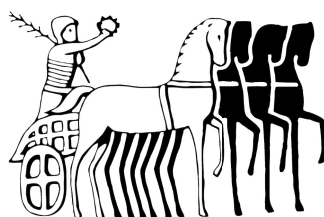


# Colchester Archaeological Trust



**CAT Report 2014  
issued December 2023**

**Historic building recording at Gay Bowers Farm,  
Bakers Lane, West Hanningfield, Essex, CM2 8LD**

**November 2023**



**CAT project ref.: 2023/10e  
ECC code: WHGB23**

**Historic building recording at Gay Bowers Farm, Bakers  
Lane, West Hanningfield, Essex, CM2 8LD**

**November 2023**

**NGR: TL 71518 01623**

**Planning district.: Chelmsford  
Planning ref.: 23/00744/FUL**

**CAT project ref.: 2023/10e  
CAT Report : 2014**

**ECC code: WHGB23  
ECC monitor: Mark Baister  
OASIS id: colchest3-520298**

**report prepared by  
Xander Smith**

**with contributions from Sarah Veasey**

**fieldwork by Sarah Veasey & Xander Smith**

**Commissioned by: Nikki Collins, Real8 Group  
On behalf of: Real8 Group**

<b>Prepared by:</b>	Xander Smith	Senior Site Assistant
<b>Reviewed by:</b>	Chris Lister	Contracts Manager
<b>Reviewed and approved by:</b>	Howard Brooks	Director of Archaeology
<b>Issued:</b>	21/12/2023	

**Colchester Archaeological Trust**

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

*tel.:* 01206 501785

*email:* [services@catuk.org](mailto:services@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 at Gay Bowers Farm, Bakers Lane, West Hanningfield, Essex in November 2023. The recording detailed a small complex of three buildings, the oldest of which was a three-bay haybarn which is probably late 18th – early 19th century, a building currently used as a stable block constructed in the early 19th century and a modern lean-to. Structurally the barn has remained relatively unchanged. In contrast to this, the stable block, originally constructed between 1777 and 1844 as a shelter shed, shows evidence of being reworked, and at least partially rebuilt, over the course of the 19th and early 20th centuries.*

## 2 Introduction (Fig 2)

This is the archive report of a historic building recording carried out at Gay Bowers Farm, Bakers Lane, West Hanningfield, Essex. The recording work was commissioned by Nikki Collins (Real8 Group) on behalf of Real8 Group and was carried out by Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT) on 20th November 2023. The site is located at NGR TL 71518 01623 (Fig 1).

A planning application (23/00744/FUL) was submitted to Chelmsford City Council in July 2023 comprising the *Demolition of existing stables and construction of new stables, hay pole barn and manege*. Planning permission was granted but, after consultation with the conservation officer, it was proposed that the barn is repaired and retained.

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 building prior to any conversion works (ECC 2023). This recommendation was given as the barn retains sufficient character to be considered as a non-designated heritage asset. This recommendation follows the guidelines given in National Planning Policy Framework (MHCLG 2023).

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 house 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:

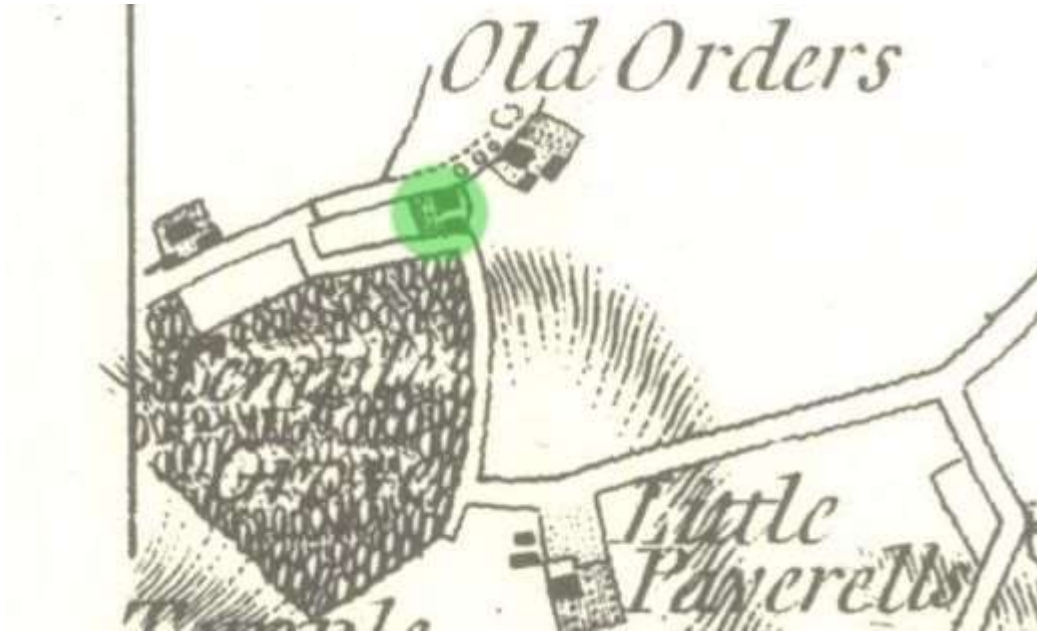
- A documentary, cartographic and pictorial survey of the evidence pertaining to the history and evolution of the site.
- A large-scale block plan of the site.
- Annotated and phased floor-plan of the building at a scale of 1:100.
- A description of the building. The description addresses features such 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 2)**

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))

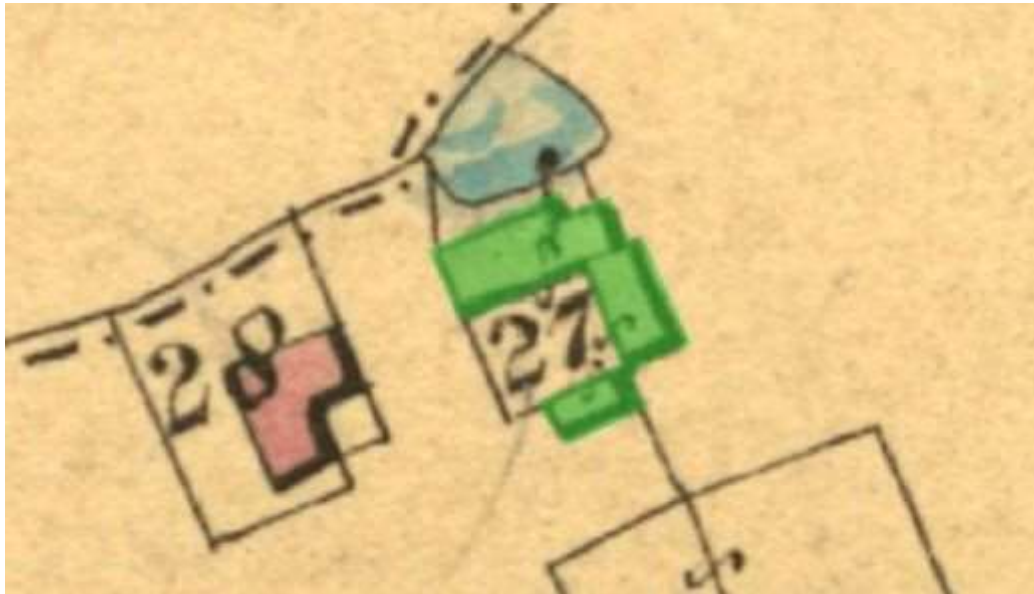
Gay Bowers Farm is situated south of the city of Chelmsford and north of the village of West Hanningfield.

The 1777 Chapman and André map (Map 1) is the earliest cartographic evidence for Gay Bowers. It presents a pair of buildings located at the north-east corner of Temple Grove Wood. The scale and accuracy of the map makes it difficult to confirm if these structures represent the farmhouse and barn in their current form.



**Map 1** An extract from Chapman and André's 1777 map of Essex. The Gay Bowers Farm highlighted in green.

The 1844 Tithe map (Map 2) represents Gay Bowers in more detail than that of Chapman and André. It shows a small complex of buildings, in a rough U-shape. The barn and the eastern building are clearly visible, as is the farmhouse to the west and a rectangular building opposite the barn to the south.



**Map 2** Extract from the 1844 Tithe map, Gay Bowers Farm highlighted in green.

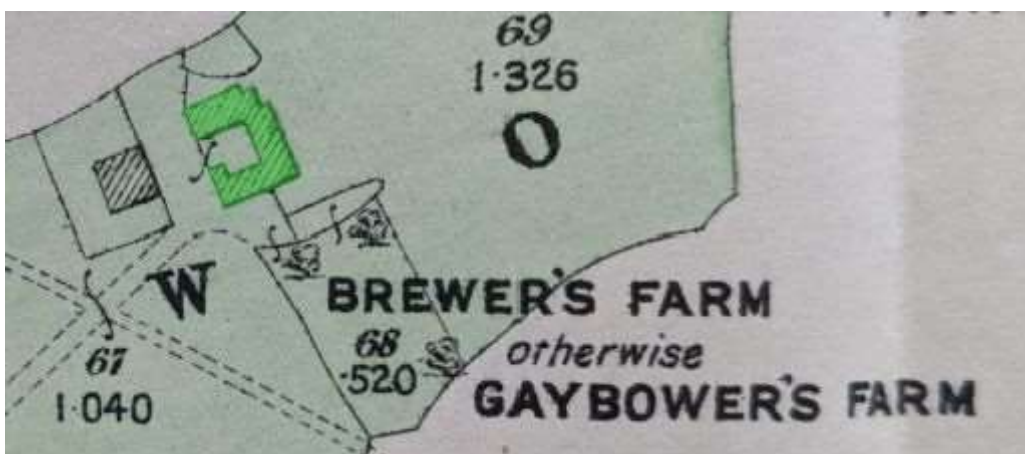
The 1874 1st edition 6-inch OS map (Map 3) and 1895 2nd edition 25-inch OS map (map 4) show the complex at Gay Bowers farm (named at the time Brewers Farm) having grown since 1844. The farmhouse has also extended. A map from a 1912 sales catalogue (Map 5, ERO D/F 63/1/26/1) shows the complex in the same plan form as the 1895 mapping (now with the name Gay Bowers). The accompanying text defines the function of the farm buildings not seen today (see plate 1, ERO D/F 63/1/26/1).



**Map 3** Extract from the 1874 1st edition 6-inch OS map. Gay Bowers Farm highlighted in green.



**Map 4** Extract from the 1895 2nd edition 25-inch OS map. Gay Bowers Farm highlighted in green.



**Map 5** The map from a 1912 sales catalogue. Gay Bowers Farm highlighted in green.

Lot 2					
" GAY BOWERS FARM "					
(On Ordnance Map Brewers Farm).					
Adjoining Temple Grove and Hill Farm, situate in Baker's Lane, off the main road to Stock, at the bottom of Galleywood Common, partly in the Parish of Great Baddow, and partly in West Hanningfield, about 4 Miles from Chelmsford.					
A DESIRABLE					
SMALL HOLDING					
COMPRISING					
A Farm House (Brick-Built and Slated), containing Two Front Parlours, Dairy, Pantry, Cellar (in basement), Kitchen, Scullery, 5 Bedrooms, Dressing-room, Boxroom, and a roomy Landing at top of stairs, with Chaisehouse enclosed by three pairs of doors and iron roof, and a Conservatory on south side of house, and a large underground soft water tank.					
THE FARM BUILDINGS					
COMPRISE					
A good Barn, Timber and Tiled, a range of Cowhouse, 2 Stables, and 3 Piggeries in enclosed yard, Cottage with 5 rooms, and Garden.					
The Pasture and Arable LAND contains about					
8 acres 1 rood 12 poles					
Divided as under:					
SCHEDULE					
In GREAT BADDOW					
No.				A.	R. P.
752	Meadow	...	Pasture	...	1 2 33
752A	Cottage and Garden	...		...	0 0 16
In WEST HANNINGFIELD					
65	West Field	...	Arable	...	2 0 22
66	East Ditto	...	"	...	1 1 39
67	Meadow, House and Garden	...	Pasture, etc.	...	1 0 7
68	Garden and Pond	...	—	...	0 2 3
69	Meadow and Orchard	...	Pasture	...	1 1 12
				<b>A8</b>	<b>1 12</b>
The Timber on this Lot will be included in the Purchase.					
The Property is subject to Tithe Rent-Charge, and the last yearly payment was £1 5s. 11d., and that part which is situated in Great Baddow to an Enfranchisement Rent-Charge of £1 14s. 3d., while there are Quit or Free Rents of 3s. and 10½d. on some other portion of the property situate in West Hanningfield Parish.					
[ 3 ]					

**Plate 1** Lot listing in a 1912 sales catalogue for Gay Bowers Farm, detailing the composition of the farm buildings. (ERO D/F 63/1/26/1)

The 1919 3rd edition 25-inch OS map (map 6) shows Gay Bowers with the same shape in plan as it has today, with the barn and stable block in a clear L-shape. The southern range has been replaced with a yard wall.





**Map 6** Extract from the 1919 3rd edition 25-inch OS map. Gay Bowers Farm highlighted in green.

A sales catalogue from 1950 (ERO D/F 33/32/3) describes the farm as it is today.

## **6 Building recording descriptive record (Figs 1-7)**

The buildings recorded at Gay Bowers Farm comprise a barn, stable block and a small additional structure built as a lean-to against the other two buildings. These have been subdivided into individual bays and stables (see Fig 2).

### **Barn**

The three-bay barn is rectangular in shape, roughly aligned south-west/north-east and covers an area of approximately 50m<sup>2</sup>. It stands roughly 5.5m tall, and is 5.1m wide by 9.68m long.

### **Exterior**

The roof is gabled at both ends and clad in peg-tile with ceramic ridge-tiles.

The timber frame of the barn is supported on a red brick plinth, (brick dimensions 225 x 110-110 x 65mm) laid in Flemish-bond and painted black. On all elevations the timber-frame is clad in weatherboard.



**Photograph 1** South-east elevation. Photograph taken facing north-west.



In the centre of the south-eastern elevation is a single vertically-planked timber door, with a pair of pitching doors set either side, both of which are vertically-planked.



**Photograph 2** Detail of single door on south-east elevation. Photograph taken facing north-west.



**Photograph 3** Detail of pitching-door on south-east elevation. Photograph taken facing north-west.

A vertically-planked timber door is set on the southern end of the south-western elevation. A gap is observed between the door and the brick plinth (filled with weatherboard), an indication that the doorway has decreased in size. Above this is a ceramic electricity point.





**Photograph 4** Detail of single door on south-west elevation. Photograph taken facing north-east.



**Photograph 5** Detail of ceramic electricity point port on south-west elevation. Photograph taken facing north-east.

In the centre of the north-western elevation is a blocked single vertically-planked timber door. Due to the presence of a large scaffold-built structure adjacent to the elevation, a thorough inspection could not be made.





**Photograph 6** Detail of blocked single doorway on north-west elevation. Photograph taken facing north-east.

The north-eastern elevation of the barn is largely obscured by the lean-to. Above the lean-to the elevation is featureless.



**Photograph 7** North-east elevation. Photograph taken facing south.

### **Interior**

The barn has three bays, labelled Bay 1-3 west to east. All are roughly the same width. The floor of the barn was poured concrete, with a brick step almost at the dividing line between bays 2 and 3, preceding a drop of about 100mm to a lower floor level.

The roof of the barn is gabled and comprises pairs of rafters rising from the wall-plates and meeting at a ridge-board. The rafters are supported by a single clasped purlin on each roof pitch. There are three collars, one in each Bay but independent of the tie-



beams, with a further two gable-collars. The gable-collar at the north-eastern end and the collar in Bay 1 are both very sinuous in nature. There is diagonal wind-bracing above and below the purlins on both roof pitches in bays 1 and 3, these appear to be latter additions. There are two tie-beams, both supported by knee-braces at either end, held in place with 2 iron bolts and 4 iron nails. The tie-beam between bays 2 and 3 has iron straps on the western side. The timbers are a mixture of machine-cut and hand-sawn. All walls in the barn have diagonal through-bracing.



**Photograph 8** Detail of knee-brace and roof construction in barn, Bay 2. Photograph taken facing north-east.



**Photograph 9** Detail of gable end of barn, Bay 3. Photograph taken facing north-east.





**Photograph 10** Detail of Tie Beam and roof construction of barn, Bay 1. Photograph taken facing north.

In Bay 1, the door-frame in the south-western wall has been reduced in size. This is evidenced by the change in timber-framing and the use of machine-cut timbers. Again on the south-western wall, the central stud shows signs of reuse, indicated by empty mortices and notches in the timber. An original opening for a pitching door is present in the south-eastern wall of this Bay. Also on the south-east wall, the central stud and the intermediate-post show signs of reuse, indicated by empty mortices and notches in the timber. Additionally, there is a Baltic timber mark on the wall-plate of that wall.



**Photograph 11** Detail of doorway reduction and nogging in barn, Bay 1. Photograph taken facing north-west.





**Photograph 12** Detail of re-used timbers and timber frame construction in barn, Bay 1. Photograph taken facing west.



**Photograph 13** Detail of pitching door in barn, Bay 1. Photograph taken facing south-east.





**Photograph 14** Detail of Baltic timber mark on wall plate in barn, Bay 1. Photograph taken facing south-east.



**Photograph 15** Detail of re-used timbers in barn, Bay 1. Photograph taken facing south-east.

In Bay 2, there is a side-halved scarf-joint in the sill-beam in the centre of the north-western wall. At this point is an original doorway, now blocked. To the left of this is a section of red brick nogging between two studs. The opening for the doorway in the south-eastern wall is also original. One stud in the south-eastern wall shows evidence of re-use, indicated by notches in the timber.





**Photograph 16** Detail of scarf-joint on sill-beam beneath northern doorway in barn, Bay 2. Photograph taken facing north/north-west.



**Photograph 17** Detail of exterior door in north-west wall of barn, Bay 2. Photograph taken facing north-west.





**Photograph 18** Detail of re-used stud in south-eastern wall of barn, Bay 2.  
Photograph taken facing south/south-east.



**Photograph 19** Interior of barn, Bay 2. Photograph taken facing west.





**Photograph 20** Detail of exterior door in south-east wall of barn, Bay 2. Photograph taken facing south-east.

In Bay 3, there is a Baltic timber mark on the north-eastern and north-western wall-plates. The north-east and north-west intermediate-posts, as well as a stud in the north-eastern wall, show signs of re-use indicated by empty mortices. The opening for the pitching door in the south-eastern wall is original.



**Photograph 21** Interior of barn, Bay 3. Photograph taken facing north.





**Photograph 22** Detail of Baltic timber mark on north-eastern wall-plate in barn, Bay 3.  
Photograph taken facing north-east.



**Photograph 23** Detail of Baltic timber mark on north-western wall-plate in barn, Bay 3.  
Photograph taken facing north-west.





**Photograph 24** Interior view of barn, Bay 3. Photograph taken facing north-west.



**Photograph 25** Interior view of barn, Bay 3. Photograph taken facing south-east.





**Photograph 26** Detail of re-used stud in north-eastern wall of barn, Bay 3.  
Photograph taken facing north.

**The stable block**

The stable block is rectangular in shape, roughly aligned north-west/south-east and covers an area of roughly 54m<sup>2</sup>.

**Exterior**

The roof is gabled at both ends, clad with peg-tile on the south-western pitch and ceramic S-tiles on the north-eastern pitch, with ceramic ridge tiles along the peak. There is a significant dip in the roof over stable 4, this also aligns with a visual difference in the peg-tiles used on the on the roof covering the rest of the stable block.





**Photograph 27** South-west elevation of stables. Photograph taken facing north-east.



**Photograph 28** North-eastern elevation of stables and barn. Photograph taken facing south-west.

The south-west elevation comprises modern bricks (brick measurements 215 x 100 x 65mm) laid in English bond, with queen closers flanking the doorways. The lower two courses are painted black to form a visual plinth, without there being a direct structural change. Five stable doors are set into this wall. With the exception of the roof material, everything visible on this elevation appears to be a modern addition.





**Photograph 29** Detail of doors on south-west elevation of stables. Photograph taken facing east north-east.

The south-eastern elevation comprises a two course plinth of red bricks (brick measurement 225 x 105 x 65mm) laid in a mixed bond. Above this is a cladding of timber weatherboard. Cut into the weatherboard are four small arches for an internal dovecot.



**Photograph 30** South-eastern elevation of stables. Photograph taken facing north.

The timber weatherboard continues across the north-eastern elevation, however, the weatherboard covering the first 3.21m is distinctly newer than that covering the rest of the building. The brick plinth also changes at this point, from 3 courses laid in mixed bond (brick measurement 230 x 110 x 65mm) to 6 courses of Stretcher bond topped with headers (brick measurement 225 x 110 x 65mm), further indicating different phases of construction. The taller brick plinth continues for 3.9m, after which the



brickwork drops three courses and is laid in Stretcher bond. The brickwork continues like this the length of the building. At the point the brickwork initially changes there is a blocked doorway, visible through a difference in weatherboard.



**Photograph 31** Detail of blocked doorway on north-east elevation. Photograph taken facing south-west.



**Photograph 32** Detail of brickwork for plinth on north-east elevation of stables. Photograph taken facing north-west.

The north-western elevation is largely obscured by the lean-to, however the timber weatherboard does continue along this elevation.

### **Interior**

The roof of the stable block was largely inaccessible. However, the construction was partially viewable through a loft hatch in stable 4. The roof in this section is a mix of



hand-sawn and machine-cut rafters on the south-western pitch with exclusively modern machine-cut ones on the north-eastern pitch. These rise, in pairs, from the wall-plates and meet at a ridge-board. The rafters are supported by a machine-cut clasped purlin on each roof pitch. A splayed scarf-joint is visible on the western purlin.



**Photograph 33** Detail of interior roof construction of stable 4 (photographed through limited access). Photograph taken facing south-east.

The lower structure of the roof was visible in the partition between stable 1 and 2. A hand-sawn tie-beam has two machine-cut inclined struts, projecting up past the covered ceiling, and by another single inclined strut projecting diagonally towards the northern end of the building.



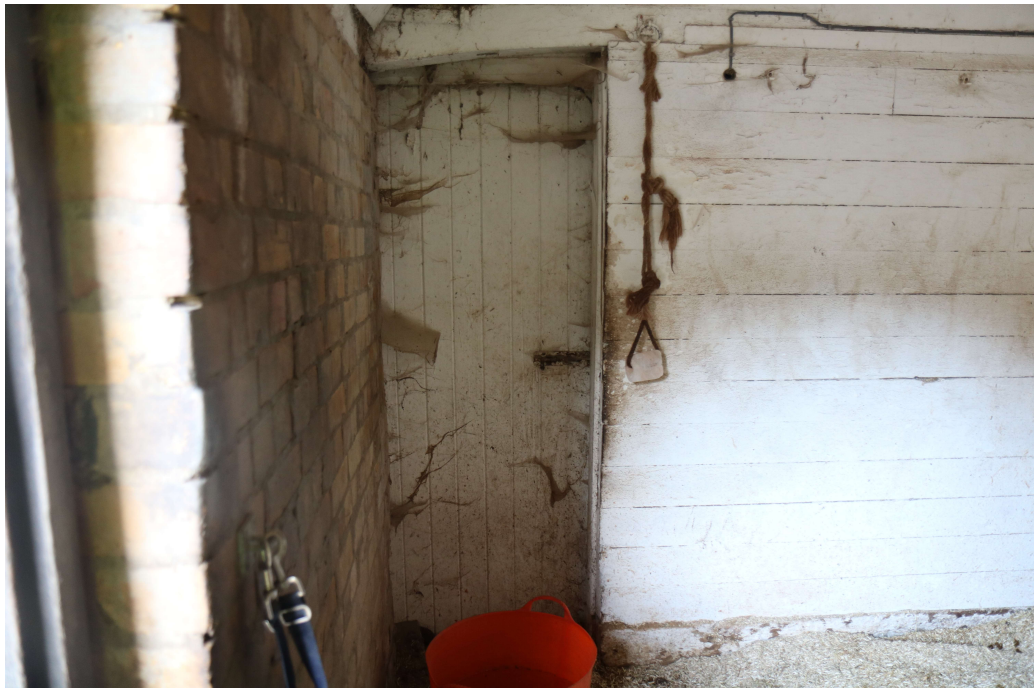
**Photograph 34** Detail of partition between stable 2 and stable 1, viewed from stable 2. Photograph taken facing north.





**Photograph 35** Detail of inclined strut in stable 1. Photograph taken facing north-east.

The floor of stable 1 is poured concrete. The south-western wall is exposed brickwork with timber planks, up to the height of the exposed tie-beam, across the other three walls. Above this, the north-western wall is clad in fibre board. The ceiling is fibre board and follows the arch of the roof. In the north-western wall, there is an inserted vertically-planked door which leads to store 2 of the lean-to.



**Photograph 36** Detail of doorway between stable 1 and store 2. Photograph taken facing north-west.

The floor of stable 2 is poured concrete. The south-western wall is exposed brickwork, with timber planks walls up to the height of the exposed tie-beam across the north-eastern and north-western walls. The south-eastern wall appears to be formed of former exterior weatherboard, indicating that stables 1 and 2 are either later additions or that weatherboard was used out of convenience. However, this does correlate with



the change in the brick plinth seen on the north-east elevation, suggesting the former to be the case. The ceiling is clad in fibre board and follows the arch of the roof.



**Photograph 37** Detail of possible former exterior wall in stable 2. Photograph taken facing north-east.

The tack room has a raised wooden floor with wooden boarded walls and a flat fibre board ceiling. Modern fittings are present across all walls.

The floor of stable 3 is poured concrete, with a 0.18m high 0.1m wide concrete lip around all walls, except the south-western. Above this, the walls are timber planks to the height of the exposed tie-beam in stable 1 and 2, above that, the north-western and south-eastern walls are fibre board. The ceiling is fibre board and follows the arch of the roof.



**Photograph 38** Interior of stable 3. Photograph taken facing north-east.

The floor of stable 4 is poured concrete and the walls are clad in timber planks. The ceiling is exposed timber joists. A brick plinth is visible around three walls, comprising four courses of mixed bond (brick measurements 220 x 110 x 65mm). In the north-eastern wall there is a break in the timber planks, inline with the visibly blocked doorway on the exterior elevation (see fig 2). A modern sink occupies over half of the southern wall.



**Photograph 39** Interior of stable 4. Photograph taken facing east.

### **The Lean-to**

The Lean-to comprises two rooms, designated as store 1 and 2 from north-east to south-west. Store 2 was inaccessible at the time of recording however the 1950 sales catalogue indicates that either this or the inaccessible section to the north was a water closet. It is rectangular in plan with a smaller square extension on the north-west of the building as it connects with the barn.

### **Exterior**

The roof is mono-pitched and clad in corrugated metal, with timber weatherboard over the two exposed elevations. On the north-western elevation, a thin break in the weatherboarding gives an indication of the internal layout of the lean-to, providing further evidence that store 1 to be a later addition. The roof of the smaller extension is also mono-pitched corrugated metal but at a steeper angle. On the north-western elevation there is a blocked doorway set into the wall of the smaller extension.





**Photograph 40** North-eastern elevation of stable and barn. Photograph taken facing south-east.

***Interior***

The floor of store 1 is poured concrete. Concrete plinths, approximately 0.5m high, form the lower portion of the north-east and north-west walls. The exposed external weatherboard forms the upper section. The south-western wall comprises of formerly external weatherboard for store 2. The erstwhile external door of store 2 is set into this wall, further indicating that the lean-to was constructed in two phases. The corrugated metal roof is exposed.



**Photograph 41** Interior of store 1. Photograph taken facing west.



## 7 Discussion

Based on the historic mapping the date of construction for the buildings recorded at Gay Bowers Farm can be pinned between 1777 and 1844. The complex does not clearly appear on the 1777 Chapman and André map, however, the 1844 tithe map does show the complex. Although a slightly larger complex than survives today, we are presented with a smallholding set into a landscape of similarly sized small farmsteads.

Due in part to the intensifying of statutory enclosure of common land<sup>1</sup> across the country, smallholdings became a more typical feature of the rural landscape, particularly in the more densely populated south. As common land began to be fully enclosed, and farmhouses centred around villages became separated from the plots they actually owned a solution was needed. In the north the economic solution was to establish smaller outfarms or field barns to ease the burden on transporting crop and livestock from plot to central farm buildings, whereas in the south smallholdings are more typical.

The definition of a smallholding is vague, most descriptions simply call them a small farm, causing us to focus more on historic mapping to focus our definition. The landscape shown to us in the 1844 tithe map is one of a scattering of small agricultural complexes spread across the parish, varying a little in size both larger and smaller than that of Gay Bowers. Forming a general pattern of smallholdings with access to enough acreage to fulfil the economic needs of small scale tenant farmers in which Gay Bowers fits well. In addition to this, a sales catalogue from 1912, prior to the significant reduction in the complexes size, tells us that in addition to the barn itself, a cowhouse, two stables and three piggeries were a part of the complex. Depicting to us, albeit at a stage likely past its prime, a varied economy of animal and crop (assuming the stables were for workhorses) indicative of the needs of a smallholding.

The use of re-used timbers in the barn correlates with the pragmatic reality of rural construction. Whilst their limited number does not indicate that they come from a wholesale reconstruction of an earlier building, it does seem possible that an earlier phase of farm buildings, as suggested by the 1777 Chapman and André map, could well have been cleared prior to construction. Additionally, the limited number of timbers showing Baltic timber marks also suggests to us a correlation with a construction window of the late 18th and early 19th century; despite the dramatic increase of timber imports during the latter 19th century from the Baltic, the trade has its beginnings in the 17th century, with consistent but limited numbers during the 18th (Vandenabeele et al 2016).

The dimensions of the bricks used in the barn's plinth allow us to focus the date of construction somewhat. In 1769, an act was introduced that defined the minimum size of bricks in the London area as  $8\frac{1}{4} \times 4 \times 2\frac{1}{2}$  in (209.55 x 101.6 x 63.5 mm) (Brunskill 1990). The bricks used in the plinth are above this size (225 x 110-110 x 65mm), whilst this doesn't necessarily directly indicate a date post-1769 it can at least suggest it. To further focus the date, however, brick sizes tended to be somewhat larger than this after the establishment of the 1784 Brick Tax (levied per 1000 bricks regardless of size), regularly reaching  $3 - 3\frac{1}{8}$  in (76.2 – 79.375 mm) thickness (Brunskill 1990). A later amendment to the tax, made in 1801, imposed an increase to tax on bricks larger than  $10 \times 5 \times 3$  in (254 x 127 x 76.2 mm).

The brick dimensions around the barn do still indicate a date prior to 1784. It would have been practical for brick-makers to produce bricks close to the limit of the higher tax bracket established in 1801, the dimensions of those around the barn are significantly below this, suggesting a date prior to 1801. Furthermore, the barn's bricks are smaller than examples of those made during the original tax's ambiguity towards

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<sup>1</sup>The act of enclosing common land was traditionally achieved through agreements between landlords and their tenants, typically combining land into large single plots out of the more disparate medieval strips. However, from the 1750's, enclosure by act of parliament became the norm, enforcing hitherto informal arrangements upon a minority who would be, at best, inconvenienced.

size. Taking into account the cartographic evidence in conjunction with the brick evidence, we can infer a date of construction in the earlier end of the bracket 1777 - 1844.

The barn contains features indicating its use as a haybarn. Unlike a larger threshing barn, this building does not exhibit the large imposing double-doors, designed to allow the entrance of a full hay-cart, rather it has a mid-sized single door on the south-eastern elevation suitable for drawing hay in to be stacked to either side. Smaller doors situated on the north-western and south-western elevations serve as additional entrances. Two pitching doors, at either end of the south-eastern elevation, provide space to pitch the densely stacked hay into the yard for the cattle.

The stable block seems likely to have originally been built as the shelter shed of the outfarm, either to establish one outright or, if the southern building was already in use as one, to expand upon this existing building. The methods of roof construction differ to that of the barn, this change in construction method indicates to us that the two buildings were built at different times.

Three clear phases of construction can be observed through the fabric of the building. The initial construction of an open-faced shelter shed, constructed between 1777 and 1844, abutting the corner of the barn in the north.

A second phase, reworking the southern end of the stable block after the loss of the southern building, occurs between 1912 and 1919. This change is shown on historic mapping, and accounts for the differences seen in the southern end of the stable block. A new roof and walls were required to cover the existing shelter shed after the southern building was removed. The mixed brick bond, combined with a significant difference in the height of the plinth compared with the rest of the building, both of these factors evidence this phase of construction

And the third and final phase, in which the south-western elevation is rebuilt with modern brickwork and stable doors. No evidence was observed for an original wall across the south-western elevation of the stable block during the recording of the building. This absence, combined with the wholly modern brickwork and doors, can allow us to assume that the original construction was open along this elevation. The north-eastern elevation, in contrast, retains elements of its historic fabric in the form of weatherboard and brickwork.

The footprint of the lean-to structure is visible in historic mapping even in 1844, we shouldn't however, take this to be indicative of the current buildings age. The combination of a concrete plinth and floor, modern timber walls and a corrugated metal roof solidify it as a modern addition, truncating entirely the earlier structures footprint.

The complexes development and decline appears to coincide with the period known as the 'High Farming' years in British agriculture. During the mid 19th century, Britain enjoyed 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.

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. However, the increased demand for milk in urban areas allowed British farmers to diversify into dairy farming and move away from the failing grain markets. Despite the complex recorded probably having a focus on livestock farming, it appears to decline in the early 20th century, shown through the contraction of the complex in historic mapping. It is possible to tie in this decline with a change in purpose of the complex, away from an existence as a small holding, and closer to simply functioning as outbuildings for a rural home, as it is found in its present form.



The small complex of buildings at Gay Bowers farm represent a prime example of a rapidly shrinking heritage resource in the survival of, with comparatively little change, a late 18th – early 19th century barn. The primary reason for the growing loss of these assets is due to frequent abandonment, dereliction and eventual demolition after their usefulness slipped away with the agricultural changes of the 19th and 20th century's (English Heritage 2006). The adaption of the complex, and its continued use beyond the High Farming years, allowed for this fine example of small scale agricultural architecture survive to the present day. Though the complex has, since the early 20th century, drastically changed from its heyday with the loss of the southern building, the character of barn, yard and former shelter shed is still retained, albeit with a modern perimeter wall and stable façade.

## 8 Acknowledgements

Colchester Archaeological Trust would like to thank Nikki Collins (Real8 Group) and Real8 Group for commissioning and funding the historic building recording. The recording was carried out by Sarah Veasey and Xander Smith. Figures are by Xander Smith, based on original architects drawings by Beverly Ann Design Ltd. 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, RW	1987	<i>Traditional Farm Buildings of Britain</i>
Brunskill, RW	1990	<i>Brick Building in Britain</i>
CAT	2023	<i>Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for historic building recording at Gay Bowers Farm, Bakers Lane, West Hanningfield, Essex by S Veasey</i>
CIfA	2020a	<i>Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials</i>
CIfA	2020b	<i>Standard and guidance for archaeological investigation and recording of standing buildings or structures</i>
MHCLG	2023	<i>National planning policy framework</i>
EAA 14	2003	<i>Standards for field archaeology in the East of England East Anglian Archaeological occasional papers 14 by D. Gurney</i>
EAA 24	2011	<i>Research and Archaeology Revisited: A Revised Framework for the East of England, East Anglian Archaeological occasional papers 24 by M Medlycott</i>
ERO D/F 63/1/26/1	1912	<i>Sales Catalogue</i>
ERO D/F 33/32/3	1950	<i>Sales Catalogue</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>
English Heritage	2006	<i>Historic Farmsteads. Preliminary Character Statment: East of England Region.</i>

## 10 Abbreviations and glossary

beam	horizontal members in timber-frames
CAT	Colchester Archaeological Trust
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
ERO	Essex Records Office
English-bond	a brickwork bond created from alternate courses of headers and stretchers
field barn	an outbuilding located in a field, some distance from the main farmstead
Flemish-bond	a brickwork bond created from alternating headers and stretchers within a single course
HE	Historic Environment
mono-pitched roof	a single pitched roof surface.
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>
outfarm	a smaller cluster of buildings set around a yard which provides facilities for outlying fields separate from the main farmsteads.
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
stretcher	a brick laid parallel to the face of the wall, i.e. lengthways
stretcher-bond	a brickwork bond where each course consists of only stretchers – indicating a cavity wall
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
Victorian	in the reign of Queen Victoria, from 1837 to 1901

## 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 2014)  
Digital plans  
Site digital photos and log



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**Distribution list**  
Real8 Group  
Mark Baister, ECCHEA  
EHER

## **Appendix 1:**

### **Full digital photographic record**

WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0001.JPG South-western elevation of barn. Photograph taken facing north-east.

WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0002.JPG Detail of barn door on south-western elevation. Photograph taken facing north-east.

WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0003.JPG Detail of peg-tile roof construction on south-western elevation of the barn. Photograph taken facing north-east.

WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0004.JPG Detail of ceramic electricity point on south-west elevation of the barn. Photograph taken facing north north-east.

WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0005.JPG South-west elevation of stables. Photograph taken facing north-east.

WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0006.JPG South-western elevation. Photograph taken facing east.

WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0007.JPG Detail of doors on south-west elevation of stables. Photograph taken facing east north-east.

WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0008.JPG Detail of door on south-west elevation of stables. Photograph taken facing north-east.

WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0009.JPG South-eastern elevation of stables. Photograph taken facing north.

WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0010.JPG South-eastern elevation of barn. Photograph taken facing north-west.

WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0011.JPG Detail of pitching door on south-eastern elevation of barn. Photograph taken facing north-west.

WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0012.JPG Detail of door on south-eastern elevation of barn. Photograph taken facing north-west.

WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0013.JPG Detail of pitching door on south-east elevation of barn. Photograph taken facing north-west.

WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0014.JPG Detail of strap hinge on barn door (south-east elevation). Photograph taken facing north-west.

WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0015.JPG Detail of bird holes on south-eastern elevation of stables. Photograph taken facing north-east.

WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0016.JPG North-eastern elevation of stables and barn. Photograph taken facing south-west.

WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0017.JPG North-eastern elevation of stable and barn. Photograph taken facing south-east.

WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0018.JPG North-western elevation of stables and barn. Photograph taken facing south.

WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0019.JPG Detail of door on north-east elevation. Photograph taken facing south-west.

WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0020.JPG Detail of blocked doorway on north-east elevation. Photograph taken facing south-west.

WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0021.JPG Detail of brickwork for plinth on north-east elevation of stables. Photograph taken facing north-west.

WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0022.JPG North-western elevation. Photograph taken facing south-east.

WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0023.JPG Detail of blocked doorway on north-western elevation. Photograph taken facing south.

WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0024.JPG Detail of blocked doorway on north-western elevation. Photograph taken facing south-east.

WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0025.JPG Interior of stable 4. Photograph taken facing east.

WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0026.JPG Detail of interior brickwork of stable 4. Photograph taken facing south-west.

WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0027.JPG Detail of interior roof construction of stable 4 (photographed through limited access). Photograph taken facing south-east.

WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0028.JPG Detail of interior roof construction of stable 4 (photographed through limited access). Photograph taken facing south-east.

WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0029.JPG Interior of stable 3. Photograph taken facing north.

WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0030.JPG Detail of ceiling in stable 3. Photograph taken facing north.

WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0031.JPG Interior of stable 3. Photograph taken facing north-east.

WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0032.JPG Interior of tack room. Photograph taken facing north-east.

WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0033.JPG Interior of stable 2. Photograph taken facing north-north-east.

WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0034.JPG Detail of possible former exterior wall in stable 2. Photograph taken facing north-east

WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0035.JPG Detail of partition between stable 2 and stable 1, viewed from stable 2. Photograph taken facing north.

WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0036.JPG Interior of stable 1. Photograph taken facing north-north-east.

WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0037.JPG Detail of inclined strut in stable 1. Photograph taken facing north-east.

WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0038.JPG Detail of doorway between stable 1 and store 2. Photograph taken facing north-west.

WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0039.JPG Detail of tie-beam between stable 1 and 2. Photograph taken facing east.

WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0040.JPG Interior of store 1. Photograph taken facing west.

WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0041.JPG Interior of store 1. Photograph taken facing north.

WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0042.JPG Interior of barn, Bay 1. Photograph taken facing north.

WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0043.JPG Interior of barn, Bay 1. Photograph taken facing west.

WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0044.JPG Interior of barn, Bay 1. Photograph taken facing east.

WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0045.JPG Detail of interior partition in barn, photographed from Bay 1, partition in Bay 2. Photograph taken facing north-east.

WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0046.JPG Detail of pitching door in barn, Bay 1. Photograph taken facing south-east.

WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0047.JPG Detail of knee-brace in barn, Bay 1. Photograph taken facing east.

WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0048.JPG Detail of re-used timbers and timber frame construction in barn, Bay 1. Photograph taken facing west.

WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0049.JPG Detail of roof construction and gable end of barn, Bay . Photograph taken facing west.

WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0050.JPG Detail of tie-beam and roof construction of barn, Bay 1. Photograph taken facing north.

WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0051.JPG Detail of re-used timbers in barn, Bay 1. Photograph taken facing south-east.

WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0052.JPG Detail of re-used timber in barn, Bay 1. Photograph taken facing west.

WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0053.JPG Detail of Baltic timber mark on wall plate in barn, Bay 1. Photograph taken facing south-east.

WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0054.JPG Detail of doorway reduction in barn, Bay 1. Photograph taken facing north-west.

WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0055.JPG Detail of doorway reduction and nogging in barn, Bay 1. Photograph taken facing north-west.

WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0056.JPG Detail of exterior door in south-west wall of barn, Bay 1. Photograph taken facing south-west.

WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0057.JPG Interior of barn, bays 2 and 3. Photograph taken facing north.

WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0058.JPG Interior of barn, Bay 3. Photograph taken facing north.

WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0059.JPG Interior of barn, Bay 3. Photograph taken facing east.

WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0060.JPG Detail of gable end of barn, Bay 3. Photograph taken facing north-east.

WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0061.JPG Detail of internal partition in barn, Bay 2. Photograph taken facing south-west.

WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0062.JPG Interior of barn, Bay 2. Photograph taken facing west.

WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0063.JPG Interior of barn, Bay 2. Photograph taken facing north-west.

WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0064.JPG Detail of roof construction in barn, Bay 2. Photograph taken facing north-west.



- WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0065.JPG Detail of tie-beam between bays 2 and 3 of barn.  
Photograph taken facing north.
- WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0066.JPG Detail of knee-brace and roof construction in barn, Bay 2.  
Photograph taken facing north-east.
- WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0067.JPG Detail of exterior door in south-east wall of barn, Bay 2.  
Photograph taken facing south-east.
- WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0068.JPG Detail of roof construction of barn, Bay 2. Photograph  
taken facing south-east.
- WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0069.JPG Detail of nogging beside northern doorway in barn, Bay 2.  
Photograph taken facing north/north-west.
- WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0070.JPG Detail of exterior door in north-west wall of barn, Bay 2.  
Photograph taken facing north-west.
- WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0071.JPG Detail of scarf joint on sill beam beneath northern  
doorway in barn, Bay 2. Photograph taken facing north/north-  
west.
- WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0072.JPG Detail of re-used stud in south-eastern wall of barn, Bay  
2. Photograph taken facing south/south-east.
- WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0073.JPG Interior view of barn, Bay 3. Photograph taken facing  
north-west.
- WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0074.JPG Detail of roof construction in barn, Bay 3. Photograph  
taken facing north-west.
- WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0075.JPG Interior view of barn, Bay 3. Photograph taken facing  
south-east.
- WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0076.JPG Detail of roof construction in barn, Bay 3. Photograph  
taken facing south-east.
- WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0077.JPG Detail of roof construction in barn, Bay 3. Photograph  
taken facing south-east.
- WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0078.JPG Detail of north-eastern wall of barn, Bay 3. Photograph  
taken facing north-east.
- WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0079.JPG Detail of gable-end of barn, Bay 3. Photograph taken  
facing north-east.
- WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0080.JPG Detail of Baltic timber mark on north-eastern wall-plate in  
barn, Bay 3. Photograph taken facing north-east.
- WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0081.JPG Detail of eastern pitching door in the south-eastern wall of  
barn, Bay 3. Photograph taken facing south.
- WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0082.JPG Detail of re-used stud in north-eastern wall of barn, Bay 3.  
Photograph taken facing north.
- WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0083.JPG Detail of Baltic timber mark on north-western wall-plate in  
barn, Bay 3. Photograph taken facing north-west.
- WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0084.JPG Detail of north-western collar of barn, Bay 3. Photograph  
taken facing east.
- WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0085.JPG Site shot of barn and stables. Photograph taken facing  
north.
- WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0086.JPG Detail of modern perimeter wall. Photograph taken facing  
north.





WHGB23\_Phograph\_0001 South-western elevation of barn. Photograph ...



WHGB23\_Phograph\_0002 Detail of barn door on south-western elevatio...



WHGB23\_Phograph\_0003 Detail of peg-tile roof construction on south-w...



WHGB23\_Phograph\_0004 Detail of ceramic electricity point on south-we...



WHGB23\_Phograph\_0005 South-west elevation of stables. Photograph ...



WHGB23\_Phograph\_0006 South-western elevation. Photograph taken f...



WHGB23\_Phograph\_0007 Detail of doors on south-west elevation of sta...



WHGB23\_Phograph\_0008 Detail of door on south-west elevation of stab...



WHGB23\_Phograph\_0009 South-eastern elevation of stables. Photogra...





WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0010 South-eastern elevation of barn. Photograph ...



WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0011 Detail of pitching door on south-eastern eleva...



WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0012 Detail of door on south-eastern elevation of b...



WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0013 Detail of pitching door on south-east elevatio...



WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0014 Detail of strap hinge on barn door (south-east...



WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0015 Detail of bird holes on south-eastern elevatio...



WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0016 North-eastern elevation of stables and barn. ...



WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0017 North-eastern elevation of stable and barn. P...



WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0018 North-western elevation of stables and barn. ...





WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0019 Detail of door on north-east elevation. Photog...



WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0020 Detail of blocked doorway on north-east elev...



WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0021 Detail of brickwork for plinth on north-east ele...



WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0022 North-western elevation. Photograph taken fa...



WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0023 Detail of blocked doorway on north-western e...



WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0024 Detail of blocked doorway on north-western e...



WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0025 Interior of stable 4. Photograph taken facing ...



WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0026 Detail of interior brickwork of stable 4. Photo...



WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0027 Detail of interior roof construction of stable 4 ...





WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0028 Detail of interior roof construction of stable 4 ...



WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0029 Interior of stable 3. Photograph taken facing ...



WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0030 Detail of ceiling in stable 3. Photograph taken...



WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0031 Interior of stable 3. Photograph taken facing ...



WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0032 Interior of tack room. Photograph taken facin...



WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0033 Interior of stable 2. Photograph taken facing ...



WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0034 Detail of possible former exterior wall in stabl...



WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0035 Detail of partition between stable 2 and stabl...

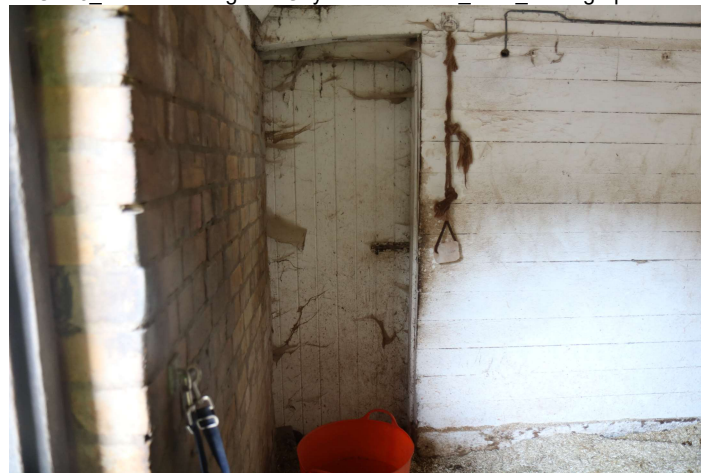


WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0036 Interior of stable 1. Photograph taken facing ...





WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0037 Detail of inclined strut in stable 1. Photograph...



WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0038 Detail of doorway between stable 1 and store...



WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0039 Detail of tie-beam between stable 1 and 2. P...



WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0040 Interior of store 1. Photograph taken facing w...



WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0041 Interior of store 1. Photograph taken facing n...



WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0042 Interior of barn, bay 1. Photograph taken faci...



WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0043 Interior of barn, bay 1. Photograph taken faci...



WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0044 Interior of barn, bay 1. Photograph taken faci...



WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0045 Detail of interior partition in barn, photograph...





WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0046 Detail of pitching door in barn, bay 1. Photogr...



WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0047 Detail of knee-brace in barn, bay 1. Photogra...



WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0048 Detail of re-used timbers and timber frame c...



WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0049 Detail of roof construction and gable end of b...



WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0050 Detail of tie-beam and roof construction of ba...



WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0051 Detail of re-used timbers in barn, bay 1. Phot...



WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0052 Detail of re-used timber in barn, bay 1. Photo...



WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0053 Detail of Baltic timber mark on wall plate in b...



WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0054 Detail of doorway reduction in barn, bay 1. P...





WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0055 Detail of doorway reduction and hogging in b...



WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0056 Detail of exterior door in south-west wall of b...



WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0057 Interior of barn, bays 2 and 3. Photograph ta...



WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0058 Interior of barn, bay 3. Photograph taken faci...



WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0059 Interior of barn, bay 3. Photograph taken faci...



WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0060 Detail of gable end of barn, bay 3. Photograp...



WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0061 Detail of internal partition in barn, bay 2. Phot...



WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0062 Interior of barn, bay 2. Photograph taken faci...



WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0063 Interior of barn, bay 2. Photograph taken faci...





WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0064 Detail of roof construction in barn, bay 2. Pho...



WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0065 Detail of tie-beam between bays 2 and 3 of b...



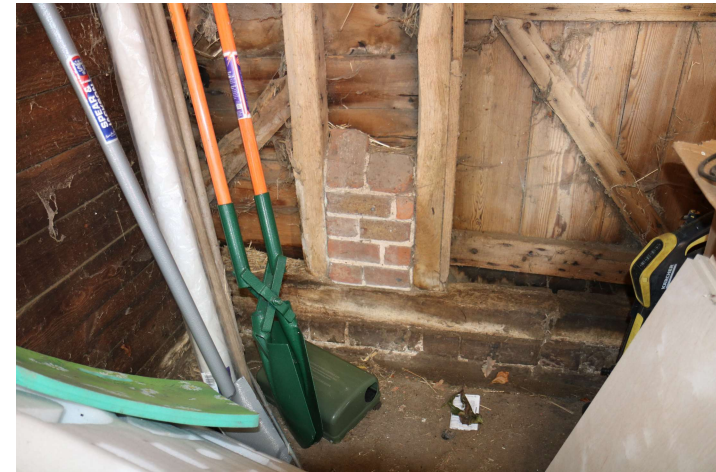
WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0066 Detail of knee-brace and roof construction in ...



WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0067 Detail of exterior door in south-east wall of ba...



WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0068 Detail of roof construction of barn, bay 2. Pho...



WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0069 Detail of nogging beside northern doorway in ...



WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0070 Detail of exterior door in north-west wall of ba...



WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0071 Detail of scarf joint on sill beam beneath nort...



WHGB23\_PhotoGraph\_0072 Detail of re-used stud in south-eastern wall of...





WHGB23\_Phograph\_0073 Interior view of barn, bay 3. Photograph take...



WHGB23\_Phograph\_0074 Detail of roof construction in barn, bay 3. Pho...



WHGB23\_Phograph\_0075 Interior view of barn, bay 3. Photograph take...



WHGB23\_Phograph\_0076 Detail of roof construction in barn, bay 3. Pho...



WHGB23\_Phograph\_0077 Detail of roof construction in barn, bay 3. Pho...



WHGB23\_Phograph\_0078 Detail of north-eastern wall of barn, bay 3. Ph...



WHGB23\_Phograph\_0079 Detail of gable-end of barn, bay 3. Photograp...

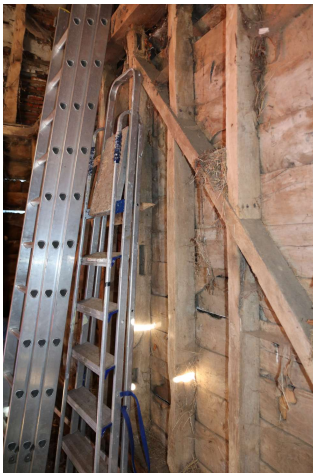


WHGB23\_Phograph\_0080 Detail of Baltic timber mark on north-eastern ...



WHGB23\_Phograph\_0081 Detail of eastern pitching door in the south-e...





WHGB23\_Photograph\_0082 Detail of re-used stud in north-eastern wall of...



WHGB23\_Photograph\_0083 Detail of Baltic timber mark on north-western ...



WHGB23\_Photograph\_0084 Detail of north-western collar of barn, bay 3. ...



WHGB23\_Photograph\_0085 Site shot of barn and stables. Photograph tak...



WHGB23\_Photograph\_0086 Detail of modern perimeter wall. Photograph ...



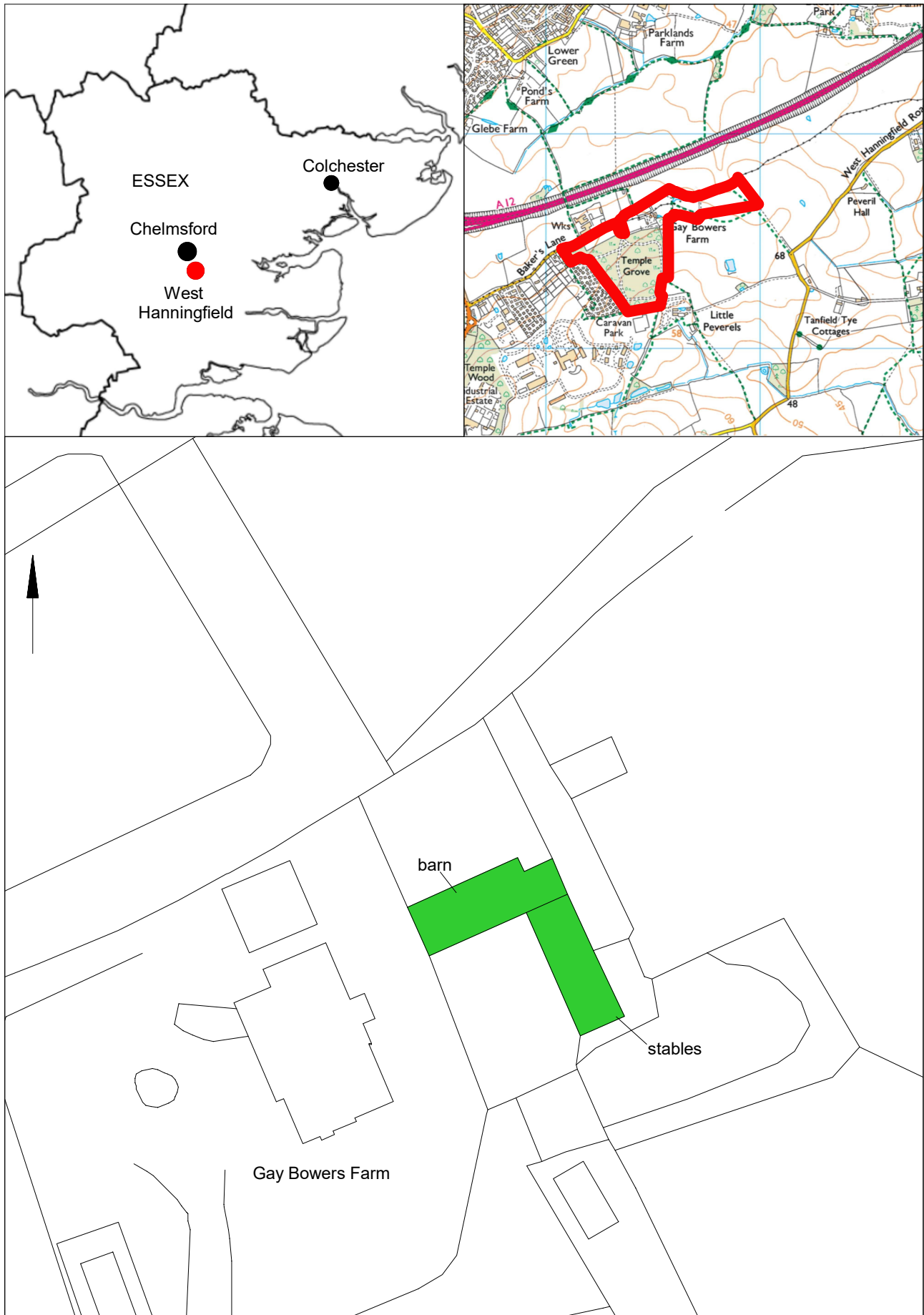


Fig 1 Site location with structures recorded shown in green.



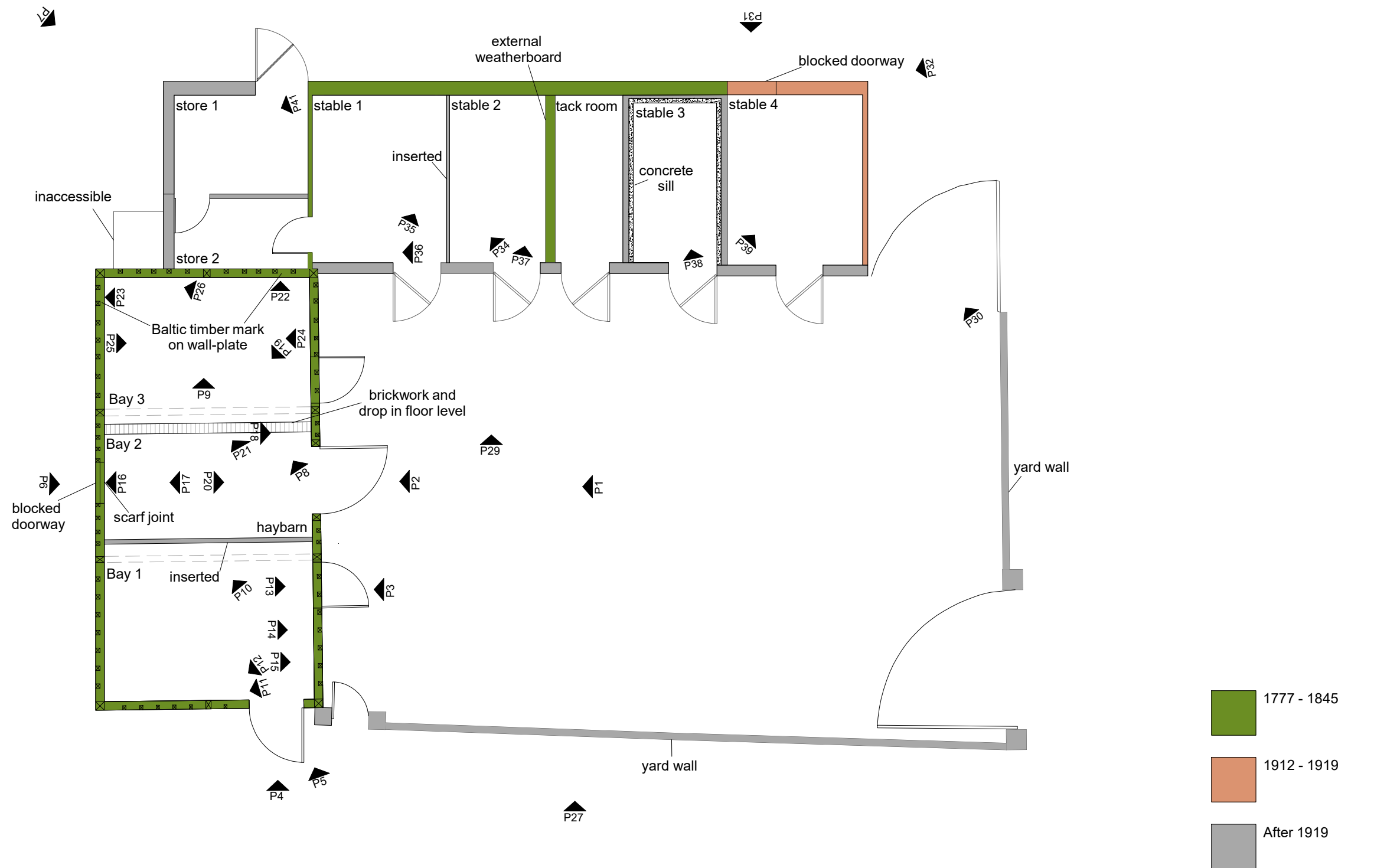


Fig 2 Phased floor plan of barn and stables. Location of photographs reproduced in the text shown.

0 10 m



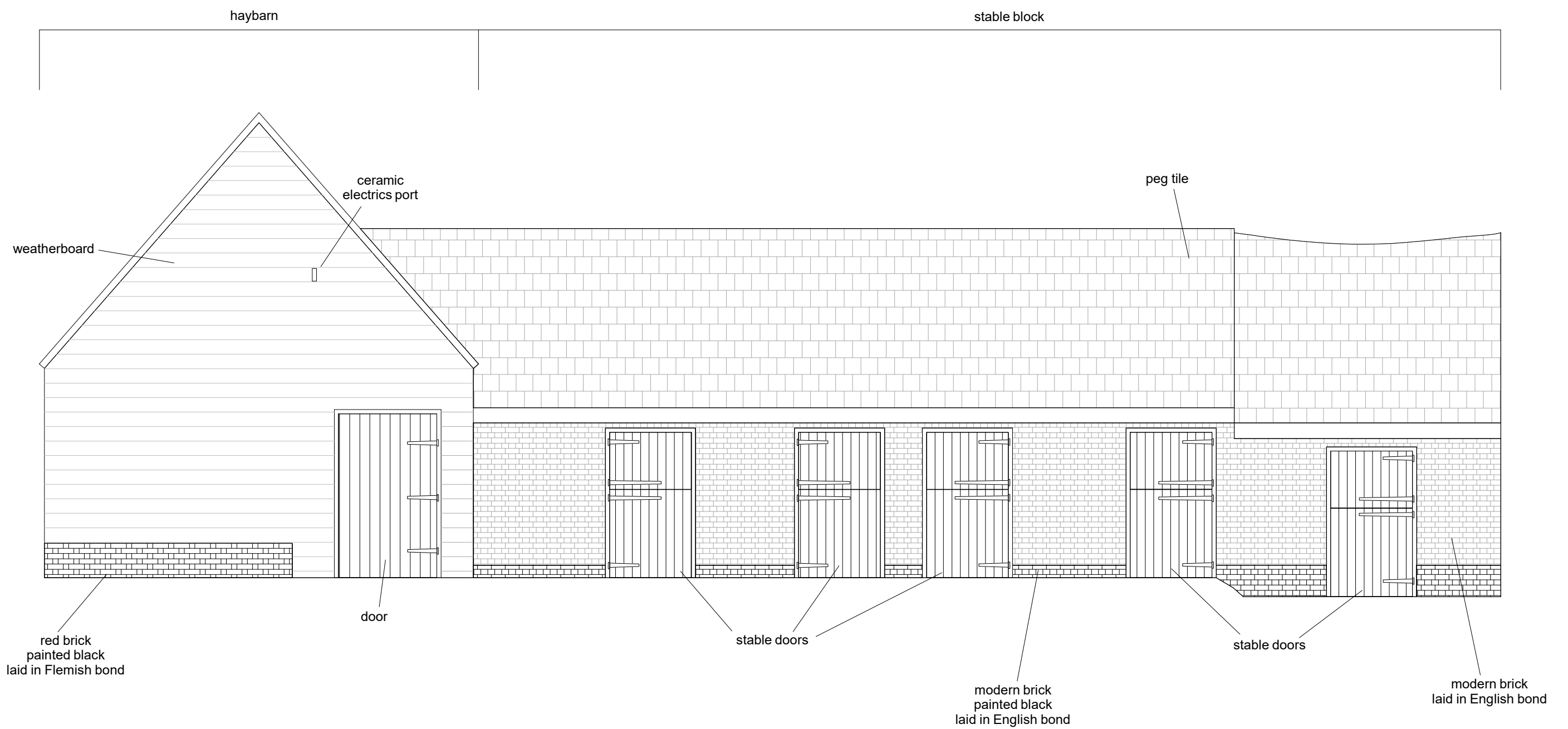


Fig 3 South-west elevation.

0 2 m

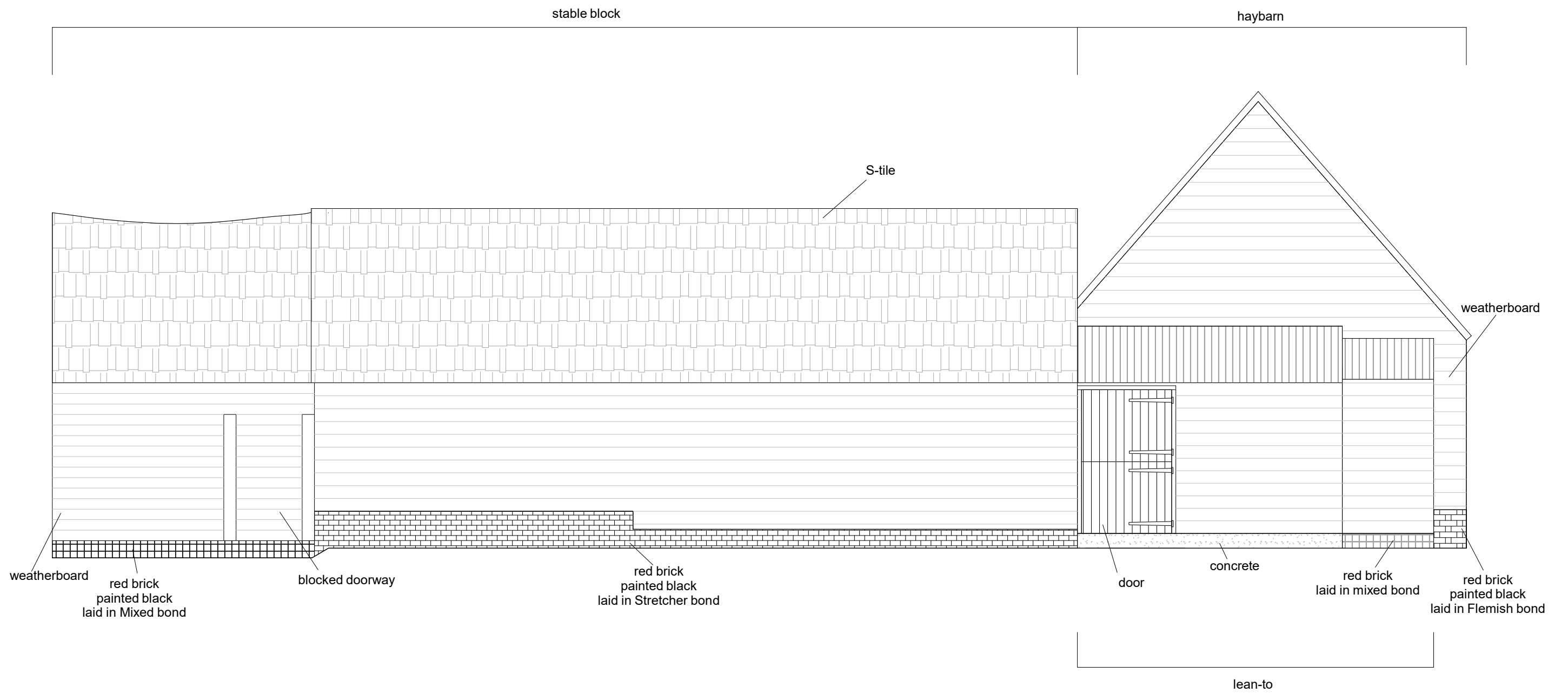


Fig 4 North-east elevation.





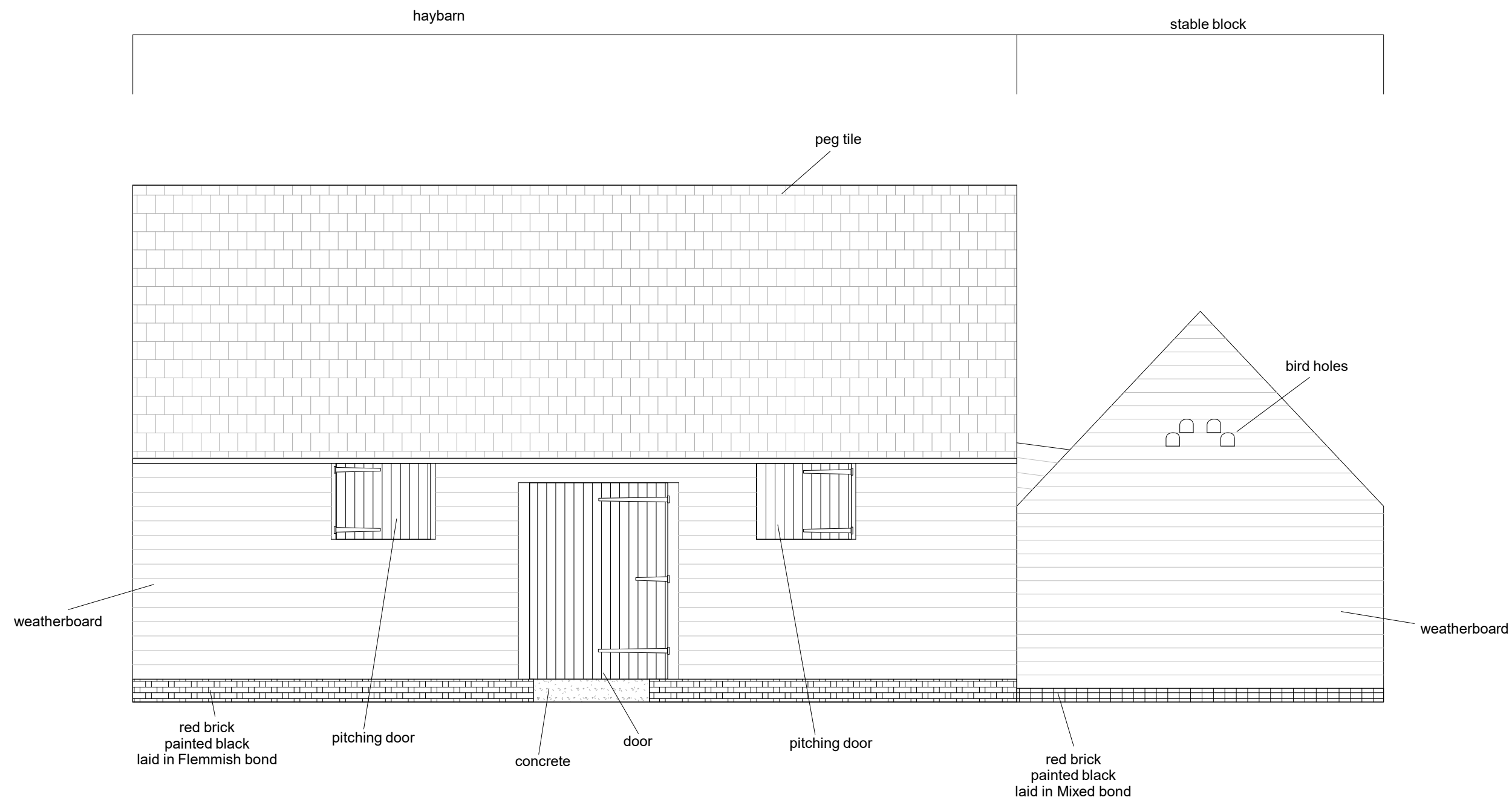


Fig 5 South-east elevation.

0 2 m

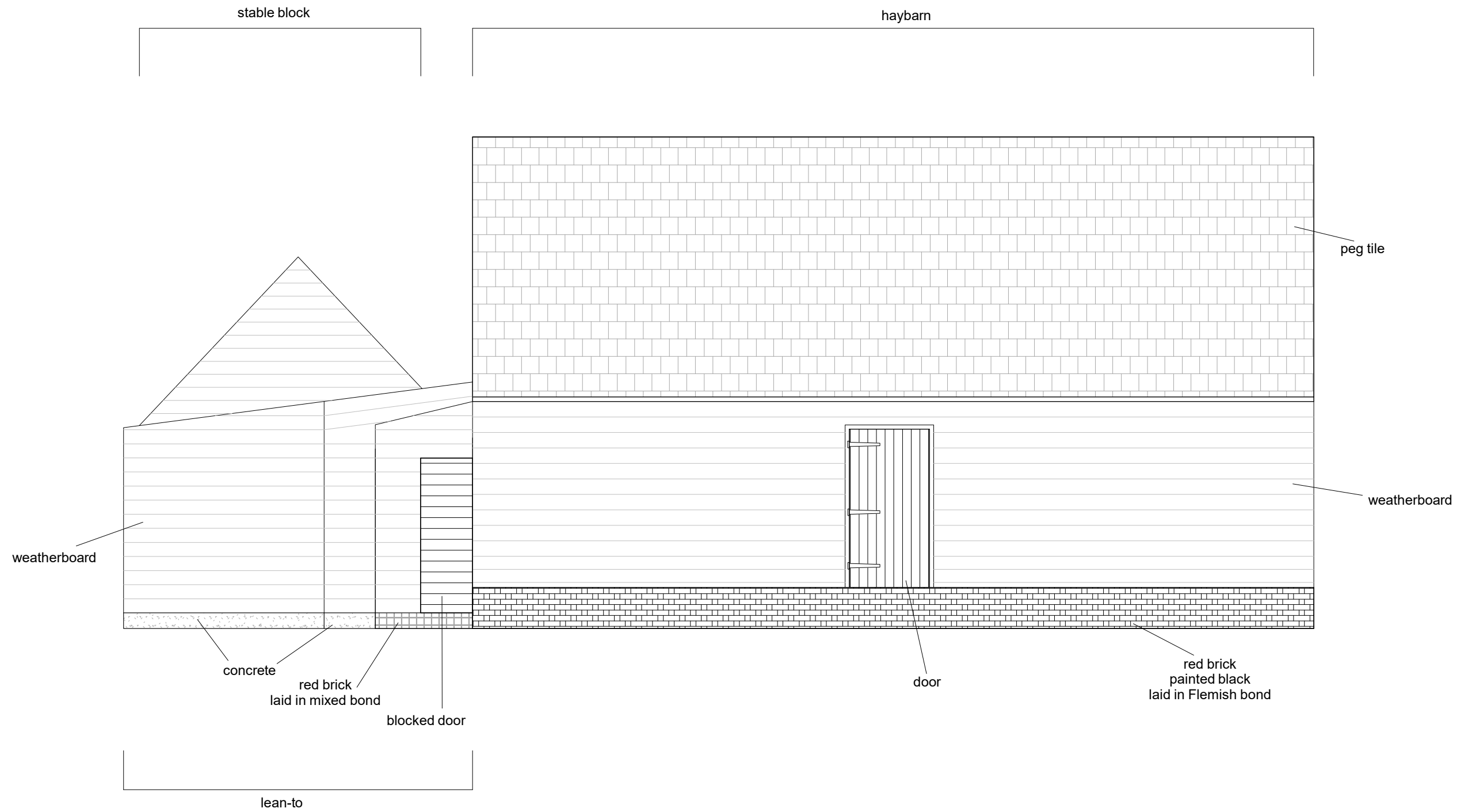


Fig 6 North-west elevation.



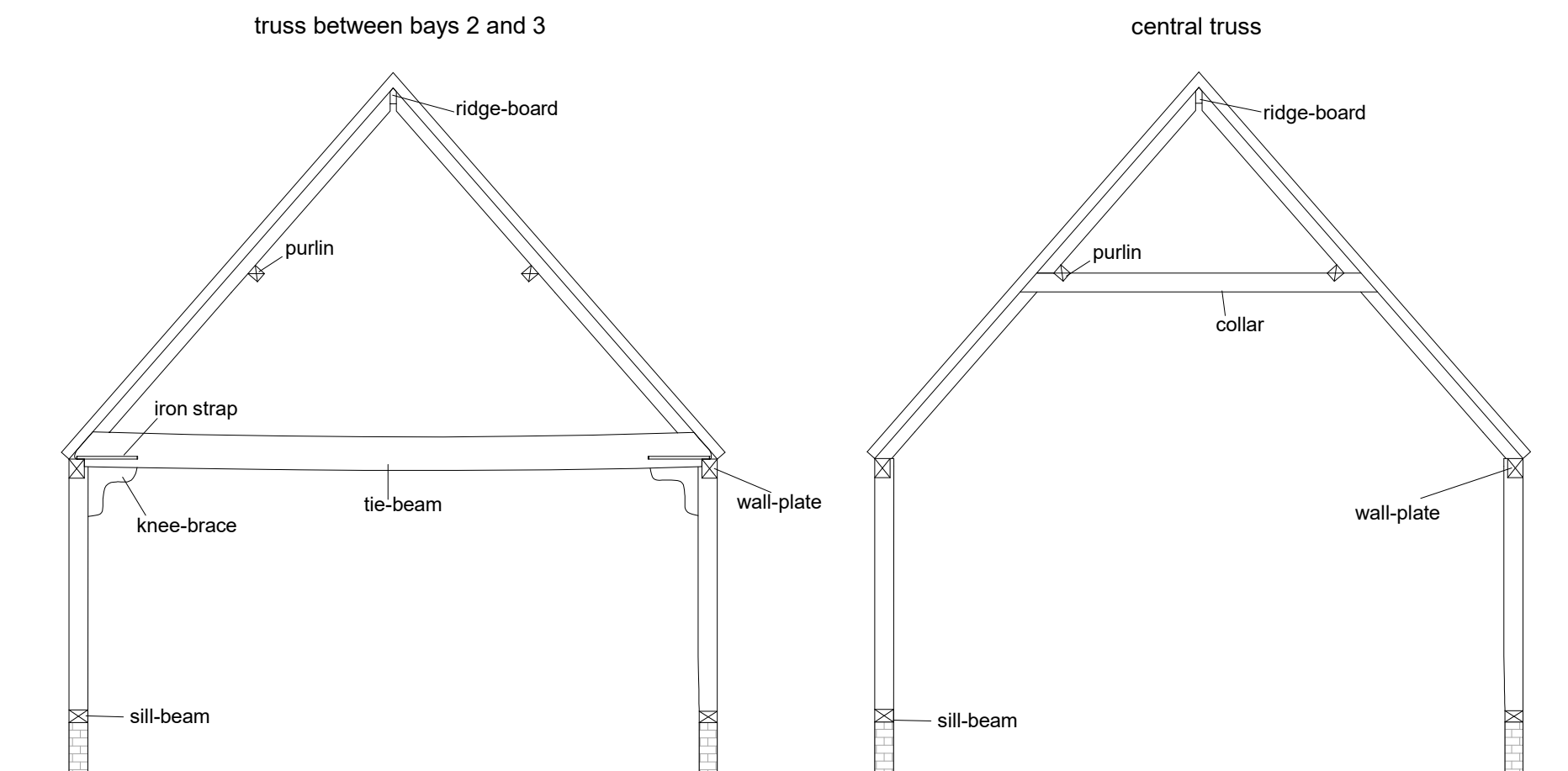


Fig 7 Cross-section of barn trusses.

# OASIS Summary for colchest3-520298

OASIS ID (UID)	colchest3-520298
Project Name	Historic building recording at Gay Bowers Farm, Bakers Lane, West Hanningfield, Essex, CM2 8LD
Sitename	Gay Bowers Farm, Bakers Lane, West Hanningfield, Essex, CM2 8LD
Sitecode	
Project Identifier(s)	2023/10e
Activity type	Analytical Buildings Record (Level 3)
Planning Id	23/00744/FUL
Reason For Investigation	Planning: Post determination
Organisation Responsible for work	Colchester Archaeological Trust
Project Dates	20-Nov-2023 - 20-Nov-2023
Location	Gay Bowers Farm, Bakers Lane, West Hanningfield, Essex, CM2 8LD NGR : TL 71518 01623 LL : 51.687165623461446, 0.479870309768905 12 Fig : 571518,201623
Administrative Areas	Country : England County/Local Authority : Essex Local Authority District : Chelmsford Parish : West Hanningfield
Project Methodology	The following are included in this report: <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 1:100.</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.</li> </ul>
Project Results	A programme of historic building recording was carried out by Colchester Archaeological Trust at Gay Bowers Farm, Bakers Lane, West Hanningfield, Essex in November 2023. The recording detailed a small complex of three buildings, the oldest of which was a three-bay haybarn which is probably late 18th – early 19th century, a building currently used as a stable block constructed in the early 19th century and a modern lean-to. Structurally the barn has remained relatively unchanged. In contrast to this, the stable block, originally constructed between 1777 and 1844 as a shelter shed, shows evidence of being reworked, and at least partially rebuilt, over the course of the 19th and early 20th centuries.
Keywords	Barn - Georgian - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types Smallholding - Georgian - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types Shelter Shed - Victorian - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types
Funder	Private or public corporation Real8 Group
HER	Essex HER - unRev - STANDARD



Person Responsible for work	
HER Identifiers	HER Event No - WHGB23
Archives	Digital Archive - to be deposited with Archaeology Data Service Archive;

**Report generated on: 21 Dec 2023, 12:18**