. Two large modern, steel-framed livestock feeders have been hung on the northern wall.



**Photograph 21** Detail of side-halved scarf joint in northern sill-beam in bay 1 of barn.  
Photograph taken facing north-west.

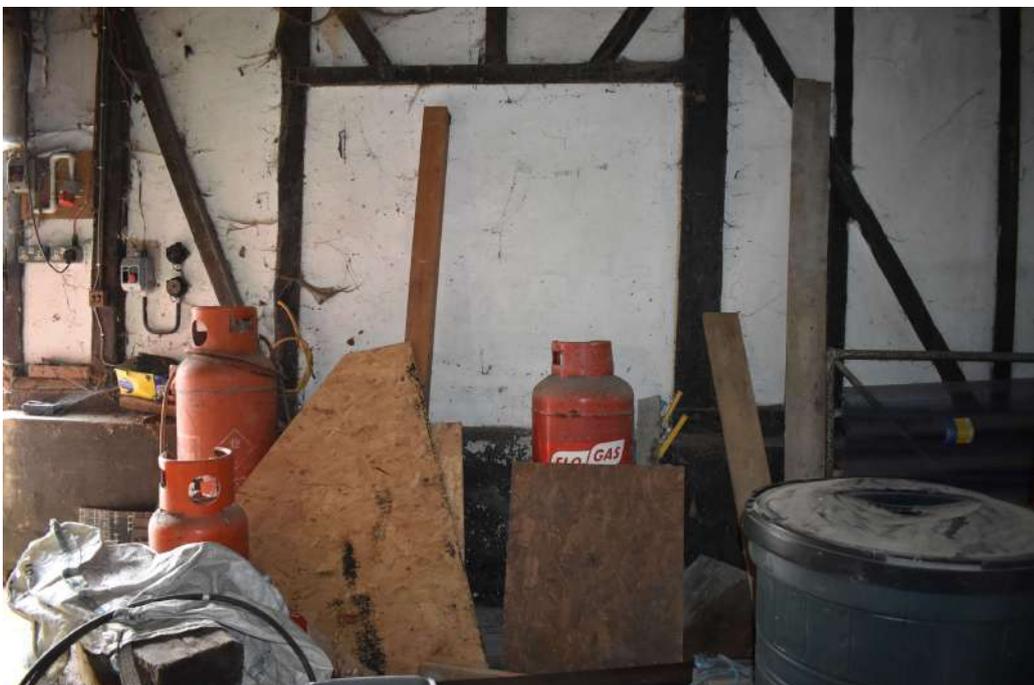
Bay 2 has a side-halved scarf joint in the eastern sill-beam and inserted windows in both walls. Bay 3 also has a side-halved scarf joint in the eastern sill-beam and an inserted window in the eastern wall. The western post between bays 3 and 4 has a Baltic timber mark and signs of reuse.

Bay 4 is the central and widest bay of the barn. The eastern wall is dominated by a set of timber barn doors. The ladder up to the first floor is present in this bay. The midstrey is adjacent to bay 4. There is a blocked doorway in the northern wall of the midstrey. Much of the western wall of the midstrey has been rebuilt, to replace an original barn doorway. Several reused timbers are present in the frame of the midstrey. A short, inserted wall divides most of bay 4 and the midstrey from bay 5 and the barn extension. There is evidence this was once an enclosed animal pen, the eastern wall of which has since been removed.



**Photograph 22** Detail of northern midstrey wall. Photograph taken facing north-west.

There is an inserted and blocked doorway in the eastern wall of bay 5. Bay 7 has three inserted windows, one in the eastern wall and two in the southern wall. The western wall of bays 5-7 has been removed and the intermediary posts replaced with telegraph poles. To the other side of these poles is the barn's extension. The southern and western walls of the extension are timber-framed and emulate the barn's structure while the northern wall is solid brick. Two windows are present in the western wall of the extension.



**Photograph 23** Detail of inserted and blocked opening in bay 5 of barn, ground floor. Photograph taken facing north-east.



**Photograph 24** Interior of barn, bays 4-7, ground floor. Photograph taken facing north.

#### *First Floor*

The first floor is where the division of the barn's bays is most obvious, as the tie-beams are visible from this floor. Bay 1 has an inserted window in both the eastern and western walls. There is evidence some of the timbers in northern wall have been reused as well as a Baltic timber mark on one wind-brace.



**Photograph 25** Interior of barn, first floor. Photograph taken facing north-west.

Bay 2 has an inserted window in the eastern wall. There is a 'VIII' carpenters' mark on the eastern corbel between bays 2 and 3 and either a carpenters' mark (IIII) or the remnants of a Baltic timber mark on the western corbel. There is also a side-halved scarf joint in the eastern wall-plate of bay 2.

Bay 3 has a side-halved scarf joint in both the eastern and western wall-plates and an inserted window in both walls. A possible Baltic timber mark is present on the side of the eastern curved corbel between bays 3 and 4.



**Photograph 26** Detail of side-halved scarf joint in western wall-plate of bay 3 of barn. Photograph taken facing north-east.

The ladder up to the second floor is located within bay 4. The eastern wall of this bay is inserted and contains a window. The western wall is an inserted slatted wall, which has separated the area the first floor in the midstrey. Between bays 4 and 5, the area between the straight-braces and tie-beams has been infilled with wooden slats.



**Photograph 27** Eastern wall of bay 4 of barn, first floor. Photograph taken facing north-east.

There is a Baltic timber mark on the tie-beam between bays 5 and 6. Bay 5 has an inserted window in the eastern wall.

In bay 6, there is side-halved scarf joint in the eastern wall plate. Between bays 6 and 7, Baltic timber marks are present on the tie-beam, the eastern curved corbel and the western intermediate post (which also has signs of reuse). An inserted window is located in the eastern wall.



**Photograph 28** Detail of Baltic timber marks on post between bays 6 and 7 of barn.  
Photograph taken facing north-west.

Bay 7 has three inserted windows – one in the eastern wall and two in the southern wall. Some timbers in the southern wall of bay 7 show signs of reuse, including the intermediate post.

The western walls of bays 5-7 have been removed to create accessible space in the roof of the barn's extension.



**Photograph 29** Western wall of bay 5 of barn, first floor. Photograph taken facing south-west.

#### *Second Floor*

Two inserted walls on the second floor have segregated bays 1-3 and bays 5-7 to create chicken coops. The walls are slatted with a single door. Within these bays, the area below the lowest purling has been clad with plywood to create short walls.

Dormer windows have been inserted into the eastern and western roof pitches of bays 2 and 6 and the eastern roof pitch of bay 4. The rafters in bay 4 have been covered with ply-board. There is a trapdoor in the floor of bay 4.



**Photograph 30** Interior of barn, bays 1-3 (chicken coop), second floor. Photograph taken facing south-west.



**Photograph 31** Interior of barn, bays 5-7 (chicken coop), third floor. Photograph taken facing north north-east.

#### Stables

Stable 1 was inaccessible at the time of recording and stable 3 was being used a chicken coop. The floor of the stable block is poured concrete.

The roof of the stable block is constructed from single rafters that rise from the northern wall-plate to meet the southern wall. The roof is constructed from machine-cut timbers.

There are four stables in the block, the western three are divided by short, poured concrete walls. Stables 1-3 had a poured concrete plinth on all walls. The southern wall of stables 2-4 utilises the northern elevation of the barn, on which some carpenters' marks are visible.

#### Garage

The roof of the garage comprises pairs of rafters which meet at a ridge-board. The rafters are supported by collars, the central of which has a king-post and two inclined struts. There is a through-purlin on each roof pitch. All timbers in the garage roof are machine-cut. The floor of the garage is poured concrete.

The garage comprises a single room with windows in the northern and southern walls and a set of double garage doors in the western wall. In the eastern wall is a blocked doorway which has been inserted in the western corner of the barn.



**Photograph 32** Interior of garage. Photograph taken facing north north-east.

#### Office

The roof structure of the office was not visible at the time of recording. The walls of the office are plastered and painted white and the floor is carpeted. There are two posts in the centre of the room, supporting the roof structure.



**Photograph 33** Interior of office. Photograph taken facing south-west.

#### Kitchen

The roof of the kitchen was not accessible at the time of recording, but is likely to be of the same construction as the stables. The walls of the kitchen are plastered and painted and the floor is laid with modern tiles. The kitchen contains a modern kitchen and toilet.

## 7 Discussion

The barn recorded at Tylde Hall Farm is a large, seven bay threshing barn constructed sometime in the late 18th or early 19th century. Originally, the barn would have been an imposing T-shaped structure with a midstrey projecting to the west.

A threshing barn would have originally been constructed for the processing and storage of a grain crop. A grain crop, whether wheat, oats, barley or rye, is called corn and requires processing to be used. The grains need to be separated from the stalks and chaff needs to be removed from the grains. This process, called threshing, was traditionally carried out by hand-flail. The barn would have had two large sets of doors opposite each other, in the midstrey and bay 4 which, when open, would have allowed a cross draught to winnow the chaff from the grain on the threshing floor. There would have been a threshold leap at the base of these doors to prevent farm animals walking into the barn during this process. The grain would be taken out of the barn to be stored in a granary while the by-product of the threshing, the straw, would be piled high on either side of the threshing floor in bays 1-3 and 5-7. It would be stored in the barn until such time it was needed for fodder or bedding.

The EHER incorrectly records the barn as having been designed and constructed by Frederic Chancellor, as part of a model farm, in 1870. The plans that the listing is based on are different in design to the barn and farmstead at Tylde Hall Farm. They show a U-shaped courtyard layout out, typical of a model farm, with a smaller barn (roughly 12m long) with no midstrey. The barn at Tylde Hall Farm, on the other hand, is a large seven bay barn, with a length of over 20m, that is not part of a courtyard layout.

Cartographic evidence also places the construction of barn to prior to 1870. The first time the barn appears on historic mapping is the Tithe map of 1845, almost 30 years prior to Chancellor's plans. Several other factors are also indicative of a barn of an earlier date, such as the use of hand-sawn timbers. A barn constructed in the mid-late Victorian period would most likely have been built from machine-cut timbers, particularly one designed by an architect. It is also unlikely such a large threshing barn would have been built towards the end of the 19th century.

The mid-19th century was a period known as the 'High Farming' years in British agriculture, a time of increased output and prosperity brought about by affordable imported artificial fertilisers, manure and feeds. These, combined with an Act of Parliament in 1849 that provided loans for the construction of farm buildings, led to a boom in agriculture in Britain. Also at this time, because of developments made during of the Industrial Revolution, the threshing process was becoming increasingly mechanised (Brunskill 1994) and required less time, space and manpower. By the late 19th century, threshing barns were no longer the integral part of the agricultural landscape that they had once been.

The large quantity of Baltic timber marks go further to solidify a late 18th/early 19th-century construction date. The importing of timber into Britain from the Baltic began in the 17th century but increased dramatically during the 19th (Vandenabeele et al 2016). The decline of local oak and other hardwood timbers in Britain was mainly due to an increase in shipbuilding and the economic pressures and needs of the Industrial Revolution. Because suitable trees take a significant time to mature in densely populated countries like Britain, land could usually be far more profitably used for farming rather than producing timber. The production of timber is a much more viable industry in the more sparsely-populated countries around the Baltic Sea.

The 'High Farming' years came to an end in the 1870's, after several years of poor weather and failed harvests and the collapse of grain prices in the face of cheap foreign imports. Initially, this brought about a depression in British farming. Luckily for Britain's farmers this was offset against a rising urban demand for milk and many of the eastern regions ailing arable farms diversified into small-scale dairy farming, turning their valueless wheat fields over to pasture and exploiting cheap foreign grain as feed

(Harvey 1984). It is around this time that the historic mapping indicates the barn was extended, suggesting the use of the barn was changing. The additions to the barn may have allowed the farm to diversify and invest into livestock.

Slight differences in the construction of the walls of the barn's extension suggest it was originally constructed with two open sides – or the northern and western walls have been rebuilt at some point. Mapping also indicates the extension that has now been replaced with the garage was also open-fronted. These two extensions may have represented cart-lodges or covered work areas.

The carpenters' marks identified on the exterior and interior of the barn seem to be original to the structure. In areas they have a sequential nature, but due to high volume of inserted windows much of the frame has suffered some rebuilding interrupting the sequence. The large number of reused timbers within the barns frame indicate that they must have been sourced from the remains of an earlier building or buildings, possibly sourced from a previous barn on the site.

The investigation of the barn at Tylde Hall Farm contradicts the EHER listings assertion that it is part of a Victorian model farm designed and constructed by architect, Frederic Chancellor. The barn is actually between 30 and 100 years older than proposed and is the last surviving historic building on the farm. Tylde Hall Farm seems to have been established in at least the 17th century, if not earlier, but the barn added much later. The addition of such a large threshing barn is indicative of a thriving farm that was processing a large amount of cereal crops.

## 8 Acknowledgements

Colchester Archaeological Trust would like to thank Phil Thornton for commissioning and funding the historic building recording. The recording was carried out by Sarah Veasey and Xander Smith. Figures are by Sarah Veasey and Xander Smith, based on original architects drawings by Laneton Design. The project was monitored by Mark Baister 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>

Brunskill, R W	1994	<i>Timber Building in Britain</i>
CAT	2023	<i>Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for historic building recording at Tylde Hall Farm, Heath Road, Ramsden Heath, Billericay, CM11 1HP</i> by H Furniss
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>
MHCLG	2021	<i>National planning policy framework</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 Archaeological Building Recording at Tylde Hall Farm, Heath Road, Ramsden Heath, Billericay</i> by M Baister
ERO D/DXf 9A	C 17th century	<i>Survey of several farms in the parishes of Ramsden Crays, Buttsbury and Great and Little Burstead</i>
ERO D/F	1870	<i>Frederic Chancellors plans for proposed additions to Farm</i>

8/102/1-8		<i>Homestead, Ramsden Crays</i>
Harvey, N	1984	<i>A History of Farm Buildings in England and Wales</i>
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>
Vandenabeele, L., Bertles, I. & Wouters, I	2016	<i>Baltic shipping marks on nineteenth-century timber: their deciphering and a proposal for an innovative characterization of old timber. Construction History, 31 (2)</i>

## 10 Abbreviations and glossary

beam	horizontal members in timber-frames
carpenter's marks	symbols scratched, incised or chiselled into timbers to assist in assembly
CAT	Colchester Archaeological Trust
catslide roof	a roof continuing down beyond the main wall-plate to cover and outshot or extension
ClfA	Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
collar	a horizontal timber in a roof structure spanning between a pair of inclined timbers (such as rafters)
EHHER	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
NGR	National Grid Reference
OASIS	<b>O</b> nline <b>A</b> ccess to the <b>I</b> ndex of <b>A</b> rchaeological <b>I</b> nvestigations, <a href="http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main">http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main</a>
post	vertical members in timber-frames
purlin	a longitudinal timber giving support to the common rafters of a roof and normally set at right-angles to the slope of the rafters
rafter	an inclined timber following the slope of the roof
ridge-board	a plank-like timber running below the apex of the roof and receiving the ends of the rafters
sill-beam	the beam at the foot of a timber-framed wall from which rise all the studs (and usually the posts)
wall-plate	a timber running horizontally along the top of a wall to receive the ends of common rafters
wind-brace	diagonal roof braces designed to connect the rafters together and prevent racking

## 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 1943)  
Digital plans  
Site digital photos and log

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**Distribution list**  
Phil Thornton  
Mark Baister, ECCHEA  
EHER

## Appendix 1:

### Full digital photographic record

RHTHF23_Photo	001.JPG	Northern elevation. Photograph taken facing south south-west.
RHTHF23_Photo	002.JPG	Detail of central window on northern elevation of garage. Photograph taken facing south south-east.
RHTHF23_Photo	003.JPG	Detail of eastern window on northern elevation of stable block. Photograph taken facing south south-east.
RHTHF23_Photo	004.JPG	Detail of doors to stables 1 and 2 (northern elevation). Photograph taken facing south south-east.
RHTHF23_Photo	005.JPG	Detail of reused stud in northern elevation of barn. Photograph taken facing south south-east.
RHTHF23_Photo	006.JPG	Detail of carpenters' marks on northern elevation of barn (upper register). 'II' on the studs to the left of the post and 'III' on the post, the two studs to the right and the wind brace. Photograph taken facing south south-east.
RHTHF23_Photo	007.JPG	Detail of carpenters' marks on northern elevation of barn (upper register). 'III' on the principal post and the two studs to the left. Also, detail of reused timber for corner post. Photograph taken facing south.
RHTHF23_Photo	008.JPG	Northern elevation of office. Photograph taken facing south south-east.
RHTHF23_Photo	009.JPG	Southern elevation of office. Photograph taken facing north.
RHTHF23_Photo	010.JPG	Southern elevation of barn and extension. Photograph taken facing north-west.
RHTHF23_Photo	011.JPG	Southern elevation of barn and extension. Photograph taken facing north north-west.
RHTHF23_Photo	012.JPG	Detail of western window on southern elevation of barn (lower register). Photograph taken facing north north-west.
RHTHF23_Photo	013.JPG	Detail of western window on southern elevation of barn (upper register). carpenters' mark 'II' visible on the right-hand stud. Photograph taken facing north north-west.
RHTHF23_Photo	014.JPG	Detail of carpenters' marks on southern elevation of barn (upper register). From left to right: 'II' at the top of the stud, 'VII' at the bottom of the stud, 'I' on the stud just above wind-brace, 'VIII' at bottom of stud and 'I' just below wind-brace. Photograph taken facing north north-west.
RHTHF23_Photo	015.JPG	Detail of reused girding-beam in southern elevation of barn (upper register). carpenters' mark 'II' visible on right-hand stud. Photograph taken facing north north-west.
RHTHF23_Photo	016.JPG	Detail of reused wind-brace in southern elevation of barn (lower register). Photograph taken facing north north-west.
RHTHF23_Photo	017.JPG	Detail of side-halved scarf joint in sill-beam on southern elevation of barn. Photograph taken facing north north-west.
RHTHF23_Photo	018.JPG	Western elevation. Photograph taken facing east north-east.
RHTHF23_Photo	019.JPG	Detail of reused corner post on western elevation of barn extension. Photograph taken facing north-east.
RHTHF23_Photo	020.JPG	Detail of dormer windows on western elevation of barn and barn extension. Photograph taken facing north-east.
RHTHF23_Photo	021.JPG	Detail of northern window on western elevation of barn extension. Photograph taken facing north-east.
RHTHF23_Photo	022.JPG	Western elevation of barn. Photograph taken facing east north-east.
RHTHF23_Photo	023.JPG	Detail of reused girding-beam in western elevation of barn. Photograph taken facing east.
RHTHF23_Photo	024.JPG	Detail of carpenters' marks 'VI' on girding-beam on western elevation of barn. Photograph taken facing east north-east.
RHTHF23_Photo	025.JPG	Detail of reused girding-beam in western elevation of barn. Photograph taken facing east north-east.
RHTHF23_Photo	026.JPG	Detail of carpenters' marks, reused post and scratch marks in western elevation of barn. 'VII' and 'VIII' on girding-beam and post and scratching on the girding-beam. Photograph taken facing north-east.
RHTHF23_Photo	027.JPG	Eastern elevation. Photograph taken facing south-west.
RHTHF23_Photo	028.JPG	Detail of central window in eastern elevation of barn (lower register). Photograph taken facing south-west.
RHTHF23_Photo	029.JPG	Detail of northern window on eastern elevation of barn (upper register). Photograph taken facing north-west.

RHTHF23_Photo	Detail of southern dormer window on eastern elevation of barn. Photograph taken facing south-west.
RHTHF23_Photo	Detail of barn entrance (eastern elevation). Photograph taken facing
RHTHF23_Photo	Detail of carpenters' marks on eastern elevation of barn (upper register). 'XX'? on the central post and 'XII' on last three studs. Photograph taken facing west.
RHTHF23_Photo	Detail of carpenters' mark on eastern elevation of barn (upper register). 'X' on stud below wind-brace. Photograph taken facing west.
RHTHF23_Photo	Detail of carpenters' mark 'VII' on girding-beam on eastern elevation of barn. Photograph taken west south-west.
RHTHF23_Photo	Detail of carpenters' marks 'VII' on windbrace and sill-beam on eastern elevation of barn. Photograph taken facing west south-west.
RHTHF23_Photo	Detail of carpenters' marks 'VIII' on windbrace and sill-beam on eastern elevation of barn. Photograph taken facing west south-west.
RHTHF23_Photo	Detail of reused post in eastern elevation of barn (lower register). Photograph taken facing west south-west.
RHTHF23_Photo	Detail of reused post and carpenters' mark 'VII' on stud in eastern elevation of barn (upper register). Photograph taken facing west south-west.
RHTHF23_Photo	Detail of carpenters' marks 'VIII' on post and stud in eastern elevation of barn (upper register). Photograph taken facing west south-west.
RHTHF23_Photo	Eastern elevation of barn. Photograph taken facing west.
RHTHF23_Photo	Detail of reused corner post in eastern elevation of barn. Photograph taken facing west south-west.
RHTHF23_Photo	Detail of reused girding-beam in eastern elevation of barn. Photograph facing west.
RHTHF23_Photo	Detail of carpenters' marks 'I' on studs in eastern elevation of barn (upper register). Photograph taken facing west.
RHTHF23_Photo	Detail of carpenters' marks 'II' on studs in eastern elevation of barn (upper register). Photograph taken facing west.
RHTHF23_Photo	Detail of side-halved scarf joint in sill-beam on eastern elevation of barn. Photograph taken facing west south-west.
RHTHF23_Photo	Eastern elevation of office. Photograph taken facing west south-west.
RHTHF23_Photo	Southern elevation of kitchen. Photograph taken facing north-west.
RHTHF23_Photo	Northern elevation of barn extension. Photograph taken facing south-east.
RHTHF23_Photo	Northern elevation of midstrey. Photograph taken facing south-east.
RHTHF23_Photo	Detail of reused corner post in northern elevation of midstrey. Photograph taken facing south south-east.
RHTHF23_Photo	Detail of reused stud in northern elevation of midstrey. Photograph taken facing south south-east.
RHTHF23_Photo	Detail of reused timbers and carpenters' marks in northern elevation of midstrey. 'II' on post and girding-beam and 'III' on post, girding-beam and wind-brace. Photograph taken facing south-west.
RHTHF23_Photo	Northern elevation of garage. Photograph. Taken facing south south-west.
RHTHF23_Photo	Interior of kitchen. Photograph taken facing north.
RHTHF23_Photo	Interior of stable 2. Photograph taken facing south.
RHTHF23_Photo	Northern elevation of barn (lower register) visible in stable 2. Photograph taken facing south-east.
RHTHF23_Photo	Detail of northern elevation of barn (lower register) visible in stable 3. Photograph taken facing south-east.
RHTHF23_Photo	Interior of stable 4. Photograph taken facing south.
RHTHF23_Photo	Detail of northern elevation of barn (lower register) visible in stable 4. Photograph taken facing south-east.
RHTHF23_Photo	Detail of reused post in northern elevation of barn. Photograph taken facing south.
RHTHF23_Photo	Detail of 'III' carpenters' marks in sill-beam in northern elevation of barn. Photograph taken facing south south-east.
RHTHF23_Photo	Detail of 'IIII' carpenters' mark in stud and wind-brace of northern elevation of barn. Photograph taken facing south south-east.
RHTHF23_Photo	Detail of 'IIII' carpenters' mark in stud and wind-brace of northern elevation of barn. Photograph taken facing south south-east.

RHTHF23_Photograph_064.JPG	Detail of 'III' carpenters' mark in stud and wind-brace of northern elevation of barn. Photograph taken facing south south-east.
RHTHF23_Photograph_065.JPG	Detail of 'IIII' carpenters' mark in stud and wind-brace of northern elevation of barn. Photograph taken facing south south-east.
RHTHF23_Photograph_066.JPG	Interior of garage. Photograph taken facing north north-east.
RHTHF23_Photograph_067.JPG	Interior of garage. Photograph taken facing west.
RHTHF23_Photograph_068.JPG	Detail of western elevation of barn in garage. Photograph taken facing east north east.
RHTHF23_Photograph_069.JPG	Detail of garage roof. Photograph taken facing east.
RHTHF23_Photograph_070.JPG	Interior of barn, bays 5-7, third floor. Photograph taken facing north north-east.
RHTHF23_Photograph_071.JPG	Interior of barn, bays 5-7, third floor. Photograph taken facing south south-east.
RHTHF23_Photograph_072.JPG	Detail of dormer window and reused purlin in eastern roof pitch of barn, bay 6. Photograph taken facing north-east.
RHTHF23_Photograph_073.JPG	Detail of roof structure, eastern pitch, in bay 5 of barn. Photograph taken facing north-east.
RHTHF23_Photograph_074.JPG	Detail of roof structure, eastern pitch, in bay 5 of barn. Photograph taken facing north-east.
RHTHF23_Photograph_075.JPG	Detail of roof structure, western pitch, in bay 5 of barn. Photograph taken facing south-west.
RHTHF23_Photograph_076.JPG	Detail of roof structure, western pitch, in bay 5 of barn. Photograph taken facing south-west.
RHTHF23_Photograph_077.JPG	Example of mortice in rafter from removed purlin and Baltic timber mark in western roof pitch of barn (between bays 6 and 7). Photograph taken facing south south-west.
RHTHF23_Photograph_078.JPG	Example of mortice in rafter from removed purlin and Baltic timber mark in western roof pitch of barn (between bays 5 and 6). Photograph taken facing north-west.
RHTHF23_Photograph_079.JPG	Detail of splayed scarf joint in purlin on eastern roof pitch of barn, between bays 6 and 7. Photograph taken facing north-east.
RHTHF23_Photograph_080.JPG	Detail of splayed scarf joint in purlin on western roof pitch of barn, between bays 4 and 5. Photographs taken facing north-west.
RHTHF23_Photograph_081.JPG	Interior of barn, bay 3, third floor. Photograph taken facing south.
RHTHF23_Photograph_082.JPG	Interior of barn, bay 3, third floor. Photograph taken facing north-west.
RHTHF23_Photograph_083.JPG	Example of mortice in rafter from removed purlin and Baltic timber mark in western roof pitch of barn (between bays 2 and 3). Photograph taken facing south-east.
RHTHF23_Photograph_084.JPG	Interior of barn, bays 1-3, third floor. Photograph taken facing north north-east.
RHTHF23_Photograph_085.JPG	Interior of barn, bays 1-3, third floor. Photograph taken facing south-west.
RHTHF23_Photograph_086.JPG	Detail of splayed scarf joint in purlin on western roof pitch of barn. Photograph taken facing south south-west.
RHTHF23_Photograph_087.JPG	Detail of splayed scarf joint in purlin on eastern roof pitch of barn. Photograph taken facing south-east.
RHTHF23_Photograph_088.JPG	Interior of barn, first floor. Photograph taken facing north-west.
RHTHF23_Photograph_089.JPG	Interior of barn, first floor. Photograph taken facing south-east.
RHTHF23_Photograph_090.JPG	Northern wall of bay 1 of barn, first floor. Photograph taken facing north north-west.
RHTHF23_Photograph_091.JPG	Eastern wall of bay 1 of barn, first floor. Photograph taken facing east north-east.
RHTHF23_Photograph_092.JPG	Western wall of bay 1 of barn, first floor. Photograph taken facing west south-west.
RHTHF23_Photograph_093.JPG	Detail of reused wind-brace in northern wall of bay 1 of barn, first floor. Photograph taken facing north.
RHTHF23_Photograph_094.JPG	Detail of Baltic timber mark on wind-brace in northern wall of bay 1 of barn, first floor. Photograph taken facing north-west.
RHTHF23_Photograph_095.JPG	Detail of reused corner post in northern wall of bay 1 of barn, first floor. Photograph taken facing north-west.
RHTHF23_Photograph_096.JPG	Example of empty mortice from removed brace in tie-beam (between bays 1 and 2) of barn. Photograph taken facing south south-east.
RHTHF23_Photograph_097.JPG	Example of tie-beam iron strap (eastern end of tie-beam between bays 1 and 2). Photograph taken facing east.
RHTHF23_Photograph_098.JPG	Detail of carpenters' mark on corbel between bays 2 and 3 of barn. Photograph taken facing east south-east.

RHTHF23_Photo	Eastern wall of bay 2 of barn, first floor. Photograph taken facing west south-west.
RHTHF23_Photo	Western wall of bay 2 of barn, first floor. Photograph taken facing east north-east.
RHTHF23_Photo	Detail of ?Baltic timber mark on corbel between bays 2 and 3 of barn. Photograph taken facing south.
RHTHF23_Photo	Western wall of bay 3 of barn, first floor. Photograph taken facing west south-west.
RHTHF23_Photo	Eastern wall of bay 3 of barn, first floor. Photograph taken facing east north-east.
RHTHF23_Photo	Detail of side-halved scarf joint in western wall-plate of bay 3 of barn. Photograph taken facing north-east.
RHTHF23_Photo	Detail of side-halved scarf joint in eastern wall-plate of bay 3 of barn. Photograph taken facing north-east.
RHTHF23_Photo	Detail of ?Baltic timber mark on corbel between bays 3 and 4 of barn, eastern wall . Photograph taken facing south-east.
RHTHF23_Photo	Detail of side-halved scarf joint in eastern wall-plate of bay 2 of barn. Photograph taken facing north-east.
RHTHF23_Photo	Eastern wall of bay 4 of barn, first floor. Photograph taken facing north-east.
RHTHF23_Photo	Western wall of bay 4 of barn, first floor. Photograph taken facing south-west.
RHTHF23_Photo	Eastern end of tie-beam between bays 4 and 5 of barn, showing an example of a carved corbel and iron strap. Photograph taken facing south-east.
RHTHF23_Photo	Eastern wall of bay 5 of barn, first floor. Photograph taken facing north-east.
RHTHF23_Photo	Western wall of bay 5 of barn, first floor. Photograph taken facing south-west.
RHTHF23_Photo	Detail of Baltic timber mark on tie-beam between bays 5 and 6 of barn. Photograph taken facing south south-east.
RHTHF23_Photo	Eastern wall of bay 6 of barn, first floor. Photograph taken facing east north-east.
RHTHF23_Photo	Detail of Baltic timber mark on tie-beam between bays 6 and 7. Photograph taken facing south-east.
RHTHF23_Photo	Example of empty mortice from removed brace in tie-beam (between bays 6 and 7) of barn. Photograph taken facing east south-east.
RHTHF23_Photo	Detail of scarf join in eastern wall-plate in bay 6 of barn. Photograph taken facing north-east.
RHTHF23_Photo	Detail of Baltic timber mark on tie-beam between bays 6 and 7. Photograph taken facing south-east.
RHTHF23_Photo	Eastern wall of bay 7 of barn, first floor. Photograph taken facing east north-east.
RHTHF23_Photo	Western wall of bay 7 of barn, first floor. Photograph taken facing west south-west.
RHTHF23_Photo	Detail of Baltic timber marks on post between bays 6 and 7 of barn. Photograph taken facing north-west.
RHTHF23_Photo	Detail of Baltic timber marks on post between bays 6 and 7 of barn. Photograph taken facing west north-west.
RHTHF23_Photo	Detail of empty mortices from stud removal on western wall of bay 7 of barn. Photograph taken facing south-west.
RHTHF23_Photo	Southern wall of bay 7 of barn, first floor. Photograph taken facing south south-east.
RHTHF23_Photo	Detail of reused timber in window frame in southern wall of bay 7 of barn. Photograph taken facing south south-east.
RHTHF23_Photo	Northern wall of midstrey showing reused timbers. Photograph taken facing north-west.
RHTHF23_Photo	Detail of reused post and example of curved corbel between bays 6 and 7 of barn. Photograph taken facing south.
RHTHF23_Photo	Interior of barn, bays 4-7, ground floor. Photograph taken facing south.
RHTHF23_Photo	Interior of barn, bays 4-7, ground floor. Photograph taken facing west.
RHTHF23_Photo	Interior of barn, bays 4-7, ground floor. Photograph taken facing north.
RHTHF23_Photo	Interior of barn, bays 4-7, ground floor. Photograph taken facing south-east.

RHTHF23_Photograph_132.JPG	Detail of side-halved scarf joint in eastern wall-plate in bay 7. Photograph taken facing east.
RHTHF23_Photograph_133.JPG	Detail of reused post in bay 5 of barn. Photograph taken facing east north-east.
RHTHF23_Photograph_134.JPG	Detail of inserted and blocked opening in bay 5 of barn, ground floor. Photograph taken facing north-east.
RHTHF23_Photograph_135.JPG	Detail of northern midstrey wall. Photograph taken facing north-west.
RHTHF23_Photograph_136.JPG	Example of reused post in midstrey. Photograph taken facing south.
RHTHF23_Photograph_137.JPG	Detail of blocked doorway in midstrey. Photograph taken facing west.
RHTHF23_Photograph_138.JPG	Interior of barn, bays 1-3, ground floor. Photograph taken facing north.
RHTHF23_Photograph_139.JPG	Interior of barn, bays 1-3, ground floor. Photograph taken facing east.
RHTHF23_Photograph_140.JPG	Eastern wall of bay 1 of barn. Photograph taken facing north-east.
RHTHF23_Photograph_141.JPG	Northern wall of bay 1 of barn. Photograph taken facing north-west.
RHTHF23_Photograph_142.JPG	Detail of side-halved scarf joint in northern wall-plate in bay 1 of barn. Photograph taken facing north-west.
RHTHF23_Photograph_143.JPG	Detail of reused timber in northern wall of bay 1 of barn. Photograph taken facing north-west.
RHTHF23_Photograph_144.JPG	Eastern wall of bays 2 and 3 of barn. Photograph taken facing north-east.
RHTHF23_Photograph_145.JPG	Detail of side-halved scarf joint in eastern wall plate in bay 2 of barn. Photograph taken facing north-east.
RHTHF23_Photograph_146.JPG	Detail of side-halved scarf joint in eastern wall plate in bay 3 of barn. Photograph taken facing north-east.
RHTHF23_Photograph_147.JPG	Detail of reused post in bay 3 of barn. Photograph taken facing south-west.
RHTHF23_Photograph_148.JPG	Detail of Baltic timber mark on post between bays 2 and 3 of barn, ground floor. Photograph taken facing south-west.
RHTHF23_Photograph_149.JPG	Interior of office. Photograph taken facing south-west.
RHTHF23_Photograph_150.JPG	Interior of office. Photograph taken facing south-west.

RHTHF23\_PhotoGraph\_001Northern elevation. Photograph taken f...

RHTHF23\_PhotoGraph\_002Detail of central window on northern el...

RHTHF23\_PhotoGraph\_003Detail of eastern window on northern el...



RHTHF23\_PhotoGraph\_004Detail of doors to stables 1 and 2 (nort...

RHTHF23\_PhotoGraph\_005Detail of reused stud in northern elevat...

RHTHF23\_PhotoGraph\_006Detail of carpenters marks on northern...



RHTHF23\_PhotoGraph\_007Detail of carpenters marks on northern...

RHTHF23\_PhotoGraph\_008Northern elevation of office. Photograp...

RHTHF23\_PhotoGraph\_009Southern elevation of office. Photograp...



RHTHF23\_PhotoGraph\_010Southern elevation of barn and extensi...

RHTHF23\_PhotoGraph\_011Southern elevation of barn and extensi...

RHTHF23\_PhotoGraph\_012Detail of western window on southern ...



RHTHF23\_PhotoGraph\_013Detail of western window on southern ...

RHTHF23\_PhotoGraph\_014Detail of carpenters marks on southern...

RHTHF23\_PhotoGraph\_015Detail of reused girding-beam in south...



RHTHF23\_PhotoGraph\_016Detail of reused wind-brace in souther...

RHTHF23\_PhotoGraph\_017Detail of side-halved scarf joint in sill-b...

RHTHF23\_PhotoGraph\_018Western elevation. Photograph taken f...







RHTHF23\_PhotoGraph\_031Detail of barn entrance (eastern elevati...

RHTHF23\_PhotoGraph\_032Detail of carpenters marks on eastern ...

RHTHF23\_PhotoGraph\_033Detail of carpenters mark on eastern el...



RHTHF23\_PhotoGraph\_034Detail of carpenters mark 'VII' on girdin...

RHTHF23\_PhotoGraph\_035Detail of carpenters marks 'VII' on wind...

RHTHF23\_PhotoGraph\_036Detail of carpenters marks 'VIII' on win...



RHTHF23\_Photo... RHTHF23\_Photo...

RHTHF23\_Photo... RHTHF23\_Photo...

RHTHF23\_Photo... RHTHF23\_Photo...



RHTHF23\_Photo... RHTHF23\_Photo...

RHTHF23\_Photo... RHTHF23\_Photo...

RHTHF23\_Photo... RHTHF23\_Photo...



RHTHF23\_PhotoGraph\_043Detail of carpenters marks 'I' on studs i...

RHTHF23\_PhotoGraph\_044Detail of carpenters marks 'I' on studs ...

RHTHF23\_PhotoGraph\_045Detail of side-halved scarf joint in sill-b...



RHTHF23\_PhotoGraph\_046Eastern elevation of office. Photograph...

RHTHF23\_PhotoGraph\_047Southern elevation of kitchen. Photogr...

RHTHF23\_PhotoGraph\_048Northern elevation of barn extension. P...



RHTHF23\_PhotoGraph\_049Northern elevation of midstrey. Photogr...

RHTHF23\_PhotoGraph\_050Detail of reused corner post in norther...

RHTHF23\_PhotoGraph\_051Detail of reused stud in northern elevat...



RHTHF23\_PhotoGraph\_052Detail of reused timbers and carpenter...

RHTHF23\_PhotoGraph\_053Northern elevation of garage. Photogra...

RHTHF23\_PhotoGraph\_054Interior of kitchen. Photograph taken fa...





RHTHF23\_PhotoGraph\_061Detail of 'III' carpenters marks in sill-be...

RHTHF23\_PhotoGraph\_062Detail of 'IIII' carpenters mark in stud a...

RHTHF23\_PhotoGraph\_063Detail of 'IIII' carpenters mark in stud a...



RHTHF23\_PhotoGraph\_064Detail of 'III' carpenters mark in stud an...

RHTHF23\_PhotoGraph\_065Detail of 'IIII' carpenters mark in stud a...

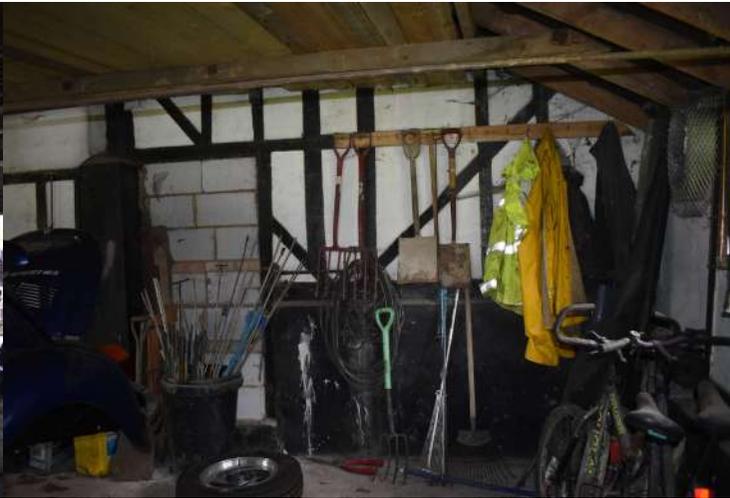
RHTHF23\_PhotoGraph\_066Interior of garage. Photograph taken fa...



RHTHF23\_PhotoGraph\_067Interior of garage. Photograph taken fa...

RHTHF23\_PhotoGraph\_068Detail of western elevation of barn in g...

RHTHF23\_PhotoGraph\_069Detail of garage roof. Photograph take...



RHTHF23\_PhotoGraph\_070Interior of barn, bays 5-7, third floor. P...

RHTHF23\_PhotoGraph\_071Interior of barn, bays 5-7, third floor. P...

RHTHF23\_PhotoGraph\_072Detail of dormer window and reused p...





RHTHF23\_PhotoGraph\_079Detail of splayed scarf joint in purlin on...

RHTHF23\_PhotoGraph\_080Detail of splayed scarf joint in purlin on...

RHTHF23\_PhotoGraph\_081Interior of barn, bay 3, third floor. Phot...



RHTHF23\_PhotoGraph\_082Interior of barn, bay 3, third floor. Phot...

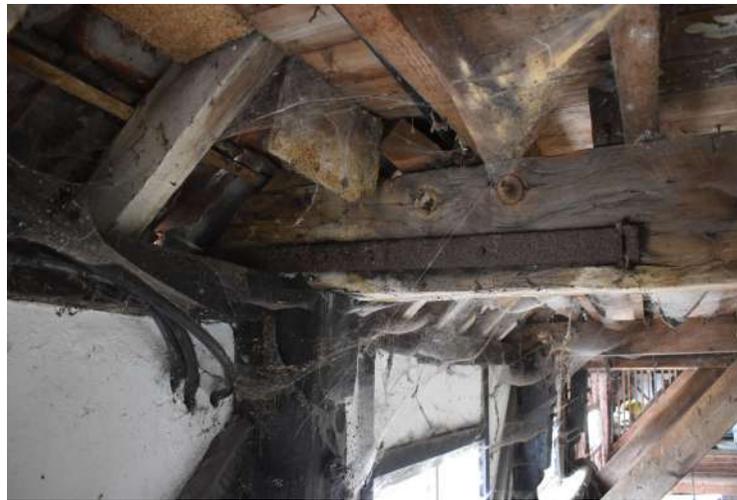
RHTHF23\_PhotoGraph\_083Example of mortice in rafter from remo...

RHTHF23\_PhotoGraph\_084Interior of barn, bays 1-3, third floor. P...









RHTHF23\_PhotoGraph\_103Eastern wall of bay 3 of barn, first floor.... RHTHF23\_PhotoGraph\_104Detail of side-halved scarf joint in west... RHTHF23\_PhotoGraph\_105Detail of side-halved scarf joint in east...



RHTHF23\_PhotoGraph\_106Detail of ?Baltic timber mark on corbel ... RHTHF23\_PhotoGraph\_107Detail of side-halved scarf joint in east... RHTHF23\_PhotoGraph\_108Eastern wall of bay 4 of barn, first floor....



RHTHF23\_PhotoGraph\_109Western wall of bay 4 of barn, first floor... RHTHF23\_PhotoGraph\_110Eastern end of tie-beam between bays ... RHTHF23\_PhotoGraph\_111Eastern wall of bay 5 of barn, first floor...



RHTHF23\_PhotoGraph\_112Western wall of bay 5 of barn, first floor... RHTHF23\_PhotoGraph\_113Detail of Baltic timber mark on tie-bea... RHTHF23\_PhotoGraph\_114Eastern wall of bay 6 of barn, first floor...



RHTHF23\_Photo... Detail of Baltic timber mark on tie-bea...

RHTHF23\_Photo... Example of empty mortice from remov...

RHTHF23\_Photo... Detail of scarf join in eastern wall-plate...



RHTHF23\_Photo... Detail of Baltic timber mark on tie-bea...

RHTHF23\_Photo... Eastern wall of bay 7 of barn, first floor....

RHTHF23\_Photo... Western wall of bay 7 of barn, first floor...



RHTHF23\_PhotoGraph\_121Detail of Baltic timber marks on post b...



RHTHF23\_PhotoGraph\_122Detail of Baltic timber marks on post b...



RHTHF23\_PhotoGraph\_123Detail of empty mortices from stud rem...



RHTHF23\_PhotoGraph\_124Southern wall of bay 7 of barn, first flo...

RHTHF23\_PhotoGraph\_125Detail of reused timber in window fram...

RHTHF23\_PhotoGraph\_126Northern wall of midstrey showing reus...



RHTHF23\_PhotoGraph\_127Detail of reused post and example of c...



RHTHF23\_PhotoGraph\_128Interior of barn, bays 4-7, ground floor. ...RHTHF23\_PhotoGraph\_129Interior of barn, bays 4-7, ground floor. ...



RHTHF23\_PhotoGraph\_130Interior of barn, bays 4-7, ground floor. ...

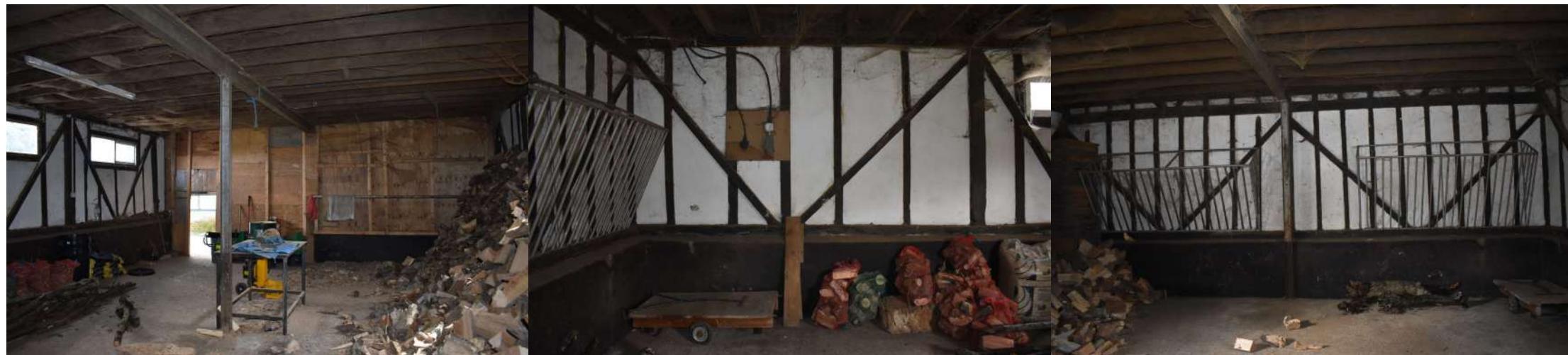
RHTHF23\_PhotoGraph\_131Interior of barn, bays 4-7, ground floor. ...

RHTHF23\_PhotoGraph\_132Detail of side-halved scarf joint in east...





RHTHF23\_PhotoGraph\_139Interior of barn, bays 1-3, ground floor. ...RHTHF23\_PhotoGraph\_140Eastern wall of bay 1 of barn. Photogra...RHTHF23\_PhotoGraph\_141Northern wall of bay 1 of barn. Photogr...



RHTHF23\_PhotoGraph\_142Detail of side-halved scarf joint in north...RHTHF23\_PhotoGraph\_143Detail of reused timber in northern wall... RHTHF23\_PhotoGraph\_144Eastern wall of bays 2 and 3 of barn. P...



RHTHF23\_PhotoGraph\_145Detail of side-halved scarf joint in east... RHTHF23\_PhotoGraph\_146Detail of side-halved scarf joint in east... RHTHF23\_PhotoGraph\_147Detail of reused post in bay 3 of barn. ...



RHTHF23\_PhotoGraph\_148Detail of Baltic timber mark on post bet... RHTHF23\_PhotoGraph\_149Interior of office. Photograph taken faci... RHTHF23\_PhotoGraph\_150Interior of office. Photograph taken faci...





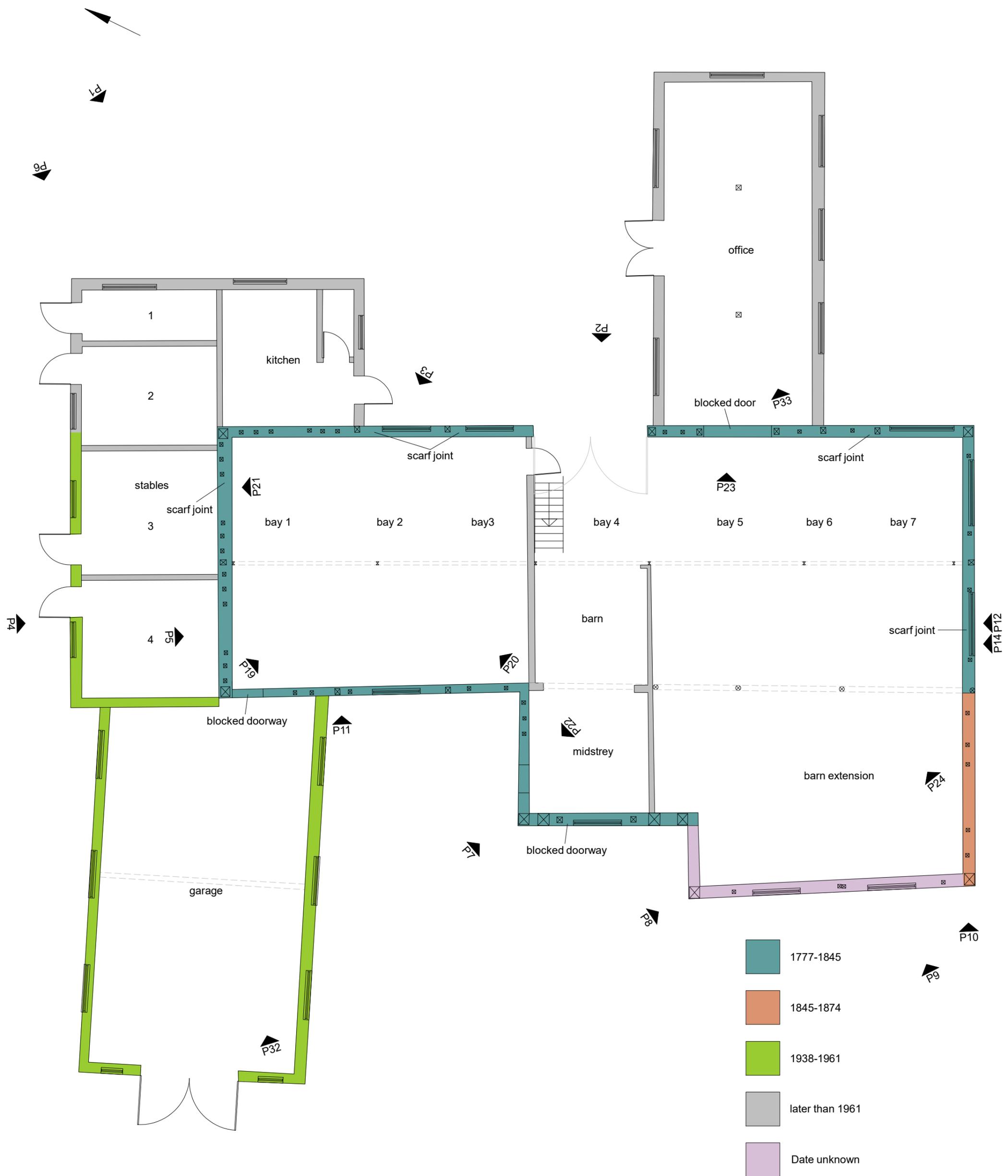


Fig 2 Ground floor plan. Location and direction of photographs reproduced in text shown.

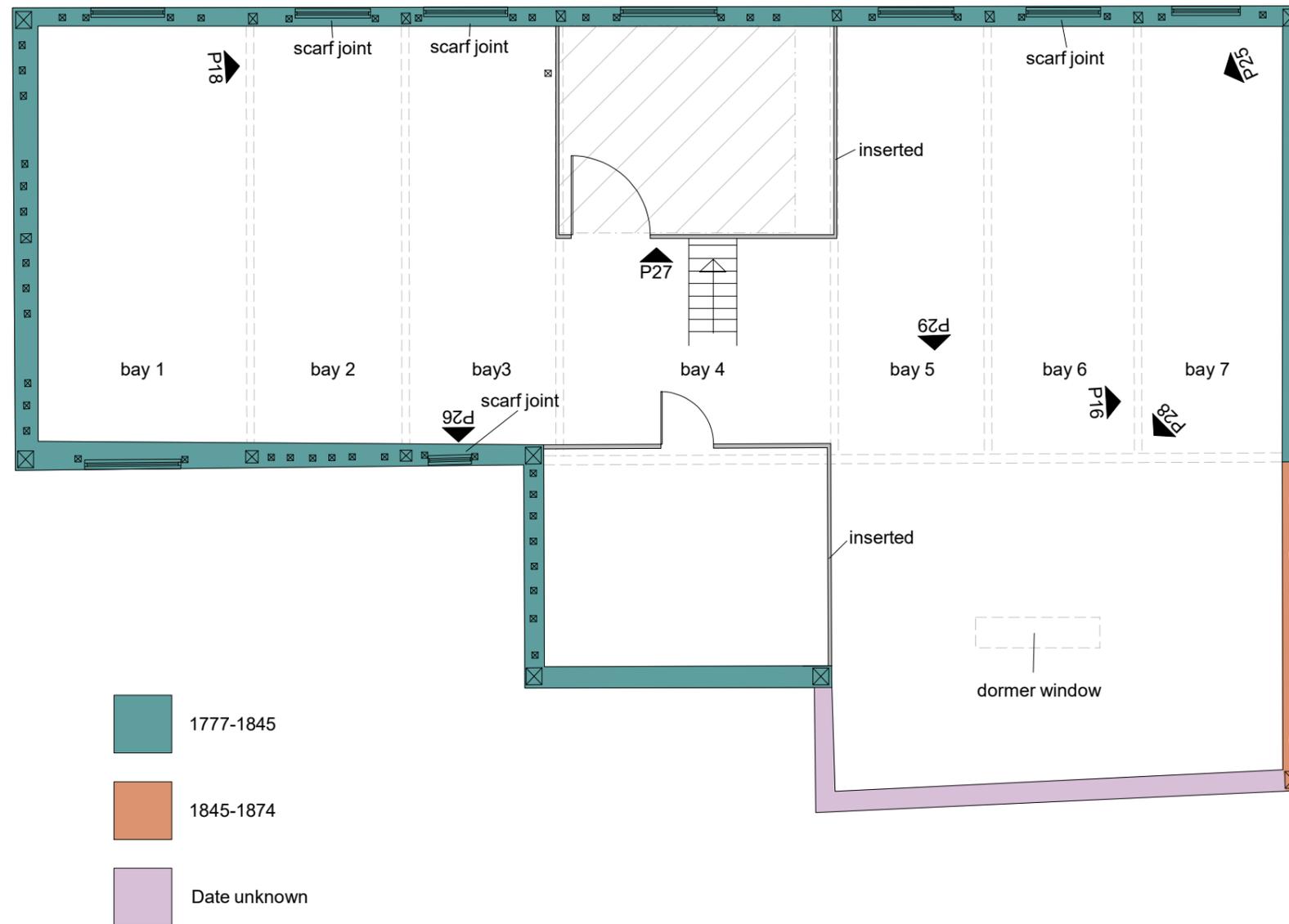
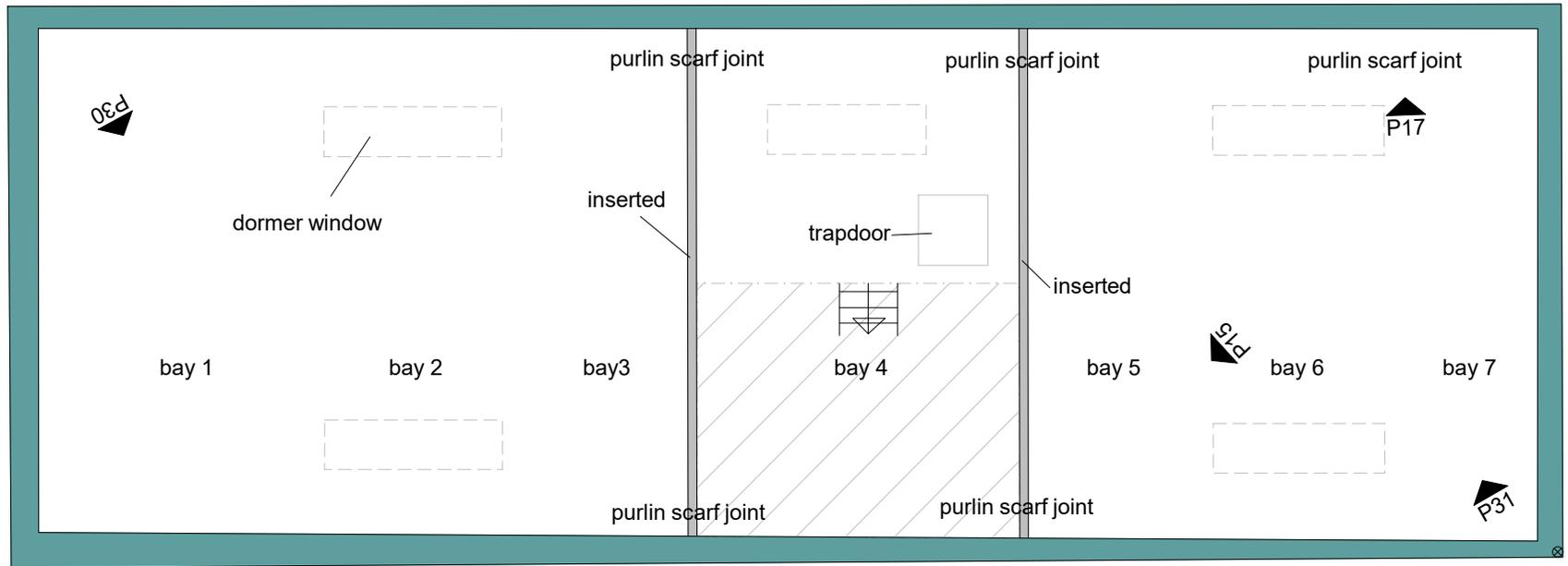


Fig 3 First floor plan. Location and direction of photographs reproduced in text shown.





1777-1845      modern

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Fig 4 Second floor plan. Location and direction of photographs reproduced in text shown.



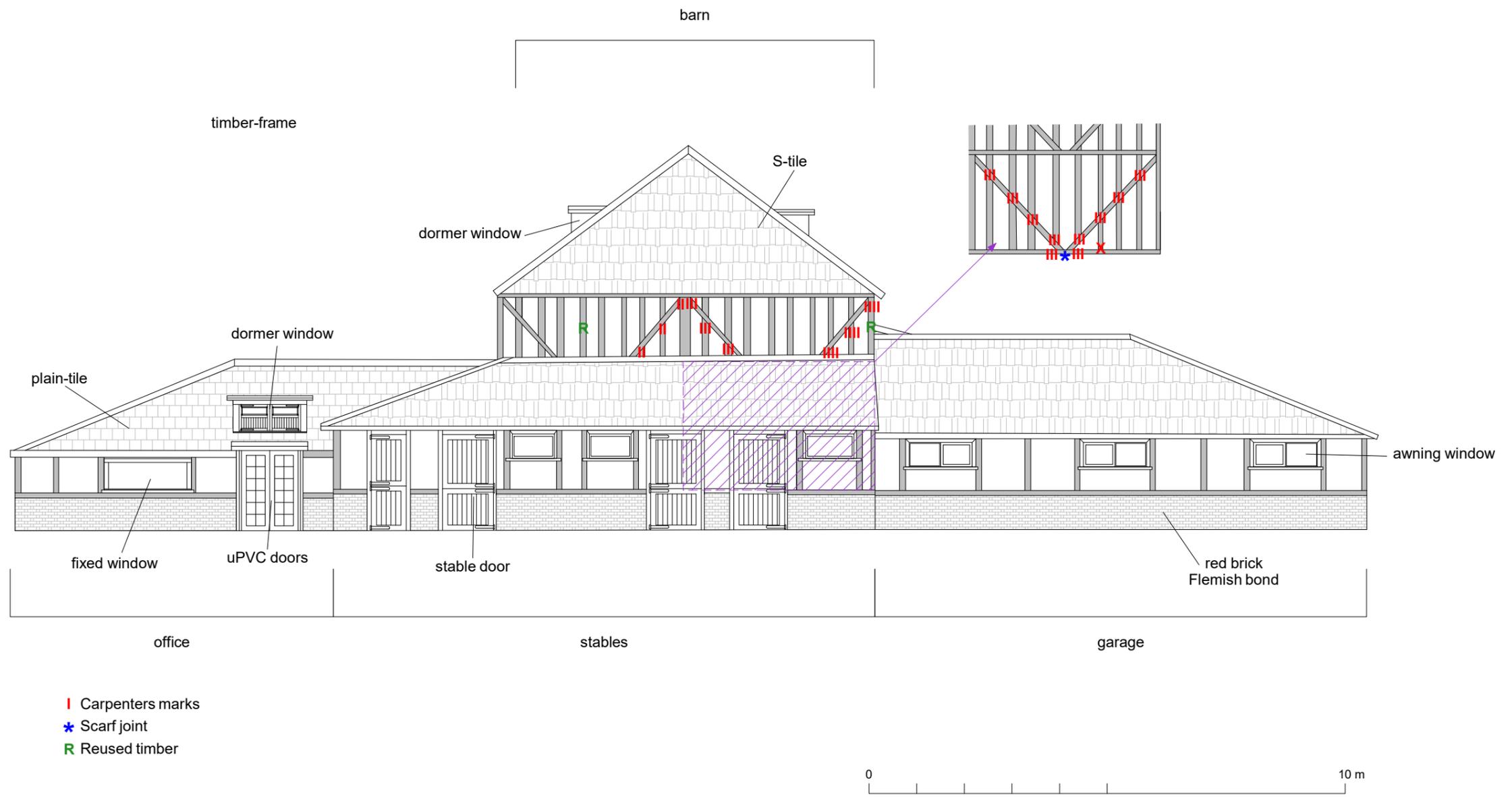
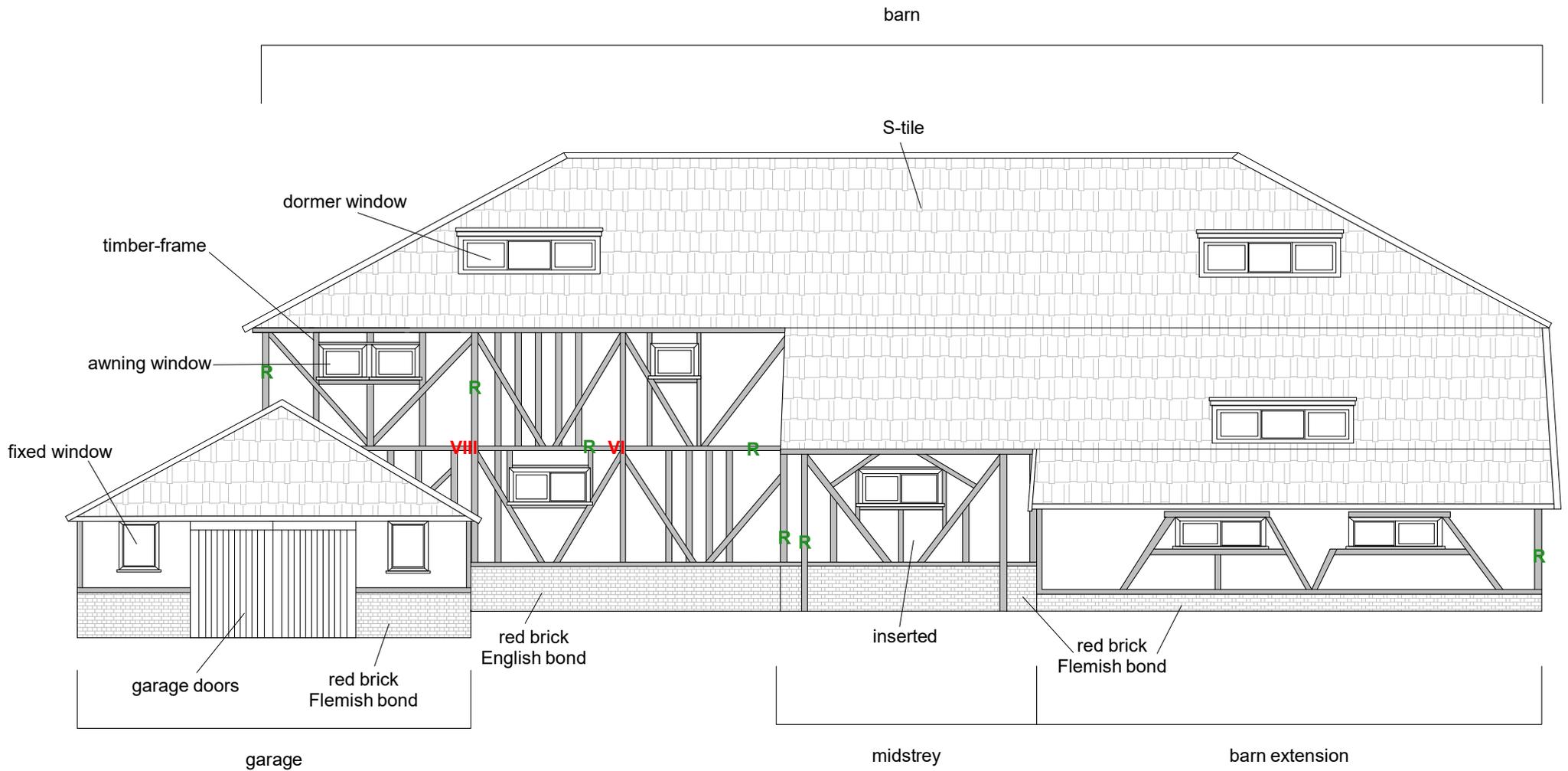


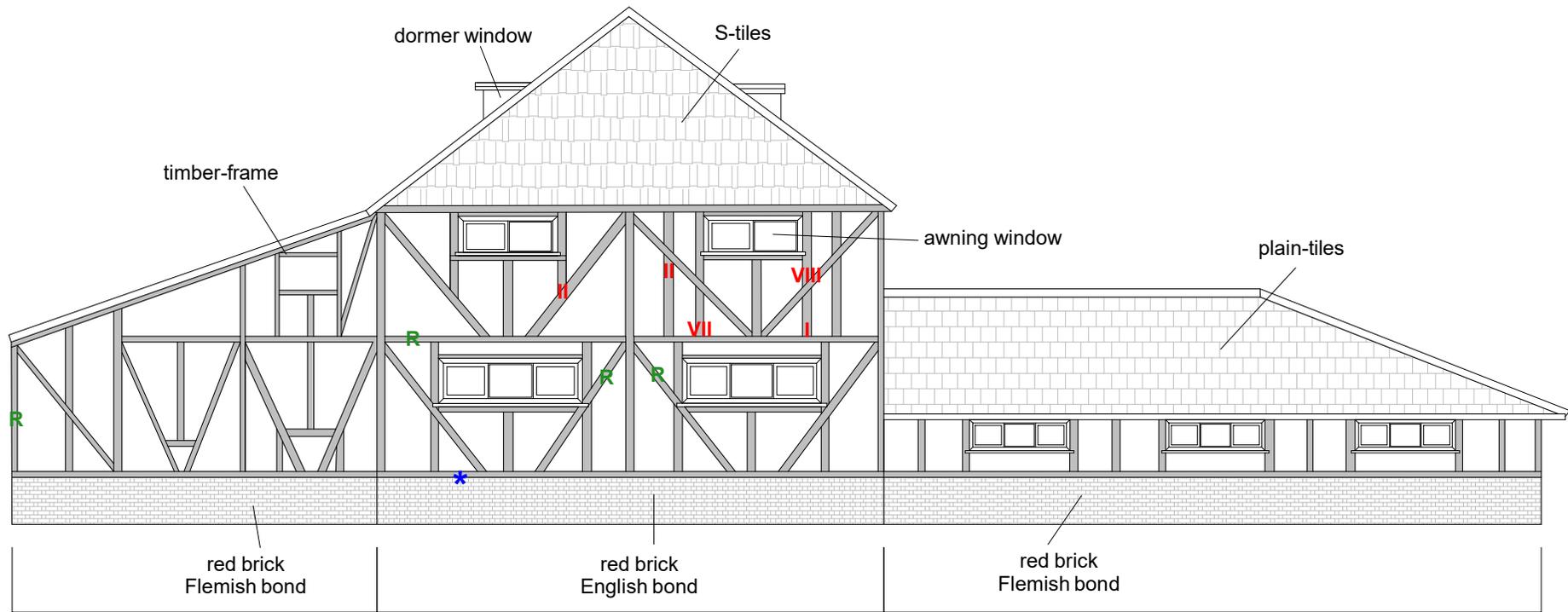
Fig 6 Northern elevation.



I Carpenters marks

R Reused timber

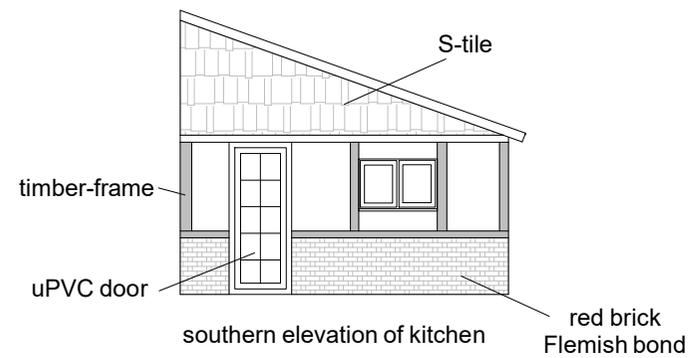
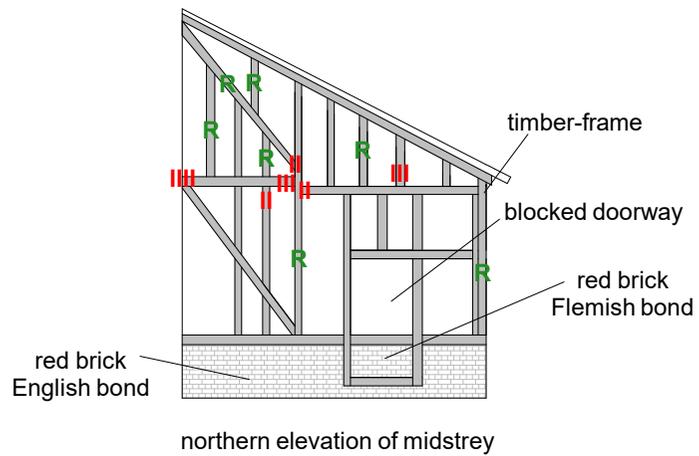
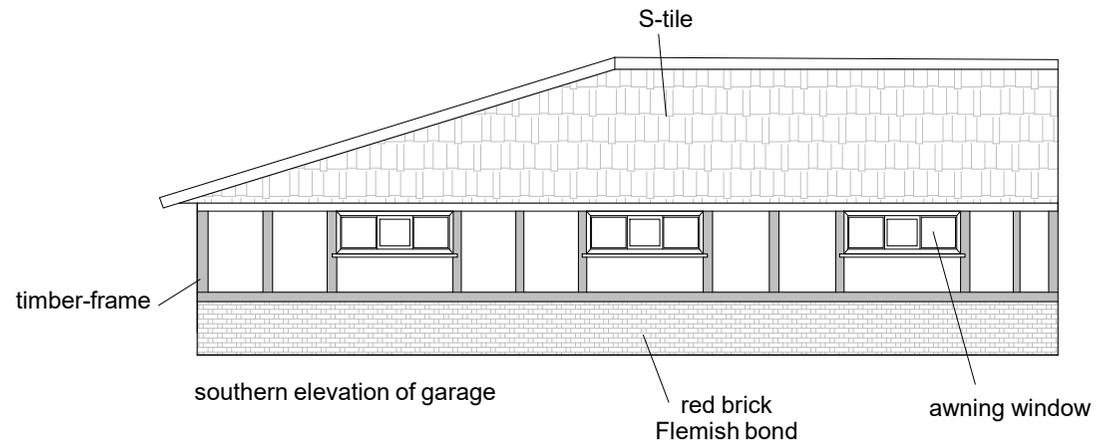
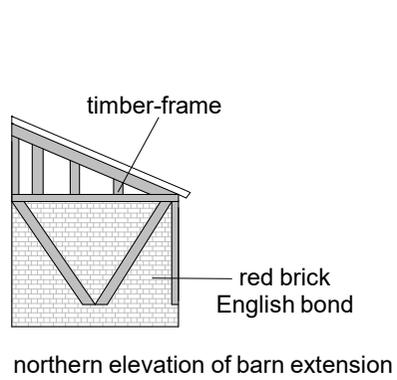
Fig 7 Western elevation.



- I Carpenters marks
- \* Scarf joint
- R Reused timber



Fig 8 Southern elevation.



I Carpenters marks

R Reused timber

Fig 9 Obscured elevations.



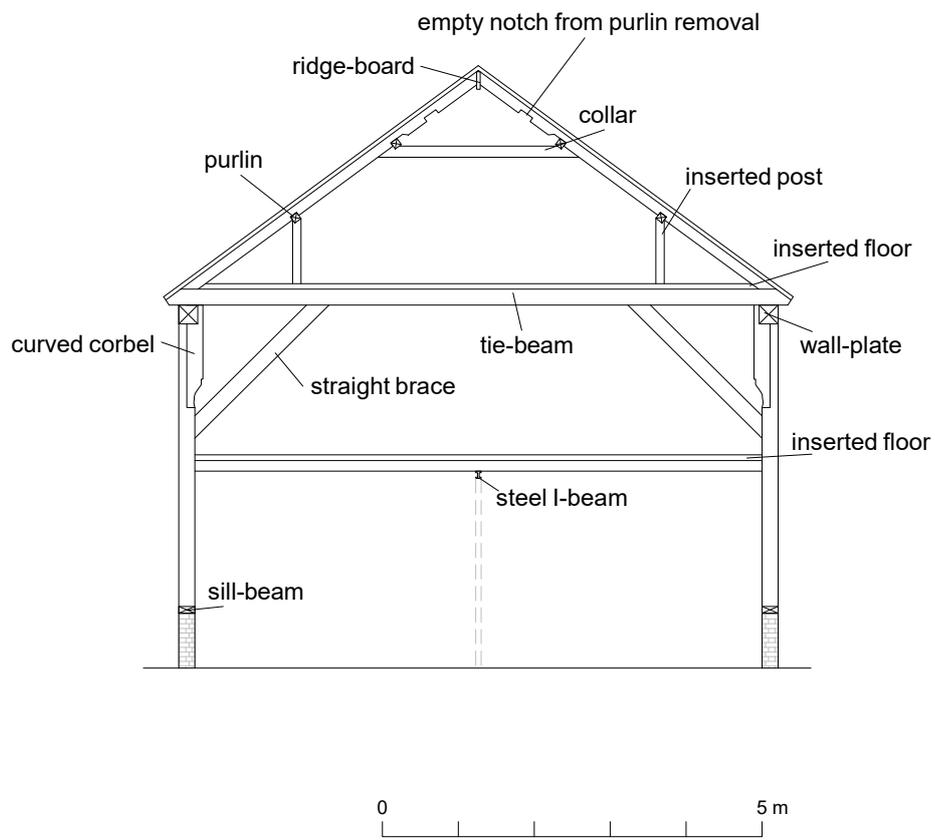


Fig 10 Truss cross-section of barn.

## Summary for colchest3-514554

OASIS ID (UID)	colchest3-514554
Project Name	Historic building recording of a barn at Tylde Hall Farm, Heath Road, Ramsden Heath, Billericay: April 2023
Sitename	Tylde Hall Farm, Heath Road, Ramsden Heath, Billericay, CM11 1HP
Activity type	Building Survey
Project Identifier(s)	23/04a
Planning Id	22/00472/FUL
Reason For Investigation	Planning requirement
Organisation Responsible for work	Colchester Archaeological Trust
Project Dates	26-Apr-2023 - 26-Apr-2023
Location	Tylde Hall Farm, Heath Road, Ramsden Heath, Billericay, CM11 1HP NGR : TQ 69490 95392 LL : 51.631807887848055, 0.447542532762031 12 Fig : 569490,195392
Administrative Areas	Country : England County : Essex District : Chelmsford Parish : South Hanningfield

Project Methodology	<p>The aim of the building recording was to provide a detailed record and assessment of the barn prior to its conversion. 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 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> <p>The following are included in this report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A documentary, cartographic and pictorial survey of the evidence pertaining to the history and evolution of the site.</li> <li>• A large-scale block plan of the site.</li> <li>• Annotated and phased floor-plan of the building at a scale of 1:50.</li> <li>• A description of the building. The description addresses features such as materials, dimensions, method of construction and phasing.</li> <li>• 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).</li> </ul>
Project Results	<p>A programme of historic building recording was carried out by Colchester Archaeological Trust on a barn at Tylde Hall Farm, Heath Road, Ramsden Heath, Billericay. The HER records the barn at Tylde Hall Farm as being designed and constructed by Frederic Chancellor, a prolific local architect, in 1870. This is, however, inaccurate as the barn appears on earlier-dated mapping.</p> <p>The barn is a late 18th/early 19th century timber-framed threshing barn with later extensions, including stables and a garage. The timber-frame of the barn is visible from the exterior, where a large number of carpenters' marks were observed. Further carpenters' marks, along with Baltic timber marks, were observed on the interior of the barn. A large number of reused timbers are present through the frame of the barn and its extension. Two floors and a number of windows have been inserted into the barn.</p>
Keywords	Threshing Barn - POST MEDIEVAL - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types
Funder	
HER	Essex HER - unRev - STANDARD

Person Responsible for work	S, Veasey
HER Identifiers	HER Event No - RHTHF23
Archives	Digital Archive - to be deposited with Archaeology Data Service Archive;