# Rectory Farm Barns, Great Shelford, Cambridgeshire



# **Historic Building Survey**



June 2013

# **Client: Lowden Developments**

OA East Report No: 1472 OASIS No: oxfordar3-151303 NGR: TL 545754 251885



# Rectory Farm Barns, Great Shelford, Cambridgeshire

Historic Building Survey

By Taleyna Fletcher BA, MIfA

Editor: Rachel Clarke BA, MIfA

Illustrators: Gillian Greer BSC, MifA and Lucy Offord BA

Report Date: May 2013



Report Number:	1472
Site Name:	Rectory Farm Barns, Great Shelford, Cambridgeshire
HER Event No:	ECB 3957
Date of Works:	22nd-24th April 2013
Client Name:	Lowden Developments
Client Ref:	Rectory Farm Barns
Planning Ref:	S/1367/12/FL
Grid Ref:	TL 545754 251885
Site Code:	GSHRFB13
Finance Code:	GSHRFB13
Receiving Body:	Cambridgeshire Archives
Accession No:	GSHRFB13
Prepared by: Position: Date:	Taleyna Fletcher Project Officer May 2013
Checked by: Position: Date: Signed:	Richard Mortimer Senior Project Manager May 2013

#### Disclaimer

This document has been prepared for the titled project or named part thereof and should not be relied upon or used for any other project without an independent check being carried out as to its suitability and prior written authority of Oxford Archaeology being obtained. Oxford Archaeology accepts no responsibility or liability for the consequences of this document being used for a purpose other than the purposes for which it was commissioned. Any person/party using or relying on the document for such other purposes agrees and will by such use or reliance be taken to confirm their agreement to indemnify Oxford Archaeology for all loss or damage resulting therefrom. Oxford Archaeology accepts no responsibility or liability for this document to any party other than the person/party by whom it was commissioned.

#### Oxford Archaeology East,

15 Trafalgar Way, Bar Hill, Cambridge, CB23 8SQ

t: 01223 850500 f: 01223 850599 e: oaeast@thehumanjourney.net w: http://thehumanjourney.net/oaeast

© Oxford Archaeology East 2013 Oxford Archaeology Limited is a Registered Charity No: 285627



# Table of Contents

S	Summary8			
1	Introduction9			
	1.1	Scope of work9		
	1.2	Location, Topography and Geology9		
	1.3	Acknowledgements10		
2	Aims and	d Methodology11		
	2.1	Aims11		
	2.2	Site Conditions11		
	2.3	Methodology11		
3	Historica	al background12		
	3.1	General Background12		
	3.2	Results of Historic Background Research12		
4	Building	Descriptions19		
	4.1	Building 1: Granary19		
	4.2	Building 2: Stables/garage21		
	4.3	Building 3: Clunch Barn23		
	4.4	Building 4: Open-fronted shed and breeze-block extension		
	4.5	Building 5: Stables		
	4.6	Building 7: Small Store		
5	Phasing	and Discussion		
	5.1	Early 19th century		
	5.2	Mid-Late 19th century		
	5.3	Early-Mid 20th century		
	5.4	Mid-Late 20th century		
	5.5	Late 20th century, post 1970		
6	Conclus	ions39		
7	Bibliography40			
A	Appendix A. OASIS Report Form42			



# List of Figures

Figure 1	Site location map
Figure 2	Plan of Rectory Farm Barns showing development area (red) and buildings surveyed
Figure 3	Extract from a copy of 1822 map from "A Record of Shelford Parva" by F.L.Wale, 1910, showing location of study area (red)
Figure 4	Extract from 1835 Inclosure Map showing location of study area (red)
Figure 5	Extract from First Edition Ordnance Survey Map, 1886, showing location of study area (red)
Figure 6	Extract from 1903 Ordnance Survey Map showing location of study area (red)
Figure 7	Sketch of Rectory Farm from "A Record of Shelford Parva" by F.L.Wale, 1910
Figure 8	Photograph of Rectory Farm and the School taken from the church tower, 1951
Figure 9	Extract from 1970-71 Ordnance Survey Map showing location of study area (red)
Figure 10	Plan and elevations, Building 1 (based on data supplied from client)
Figure 11	Plan and elevations, Buildings 2 and 3 (based on data supplied from client)
Figure 12	Cross-section of bays within Building 3
Figure 13	Plan and elevations, Building 4 (based on data supplied by client)
Figure 14	Plan and elevations, Building 5 (based on data supplied by client)
Figure 15	Plan of buildings surveyed showing suggested phasing

# List of Plates

Plate 1	Rectory Farmhouse, from east
Plate 2	Building 1, from south-east
Plate 3	East-facing elevation, Building 1
Plate 4	Brick plinths beneath Building 1
Plate 5	Entrance door on eastern elevation, Building 1
Plate 6	Detail of door latch, Building 1
Plate 7	North-facing elevation, Building 1
Plate 8	Lean-to structure on north side of Building 1
Plate 9	Door on north-facing elevation, Building 1
Plate 10	Interior of Building 1
Plate 11	Lath and plaster between upright timbers, Building 1
Plate 12	Detail of re-used tie-bean, Building 1
Plate 13	Interior of Building 1
Plate 14	East-facing elevation, Building 2
Plate 15	South-facing elevation, Building 2



- Plate 16 West-facing elevation, Building 2
- Plate 17 Entrance on west-facing elevation, Building 2
- Plate 18 Entrance on west-facing elevation, Building 2
- Plate 19 Room G1 interior, Building 2
- Plate 20 Room G1 interior, Building 2
- Plate 21 Room G1 interior, Building 2
- Plate 22 Horse bridle/tack hooks, G1, Building 2
- Plate 23 Horse bridle/tack hooks, G1, Building 2
- Plate 24 Room G2 interior, Building 2
- Plate 25 Fireplace, G2, Building 2
- Plate 26 Room G3 interior, Building 2
- Plate 27 Room G3 interior, Building 2
- Plate 28 Room G4 interior, Building 2
- Plate 29 East-facing elevation, Buildings 2 and 3
- Plate 30 East-facing elevation, Building 3 (southern end)
- Plate 31 Ventilation opening on east-facing elevation, Building 3
- Plate 32 Windows on east-facing elevation, Building 3
- Plate 33 Detail of render on east-facing elevation, Building 3
- Plate 34 Graffiti on clunch block, east-facing elevation, Building 3
- Plate 35 20th century loading door, east-facing elevation, Building 3
- Plate 36 East-facing elevation, Building 3 (northern end)
- Plate 37 North-facing elevation, Building 3
- Plate 38 West-facing elevation, Building 3
- Plate 39 Door on west-facing elevation, Building 3
- Plate 40 West-facing elevation, Building 3 (northern end)
- Plate 41 Barn doors, west-facing elevation, Building 3
- Plate 42 Detail of door latch on entrance door, Building 3
- Plate 43 Ventilation openings, structural tie and blocked-up door, west-facing elevation, Building 3
- Plate 44 Blocked-up opening, west-facing elevation, Building 3
- Plate 45 Graffiti on clunch block, west-facing elevation, Building 3
- Plate 46 South-facing elevation, Building 3
- Plate 47 Southern gable end and brick forge, Building 3
- Plate 48 Carpenter's mark, Building 3
- Plate 49 Carpenter's mark, Building 3
- Plate 50 Carpenter's mark, Building 3



Diato 51	Aicled boy Ruilding 2
Plate 51	Aisled bay, Building 3 Brick forge, Building 3
Plate 52	Brick forge, Building 3
Plate 53	First bay, southern end of Building 3
Plate 54	Grain processing machinery and brick grain stores at southern end of Building 3
Plate 55	Sawn arcade post, Building 3
Plate 56	Remnants of aisled bay, Building 3, northern end
Plate 57	Remnants of aisled bay, Building 3, northern end
Plate 58	Blocked-up windows, eastern elevation, Building 3
Plate 59	South-facing elevation, Building 4
Plate 60	North-facing elevation, Building 4
Plate 61	East-facing elevation, Building 4
Plate 62	East-facing elevation, Building 4
Plate 63	West-facing elevation, Building 4
Plate 64	West-facing elevation, Building 4
Plate 65	Modern internal facilities, Building 4
Plate 66	Interior view, Building 4
Plate 67	East-facing elevation, Building 5 (north)
Plate 68	Two-part stable door, east-facing elevation, Building 5 (north)
Plate 69	North-facing elevation, Building 5 (north)
Plate 70	West-facing elevation, Building 5 (north)
Plate 71	East-facing elevation, Building 5 (south)
Plate 72	South-facing elevation, Building 5 (south)
Plate 73	West-facing elevation, Building 5 (south)
Plate 74	Internal partition, Building 5 (north)
Plate 75	Detail of internal opening, Building 5 (north)
Plate 76	Troughs, Building 5 (north)
Plate 77	Former internal partition gate post (?), Building 5 (north)
Plate 78	interior view, Building 5 (north)
Plate 79	Troughs, Building 5 (south)
Plate 80	Troughs, Building 5 (south)
Plate 81	Troughs, Building 5 (south)
Plate 82	West-facing elevation, Building 6
Plate 83	North-facing elevation, Building 6
Plate 84	Interior view, Building 6
Plate 85	Detail of window and ventilation, Building 6
Plate 86	North-facing elevation, Building 7



- Plate 87 East-facing elevation, Building 7
- Plate 88 West-facing elevation, Building 7
- Plate 89 Trough, Building 7
- Plate 90 Modern/repaired roof structure, Building 7



#### Summary

In April 2013 Oxford Archaeology East conducted an historical building survey on a range of disused farm buildings at Rectory Farm, Great Shelford in South Cambridgeshire.

This work was carried out in response to a request from Cambridgeshire County Council's Historic Environment Team (CCC HET). The brief required that a survey, equivalent to an English Heritage Level 3 Survey was carried out on those buildings which featured on the late 19th and early 20th century Ordnance Survey Maps and a Level 2 survey to be undertaken on all remaining buildings prior to any demolition or major alterations to the original fabric.

The buildings were associated with Rectory Farmhouse (outside of the development area), a listed building which is known to have origins in the 14th century. The earliest building surveyed, a large clunch barn, is thought to date to the early 19th century and is first depicted on a map of 1822. None of the other buildings depicted on this map survive.

The 19th/early 20th century buildings surveyed all centred around a farmyard area and comprised a north-south orientated clunch structure with a corrugated tin roof, a timber granary on a brick and flint plinth and stables. The later buildings included a chicken shed, an open-fronted shed with breeze-block extension and a small brick and timber shelter/store.

Rectory Farm is an interesting collection of buildings, which reflect economic development in a small farm and how buildings have altered and been replaced to accommodate changes in farming practices

Several phases of development were identified during the survey spanning 150 years from the construction of the clunch barn in the early 19th century. Cartographic sources consulted during the background research revealed several other contemporary or earlier buildings flanking a central farmyard which were gradually replaced or demolished in the subsequent periods as farming methods and technologies changed.

The survey revealed a number of original and interesting features surviving in many of the buildings; including feeding troughs, tack hooks in the stables and a series of carpenter's marks in the main barn.



# 1 INTRODUCTION

# 1.1 Scope of work

- 1.1.1 An historic building recording survey was conducted on a range of buildings at Rectory Farm, Great Shelford, Cambridgeshire (Figure 1). The work was carried out in advance of any alterations to the existing site.
- 1.1.2 The buildings surveyed comprised a group of buildings ranging in date from early 19th century through to the late 20th, constructed within and around a farmyard. For the purposes of the survey and report, these buildings were labelled Buildings 1-7 (B1-B7) (Figure 2).
- 1.1.3 The work was undertaken at the request of Cambridgeshire County Council's Historic Environment Team (McConnell 2013), supplemented by a Specification by OA East (Fletcher 2013). The proposed development includes the conversion, refurbishment and extension of the larger clunch barn into three private residential dwellings and one private live/work unit and erection of two semi-detached affordable housing dwellings, along with associated hard and soft landscaping, access works and removal of post-1948 agricultural structures. The Brief also requested a phase of archaeological investigation which is scheduled to be undertaken as a separate piece of work.
- 1.1.4 The work was designed to adequately record the structure in its current state before the alteration work began. The objective of any building recording is to provide a comprehensive visual and descriptive record of the structures including a suitable level of documentary research prior to the permitted alterations, as they represent potential upstanding archaeological/historical remains of local importance. The specific aims were:
  - To make a permanent record of the structures in their present state, in order to preserve by record the character, state, preservation and architectural and historic significance of the building.
  - To collate information about the building in order to compile a record of the structure, with analysis and interpretation of the structure.
  - To include a suitable level of documentary research, including consultation with the CHER to set the site in its historical context, following English Heritage Guidance (English Heritage 2006)
  - To produce a high quality, fully integrated archive suitable for long-term deposition in order to 'preserve by record' the buildings in their current form.
- 1.1.5 The site archive will be deposited within Cambridgeshire's County Stores along with the archive for the evaluation under the site code GSHRFB13, once the reports have been approved and any further stages of investigation have taken place.

# 1.2 Location, Topography and Geology

1.2.1 Rectory Farm is located approximately 6km (4 miles) south of Cambridge. The site is located in the south-west part of Great Shelford, adjacent to the River Cam (Granta) within the medieval core of Great Shelford. The site is approximately 0.77 hectares in size and is bounded by Church Street to the south, and the River Cam to the west. Open farmland lies to the north; residential properties and Great Shelford school lie to the west. Rectory Farm house lies immediately south-west of the study site.



- 1.2.2 The solid geology of the study site area is recorded by the BGS as Chalk, overlain by superficial deposits of River Terrace Gravels (www.bgs.ac.uk/GeoIndex). Soils around the study site are described by the Soil Survey of England and Wales as premeable calcareous fine loamy soils of the Milton Association (512f), with river alluvium along the valley floors (814a).
- 1.2.3 Great Shelford village is located in the valley of the River Cam/Granta, on a spur of river terrace gravel adjacent to the river. The study site lies in the south-eastern part of the village, immediately adjacent to the river itself. Ground levels within the site rise slightly from west to east; and from south to north. East of the site, ground levels continue to rise gently away from the river along Church Street.

#### 1.3 Acknowledgements

1.3.1 The author would like to thank Charles Worthington and Nick Lowden of Lowden Construction for commissioning the work and also for supplying the plans and elevations used in this report. The author managed the project throughout and carried out all background research. James Fairbairn assisted with the on-site recording and photography, undertaking all Medium Format camera work. Thanks also to Lucy Offord and Gillian Greer for preparing the report figures and to Rachel Clarke for editing the text.



# 2 AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

# 2.1 Aims

2.1.1 The aim of this investigation was to carry out a historic building survey equivalent to English Heritage Level 3 (English Heritage 2006) on the known earlier buildings which feature on the 19th and early 20th century Ordnance Survey Maps, the remaining buildings were surveyed equivalent to Level 2. These aims were clearly set out in the approved Specification (Fletcher 2013). All buildings recorded at Level 3 included an interior and exterior Medium Format Photographic survey as well as drawn elevations and floor plans. The historical development and background research of the entire site was carried out at Level 3.

# 2.2 Site Conditions

- 2.2.1 All of the buildings were unoccupied at the time of the survey and full access was possible throughout. Building 3 (the large clunch barn) still retained machinery inside relating to its former use for grain processing and milling. The equipment inside restricted general photography of the interior space, however full inspection of most of the building was possible for the descriptive record.
- 2.2.2 Lighting for photographs in all buildings was achieved using Halogen lamps which were powered by a portable petrol-fuelled generator.

# 2.3 Methodology

- 2.3.1 All building recording work carried out complied with standards and guidance set out by the Institute for Archaeologists (2001) and was undertaken by experienced buildings archaeologists. Scaled architects elevations and plans, supplied by the client, were used for field notes and were annotated on site and amended during the post-recording phase as necessary. These have been reproduced with the client's permission in Figures 10, 11, 13 and 14. Scaled drawings were made of timber bays within Building 3 (Figure 12) where overall photographic representation was difficult.
- 2.3.2 Photographic survey was carried out using a 35mm camera (monochrome and colour slide) with additional digital photographs using a high resolution Canon EOS 450D digital camera. A Medium Format camera was also used to take external and internal photographs of all buildings which were subject to the Level 3 survey.



# 3 HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

# 3.1 General Background

Much of Section 3.1 has been taken from the Desk-Based Assessment for the site carried out in 2010 (CgMs 2010).

- 3.1.1 The medieval settlement core of Great Shelford focused on the rising gravel to the east of the ford, the early settlement nucleus including the church and the Ely Manor House (The Grange), both located on the slightly higher ground to the east of the study site. By the mid 11th century a second area of settlement had developed 1km to the north-east around the Granhams Manor House on the Cambridge-Chesterford Road (Taylor 1971). Through the medieval and post-medieval periods settlement growth out from these two original cores resulted in the gradual coalescence cores. The settlement history through these period is discussed in greater detail in Taylor 1971.
- 3.1.2 Church Street, running north-east from the ford, is recorded as being in existence from the 11th century onwards. The earlier shallow ford across the Cam and adjoining marshy ground had been replaced by the later 14th Century by wooden bridges and a causeway; a hermitage is recorded at the western end of the causeway in 1398 (CHER 05144).
- 3.1.3 The Grade II\* Rectory Farm house (Listed Building ref 51469), south-west of the study site, originated in the early/mid 14th century and represents part of the medieval growth of the village out from its original cores; it is likely that the study site lay within the village settlement from this time onwards, forming part of the Rectory Farm lands. The extent to which the site contains structural remains pre-dating the existing (early 19th century and later) structures is uncertain.
- 3.1.4 This chronology for settlement development in this part of Great Shelford is supported by the results of the 2006-8 village test pitting survey. The test pits south of the study site, close to the river produced very small quantities of medieval pottery from (MCB18297, MCB18403 south of the study site); slightly larger quantities were recorded within the test pits either side of Church Street on the slightly higher ground to the east (MCB18278, MCB18402). In contrast, large quantities of post-medieval pottery were recovered from all of these test pits.
- 3.1.5 Throughout the medieval and post-medieval period the study site area lay on the western, riverside, edge of the village. Originally located within riverside meadow outside the village settlement, from the 14th century onward it has lain within the settled area of the village.

# 3.2 Results of Historic Background Research

- 3.2.1 As part of the background research, a number of historic maps were consulted to assist with providing a date or understanding of the development of the buildings.
- 3.2.2 A search of the archives held at Cambridgeshire Records Office (CRO) was carried out in order to establish whether or not there is any cartographic or documentary representation of the site within the archives held there. Each document consulted is briefly described and evaluated below in chronological order. There was no Tithe map available for Great Shelford at the CRO.



#### A copy of 1822 map from "A Record of Shelford Parva" (Figure 3)

- 3.2.3 This map is featured in a book held at Cambridgeshire Records Office entitled "A Record of Shelford Parva" by F.L.Wale. The book was dated 1910 and contains a series of hand drawn sketches and maps as well as historical accounts and observations of Great and Little Shelford spanning approximately 200 years.
- 3.2.4 The book contains a hand drawn copy of a map from 1822 which was originally created by C.Cumming, surveyor (Figure 3). Although not the original map, it provides the earliest cartographic representation of Rectory Farm.
- 3.2.5 The map depicts The Rectory on the western edge of the site and a range of buildings around a central farmyard and two further buildings to the immediate north. The site is labelled in three separate "parcels" numbered 3 to 6 and the accompanying key states these were all occupied by Henry Headley. The Post Office Directory for 1853 lists a William Headley as a farmer in Great Shelford.
- 3.2.6 When consulted alongside the current layout of the farm buildings (Figure 2), it is evident that Building 3, the long north-south orientated barn was in existence at this time, however, it does not appear that any of the other buildings surveyed were present at this time.

#### **Post Office Directories 1853-1937** (not illustrated, see Table 1)

- 3.2.7 A selection of Post Office Directories held at the CRO were consulted in order to gather some names and any other information which may be listed relating to Rectory Farm. The early directories looked at (1853-1875) only listed farmers names and rarely was the name of the associated farm given, in these cases, it was possible to link the names with those represented on the 1822 and 1835 maps.
- 3.2.8 The 1925 Kelly's Cambridgeshire Directory states that Great Shelford's "chief crops are wheat, barley and oats" and there are still a great deal of farmers listed compared to most other occupations in most of the directories, indicating it was predominantly an area of arable crop production.
- 3.2.9 The table below provides the names of some of the farmers who occupied Rectory Farm between the years 1853 and 1937.

Year	Occupant / Occupation
1853	Wm Headley, farmer
1873	Charles Gunnell, farmer
1875	William Gunnell, farmer
1879	Charles Gunnell, Rectory Farm
1883	Henrey Gunnell, farmer, Rectory Farm
1904	Mrs Susannah Gunnell, farmer, Rectory Farm
1916	Thomas Gunnell, Hy farmer, Rectory Farm
1922	James Edwin Rodwell, farmer, Rectory Farm
1925	James Edwin Rodwell, farmer, Rectory Farm
1929	James Edwin Rodwell, farmer, Rectory Farm
1933	James Edwin Rodwell, farmer, Rectory Farm



1937 James Edwin Rodwell, farmer, Rectory Farm

Table 1. Occupants of Rectory Farm from 1853-1937 (source: Post Office Directories)

#### Inclosure Map of Great Shelford, 1835 (Figure 4)

- 3.2.10 The next available map is the 1835 Inclosure Map of Great Shelford (Figure 4). This map appears to have been drawn with more accuracy than the previous map and shows boundaries, buildings and roads more clearly. The alignments of the buildings shown are also more accurate to the layout of today (Figure 2).
- 3.2.11 The Inclosure Map shows the layout of Rectory Farm as owned by Jesus College at the time and according to the accompanying schedule, Henry Headley was still the occupier. The farmhouse sits towards the south-west corner of the site in a square shaped enclosure with a rectangular shaped outbuilding along the property's southern boundary and another to the south-west of the house. Two small outbuildings are located either end of the house's northern boundary with a triangular shaped piece of land beyond this along the bank of the River Cam.
- 3.2.12 On the east side of the site is a linear arrangement of farm buildings which align with the boundary of the farmstead. The largest of these is the existing large barn, Building 3, which was built sometime preceding enclosure. Adjoining its southern end is a smaller rectangular structure and although the extension on the southern end is in the same location as the current Building 2, it is much wider on this early map, suggesting the current Building 2 was rebuilt or constructed on the same layout. Another range at right angles to the large barn, meets its north-west corner. North of this building are another two detached rectangular buildings.
- 3.2.13 As with the previous map, the only obvious building which is represented on this map and is still present today is Building 3 (Figure 2).

#### First Edition Ordnance Survey Map, 1886, 25" to 1 mile (Figure 5)

- 3.2.14 The First Edition Ordnance Survey Map of 1884 provides the first reliable and detailed record of the site (Figure 5).
- 3.2.15 This map shows a similar layout as exists today, with the southern range of the large barn (Building 2) rebuilt to its current form and, immediately to the west of this, the existing "granary" (Building 1) standing to the north of the entrance drive to the farmhouse. The site is divided much as it was in the 1835 Inclosure Map, although additional farm buildings have been constructed. The triangular site adjacent to the River Cam appears to have been laid out as an orchard.
- 3.2.16 The structure at right angles to the north end of the large barn survives, but the building to the north of this has been lost and a new courtyard range of buildings constructed in its place. The westernmost of these new buildings is the northern part of the surviving stable range (Building 5) on the west of the site. Another two buildings line the central boundary of the site with another constructed in the middle of the space between these ranges and the large early 19th century barn. At the north end of the site, the earlier building shown on the Inclosure Map appears to survive. The outbuildings around the farmhouse appear to have all been rebuilt or removed and new ones added.
- 3.2.17 The layout of the driveway indicates direct access from the northern side of the approach to the farmhouse where a "P" denotes the position of a pump.



- 3.2.18 The Church School to the east of Rectory Farm was built in 1843 and one of the former gravel pits, to which the villagers had pre enclosure common rights, is marked to the north of this, just beyond the boundary of the current proposed development area.
- 3.2.19 In summary, the only buildings which survive today which feature on this late 19th century map are Buildings 1, 2, 3 and the northern part of 5.

#### 1903 Ordnance Survey Map, 25" to 1 mile (Figure 6)

- 3.2.20 The 1903 Ordnance Survey Map shows little change in the arrangement of the buildings on Rectory Farm. Building 1 (granary) is more clearly depicted as comprising three separate elements, as is still the case today.
- 3.2.21 The 1903 Map does, however, show the gradual continuing development of the village and the enlargement of some older houses, such as the Grange on the side of Church Street. Throughout the later 19th century, estates were gradually divided into building plots and sold. This is most likely a result of the introduction of the Great Eastern Railway's London (Liverpool Street) to Cambridge line in the mid 19th century which resulted in an influx of middle class families when a number of large houses were built either on the edge of the village on newly enclosed land or on open land within the village.

#### Sketch of Rectory Farm, 1910 by F.L.Wale (Figure 7)

- 3.2.22 A sketch of Rectory Farmhouse is included in F.L.Wale's book "A Record of Shelford Parva" (Figure 6). The farmhouse appears as it did at the time of the survey with red tiled roof, white rendered façade and tall chimney stacks at either end (Plate 1).
- 3.2.23 On the right of the house is a single storey building with horizontal weatherboard cladding and what appears to be a tiled roof (surveyed Building 1). An opening in the fence may represent the gated access into the farmyard as depicted on the 1886 Ordnance Survey Map (Figure 5).
- 3.2.24 On the far right of the sketch a sign for a garage is positioned in front of an open doorway of a building mostly obscured by trees. This is considered to be Building 2 (Figure 2).

#### 1915 and 1930 Surveyor's Reports (not illustrated)

3.2.25 Although this document could not be found during the search of Cambridgeshire's Records Office, it is described within the Heritage Statement prepared for the site in June 2012 (Beacon Planning 2012). This entire section has been taken from the Heritage Statement:

"A report on the farm dated 27 September 1915 carried out by Carter Jonas, the local surveyors, fully describes the buildings which stood on the 262 acre farm. In addition to the farmhouse were:

Old timber and tiled hen house and granary. Hole through back wall and pinning of partition gone.

Range of brick, timber and slated buildings. Garage fitted with small oil engine and dynamo running electric light. Nag stable comprising box and two stalls: ceiling fallen, floors defective. The painting has been neglected for years.

Large clunch and pantiled barn about 130 feet long and 32 feet wide divided into eight bays. A portion is fitted with forge and copper; part fitted up as a Blacksmith's Shop and Garage Store; two small boxes boarded off. One bay is used as a corn store and the



remaining half is fitted up for cows having 32 standings in addition to a boarded off cooling place. The structure of this barn is being damaged because some tiles are off; one door is down and another off its hinges; the yard doors are in a bad condition but will hang together for a time; part of the flint foundation is bad and portions of the weatherboarding are off. The cow house has a cement floor but it is perfectly smooth and is therefore dangerous.

In centre of yard double 4 bay flint timber and pantiled cattle shed and 2 loose boxes. Requires repairing and has a very poor roof.

On West of Yard, small timber and plain tiled building used as calf house with a similar building adjoining covered with corrugated iron, the roof of which has entirely perished. On the North of Yard, old timber and pantiled cow shed on flint foundations with new brick wall at back and end. Roof in bad order and foundations defective.

The fence dividing the yard is in pieces.

Timber and pantiled barn on brick foundation, used for chaff with grain pit. The boarding, tiles, roof timbers and doors are in bad order. This building could be repaired and the roof stripped and covered with corrugated iron, when it would be quite useful.

In horse yard timber and tiled cart horse stable for 5. A number of tiles have perished; the chalk floor is bad but the boarding is in fair condition, having apparently been renewed in recent years.

Six bays pantiled cart horse shelter shed. Several tiles are missing.

On East side of yard timber and pantiled building on flint foundations used as cart horse stable for 5. The clunch floor is poor; wall plate coming down, timber bad; the building has spread on both sides, the back being afoot out of the perpendicular; the roof purlins on both sides are broken. This building should be condemned.

The stack yard fence does not exist.

Six bay timber and tiled cart lodge with single bay wagon lodge and implement shed. The boarding is bad; some tiles are missing; the timbers are bad; the roof has sagged in all directions; the water in the valley has rotted the rafters and the door of implement shed is off. A part of this building, at the north end has been repaired."

- 3.2.26 Other buildings in the fields are also described and all are described as being in a very bad state of repair and lacking maintenance (which is blamed on the tenant!). The report states that 'few of the buildings are worth spending any money on at all and it would be throwing money away to restore them'. The cost of repairs and new buildings to allow the farm to function was estimated at £700. A photograph from 1914 shows that T H Gunnell was running 'Rectory Farm Garage' from the southern range of the large early 19th century barn. This is as described in the inventory with its (diesel) oil engine and dynamo for the electric lights.
- 3.2.27 The farm was considered again by Carter Jonas in 1916 who drew up deeds of terms for the letting of the farm. These included making the buildings wind and weather tight immediately and carrying out internal repairs to the farmhouse. Within six months of the end of the First World War, other repairs and fencing works were to be carried out though the three buildings next to the garden and orchard (excluding the stable) were to be taken down as was the old stable.
- 3.2.28 The 'farm homestead' was described as including 'a very large and well built brick, clunch and tiled double barn, 135 ft long, a boarded and tiled granary, dove house and piggery, a boarded and slated nag stable, 2 cart horse stables and chaff places, cow



house, another boarded and tiled granary, another barn, 3 yards with open lodges to each, 3 piggeries and a good boarded and tiled cart lodge wagon shed.

- 3.2.29 A further survey of the farm was carried out in 1930 when the 'estate' included Rectory Farmhouse, 3 clunch and slated 2 bedroom cottages near Hauxton Bridge and 2 sets of farm buildings; one near Hauxton Bridge (at the west end and used for cart horses) and those under consideration in this report (used for dairy purposes).
- 3.2.30 The buildings under consideration here are described as comprising the following:

Brick, clunch, part weatherboard and tiled granary.

Brick, weatherboard and slate garage with lean to engine house for electric light plant, harness room and nag stable.

Timber, clunch and corrugated iron barn with forge, used as mixing shed and grinding shed and cowhouse for 29 formed by tenant, one side fitted with automatic drinking bowls, cooling place and sterilising house.

4 bay brick and corrugated iron open shed, 2 bays boarded in by tenant.

Brick timber and tiled buildings, being an old stable now used as calf boxes.

6 bay timber and tiled open shed.

Old timber and tiled art and implement shed.

3.2.31 The tenant, Mr Rodwell (listed in Kelly's Directory of 1922 as James Edwin Rodwell), is praised for his constant repairs to the buildings, though the 'old timber and tiled cart and implement shed' is described as being in 'a very shaky condition' and it is suggested that it is taken down.

#### Photograph of Rectory Farm, 1951 (Figure 8)

- 3.2.32 In 1949, Edward Funston took over the tenancy of Rectory Farm (Beacon Planning 2012). Photographs of the farm during his tenancy which were taken from St Mary's Church Tower in 1951 (Figure 7) are held at Cambridgeshire Records Office and show the late 19th century farm buildings to the north of the large north-south clunch barn (Building 3). Since the surveyors report of 1915, the roof covering appears to have been replaced with the corrugated steel sheets still present at the time of the survey. These photographs also show the large modern structures in the north-east of the farm site which have since been demolished. The Church School is just visible amongst the trees in the foreground of the photograph.
- 3.2.33 One of the other buildings surveyed, Building 5 is present on this photograph, yet the east-west buildings north of Building 3 and a separate collection of buildings to the north have all since been demolished.

#### 1950 Ordnance Survey Map (1:10, 560) (not illustrated)

3.2.34 There is a large gap between the 1903 Ordnance Survey Map (1:2,500) and the next OS Map which was not published until 1950 and at a larger scale (1:10,560) and it is not as detailed. However, it does show the development in the village which continued slowly in the early years of the 20th century, and that the arrangement of the Rectory Farm buildings and not changed in the first half of the 20th century, although the uses of the buildings appear to have diversified.



#### 1960 Ordnance Survey Map (1:10, 560) (not illustrated)

3.2.35 The 1960 Ordnance Survey Map shows the effect which changing farming practices with increasing mechanization, had on the farm. A number of the later 19th century buildings have been demolished, probably to allow large machinery easier access to the farm. The eastern-most range of the courtyard formation to the north of the large early 19th century barn has been removed, as has the central building to the west of the large barn. The westernmost range of the courtyard formation has, however, been extended to the south, and it exists in this form today.

#### 1970-71 Ordnance Survey Map, 1:2500 (Figure 9)

- 3.2.36 This map shows the site almost as it exists today, with the removal/absence of the northern and southern late 19th century buildings of the courtyard at the north end of the large barn, and their replacement with a single detached rectangular building.
- 3.2.37 The long late 19th century building further north has also gone, along with the two small buildings along the western boundary of the farmyard. Two small structures have also been erected within the garden of the farmhouse and small lean tos have been added to either side of the large early 19th century barn. Photographs taken in 1977 (not reproduced) show the result of the alterations on the east side of the large barn (Building 3).
- 3.2.38 Other buildings now represented on this map which were not present on the last detailed map of 1903 include Buildings 4 (east-west range) and Buildings 6 and 7.

#### Current Ordnance Survey Map (Figure 2)

3.2.39 The present layout of the site (Figure 2) shows a few more extensions were added to the buildings since 1970, including lean tos on the west side of the large barn (Building 3), on the north side of the granary (Building 1), and on the west side of the stable range at the north end of the site (Building 5). A large extension was added to the south side of the open-fronted shed (Building 4) forming the L shaped structure which exists today. The small timber water tower to the north of the southern building and the circular hopper to the north of the large barn were also added.



# 4 BUILDING DESCRIPTIONS

#### Introduction

For the purposes of this report, the buildings surveyed have been labelled B1 to B7. Figure 2 shows the location of each of these buildings, Figures 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14 show building floor plans, elevation drawings and locations of plates referenced in the report. A plan of suggested phasing is provided in Figure 15.

## 4.1 Building 1: Granary

#### Summary

- 4.1.1 Building 1 was an east-west orientated rectangular shaped timber, brick and flint structure located at the southern end of the site and the closest building to Rectory Farmhouse (Figure 2). This building was empty at the time of the survey and the shelves inside indicate it had been used for storage. This building was elevated from the ground level, constructed on a brick and flint plinth with brick pillars supporting below which suggests it was originally constructed for use as a granary. It comprises a single storey timber structure with a moderately steep pitched roof. Only two-thirds of the building are within the development area (Figure 2); the western part belongs to Rectory Farmhouse and was therefore not accessible for this survey.
- 4.1.2 This building is considered to be late 19th century in date, first appearing on the 1903 Second Edition Ordnance Survey Map (Figure 6) (where this building appears to comprise three parts) and therefore was recorded at English Heritage Level 3.

#### *External Descriptions* (Figure 10)

South-facing elevation

- 4.1.3 The south facing elevation clearly shows the division between the two separate parts of the building (Plate 2). The western end (not included within the development area) has been rendered and the roof covered with moss. It has a small window and a double door entrance as well as an entrance located on the west-facing elevation (not recorded).
- 4.1.4 The remaining two-thirds of the building was covered with horizontally laid overlapping timber board with a red clay pantile roof covering the whole building. The building has a black-painted brick plinth with small voids, presumably for ventilation, within the lower second and third course.
- 4.1.5 Just below the roofline there were vertical slats/voids which presumably would also allow for ventilation but were small enough to prevent birds or other small animals gaining entry.
- 4.1.6 There is access to the eastern part of the building on this side via a set of timber double doors comprising vertical timber boards with strap hinges.

#### East-facing elevation

- 4.1.7 This elevation fronts onto the access road into the farmyard (Plate 3). As with the south-facing elevation, this side of the building is covered with weatherboard to the roofline, which is steeply pitched.
- 4.1.8 The plinth on this side comprised flint with a single course of brick on top and on each corner; most likely included to add support and strength to the plinth. There is a central



void within the plinth which allowed for inspection of the underside of the building. There were two rows of brick plinths, painted white upon which a re-used roof timber with empty mortices was positioned which supported the structure above (Plate 4).

4.1.9 Access to this side of the building was gained via a small set of stone steps, possibly a re-used mounting block. There was a plain timber door comprising vertical tongue and groove boards and a thumb latch to open (Plates 5 and 6). Between the stone steps and the door was a vertical board attached to the building with large iron fixings which may have been to support a ladder which could be easily removed preventing access for people or animals. Above the door was a small loading hatch with wooden door (obscured by a tree in Plate 3).

#### North-facing elevation

- 4.1.10 This elevation flanks the southern side of the farmyard and was partly obscured by a small ad-hoc lean-to at the eastern end (Plate 7).
- 4.1.11 The lean-to had a mono-pitched roof and was constructed using a series of re-used corrugated galvanised steel and timber boards supported on re-used posts (Plate 8). From the inside of this lean-to structure, the north-facing elevation of Building 1 could be accessed and recorded. The plinth on this side of the building comprised the same flint with single brick course on top as noted on the east-facing elevation with timber weather-board above. There was also a door located within the lean-to, comprising vertical timber boards and secured with long strap hinges (Plate 9). The top of the door had been cut in one corner to allow it to open past the roof supports of the later lean-to addition.
- 4.1.12 The rest of this elevation was mostly obscured by ivy, however the clear distinction between the two parts of the building was clear with curved red pantiles on the western end (Plate 7).

#### Internal Description (Figure10)

- 4.1.13 At the time of the survey, only the eastern section of the building was accessible.
- 4.1.14 The floor of this raised barn/granary was covered with wooden boards (Plate 10), spanning the length of the area, each with an average width of 28cm.
- 4.1.15 There were remains of lath and plaster between the upright timber studs from the floor level to the tiebeam level (Plates 10 and 11).
- 4.1.16 The roof was of post and truss roof construction with clasped purlins. Although most timbers present were sawn and therefore most likely to be 19th century in date empty mortices and voids within all three tie-beams suggest that these were re-used from another earlier building (Plates 10 and 12).
- 4.1.17 The height / position of the loading door noted on the external elevation in relation to that of the tie beams suggests that there could have been a small storage area above (Plate 13) this is more likely given size of the the remaining roof space than an entire first floor.



# 4.2 Building 2: Stables/garage

#### Summary

- 4.2.1 Building 2 was a north-south orientated single-storey, rectangular-shaped brick and flint structure adjoining the southern end of the main barn, Building 3 (Figure 2). It was positioned to the south of the farmyard area and at the eastern end of the access drive to Rectory Farmhouse. Comprising two separate parts (former stables at the northern end and a garage at the southern end) and an additional out-shut on the eastern side, this building was being used for storage at the time of the survey. External as well as internal fixtures indicate this building was constructed as a stable/blacksmiths.
- 4.2.2 The earliest part of this building (stables and garage) is considered to be late 19th century in date, first appearing on the 1886 First Edition Ordnance Survey Map (Figure 5) (where this building first appears in its current plan) and therefore was recorded at English Heritage Level 3. The extension/addition on the eastern side has been dated as early to mid 20th century.
- 4.2.3 This building is thought to have been constructed as stables/blacksmiths workshop with the southern part converted to a garage in the early 20th century when the eastern extension was added for storage. Both the 1915 surveyors report and a sketch dated to around 1910 (Figure 7) record that a garage was being run from this part of the farmyard.

#### External Descriptions (Figure 11)

East-facing elevation

- 4.2.4 This side of the building was partly obscured by a later brick-built extension with monopitched roof (Plate 14).
- 4.2.5 The east-facing elevation of the earlier phase was constructed using flint with an upper 3-4 courses of a pale buff-coloured brick at the northern end (Plate 14). It is possible that flint was used as a cheaper or more readily available resource at the time of construction or the flint element of the building is infact the remnants of the earlier building in this location as shown on the 1820's and 1830's maps (Figures 3 and 4). There is no evidence of the continuation of the flint towards the southern end of this elevation nor on any other element of the structure. The main construction comprised buff and orange coloured bricks laid in a random bond with an average dimension of 23cm x 7cm x 10cm with a light coloured mortar with small crushed flint-stone inclusions.
- 4.2.6 The roof is covered with a grey slate with a tall brick chimney stack located within the middle of the building on the eastern side of the roof. It had plastic gutters and downpipes.
- 4.2.7 The lean-to addition was also constructed of a pale buff coloured brick mostly in a stretcher bond with a mono-pitched corrugated asbestos roof. The bricks used had an average dimension of 21.5cm x 6.5cm x 10cm.

South-facing elevation

4.2.8 This elevation faces onto Church Street (Plate 15). Comprising the same brick as



recorded on the east-facing elevation, this elevation has been constructed mostly using a Flemish bond and the roof has a moderately gently sloping pitch.

4.2.9 There was a set of wooden, double garage doors on this side which provided vehicular access into the building. Fragments of brick have been used on both sides of the opening to "patch" up the gaps, indicating this opening was a later addition, although still possibly replacing an earlier smaller entrance. A large wooden lintel spans the top of the opening and a crack in the brickwork from the corner of which, leading upwards may indicate that this alteration has compromised the strength of the structure.

#### West-facing elevation

- 4.2.10 This side of the building comprises access into the other two areas within the northern part of the building (Plate 16). This elevation had a black painted brick plinth with horizontally laid over-lapping weatherboard above to the roof-line and plastic gutters and down-pipes.
- 4.2.11 There were two entrances at the northern end of this elevation. The northern-most entrance comprised a simple door constructed from vertical timber boards and heavy iron hinges with a six pane fanlight above (Plate 17). There were windows positioned on either side of the doorway comprising a glazed upper half and open vents with wooden mullions below. Assuming this was constructed as a stable, these would have provided the light and ventilation required. The entrance to the right of this comprised the same style of door with a four pane fanlight above. The windows on this side however were both located to the right of the door and comprised two-part six-pane horizontal sliding sashes with wooden cills (Plate 18). This side of the building may therefore have originally not housed horses but instead possibly a room for the groom/stable hand or blacksmith.

#### Internal Description (Figure 11)

Although most recently used for storage and as a workshop, the internal fixtures and fittings within this building confirms that the northern end was constructed as a two-stall stable with storage for tack and a separate room, perhaps a blacksmiths workshop. The extension on the eastern side was most likely added when the conversion of the southern end of the building into a garage took place in the early 20th century. For the purpose of describing and referencing the various areas of the building they have been numbered G1-G4 for this report (Figure 11).

<u>G1</u>

4.2.12 Accessed from the northern-most door on the west-facing elevation, G1 was being used for storage at the time of the survey. The floor was covered in concrete, the ceiling covered with dark-stained tongue and groove boards and the walls were all exposed revealing their original construction materials. To the immediate left on entering, was the brick plinth and clunch block wall of the southern elevation of Building 3 (Plate 19). The opposite wall on entering comprised the flint wall with upper brick courses as noted on the east-facing external elevation. Like the ceiling, the internal wall on the entrance side was covered with tongue and groove boards, wider than those on the ceiling (plate 20).



4.2.13 Within the south-eastern corner of this room, modern ply-board panels/screens had been used to create a smaller storage area, accessed via a wooden door with central glass panel (Plate 21). Within this small room, the original southern inrternal wall of the room was visible which was also panelled and painted white with large hooks/rails for storing bridles and associated horse tack (Plate 22). This panelling and hooks/rails continued across this wall, outside of the later room addition, where a doorway provided access into G2 (Plate 23).

<u>G2</u>

- 4.2.14 Like G1, this room also had panelling on the walls and exposed brick, with a small fireplace on the eastern wall (Plate 24). The location of this fireplace corresponds with the brick chimney recorded on the eastern external elevation. The floor was covered with concrete and the ceiling with plasterboard panels.
- 4.2.15 The fireplace was a simple opening in the brickwork with no inserted surround or overmantle (Plate 25). Although the small fire would be sufficient to heat a room, if this was not a room for living or sleeping in, it may have been used as a small workshop, providing facility to make and mend horseshoes for the farm. The front plate of the fire with its curved top would allow tools to sit and heat up safely in the fire (Plate 25).

<u>G3</u>

- 4.2.16 This area was accessed from the garage doors at the southern end of the building and at the time of the survey was being used for storage of a vehicle (Plate 26).
- 4.2.17 On entering, the left wall comprised the exposed brick plinth and horizontal weatherboarding as recorded on the west-facing elevation. The floor was covered with concrete and the ceiling was covered with sheets of brown plyboard (Plate 27).
- 4.2.18 The rear wall (opposite on entering) was exposed brick laid in a running bond. The brick appeared to be mid-late 20th century in date and is not considered to be original, most likely inserted when this part of the building was converted into a garage.
- 4.2.19 On the right on entering is the original rear wall as partly exposed and described on the east-facing external elevation (Plate 27). A doorway has been inserted into this wall to allow access into the extension on the eastern side of the building (G4).

<u>G4</u>

4.2.20 This small room/area had most recently been used for storage associated with the garage (G3). It had a concrete floor and exposed brick walls (Plate 28). The opposite wall on entering appeared to have a blocked up window and another boarded up window was located on the opposite wall.

# 4.3 Building 3: Clunch Barn

#### Summary

4.3.1 Building 3 was a north-south orientated rectangular building, flanking the eastern side of the farmyard (Figure 2). This building, constructed mainly from clunch dominates the group of buildings surveyed and measured 21m in length. This building was no longer



in use at the time of the survey, however it still retained all of the machinery and storage equipment inside relating to its most recent use for grain processing.

4.3.2 This building is considered to be at least early 19th century in date, first appearing on a copy of a map drawn up in 1822 (Figure 3). It is the oldest surviving building on the site and therefore was recorded at English Heritage Level 3.

#### *External Descriptions* (Figure 11)

#### East-facing elevation

- 4.3.3 This elevation comprises the main clunch barn with a set of later double doors, presumably for loading/unloading directly into the building from the farm track/road leading from Church Lane which would be a more suitable access for larger vehicles than through the farmyard.
- 4.3.4 The building was made primarily from large blocks of cut rectangular clunch with an average dimension of 44cm x 22cm, constructed on top of a flint plinth with a course of thin, hand-made bricks between. The whole building is covered with a red-painted corrugated galvanised steel sheet roof.
- 4.3.5 The ground level on this side of the building is significantly higher than that within the farmyard itself and therefore the lower part of the building is concealed within a depression (Plates 29 and 30).
- 4.3.6 All along this elevation were small rectangular voids/openings with metal bars/grilles inside (Plate 31). These holes in the walls were designed to provide ventilation within the barn to prevent mould and damp destroying the crops stored within (Peters 1981, 15). The iron bars would have prevented birds from flying in and nesting in or eating the stored crops. Such openings are commonly seen on threshing barns.
- 4.3.7 At the southern-most end of this elevation were two casement windows with wooden lintels (Plate 32). There was a suggestion around the clunch blocks that these were not part of the original construction and had been inserted at a later date. The window on the left comprised two rows of five panes and the window to the right was slightly larger with two rows of six panes.
- 4.3.8 Around the window to the right was the remnant of an applied render (Plate 33). Grey in colour, this render had been scored with lines (stucco) to replicate the joins of the clunch blocks. It was not clear if the entire building had been rendered at some point.
- 4.3.9 Also at this end of the building, there were several graffito, one of which was dated (Plate 34). This read "AM 1939-1945 WAR".
- 4.3.10 Further along this elevation were the larger double doors (Plate 35). Clearly a later addition, an extension had been created using brick which spanned the ditch/bank around this side of the building allowing level access; a concrete access allowed access across the grass area in front. The bricks used were a pink colour with average dimensions of 23cm x 6cm x 10.5cm, laid in an English bond with a firm, gritty mortar. The doors comprised a single door on the left and a two-part stable-style door on the right. The doors were painted pale green with heavy iron strap hinges. This doorway/loading access had a mono-pitched roof with corrugated galvanised steel



sheet cover.

- 4.3.11 To the immediate right/north of the doorway there was clearly some damage to the original building either through damp or from the addition of this extension. As a result, some of the remaining clunch blocks had badly deteriorated and the lower part of the wall had been under-pinned with modern "feather" textured bricks with an average dimension of 22cm x 6.5cm x 10.5cm (Plate 35). An external tank fed fuel into the building via a pipe.
- 4.3.12 The remaining part of this elevation towards the north was entirely obscured by vegetation, other than two brick buttresses (Plate 36).

#### North-facing elevation

- 4.3.13 This elevation was partially obscured by a large grain silo (Plate 37) and comprised a combination of building materials including flint, brick and clunch. There was a black painted large double door centrally positioned within this elevation. The use of brick infilling surrounding this opening suggests that it may not be part of the original construction or that a larger opening has been inserted into this location.
- 4.3.14 There was a confusing mixture of different types of bricks as well as flint and clunch above. This may indicate that there have been phases of repair and re-building at this end of the building. As this would have been at the furthest end of the building and not visible from the road, there was most likely less need to maintain the smart appearance of this end of the building, allowing the use of other re-used or locally cheaper materials here.
- 4.3.15 Above the upper six courses of clunch, horizontally laid weather-boards continued to the roofline.

#### West-facing elevation

- 4.3.16 This side of the building faced into the farmyard and comprised a number of former and existing entrances and openings (Plate 38). Constructed primarily from clunch on a flint and brick plinth (as noted on the opposite external elevation), this side of the building also had a number of modern additions and attached equipment relating to its use as a grain processing store.
- 4.3.17 At the northern end of this elevation was a door which provided access to this end of the building via two small concrete steps (Plate 39). The brick in-fill around this opening indicates that it was not an original opening, most likely added during the mid-late 20th century. At the corner of the elevation a quoinstone effect has been created using brick.
- 4.3.18 To the immediate right of this doorway were three ventilation openings as noted on the east-facing elevation, as well as a small window with concrete lintel and cill (most likely a 20th century addition) as well as an iron structural tie (Plate 40). There was also a breeze-block store with blocked-up window and mono-pitched roof. Access to this structure was not possible but it is considered to be mid 20th century in date.
- 4.3.19 A large set of double barn doors and pedestrian doors access to the left was located approximately left of centre on this elevation (Plate 41). Spanning the full height of the building, these large double loading doors are typical of those present in many



threshing barns. These were to allow carts and wagons to drive into the barn and unload from the threshing floor into one of the bays. The height of the doorways also provided light for working and ventilation when winnowing the husks from the grain. Many barns had doors, which stopped short of the ground with separate horizontal boards below held in place by a groove in the doorjamb. This was called a "lift" and it meant that the opened doors were kept clear of dirt and manure when opening and closing and animals and birds from the farm yard could not wander in (Peters 1981, 14). It appears that the barn at Rectory Farm may have only been accessible from one side later on in its life as the farm developed around one side. The pedestrian access/door on the immediate left had strap hinges and a drop latch (Plate 42), typically 19th century in date (Hall 2005, 59). The brick surround on either side of the opening fits neatly into the clunch blocks and indicates that this was an original opening, contemporary with the construction of the barn.

- 4.3.20 Further along this elevation towards the right of the doors were more structural ties and two more ventilation openings as well as a blocked-up doorway (Plate 43). This opening was blocked-up using a pink coloured 20th century brick as used in the construction of the entrance on the north-facing elevation. The 19th century buff coloured bricks of the surround/opening and arch above are contemporary with those noted on the northern end of this elevation and around the barn doors, indicating an original opening in this location.
- 4.3.21 To the immediate right of the blocked opening, a large silo/hopper mounted on a steel frame obscured part of this elevation, however, behind this appears to be another large opening. Again to roof height, this opening has been blocked up at some point, most likely during the late 20th century, and a door and two three-light casement windows inserted (Plate 44). The same buff bricks surrounded the former opening, indicating it is original and contemporary with that recorded to the north. This would have created a second loading area and would suggest that this was a double threshing barn with two threshing floors.
- 4.3.22 At the very southern end of this elevation was another area of graffito, some of which was dated. The earliest dated example found was "O.F. 1898" (Plate 45).

#### South-facing elevation

- 4.3.23 The south-facing elevation faces towards Church Street and is partly obscured by the later addition of Building 2 (Plate 46).
- 4.3.24 There was a small set of double doors providing access into the building at this end. Cement repairs around the opening and the wooden lintel indicates that this was not an original opening and was most likely added or an existing opening made wider after Building 2 was added.
- 4.3.25 This elevation had a brick plinth and quoinstone effect brickwork on the ends. Horizontally laid weather-boards continued to the roofline.

#### Internal Descriptions (Figures 11 and 12)

4.3.26 Due to the presence of large grain processing machinery and large steel storage bins, taking general internal photographs was challenging and therefore scaled drawings were created to create a better visual record of some of the larger structural elements



(Figure 12). Internally there was also a galleried structure which has been added to provide access to the grain machinery within the barn and the storage bins throughout.

- 4.3.27 The original building comprised an aisled timber frame construction, although all the rafters have been removed in the sections of roof above the aisles (Figure 12, Elevation 1). Both gable ends have also lost the upper part of their framing which presumably occurred when the corrugated iron roof was installed during the mid-late 20th century (Plate 47).
- 4.3.28 The structure of the roof has been much altered but the principal structural elements up to the first purlin level remain and work integrally with an internal timber frame with braced cross walls and tie beams which appear to run the full length of the building (Figure 12, Elevation 2). Above the first purlin, the original roof has been removed and has been replaced with the current corrugated galvanised steel roof covering. All of the original rafters have been removed and a number of repairs of a 'piecemeal' nature appear to have been carried out to the roof structure.
- 4.3.29 The barn measured approximately 21m long and constructed in 8 bays, the fourth (from the southern end) had been almost completely removed. Carpenters marks were found on the second, third and fifth bays (Figure 12, Elevation 1 and Plates 48-50), the remaining bays were either obscured from view or no marks could be found. The timber frame consists of arcade posts which supported the arcade plates, which run the length of the barn (Figure 12, Elevation 2); originally these would have supported the rafters. Tie beams span between the arcade posts and, prior to the replacement of the roof, would have supported the crown posts, collar purlins and collars.
- 4.3.30 Only the southern two bays survived intact. They comprised a brick plinth with wall plate above, upon which the aisle and arcade posts were positioned. Cross braces provided additional structural support and horizontal boards on one side to create sheltered areas within the bay. Arched braces connected the tie beam which sat on top of the arcade post. Wooden peg nails were used to hold each timber in place (Plate 51).
- 4.3.31 There was a small brick-built forge in the first bay at the southern end of the building which appears to be a later addition to the original construction with a flue extending through the roof (Plates 52 and 53). Although thought to be a later addition, it was probably no later than late 19th century in date and may indicate that this end of the barn had a secondary function in this period, although no forge was noted on any of the Ordnance Survey maps produced around this time.
- 4.3.32 The ground floor has a noticeable rise from the entrance door on the south elevation (Plate 53), predominantly rising over the first two bays from which point it remains relatively constant towards the north of the building. From bay 3 there is a central floor trench which runs through the building and is covered with a timber boardwalk. The original barn floor had been almost entirely covered with concrete; the plinth of some of the bays had been covered up by this (Figure 12, Elevation 1).
- 4.3.33 The large grain processing machinery dominated parts of the barn (Plate 54) and ladders provided access to the upper parts of the machinery as well as to the top of the silos and grain stores. From this walkway, closer inspection of the structure was possible and in many locations lower sections of several posts had been removed when the grain store and processing facilities were installed (Plate 55). Plate 55 shows where



an arcade post was removed just below the arched brace. The structure has been supported instead with a rolled steel joist. This was presumably structurally sound as the weight of the roof would have been significantly lighter when the steel replacement was added.

- 4.3.34 The centre and northern ends of the barn were dominated by brick and steel grain storage facilities which made close inspection impossible. A central walkway between the brick silos provided the only internal access between the middle and the southern end of the barn (Plate 54).
- 4.3.35 The floor level on the inside of the main doors (as recorded on the western external elevation) sloped upwards on entering. Although mostly covered with concrete, there was evidence of some large stones surviving beneath which may be remnants of the original barn floor.
- 4.3.36 Most of the northern end of the building, left of the main doors on entering, was totally obscured by large galvanised steel containers. However, on either side were the remnants of one of the original bays. On the western/left side of the steel store, the remnants of one bay which is thought to be original with a storage area above (Plate 56). On the eastern side, is the remnant of the other side of the bay (Plate 57).
- 4.3.37 Also on this side of the building is the wall which was obscured by vegetation on the external side. An eight-pane steel frame casement window appears to have been inserted into the location of a larger opening, bricked-up at the base with pink coloured manufactured brick, which is probably mid-late 20th century in date (Plate 58). To the left of this was another opening, this one was completely bricked-up.

# 4.4 Building 4: Open-fronted shed and breeze-block extension

#### Summary

- 4.4.1 Building 4 was L-shaped in plan, located at the northern side of the farmyard and comprised two distinct phases: an open-fronted shed with breeze-block extension (Figure 2). The original building was east-west orientated with open-fronted access into the farmyard, the later extension was added on the western side and was north-south orientated. This later phase of work included the addition of two toilets within the earlier building.
- 4.4.2 The earliest phase of this building is considered to be early 20th century in date. It is not present on the 1903 Edition Ordnance Survey Map (6) but appears on the 1970-71 Edition Map (Figure 9). The block extension is not present on the 1970-71 Map (Figure 9) which indicates a late 20th century construction date.
- 4.4.3 The earliest part of this building is thought to have been constructed as an open-fronted shed. The later extension may have been added for storage or as a workshop.

#### **External Descriptions** (Figure 13)

#### South-facing elevation

4.4.4 This elevation faces into the farmyard area and comprises an entrance to the breezeblock extension as well as the open-fronted earlier building (Plate 59).

© Oxford Archaeology East



- 4.4.5 There were large corrugated iron doors allowing access for large machinery into the breeze-block extension with asbestos corrugated sheets above to the apex/roof line (Plate 59).
- 4.4.6 Set back to the right is the open-fronted earlier building with red corrugated galvanised steel roof supported by two wooden posts and a brick wall on the eastern end.

#### North-facing elevation

- 4.4.7 This elevation comprises the earlier brick-built part of the building on an east to west orientation (Plate 60). The lower *c*.7 courses were lighter, buff-coloured bricks with horizontal pressure marks and average dimensions of 23cm x 7cm x 11cm. The remaining courses to the roof line comprise pink and orange coloured bricks with average dimensions of 22cm x 6cm x 11cm. This change in brickwork may indicate a re-build of this wall.
- 4.4.8 The roof is covered with corrugated galvanised steel and most of the elevation is covered with ivy. There are no existing openings on this elevation, although gaps in the lower courses of the earlier brickwork may indicate the presence of former entrances.

#### East-facing elevation

- 4.4.9 The east-facing elevation comprises the breeze-block addition (left) and the gable end of the earlier brick-built open-fronted shed (right) (Plate 61).
- 4.4.10 The breeze-block structure was constructed from laid blocks with a corrugated asbestos roof, plastic gutter and downpipe and a single window with a wooden cill, which was boarded up at the time of the survey. There was an access door located within the open-fronted shed (Plate 62)
- 4.4.11 The gable end of the earlier east-west orientated open-fronted shed was constructed from pale, buff-coloured bricks laid in a Flemish bond, the same as those recorded in the lower courses on the north-facing elevation. There was an upper course of headers and horizontally laid weather-boards to the roof-line.

#### West-facing elevation

- 4.4.12 On the left-hand side of this elevation is the other gable end of the brick-built shed (Plate 63). As noted on the north-facing elevation, there appears to have been some rebuilding of this elevation. The lower courses of brick are as noted on the north-facing elevation and two later phases of re-build/repair are clearly visible with the use of a pink and then a light buff-coloured brick. There were horizontally-laid weather-boards to the roof-line.
- 4.4.13 To the right, is the breeze-block construction (Plate 64). Immediately in front of this is a single skin brick wall with two phases of construction the lower courses appear contemporary with those noted at the base of the open-fronted shed. Upper courses of the wall above are a later buff-coloured brick. This wall is depicted on the 1970-71 Ordnance Survey Map (Figure 9). The breeze-block building has been constructed on top of this wall with a tri-part casement window with concrete cill and brick header lintel.



## Internal Descriptions (Figure 13)

#### Open-fronted shed

- 4.4.14 The interior of the shed had little/no features of historical or architectural interest. The floor was covered with concrete and the roof structure was a modern replacement with machine sawn timbers. The rear and right-hand walls (on entering) comprised exposed brick as recorded on the corresponding north and east-facing elevations. On the left on entering was a sub-dividing wall created by the later addition of the breeze-block extension, with door for access (Plate 62).
- 4.4.15 Two lavatory/wash-room facilities have been inserted into this area which were constructed from breeze-block and modern timber/plywood boards (Plate 65). Only one area was accessible which contained a modern toilet and sink.
- 4.4.16 Timber posts (as noted on the external description, Plate 62) support the roof inside the extension (Plate 66) and are the only surviving indicators, other than cartographic evidence, which indicates that this was originally an open fronted building. There was a single large hinge upon which a substantial door may have once hung, located on the central post.

#### Breeze-block extension

- 4.4.17 Another post from the continuation of the open-fronted shed was still present inside of the breeze-block structure as well as the original walls as noted on the external elevations (Plate 66). The lower c.15cm of the post had been cut and replaced with a cement/concrete block. On the opposite wall on entering the three phases of the build are also exposed (the open-fronted shed, the farmyard wall and the breeze-block on top) as recorded on the western elevation.
- 4.4.18 The floor was covered with concrete and the roof had exposed asbestos boards (Plate 66). Shelves located throughout the building as well as the large double doors suggest this may have been constructed to house and maintain large farm machinery.

#### 4.5 Building 5: Stables

#### Summary

- 4.5.1 Building 5 was rectangular in plan and orientated approximately north-east to southwest. Located at the north-west corner of the farmyard, it comprised two distinct phases, both stable blocks with entrances facing eastward (Figure 2).
- 4.5.2 The northern stable block appears to be the earliest phase of this building and is thought to be mid-late 19th century in date, first appearing on the 1886 First Edition Ordnance Survey Map (Figure 5). The southern part first appears on the 1970-71 Ordnance Survey Map (Figure 9) and therefore was built at some point between 1903 and 1970. The materials used in the construction suggest it was constructed in the mid-late 20th century, utilising an existing brick wall at the rear. The lean-to shelter on the rear (western side) does not appear on the 1970-71 map and is therefore late 20th century in date. As the earliest part of the building was constructed in the mid-late 19th century, it was recorded at English Heritage Level 3.



## *External Description : Northern Stable* (Figure 14)

#### East-facing elevation

- 4.5.3 This elevation shows the building is constructed upon a black-painted brick plinth comprising orange-coloured bricks laid in a Flemish bond with an average dimension of 23cm x 6cm x 11cm (Plate 67).
- 4.5.4 There were horizontally laid weather-boards which continued to the roofline. The roof was covered with clay tiles with buff-coloured ridge tiles along the apex.
- 4.5.5 There were two doors, both two-part stable doors and both with the upper parts missing; both doors had long iron strap hinges. The door on the right was slightly narrower and the door on the left had a ventilation grille above. Access into both parts of the building was via a concrete "up-and-over" step (Plate 68).

#### North-facing elevation

4.5.6 This elevation comprised the gable end of the northern stable and was constructed from brick with weather-boards covering the apex to the roofline (Plate 69). The brick used is the same as that noted on the eastern elevation, however it was laid in a random bond. There were two contemporary support buttresses and a plinth of approximately six courses. The bricks used had horizontal pressure marks.

#### West-facing elevation

4.5.7 This elevation faced into a small wooded area outside of the development area and beyond the boundary of the farm. Mostly obscured with ivy, the brickwork was the same as that noted on the previous elevations (Plate 70). There were however, short courses of headers which initially were thought to be former openings, yet closer inspection did not identify any blocked-up windows or doors and these are therefore more likely to be structural repairs or indication of a former lower roofline.

#### *External Description : Southern Stable* (Figure 14)

#### East-facing elevation

- 4.5.8 This elevation reveals the southern extension as being much lower than the northern part of the building (Plate 71). It was constructed upon a concrete block plinth with horizontal weather-boards above and the upper *c* 50cm comprised wooden slats which allowed for ventilation.
- 4.5.9 There were three two-part stable doors, each with drop latches, large iron strap hinges and four-pane fan lights above. The roof was covered with corrugated asbestos sheets with clay ridge tiles, some raised for ventilation. There was a plastic gutter and two downpipes left of the southern-most door.

#### South-facing elevation

4.5.10 The south-facing elevation comprised a concrete block plinth and horizontal weatherboarding to the roofline (Plate 72). A short length of brick wall continues southwards from the western side where a lean-to structure with mono-pitched corrugated roof is located.



4.5.11 There was a hand-drawn water pump at this end of the building (not working) with the makers name "Henry Bamford & Sons, Uttoxeter, Staffs". Bamford & Sons were manufacturers of farm machinery from 1871 and water "lift pumps" from 1881 (www.henrybamfordandsonsuttoxeterengland.co.uk). A pump is first depicted in this position on the 1903 Edition Ordnance Survey Map (Figure 6).

#### West-facing elevation

4.5.12 Most of the west-facing elevation was obscured by the lean-to shelter and close inspection was not possible due to the presence of a rotting deer carcus inside the shelter. From a distance however, it was possible to record that this elevation was constructed from brick (Plate 73). Laid in a running bond, this section of wall (which continued southwards beyond the end of the building) also had three buttresses.

#### Internal Description : Northern Stable (Figure 14)

For the purpose of describing and referencing the various areas of the building they have been numbered G1-G5 for this report (Figure 14).

- 4.5.13 This part of the building comprised two stalls, as corresponding with the two entrances on the eastern elevation (Figure 14). The southern-most stall (G2) was larger, comprising three bays and that to the north (G1), just one.
- 4.5.14 The two internal stalls are separated by a timber boarded partition on a brick plinth (Plate 74). Access between these two areas can be made internally via a small head height opening, closed by a sliding shutter (Plate 75).
- 4.5.15 Both stalls had a dirt floor and a timber trough along the west wall continuing through the whole building (Plate 76). On the eastern wall of the larger stall was a large wooden post with voids and wooden latch mechanism (Plate 77); this may be evidence of a former internal gated partition, and voids on the corresponding opposite wall would support this suggestion (Plate 78).
- 4.5.16 Both stalls are open to the roof which is a 19th century sawn post and truss construction (Plate 78). A brick plinth was present on the eastern and southern walls, however those on the north and western side of the building are solid brick (see external elevation descriptions).
- 4.5.17 Internal inspection of the brickwork on the western wall revealed more of the short courses of headers as noted on the corresponding external elevation. Approximately 9 courses of brick above appear to be later and may represent repair/rebuild of this side of the building. The buttresses on the external wall may indicate this area, closest to the river, may have been wetter or less stable ground and therefore the building may have suffered from subsidence over time. This may also explain the solid wall construction on two sides of the building.

#### Internal Description : Southern Stable (Figure 14)

- 4.5.18 This end of the building was divided into three separate, equally sized stalls with timber-boarded partitions to tie beam level, all accessed via the two-part stable doors as recorded on the eastern external elevation.
- 4.5.19 Each stall had a dirt/chalk floor and a trough against the western wall (Plates 79-81).



#### Building 6: "Chicken Shed"

#### Summary

- 4.5.20 Building 6 was a north-south orientated rectangular shaped building located within the former farmyard area (Figure 2). This building was the most recently used and thought to have been constructed for use as a chicken shed. It comprises a single storey timber structure with a gently pitched roof.
- 4.5.21 This building is considered to be late 20th century in date, first appearing on the 1970-71 Ordnance Survey Map (Figure 9) and therefore was recorded at English Heritage Level 2.

#### External Description

#### East-facing elevation

- 4.5.22 This elevation was identical to the opposite west-facing elevation and comprises a single phase of construction (Plate 82). There were four four-light inward opening casement windows, each with wooden frame and vertical glazing bars. Below each window, approximately 30cm above ground level, were vertical slats/voids, most likely for ventilation.
- 4.5.23 The exterior was covered with vertically laid weatherboard and the roof was covered with corrugated asbestos sheets. Along the ridge of the roof were terracotta coloured ridge tiles and four equally spaced ventilation shafts/flues.

#### North-facing elevation

4.5.24 The east facing elevation comprises one of the main entrances to the shed with an identical façade on the opposite south-facing elevation. This elevation had the same vertical weatherboard cladding and a sliding door with small shelter/hood above (Plate 83). The manufacturer's name plate " E.F. Hare Son, Market Deeping" was positioned on both entrances of the shed. This company is known to have manufactured heavy duty small animal sheds and hutches as far back as at least the 1950s.

#### Internal Description

- 4.5.25 Building 6 is accessed via the sliding doors recorded on the north and south-facing elevations.
- 4.5.26 Inside, the building had a compacted chalk floor, however broken concrete around the edges may indicate a later floor covering which had been recently removed (Plate 84). The interior walls all comprised vertical timber boards and the asbestos roof covering was exposed, supported by a set of vertical posts.
- 4.5.27 The inward tilting windows as noted on the external elevations were all intact and retained their perspex glass and the air vents as noted from outside were partially covered to prevent draft and damp from entering and harming the health of the birds inside (Plate 85).



## 4.6 Building 7: Small Store

#### Summary

- 4.6.1 Building 7 was a small building, square in plan, located on the eastern side of the farmyard. It comprised a single phase with an entrance facing eastward into the farmyard (Figure 2). It was very dilapidated and in a poor state of repair at the time of the survey.
- 4.6.2 The building first appears on the 1970-71 Ordnance Survey Map (Figure 9) and therefore was built at some point between 1903 and 1970. The materials used in the construction suggest it was constructed in the mid 20th century and was therefore recorded at English Heritage Level 2.
- 4.6.3 This building is thought to have been constructed as a small brick animal shelter as a wooden feeding trough was still *in-situ* at the time of the survey.

#### North-facing elevation

4.6.4 The north-facing elevation was mostly obscured by vegetation (Plate 86). It had a brick plinth with horizontally laid weather-boards to the roof-line which was moderately pitched.

#### East-facing elevation

- 4.6.5 This elevation faced into the farmyard and comprised the only access into the building, however there was no door present at the time of the survey (Plate 87). The bricks used in the plinth were buff-coloured with an average dimension of 23cm x 7.5cm x 10.5cm; where part of the wall had collapsed, closer inspection revealed the bricks were frogged.
- 4.6.6 Above the plinth were horizontally laid weather boards to the roofline. The roof was covered with corrugated galvanised steel sheets.

#### West-facing elevation

- 4.6.7 The west-facing elevation was the only side of the building which was not almost totally obscured by vegetation. Here the weatherboard had mostly been removed/rotted away to reveal the timber stud construction (Plate 88).
- 4.6.8 Within the brick plinth on this side was a small central void, this may have been for drainage or to allow small animals/birds access to shelter at night.

#### Internal Description

- 4.6.9 Obtaining general room shots within this small building was challenging given the small space. The building was empty at the time of the survey and, as with the exterior, was in a poor and dilapidated state.
- 4.6.10 The floor had been covered with concrete, but had been damaged and removed in places at the time of the survey. There was a part internal partition half-way along on the western side, which separated one continuous feeding trough on that side of the building (Plate 89).



4.6.11 The roof had been replaced and the asbestos sheet covering was fully exposed. The roof structure had been repaired and additional support added by vertical ties and from a vertical timber post (Plate 90).



# 5 PHASING AND DISCUSSION

This section provides a discussion and suggested phasing for the buildings surveyed. Figure 15 provides an overall suggested phase plan for all buildings.

### 5.1 Early 19th century

- 5.1.1 The earliest surviving building recorded on the site was Building 3, the long clunch barn. This is the only building which survives from those depicted on the 1822 and 1935 maps (Figures 3 and 4).
- 5.1.2 Evidence collected during the survey suggests that this was erected as a threshing barn with two large loading doors allowing wagons to enter from the farmyard side of the building and load the crops directly into the barn ready for threshing. Once the crops were inside, the lift at the base of the doors would be closed to prevent animals and birds from the farm wandering in as the crops were processed on one of the two threshing floors, or being stored in the aisled bays. Ventilation was achieved with small holes on two levels on the east and west-facing elevations and light was gained through the large open doors.
- 5.1.3 The threshing barn would have been the most important and significant building of the farm. This part of Cambridgeshire then, as today, was predominantly farmed for cereal production and therefore the storage and processing of the grain its most valued commodity-needed a safe and strong building. This perhaps explains the use of building materials which differ to the rest of the buildings. Although a locally sourced material, clunch only appears to have been used to construct this barn. It would have been more sturdy than a timber structure and would also have provided more security and protection for the cereals stored inside.
- 5.1.4 The earliest cartographic representation of the building is from 1822 and several specialist surveys carried out prior to the submission of the clients planning applications, also support a 19th century date. Aisled halls were commonplace in the medieval period, whilst aisled barns were still being erected into the 18th and often 19th century, although less commonplace at this time (Brunskill 2000).
- 5.1.5 It is difficult to visualise how the farm or associated buildings appeared at the time this building was constructed, or exactly what the function of the other buildings was as other than the farmhouse, none survive. Cartographic evidence, however, particularly the 1822 and 1835 maps (Figures 3 and 4) suggest a number of buildings were present around the farmyard area, although not a typical "planned farm", perhaps more of an organic development of buildings.
- 5.1.6 Other buildings likely to have been present would have included stables for the cart horses and a cart-shed.

## 5.2 Mid-Late 19th century

- 5.2.1 By the time of the First Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1886 (Figure 5), there is more of a formal, planned arrangement with buildings flanking all sides of the farmyard with a central building, possibly pens, accessible from all sides.
- 5.2.2 The introduction of the portable steam engine and threshing machine in the 1850s heralded the end of the traditional barn as a storage and processing building, as the crop could be processed outdoors. These machines have left little or no trace in the architecture or archaeology of farmsteads.



- 5.2.3 During the late 19th century, many barns were converted into cow houses and fodder processing and storage buildings. There is physical and historical evidence to suggest the barn took on different uses. The installation of the forge at the southern end of the barn indicates that a new use was found for this end of the building as a Blacksmiths shop, described in the 1915 surveyors report as fitted with forge and copper. The report also described how one bay of the barn was used for grain storage and the remaining half was "fitted up for cows having 32 standings in addition to a boarded off cooling place".
- 5.2.4 The changing use of the barn as well as a national drop in the price of cereals in the late 19th century seems to have influenced a change in farming methods undertaken at Rectory Farm with the introduction of more cattle. This may also account for the construction of several new buildings around this time as depicted on the First and Second Edition Ordnance Survey Maps (Figures 5 and 6). The 1915 surveyors report describes a number of buildings which have since been demolished and may have been constructed as part of this change in farming method including a four-bay flint and pantiled cattle shed and two loose boxes in the centre of the yard, and a small calf house.
- 5.2.5 During the middle-late part of the 19th century a small stable comprising two-stalls and loose box was added to the northern part of the farmyard (Building 5). The survey revealed that this building still retains much of its original fixtures and fittings including troughs and stable doors. This area appears to have been separated from the southern half of the yard (Figures 5 and 6) and comprised a number of buildings; all now demolished flanking a smaller courtyard area.
- 5.2.6 During the later part of the century, an extension was added to the southern end of the large clunch barn. This still retains a number of the fixtures and fittings associated with part of its use as a two-stall stable.
- 5.2.7 The granary was also constructed at the southern end of the farm complex in this period and would have been used to store the chaff. It was described as being in a poor state of repair by the time of the 1915 surveyors report where it is also described as having a grain pit with the boarding, tiles, roof timbers and doors all needing replacing. Built on brick plinths, it would have been elevated from the ground and therefore protected from rodents and animals; a removable ladder would have also added extra security.

### 5.3 Early-Mid 20th century

- 5.3.1 An extension was also added onto the eastern side of the stable/garage building (Building 2). It is documented in the surveyors report of 1915 as well as the image in Figure 7 that this end of the building was being used as a garage. This conversion probably took place in the earliest part of the century and the extension on the eastern side may have been added to accommodate the "small oil engine running dynamo lights" as described in the 1915 report.
- 5.3.2 A second surveyors report of 1930 describes the clunch barn as still being fitted out inside for cattle; "used as a mixing shed and grinding shed and cowhouse for 29".."one side fitted out with automatic drinking bowls, cooling place and sterilising house".
- 5.3.3 During the middle part of the 20th century, two additions were added onto the clunch barn (Building 3). The development of large sorting and milling machinery was introduced into the barn, although on a small scale. The 1925 Kelly's Cambridgeshire Directory states that Great Shelford's "chief crops are wheat, barley and oats" and there



are still a great deal of farmers listed compared to most other occupations in most of the directories, indicating it was still predominantly an area of arable crop production. This called for the addition of the new doors as large wagons and lorries could load into the building on the eastern side where an easier approach from the road could be made. This led to the blocking up of the second set of large doors which once provided access to the second threshing floor. New windows were added on both of the long elevations of the barn to allow light and ventilation.

5.3.4 During this phase, the open-fronted shed (Building 4) was also constructed, possibly reusing existing materials from other demolished buildings which were no longer required.

### 5.4 Mid-Late 20th century

- 5.4.1 During the middle-end of the last century, the mechanised processing of cereals and crops was expanded further with the introduction of more machinery inside of the main barn, as well as the large brick stores and large metal grain bins that were still present at the time of the survey.
- 5.4.2 Between the photograph which was taken in 1951 (Figure 8) and the creation of the 1970-71 Ordnance Survey map, the farmyard saw the most significant loss of the buildings which had been present since the late 19th century. This was most likely the period of most mechanisation of farming and therefore there was no longer a call for the animal shelters or cart-sheds.
- 5.4.3 Building 6, a large chicken shed was also added during this period. This may indicate that it was no longer a busy, active farmyard and with all of the grain being loaded from the new doors on the eastern side of the barn, the farmyard would have been kept fairly free from large or busy machinery.

### 5.5 Late 20th century, post 1970

- 5.5.1 Since the production of the 1970 map, the mechanised grain processing facility in Building 3 continued to expand with the addition of large hoppers and silos externally added to the building and large storage barns were also erected to the north (beyond the study area).
- 5.5.2 Lean-to additions were added to Buildings 1, and 5, possibly buildings still in use for storage and a large breeze-block extension was added to Building 4, perhaps to house/secure other farm machinery.



# 6 CONCLUSIONS

- 6.1.1 The survey of the buildings at Rectory Farm has successfully achieved the initial objectives. A permanent record of the structures in their present state has been created and, as required, a more detailed photographic and drawn survey of some of the earlier buildings was undertaken. The survey will preserve by record the character, state, preservation and architectural and historic significance of the site.
- 6.1.2 The information collected in the background research was useful for understanding the development of the site from the early 19th century onwards. Understanding the internal alterations and adaptations of the buildings relied upon physical evidence collected from the survey alone.
- 6.1.3 It is intended that the report will not only assist the planning, conservation and archaeology professionals in assessing future plans for the site, but also, from dissemination of the report, inform people on a local level as to the significance and historical development of the site.
- 6.1.4 Rectory Farm is an interesting collection of buildings, which reflect economic development in a small farm and how buildings have altered and been replaced to accommodate change in farming practices over the previous centuries.
- 6.1.5 Cartographic sources have been invaluable in this study. The earliest available map from 1822 shows the threshing barn as well as a range of other buildings, which may be the first physical evidence of the development of agricultural activity associated with the much older farmhouse. The following years up to the mid 20th century sees more buildings being constructed and previous ones removed, a common activity within farms as production shifts and focus changes from traditional to mechanised farming practices.
- 6.1.6 As a single building, the threshing barn itself is able to reveal some clues about how buildings adapt to changing needs and circumstances. The available evidence suggests that the barn itself dates to at least the early 19th century, first depicted on a map dated 1822. At this point, other buildings are present which are likely to also have served the needs of the farm. At this time, threshing was still carried out by hand; crops unloaded by cart on the threshing floor or through the pitching holes. As technology advanced in the late 19th century, threshing machines and portable power sources changed the way threshing was carried out and also impacted on the buildings themselves.



7 **BIBLIOGRAPHY** 

Beacon Planning	2012	Heritage Statement : Rectory Farm Barns, Great Shelford
Brunskill, R.W.	2000	Vernacular Architecture : An Illustrated Handbook
CgMs Consulting	2010	Land at rectory Farm, Great Shelford, Cambridgeshire : Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment
English Heritage	2006	Understanding Historic Buildings – A Guide to Good Recording Practice
Fletcher, T	2013	Specification for Historic Building Recording : Rectory Farm Barns, Church Street, Great Shelford, Cambridgeshire
Hall, L.	2005	Period House Fixtures and Fittings 1300-1900
Institute for Archaeologists	2001	Standard and Guidance for the Archaeological Investigation and Recording of Standing Buildings
McConnell, D.	2013	Brief for Archaeological Evaluation and Historic Building Recording : Rectory Farm, Church Street, Gt Shelford
Peters, J.E.C	1981	Discovering Traditional Farm Buildings
Wright, A.P.M.	1982	Victoria County History : Cambridgeshire, Vol.8

# Maps and other Sources Consulted

Document Description	Date	Cambridgeshire Records Office Ref.
Great Shelford Inclosure Map	1835	Q/RDc50
First Edition Ordnance Survey Map 25" to 1 mile	1886	Cambridgeshire Sheet LIV.2
Second Edition Ordnance Survey Map 25" to 1 mile	1903	Cambridgeshire Sheet LIV.2
"A Record of Shelford Parva" by F.L.Wale	1910	23/Z 2753
Valuation records created under the 1910 Finance (Land Values Duties)	1911	470/182



#### Act

Photograph of village school from church tower	1951	X137/17
1970-71 Edition Ordnance Survey Map 1:1250	1970-71	Copy purchased from www.old- maps.co.uk
Cambridgeshire Post Office Directories	1853-1937	
"Some Memories of Gt. Shelford, Cambs chiefly between 1909 & 1939 with glimpses of 30 years later, 1969"	<i>c.</i> 1969	799/Q1

### Websites Consulted

www.britishlistedbuildings.co.uk

www.old-maps.co.uk

www.henrybamfordandsonsuttoxeterengland.co.uk



# APPENDIX A. OASIS REPORT FORM

# **Project Details**

All fields are required unless they are not applicable.

OASIS Number	oxfordar3-151303	oxfordar3-151303		
Project Name	Rectory Farm, Gr	eat Shelford - Historic Building S	urvey	
Project Dates (fiel	dwork) Start	22-04-2013	Finish 24-04-2013	
Previous Work (by	/ OA East)	No	Future Work Unknown	

#### Project Reference Codes

Site Code	GSHRFFB13	Planning App. No.	S/1367/12/FL
HER No.	ECB3957	Related HER/OASIS No.	ECB3963

#### Type of Project/Techniques Used

Prompt

#### Planning condition

## Please select all techniques used:Building Survey

Annotated Sketch	Photogrammetric Survey
Dendrochronological Survey	Photographic Survey
Laser Scanning	Rectified Photography
Measured Survey	Survey/Recording Of Fabric/Structure

Monument Types/Significant Finds & Their Periods List feature types using the NMR Monument Type Thesaurus and significant finds using the MDA Object type Thesaurus together with their respective periods. If no features/finds were found, please state "none".			
Monument	Period Object Period		
Barns	Post Medieval 1540 to 1907	1	Select period
Stables	Post Medieval 1540 to 1907		Select period
Farm outbuildings	Modern 1901 to Present		Select period

## **Project Location**

County	Cambridgeshire	Site Address (including postcode if possible)
District	South Cambridgeshire	Rectory Farm Church Street Great Shelford, Cambs
Parish	Great Shelford	CB22 5EL
HER	Cambridgeshire	
Study Area	n/a	National Grid Reference TL 545754 251885



# Project Originators

Organisation	OA EAST
Project Brief Originator	Cambridgeshire HET
Project Design Originator	Taleyna Fletcher
Project Manager	Taleyna Fletcher
Supervisor	Taleyna Fletcher

# Project Archives

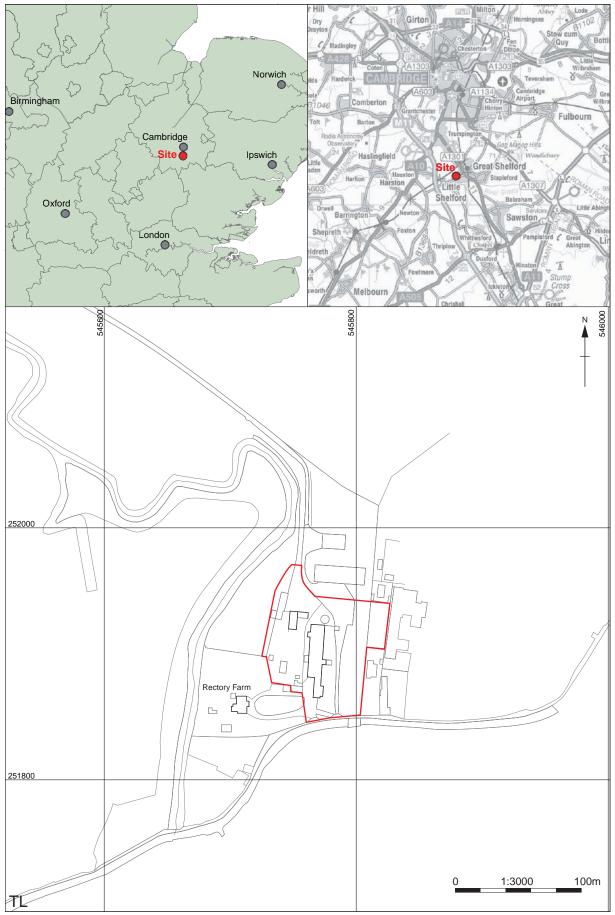
Physical Archive	Digital Archive	Paper Archive
OA East	OA East	OA East
GSHRFB13	GSHRFB13	GSHRFB13

## Archive Contents/Media

	Physical Contents	Digital Contents	Paper Contents
Animal Bones			
Ceramics			
Environmental			
Glass			
Human Bones			
Industrial			
Leather			
Metal			
Stratigraphic			
Survey			
Textiles			
Wood			
Worked Bone			
Worked Stone/Lithic			
None	$\mathbf{X}$	$\mathbf{X}$	$\boxtimes$
Other			

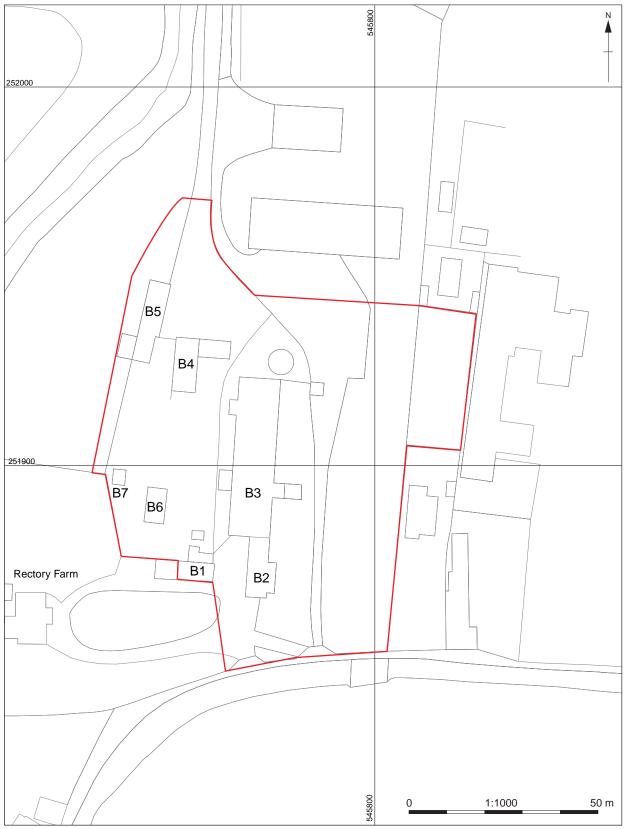
Digital Media	Paper Media
Database	Aerial Photos
GIS	Context Sheet
Geophysics	Correspondence
X Images	Diary
Illustrations	🔀 Drawing
Moving Image	Manuscript
Spreadsheets	🔀 Мар
Survey	Matrices
X Text	Microfilm
Virtual Reality	X Misc.
	Research/Notes
	X Photos
	X Plans
	X Report
	Sections
	Survey

### Notes: none



Contains Ordnance Survey data @ Crown copyright and database right 2013. All rights reserved. Figure 1: Site location





Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2013. All rights reserved. Licence No. AL 0100031673 Figure 2: Plan of Rectory Farm Barns showing development area (red) and buildings surveyed.



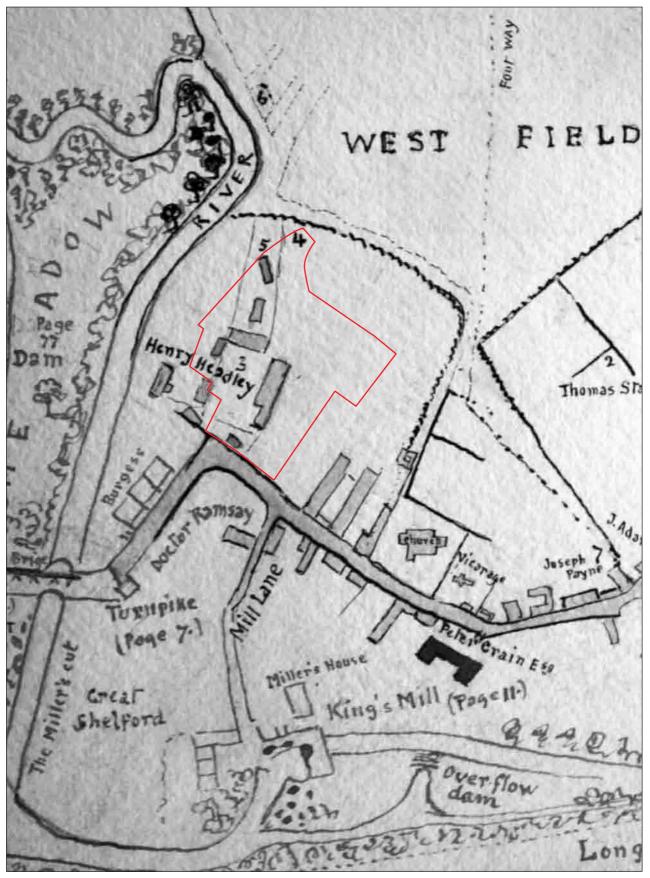


Figure 3: Extract from a copy of 1822 map from "A Record of Shelford Parva" by F.L. Wale, showing location of study area (red)





Figure 4: Extract from 1835 Inclosure Map showing location of study area (red)



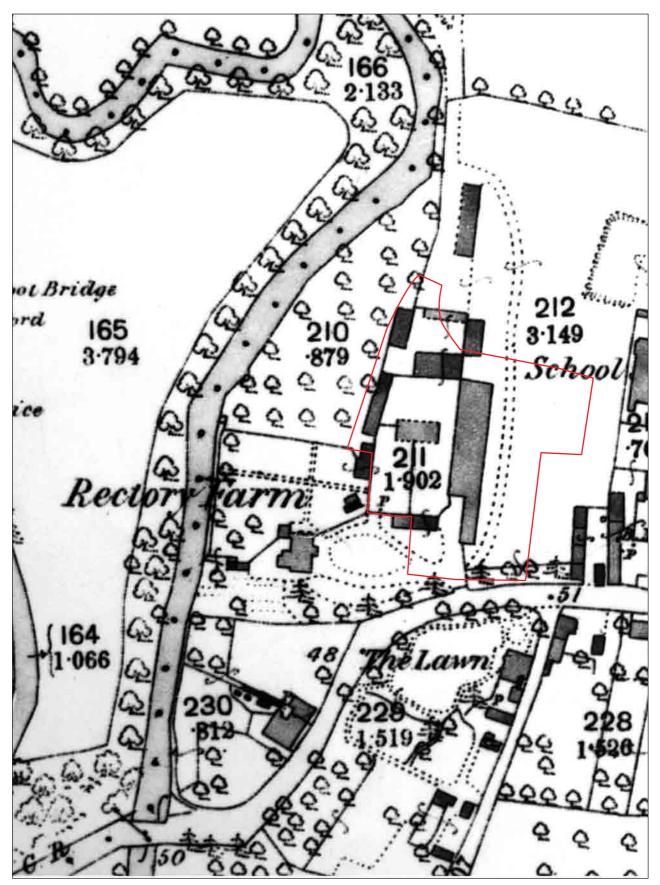


Figure 5: Extract from First Edition Ordnance Survey Map, 1886, showing location of study area (red)



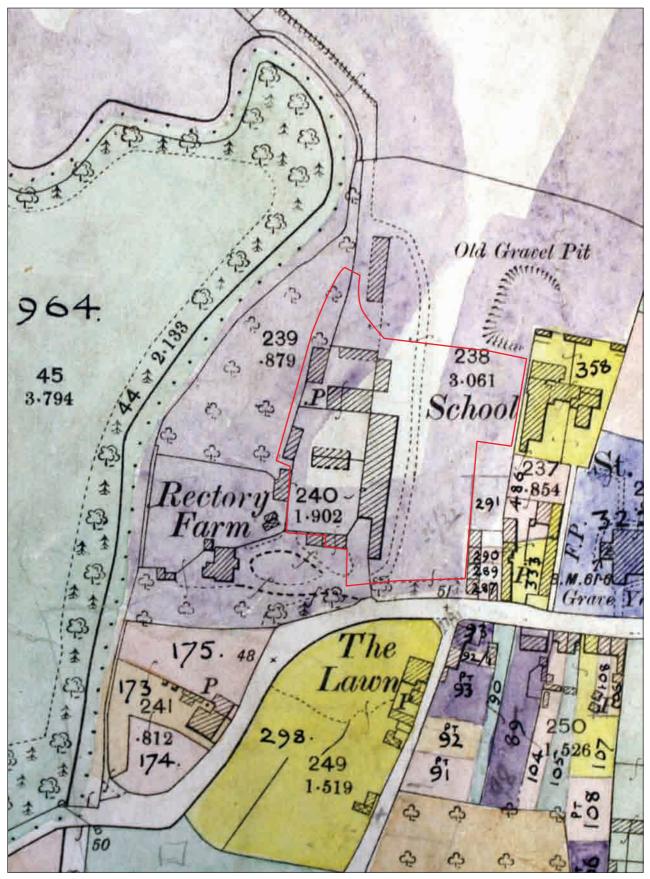


Figure 6: Extract from 1903 Ordnance Survey Map showing location of study area (red)









Figure 8: Photograph of Rectory Farm and the School taken from the church tower, 1951



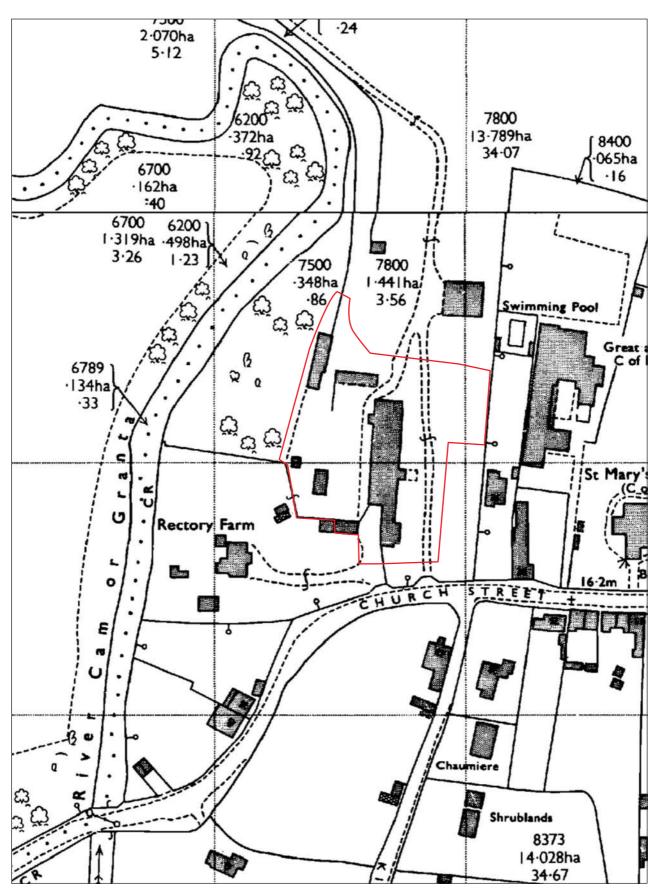
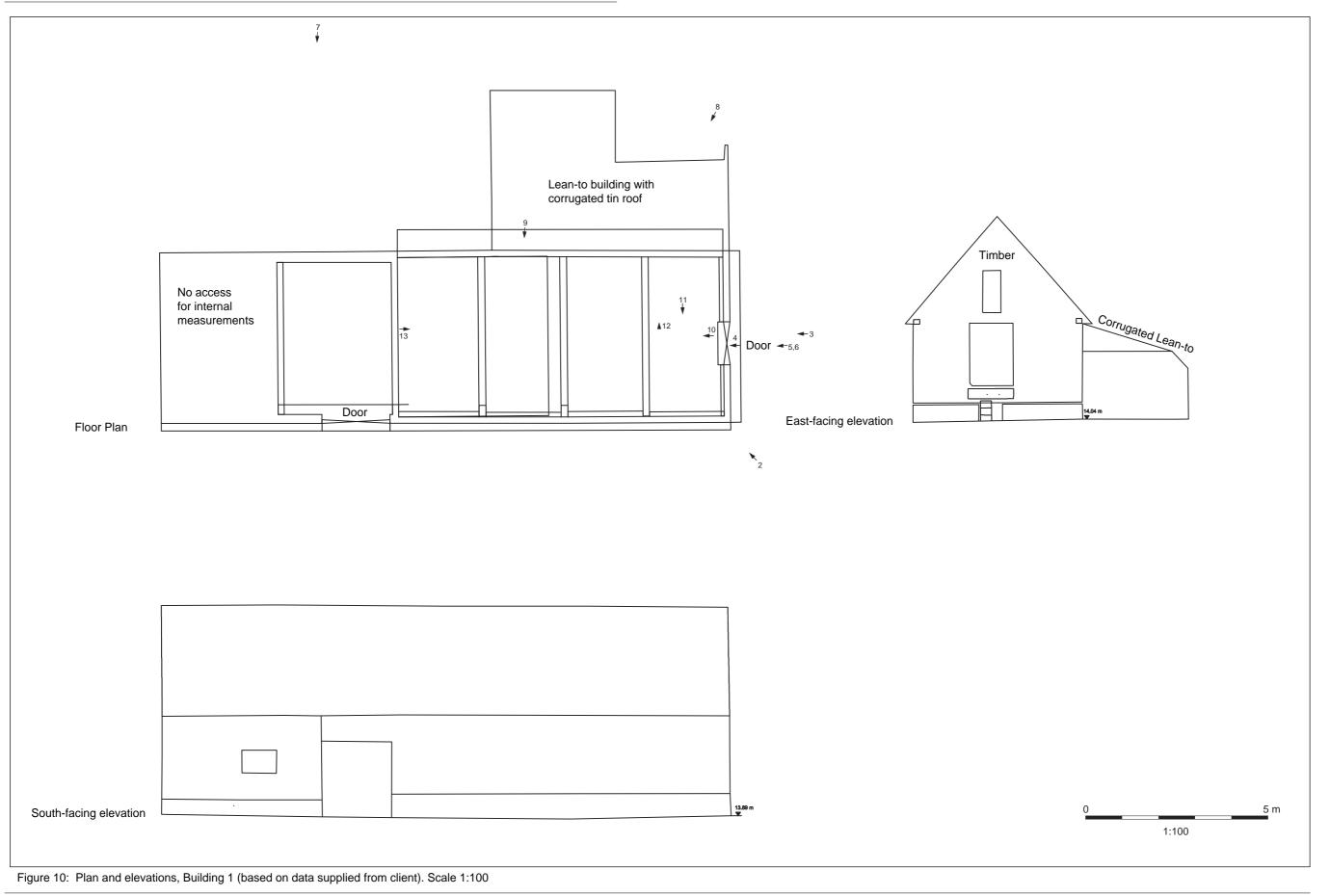


Figure 9: Extract from 1970-71 Ordnance Survey ap showing location of study area (red)





© Oxford Archaeology East



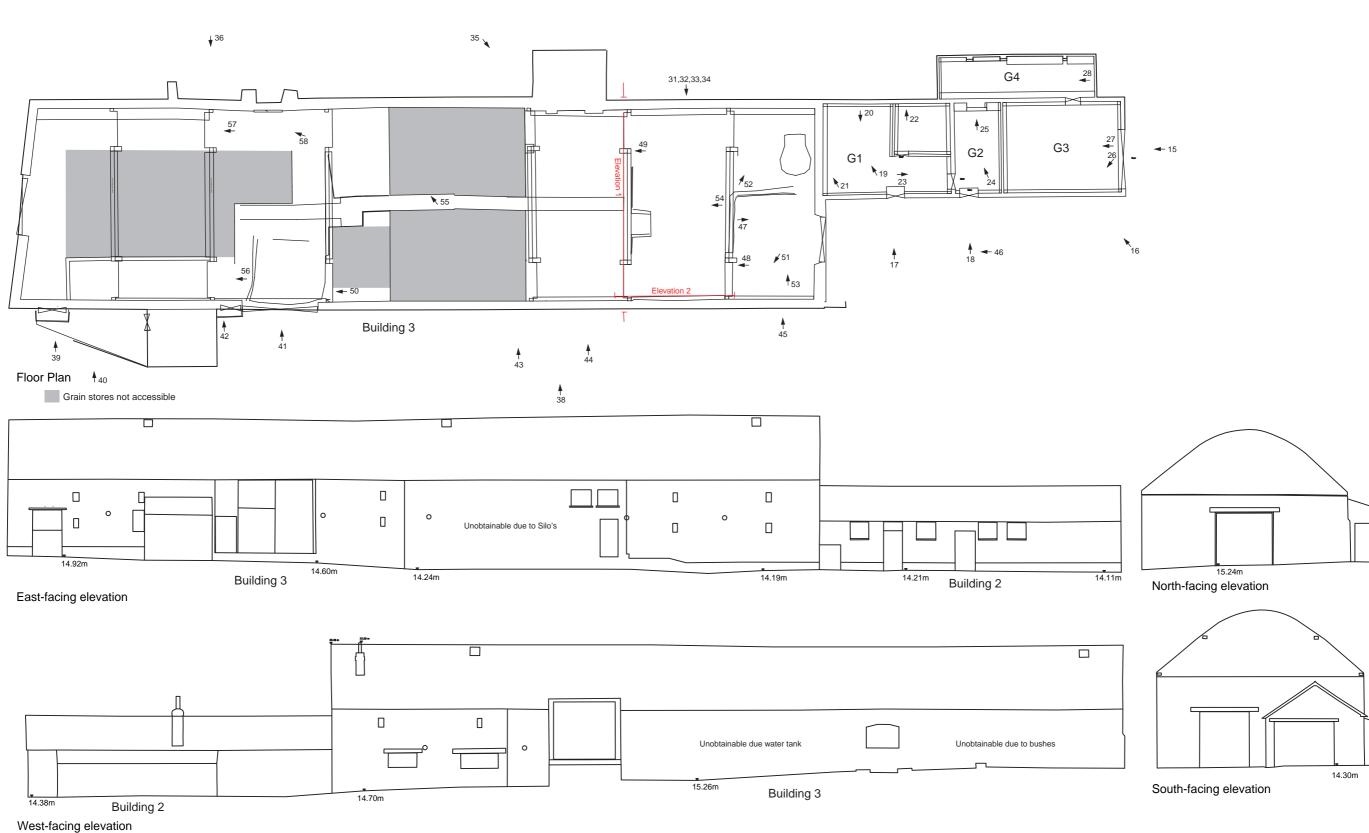


Figure 11: Plan and elevations, Buildings 2 and 3 (based on data supplied from client). Scale 1:100

© Oxford Archaeology East

**↓** 30

↓ 14

5 m

1:100

¥<sup>29</sup>



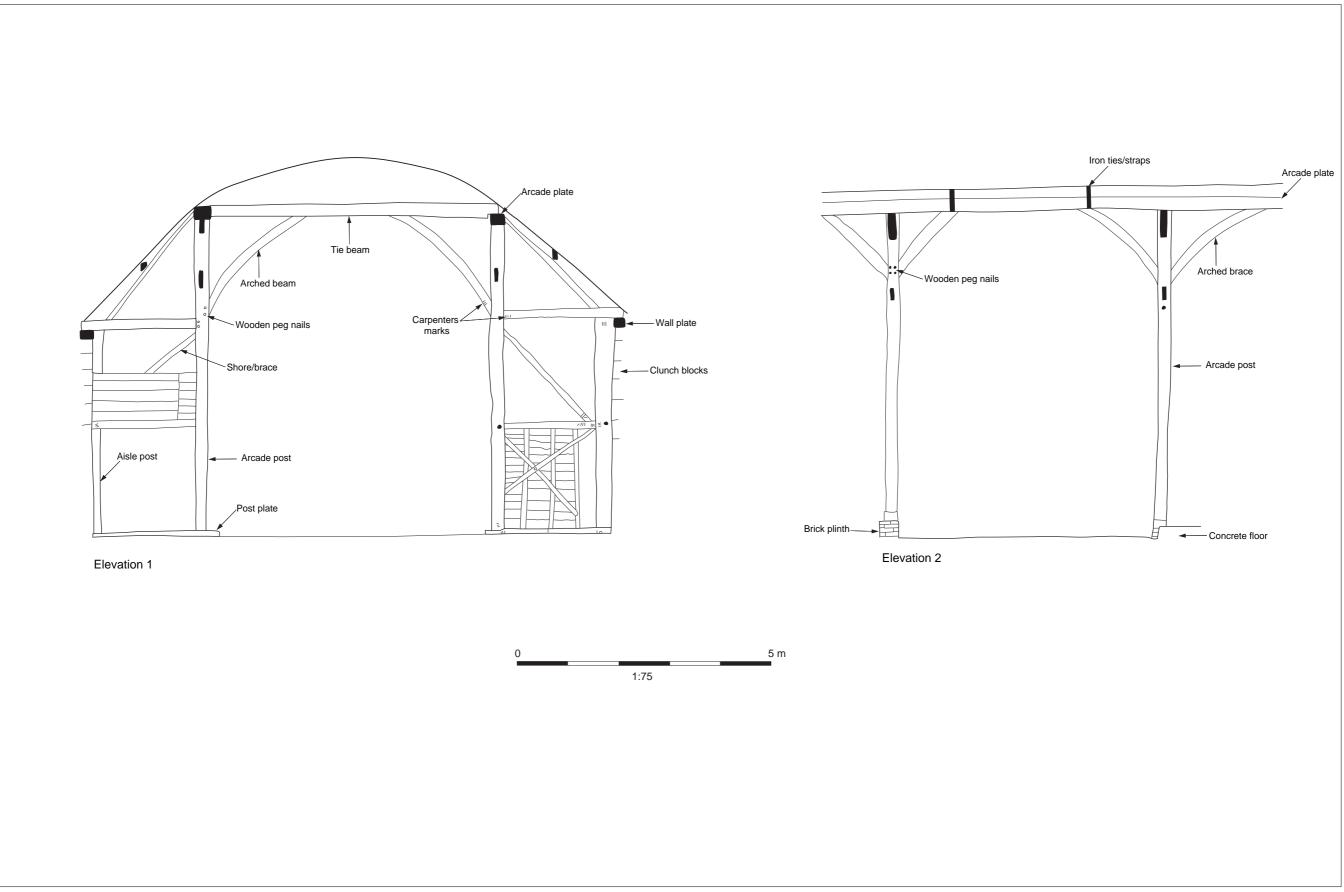


Figure 12: Cross-section of bays within Building 3. Scale 1:100



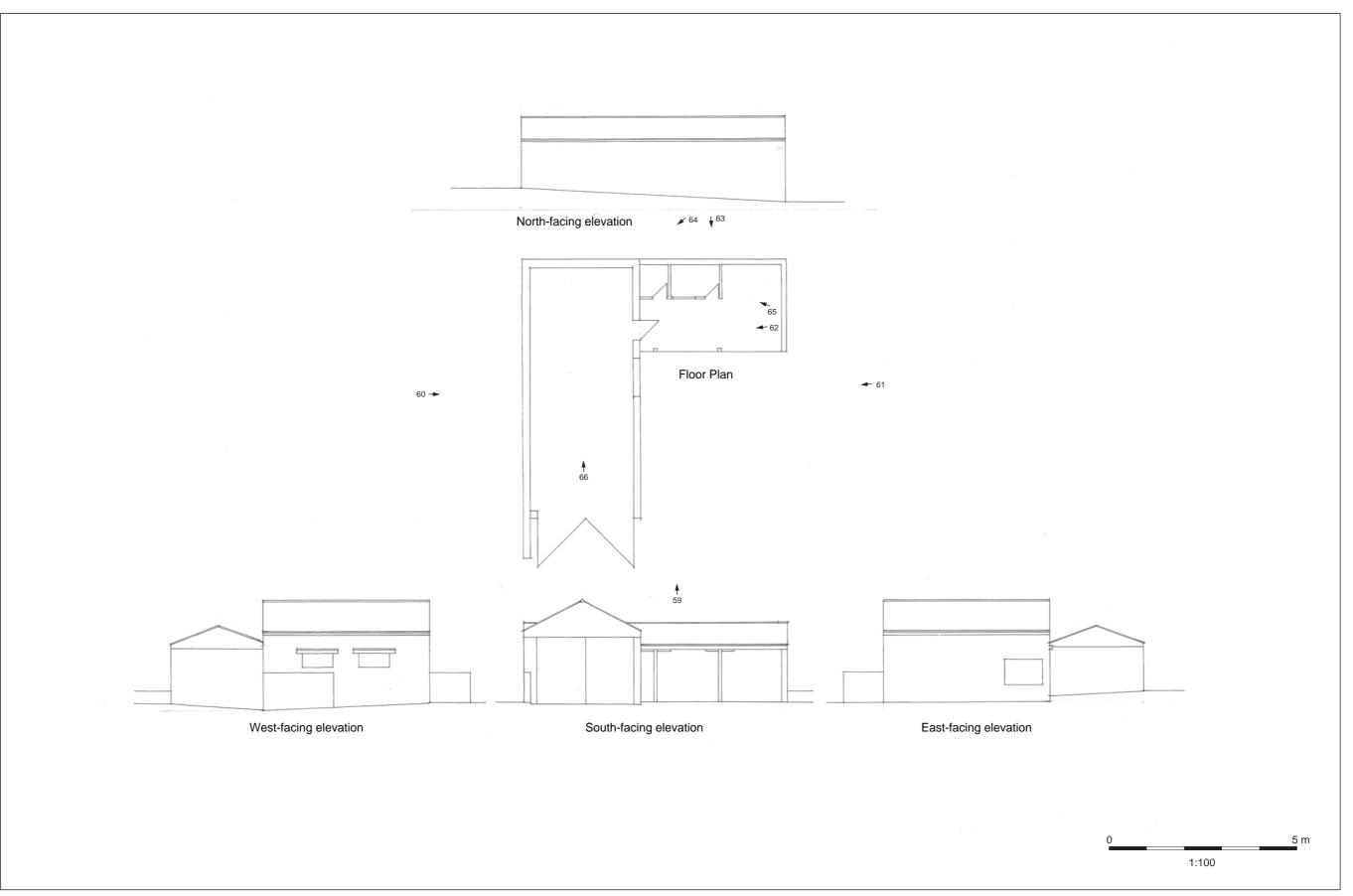


Figure 13: Plan and elevations, Building 4 (based on data supplied from client). Scale 1:100



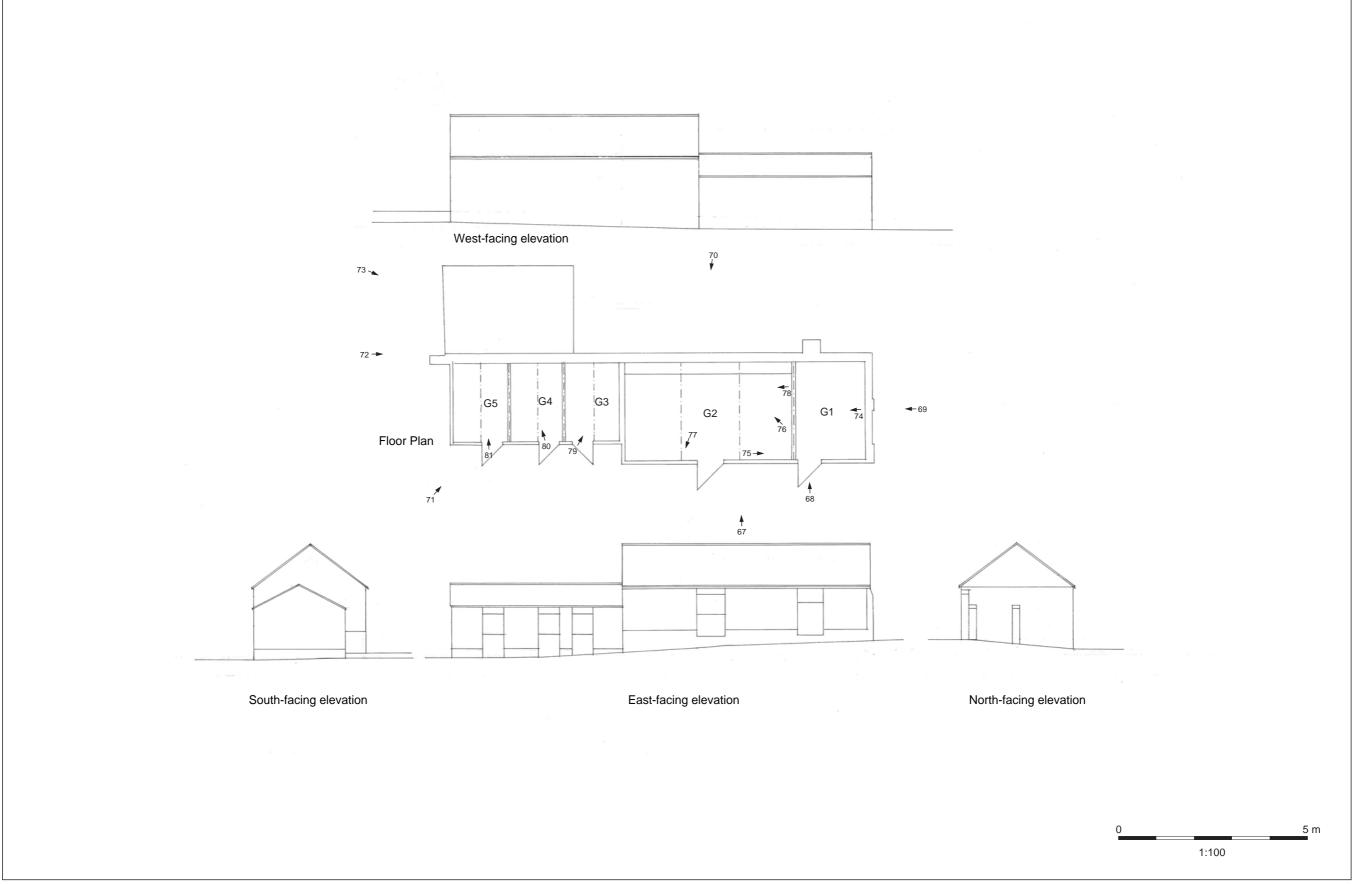
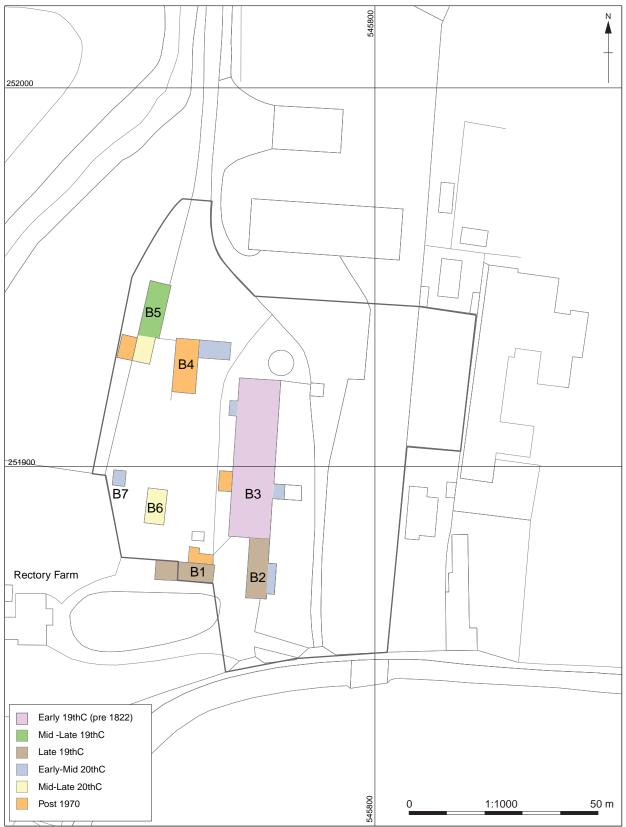


Figure 14: Plan and elevations, Building 5 (based on data supplied from client). Scale 1:100





Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2013. All rights reserved. Licence No. AL 0100031673

Figure 15: Plan of buildings surveyed showing suggested phasing



Plate 1: Rectory Farmhouse, from east



Plate 2: Building 1, from south-east



Plate 3: East-facing elevation, Building 1



Plate 4: Brick plinths beneath Building 1



Plate 5: Entrance door on eastern elevation, Building 1



Plate 6: Detail of door latch, Building 1



Plate 7: North-facing elevation, Building 1



Plate 8: Lean-to structure on north side of Building 1

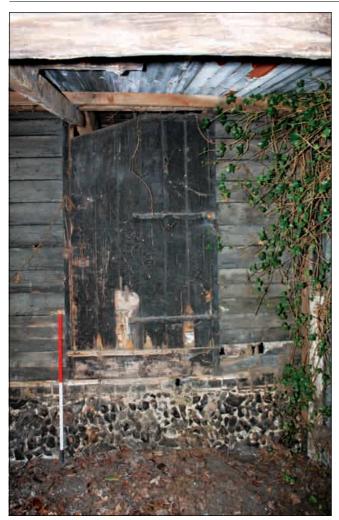


Plate 9: Door on north-facing elevation, Building 1



Plate 10: Interior of Building 1



Plate 11: Lath and plaster between upright timbers, Building 1



Plate 12: Detail of re-used tie-beam, Building 1



Plate 13: Interior of Building 1



Plate 14: East-facing elevation, Building 2



Plate 15: South-facing elevation, Building 2



Plate 16: West-facing elevation, Building 2



Plate 17: Entrance on west-facing elevation, Building 2



Plate 18: Entrance on west-facing elevation, Building 2



Plate 19: Room G1 interior, Building 2



Plate 20: Room G1 interior, Building 2



Plate 21: Room G1 interior, Building 2



Plate 22: Horse bridle/tack hooks, G1, Building 2



Plate 23: Horse bridle/tack hooks, G1, Building 2



Plate 24: Room G2 interior, Building 2



Plate 25: Fireplace, G2, Building 2

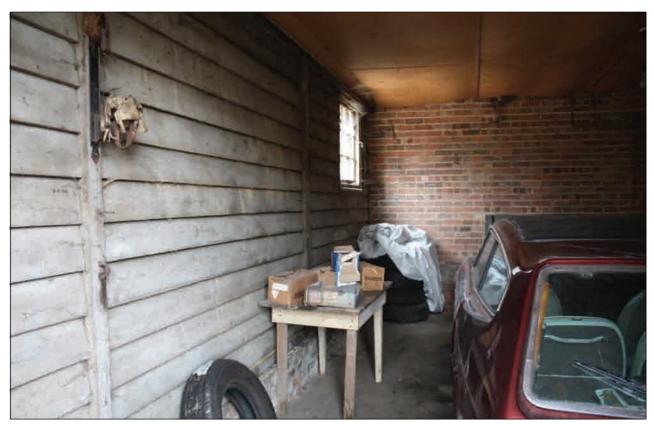


Plate 26: Room G3 interior, Building 2



Plate 27: Room G3 interior, Building 2

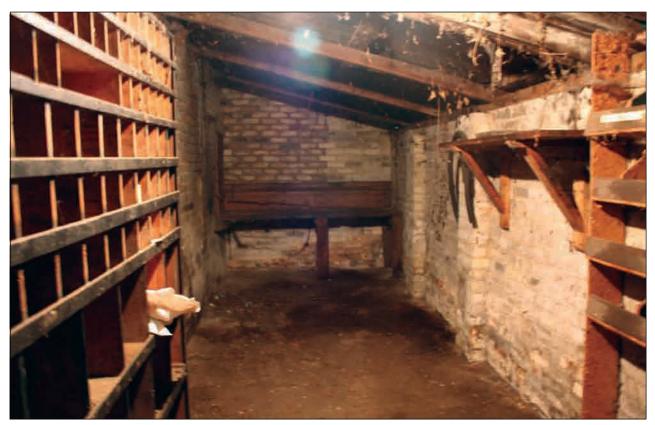


Plate 28: Room G4 interior, Building 2



Plate 29: East facing elevation, Buildings 2 and 3



Plate 30: East-facing elevation, Building 3 (southern end)



Plate 31: Ventilation opening on east-facing elevation, Building 3



Plate 32: Windows on east-facing elevation, Building 3



Plate 33: Detail of render on east-facing elevatio



Plate 34: Graffiti on clunch block, east-facing elevation, Building 3



Plate 35: 20th century loading door, east-facing elevation, Building 3



Plate 36: East-facing elevation, Building 3 (northern end)



Plate 37: North-facing elevation, Building 3



Plate 38: West-facing elevation, Building 3



Plate 39: Door on west-facing elevation, Building 3



Plate 40: West-facing elevation, Building 3 (northern end)



Plate 41: Barn doors, west-facing elevation, Building 3



Plate 42: Detail of door latch on entrance door, Building 3



Plate 43: Ventilation openings, structural tie and blocked-up door, west-facing elevation, Building 3



Plate 44: Blocked-up opening, west-facing elevation, Building 3



Plate 45: Graffiti on clunch block, west-facing elevation, Building 3



Plate 46: South-facing elevation, Building 3



Plate 47: Southern gable end and brick forge, Building 3



Plate 48: Carpenter's mark, Building 3



Plate 49: Carpenter's mark, Building 3



Plate 50: Carpenter's mark, Building 3

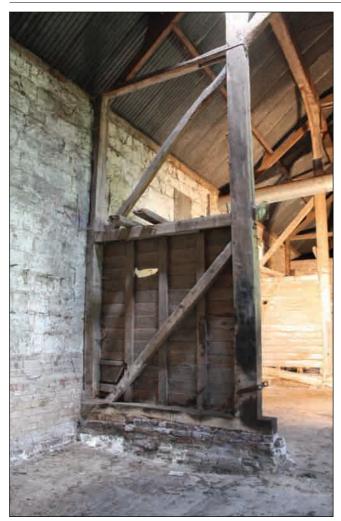


Plate 51: Aisled bay, Building 3



Plate 52: Brick forge, Building 3



Plate 53: First bay, southern end of Building 3



Plate 54: Grain processing machinery and brick grain stores at southern end of Building 3



Plate 55: Sawn arcade post, Building 3



Plate 56: Remnants of aisled bay, buildnig 3, northern end

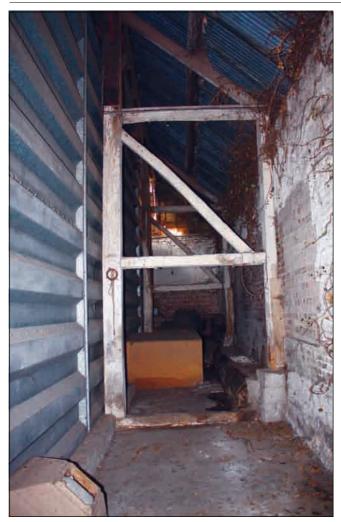


Plate 57: Remnants of aisled bay, Building 3, northern end



Plate 58: Blocked-up windows, eastern elevation, Building 3



Plate 59: South-facing elevation, Building 4



Plate 60: North-facing elevation, Building 4



Plate 61: East-facing elevation, Building 4



Plate 62: East-facing elevation, Building 4



Plate 63: West-facing elevation, Building 4



Plate 64: West-facing elevation, Building 4



Plate 65: Modern internal facilities, Building 4



Plate 66: Interior view, Building 4



Plate 67: East-facing elevation, Building 5 (north)



Plate 68: Two-part stable door, Building 5 (north)



Plate 69: North-facing elevation, Building 5 (north)



Plate 70: West-facing elevation, Building 5 (north)



Plate 71: East-facing elevation, Building 5 (south)



Plate 72: South-facing elevation, Building 5 (south)



Plate 73: West-facing elevation, Building 5 (south)





Plate 75: Detail of internal opening, Building 5 (north)



Plate 76: Troughs, Building 5 (north)

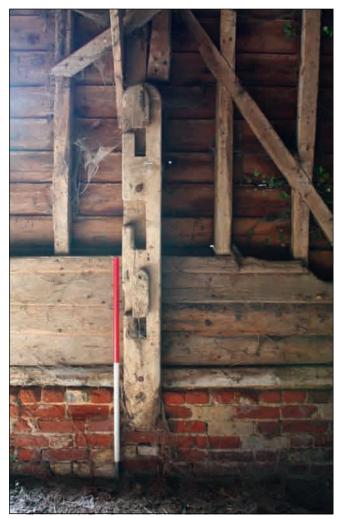


Plate 77: Former internal partition gate post(?), Building 5 (north)



Plate 78: Interior view, Building 5 (north)



Plate 79: Troughs, Building 5 (south)



Plate 80: Troughs, Building 5 (south)



Plate 81: Troughs, Building 5 (south)



Plate 82: West-facing elevation, Building 6



Plate 83: North-facing elevation, Building 6



Plate 84: Interior view, Building 6



Plate 85: Detail of window and ventilation, Building 6



Plate 86: North-facing elevation, Building 7



Plate 87: East-facing elevation, Building 7



Plate 88: West-facing elevation, Building 7



Plate 89: Trough, Building 7

© Oxford Archaeology East



Plate 90: Modern/repaired roof structure, Building 7



## Head Office/Registered Office/ OA South

Janus House Osney Mead Oxford OX2 0ES

t:+44(0)1865263800 f:+44(0)1865793496 e:info@oxfordarchaeology.com w:http://oxfordarchaeology.com

## **OA North**

Mill 3 MoorLane LancasterLA11GF

t:+44(0)1524541000 f:+44(0)1524848606 e:oanorth@oxfordarchaeology.com w:http://oxfordarchaeology.com

## **OAEast**

15 Trafalgar Way Bar Hill Cambridgeshire CB238SQ

t:+44(0)1223 850500 e:oaeast@oxfordarchaeology.com w:http://oxfordarchaeology.com



**Director:** Gill Hey, BA PhD FSA MIFA Oxford Archaeology Ltd is a Private Limited Company, N<sup>0</sup>: 1618597 and a Registered Charity, N<sup>0</sup>: 285627