

Colchester Archaeological Trust



**CAT Report 2149
Issued March 2025**

**Historic building recording at
Fairfields Farm, Mowden Hall Lane, Hatfield Peverel,
Essex CM3 2NT**

February 2025



**CAT project ref.: 2025/01h
ECC code: EEX61203**

**Historic building recording at Fairfield's Farm, Mowden Hall Lane,
Hatfield Peverel, Essex CM3 2NT**

February 2025

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ECC monitor: Teresa O'Connor
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Fieldwork by Sarah Veasey, Chloé Hill & Xander Smith

**Commissioned by: Jon Bell (Design & Conservation Ltd)
On behalf of: Landowner**

Prepared by:	Xander Smith	Senior Post Site Assistant
Reviewed by:	Sarah Veasey PCIfA	Project Officer (Archaeology & Historic Buildings)
Reviewed and approved by:	Chris Lister MCIfA	Director, Business Operations
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Colchester Archaeological Trust

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

tel.: 01206 501785

email: services@catuk.org

web: www.catuk.org

Contents

1	Summary	1
2	Introduction	2
3	Aims	3
4	Methodology	4
5	Historical background	5
6	Building recording descriptive record	9
7	Discussion	47
8	Acknowledgements	51
9	References	51
10	Abbreviations and glossary	53
11	Archive deposition	54
12	Contents of digital archive	54

Appendix 1	Full digital photographic record	56
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Figures	after p72
---------	-----------

OASIS data collection form

List of maps

Map 1	Fairfields Farm as seen on the 1777 Chapman and André map of Essex. Highlighted in green is likely threshing barn B.	5
Map 2	Fairfields Farm shown on the 1841 Tithe map of Hatfield Peverel. Threshing barn A highlighted in blue, threshing barn B in green, brick shed in yellow and linking shed in pink.	6
Map 3	Fairfields Farm on the 1874 6-inch OS map of Hatfield Peverel. Threshing barn A highlighted in blue, threshing barn B in green, brick shed in yellow and linking shed in pink.	6
Map 4	Extract of a map of Cardfields estate from a sales catalogue in 1886. Threshing barn A highlighted in blue, threshing barn B in green, brick shed in yellow and linking shed in pink. (ERO D/F 63/1/10/9)	7
Map 5	Fairfields Farm on the 1897 25-inch OS map of Hatfield Peverel. Threshing barn A highlighted in blue, threshing barn B in green, brick shed in yellow, linking shed in pink and stable in brown.	7
Map 6	Fairfields Farm on the 1922 25-inch OS map of Hatfield Peverel. Threshing barn A highlighted in blue, threshing barn B in green, brick shed in yellow, linking shed in pink and stable in brown.	8
Map 7	Fairfields Farm (misnamed Cardfield's) on the 1964 25-inch OS map of Hatfield Peverel. Threshing barn A highlighted in blue, threshing barn B in green, brick shed in yellow, linking shed in pink and stable in brown.	8

Map 8	Extract from the 1874 6-inch OS map, Fairfield's Farm highlighted in blue and Brick Fields brick and tile works in red.	50
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List of photographs reproduced in text

Cover	Exterior shot of threshing barn A, linking shed, threshing barn B and brick shed. Photograph taken facing north-west.	
Photograph 1	South-east elevation of threshing barn A and stable. Photograph taken facing west north-west.	10
Photograph 2	South-west elevation of threshing barn B and brick shed. Photograph taken facing north-east.	10
Photograph 3	North-east elevation of brick shed, threshing barn B and linking shed. Photograph taken facing south-west.	11
Photograph 4	South-west elevation of linking shed. Photograph taken facing north north-east.	11
Photograph 5	South-east elevation of stable. Photograph taken facing west north-west.	12
Photograph 6	Detail of barn doors on south-east elevation of threshing barn A. Photograph taken facing west north-west.	13
Photograph 7	Detail of anchor plates on south-east elevation of threshing barn A. Photograph taken facing west north-west.	13
Photograph 8	South-east elevation of threshing barn B and brick shed. Photograph taken facing north-west.	14
Photograph 9	Detail of pitching door on south-west elevation of threshing barn A. Photograph taken facing east north-east.	15
Photograph 10	Detail of reused timber post on south-west elevation of linking shed. Photograph taken facing north north-east.	15
Photograph 11	Detail of reused timber post on north-east elevation of linking shed. Photograph taken facing south south-east.	16
Photograph 12	North-east elevation of linking shed and threshing barn A. Photograph taken facing south-west.	17
Photograph 13	Detail of window on north-west elevation of linking shed. Photograph taken facing east south-east.	18
Photograph 14	Interior of threshing barn A. Photograph taken facing north north-east,	19
Photograph 15	Detail of knee brace and iron tie rod in north-western wall of bay 2 of threshing barn A. Photograph taken facing north-west.	20
Photograph 16	Lower register of north-western wall of bay 1 of threshing barn A. Photograph taken facing west north-west.	21
Photograph 17	Detail of carpenter's mark on sill-beam in north-western wall of bay 1 of threshing barn A. Photograph taken facing west north-west.	21
Photograph 18	Upper register of south-eastern wall of bay 2 of threshing barn A. Photograph taken facing east south-east.	22

Photograph 19	Detail of scarf joint in wall-plate of north-western wall of bay 2 of threshing barn A. Photograph taken facing west north-west.	23
Photograph 20	Detail of scarf joint in sill-beam of south-eastern wall of bay 2 of threshing barn A. Photograph taken facing east south-east.	23
Photograph 21	Detail of empty mortices in tie-beam and door-posts in north-western wall of bay 3 of threshing barn A. Photograph taken facing west north-west. (Empty mortices highlighted with red boxes)	24
Photograph 22	Upper register of north-western wall of bay 4 of threshing barn A. Photograph taken facing west north-west.	25
Photograph 23	Detail of scarf joint in sill beam of south-eastern wall of bay 4 of threshing barn A. Photograph taken facing east south-east.	25
Photograph 24	Detail of iron strap on girding beam and intermediate post of bay 4 of threshing barn A. Photograph taken facing east.	26
Photograph 25	Lower register of north-western wall of bay 5 of threshing barn A. Photograph taken facing west north-west.	27
Photograph 26	Upper register of south-eastern wall of bay 5 of threshing barn A. Photograph taken facing east south-east.	27
Photograph 27	Detail of scarf joint in sill-beam on north-western wall of bay 5 of threshing barn A. Photograph taken facing west north-west.	28
Photograph 28	Detail of reused studs in north-western wall of bay 5 of threshing barn A. Photograph taken facing north-west. (Empty mortices highlighted with red boxes)	28
Photograph 29	Detail of empty mortices (highlighted with red boxes) in wall-plate in north-eastern wall of bay 5 of threshing barn A. Photograph taken facing north.	29
Photograph 30	South-eastern wall of bay 3 of threshing barn A. Photograph taken facing east south-east.	30
Photograph 31	Detail of empty mortices in girding beam of north-western wall of midstrey of threshing barn A. Photograph taken facing north-east.	30
Photograph 32	Lower register of south-eastern wall of midstrey of threshing barn A. Photograph taken facing south south-west.	31
Photograph 33	Interior of threshing barn B. Photograph taken facing north-west.	32
Photograph 34	Detail of reused intermediate post in south-western wall of bay 1 of threshing barn B. Photograph taken facing south-west.	33
Photograph 35	Detail of pegged studs in the north-eastern wall of bay 1 of threshing barn B. Photograph taken facing north-east.	33
Photograph 36	Detail of pegged studs in north-eastern wall of bay 2 of threshing barn B. Photograph taken facing north.	34
Photograph 37	Detail of reduced tension brace in bay 3 of threshing barn B. Photograph taken facing north-east.	35
Photograph 38	Detail of empty mortices indicating inserted doorway in north-eastern wall of bay 3 of threshing barn B. Photograph taken facing north.	35
Photograph 39	North-eastern wall of bay 4 of threshing barn B. Photograph taken facing	36

	north-east.	
Photograph 40	South-eastern wall of bay 5 of threshing barn B. Photograph taken facing south-east.	37
Photograph 41	South-western wall of bay 3 of threshing barn B. Photograph taken facing south-west.	38
Photograph 42	Interior of linking shed. Photograph taken facing north-west.	39
Photograph 43	Interior of linking shed. Photograph taken facing south-west.	40
Photograph 44	Detail of door in north-eastern wall of linking shed. Photograph taken facing north-east.	41
Photograph 45	Detail of brickwork in north-eastern wall of linking shed. Photograph taken facing north.	41
Photograph 46	Detail of reused centre-post of linking shed. Photograph taken facing west.	42
Photograph 47	Detail of reused centre-post of linking shed. Photograph taken facing north-east.	42
Photograph 48	Interior of brick shed. Photograph taken facing north-west.	43
Photograph 49	Detail of removed brickwork in brick shed. Photograph taken facing south-west.	44
Photograph 50	Detail of scarf joint in wall-plate in south-western wall of brick shed. Photograph taken facing south-west.	44
Photograph 51	Detail of reused centre-post of south-western wall of stable. Photograph taken facing south-west. (Empty mortice highlighted with red box)	45
Photograph 52	Detail of reused tie-beam of stable. Photograph taken facing north-west.	46

List of figures

- Fig 1 Site location. Buildings recorded in blue.
- Fig 2 Floor plan of threshing barn A and stable. Location and direction of photographs reproduced in the text shown.
- Fig 3 Floor plan of linking shed. Location and direction of photographs reproduced in the text shown.
- Fig 4 Floor plan of threshing barn B and brick shed. Location and direction of photographs reproduced in the text shown.
- Fig 5 South-east elevation.
- Fig 6 South-west elevation.
- Fig 7 North-west elevation.
- Fig 8 North-east elevation.
- Fig 9 Truss cross-section from threshing barn A, between bays 3 and 4.
- Fig 10 Truss cross-section from threshing barn B, between bays 4 and 3.

1 Summary

A programme of historic building recording was carried out by Colchester Archaeological Trust at Fairfield's Farm, Mowden Hall Lane, Hatfield Peverel, Essex on the 6th of February 2025.

The structures recorded in this report comprise two threshing barns with a number of outbuildings, (henceforth, threshing barn A and B, linking shed, brick shed and stable), the oldest of which is the five-bay threshing barn B. The combination of pegged studs, a technique which faded in the 17th century, with through-bracing, a technique which emerged around the same time, suggest an origin in the latter 17th century.

The earliest cartographic evidence of buildings at Fairfield's Farm is the 1777 Champman & André. The lack of detail in the map makes it difficult to state with any certainty which buildings are present, but it is plausible to suggest that part of threshing barn B is represented.

Cartographic evidence indicates that throughout the 19th and 20th centuries, the structures at Fairfield's Farm were repeatedly altered, rebuilt (built) or extended. This is indicative of a working farmstead that was expanding and shrinking to keep up with changing demands of the farming industry.

2 Introduction

This is the archive report of an historic building recording carried out at Fairfield's Farm, Mowden Hall Lane, Hatfield Peverel, Essex. The work was commissioned by Jon Bell (Design & Conservation Ltd) on behalf of the landowner and was carried out by Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT) on 6th of February 2025. The site is located at NGR TL 79166 01508 (Fig 1).

A planning application (23/00793/FUL) was submitted to Braintree District Council in March 2023 proposing the *Change of use, extensions and alterations of 4No. existing barns to create 3No. dwellings. Demolition of 2No. existing agricultural barns and erection of 2No. dwellings. Together with associated access, residential curtilages and landscaping.*

As the building proposed for development has historic origins, an archaeological condition of historic building recording was recommended by the Place Services Historic Environment Advisor (HEA) (ECCPS 2025). The recommended archaeological condition was based on the guidance given in the National Planning Policy Framework (MHCLG 2023).

A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for the building recording was prepared by Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT 2025) and agreed with the HEA. All work was carried out in accordance with this WSI.

In addition to the project brief and WSI, all fieldwork and reporting was undertaken in accordance with:

- *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)* (Historic England 2015),
- Professional standards of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, including its *Code of Conduct* (CIfA 2020a-c, 2022),
- East of England standards and frameworks published by East Anglian Archaeology (Brown & Glazebrook 2000, Gurney 2003, Medlycott 2011) and the recent review updates on <https://researchframeworks.org/eoe/>
- *Understanding Historic Buildings: A Guide to Good Recording Practice* (Historic England 2016)
- Relevant health and safety guidelines and requirements (CAT 2024).

3 Aims

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

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

The information contained in the record will for the most part have been obtained through an examination of the building itself. The documentary sources used are likely to be those which are most readily accessible, such as historic Ordnance Survey maps, trade directories and other published sources. The record may contain some discussion the building’s broader stylistic or historical context and importance. It may form part of a wider survey of a number of buildings which will aim at an overall synthesis, such as a thematic or regional publication, when the use of additional source material may be necessary as well as a broader historical and architectural discussion of the buildings as a group.”

In particular, the record considered:

- Plan and form of the site.
- Materials and method of construction.
- Date(s) of the structures.
- Original function and internal layout.
- Fixtures and fittings.
- Original and later phasing, additions and their effect on the internal/ external fabric and the level of survival of original fabric.
- An account of the past and present uses of the buildings.

4 Methodology

The following are included in this report:

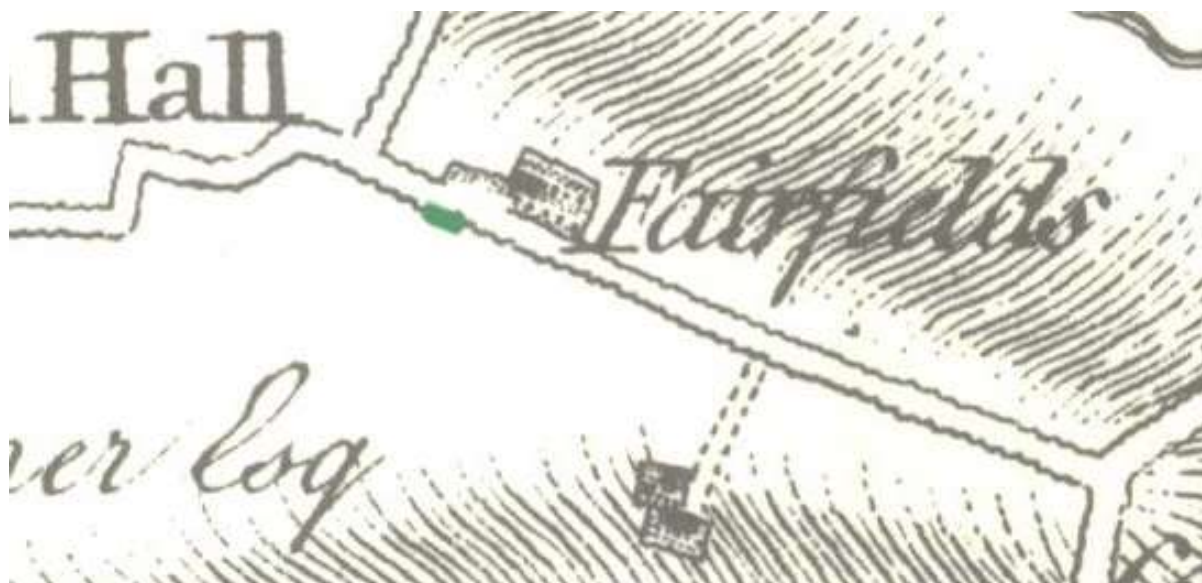
- A documentary, cartographic and pictorial survey of the evidence pertaining to the history and evolution of the site.
- A large-scale block plan of the site.
- Annotated and phased floorplan of the buildings at a scale of 1:100.
- A description of the buildings. The description addresses features such as materials, dimensions, method of construction and phasing.
- A photographic record comprising digital photographs of both general shots and individual features. Selected examples of the photographic record are clearly tied into the drawn record and reproduced as fully annotated photographic plates supporting the text. The photographic record is accompanied by a photographic register detailing location and direction of shot (Appendix 1).

5 Historical background

The following archaeological background includes extracts of the ECC Brief (ECCPS 2025) and Essex Historic Environment Records (CHER) held at Essex County Council, County Hall, Chelmsford, Essex (accessed via <http://www.heritagegateway.org.uk>).

The structures detailed in this report are located on the southern side of Mowden Hall Lane, Hatfield Peverel. The recorded complex is composed of five structures, which are referred to as threshing barn A, linking shed, threshing barn B, brick shed and the stable.

The earliest evidence of structures at Fairfield's Farm is on the Chapman and André map of 1777 (Map 1), detailing a building in the location of the street-fronting buildings seen today. The 1841 tithe map (Map 2) depicts additional buildings in the location of threshing barn A (including a structure on the western side of the building) and a line of buildings, now lost, to the south of the street-frontage structures. It also details the presence of additional structures along the street-fronting.



Map 1 Fairfield's Farm as seen on the 1777 Chapman and André map of Essex. Highlighted in green is likely threshing barn B.



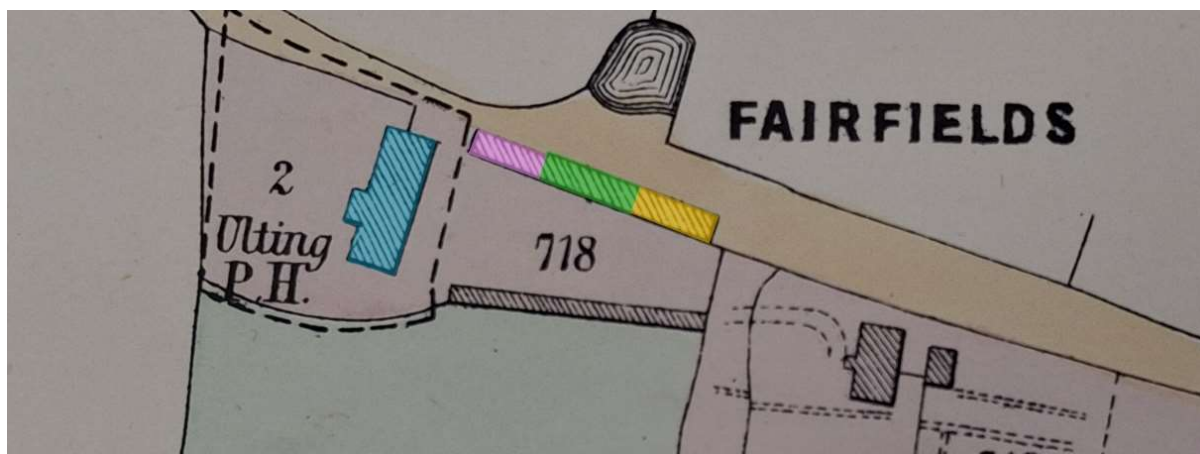
Map 2 Fairfields Farm shown on the 1841 Tithe map of Hatfield Peverel. Threshing barn A highlighted in blue, threshing barn B in green, brick shed in yellow and linking shed in pink.

Fairfields appears again on the 1874 6-inch OS map (Map 3) in roughly the same form it takes in 1841, including the structure on the western side of threshing barn A.



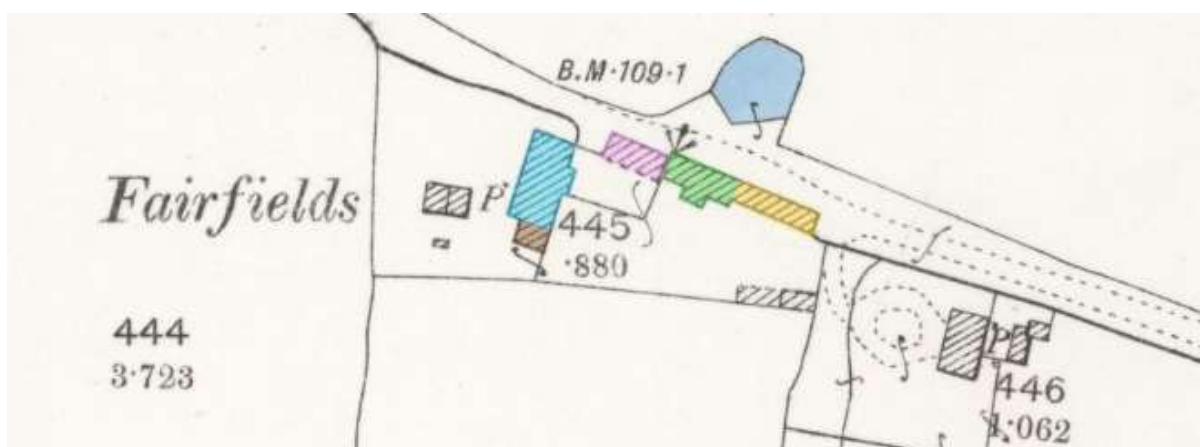
Map 3 Fairfields Farm on the 1874 6-inch OS map of Hatfield Peverel. Threshing barn A highlighted in blue, threshing barn B in green, brick shed in yellow and linking shed in pink.

An 1886 sales catalogue (Map 4 ERO D/F 63/1/10/9) for Cardfields (the wider estate of which Fairfields was part) presents threshing barn B without it's midstrey and includes the structure on the western side of threshing barn A.



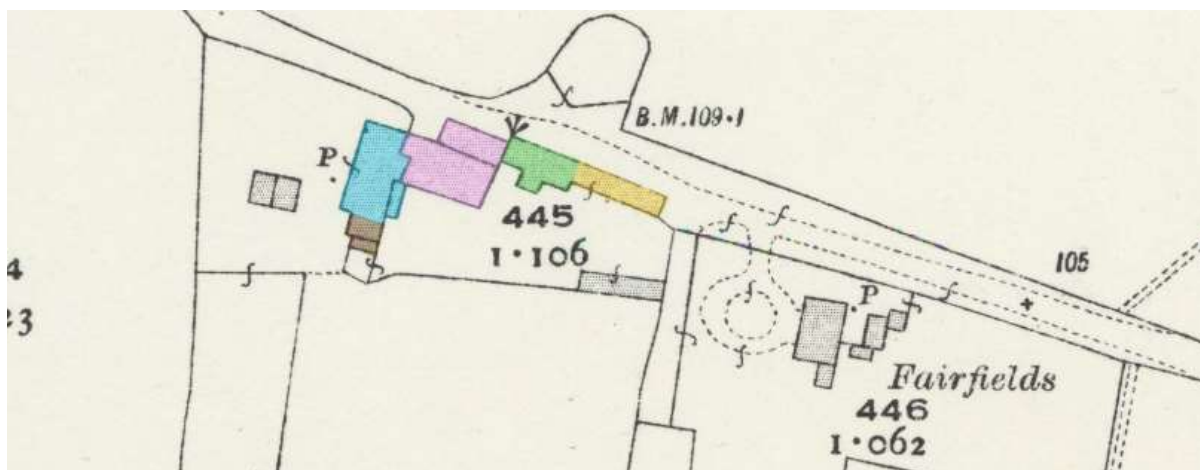
Map 4 Extract of a map of Cardfields estate from a sales catalogue in 1886. Threshing barn A highlighted in blue, threshing barn B in green, brick shed in yellow and linking shed in pink. (ERO D/F 63/1/10/9)

On the 1897 25-inch OS map (Map 5) a midstrey is again present on threshing barn B, representing either an addition or indicating unreliability in the sales catalogue map. The frontage of what appears to be the north-eastern segment of the linking shed is open and the midstrey of threshing barn A is now present on the eastern side. A yard wall projecting from threshing barn A and the linking shed may be present. The stable appears to be present on the south side of threshing barn A.



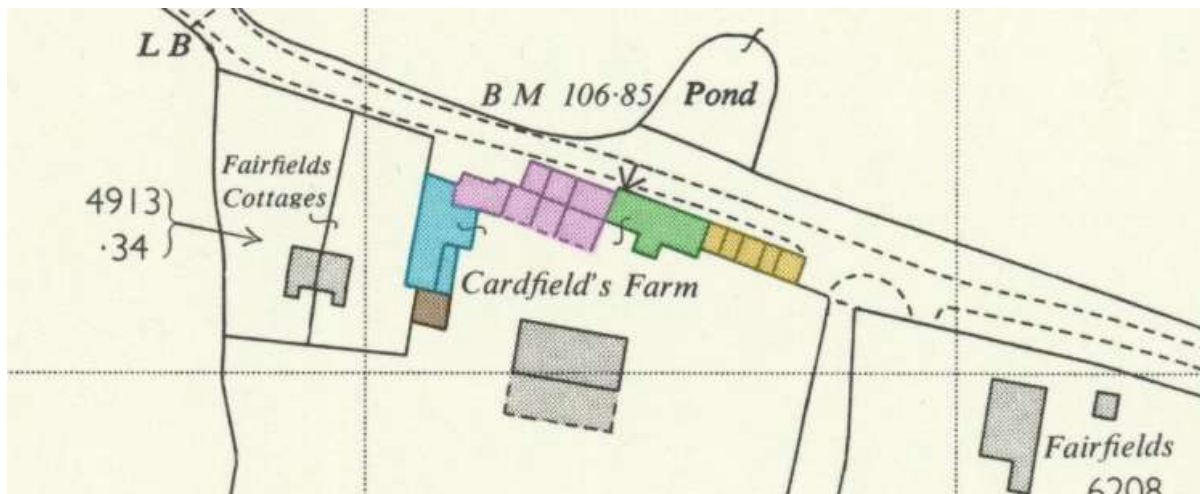
Map 5 Fairfield's Farm on the 1897 25-inch OS map of Hatfield Peverel. Threshing barn A highlighted in blue, threshing barn B in green, brick shed in yellow, linking shed in pink and stable in brown.

The 1922 25-inch OS map (Map 6) shows the yard wall present in 1897, between threshing barn A and the linking shed, to be roofed, significantly extending the linking shed beyond its modern limit.



Map 6 Fairfield's Farm on the 1922 25-inch OS map of Hatfield Peverel. Threshing barn A highlighted in blue, threshing barn B in green, brick shed in yellow, linking shed in pink and stable in brown.

Finally, the 1964 25-inch OS map (Map 7) presents us with Fairfield's (misnamed as Cardfield's on the map) in almost its modern configuration. The linking shed is depicted with its modern-day footprint, albeit with an open frontage and internal divisions not present today, the brick shed also is shown with additional internal divisions. An additional structure on the eastern side of threshing barn A is shown, possibly a lean-to between stable and the midstre, which is longer extant.



Map 7 Fairfield's Farm (misnamed Cardfield's) on the 1964 25-inch OS map of Hatfield Peverel. Threshing barn A highlighted in blue, threshing barn B in green, brick shed in yellow, linking shed in pink and stable in brown.

6 Building recording descriptive record (Figs 2-10)

The building detailed in this report comprises 5 structures, connected but not constructed at the same time. They have been referred to as threshing barn A, linking shed, threshing barn B, brick shed and stable.

Exterior

Threshing barn A (photograph 1) is the larger of the two threshing barns, it is T-shaped in plan (aligned roughly north-east/south-west) with a midstrey which projects from the south-eastern elevation.

Overall, the barn covers an area of around 135m². It's roof is gabled at both ends with a catslide roof extending over the midstrey, all covered with corrugated iron sheets. The building is timber framed and supported by a red brick plinth which varies in form around the building (detailed below). Across all elevations (unless otherwise stated) it is clad in weatherboard. It is attached to the stable to the south and joins to the linking shed in the north-east.

Threshing barn B (photograph 2), as mentioned above, is the smaller of the two threshing barns, covering an area around 115m². It is T-shaped in plan, aligned north-west/south-east, with a midstrey projecting from the south-western elevation. The roof of the main range is gabled at both ends with the midstrey having a single gable roof. All sections are roofed in corrugated iron sheets. It is timber-framed and supported by a red brick plinth (detailed below). Across all elevations it is clad in weatherboard.

The stable (photograph 1) is the smallest of the structures surveyed and is attached to threshing barn A on its north-eastern side. The building is roughly square in plan with a lean-to on its north-western side and covers an area of around 42m². It has a roof that is gabled at both ends, covered with corrugated iron sheets, which extends into a catslide roof to cover the lean-to. The building is timber framed and supported by a red brick plinth (brick dimensions 225 x 115 x 70mm) laid in a rough English-bond. Across all elevations it is clad in weatherboard.

The linking shed (photograph 4) is, by area, the largest of the structures surveyed, covering an area of around 226m². The roof over the main body of the building is gabled at both ends, with a lower gabled roof extending to the north-west. A mono-pitched roof is present where the linking shed meets threshing barn A. All sections are covered in corrugated iron sheets. It is primarily supported by blockwork walls with timber framed elements at the western and eastern ends. The north-eastern wall is constructed from brick (detailed below)

The brick shed (photograph 2) is rectangular in plan, aligned north-west/south-east, and covers an area of around 78m². It is brick built with a roof gabled at both ends and covered in corrugated metal sheets.



Photograph 1 South-east elevation of threshing barn A and stable. Photograph taken facing west north-west.



Photograph 2 South-west elevation of threshing barn B and brick shed. Photograph taken facing north-east.



Photograph 3 North-east elevation of brick shed, threshing barn B and linking shed. Photograph taken facing south-west.



Photograph 4 South-west elevation of linking shed. Photograph taken facing north north-east.

On the south-east elevation the stable has two windows, blocked with horizontal weatherboard, set either side of a vertically planked stable door (photograph 5). The midstreys project from this elevation of threshing barn A to the south of which, the barn is clad with corrugated iron sheets. The midstreys are dominated by a pair of barn doors, vertically timbered on their upper halves with plywood sheets on their lower halves (photograph 6). The doors are secured with iron strap hinges. Four anchor plates are visible on this elevation of threshing barn A, just below the lip of the roof (photograph 7). The barn's brick plinth on this elevation (where visible) is red brick (brick dimensions 210 x 105 x 65mm) formed in a rough English-bond. The south-eastern elevation of the linking shed has a three-light metal framed window, two fixed lights either side of an awning opening, fitted into the blockwork. Below its gable end, linking shed has a six-light metal framed window, five are fixed lights while the top right has an awning opening. Across the south-east elevation of threshing barn B, its brick plinth is sheathed in concrete. A vertically planked door is present south of the centre in the midstreys, while a blocked pitching door, is set into the gable (photograph 8). The south-east elevation of the brick shed has a fixed six-light timber framed window fixed into the upper centre of its gable (photograph 8).



Photograph 5 South-east elevation of stable. Photograph taken facing west north-west.



Photograph 6 Detail of barn doors on south-east elevation of threshing barn A. Photograph taken facing west north-west.



Photograph 7 Detail of anchor plates on south-east elevation of threshing barn A. Photograph taken facing west north-west.

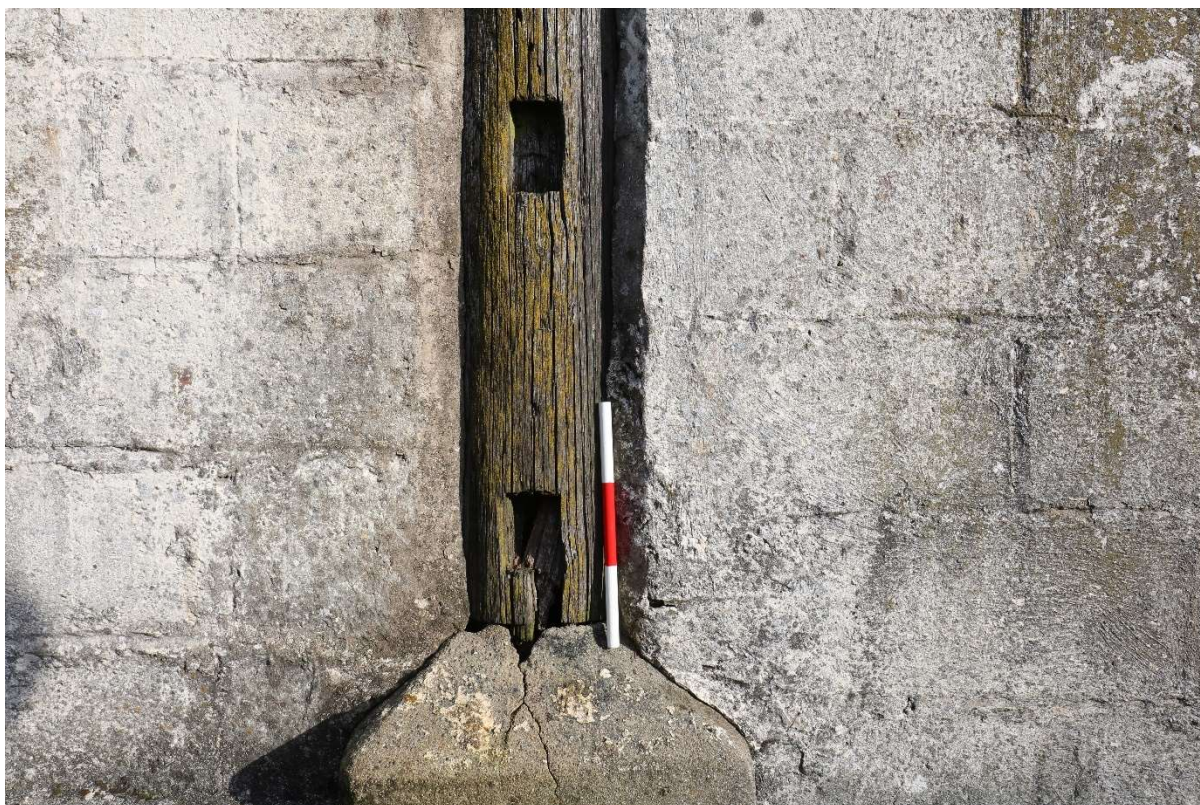


Photograph 8 South-east elevation of threshing barn B and brick shed. Photograph taken facing north-west.

In the south-west elevation of the stable, a vertically planked pitching door is positioned on the western side. The lean-to section of the stable is missing its weatherboard. On threshing barn A, two anchor plates are visible on the western side of the elevation, a vertically planked pitching door is fixed just east of the centre and an open window frame is present above that (photograph 9). In the south-west elevation of the linking shed, a pair of timber posts are visible in the blockwork with one showing evidence of reuse (photograph 10). Three metal framed windows are arranged in the blockwork of this elevation, all are two fixed lights either side of a single-light awning. Four modern metal sliding doors fill the eastern half of this elevation. The south-west elevation of threshing barn B has two sets of three-light metal framed windows, each comprising two casement openings either side of a fixed light, set into the western end of the building. The midstrey, which projects from this elevation, is dominated by a pair of vertically planked double doors. The red brick plinth of the barn changes in three places along this elevation. To the west of the midstrey, the plinth is formed from both a rough Flemish-bond (brick dimensions 225 x 105 x 65mm) and a rough English-bond (brick dimensions 210 x 105 x 65mm). The transition between bonds is sheathed in concrete. The plinth to the east of the midstrey is formed of an English-bond (brick dimensions 225 x 110 x 60mm) with a chamfered course of bricks running through the centre. The plinth of the midstrey is obscured by concrete. The south-west elevation of brick shed has four doorways in the brickwork, two on the western end and two just east of centre, with a vertically planked door positioned at the far eastern end.



Photograph 9 Detail of pitching door on south-west elevation of threshing barn A. Photograph taken facing east north-east.



Photograph 10 Detail of reused timber post on south-west elevation of linking shed. Photograph taken facing north north-east.

The north-east elevation of the brick shed is featureless, save for a single chimney pipe rising from the eastern end of the roof. The brick plinth on the north-east elevation of threshing barn B is different again from those on the south-west. It is red brick, painted black, formed in an English-bond (brick dimensions 225 x 110 x 65mm) with a chamfer roughly six courses up from ground level. The weatherboard cladding covers up to the chamfer on the western side of the elevation, whilst on the eastern two courses of brickwork above the chamfer are visible. In the centre of the elevation is a double doorway blocked with corrugated metal sheeting. Either side of the doorway the original iron pintles remain. The north-eastern elevation of the linking shed is constructed from ceramic blocks (dimensions 320 x 140 x ?mm) laid in either a stretcher or a simple rat-trap bond (photograph 11). Above this is additional brickwork, red brick (brick dimensions 230 x 110 x 70mm) formed in Flemish-bond. The blocks have been built around two timber posts, the western of the two shows signs of reuse in the form of empty mortices. More conventionally sized bricks (matching the brickwork above in dimensions) fill the gaps between the posts and the oversized brickwork. The western section of the structure, linking it to threshing barn A, is clad in corrugated metal sheeting with a concrete plinth visible below. A corrugated metal sheet door is set into this section of the elevation. The north-eastern elevation of threshing barn A is dominated by a pair of inserted vertically planked double doors (photograph 12). The plinth has been rebuilt on this elevation, the eastern end formed with red brick painted black (brick dimensions 205 x 110 x 65mm) and the western side with red brick (brick dimensions 220 x 110 x 65mm). Both sides are in a Flemish-bond.



Photograph 11 Detail of reused timber post on north-east elevation of linking shed. Photograph taken facing south south-east.



Photograph 12 North-east elevation of linking shed and threshing barn A. Photograph taken facing south-west.

The north-east gable of the linking shed is clad weatherboard while the elevation beneath is covered with corrugated metal sheeting. A fifteen-light metal framed window, nine fixed lights around a large awning opening formed of the remaining six lights, is located in the gable (photograph 13). In the centre of the north-western elevation of threshing barn A, a doorway has been blocked with weatherboard. Four anchor plates are just visible under the eaves of the roof. The brick plinth on this elevation is obscured by ground level. The weatherboard on the north-western elevation of the stable is highly damaged and the brick plinth is obscured by ground level. A single door is present into the centre of this elevation.



Photograph 13 Detail of window on north-west elevation of linking shed. Photograph taken facing east south-east.

Interior

Threshing Barn A

Threshing barn A has been divided into five bays, labelled bay 1-5 from south to north (see Fig 2). The midstrey projects from the eastern wall of bay 3. Unless otherwise stated, the floor is poured concrete.

The roofs of the main range and the midstrey of threshing barn A, above the wall-plates, have been entirely rebuilt with modern machine-cut timbers. The barn's roof is gabled and comprises pairs of rafters rising from the wall-plate meeting together at the apex of the roof. Collars are present on every other pair of rafters (photograph 14). The roof of the midstrey is a catslide and comprises a continuation of the rafters above bay 3.



Photograph 14 Interior of threshing barn A. Photograph taken facing north north-east

The frame of the main range of the barn is constructed from hand-sawn timbers, which are held together by timber-pegs. A few machine-cut timbers have been added for reinforcement or replacement. The midstrey follows this pattern of hand-sawn timbers with machine-cut repairs. Several of the larger timbers, particularly several intermediate posts, are rough-hewn and retain significant portions of bark.

The tie-beams, which are quite sinuous, are supported on knee braces, which have been secured with iron bolts and nails (photograph 15). The wall-framing of the barn has girding beams, separating the upper and lower register. The girding beam is interrupted by the intermediate posts. The wall-framing is braced with diagonal-through-bracing, some bays have two braces per register while others only have one.



Photograph 15 Detail of knee brace and iron tie rod in north-western wall of bay 2 of threshing barn A. Photograph taken facing north-west.

Bay 1 is the southernmost bay of the barn. A mezzanine level has been inserted into this bay, which obscures the upper registers of the walls. It has been constructed with modern machine cut timbers and is supported from below by blockwork pillars at the north-eastern and north-western ends of the bay, and by an iron beam supported in turn by three timber posts. The girding beam on the north-western wall has an iron strap connecting it to the corner-post. A diagonal through brace is missing from the lower register of this wall. Two of the studs in the lower register show signs of reuse, in the form of unused mortices. A carpenter's mark, 'VIII', is present on the north-western sill beam (photograph 17).



Photograph 16 Lower register of north-western wall of bay 1 of threshing barn A. Photograph taken facing west north-west.



Photograph 17 Detail of carpenter's mark on sill-beam in north-western wall of bay 1 of threshing barn A. Photograph taken facing west north-west.

In bay 2, three studs in the north-western wall and a further three in the south-eastern wall show signs of reuse, all in the form of unused mortices. A face-halved and bladed scarf joint is present in the north-western wall-plate (photograph 19) while a face-lipped straight-butted scarf joint is present in the south-eastern sill-beam (photograph 20). A metal bolt has been added to the wall-plate scarf-joint. Two iron tie rods cross the bay, from the south-eastern to the north-western wall, close to the inside faces of the tie-beams (photograph 15).



Photograph 18 Upper register of south-eastern wall of bay 2 of threshing barn A. Photograph taken facing east south-east.

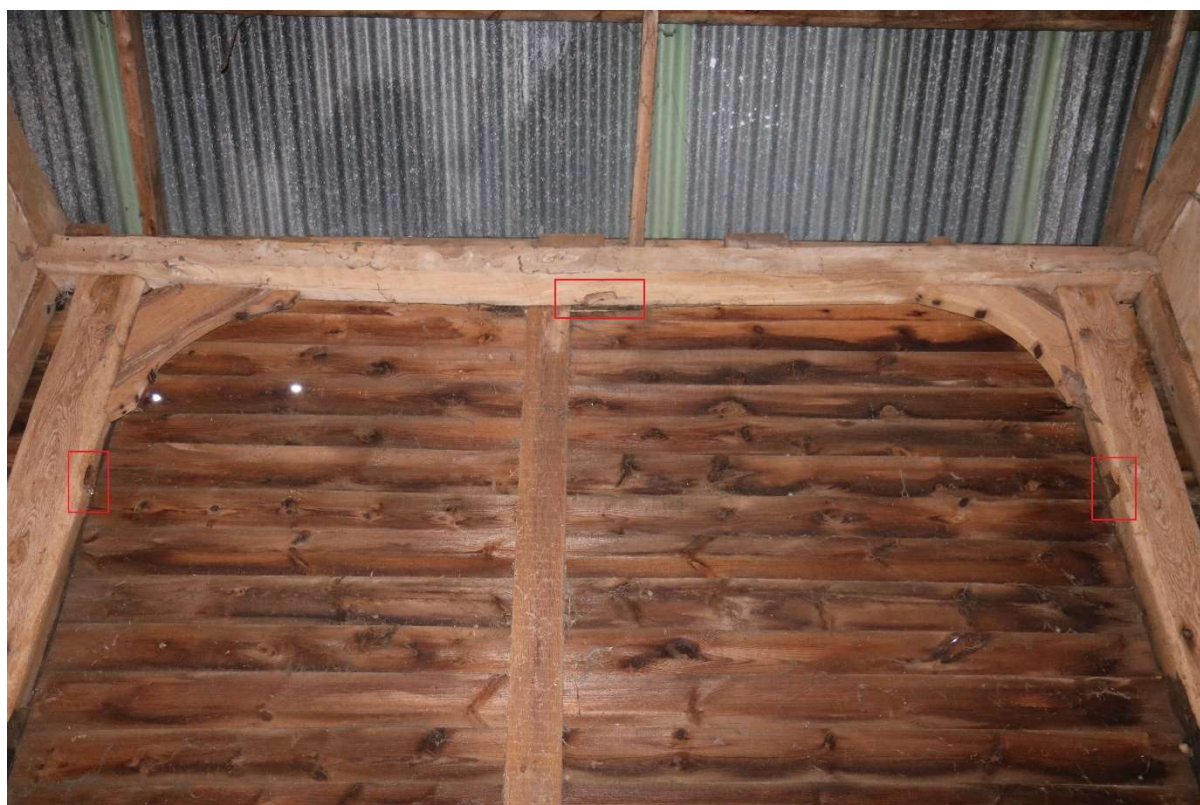


Photograph 19 Detail of scarf joint in wall-plate of north-western wall of bay 2 of threshing barn A. Photograph taken facing west north-west.



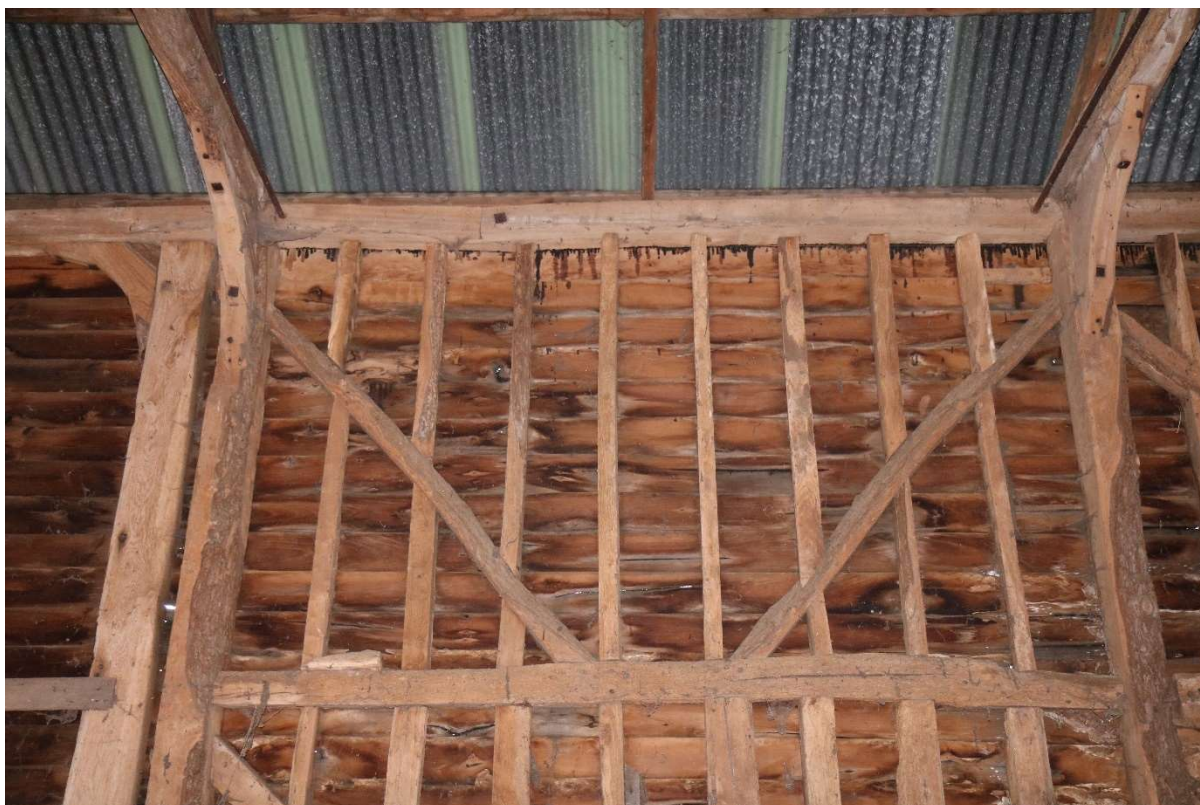
Photograph 20 Detail of scarf joint in sill-beam of south-eastern wall of bay 2 of threshing barn A. Photograph taken facing east south-east.

Bay 3 is central and widest bay of the barn. In this bay, the north-western wall has been blocked externally by weatherboarding. The doorposts are still present, which, along with knee bracing, support the wall-plate above (photograph 21). Empty mortices in the doorposts, mirroring one another, and an empty mortice in the midpoint of the wall-plate in this wall may indicate removed bracing. The bay opens to the midstrete on the south-eastern side. The floor in this bay appears to be beaten earth and is visibly lower than the concrete in the bays either side, possibly representing a historic threshing floor.



Photograph 21 Detail of empty mortices in tie-beam and door-posts in north-western wall of bay 3 of threshing barn A. Photograph taken facing west north-west.
(Empty mortices highlighted with red boxes)

In bay 4, three studs in the north-western wall as well as a single stud and the girding-beam in the south-eastern wall all show signs of reuse in the form of empty mortices. A face-halved and bladed scarf joint is present in the wall-plate of the north-western wall, with a face-lipped straight-butt joint present in the south-eastern sill-beam (photograph 23). The wall-plate scarf-joint has been reinforced with a metal bolt. A pair of iron tie rods cross between the south-eastern and north-western walls, close to the inside faces of the tie-beams in this bay. An iron strap connects the intermediate post on the south-eastern wall with the girding-beam (accompanied by machine-cut timber repairs) (photograph 24).



Photograph 22 Upper register of north-western wall of bay 4 of threshing barn A. Photograph taken facing west north-west.



Photograph 23 Detail of scarf joint in sill-beam of south-eastern wall of bay 4 of threshing barn A. Photograph taken facing east south-east.

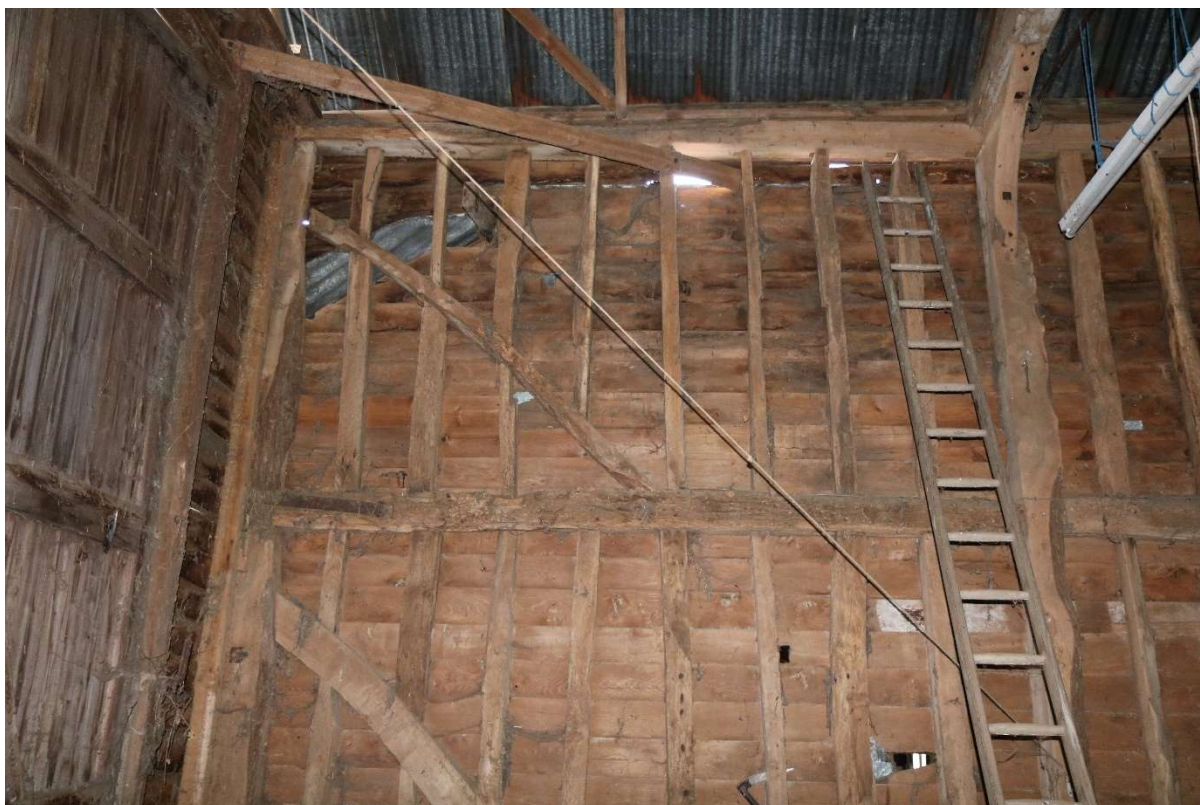


Photograph 24 Detail of iron strap on girding-beam and intermediate post of bay 4 of threshing barn A. Photograph taken facing east.

Bay 5 is the northernmost bay of the barn. The doorway set into the north-eastern wall is inserted, evidenced by regularly spaced empty mortices in the wall-plate (photograph 29). Four studs and the girding-beam in the north-western wall (photograph 28), along with a single stud in the south-eastern wall, all show signs of reuse in the form of empty mortices. The girding-beams on the north-western and south-eastern walls both have iron straps connecting them with the corner-posts. A face-lipped straight-butt joint is present in the north-western sill-beam (photograph 27).



Photograph 25 Lower register of north-western wall of bay 5 of threshing barn A. Photograph taken facing west north-west.



Photograph 26 Upper register of south-eastern wall of bay 5 of threshing barn A. Photograph taken facing east south-east.



Photograph 27 Detail of scarf joint in sill-beam on north-western wall of bay 5 of threshing barn A. Photograph taken facing west north-west.



Photograph 28 Detail of reused studs in north-western wall of bay 5 of threshing barn A. Photograph taken facing north-west. (Empty mortices highlighted with red boxes)



Photograph 29 Detail of empty mortices (highlighted with red boxes) in wall-plate in north-eastern wall of bay 5 of threshing barn A. Photograph taken facing north.

The midstrey extends north-east from bay 3. The doorway in the south-eastern wall appears to be original. In the north-eastern wall a doorway has been inserted, evidenced by empty mortices in the girding-beam and a remaining stud forming the western side of the doorway (photograph 31). Additionally, the brick-plinth has been entirely removed from this wall. Another doorway is fixed into the south-western wall, the stud forming the eastern side of the doorway show signs of reuse, in the form of an empty mortice. An iron stay is visible between the north-east corner-post and the northern doorpost. The floor in the midstrey is the same as in bay 3.



Photograph 30 South-eastern wall of bay 3 of threshing barn A. Photograph taken facing east south-east.



Photograph 31 Detail of empty mortices in girthing beam of north-western wall of midstrey of threshing barn A. Photograph taken facing north-east.

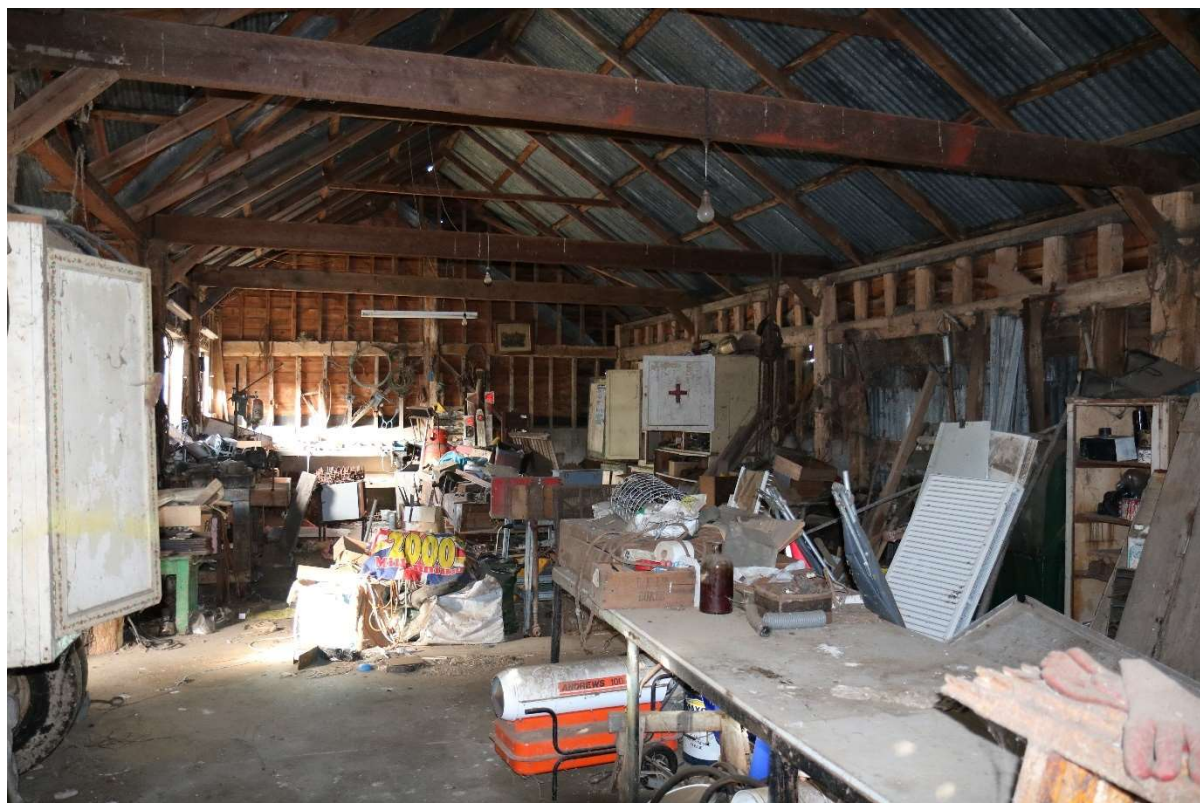


Photograph 32 Lower register of south-eastern wall of midstrey of threshing barn A. Photograph taken facing south south-west.

Threshing barn B.

Threshing barn B has been divided into five bays, labelled bay 1-5 from west to east (see Fig 4). The midstrey projects from the southern elevation of the central bay.

The roof is a modern replacement, constructed entirely with machine-cut timbers. In the main range of the barn it comprises pairs of rafters rise from the wall-plates meeting each other at the apex of the roof. Three collars are present, one over bay 1, another over bay 3 and the final one over bay 5. The midstrey roof is formed in the same manner as the main range, with only a single collar present. The floor of the barn poured concrete.



Photograph 33 Interior of threshing barn B. Photograph taken facing north-west.

The main range of the barn is constructed primarily from hand-sawn timbers, which are held together by timber-pegs. The original framing comprises a girding beam, interrupted by the intermediate posts, with studs and both diagonal through-bracing and concealed tension bracing. The south-western wall and midstrey are formed with machine-cut timbers, save for the intermediate posts which are original hand-sawn timbers. The studs in the western gable end are also machine-cut. The tie-beams have also been replaced with machine-cut timbers supported by machine-cut straight bracing. -Across all bays there is evidence that the barn's roof has been lowered. The hand-sawn timbers which form the north-eastern wall have all been cut and (as detailed below) a number of concealed tension braces have been shortened or removed. A concrete render has been added over the brick plinth around the main range of the barn.

In bay 1 the intermediate post and girding beam of the north-western wall are hand-sawn while the rest of the wall is rebuilt in machine-cut timber. The south-eastern intermediate post shows signs of reuse, in the form of empty mortices (photograph 34). A metal framed window is fixed into the south-western wall. Concealed tension bracing has been removed from what is left of the upper register of the north-eastern wall, evidenced by a recess in one of the studs and a used peg in the girding-beam.



Photograph 34 Detail of reused intermediate post in south-western wall of bay 1 of threshing barn B. Photograph taken facing south-west.



Photograph 35 Detail of pegged studs in the north-eastern wall of bay 1 of threshing barn B. Photograph taken facing north-east.

In bay 2, the south-eastern intermediate post has empty mortices, which likely represents the removal of older timbers when the machine cut replacements were added. The replacement wall-plate in the north-eastern wall has a simple scarf joint.



Photograph 36 Detail of pegged studs in north-eastern wall of bay 2 of threshing barn B.
Photograph taken facing north.

Bay 3 is the central bay of the barn. A doorway, blocked off externally with corrugated metal sheeting, has been inserted, evidenced by regular empty mortices in the underside of the girding-beam (photograph 38). A tension brace in the remains of the upper register has been cut shorter (photograph 37). The south-western wall of the bay is open to allow access to the midstrety.

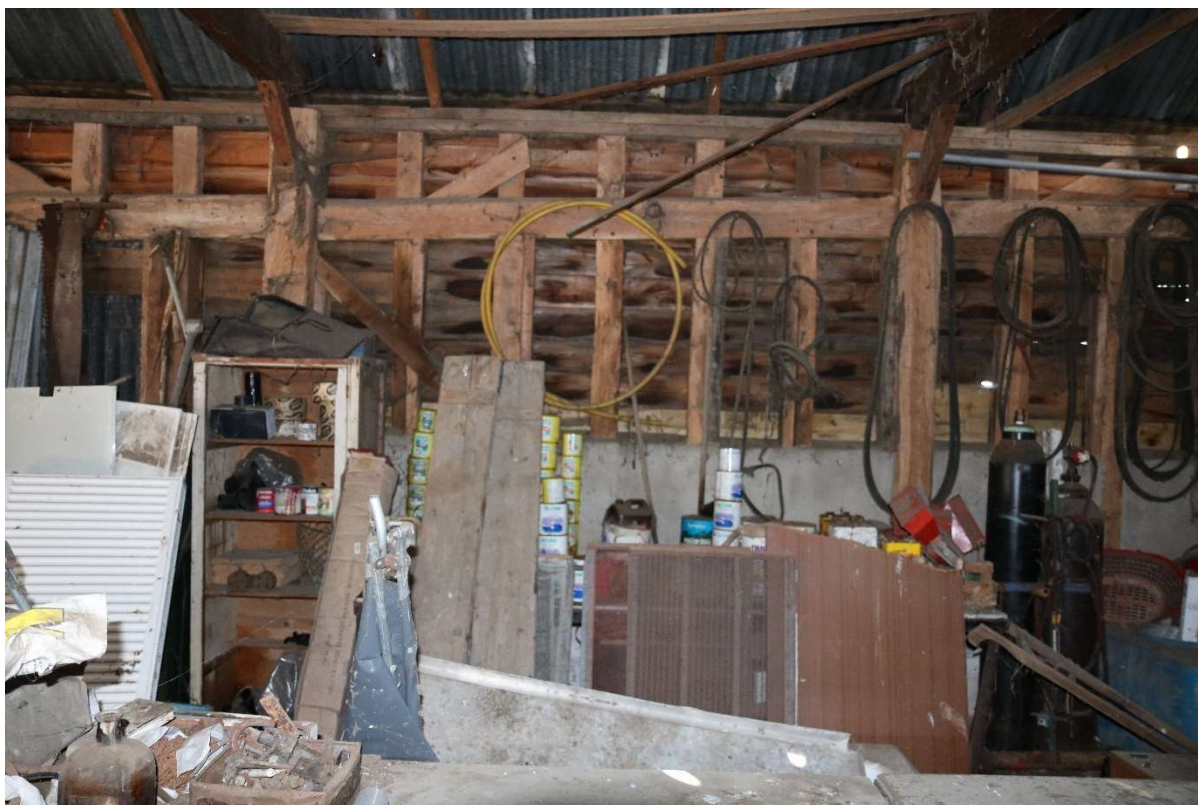


Photograph 37 Detail of reduced tension brace in bay 3 of threshing barn B. Photograph taken facing north-east.



Photograph 38 Detail of empty mortices indicating inserted doorway in north-eastern wall of bay 3 of threshing barn B. Photograph taken facing north.

In the north-eastern wall of bay 4, the upper register contains the remains of a cut tension brace. In the south-western wall, the intermediate posts have empty mortices, likely a result of the removal of the original girding-beam or bracing.



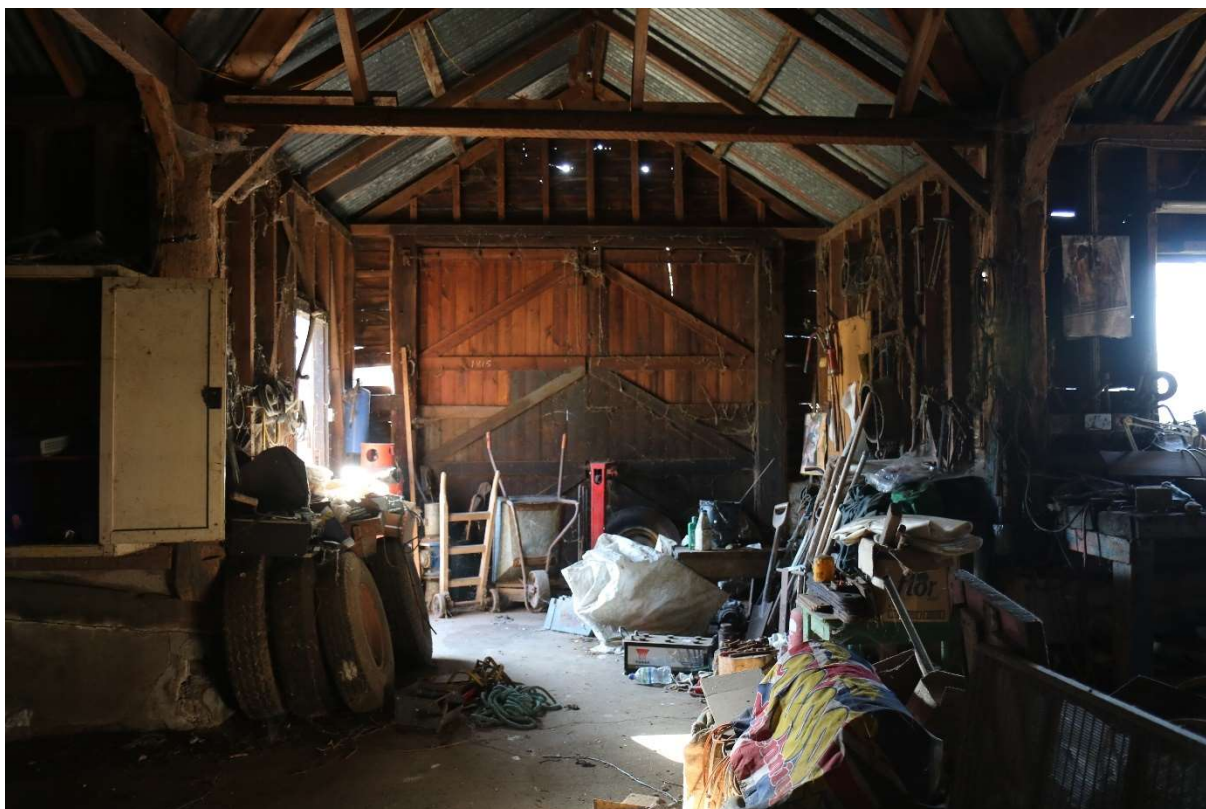
Photograph 39 North-eastern wall of bay 4 of threshing barn B. Photograph taken facing north-east.

In bay 5, some of the studs in the south-eastern wall have been replaced with machine-cut timbers. A boarded-up pitching door is set into the upper register of this wall. The tension brace in the upper register of the north-eastern wall has been cut.



Photograph 40 South-eastern wall of bay 5 of threshing barn B. Photograph taken facing south-east.

In the midstrey, the eastern doorpost shows signs of reuse, in the form of empty mortices. The rest of the frame comprises modern machine cut timbers.



Photograph 41 South-western wall of bay 3 of threshing barn B. Photograph taken facing south-west.

Linking shed.

The linking shed is divided into five bays, labelled 1-5 from west to east (see Fig 3) and a linking corridor extending south from bay 1. The roof is a modern replacement, consisting entirely of machine cut timbers. In the linking corridor the roof is mono-pitch and consists of single rafters rising from the wall-plate to meet a purlin fixed against the wall of threshing barn A. In bays 1 and 2, the roof is gabled and consists of pairs of rafters rising from the wall-plate to meet at a ridge-board, upper collars are present in every pair of rafters. In bays 3, 4 and 5 the roof is gabled and comprises pairs of rafters which rise to meet a ridge-board. Collars in every other pair of rafters support a single clasped purlin on each roof pitch, upper collars are present with the same regularity. A supporting joist runs the length of bays 3-5, supported by and set into central posts. Timber kingposts rise from this joist, aligned with the collars. The kingposts in bay 5 are accompanied by two inclined struts. The tie-beams between bays 3-5 are formed from two lengths of timber joined in the center with a timber fish plate. The floor of the building is poured concrete.



Photograph 42 Interior of linking shed. Photograph taken facing north-west.

In the linking corridor, the north-western and south-western walls consists of the exterior walls of threshing barn A and are clad in weatherboard. A doorway is formed in the southern-western-wall, linking the building to threshing barn A. A metal framed window is fixed into the blockwork of the south-eastern wall.



Photograph 43 Interior of linking shed. Photograph taken facing south-west.

The linking shed is constructed from a combination of materials, which includes a simple timber-frame, with a concrete plinth, and blockwork walls. The framing comprises machine cut timbers, some which appear to be either reused telegraph posts. Most of the posts uses have signs of reuse in the form of empty mortices (photographs 46 and 47), possibly suggesting that they are reused ships masts instead of telegraph posts. The north-eastern wall of bays 3, 4 and 5 is different to the rest of the structure, comprising the clay blockwork and Flemish bond brickwork seen from the exterior. A number of metal framed windows and metal sliding doors are present across the walls.



Photograph 44 Detail of door in north-eastern wall of linking shed. Photograph taken facing north-east.



Photograph 45 Detail of brickwork in north-eastern wall of linking shed. Photograph taken facing north.



Photograph 46 Detail of reused centre-post of linking shed. Photograph taken facing west.



Photograph 47 Detail of reused centre-post of linking shed. Photograph taken facing north-east.

Brick shed

The brick shed consists of one long open main range and a bricked off smaller room (inaccessible at the time of recording). It is mostly formed of brick walls with a machine-cut modern roof, comprising pairs of rafters rising from the wall-plate meeting at a ridgeboard. Collars and upper collars are present on most pairs of rafters. Several collars have king-posts rising from them. The floor is poured concrete.



Photograph 48 Interior of brick shed. Photograph taken facing north-west.

The north-western wall is formed of the weatherboard exterior of threshing barn B. The south-western wall has four doorways forming breaks in the brickwork. Three side-halved scarf-joints are present in the wall-plate, two on the south-western wall (photograph 50) and one on the north-eastern. Two internal walls have been removed from the brick shed, leaving behind two distinct lines of brickwork in the floor (photograph 49). The north-eastern wall dividing the open space from the inaccessible room has corrugated metal forming its upper register.



Photograph 49 Detail of removed brickwork in brick shed. Photograph taken facing south-west.



Photograph 50 Detail of scarf joint in wall-plate in south-western wall of brick shed. Photograph taken facing south-west.

Stable

The stable was inaccessible on the day of recording; however, observations were made through gaps in the exterior weatherboard.

The stable has been divided into three bays, labelled bay 1-3 from south to north, and a lean-to (see Fig 2). It is constructed primarily from hand-sawn timbers, with machine-cut timber forming the upper register on the southern gable end. The exterior south-western wall of threshing barn A forms the north-eastern wall. The brick plinth has been rendered. The floor is poured concrete.

The roof is a modern replacement consisting of machine-cut timbers formed into pairs of rafters rising from the wall-plate meeting each other at the roofs apex. A single collar is present over the join between bays 2 and 3.

The tie-beams have been reinforced with iron straps. Some of the timbers in the frame have signs of reuse while others have been strengthened by the addition of modern timber.



Photograph 51 Detail of reused centre-post of south-western wall of stable. Photograph taken facing south-west. (Empty mortice highlighted with red box)



Photograph 52 Detail of reused tie-beam of stable. Photograph taken facing north-west.

7 Discussion

A small agricultural complex was recorded at Fairfield's Farm, which comprised two threshing barns as well as a further three structures. The earliest cartographic evidence depicting buildings in the area is the 1777, which likely represents threshing barn B.

Much of the original construction of this barn has been lost to later adaptations. The roof has been lowered, by the reduction in height of the timber-framing above the girding-beam. Machine-cut tie-beams with straight bracing have been added and across the south-western elevation all the studs, bracing, sill-beams and wall-plates have been replaced with machine-cut timber. In addition to this the midstrey itself has been entirely rebuilt in machine-cut timber.

The remaining original timber-frame in the north-eastern wall present features which identify it as potentially having a date of construction in the early 17th century. Almost every original stud appears to be pegged in place at the girding-beam, a style of construction which began to fade as the 17th century progressed (Stenning 2013). In addition to the pegged studs, what remains of the upper register appears to contain concealed tension bracing, a technique firmly rooted in the 16th century. However, the structure also includes diagonal through-bracing in its lower register, a practice developed in the 17th century. This combination of techniques and limited number of reused timbers could suggest that the building represents the transitional period in the early 17th century, where pegs are used for every stud but diagonal through-bracing is starting to replace the earlier tension bracing. Quite why both forms of bracing are present is unclear, however the barn may be a visible representation of generational development in timber-framing techniques expressed in one building.

Whilst these elements do not constitute infallible proof, due to the reuse of timber and the prevalence of older styles despite shifting trends, they do indicate the building present on the 1777 Chapman and André map represents threshing barn B.

The brick plinth shows some changes across its circuit, with the north-eastern and north-western lengths remaining the most consistent in English-bond. The bond across the south-western elevation changes between English and Flemish bond. Flemish-bond was popularised in the mid-17th century, before which English-bond was the prevailing bond type, and was still in frequent use throughout the 19th. It seems most likely the areas of English bond form parts of the original brick plinth while the most varied section of brickwork, which aligns with significant changes to the timber frame, seem most likely to represent elements of repair and replacement over time.

Historic mapping does give a date range for the reconstruction of the midstrey and, by extension, suggests a date for the whole of the southern frontage and roof reduction. On the 1874 6-inch OS map (Map 3) the barn is shown with a midstrey projecting to the south-west, the midstrey is then missing in a sales catalogue for the property from 1886 (Map 4 ERO D/F 63/1/10/9) and reappears on the 1897

25-inch OS map. This supplies us with an 11-year window in which the work could have occurred (Fig 2).

The five-bay threshing barn A is larger than its older counterpart, for which historic mapping gives us a window of construction between 1777 and 1841.

Further than its construction date, the historic mapping can provide a window into lost elements of the structure. The 1841 tithe map (Map 2) presents us with a rectangular building with a protruding structure to the west, as does the 1874 6-inch OS map (Map 3) and an 1886 sales catalogue (Map 4). The 1897 25-inch OS map (Map 5) is the first instance where a structure is present on the eastern side, likely the midstrey we see today. The 1922 and 1964 25-inch OS maps (Maps 6 and 7) also show additional structures-projecting from the eastern side of the barn, which are longer extant.

The timber fabric does not, at first glance, support the cartographic evidence. The wall-plate between bay 3 and the midstrey shows no empty mortices, a telltale sign of a timber wall which has been removed. However, this may simply indicate that on the eastern side, a doorway likely existed before the midstrey was constructed, matching the cartographic evidence in plan at least. Furthermore, on the western side, any projection from the structure which was of a lean-to style would leave no mark on the internal timber-frame of the barn.

The midstrey does include more machine-cut timbers (outside of repair and replacement) than the main range, whilst still incorporating reused timber. This further supports the relatively late date of its addition. In the main range, we do see a number of machine-cut timbers as replacement or repair work. Combined with this, a number of iron straps have been incorporated, representing later repairs rather than original fittings, the best example for this is an iron strap between the midstrey intermediate post and the girding-beam of bay 4. Iron tie-rods have also been introduced in bays 2 and 4, additions to solidify and strengthen the structure as a whole, signalling to a continued usefulness of the barn.

The timber fabric of the barn suggests to us that although its date of construction is between 1777 and 1841, it is likely that an older structure was a source for some of its timbers. Firstly, timbers from all but bay 3 show signs of reuse, this coupled with the roughness of a number of the intermediate posts and tie-beams and a rogue carpenter's mark with no corresponding mark all support this. The use of through-bracing throughout the main range corroborates this. Although the barn is constructed during the industrial revolution, the mix of hand-sawn and reused timbers is in keeping with the "make do" attitude of agricultural construction. The brick plinth formed in English-bond, a style re-emerging into popularity in the early 19th century, adds further clarity to the cartographic date.

The origins of the stable appear to be relatively late from historic mapping, with a clear rectangular structure visible on the south-western side of threshing barn A on the 1897 25-inch OS map (Map 5). However, earlier mapping does show some form of structure in this spot since at least 1841 (Map 2).

These structures do not match for size, but it does give an indication that the stable is fulfilling an outbuilding roll which the farm clearly required since the wider construction between 1777 and 1841.

With regards to the timber fabric, the stable clearly represents the latest in a line of timber structures in the area. All the timber below the machine-cut timber roof is hand-sawn, many of which appear to feature clear signs of reuse, including substantial timbers such as tie-beams. Iron straps feature in the tie-beams and wall-plate, whilst these may be remedial, the techniques do lend themselves to the suggested date. Combined with the hand-sawn timber and visible signs of reuse we are presented with a pattern which does support the cartographic evidence both for structures lost and the present stable.

The linking shed, in its current form, is largely modern in its fabric. The north-eastern wall of the building appears to be the only surviving part with historic interest.

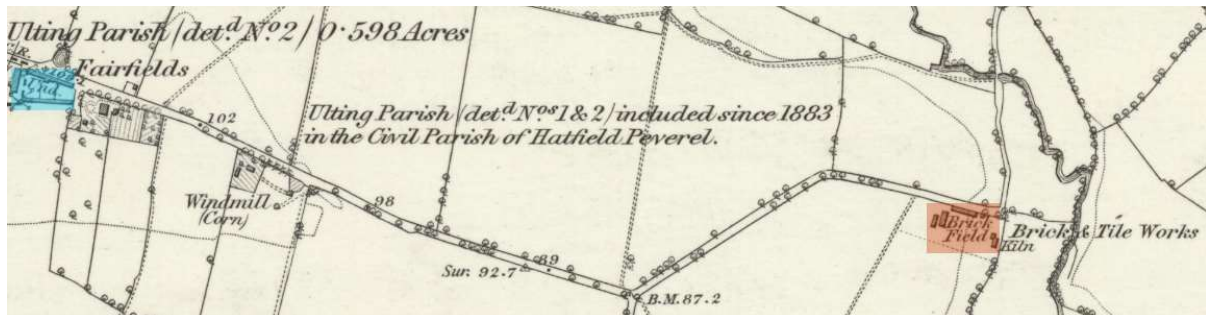
Evidence from historic mapping shows us that, like the majority of the structures surveyed, the origins of the building lay between 1777 and 1841 (Maps 1 and 2). The tithe map of 1841 presents us with a rectangular road-side building, extending north-west from threshing barn B. The structure remains unchanged, cartographically, until the 1897 25-inch OS map (Map 5) shows us that the south-west elevation is open. Additionally, an enclosed yard wall has been erected between linking shed and threshing barn A. With the 1922 25-inch OS map (Map 6) presents this yard area as being roofed over. We find in the 1964 25-inch OS map (Map 7) the building has shrunk to its modern extent, although the south-west elevation is presented as open faced. Additionally, we are shown internal divisions which are not apparent in the modern structure.

The only fabric of the building remaining outside of the period 1922 to 1964 is likely in the north-eastern wall. The ceramic blockwork which forms the majority of the wall is hard to place, they fill (approximately) the lower two thirds of the elevation between the corner-post and the two intermediate posts and are whole bricks along the entire wall. Gaps between the posts and brickwork are filled with more conventionally sized, yet still relatively large, bricks which match the Flemish-bond brickwork which fills the remaining (approximately) upper third of the wall.

To fill the gaps created when brickwork meets posts or corners typically a half brick, sawn from a full sized example, is used. However, the ceramic blocks are left whole and smaller bricks fill the space, other than eccentric bricklaying the most likely reason for this is that the interior of these blocks is hollow. The best early example of hollow bricklaying is that of Hitch bricks, however these are primarily centred in Hertfordshire (Brunskill 1990).

The ability to produce hollow bricks in rural areas was largely limited to established tile makers due to the mechanical processes required to make them *en masse*, especially as the majority of brickyards persisted in using hand brickmaking methods until the end of the century (Kathleen and Watt 1990).

Evidence from an 1886 sales catalogue (ERO SALE/B4158) and the 1874 6-inch OS map (Map 8) show a working brick and tile works roughly a mile away but within the wider property of Carfields (at least until 1886), this could indicate an origin of these unconventional ceramic building materials.



Map 8 Extract from the 1874 6-inch OS map, Fairfield's Farm highlighted in blue and Brick Fields brick and tile works in red.

The brickwork above the blockwork is formed in a Flemish-bond, a style which remained popular throughout the 19th century and as such is unable to sharpen the date of the work. No firm date can be provided for this section of the building and it seems likely almost none of the original fabric of the building shown in the 1841 tithe map remains, save for possibly the timber posts set into the north-eastern wall.

The brick shed, in its modern form, is the hardest to place within the chronology of the site. Historic mapping simply shows a rectangular road-frontage building on the site from the tythe map of 1841 (Map 2) all the way till the 1964 25-inch OS map (Map 7).

The structures brickwork, red brick-formed in a Flemish-bond, doesn't provide a clear indication of date. Flemish-bond first emerged around the 16th century but became popular around the mid-17th. It continued in popularity into the 19th century where it ran parallel to the re-emergence of English-bond as a popular style.

The bricks used in the brick sheds construction can help us tie the date of construction to around the end of the 19th and beginning of the 20th centuries. They appear to be Fletton bricks, identifiable by the distinctive kiss marks, a product of their firing process (Ryan 1999). First appearing in the 1890s (Kathleen and Watt 1990) they would take time to expand in prominence, especially into rural areas. Whilst we are unable to identify a date more specific than post 1890 it does show us that the building is a wholesale replacement of whatever structure is indicated on the earlier mapping of the site.

The remains of internal divisions, in the extant wall on the eastern end of the building and the missing divisions visible through the existing brickwork, suggest to us that brick shed may have formerly been a small stable block. It seems likely that as the usefulness of horses diminished, so too did the requirement for such a significant amount of space to be kept for them at Fairfield's.

The initial developments at Fairfield's Farm between 1777 and 1841, from a single threshing barn to a pair with outbuildings, represent a farm expanding to process a growing yield of cereal crops.

The majority of what is seen today in the buildings surveyed is the result of building work undertaken in the later 19th and early 20th centuries, a period of drastic change in British agriculture. The flurry of activity between 1874 and 1897 at Fairfield's stands in contrast to a general agricultural depression in England following the end of the years of "High Farming". The drastic changes in the frontages of both threshing barns between the years 1886 and 1897 seem best attributed to a change in ownership. The sales catalogue (Map 4 ERO D/F 63/1/10/9), which presents us a view into the layout in 1886, indicates a change of ownership at this time, with new owners typically comes investment and remodelling works. Additionally, more practical concentration around the courtyard space between the buildings is the most likely factor behind the establishment of an eastern midstrey for threshing barn A.

The developments between the years 1897 to 1964, show expansion and reduction of the linking shed. The large structure could be interpreted as a response to general mechanisation prior to the first world war and into the interwar period, and the reduction in the usefulness of the threshing barn as a structure. Blocking off the midstrey of threshing barn A with the extension of the linking shed pretty much guarantees that it was not used for its original purpose in this period. The final reduction of the linking shed into its present-day form is probably a result of a general switch from using and maintaining older established farm buildings towards large and relatively simple modern constructions. To the south of the structures surveyed at Fairfield's are two huge modern barns, serving as the principle working farm buildings of the modern agricultural process. The first of these appears on the same 1964 OS map (Map 7) which presents Fairfield's to us in its modern form.

With Fairfield's' further development into residential buildings we are offered a chance to preserve the physical history embodied by timber-framed buildings, an ever-dwindling resource, and give the buildings there a new lease of life outside of their current existence beside their towering steel and concrete replacements.

8 Acknowledgements

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10 Abbreviations and glossary

beam	horizontal members in timber-frames
carpenter's marks	symbols scratched, incised or chiselled into timbers to assist in assembly
catslide roof	a roof continuing down beyond the main wall-plate to cover and outshot or extension
CAT	Colchester Archaeological Trust
CIfA	Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
Collar	a horizontal timber in a roof structure spanning between a pair of inclined timbers (such as rafters)
EHHER	Essex Historic Environment Record, held by the ECC
English-bond	a brickwork bond created from alternate courses of headers and stretchers
ERO	Essex Records Office
Flemish-bond	a brickwork bond created from alternating headers and stretchers within a single course
HE	Historic Environment
header	a brick laid at right-angles to the face of a wall, i.e. widthways
joist	a horizontal timber that supports floorboards above. Will sometimes carry boarded or plastered ceilings
NGR	National Grid Reference
OASIS	O nline A ccess to the I ndex of A rchaeological I nvestigations, http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main
post	vertical members in timber-frames
purlin	a longitudinal timber giving support to the common rafters of a roof and normally set at right-angles to the slope of the rafters
rafter	an inclined timber following the slope of the roof
stretcher	a brick laid parallel to the face of the wall, i.e. lengthways
stud	in wall frames the upright smaller section timbers between the main posts of the frame
wall-plate	a timber running horizontally along the top of a wall to receive the ends of common rafters

11 Archive deposition

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

12 Contents of digital archive

The CAT WSI

The report (CAT Report 2149)

Digital plans

Site digital photos and log

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Distribution list

Design & Conservation Ltd

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EHER

EEX61203_Phograph_0001 South-east ... EEX61203_Phograph_0002 South-east ... EEX61203_Phograph_0003 Detail of st...



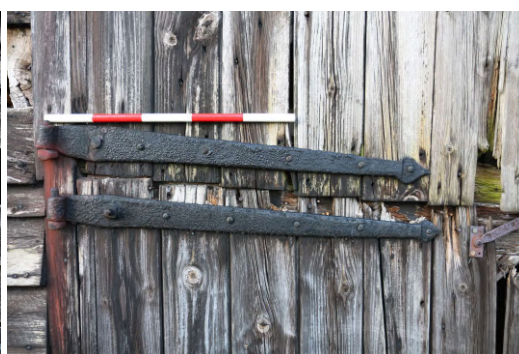
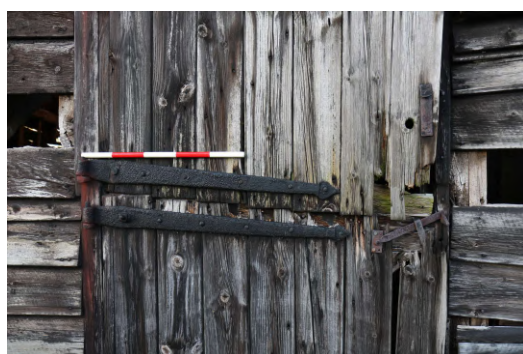
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EEX61203_Phograph_0013 Detail of bri... EEX61203_Phograph_0014 Detail of ba... EEX61203_Phograph_0015 Detail of do...



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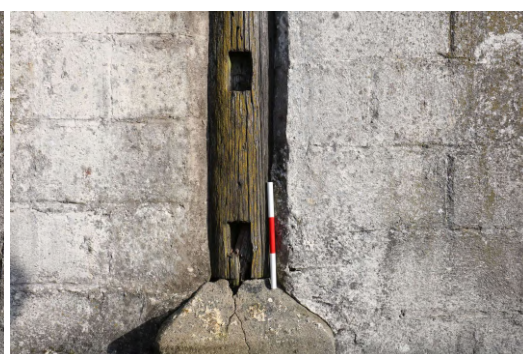
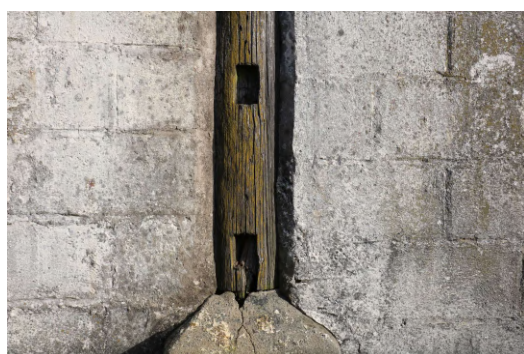
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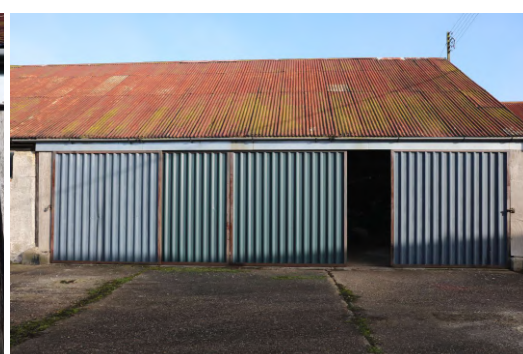
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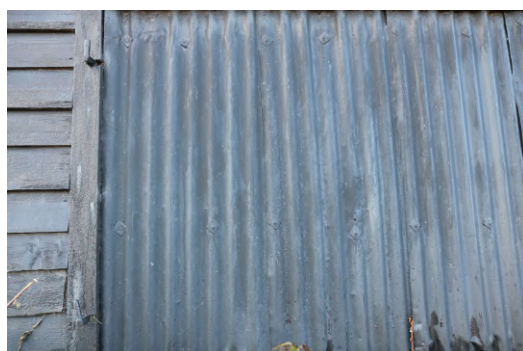
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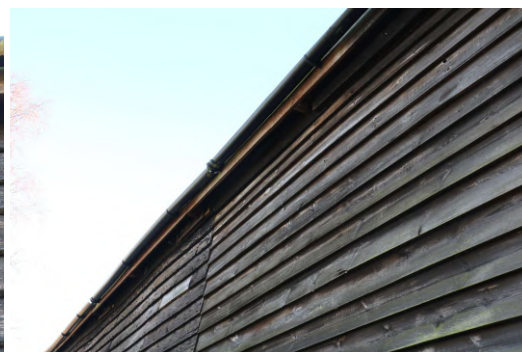
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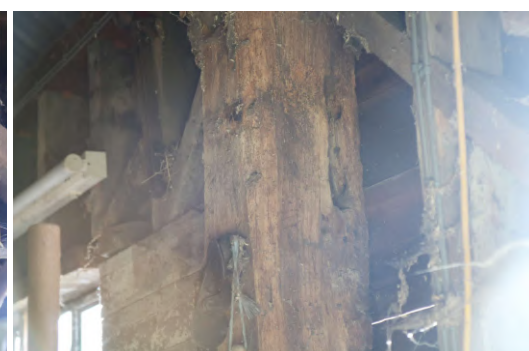
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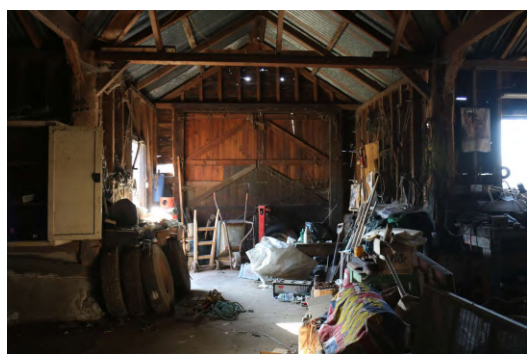
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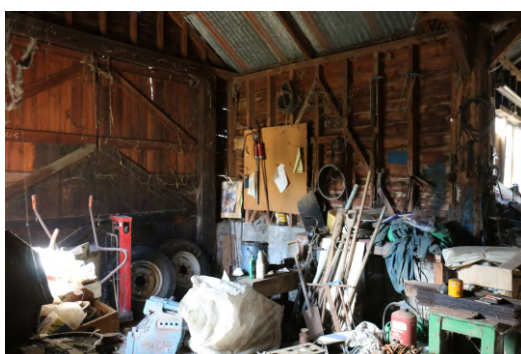
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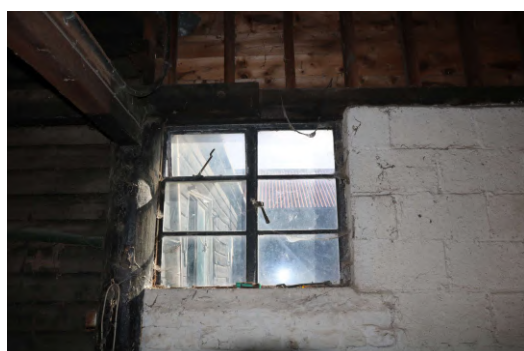
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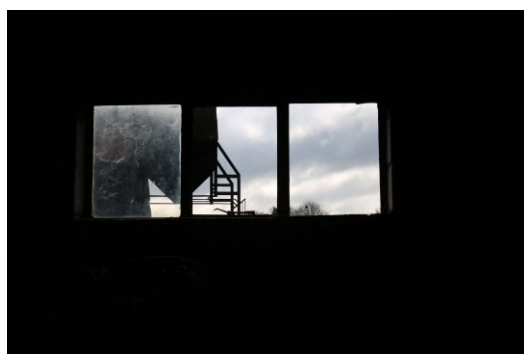


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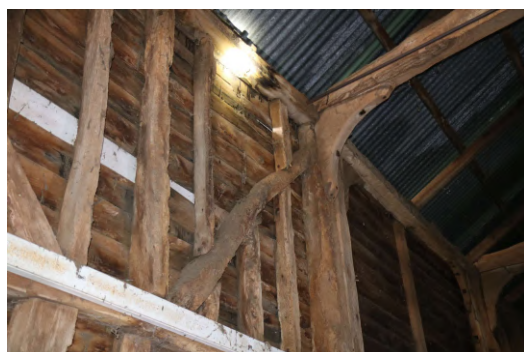
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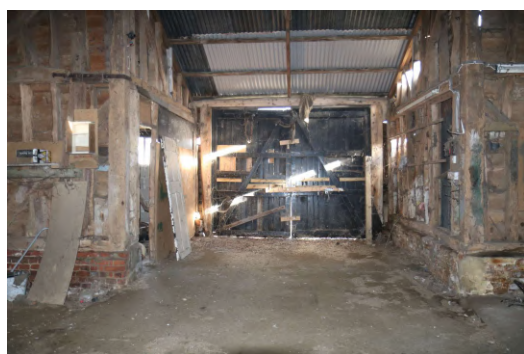
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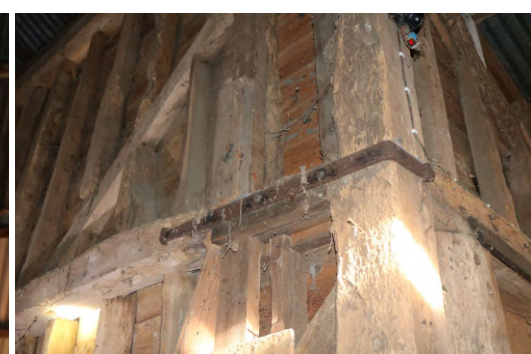
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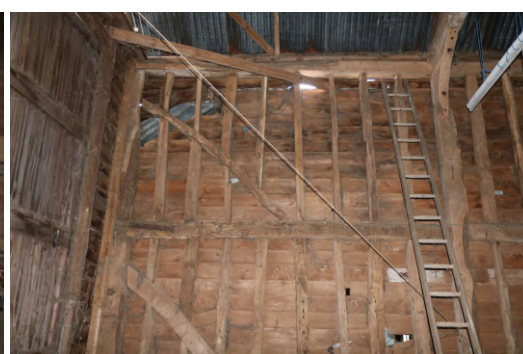
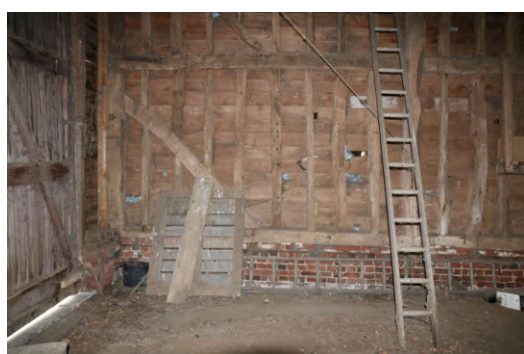
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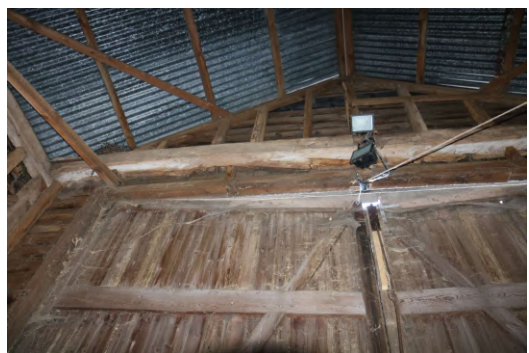
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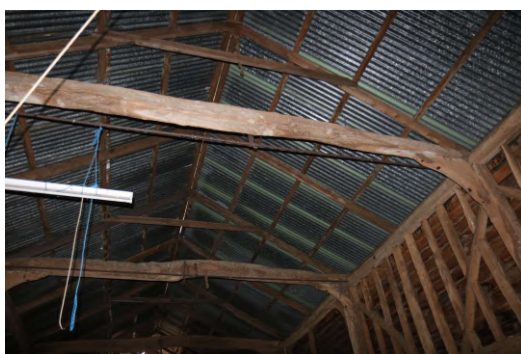
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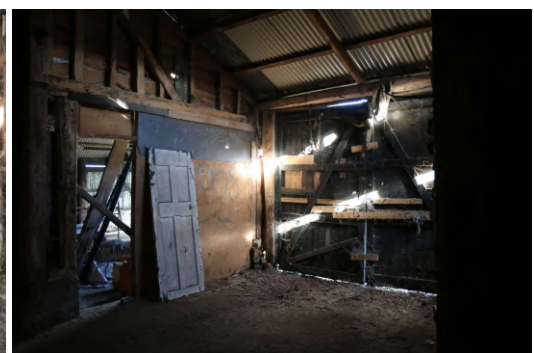
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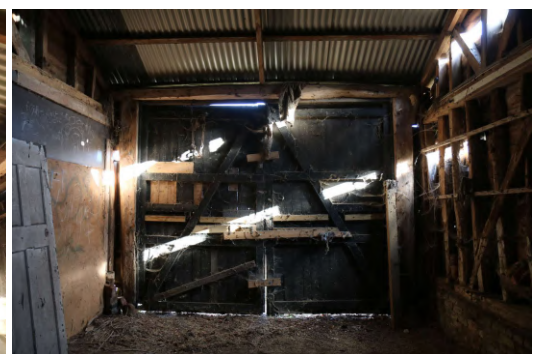
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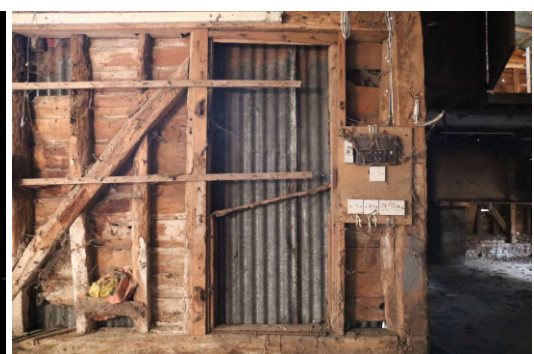
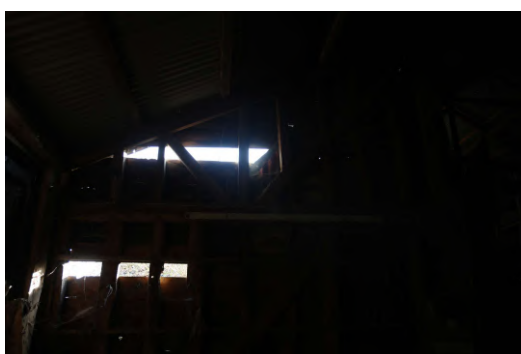
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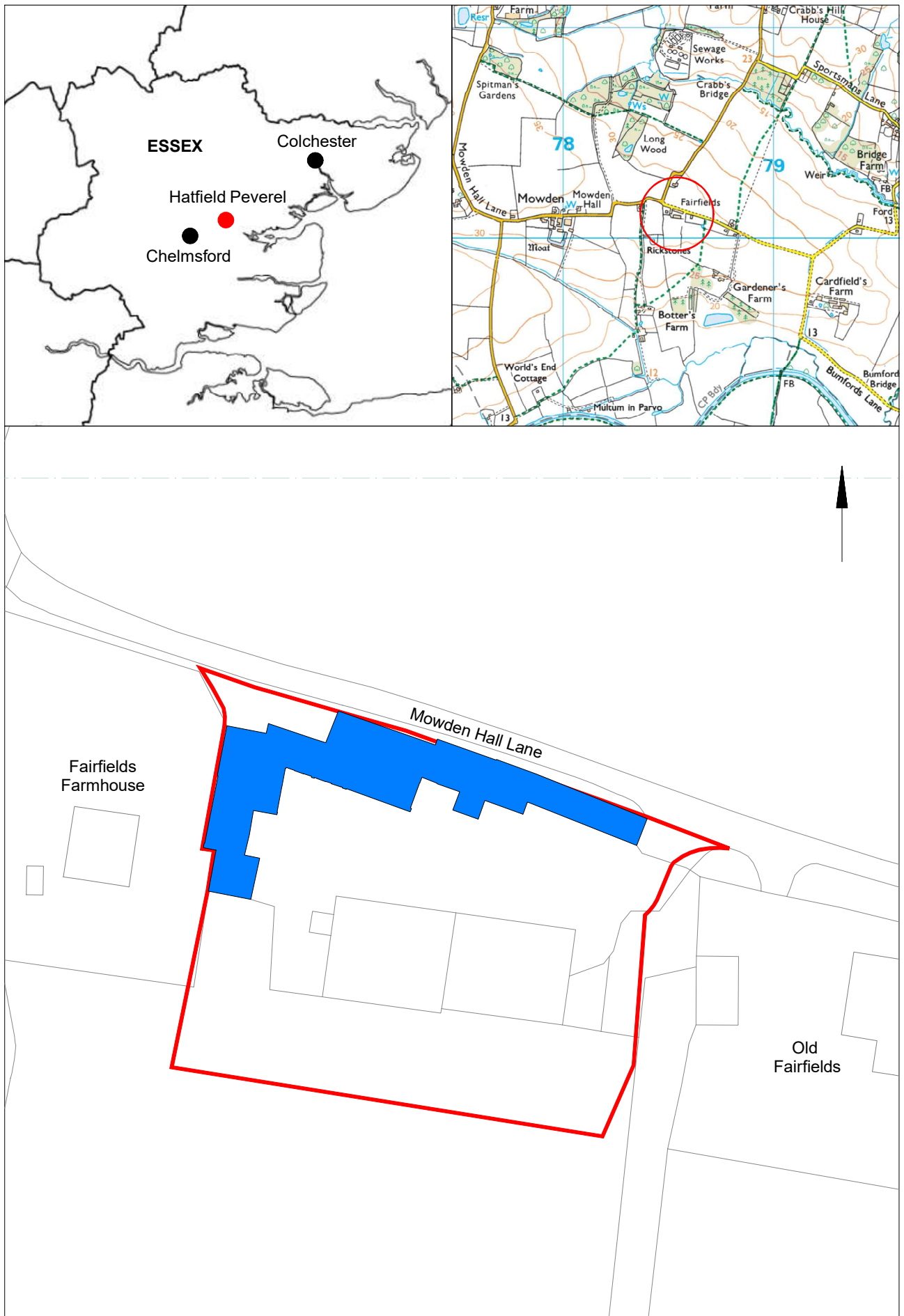


Fig 1 Site location. Buildings recorded in blue.

0 50 m

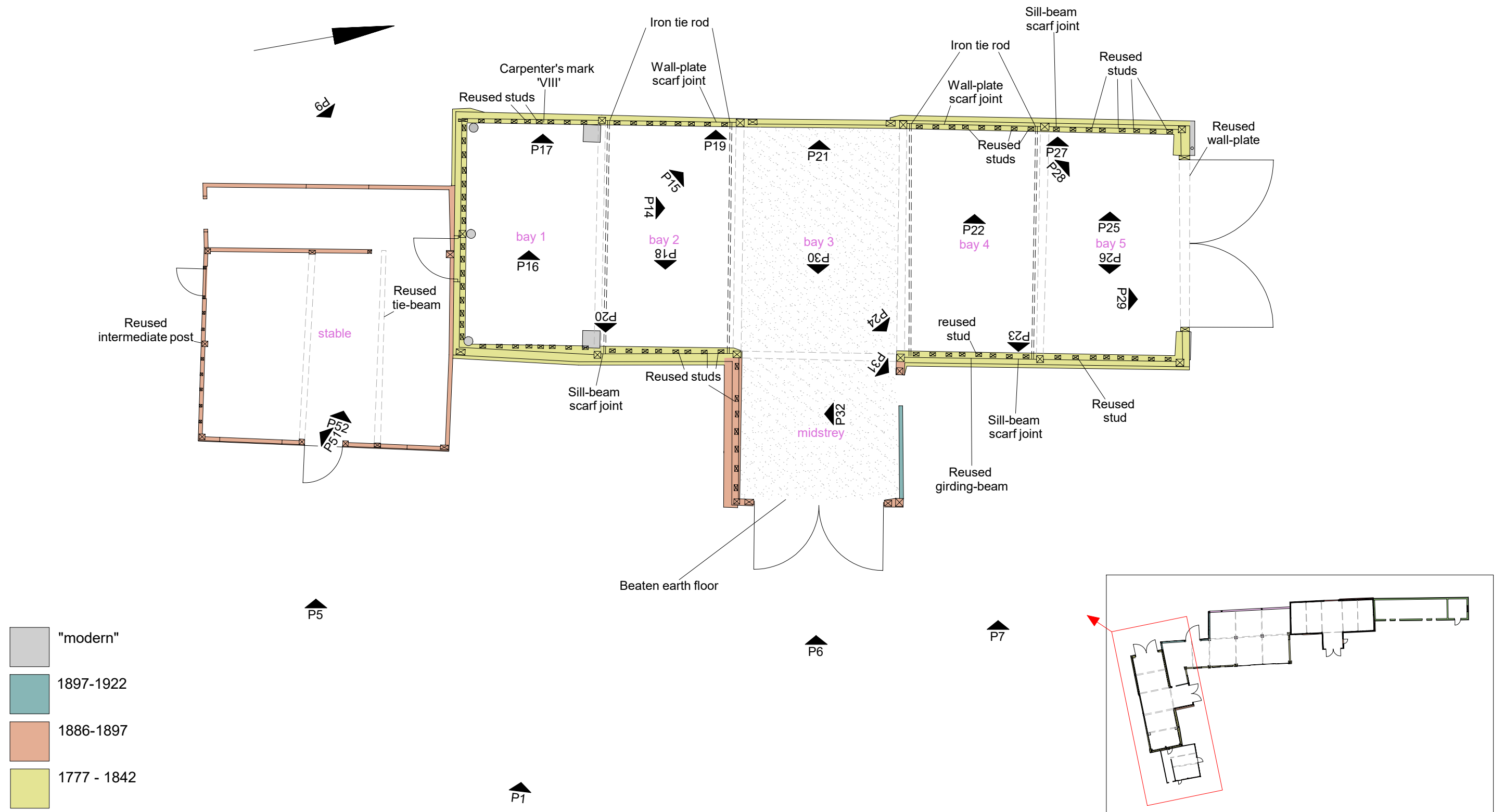


Fig 2 Floor plan of threshing barn A and stable. Location and direction of photographs reproduced in the text shown.

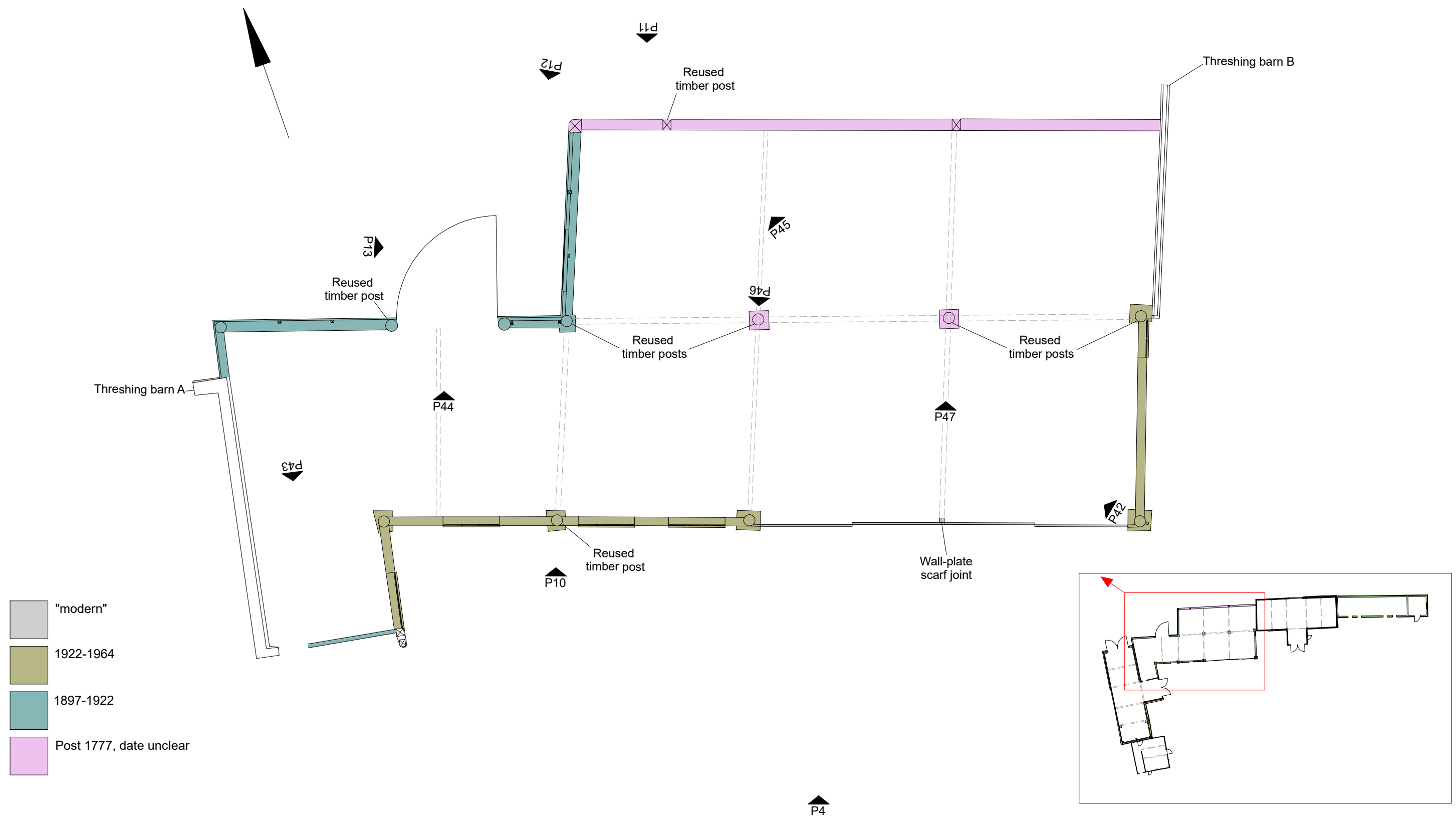


Fig 3 Floor plan of linking shed. Location and direction of photographs reproduced in the text shown.

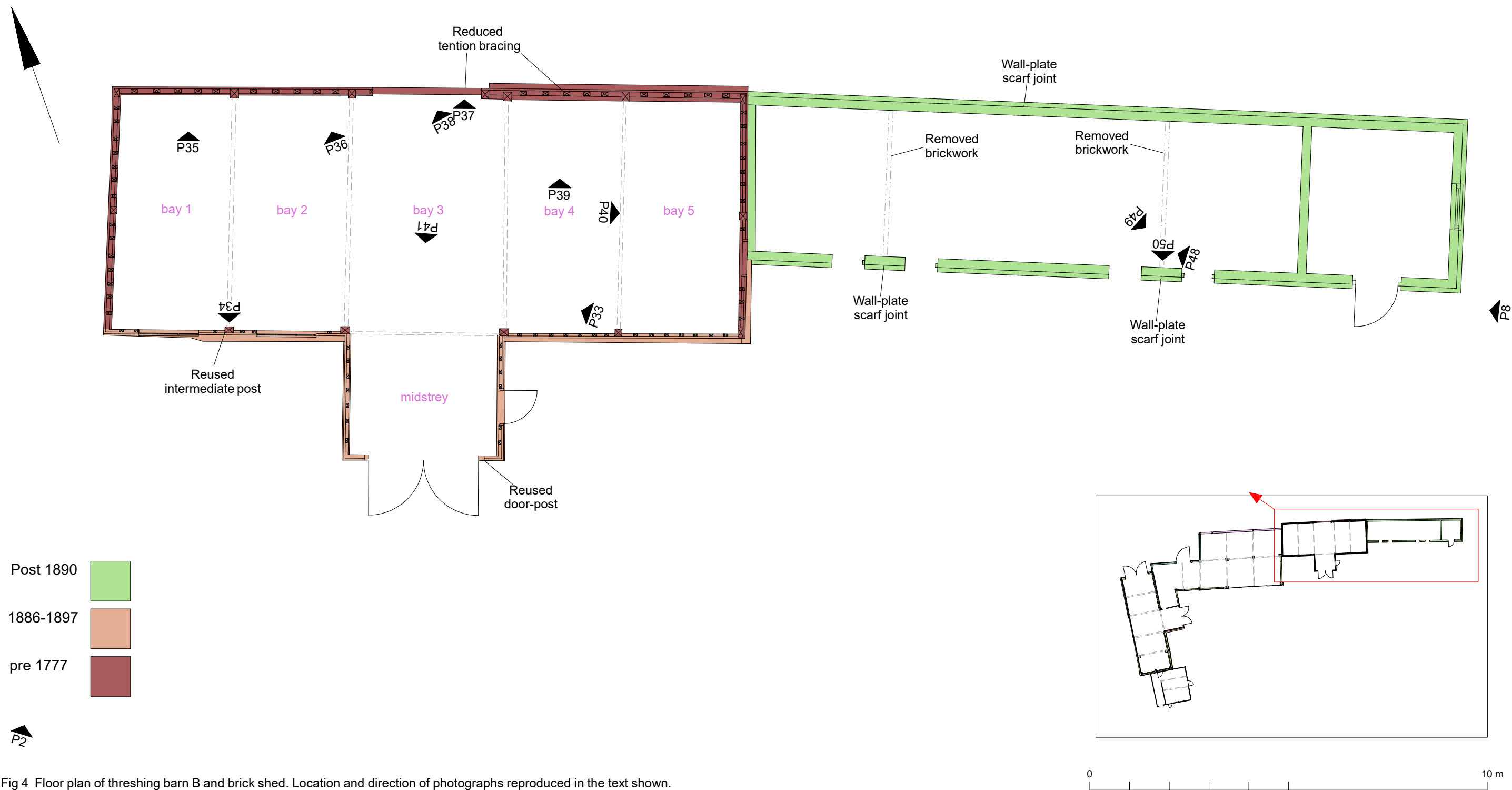


Fig 4 Floor plan of threshing barn B and brick shed. Location and direction of photographs reproduced in the text shown.

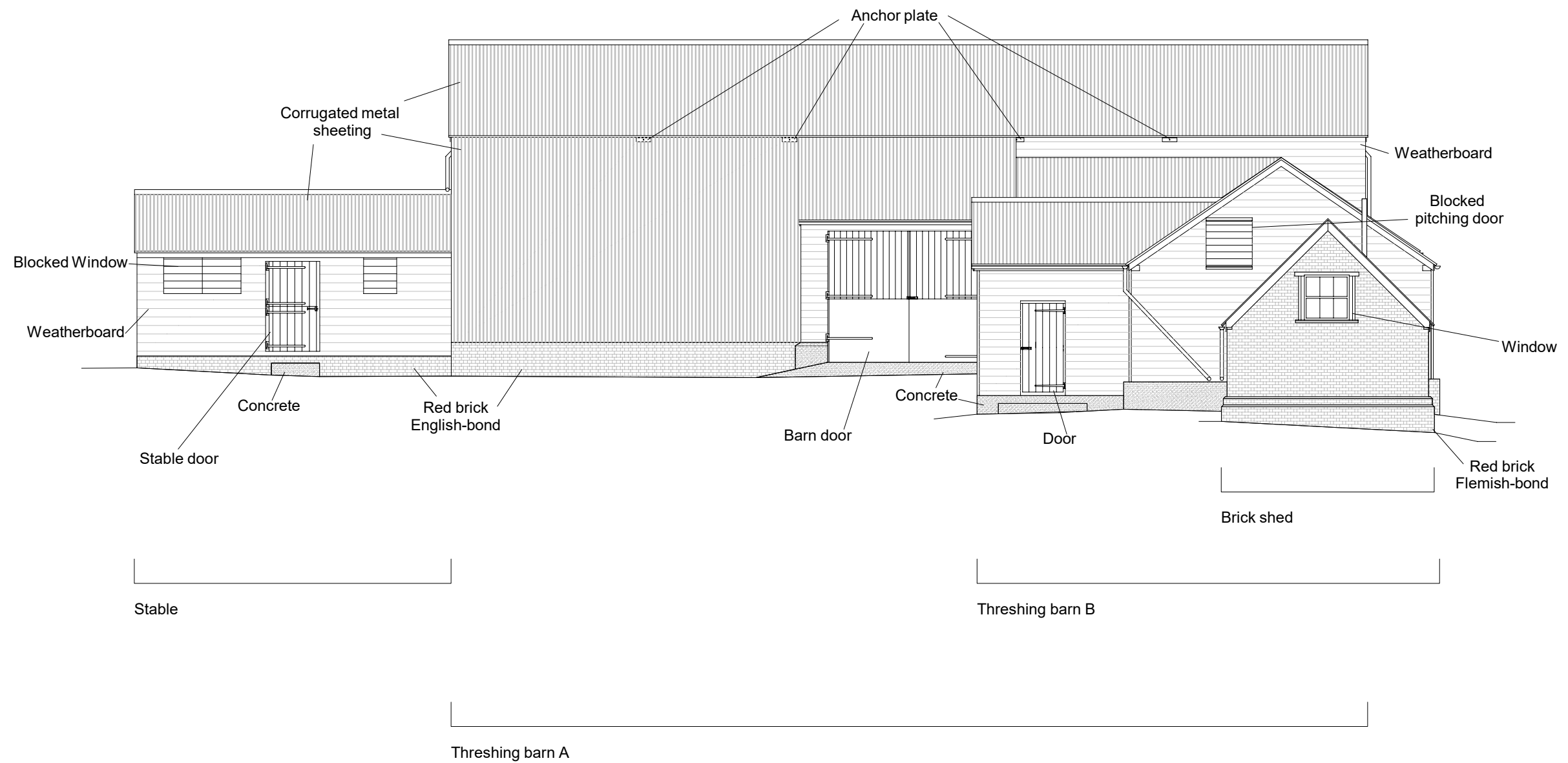


Fig 5 South-east elevation.



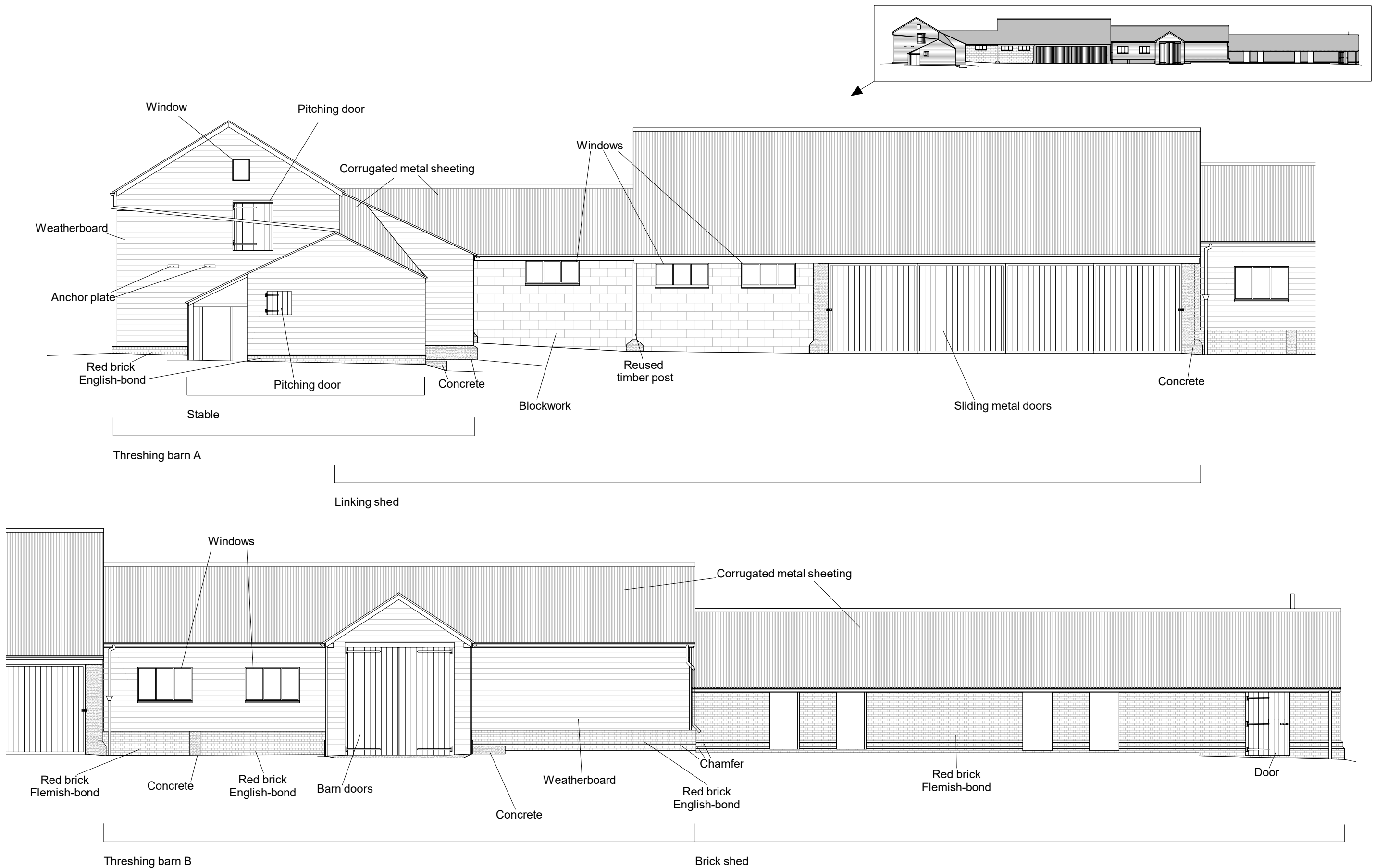


Fig 6 South-west elevation.

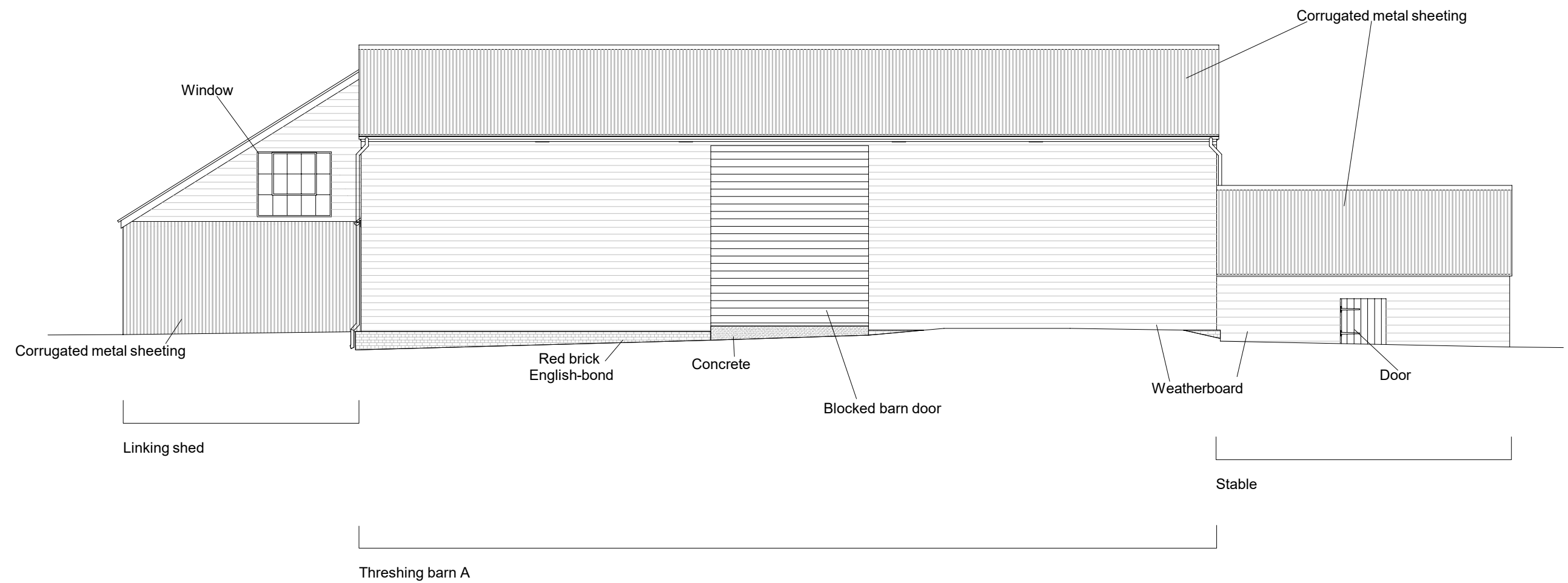


Fig 7 North-west elevation.



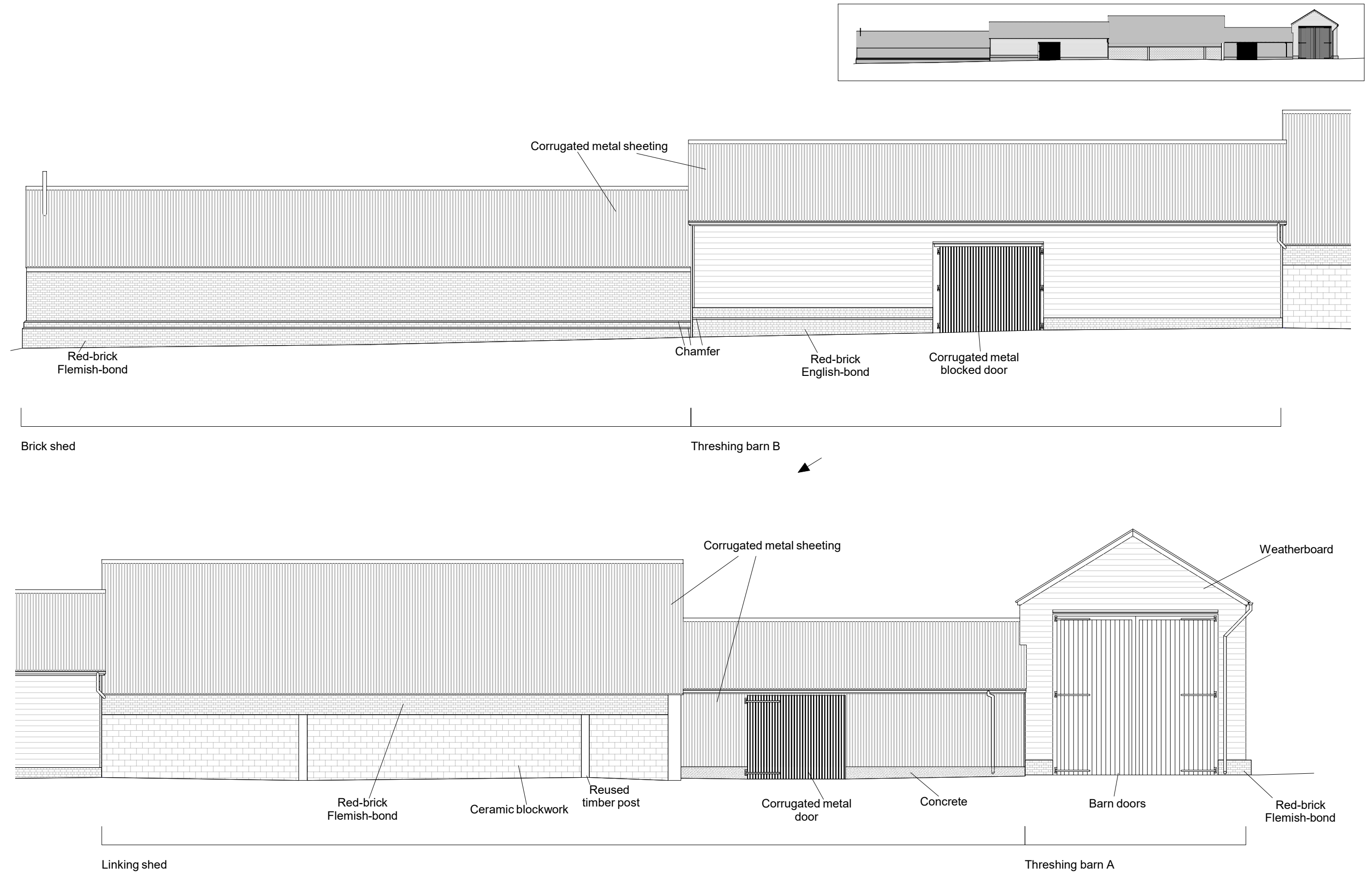


Fig 8 North-east elevation.

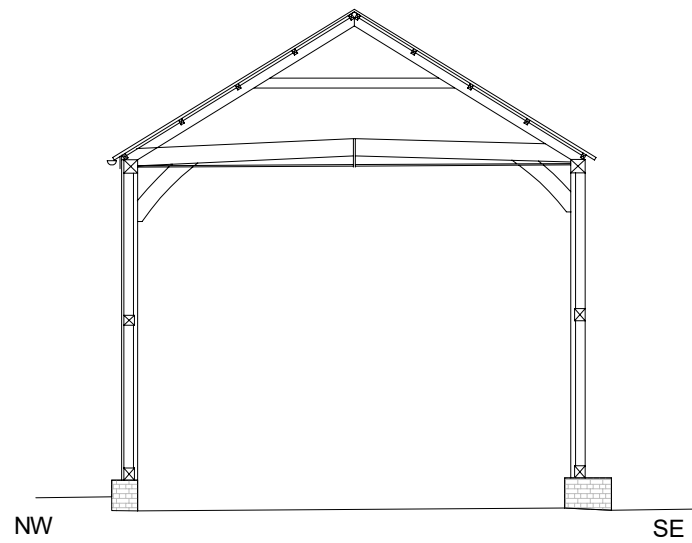


Fig 9 Truss cross-section from threshing barn A, between bays 3 and 4.



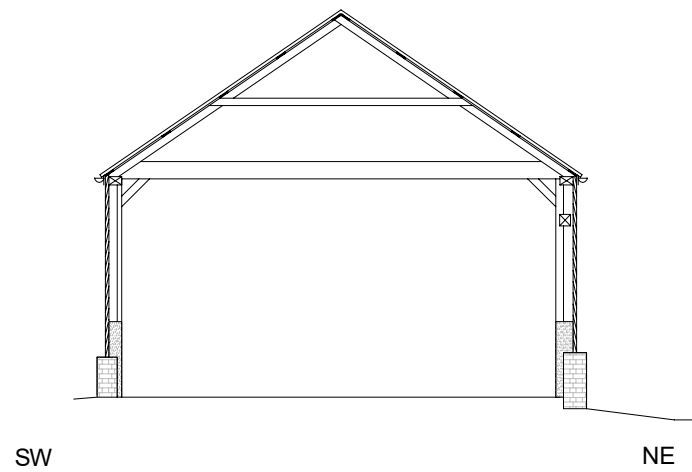


Fig 10 Truss cross-section from threshing barn B, between bays 4 and 3.



OASIS Summary for colchest3-532287

OASIS ID (UID)	colchest3-532287
Project Name	Analytical Buildings Record (Level 3) at Fairfield's Farm, Mowden Hall Lane, Hatfield Peverel, Essex CM3 2NT
Sitename	Fairfield's Farm, Mowden Hall Lane, Hatfield Peverel, Essex CM3 2NT
Sitecode	
Project Identifier(s)	2025/01h
Activity type	Analytical Buildings Record (Level 3)
Planning Id	23/00793/FUL
Reason For Investigation	Planning: Post determination
Organisation Responsible for work	Colchester Archaeological Trust
Project Dates	06-Feb-2025 - 06-Feb-2025
Location	Fairfield's Farm, Mowden Hall Lane, Hatfield Peverel, Essex CM3 2NT NGR : TL 78545 10111 LL : 51.76121599928665, 0.585765434485856 12 Fig : 578545,210111
Administrative Areas	Country : England County/Local Authority : Essex Local Authority District : Braintree Parish : Hatfield Peverel
Project Methodology	<p>The aim of the building recording was to provide a detailed record and assessment of the buildings prior to demolition. The building recording was carried out to Level 3 (Historic England 2016) which is defined as:</p> <p>"Level 3 is an analytical record and will comprise an introductory description followed by a systematic account of the building's origins, development and use. The record will include an account of the evidence on which the analysis has been based, allowing the validity of the record to be re-examined in detail. It will also include all drawn and photographic records that may be required to illustrate the building's appearance and structure and to support an historical analysis.</p> <p>The information contained in the record will for the most part have been obtained through an examination of the building itself. The documentary sources used are likely to be those which are most readily accessible, such as historic Ordnance Survey maps, trade directories and other published sources. The record may contain some discussion the building's broader stylistic or historical context and importance. It may form part of a wider survey of a number of buildings which will aim at an overall synthesis, such as a thematic or regional publication, when the use of additional source material may be necessary as well as a broader historical and architectural discussion of the buildings as a group."</p> <p>In particular, the record considered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan and form of the site. • Materials and method of construction. • Date(s) of the structures. • Original function and internal layout. • Fixtures and fittings. • Original and later phasing, additions and their effect on the internal/external fabric and the level of survival of original fabric. • An account of the past and present uses of the buildings.

Project Results	<p>A programme of historic building recording was carried out by Colchester Archaeological Trust at Fairfield's Farm, Mowden Hall Lane, Hatfield Peverel, Essex on the 6th of February 2025.</p> <p>The structures recorded in this report comprise two threshing barns with a number of outbuildings, (henceforth, threshing barn A and B, linking shed, brick shed and stable), the oldest of which is the five-bay threshing barn B. The combination of pegged studs, a technique which faded in the 17th century, with through-bracing, a technique which emerged around the same time, suggest an origin in the latter 17th century.</p> <p>The earliest cartographic evidence of buildings at Fairfield's Farm is the 1777 Champman & André. The lack of detail in the map makes it difficult to state with any certainty which buildings are present, but it is plausible to suggest that part of threshing barn B is represented.</p> <p>Cartographic evidence indicates that throughout the 19th and 20th centuries, the structures at Fairfield's Farm were repeatedly altered, rebuilt (built) or extended. This is indicative of a working farmstead that was expanding and shrinking to keep up with changing demands of the farming industry.</p>
Keywords	<p>Threshing Barn - POST MEDIEVAL - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types</p> <p>Threshing Barn - POST MEDIEVAL - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types</p>
Funder	Private individual
HER	Essex HER - unRev - STANDARD
Person Responsible for work	
HER Identifiers	HER Event No - EEX61203
Archives	Digital Archive - to be deposited with Archaeology Data Service Archive;