Battles Hall Barns Maggots End Manuden Essex



Historic Building Survey



Client: Lowden Developments

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Battles Hall Barns, Maggots End, Manuden, Essex

Historic Building Survey and Archaeological Monitoring

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Report Number: 1306

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Summary

Oxford Archaeology East was commissioned by Lowden Developments to undertake the historic building recording of a number of redundant farm buildings associated with Battles Hall just outside of the village of Manuden, Essex. The work took place in early October 2011 and was carried out in accordance with a Brief issued by Richard Havis of Essex County Councils Historic Environment Team and a Specification prepared by Oxford Archaeology East. The work follows on from a Desk-Based Assessment of the site carried out by the author in 2010.

Battles Hall barns are located to the immediate north of Battles Hall on the Furneux Pelham Road approximately 1.5 kilometres north west of the village of Manuden, Essex. The current Battles Hall is a Grade II listed manor house believed to date back to the early seventeenth century. The buildings surveyed comprise a range of redundant farm buildings associated with arable farming located to the immediate north of the hall. They are no longer part of the hall estate but fall within the listed building curtiledge.

The proposed development includes the conversion of a number of the existing farm buildings into residential accommodation. The buildings under investigation are constructed of timber and brick and cartographic evidence suggests that they are, on the whole, no earlier than nineteenth century in date.

Historical research carried out has found that a fire in the 1880s destroyed much of the farm and it is therefore likely the current buildings were erected on the footprint/foundations of these earlier barns. Additional research carried out by members of the Manuden Local Historical Society into the use of fields around the time of the tithe survey in the mid nineteenth century has found the immediate area was almost exclusively used for crop and arable farming with little evidence of dairy or livestock farming. With the introduction of more efficient and non-labour intensive methods of farming, these buildings became redundant and have been adapted in recent years to house chickens and also used for storage.

The survey identified four main phases of development, predominantly during the 19th century. Most of the buildings were built as, and are typical of, a planned layout designed for cattle, a common adaptation during the second half of the nineteenth century when grain prices collapsed. This system includes a large open, south facing stock yard with a taller barn along the northern boundary, bounded by a series of cattle sheds and yard walls. This is best depicted on the Second Edition Ordnance Survey Map which shows the subdivided stock yards, open sided shelter sheds, implement shed and even the track leading into the complex from the west.

Additional monitoring of below ground works took place in October/November 2011. No surviving archaeological remains were encountered other than burnt layers which may be associated with the late 19th century fire..

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1 Introduction

1.1 Location and topography

1.1.1 An historic building recording survey was conducted at Battles Hall barns in the Maggots End part of Manuden, Essex. Battle Hall Barns are located to the immediate north of Battles Hall on the Furneux Pelham Road approximately 1.5 kilometres north west of the village of Manuden, Essex (Figure 1). The site lies at around 106m OD and is located on the western side of the river Stort, 4 miles North of Bishop Stortford and close to the Hertfordshire border.

1.2 Scope of work

- 1.2.1 The work was undertaken in accordance with a Brief issued by Richard Havis for Essex County Council's Historic Environment Team (Havis 2011) (Planning Application UTT/1176/10/FUL), supplemented by a Specification prepared by OA East (Fletcher 2011).
- 1.2.2 The aim of this investigation was to carry out a historic building survey to English Heritage Level 2 (English Heritage 2006).
- 1.2.3 This survey focusses on the group of redundant brick and timber buildings (Figure 2) which, according to the planning application, are due to be converted into residential dwellings.
- 1.2.4 Original historical research of Battles Hall has not been undertaken as part of this study. The historical background and development of the site has mostly been drawn from secondary sources. A vast number of records including deeds are held in the Essex Records Office and by Mr Lyons, the present owner of Battles Hall. Full interrogation or translation of these records is not within the scope of this study, however, Mr Lyons, the site owner was certain there were no plans or maps with any of them. Primary sources consulted include photographs, plans and historical maps. A full historical development of the site and map regression is presented in Section 3.

1.3 Acknowledgements

1.3.1 The author would like to thank Nick Lowden and Charles Worthington of Lowden Developments for commissioning and funding the work. Thanks are also expressed Mr Toby Lyons and Fiona Bengsten for their help with research and to staff at Essex Records Office and to Jon House and Tom Lyons of OA East for attending the ground monitoring works. Thanks also to Adam Garwood of Essex County Council's Historic Environment Team for his help and advice in interpreting the buildings functions. The author carried out all background research, the site survey and all photography.

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2 AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

2.1 Aims and Objectives

2.1.1 The work was designed to adequately record the structures in their current state before the alteration works began, equivalent to English Heritage Level 2 (English Heritage 2006).

The specific aims outlined in the Brief were:

- 1) to provide a comprehensive visual record of the structure prior to the permitted alterations as it represents upstanding archaeological/historical remains of local, regional and national importance.
- 2} to draw upon the results of a full search of the county records office to place the site in its historic context and setting and will make reference to the appropriate regional research agendas. As indicated *East Anglian Archaeology: Occasional Paper 8* (2000), industrial age structures 1750-1960 have been identified in regional archaeological research agendas as being of particular interest and as facing a high rate of loss through redundancy, conversion, and demolition.
- 2.1.2 The normal purpose of a Historic Building Recording is to make a permanent record of the structures, as they are, in order to preserve by record the character, state, preservation and architectural and historic significance of the building.
- 2.1.3 The site archive is currently held by OA East and will be deposited with Saffron Walden Museum in due course.
- 2.1.4 This survey focusses on the redundant brick and timber buildings (Figure 2) which are the subject of the current planning application. Although Battles Hall and the buildings within its grounds are not part of the development area, they will be considered as part of the historical development of the site.

2.2 Site Conditions

2.2.1 The buildings have been out of use for some time, the yard areas were overgrown in places and many of the buildings in a very poor state of repair. All buildings were fully accessible, allowing measured and photographic survey to take place. Roof structures were visible however due to the height of some of the buildings, close inspection was not possible. As there was no power supply to the buildings, additional lighting was achieved via a halogen lamp powered by a portable generator. weather conditions were good.

2.3 Methodology

- 2.3.1 The measured survey was carried out using basic equipment including: a distometer, tower tape, 30m tapes and hand tapes.
- 2.3.2 Photographic survey (at Level 2) was carried out by the author using a 35mm camera (monochrome and colour slide) with additional digital photographs using a high resolution Canon EOS 40D digital SLR camera. Extra lighting was necessary in most of the barns which was achieved using halogen lamps, however in many cases this only provided limited illumination.
- 2.3.3 All building recording work carried out complied with standards and guidance set out in by the Institute for Field Archaeologists (2001) and was undertaken by an experienced

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archaeologist. Scaled architects drawings supplied by the client were used for field notes and were annotated and amended on site as necessary.

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3 HISTORIC BACKGROUND

3.1 Historical background of Manuden

- 3.1.1 Manuden is a small village in Essex on the Hertfordshire boundary, first recorded as a Saxon settlement in the Domesday Book of 1086. The principal street, called The Street, is lined with Grade II listed medieval houses, former shops and inns. Descriptions of these can all be found on the listed building resource, www.lbonline.english_heritage.org.uk. There is also a wealth of vernacular medieval architecture (a malt loft which juts out over the street, a thatched privy and an icehouse being a few examples). The flint rendered church of St Mary the Virgin dates back to 1143 but, although it retains some Norman features, was largely rebuilt between 1863-76. Previously a thriving farming community with a mill and two maltings, the village still boasts two working farms dedicated to a mixture of arable, dairy and sheep farming. Leatherwork was made in the village from 1430 to 1900's and was important enough to be incorporated into the village sign.
- 3.1.2 Sixteenth century records show a number of wealthy land owners in Manuden and it was during this period that most of the timber-framed buildings were constructed. Enclosure of land for grazing sheep increased the wealth of the landlords but resulted in the dispossession of peasant families unable to graze their animals for much-needed milk and meat (www.recordinguttlesfordhistory.org.uk).
- 3.1.3 During the 1800s there was considerable unrest in agricultural communities in Essex, and Manuden was no exception. The farmers who introduced mechanised farm machinery were hated and targeted during attacks and riots. There were many instances of arson where barns and buildings were torched, including Manuden Hall. A shortage of jobs and subsistence wages forced many agricultural workers to abandon village life for the cities. This exodus hastened the demise of many associated trades. The First World War, followed by a farming depression in 1920, further emptied the countryside leaving many Manuden farms unoccupied (www.recordinguttlesfordhistory.org.uk).

3.2 Historic Environment Record and Listed Buildings Search

- 3.2.1 A search of the archaeological and historical record of the immediate area was carried out using the English Heritage "Heritage Gateway" resource (www.heritagegateway.org.uk) which searches the Essex Historic Environment Record (EHER). The EHER is a computerised database of all listed and other historic buildings and all known archaeological sites, historic parks and gardens and other historic landscape features in the county, plotted onto linked digital mapping, and backed up in many instances by photographs, drawings and substantial written accounts. Those records within close proximity of the development area are shown on Figure 1.
- 3.2.2 A record of the moat on the site was returned in the search EHER (SAM 20689 and SMR 3855). The moat, which still partially survives to the immediate west and south west of Battles Hall (Figure 1), has only its north and south arms remaining. It was rectangular and enclosed the garden and the site of the former house. The garden between the two moat arms contains a heavy scatter of tile fragments indicating a former structure, probably the original house. The north and south arms of the moat are still filled with water, the south arm is approximately 60m long and the north arm 52m long, both are 12m wide. The area of the moat will not be affected by this development. There is no trace of the east or the west arms.

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- 3.2.3 Although not separately listed (described with the moat (SMR 3855), the gardens to the south and west of the present house are partly enclosed by a brick wall, two portions of which appear to be older than the house. The pillars/piers forming the now blocked entranceway, into which a door has been inserted, are seventeenth century in date and have recently been restored by the owner of Battles Hall with the help of an English Heritage grant. Within the wall is a blocked arch of Tudor brick indicating an earlier date; this part is likely to be contemporary with the earlier house.
- 3.2.4 A large cart shed located 30m to the south east of Battles Hall (Figure 1) is thought to date to the 17th/18th century (SMR 36259). This building is not affected by the development.
- 3.2.5 A search of the listed building register (www.lbonline.english-heritage.org.uk) was undertaken to find descriptions of buildings on or near the site. The only record found for the site related to Battles Hall (LB Number 408610) (Plate 1; Figure 1); the barns and outbuildings are not included in this listing. Although the house and dovecote are not affected by the proposed re-development of the barns, the record provides an important part of the historical record for the site as a whole. The present house stands on the north-east corner of the moated site in the location of what may have been the eastern arm of the moat (Bengstone and Featherstone, 1996).
 - "Partly moated timber-framed building built circa 1660 with some materials from an early house on the site. It was the seat of the Waad (Wade) family until the later 17th century. Renovated, with the ground storey faced in brick and the upper storey plastered. Two storeys, attics and cellars. A two-storey entrance porch projects on the front. The doorways have original frames and, on the inside, there is an original panelled door. Roof tiled, hipped at the north and south ends, with an original central chimney stack with a moulded brick string course to the base"
- 3.2.6 Dendrochronological dating of the roof structure at Battles Hall (Gibson, 2005) has suggested that the current building is earlier than first believed and may date as early as 1607, constructed from green timber soon after felling in 1606.
- 3.2.7 There is a square brick-built dovecote located approximately 25m to the north-west of Battles Hall (currently part of the Battles Hall buildings and not affected by the development). Believed to be 18th/19th century in date (SMR 36260), this building clearly has two phases; the original square-built dovecote and a later brick lean-to addition on its southern side. Inscriptions in the brickwork over the doorway on the east-facing elevation bear three sets of initials SW, JW and RR and the date 1812 beneath each. This date is more likely to relate to the date of alteration (addition) than to the date of construction. The mortar had an inscribed effect known as "flush scribed joint" (Parissien, 1999), often seen in 18th century work where the flush pointing is then inscribed with a rule and trowel end shortly before the mortar sets, producing a neat lined-out appearance in an otherwise relatively irregular work.

3.3 Development of Battles Hall

Using available cartographic sources and historical accounts, this section provides a chronological development of the site with a focus on the farm buildings.

Seventeenth and eighteenth century

3.3.1 The current Battles Hall is believed to have been built in around 1607 by William Waad (Wade), Lieutenant of the Tower of London, possibly re-using some earlier building material including the window mullions (Gibson, 2005).

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- 3.3.2 The earliest known map depicting Battles manor is the 1777 Chapman and Andre map of the County of Essex (Figure 3). The outline shape of the site is broadly the same as can be traced in the landscape today. This map depicts what appears to be three buildings (represented in solid black). It is difficult at this scale to determine which is Battles Hall or the moat and whether or not the other two buildings could be in the location of the current farm buildings. This map may not show all the buildings in existence at the time and although usefully represents the existence of the site at this time it cannot be relied upon for establishing the dates or development of the buildings surveyed.
- 3.3.3 Apart from Battles Hall, there are other buildings remaining on the site which date to the eighteenth century. The dovecote to the west of the house (SMR 36260) and a timber cart shed (SMR 36259) both date to the eighteenth century. Although the cart shed is no longer part of the Battles Hall estate, later maps show it may be located close to the main access road (Furneux Pelham Road). An undated photograph held in the Essex Records Office (Figure 9) shows a timber-framed aisled barn not thought to be any of those inspected as part of this survey. The barn in the photograph is a large timber building constructed in several bays with an open truss roof and straight braces. The caption with the photograph states that the barn dates to the seventeenth century. This is not one of the buildings in the current study area, but may be the cart shed (SMR 36259).

Nineteenth century redevelopment of Battles Hall Farm and social unrest

3.3.4 More cartographic sources are available giving an insight into the site in the nineteenth century. The tithe map dating to 1840 (Figure 4) provides the first reliable evidence of buildings in the location of some of those surveyed. Although this map shows very little detail, there is clearly an "L-shaped" range of buildings to the north of the site, the cart-shed (SMR 36259), the dovecote (SMR36260) and Battles Hall are all clearly depicted. The apportionment which accompanies the map gives detail about the owners, occupiers and function of the areas denoted with a number. These are summarised in the table below:

Number on map	Land Name	Туре	Land Use	Owner	Occupier
95	Bucks Field	Field	Grass	Nicolson Calvert	Chas Brand
96	Battles Farm Homestead	Farm	Grass	Nicolson Calvert	Chas Brand
97	Old Garden	-	Grass	Nicolson Calvert	Chas Brand
98	Cherry Ground		Grass	Nicolson Calvert	Chas Brand
99	Stack Yard	-	-	Nicolson Calvert	Chas Brand
100	Battles Great field	Field	-	Nicolson Calvert	Chas Brand

Table 1. Entries relating to Battles from the Tithe Apportionment

3.3.5 The "L-shaped" range of buildings shown appear to be in the same location as Buildings 4, 5 and 6 (Figure 2), however, as later maps show, the building in the location of Building 6 is not the same as that in existence today. The smaller "L shaped" building is Battles Hall. Although the Tithe map does show buildings, it may not show all buildings present at the time. The purpose of the maps was to show the owners, occupiers and size of land within a parish, buildings are not always represented. For many parishes they provide the only large scale map showing the landscape and they frequently provide the earliest evidence for the field systems in the parish.

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- 3.3.6 The next dated map is the Enclosure map of 1841 (Figure 5). Enclosure maps provide interesting detail about the owners of lands and the acreage, however, they are often of little use for the study of the development of buildings. This map simply shows the location of "Battles".
- 3.3.7 The first most reliable map of the site which provides useful detail of buildings is the 1st Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1876 (Figure 6). This map depicts brick buildings in red, outbuildings in grey and water in blue. In 1876 when the map was surveyed, the layout of the site was almost identical to the modern plan. The site is still entered from the western side as depicted here and a number of internal boundaries would indicate perhaps a need to segregate activities or animals on the site. The buildings surveyed are clearly separate from Battles Hall itself by this time, with a separate entrance. There also appears to be another access leading to the north side of the building now in the position of Building 6.
- 3.3.8 The only buildings present on this map which still survive are Buildings 4 and 5 on the northern boundary and Building 8. Although there are other buildings in the same locations as the present Buildings 1 and 6, their orientation and plan is slightly different.
- 3.3.9 An explanation for this may be that some of the buildings depicted were destroyed in a fire which occurred during riots in the late nineteenth century as agricultural labourers protested against low wages and the increasing use of mechanical machinery. There were many instances of incendiarism where barns and buildings were torched, including Manuden Hall. These episodes of unrest were known as the Swing Riots. The buildings were likely to have been timber structures and therefore would almost certainly have been entirely destroyed by fire.
- 3.3.10 The next available source is the 2nd Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1897 (Figure 7). By the end of the nineteenth century, more of the buildings on this map resemble those surveyed. Although the buildings appear to be in almost exactly the same locations as those shown on the previous map of 1876, the alignments are slightly different, suggesting the re-building of Buildings 1 and 6 on almost the same footprint and locations of those seen on the earlier 1876 map and with the addition of Buildings 3,7, 9 and 4b. An entrance, perhaps for carts to load/unload was added to Building 4 and the access to the north of the site is no longer in use.
- 3.3.11 There is no indication from either census data or from the tithe map apportionment that there was ever an independent farm operating here, presumably the land was rented out or managed by the owners/occupants of Battles Hall. The table below lists the occupants of Battles Hall and their occupations as listed in the 1841-1901 censuses.

Year of census record	Name of head of household	Occupation	
1841	John Brand	Agricultural Bailiff	
1851	John Oliver Brand	Farmers Bailiff	
1861	William White	Farmer of 392 acres of land employing 10 men and 6 boys	
1871	John Bayford	Agricultural Labourer	
1881	Joseph Cowell	Farmer 472 acres	
1891	Joseph Cowell	Farmer	
1901	Fred Cowell	Farmer	

Table 2. Census returns for Battles Hall, 1841-1901

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Twentieth century expansion of Battles Hall Farm

- 3.3.12 The next available map is the 1923 Ordnance Survey 6" Edition (Figure 8). This map is a smaller scale than the previous Ordnance Survey maps and shows buildings in less detail. However, by 1923, the site appears broadly similar as it is today. Interestingly, there appear to be structures in the field to the immediate north of the site by this point, one of which is currently beneath the site of a large, modern steel and metal-built storage unit which was recently demolished.
- 3.3.13 By 1923 there appears to be a building or shelter which spans an area between the southern end of Building 1 (then much longer) and Building 9. Building 2 has also been created utilising Buildings on the west, north and east sides and there also appears to be a shelter or extension on the north side of Buildings 4 and 5 indicates the presence of a pump.
- 3.3.14 Additional recently demolished, large modern steel and metal structures to the north of the barns probably date to the 1960s. These buildings indicate a need for larger scale storage of equipment, machinery and crops associated with modern large-scale intensive farming.

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4 Description of The Buildings

The surveyed buildings are located to the north of the main farmhouse (Plate 1) and are located around a central courtyard. Buildings 4 and 5 are the principal, largest buildings which flank the north side of the farmyard and Building 6 spans the east side. Building 1 is located on the west side and Buildings 2, 3, 4 and 7 in-fill the area. Figure 2 shows the location of the surveyed buildings and Figures 10 and 11 provide elevations, supplemented by additional detail provided in plates 1-54.

At the time of the survey all buildings were empty and full unrestricted access was possible.

This section describes each of the buildings surveyed including a discussion about the development and suggested use of each building. The interpretations are based on comments gratefully received by Adam Garwood of Essex County Councils Historic Environment Team.

4.1 Building 1

External Description

- 4.1.1 Building 1 measures 17.22m long and 5.27m wide and is orientated roughly north-south. It flanks the western side of the farmyard and is accessed via doors from the yard side (Figure 2). It is of timber and brick construction and has a grey asbestos tiled roof with concrete/asbestos ridge tiles.
- 4.1.2 The south-facing elevation (Plate 2; Figure 10, Elevation 1) shows this building has a moderate pitched roof and comprises a timber frame, covered with horizontally laid boards constructed on a brick plinth. The plinth is made up of seven courses of brick, laid in a Flemish bond, with an average dimension of 23.5cm x 6.5cm x 10cm (9" x 2^{1/2"} x 4"). The bricks are hand made, without pressure marks and are set in a creamy coloured mortar with crushed flint inclusions. There is also a square void in the roof pitch for a window or ventilation.
- 4.1.3 The east-facing elevation faces into the farmyard area and shows a continuation of weather-board and the brick plinth construction (Plate 3; Figure 10, Elevation 2). There is one doorway into this building from this side which comprises a two-part stable door. The hinges are still in place and would appear to match datable examples from the 19th century (Hall 2007). In the middle of this elevation is a window for ventilation made up of vertical posts with angled slated boards behind and at the southern end is another opening which does not extend to the ground and appears to have been made re-using part of a stable door. From this elevation it appears the building has fallen partly into disrepair with a number of boards having fallen off, exposing the timber frame behind as well as parts of the door to be missing. There is also evidence for the re-use of other timber for repair and replacement.
- 4.1.4 The west-facing elevation (Plate 4; Figure 10, Elevation 3) reveals a complete re-build of this side of the building using Breeze-blocks. There are three reinforced glass windows with metal frames, each measuring 0.93m high and 0.52m wide. There are also remnants of a cast-iron down-pipe at the southern end.

Internal Description

4.1.5 Internally, this building is subdivided into three main areas just inside the entrance. However, the nature of the dividing partition, created from a re-used door (possibly from



a barn or cart shed) and a wooden panel with skirting board (probably from a house) would suggest this is not original (Plate 5). The location of the partition in front of the entrance door restricts access and movement. The floor is covered with a modern concrete with a central drainage channel. The end of the drainage channel corresponds with the remnants of a gated internal partition (Plate 6). On the other side of the partition the floor still has an original buff-coloured brick floor and a continuation of the drainage gully (Plate 7).

4.1.6 The timber frame is constructed from neatly machine-cut timbers (Plates 5 and 6). The roof appears to be relatively modern, possibly added when the breeze-block western wall was re-built. It sits on the timber on the east side of the building and on the breeze-block wall on the opposite side.

Discussion

4.1.7 This building is likely to be late 19th century in date, rebuilt on the footprint of a preexisting range that was aligned slightly differently and may have been destroyed by fire.
It first features on the 2nd Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1897 (Figure 7) in its
current lay-out. It originally extended further south and is still represented this way by
the 1923 Ordnance Survey Map (Figure 8). The breeze-block west-facing elevation
indicates repair/rebuild in the mid 20th century, when it was probably re-roofed and the
concrete floor added. The need for drainage and internal gated partitions would suggest
animals were kept in this part of the building. This building was most likely built as a
cart shed/implement storage as it was pen-sided to the west and did not open into the
stock yard. This is confirmed by the absence of the plinth carrying around along the
western wall. The later blockwork demonstrates the simple blocking of the open-side.

4.2 Building 2

External Description

- 4.2.1 Building 2 measures 9.60m long and 3.86m wide and is orientated roughly east-west. It is constructed against the south side of Building 5 and the east side of Building 1 (Figure 2), facing into and accessed only from the farmyard. It has an open front and almost entirely timber construction with a grey slate roof (Plate 8).
- 4.2.2 The only recordable elevation is south-facing (Plate 8; Figure 10, Elevation 1) which shows an open-fronted building with timber support posts which support a monopitched slate covered roof. It is enclosed on the western side with horizontally laid boards.

Internal Description

- 4.2.3 Internally this building has two elements. The left/west side area is accessed via a doorway (there is no remaining evidence of a door). It has a concrete floor and all internal elevations are covered with various re-used panels and boards (Plate 9). The roof is supported by machine-sawn timbers which continue into Buildings 5 and 1 where they presumably sit on their corresponding frames/wall plates. The external brick plinth (comprising 13 courses) of Building 5 behind is exposed in part and the relationship between Buildings 1 and 5 is recorded in the corner, which shows Building 1 is later. The rafters supporting the roof are small, half-sawn, untreated, unshaped young tree trunks and there are boards between the rafters and the slates.
- 4.2.4 From inside the other part of Building 2, a large door is seen on the south side of Building 5 (Plate 10). Replaced boards around it would suggest it was once a larger

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opening. The doorway is situated relatively high in the elevation and as there is no evidence in the brickwork that it ever continued to ground level it must have been used to load/unload from carts from outside, directly into Building 5. There is a wooden feeding trough suspended from the rafters which are all neatly cut, machine-sawn timbers. There is a brick wall at the eastern end which is not tied into Building 5 behind.

Discussion

4.2.5 This building has been created using the pre-existing buildings behind and either-side. It is first represented on the 1923 Ordnance survey map (Figure 8) but not on the 2nd Edition Map of 1897 indicating it was probably constructed in the early 20th century. It is mainly open-fronted and was most likely used as an open sided shelter and a loose box retained within its own yard which may have been reserved for calving. The loose box has higher levels of ventilation (for keeping animals over a longer period) and is too small to be a stable.

4.3 Building 3

External Description

- 4.3.1 Building 3 measures 11.04m long and 3.61m wide and is orientated roughly east-west. It is constructed against the south side of Building 4 (Figures 2 and 10, Elevation 1), facing into and accessed only from the farmyard. It is constructed mostly from brick with a mono-pitched corrugated iron-covered roof (Plate 11). The bricks used are the same dimensions and bond as those recorded on Building 1.
- 4.3.2 This building has three entrances, all on the south facing elevation and each comprising a two-part stable door identical to that recorded on Building 1. These doors are thought to date to the 19th century (Hall 2007) by the hinges and latches used and interestingly on the latch of the far left door are the makers initials "RC" (Plate 12). There is a concrete step in front of each door. This is not likely to be an original feature and suggests the ground level has been reduced in this location.
- 4.3.3 Between the doors are angled wooden boards/slats which provide ventilation, these slats are covered with modern chicken wire.
- 4.3.4 On the western end of Building 3 is evidence of rebuild or repair to the brickwork or perhaps in-fill of the remains of an earlier building in this location as the brickwork at this end is different (Plate 11).

Internal Description

- 4.3.5 Internally there are two low-level, sub-dividing brick walls which correspond to the three doors recorded externally. The brick walls are 1.25m high, constructed from mostly broken bricks and are not tied into Building 4 at the rear. Chicken-wire has been used to sub-divide the area to the roof.
- 4.3.6 Like Buildings 1 and 2 the roof appears to be a later addition/replacement using modern machine-cut timber rafters which rest on the wooden frame of the elevation and supported with ties which are also inserted into Building 4 (Plate 13).

Discussion

4.3.7 Like Building 2, this building has been created using the pre-existing Building 5 behind. Cartographic evidence suggests it was constructed in the late 19th century and, like Building 2, may have been an open sided shelter and a loose box retained within its



own yard.. The presence of chicken-wire throughout suggests its most recent use was for housing poultry.

4.4 Building 4

External Description

- 4.4.1 Building 4 measures 27.54m long and 6.80m wide and is orientated roughly east-west. Along with the adjoining Building 5, this forms the largest east-west orientated range spanning the width of the farmyard on the north side onto which Buildings 2, 3 and 4b have been added. It has two principal elevations, north and south facing, both of which provide access into the building (Figures 2 and 10, Elevations 1 and 4). Building 4 comprises a timber frame covered with horizontally laid weather-board and constructed on a brick plinth. It has a moderately pitched roof covered with a grey slate roof and concrete ridge tiles.
- 4.4.2 The south-facing elevation (Figure 10 Elevation 1) fronts onto the farmyard and is the main entrance to the building (Plate 14). The brick plinth is noted/concealed within Buildings 2, 3 and 4b, which are constructed against it. This elevation has a protruding entrance located right of centre which has a set of large doors providing access with a six-pane timber-framed window above. Ramps on either side of the opening would allow for pedestrian access and for a large mechanical vehicle to pull right up to the building for loading and unloading. The ground level therefore must have been reduced here as it would have originally been accessed by horse and cart. Once entered through the doors another set of double doors on the opposite elevation allowed for easy exit of a cart or wagon. This sort of arrangement of large doors for loading and unloading are typical of threshing barns. The ramped area in front of the doors is constructed from concrete and may have been an addition for motorised vehicle access to unload. The original threshing barns would be accessed from one set of doors and once the cart was unloaded, exited through the opposite doors.
- The north-facing elevation (Plate 15; Figure 10, Elevation 4) faces onto what would 4.4.3 have been out-lying fields. Until recently there were modern steel storage barns for machinery, however these have been demolished as part of the planned development. This side of the building had an exposed brick component at the eastern end comprising 33 courses laid in a Flemish bond. The brick dimensions were slightly different to those recorded in other buildings with an average 23cm x 6.5cm x 10.5cm $(9" \times 2^{3/4"} \times 4^{1/2"})$, some of which have horizontal pressure marks. There is a large corrugated metal sliding door for vehicular access with a smaller pedestrian sized door within. This door is directly opposite that recorded on the southern elevation. Unlike the north side of the building, the ground level is the same as the floor level of the building on this side. To the immediate left of the door there is evidence of repair or rebuild to the brick plinth (possibly when the door was replaced). Here there are frogged bricks measuring an average 23.5cm x 7.5cm x 11cm (9" x 3" x 41/4"). Although the original door/doors have been replaced, some of the frame remains. To the right of the door more recent repair work is in evidence with the use of large modern bricks.
- 4.4.4 The east-facing elevation (Plate 16; Figure 11, Elevation 5) comprises the same 33 courses of Flemish bond-laid brick as noted on the north elevation. Some damage has been sustained during recent work inside the building resulting in a hole in the brick plinth. There is a wooden-framed window inserted within the roof pitch, however there is no glass surviving.

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4.4.5 The area of ground immediately in front of the north and west-facing elevations of Building 4 had been reduced prior to the start of the survey (Plate 17). It was noted that approximately 0.75m of soil had been removed over an area no more than 4m from the edge of the building. The stratigraphic sequence of deposits was noted as 0.10m of top soil, 0.16m of subsoil and 0.48m into natural chalk and clay. There was no suggestion of any archaeological features in the sections or any evidence of brick foundations.

Internal Description

- 4.4.6 Prior to the start of the survey, some internal alteration work had already taken place including the removal and reduction of the floor. A total of 0.92m had been removed (Plate 18); the sequence of deposits was recorded from the section (Plate 19). The most recent removed layer was a grey concrete floor which measured 0.25m thick, beneath which was a thin deposit of bitumen no greater than 0.04m thick. Underlying this was a layer of compacted crushed brick and mortar approximately 0.15m thick, possibly representing an earlier brick floor which sat upon natural clay (0.48m).
- 4.4.7 The timber frame structure and wall plates all appear to be original with areas of ad-hoc repair and replacement with re-used materials as is to be expected in an agricultural building. The protruding entrance/cart shelter on the southern elevation also appears to be contemporary with the rest of the building. The frame is constructed from straight, machine-sawn timbers which rest on the original brick plinth. There are areas where the plinth has been repaired, as noted on the external elevations and also where modern bricks measuring 22cm by 11cm have been used as an in-fill within the frame (Plate 20).
- 4.4.8 The roof appears to be a replacement, possibly in the 20th century, when other interior improvements were made (brick infill and concrete floor). The roof sits on the original wall plate but with the same moderately large bricks as used for in-fill of the frame (measuring 22cm by 11cm) placed between the base of each common rafter (Plate 20). The roof is contemporary and continuous across Buildings 4 and 5. The building is constructed in 8 bays and there are no visible maker's or carpenter's marks. This building has a simple truss roof with tie beams sitting on wall plates above the outer frame and collars which tie together (and stiffen) two opposite common rafters with straight support braces from the tie beam to the frame (Plate 20). There is also a walkway (?) suspended on the tie beams which span the western half of the building.
- 4.4.9 At the western end there is an opening which provides access into Building 5 (Plate 20) and hinges on the frame indicate there was a door present until recently. The opening was cut into the brickwork and therefore not original perhaps added when Building 5 was constructed.

Discussion

- 4.4.10 This building is clearly depicted in the 1840 Tithe Map (Figure 4) so must pre-date the mid 19th century. Building materials including the straight, machine-sawn timbers and particularly the bricks with horizontal pressure marks used in the plinth and foundations, would suggest that the building is however 19th century in date (Ryan 1996). Although re-roofed and extended with a protruding entrance/cart shelter on the southern side, this is thought to be the earliest surviving building on the site.
- 4.4.11 The sets of large openings on either side are typical of threshing barns. In most traditional farmsteads, the threshing barn was the central point to which the other buildings were related and was often the largest of them. The main purpose of threshing barns was to house the threshing floor and for storage (Wade Martin, 1991, p



- 166). Generally they had at least one threshing floor with bays for housing the crops coming off it and the threshing floor always ran across the barn, never along the length (Peters, p 10). The threshing barn at Battles had two opposing high doorways. 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 also provided light for working and ventilation when winnowing the husks from the grain. The size of the barn would depend on the size of the farm. The practice of storing all of the crops in barns and so of building larger ones, continued well into the 19th century in the south of England and East Anglia (Peters 1981, p.10).
- 4.4.12 This building, along with Building 5, was later used for grain storage indicated by the walkway which suggests an overhead conveyor leading to the grain silos.

4.5 Building 4b

External Description

- 4.5.1 Building 4b measures 9.51m long and 4.73m wide and is orientated roughly east-west. It is constructed against the south side of Building 4 and the west side of Building 6 (Figure 2), facing into and accessed from the farmyard. It has a partially open front and is of timber construction on a brick plinth with a corrugated asbestos roof (Plate 21).
- 4.5.2 The only recordable elevation is south-facing (Plate 21; Figure 10, Elevation 1) and shows an open-fronted building with timber posts supporting a mono-pitched roof. It is enclosed on the western side with horizontally laid boards with an opening which would have held a shutter; the hinges of which survive and may have originated from part of a stable door.

Internal Description

- 4.5.3 This building provides an enclosed linked access between Buildings 4 and 6 with a raised, concreted walkway with wooden handrail (Plate 22). The floor is made up of "mounded up" earth which slopes significantly down towards the yard. The area is partially enclosed by a timber frame covered with horizontally laid boards sitting upon a brick plinth.
- 4.5.4 Modern machine-sawn timber rafters have been inserted into Building 4 and rest upon another beam running between Buildings 6 and 4 which support a corrugated roof.

Discussion

4.5.5 This small shelter has been constructed by in-filling an area between two pre-existing buildings. It may originally have acted as a cart shed or storage barn but in more recent times has been modified to create a raised walkway between Buildings 4 and 6. Cartographic evidence suggests it was constructed in the late 19th century shortly after the extensions to Building 4 and 6 against which it was constructed.

4.6 Building 5

External Description

4.6.1 Building 5 measures 13.18m long and 6.89m wide and is orientated roughly east-west, on the immediate west of Building 4. Along with the adjoining Building 4, this forms the large east-west orientated range which spans the width of the farmyard on the north

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side onto which Buildings 2, 3 and 4b have been added. It has two principal elevations, north and south facing, both of which provide access into the building (Figures 2 and 10, Elevations 1 and 4). Building 5 comprises a timber frame covered with horizontally laid weather-board and constructed on a brick plinth. It has a moderately pitched roof covered with a grey slate roof and concrete ridge tiles.

- 4.6.2 The south-facing elevation (Figure 10 Elevation 1) fronts onto the farmyard and is concealed mostly at ground floor level by Building 2 (Plate 23). The brick plinth and large loading door were noted within the back of Building 2, the mono-pitched roof of which conceals most of the original exterior.
- 4.6.3 The west-facing gable end has been mostly concealed by the addition of a small leanto, open-fronted shelter (Plate 24, Figure 10 Elevation 3). This elevation reveals an eight-course brick plinth in a random bond with horizontally laid timber weather-boards to the roofline. The average brick dimension was 23cm x 6.5cm x 10cm (9" x 2").
- 4.6.4 The north-facing elevation (Plate 25; Figure 10 Elevation 4) has two openings large enough for vehicular access, although neither still possess any doors. The larger of the two openings is directly opposite that recorded within Building 2 on the south elevation. The rest of the elevation continues on from the adjoining Building 4 with brick plinth and horizontally laid weather-board. In a number of places the board has fallen off exposing the timber frame behind.

Internal Description

- 4.6.5 Prior to the start of the survey, the floor had been prepared for removal with holes having been made in the concrete (Plate 26). There are also a number of breeze-blocks inside the building which may have previously been used to conceal one of the two openings as recorded on the north-facing elevation.
- 4.6.6 At the eastern end of this building, the original gable end of Building 4 is exposed. It is covered with horizontally laid weather-boards which confirm this was once an external elevation that pre-dates the construction of Building 5.
- 4.6.7 The long, southern elevation has the door as recorded from inside Building 2 (Plate 27). As noted on the other side (inside Building 2), there is a larger frame around the current door indicating an earlier, possibly double set of doors directly opposite one of those noted on the north-facing elevation.
- 4.6.8 The wall plate and timber studs of the frame appear to be original, however the roof is likely to be later with neater, straighter, machine-cut common rafters, collars and tie beams. The roof structure is identical and possibly contemporary with that recorded in Building 4 with the use of the same 20th century bricks supporting the common rafters which sit on the frame (Plate 28).

Discussion

4.6.9 The opposing double doors, like on Building 4 would suggest this building was constructed as an additional threshing barn. The addition of a second threshing barn suggests a substantial farm and high level of production and activity. The areas on the either side of the central threshing floor would have been ideal for storage of threshed crops and carts could be stored on the south side of the barn. Cartographic and structural evidence dates this building to the early 19th century.

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4.6.10 In plate 27, Building 5 opening looks as though the present door has been inserted into a larger cart sized blocked opening. This may have occurred when the stock yard and shelters were added in the later 19th century.

4.7 Building 6

External Description

- 4.7.1 Building 6 measures 35.66m long and 4.94m wide and is orientated roughly north-south. It flanks the eastern side of the farmyard and is accessed via doors from the yard side only (Figure 2). It is of timber and brick construction and has a grey asbestos tiled roof with concrete/asbestos ridge tiles.
- 4.7.2 The west-facing elevation fronts onto the farmyard and is covered with horizontally laid board with a five course brick plinth base. There are three access doors (two at the northern end of the building and one at the southern end) which provide access into the building and three equally-spaced windows positioned centrally (Plate 29). Part of the northern elevation is concealed by and accessed from 4b (Plate 22); here there are two openings, one with a modern replacement wooden door, the other with its door missing. To access via the farmyard doors there is a significant concrete step measuring approximately 0.80m (Plate 30) indicating that the ground level outside has been significantly reduced. The door itself is a two-part stable door, but with different fittings as recorded on Building 1 and 3, and thought to be 19th century in date (Hall 2007).
- 4.7.3 The north-facing elevation (Plate 31; Figure 10, Elevation 4) is constructed from approximately 20 courses of orange coloured, hand-made bricks with diagonal pressure marks and laid in a Flemish bond. Above the brick, horizontally laid weather-board continues to the roofline. Some of the boards have fallen off exposing the timber frame behind and on one of the wall frame studs a carpenters mark "III" was noted. No other corresponding marks were found. The reduced ground level directly in front of the building did not reveal any evidence to suggest this building ever continued further northwards.
- 4.7.4 The east-facing elevation (Plate 32, Figure 11, Elevation 5) is entirely covered with weather-boards and has a small brick plinth comprising five courses of brick. There are no openings or entrances on this side of the building.

Internal Description

- 4.7.5 A number of modern partitions have been inserted which divide the building into six separate areas, many of which are accessed internally (Plate 33). As a result, little of the original layout or use can be determined.
- 4.7.6 The roof and wall frames all appear to be original and other than repair and replacement of some timbers, there are no obvious alterations throughout. The roof comprises common rafters supported with a collar and tie beam which rests on the wall plates of the wall-frames (Plate 34). At the northern end of the building there are four iron hooks, possibly saddle hooks, secured to the western wall.
- 4.7.7 The floor varies throughout and in most of the sub-divided areas modern concrete has been applied. The significant step up from the external entrances indicate the outside ground level has been reduced but that the inside is relatively original. In the central divided rooms the ground level has been reduced and a suspended concrete floor with voids beneath added (Plate 35).

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- 4.7.8 The location of the only original internal dividing wall is shown on Figure 2. The door has a datable latch and hinges, compatible examples of these have been found which date to the 19th century (Plate 36).
- 4.7.9 The southern-most room in this building has been most recently used to house poultry with chicken-wire and remnants of bird cages (Plate 37). The walls and ceiling have been covered with plasterboard and the floor concreted with a drainage gully.

Discussion

- 4.7.10 This building is likely to be late 19th century in date, rebuilt on the footprint of a preexisting range which may have been destroyed by fire. It first features on the 2nd Edition Ordnance Survey map in its current lay-out.
- 4.7.11 The original function of this building was most likely as cattle sheds but with some later re-use for stabling. Internal evidence indicates its most recent use was probably for storage and for keeping poultry.

4.8 Building 7

External Description

- 4.8.1 Building 7 measures 11.30m long and 4.29m wide, is orientated roughly east west and adjoins the southern end of barn 5. It is located at the southern end of the farmyard and is an open fronted shelter with mono-pitched roof covered with corrugated iron (Figure 11, Elevation 7, Plate 38). It is constructed utilising pre-existing buildings behind (not accessed and not part of the development area) and to the east (Building 6).
- 4.8.2 The western elevation (Figure 11, Elevation 6) is constructed on a red brick plinth and covered with horizontally laid weather-boards to the roofline.
- 4.8.3 This open-fronted building is supported by two vertical posts on large stone blocks.

Internal Description

- 4.8.4 Internally the floor is obscured by a build-up of soil with a downward slope towards the farmyard (Plate 39). The rear wall comprises the brick plinth and weather-boarding of the building behind and the eastern wall is that of the southern end of Building 6.
- 4.8.5 There is a large wooden stall mounted on the rear wall and the continuation of the wooden support brackets would suggest this once spanned the width of the wall.
- 4.8.6 Like the other lean-to structures, the roof is constructed from machine-sawn timbers which are inserted into the building behind and rest on a long beam which in turn is supported by the upright posts. Additional support is achieved by further beams spanning the length of the building secured into Building 6 to the east and the top of the western gable end.

Discussion

4.8.7 Cartographic evidence indicates this building was constructed in the late 19th century utilising a pre-existing boundary wall to the rear and Building 6 to the east. This building was possibly an open sided shelter/shed. The hay rack on the rear wall indicates it was later used to shelter horses. The open-fronted nature of the construction indicate that it would be easily accessed from the farmyard area.

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4.9 Building 8

External Description

- 4.9.1 Building 8 measures 17.40m long and 4.05m wide and is orientated roughly north-south. It is located in the middle of the courtyard, set back slightly, adjoining and parallel with building 9 on the west side. It is accessed via four two part stable doors and an opening on the east-facing elevation (Figures 2 and 11, Elevation 8; Plate 40). It is constructed from timber, brick and flint and has a moderately steep pitched roof with corrugated asbestos sheeting.
- 4.9.2 The building is only accessed from the east-facing elevation via four two-part stable doors and a wider opening at the northern end (Figure 11, Elevation 8 and Plate 40.). On the far southern end is a later brick-built building which is not accessible from Building 8 and is not part of the current development area. The two-part stable doors on this elevation are the same as those recorded on Buildings 1 and 3 with the same heavy hinges and latches (Plate 41). This elevation is mostly covered with horizontally laid weather-boards with a small concrete plinth measuring 0.40m in height at the base. The large opening at the northern end (Plate 42) has an exposed curved brace and iron hooks indicating it once had a door, or set of double doors, to enclose it.
- 4.9.3 The north-facing gable end (Figure 11, Elevation 9; Plate 43) shows the proximity to Building 9 on the western side. This end is constructed using flint and brick with wooden barge-boards and a diamond-shaped wooden finial. Close inspection of the brickwork indicates that Building 9 was constructed against Building 8.

Internal Description

- 4.9.4 There are a number of internal partitions which create 5 separate areas, these correspond to the separate entrances on the eastern elevation. The partitions are all low-level, created using corrugated iron and asbestos boards (Plate 44).
- 4.9.5 The internal roof construction is the same as those recorded in the other buildings, however the tie beams running between the external and rear walls are not straight, machine sawn ones, as previously noted. These five beams, which represent the bays of Building 8's roof construction, may have been re-used or are part of the original roof structure and are the only elements not to have been replaced. The replaced common rafters and collars appear to sit on the original wall plate. Later bricks have been added between the rafters to support the eaves gully between Buildings 8 and 9 (behind) (Plate 45). The roof may have been replaced when Building 9 was added.
- 4.9.6 There are a number of fixtures which indicate that this building was used for sheltering animals. These include a wall-mounted iron manger (Plate 46), a wooden trough with iron tethering hoop (Plate 47) and a wooden stall (Plate 48). Although the stall was only present in the northern end of Building 8, the wooden wall mount to which it was secured spans the length of most of the building.
- 4.9.7 From inside the open-fronted element at the northern end, a second curved brace is present, concealed behind weather-boarding (Plate 49). This suggests this end was open at its northern end, allowing for a wider cart or more animals to be sheltered/fed at one time.

Discussion

4.9.8 The fixtures and fittings in this building indicate it was used to shelter cattle with a larger open-fronted cart store or shelter at the northern end. The early tie-beams may indicate this building has earlier surviving material in the roof construction than those



recorded previously. The 1st Edition Ordnance Survey Map of 1876 (Figure 6) is the first representation of a building in this location and appears to survive the re-modelling by the end of the century (Figure 7) – perhaps this building survived demolition/fire as it was isolated from the other buildings.

4.10 Building 9

External Description

- 4.10.1 Building 9 measures 17.25m long and 4.20m wide and is orientated roughly north-south. It is located in the middle of the courtyard, set back slightly, adjoining and parallel with Building 8 on the east side. It is accessed via a door on the western elevation (Plate 50) and from within a large modern steel storage building (Figure 2) which conceals much of the building. It is constructed from timber and brick and has a moderately steep pitched roof.
- 4.10.2 The north-facing elevation (Figure 11, Elevation 9; Plate 43) is constructed entirely from brick with a wooden barge-board and finial. The roof has a moderate pitch and is covered with corrugated asbestos.
- 4.10.3 The west-facing elevation is in two parts; one external and the other concealed within the large steel storage building (Figure 2). The external part of this elevation has horizontally laid weather-boards and a simple plank and batten door with latch and what appear to be modern, replaced hinges (Plate 50). There are also plastic gutters and downpipes at either end. Continuing inside the modern storage unit, the west-facing elevation of this building has been removed (Plate 51). A large reinforced steel joist has been used to support the roof and a steel frame surround is clamped onto it to support the modern unit above. Steel ties have replaced any wooden tie beams which may have been present, however the collars, purlins and common rafters remain.

Internal Description

- 4.10.4 From inside, the rear of the flint and brick wall of Building 8 can be seen (Plate 51), including detail of the raised elevation to take the roofs of both buildings.
- 4.10.5 Both internal gable ends shows this building was constructed from brick (Plate 51) and the inside of the door recorded on the western external side shows that prior to removal, the rest of this elevation was constructed from a timber frame and horizontal weather-boards (Plate 53). The gable end walls are not tied into the wall of Building 8, further confirming that this is a later addition (Plate 54).

Discussion

4.10.6 Building 9 is clearly a later addition constructed up against the western side of Building 8. Cartographic evidence indicates it was constructed in the late 19th century. This building was incorporated into the large modern storage unit, probably in the mid to late 20th century, however the 1923 Ordnance Survey map (Figure 8) appears to show it was incorporated into another building or shelter also linked to Building 1. This building appears to have been an open-sided shelter/shed.

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5 Suggested Phasing

5.1 Phase 1 : Early 19th century

- 5.1.1 This phase sees the construction of a large east-west Threshing barn (Building 4) at some point in the early 19th century, prior to 1840. There was clearly a need to expand soon after due to production levels, perhaps linked to improvements in mechanised agricultural practice, which led to the addition of a second threshing barn to the immediate west (Building 5).
- 5.1.2 The available maps would suggest that this was not a large-scale farm until the mid 19th century, yet it may simply be that buildings have been omitted from the detail of the sources available.

5.2 Phase 2: Mid 19th century

- 5.2.1 The introduction of detailed mapping with the Ordnance Survey elucidates the development of other buildings associated with the threshing process. This phase witnesses the construction of a number of buildings between Battles Hall and the eastwest threshing barns including stores and open-fronted sheds, many of which are later to be replaced, but retaining the planned form, centred around a yard. The only surviving addition from this phase of development is a cattle shelter with a larger open-fronted cart store or shelter at the northern end (Building 8).
- 5.2.2 Additional research carried out by members of the Manuden Local Historical Society into the use of fields around the time of the tithe survey in the mid nineteenth century has found the immediate area was almost exclusively used for crop and arable agriculture with no evidence of dairy or livestock farming. With the introduction of more efficient and non-labour intensive methods of farming, these buildings became redundant and have been adapted in recent years to house chickens and also for storage.

5.3 Phase 3: Late 19th century

- 5.3.1 Following a fire which may have been linked to social unrest, a number of buildings were re-built during the latter part of the 19th century. The same lay-out and footprint of the previous buildings was maintained with the rebuilding of the east and west ranges (Buildings 1 and 6).
- 5.3.2 With the collapse of gain prices in the second half of the 19th century, many arable farms adapted for rearing cattle. The buildings which were constructed (possibly based on a pre-existing planned lay-out) are typical of of those designed to keep cattle.
- 5.3.3 Continued expansion leads to the addition of small "lean-to" structures, utilising preexisting structures to create cattle sheds and additional storage.

5.4 Phase 4: 20th century

5.4.1 Expansion and development continues in the early part of the century with the addition of Building 2, possibly for more storage and the construction of additional buildings in the field to the north (now demolished). This pattern did not continue long into the 20th century, possibly as a result of the significant population fall following the First World War and a shortage of work in the countryside throughout the 1920s that saw many people leave for towns and cities (www.recordinguttlesfordhistory.org.uk/manuden).

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5.4.2 By the latter half of the 20th century, the introduction of larger-scale machinery leads to the introduction of the large metal storage units to better store equipment and crops. There were until recently a number of these large units immediately to the north of the Threshing barns and one remains (at the time of the survey) which encompass Building 9.

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6 DISCUSSIONS AND CONCLUSIONS

- 6.1.1 Although the building survey has recorded changes and alterations to all of the buildings studied, cartographic sources have been invaluable in this study. Agricultural buildings need to adapt and undergo repair and alteration to preserve their lifespan and to meet the changing needs and economic factors effecting the farming industry. The available maps have assisted with the phasing of these changes in relation to alterations, expansions and development of the site as a whole.
- 6.1.2 The survey of the farm buildings at Battles Hall has revealed a number of buildings which appear to date no earlier than the late nineteenth century. Cartographic evidence supports the suggested phases and also allows us to put forward an idea of time scales for the initial construction and functions of each of the buildings. This is presented in the table below:

Building Number	Phase of Construction	Suggested Original Function
1	3a (late C19 th)	Cart shed/implement storage
2	4 (early C20th)	Open sided shelter
3	3a (late C19 th)	Loose box
4	1a (early C19th)	Threshing barn
5	1b (early C19th)	Threshing barn
6	3a (late C19 th)	Cattle sheds but with some later reuse for stabling,
7	3b (late C19th)	Open sided shelter shed again with later reuse for horses (in situ hay rack)
8	2 (mid C19th)	Open-sided shelter/ shed
9	3a (late C19 th)	Open-sided shelter shed

- 6.1.3 Most of the buildings (apart from 4 and 5) were built as, and are typical of a planned layout designed for cattle, a common adaptation during the second half of the 19th century when grain prices collapsed. This system includes a large open, south facing stock yard with the taller barn along the northern boundary, bounded by a series of cattle sheds and yard walls. Perhaps the best illustration of this layout is represented on the 2nd Edition 25 inch Ordnance Survey map (Figure 7). This shows the subdivided stock yards, open sided shelter sheds, implement shed and even the track leading into the complex from the west.
- 6.1.4 It has been difficult to attribute a function to some of the buildings as they have been altered and had fixtures and fittings removed during their lifespan. The character of these buildings are fairly typical of the type of investment in cattle that is common during the latter part of the 19th century, and with the introduction of mechanised

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- machinery replacing the use of horses and carts, accommodation for poultry was introduced.
- 6.1.5 Other than the threshing barns (Buildings 4 and 5) none of the buildings are of particular architectural or historical interest, however, they represent a typical group of buildings found on a 19th and early 20th century farm used for cattle production; buildings which are fast disappearing from the Essex landscape.
- 6.1.6 The collection of buildings at Battles Hall, and particularly the large barns, are a good example of how buildings are adapted and altered to reflect changing needs and circumstances. The buildings here all make use of locally produced brick and flint. Now these barns are redundant as a result of reorganisation of farming operations and as the next phase of development begins the retention of some of the buildings further reflects their ability to accommodate change and meet modern day needs.

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APPENDIX A. ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING

A.1 Aims and Objectives

- A.1.1 The aim of this phase of investigation was set out in the Brief (Havis 2011). The Brief requested that any groundwork associated with the development should be monitored by a professional archaeologist. This included foundation trenches, any reduction in floor level, under-pinning and works associated with the installation of services.
- A.1.2 OA East kept in close contact with the client to ensure attendance was made from the outset of all groundworks which commenced in late October 2011.

A.2 Site Conditions

A.2.1 Areas were monitored through a number of attendances on site between 31st October and 15th November 2011. During these visits site conditions were good with no rain and bright sunshine.

A.3 Methodology

- A.3.1 The areas which were monitored are shown on Figure 13. These were located on the north side of and within the interior of Building 5 and on the west side of Building 1 (Figure 13).
- A.3.2 The service trenches and reduced ground level areas were excavated using a minidigger with toothless bucket; the spoil was visually scanned for artefacts. Spoil, exposed surfaces and features were also scanned with a metal detector. There were no archaeological artefacts recovered during the monitoring work other than a small deposit of 19th/20th century bottles which were noted, photographed and subsequently discarded.
- A.3.3 All archaeological features and deposits were recorded using OA East's *pro-forma* sheets. Plans and sections were recorded at appropriate scales and colour and monochrome photographs were taken of all relevant features and deposits, supplemented by digital photographs using an Olympus 7.5megapixel digital camera

A.4 Results

Trench A

- A.4.1 This trench was located to the immediate north of Building 5 (Figure 13). It measured approximately 25m in length, 0.50m wide and 0.70m deep, and was aligned parallel to the building (Figure 13, Plate A1). It contained three deposits (Figure 13, Section 1 and Plate A12). Although no "cut" archaeological features were identified, the burnt deposit encountered (layer 03) may be evidence of the late 19th century fire which destroyed part of the site. It also contained a number of mostly broken fragments of bottles, pottery, jars and tins dating to the late 19th century (Figure 13, Plate A3).
 - Layer 03 comprised burnt debris including wood and a small amount of broken brick. It had a maximum thickness of 0.25m. Within this deposit was a small dump of 19th century pottery (Figure 13, Plate A3). This layer may represent remnants of the fire known to have taken place on the site in the 1880s. Below this deposit was the natural, undisturbed clay.
 - Layer 02 was a light orange coloured mix of gravel and sand. It had a maximum thickness of 0.10m and did not contain any datable finds.

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 Layer 01 was a mixture of modern building debris including bricks, crushed concrete and sand with surface vegetation. It had a maximum thickness of 0.25m

Trench B

A.4.2 This trench was located to the immediate west of Building 1 (Figure 13). It measured approximately 17.5m in length and 0.50m wide, and was aligned parallel to the building. It comprised the same sequence of deposits as observed in Trench A.

Building 5 Foundations

- A.4.3 The removal of the existing foundations beneath Building 5 and subsequent excavation for deeper footings was monitored (Figure 13, Plate A4).
- A.4.4 No archaeological features or evidence of earlier buildings was observed.

Trench C

- A.4.5 Trench C was located inside Building 5 and measured approximately 4m by 3m and 0.60m deep (Figure 13, Plate A5).
- A.4.6 Three layers were observed within the building:
 - Layer 06 was 0.36m thick and comprised a compacted deposit of natural, undisturbed clay.
 - Layer 05 was a thin deposit of crushed concrete and gravel measuring a maximum thickness of 0.04m. This deposit was most likely associated with the laying of the concrete floor above.
 - Layer 04 measured 0.20m thick and comprised modern hardcore and rubble, most likely the remains of the concrete floor surface which had been removed prior to the start of monitoring.

Trench D

- A.4.7 Trench D was located inside Building 5 and measured approximately 3m by 2.5m and 0.46m deep (Figure 13, Plate A6). This trench comprised the following deposits:
 - Layer 08 measured 0.06m thick, sitting on top of the natural clay. It appears to be part of the clay which has been exposed to high temperatures, resulting in areas of pink coloured scorching and black charring (Figure 13, Plate A6). This layer was recorded before being removed and was confirmed as overlying the clay in section. No datable finds were retrieved from this deposit. It may represent a deposit which was either burnt in situ or was a layer of burnt imported material used, like layer 05 in Trench C, to support the concrete floor above.
 - Layer 07 measured 0.40m in thickness and is equivalent to Layer 04 in Trench C.

A.5 Discussion and Conclusions

A.5.1 Following a number of visits to monitor the groundworks, with the agreement of the Essex County Council's Historic Environment Team, monitoring was suspended.

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A.5.2 The monitoring did not find any evidence of archaeological features or earlier buildings within the monitored parts of the development area other than evidence of the late 19th century fire.

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APPENDIX B. BIBLIOGRAPHY

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Featherstone, J. and Bengsten, F.	1996	The Manor of Battles Hall, Manuden, Essex : The history of a manor and its inhabitants		
Fletcher, T.	2010	Battles Hall Barns, Maggots End, Manuden, Essex : Desk- Based Assessment; Oxford Archaeology East Report Number 1182		
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(IfA) Parissien, S.	1999	The Georgian Group Book of The Georgian House		
Peters, J.E.C	1981	Discovering Traditional Farm Buildings		
Ryan, P.	1996	Brick in Essex : From the Norman Conquest to the Reformation		
Wade Martins, S.	1991	Historic Farm Buildings		

Maps and other Sources Consulted

Description	Year
(Copy of) Map of the County of Essex, Chapman and Andre	1777
Tithe Map and Apportionment	1840
Manewden Enclosure Award	1841
Census returns	1841-1901
1st Edition Ordnance Survey (25" to 1 mile)	1876



2nd Edition Ordnance Survey (25" to 1 mile) 1897

1923 Ordnance Survey 1923 6" Series

Photograph of interior of a barn at Battles Manor

Undated

House, Manuden by Hayllar

WEBSITES CONSULTED

www.heritagegateway.org.uk www.lbonline.english-heritage.org.uk www.recordinguttlesfordhistory.org.uk

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APPENDIX C. OASIS REPORT FORM

All fields are required unless they are not applicable.

Project De	etails		•								
OASIS Nun	nber										
Project Nan	Historic Building Survey and Archaeological Monitoring at Battles Hall barns										
Project Dates (fieldwork) Start 05-10-2011				Finish	15-1	11-201	1				
Previous W	ork (by	OA East)	Yes		Future Work No						
Drainat Baf	0,0000	Codos									
Site Code	roject Reference Codes ite Code MABB11			Planning App. No. UTT/1176/10/FUL							
HER No.				Deleted UED/OACIONs				ar3-76472			
	n/a							OXIOIG	a13-70472		
	ject/Te	echniques Use	ed								
Prompt		Planning condition	on								
Please se	elect a	II technique	s used:Bui	ilding S	urvey						
X Annotated	Sketch				☐ Photogrammetric Survey						
☐ Dendrochronological Survey											
Laser Scan	ning			Rectified Photography							
Measured S	Survey				Survey/Recording Of Fabric/Structure						
List feature typ	es using	JSignificant F g the NMR Mor	nument Type	e Thesa	urus an	_			_	Object ty	pe
Monument		Period		Object		Period					
Farm Building	s	Post Me	dieval 1540 to 1	901					Select period.		
		Select po	eriod						Select period.		
	Select period		eriod						Select period.		
Project L	ocatio	on									
County	Essex			Site Address (including postcode if possible)							
District	Uttlesford			Battle Hall Farm Maggots End Manuden, Essex							
Parish	Manuden			CM23 1BJ							
HER	Essex										
Study Area					Nationa	l Grid R	efere	ence	TL 47557 27	675	



Project Originators

Organisation	OA EAST	
Project Brief Originator	Historic Environment Team for Essex County Council	
Project Design Originator	Taleyna Fletcher	
Project Manager	Stephen Macaulay	
Supervisor	Taleyna Fletcher	

Project Archives

Physical Archive	Digital Archive	Paper Archive	
Saffron Walden Museum	OA East Offices	Saffron Walden Museum	
MABB11	XEXBHB11	MABB11	

Archive Contents/Media

	Physical Contents	Paper Contents
Animal Bones		
Ceramics		
Environmental		
Glass		
Human Bones		
Industrial		
Leather		
Metal		
Stratigraphic		
Survey		
Textiles		
Wood		
Worked Bone		
Worked Stone/Lithic		
None		
Other		

Digital Media	Paper Media
Database	Aerial Photos
GIS	Context Sheet
Geophysics	
	Diary
	□ Drawing
☐ Moving Image	Manuscript
Spreadsheets	
Survey	Matrices
▼ Text	Microfilm
☐ Virtual Reality	Misc.
	⊠ Research/Notes
	⊠ Photos
	⊠ Plans
	Sections
	Survey



APPENDIX D. ESSEX HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT RECORD SUMMARY SHEET

Site name/Address: Battles Hall Barns, Battles Hall, Maggots End, Manuden, Essex			
Parish: Manuden	District: Uttlesford		
NGR: TL 47557 27675	Site Code: MABB11		
Type of Work: Historic Building Survey	Site Director/Group: Taleyna Fletcher Oxford Archaeology East		
Date of Work: 5 th October-15 th November 2011	Size of Area Investigated: Nine redundant farm buildings		
Location of Finds/Curating Museum: Saffron Walden Museum	Funding source: Private Developer		
Further Seasons Anticipated?: No	Related HER No.s: n/a		

Final Report: Battles Hall Barns, Maggots End, Manuden, Essex

Periods Represented: Post-Medieval-Modern

Oxford Archaeology East was commissioned by Lowden Developments to undertake the historic building recording of a number of redundant farm buildings associated with Battles Hall just outside of the village of Manuden, Essex. The work took place in early October 2011 and was carried out in accordance with a Brief issued by Richard Havis of Essex County Councils Historic Environment Team and a Specification prepared by Oxford Archaeology East. The work follows on from a Desk-Based Assessment of the site carried out by the author in 2010.

Battles Hall barns are located to the immediate north of Battles Hall on the Furneux Pelham Road approximately 1.5 kilometres north west of the village of Manuden, Essex. The current Battles Hall is a Grade II listed manor house believed to date back to the early seventeenth century. The buildings surveyed comprise a range of redundant farm buildings associated with arable farming located to the immediate north of the hall. They are no longer part of the hall estate but fall within the listed building curtiledge.

The proposed development includes the conversion of a number of the existing farm buildings into residential accommodation. The buildings under investigation are constructed of timber and brick and cartographic evidence suggests that they are, on the whole, no earlier than nineteenth century in date.

Historical research carried out has found that a fire in the 1880s destroyed much of the farm and it is therefore likely the current buildings were erected on the footprint/foundations of these earlier barns. Additional research carried out by members of the Manuden Local Historical Society into the use of fields around the time of the tithe survey in the mid nineteenth century has found the immediate area was almost exclusively used for crop and arable farming with

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little evidence of dairy or livestock farming. With the introduction of more efficient and non-labour intensive methods of farming, these buildings became redundant and have been adapted in recent years to house chickens and also used for storage.

The survey identified four main phases of development, predominantly during the 19th century. Most of the buildings were built as, and are typical of, a planned layout designed for cattle, a common adaptation during the second half of the nineteenth century when grain prices collapsed. This system includes a large open, south facing stock yard with a taller barn along the northern boundary, bounded by a series of cattle sheds and yard walls. This is best depicted on the Second Edition Ordnance Survey Map which shows the subdivided stock yards, open sided shelter sheds, implement shed and even the track leading into the complex from the west.

Additional monitoring of below ground works took place in November 2011. No surviving archaeological remains were encountered other than burnt layers which may be associated with the late 19th century fire.

Previous Summaries/Reports: Fletcher, T 2010 : Battles Hall Barns, Maggots End, Manuden, Essex : Desk-Based Assessment; Oxford Archaeology East Report Number 1182

Author of Summary: Taleyna Fletcher Date of Summary: May 2012

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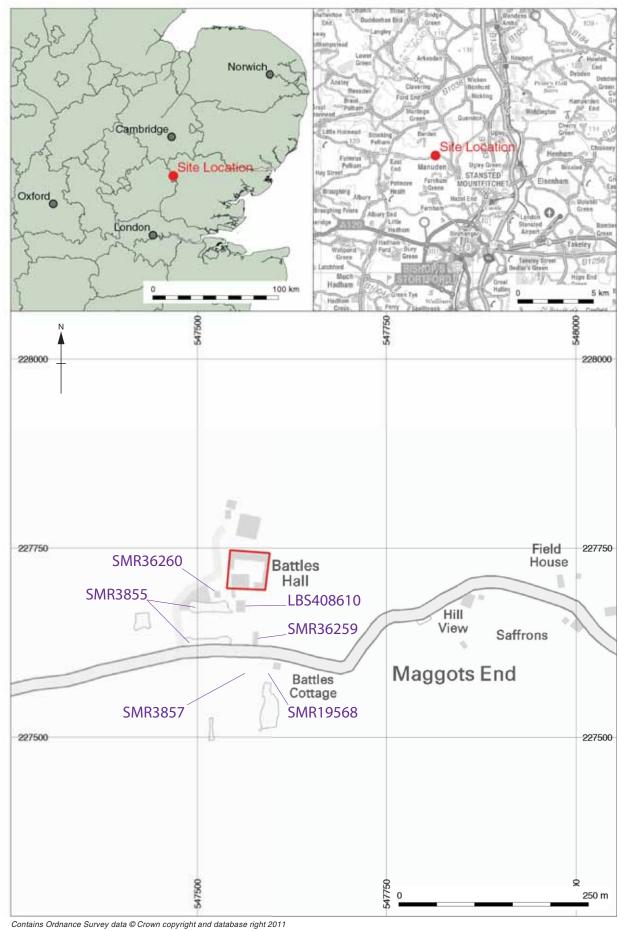


Figure 1: Site location showing study area outlined red and nearby HER entries





Figure 2: Plan of buildings surveyed showing location of plates and elevations used in report (from data supplied by client)



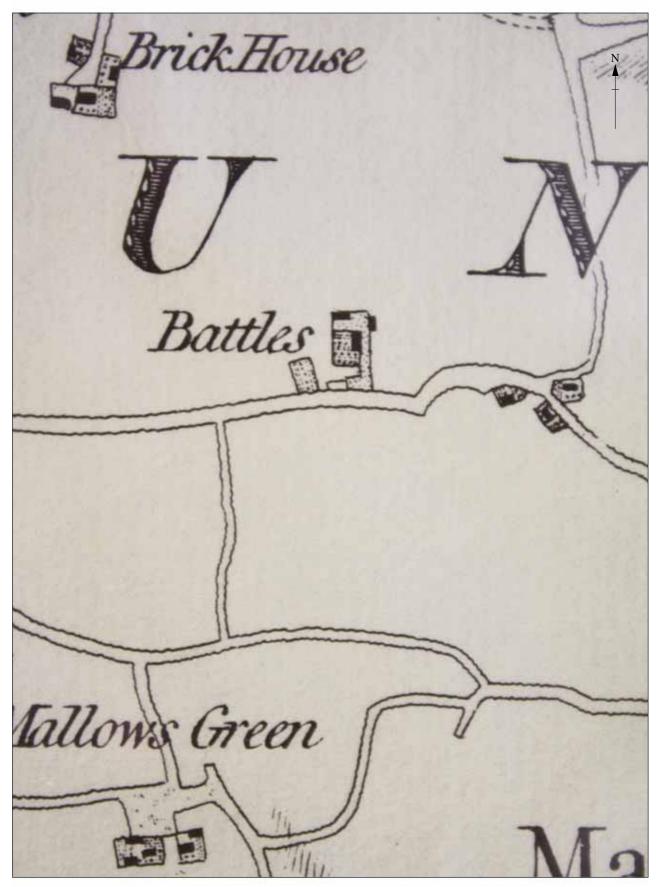


Figure 3: Excerpt from map of the County of Essex, Chapman and Andre, 1777



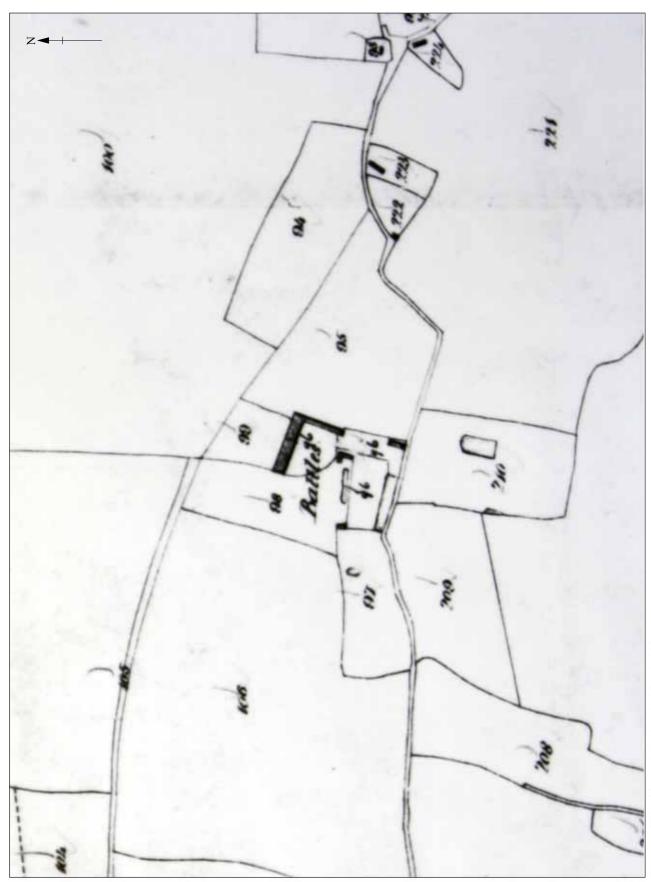
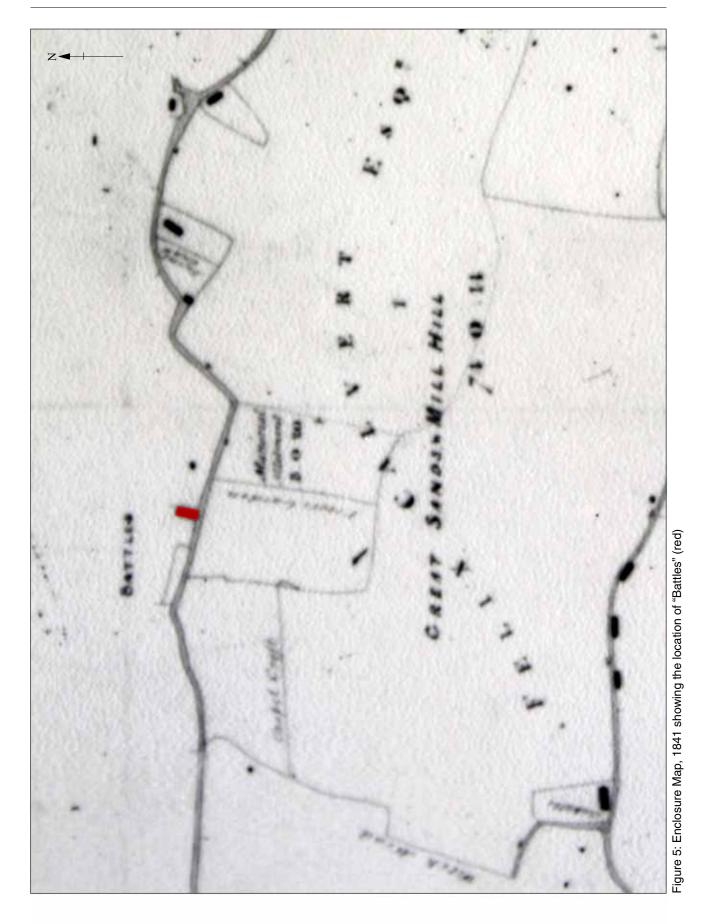
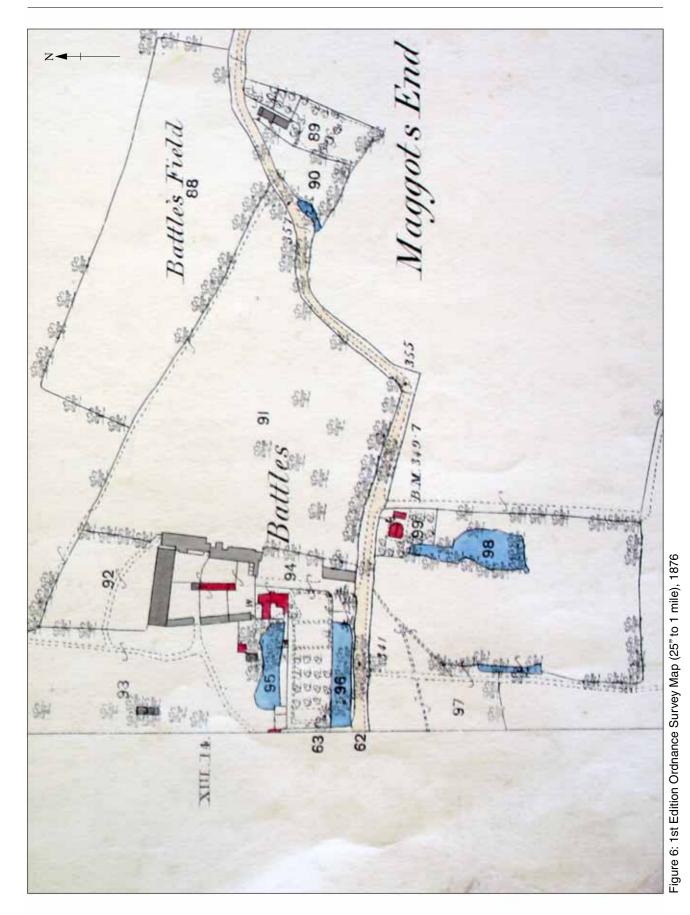


Figure 4: Tithe Map, 1840 showing Battles Manor









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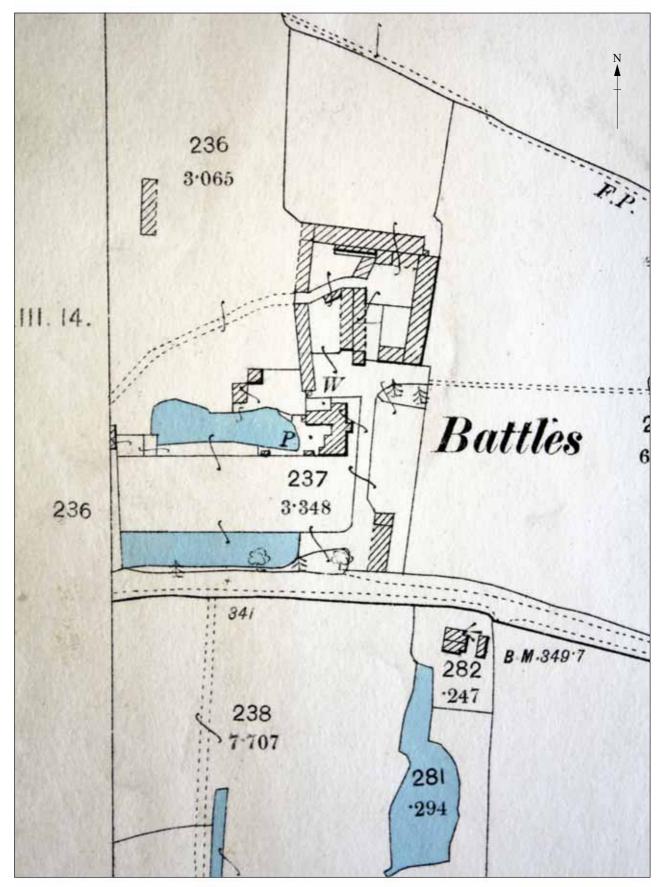
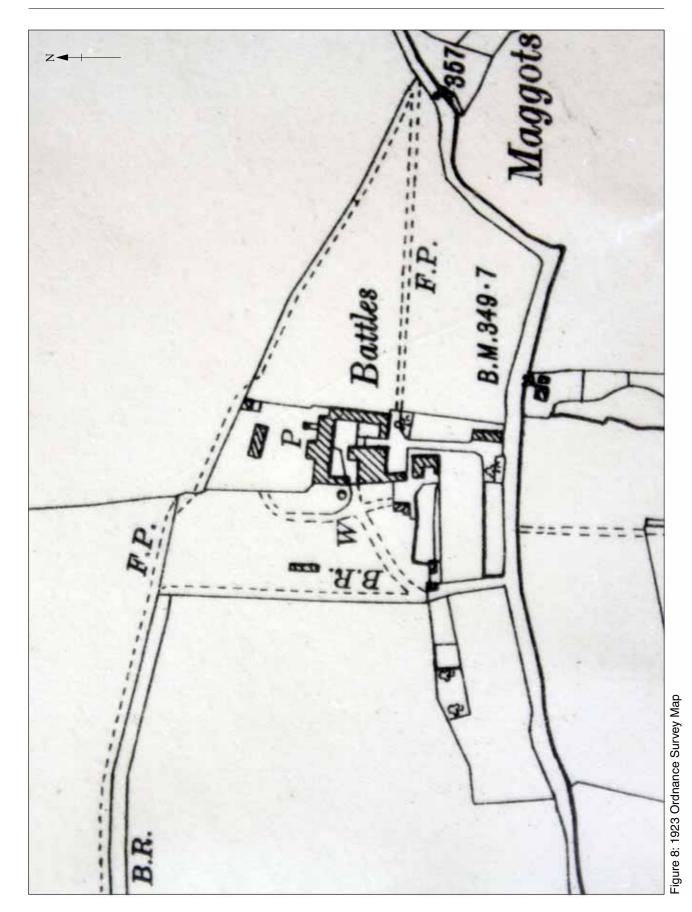


Figure 7: 2nd Edition Ordnance Survey Map (25" to 1 mile), 1897





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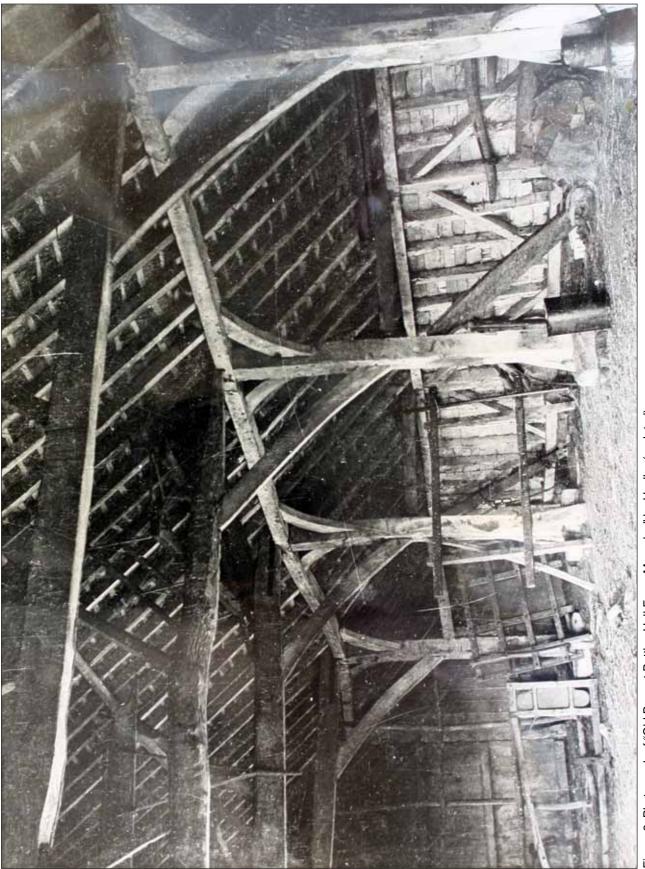


Figure 9: Photograph of "Old Barn at Battles Hall Farm, Manuden" by Hayllar (undated)





Figure 10: Elevations 1-4 (from data supplied by client)



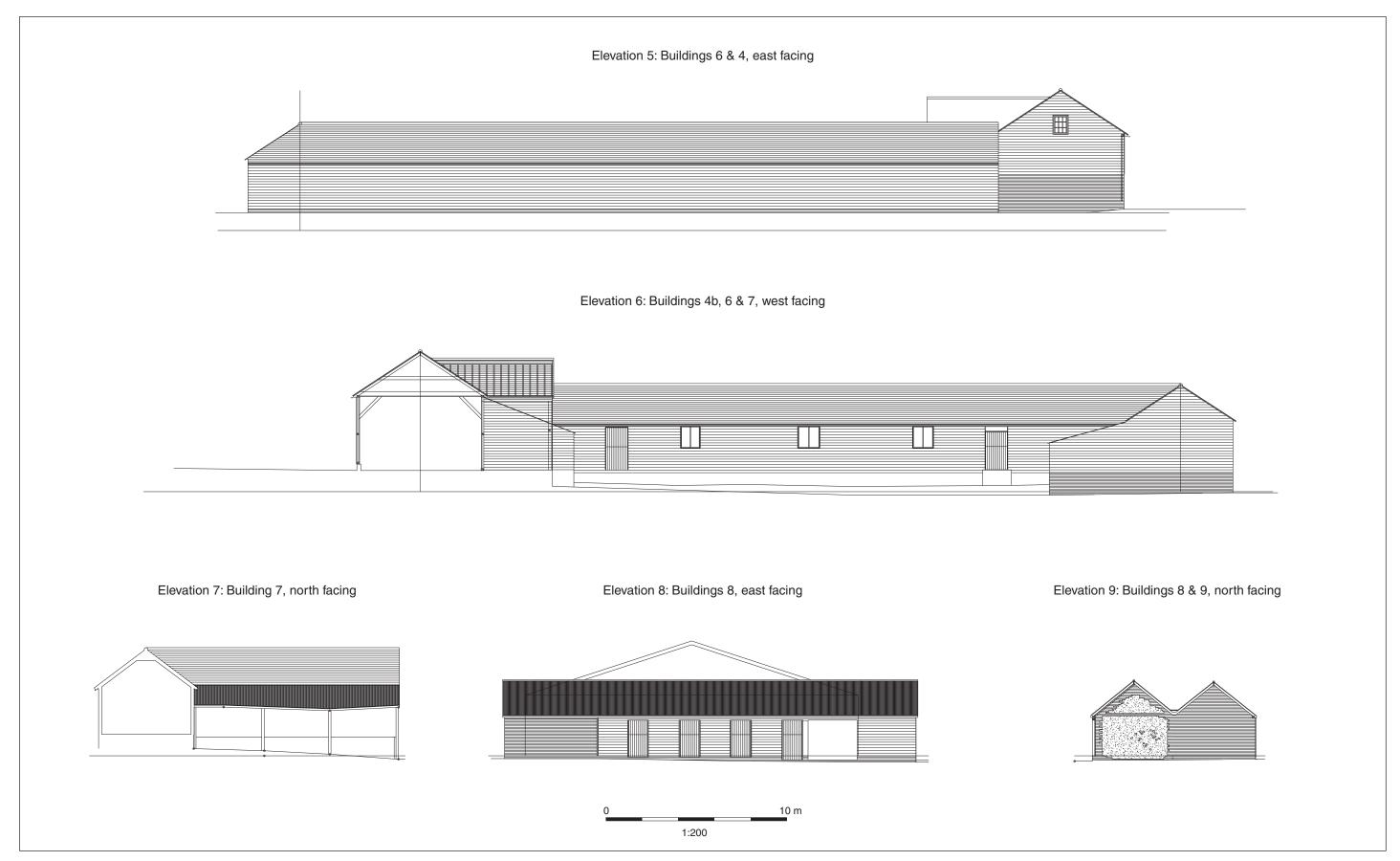


Figure 11: Elevations 5-9 (from data supplied by client)





Figure 12: Plan of buildings surveyed with suggested phasing (from data supplied by client)





Figure 13: Results of archaeological Watching Brief on below ground works (November 2011)





Plate 1: Battles Hall (from farmyard)



Plate 2: North-facing gable-end, Building 1





Plate 3: East-facing elevation, Building 1



Plate 4: West and south-facing elevation, Building 1





Plate 5: Internal view, Building 1



Plate 6: Internal view, Building 1





Plate 7: Detail of drainage gully and brick floor, Building 1



Plate 8: South-facing elevation, Building 2





Plate 9: Internal view, Building 2

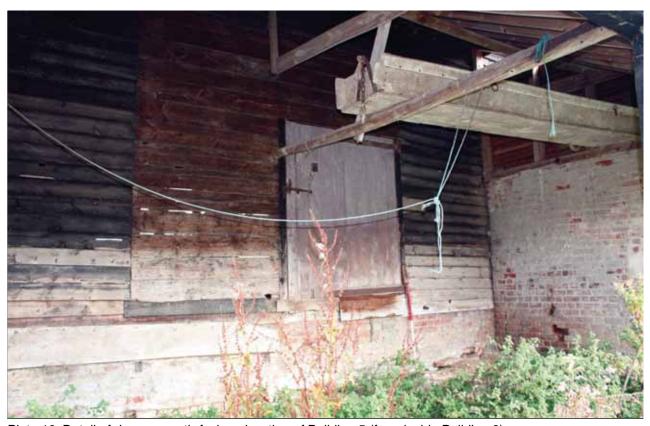


Plate 10: Detail of door on south-facing elevation of Building 5 (from inside Building 2)





Plate 11: South-facing elevation, Building 3



Plate 12: Detail of initials on door latch, Building 3





Plate 13:Internal view, Building 3



Plate 14: South-facing elevations of Buildings 4 and 4b



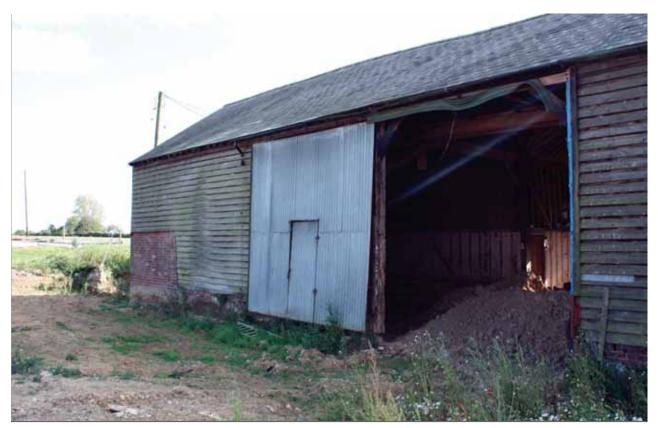


Plate 15: North-facing elevation, Building 4



Plate 16: East-facing elevation, building 4





Plate 17: Reduced ground level on north side of Building 4



Plate 18: Internal view, Building 4



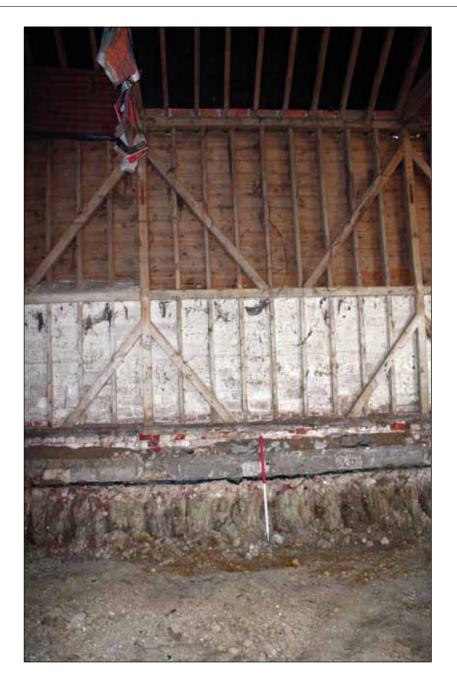


Plate 19: Internal view of reduced ground level, Building 4





Plate 20: Internal view, Building 4

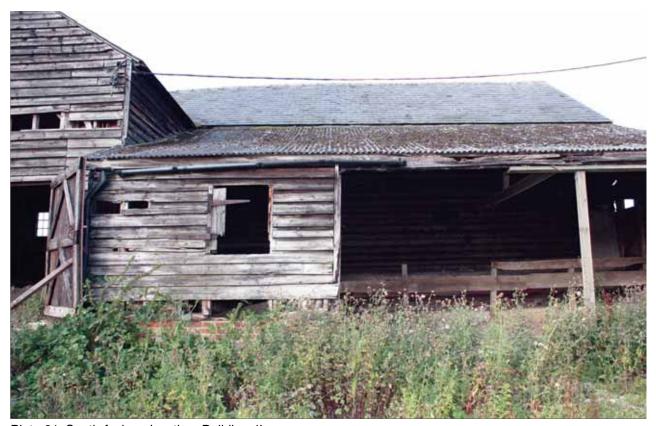


Plate 21: South-facing elevation, Building 4b





Plate 22: Internal view, Building 4b



Plate 23: View of south-facing elevation, Building5, showing relationship with Buildings 2 and 3





Plate 24: Detail of west-facing elevation, Building 5

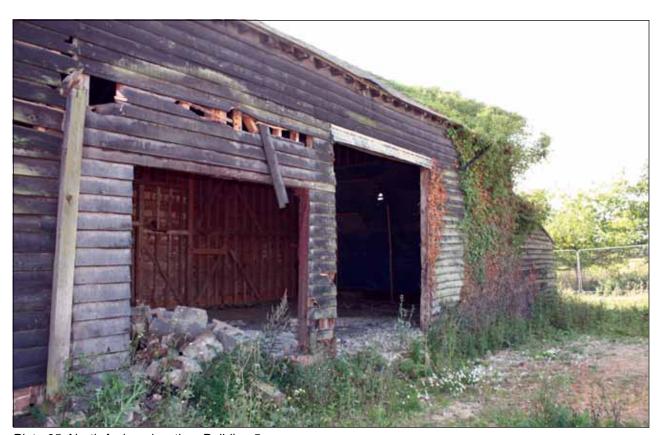


Plate 25: North-facing elevation, Building 5





Plate 26: Internal view, Building 5



Plate 27: Detail of door from inside Building 5





Plate 28: Detail of roof from inside Building 5



Plate 29: West-facing elevation, Building 6 (using "Autostitch"



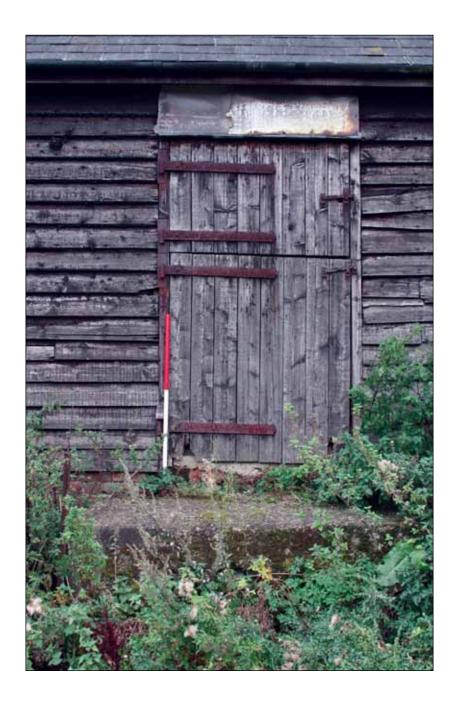


Plate 30: Detail of door on west-facing elevation, Building 6





Plate 31: North-facing gable-end, Building 6



Plate 32: East-facing elevation, Building 6









Plate 34: Internal view, Building 6



Plate 35: Detail of floor, Building 6





Plate 36: Detail of latch on internal door, Building 6



Plate 37: Internal view, Building 6



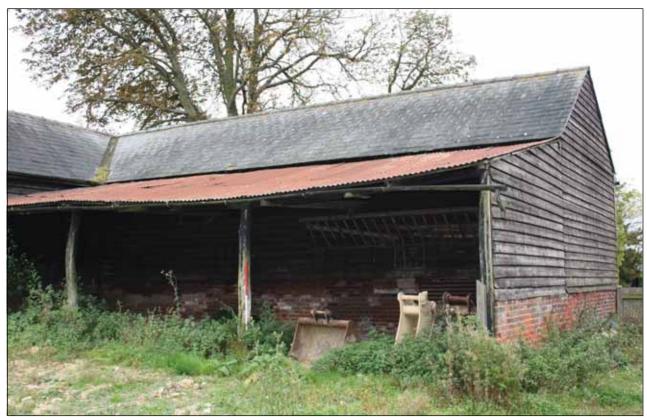


Plate 38: North-facing elevation, Building 7



Plate 39: Internal view, Building 7





Plate 40: East-facing elevation, Building 8

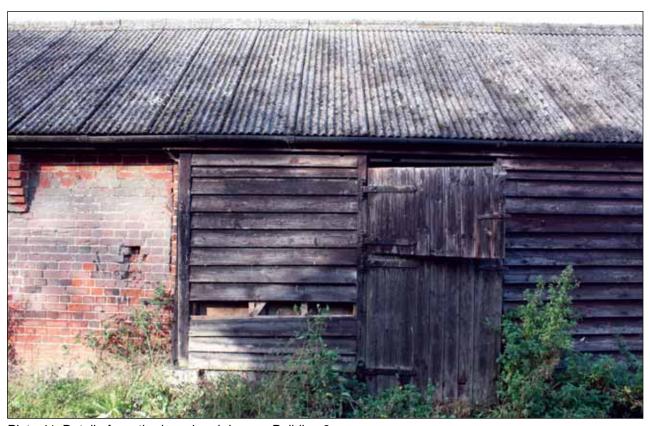


Plate 41: Detail of weatherboard and door on Building 8



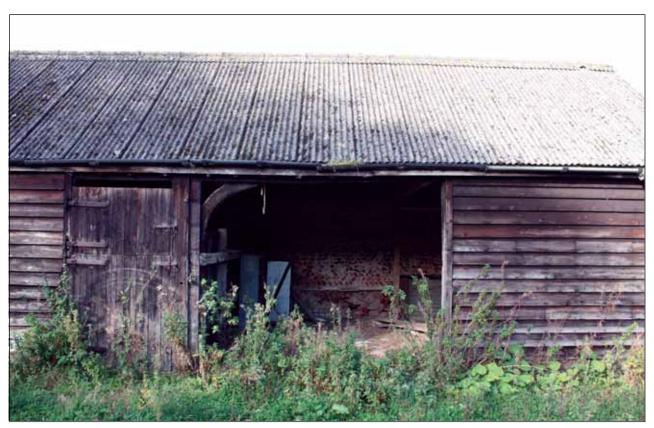


Plate 42: Detail of open-fronted northern end of east-facing elevation, Building 8



Plate 43: North-facing gable-ends, Buildings 8 and 9



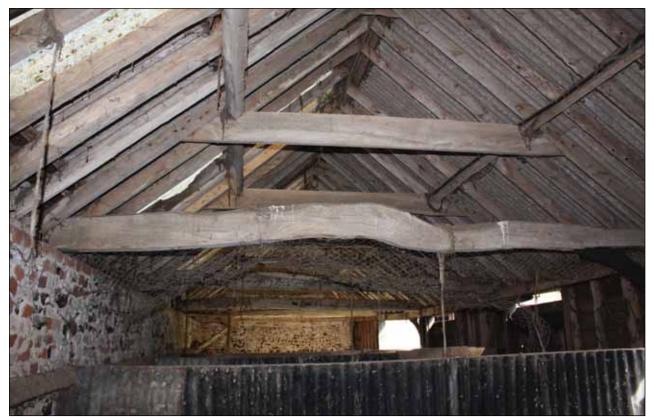


Plate 44: Internal view, Building 8



Plate 45: Detail of wall-plate, tie beam and common rafters inside Building 8









Plate 47: Wooden trough, Building 8



Plate 48: Detail of brick and flint wall and wooden stall, Building 8





Plate 49: In-filled former opening, from inside Building 8



Plate 50: West-facing elevation, Building 9





Plate 51: Building 9 from inside modern steel unit



Plate 52: Internal detail, Building 9





Plate 53: Detail of door, Building 9



Plate 54: Internal detail, Building 9



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