



KDK Archaeology Ltd

## Historic Building Recording

Villa Farm

New Road

Great Barford

Bedfordshire



**Quality Check**

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Figure 1: General location (scale 1:25,000)



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## Summary

Between March and October 2016 KDK Archaeology Ltd carried out a program of Historic Building Recording at Villa Farm, New Road, Great Barford, Bedfordshire as a condition of planning permission for the development of buildings on the site. Two buildings were recorded; an early 20<sup>th</sup> century Cowshed and a 19<sup>th</sup> century Onion Shed. The Cowshed was designed by local architect T. Finding in 1912 and replaced an earlier building on the site. The Onion Shed is a type of building found only in Bedfordshire and then predominantly on the terraces of the River Ivel. This particular example is one of very few that were built in the Ouse valley. Both buildings have retained many of the original structural features, although there was no evidence for the feeding passage or troughs during the survey.

The cowshed was built during the tenancy of Thomas Mayhew, a dairyman who presumably was still growing onions despite the decline in the industry caused by foreign imports. The Onion Shed was built in the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, probably by J. Arnold Whitchurch, who acquired the farm along with Great Barford House and Barford Villa in the 1880s.

## 1 Introduction

1.1 Between March and October 2016 KDK Archaeology Ltd carried out Historic Building Recording at Villa Farm, New Road, Great Barford, Bedfordshire. The project was commissioned by Tim and Angela Wood, and was carried out according to a Written Scheme of Investigation prepared by KDK (Barclay-Jones 2016), and approved by Bedford Borough Council Historic Environment Team (BBCHET), archaeological advisor (AA) to the local planning authority (LPA), Bedford Borough Council. The relevant planning application reference is 15/00080/FUL.

### 1.2 *Planning Background*

This Historic Building Recording has been required under the terms of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) as a condition of planning permission for the development of buildings on the site.

### 1.3 *The Site*

#### *Location*

The site is located in the village and civil parish of Great Barford, in the administrative district of Bedford Borough, at National Grid Reference (NGR) TL 13842 53010 (Fig. 1).

#### *Description*

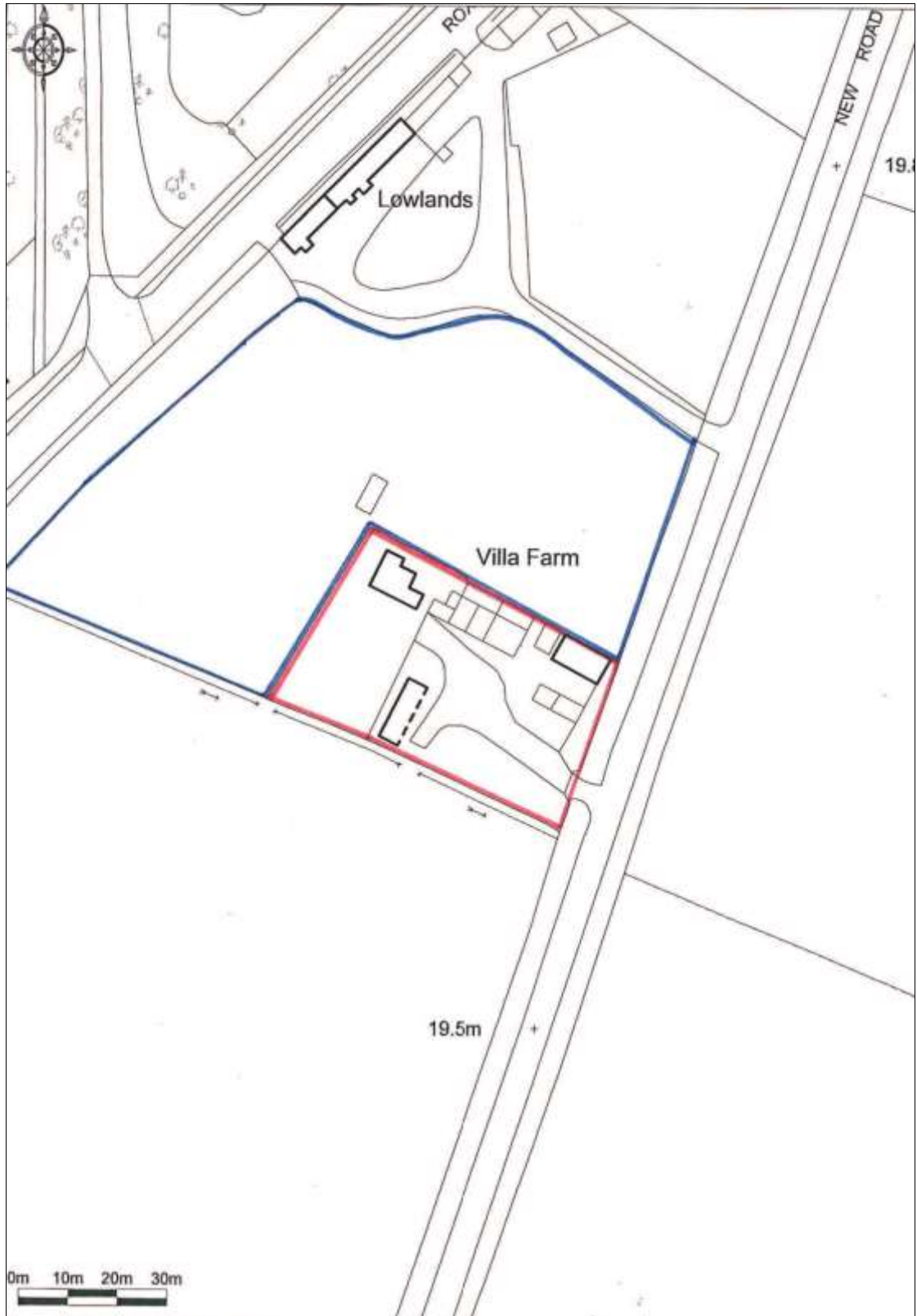
The cowshed is a single storey timber-framed structure under a slate roof, which is adjacent to the 2-storey, timber-framed onion shed. Neither building is listed, but both are considered to be Heritage Assets, as defined in the NPPF (BBCHET 2016).

The cow shed and onion loft are part a series of outbuildings on a plot that is rectangular in shape and bounded to the east by New Road, and to the south by a tree line with open land behind it. The north and west boundaries are also tree-lined, with Roxton Road to the west and an adjoining property to the north. Access is from New Road (Fig. 2).



*Proposed Development*

The proposal is for the demolition of the existing cow shed, and the construction of a residential annexe in its place, including a link to, and conversion of, the existing onion loft (Fig. 3).



**Figure 2:** Site location (scale 1:1250)

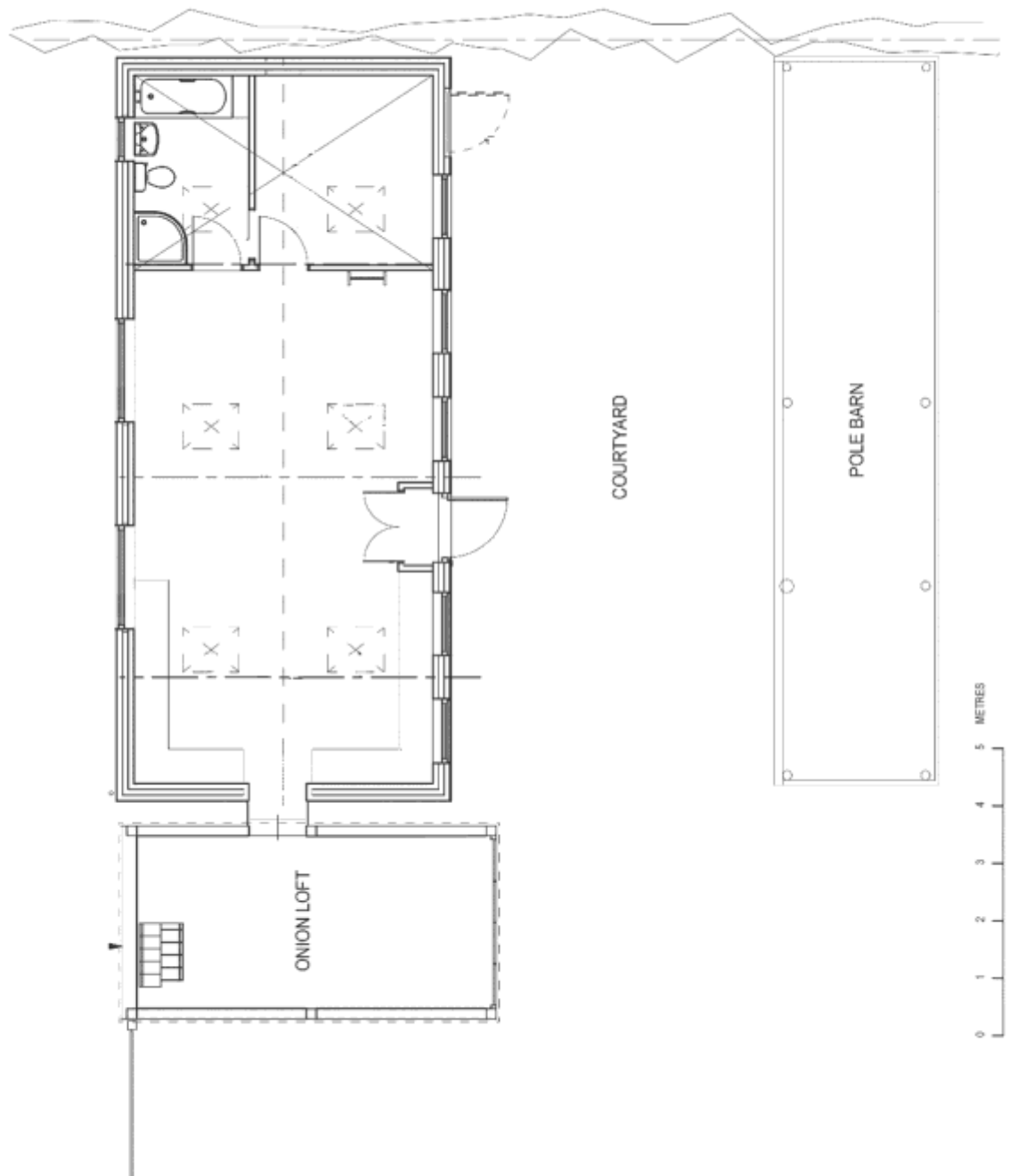


Figure 3: Proposed development (scale as shown)





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## 2 Aims & Methods

### 2.1 Aims

As described in the Written Scheme of Investigation (Section 2), the aims of the building recording were:

- To ensure the archaeological recording of the building prior to conversion/demolition
- To provide an adequately detailed project report that will place the findings of the investigations in their local and regional context, with reference to the relevant regional research agendas.

### 2.2 Standards

The work conforms to the Written Scheme of Investigation, to the relevant sections of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Code of Conduct* (CIfA 2014) and *Standard & Guidance Notes* (CIfA 2014), to current Historic England guidelines (HE 2015, EH 2016), to the Association of Local Government Archaeological Officers East of England Region *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (ALGAO 2003).

### 2.3 Methods

The work was carried out according to the Written Scheme of Investigation (Section 2.3), which required a programme of Historic Building Recording to Historic England Level 2/3 (EH 2006).

### 2.4 Constraints

As both buildings were being used for storage, some parts were obscured or inaccessible, which restricted photographic recording and detailed observation.



### 3 Historical Background

This section has been compiled with information from the Bedford & Luton Archives and Records Service (BLARS), KDK's own library, and reputable online sources.

#### **Saxon** (c.450-1066)

By the time of the Norman Conquest, Great Barford, which was variously known as Beranforda, Bereford and Barford Magna, was already a fairly large and thriving settlement, probably largely due to its position on a key crossing of the Great Ouse river. There were four manors, with land for up to 25 ploughs and two mills all held by freemen (<http://bedsarchives.bedford.gov.uk/CommunityArchives/GreatBarford>). Given the size of the landholding and the inherent wealth generated by two mills, it is likely that Great Barford would not have been untouched during the Viking incursions. The Anglo Saxon chronicles state that in 1010 the Vikings made their way along the Ouse, plundering and 'burning as they went'. Bedford and Temsford (modern Tempsford) are mentioned by name and similar treatment probably also befell Great Barford (Ingram: 1912).

#### 3.2 **Medieval** (1066-1500)

Following the Norman Conquest, Great Barford was rated as a '10-hide vill', and the overlordship passed to Hugh de Beauchamp (Williams & Martin, 2003). Clearly a prosperous settlement given its ongoing possession of a large quantity of plough land as well as multiple mills, it is no surprise that the hundred is named after it (<http://opendomesday.org/place/TL1352/great-barford>). Detailed accounts of the four manors are given *inter alia* in the Victoria County History (Page 1912), but are not reproduced here as Villa Farm and its outbuildings were not built until the Industrial and Agrarian Revolutions had reshaped society and the landscape in the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries.

#### 3.3 **Post-Medieval** (1500-1900)

Cartographic and documentary evidence suggests Villa Farm, along with Barford Villa (now known as Lowlands) and Great Barford House, was built by Joseph Humbly in the 1840s on a triangular plot of land that had previously been undeveloped. In 1861, all three properties were bought by Joseph Arnold and by the 1880s the ownership of Barford House and the associated holdings was acquired by the Whitchurch family (<http://bedsarchives.bedford.gov.uk/CommunityArchives/GreatBarford/VillaFarmGreatBarford.aspx>; <http://bedsarchives.bedford.gov.uk/CommunityArchives/GreatBarford/BarfordHouse.aspx>).

#### 3.4 **Modern** (1900-present)

In the early 20<sup>th</sup> century Villa Farm 'near Barford Villa' is recorded as being owned by John Arnold Whitchurch, High Sheriff of Bedfordshire (RDBP 1/214 & HS/App69). In 1927, it was tenanted by Thomas William Mayhew a 'dairyman and cow keeper' for an annual rent of £50 (DV1/H13/70). According to the Ratings Comments Book, the rent was low and Mayhew had been there 14 years. The house and outbuildings were described as comprising a front room, living room, kitchen and dining room, with three bedrooms upstairs. The homestead comprised: a tool house; an old nag stable; two piggeries; a two stall stable with a loft over; an open hovel; a barn; a mixing house; a hovel; a cart shed with a loft over; a cow house for six beasts; a loose box; an open hovel and a two bay cart shed (<http://bedsarchives.bedford.gov.uk/CommunityArchives/GreatBarford/VillaFarmGreatBarford.aspx>).



According to Kelly's Directory for the year 1910, Thomas Mayhew was not only a dairyman and cow keeper but also the acting parish clerk. Kelly's 1890 Directory lists John and John Collins Mayhew as 'farmers'; the change from farmer to 'dairyman and cow keeper' perhaps suggesting a more focused usage of the land.

The farm was clearly being redeveloped around the time Thomas took over the tenancy. A set of plans produced by Wilstead architect T. Finding in 1912, depicts a new stable and cow shed alongside the already extant onion shed (RDBP 1/214).

### 3.5 Cartographic & Pictorial Evidence

Blaeu's map of 1645 contains little detail and depicts the village, known then as Berford, simply as having a church and a bridge and lying to the west of the river (Fig. 4). Jeffery's map of 1765 is more detailed and shows the land that would become Villa Farm and Barford Villa partitioned into a single small field to the northeast of the main settlement (Fig. 5). This small parcel is recorded in the Great Barford Inclosure Award of 1824 as 'Little Field' and as measuring 4 acres, 3 rods and 6 perches (Fig. 6).

The first edition Ordnance Survey (OS) map shows Villa farm as being part of the wider Barford House Estate. A structure, probably the onion loft, is already in situ, however a smaller 'L' shaped building sits on the site of the current cow shed (Fig. 7). This is a marked change to the Inclosure map where the entire plot is void of structures, suggesting a date range for construction of the onion shed between 1824 and 1884.

By the time of the 1901 second edition OS (Fig. 8) this smaller structure has disappeared, leaving an open space between the onion loft and the road. The 1926 OS shows both the onion loft and cow shed in their current locations (Fig. 9). This sequence of development is supported by Finding's plans for the erection of a cow shed and stable dated August 1912 (Figs. 10 -12).

### 3.6 Market Gardening and Onion Drying Sheds in Bedfordshire

Commercial vegetable production flourished on the sandy soils of the Ivel and Ouse rivers in Bedfordshire from the 17<sup>th</sup> century onwards (Beavington 1975). The industry peaked in the 1860s with the growth of the railway resulting in easier access to London and other lucrative markets (Stocks 2009). The leading crop in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century was the onion, which was grown most intensively, but not exclusively, on the terraces of the River Ivel. By 1914 many farms had become market gardens and, despite the decline in production of onions by this time, 30% of all the onions grown in England and Wales came from Bedfordshire. The predominance of the onion led to a very localised form of farm building - the onion shed, used at least on the upper floor, for drying onions (Beavington 1975). The majority of these are found along or close to the Ivel, but outliers can be found in Cople (HER 13378) and Kempston (HER 13363) as well as two in Great Barford (HER 15304 & 16293).

Onion sheds were typically 2-storeyed, louvre-boarded, black barns (Beavington 1975) such as that at Villa Farm. The ground floor was often used for stabling or similar use and the upper floor, although generally used for the second stage of drying onions, could also have a subsidiary use, as at High Street Langford (Rouse 2014).

Although market gardening maintained its importance in the area until the end of WWI ([www.hfbg.org.uk](http://www.hfbg.org.uk)), the production of onions began to decline dramatically after 1906, when there was an increase in the quantity of onions imported from other countries, such as Holland, Spain and even Egypt (*ibid.*). Following WWI, better methods of transport and



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farming, such as the motorised lorry and the agricultural tractor, led to a specialisation in fewer crops, particularly brassicas, and production on a much larger scale. By the 1940s, onion growing had only a marginal role in the agricultural landscape of Bedfordshire (*ibid.*).



Figure 4: Excerpt of Blaeu's map 1645 (not to scale)



Figure 5: Excerpt of Jeffery's map 1765 (scale 1:15000)

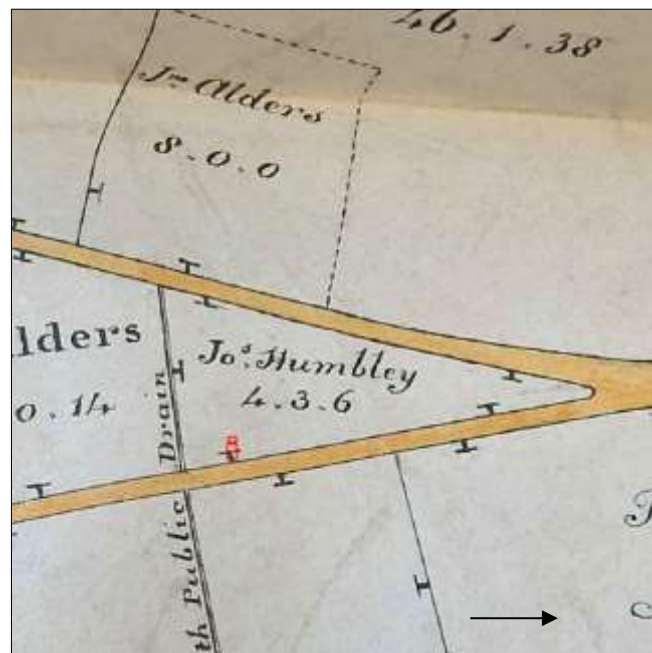


Figure 6: 1824 Inclosure map (scale 1:5000)

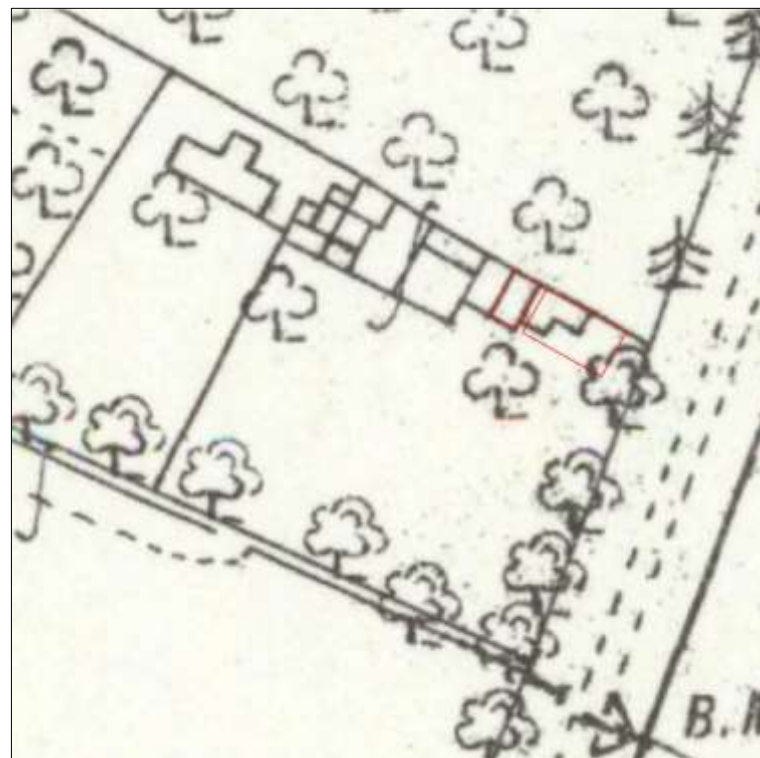


Figure 7: 1884 1<sup>st</sup> edition Ordnance Survey (OS) map (scale 1:500)

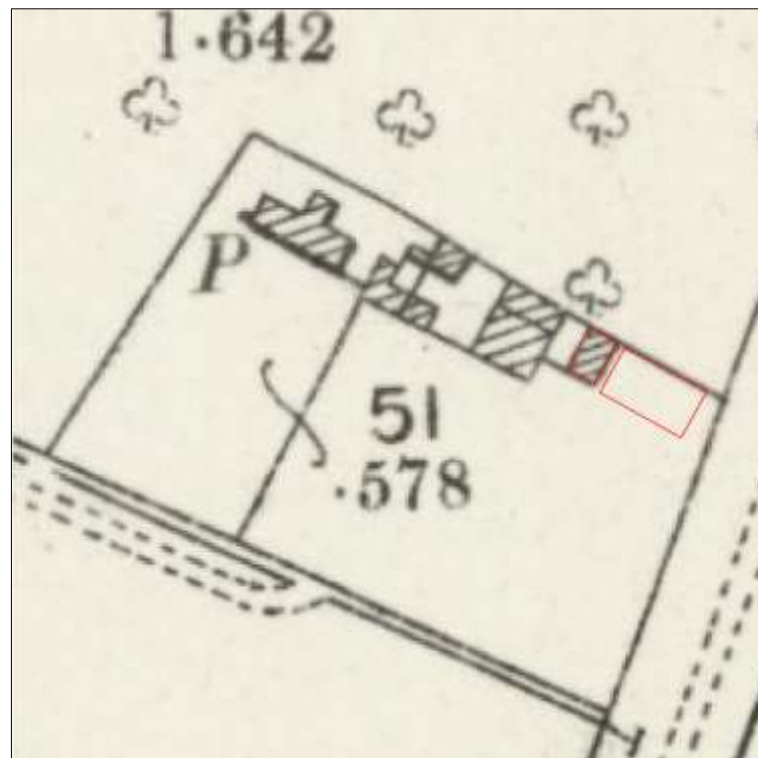


Figure 8: 1901 OS map (scale 1:500)

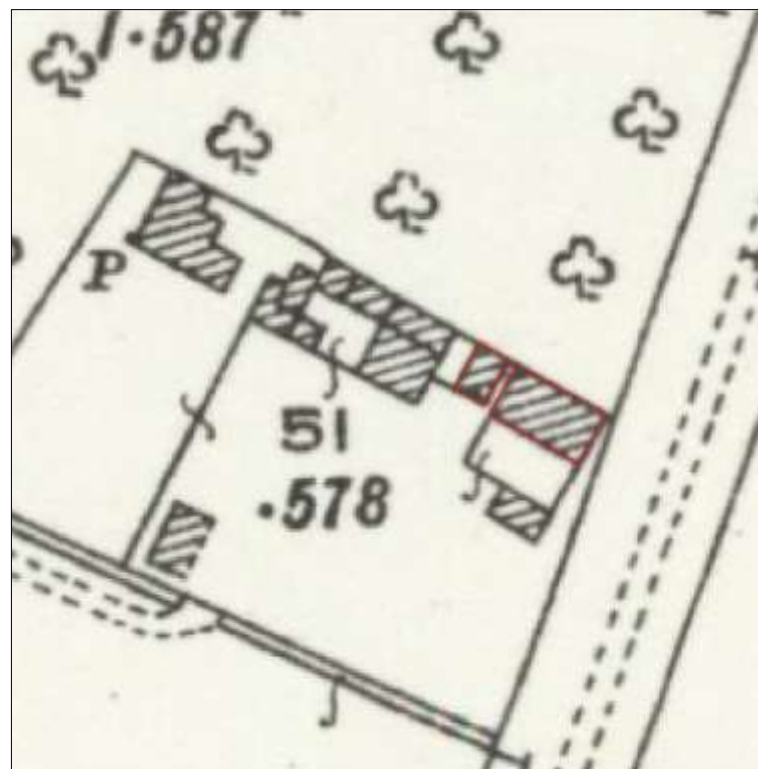


Figure 9: 1926 OS map (scale 1:500)

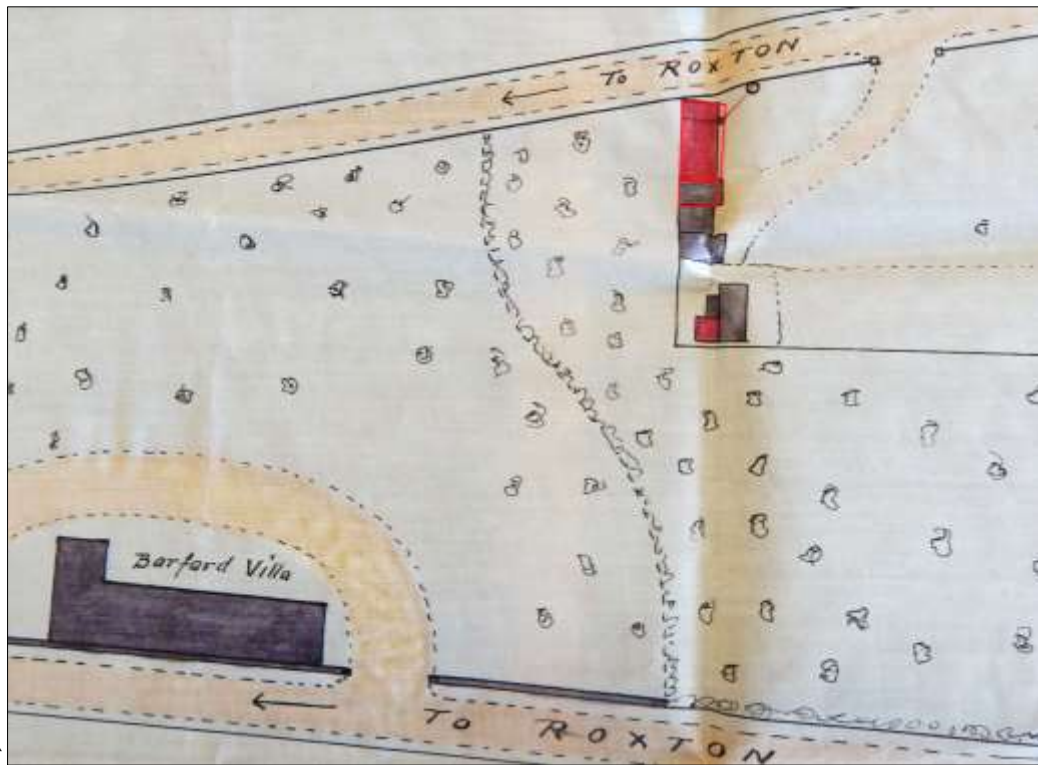


Figure 10: Development area on plans from 1912 (scale 1:1000)



Figure 11: Exterior of development from 1912 drawings (scale 1:100)

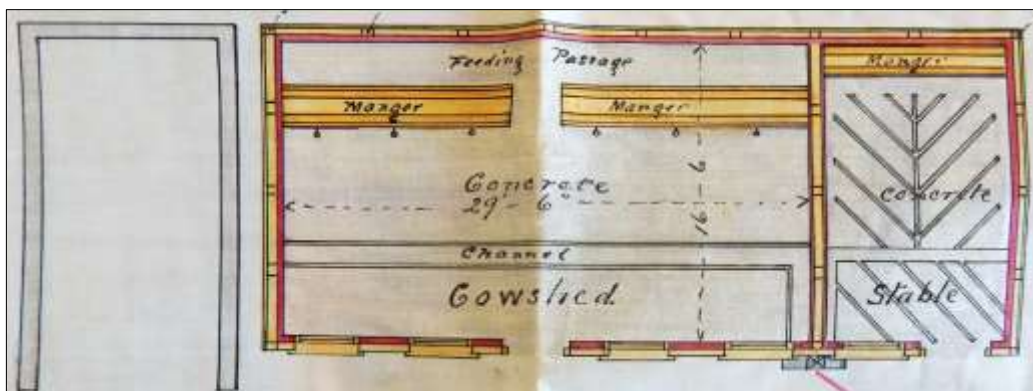


Figure 12: Plan of development from 1912 drawings (scale 1:100)





## 4 Description

### 4.1 General

The two buildings that were subject to this recording programme were an early 20<sup>th</sup> century timber-framed cowshed/stable and the adjacent timber-framed onion shed, dating from the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century (Plates 1-2). They are aligned northwest – southeast, but for the purposes of the following description the front of the buildings are considered to face south.

### 4.2 The Onion Shed (Fig. 13-16, Plates 1-13)

The Onion Shed is a 2-bay, 2-storey weatherboarded structure, set on 34.5cm high brick supporting dwarf wall under a clay tiled roof (Plates 1-3). The bricks, which measure 22.5 x 10 x 6.5cm (8 $\frac{7}{8}$  x 4 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$  inches) are set in Flemish bond with lime mortar. Although painted black, they appear to be handmade red bricks. Horizontal skintlings are evident on some of them, which would suggest that they were made between the end of the 18<sup>th</sup> century and the large scale mechanization of brick making in the mid – late 19<sup>th</sup> century. Within the weatherboarding are fixed vents some 2.65m above ground level, on all but the south elevation. The south elevation is open fronted at ground floor level, above which is a door with long strap hinges on pintles (Plate 3).

Internally, the brick supporting dwarf wall is some 28cm high and unpainted. The timber framing has primary bracing with both machine cut studs and studs that have either been quartered or halved (e.g. Plate 7). The machine cut studs vary in width from 5cm in the east wall to 7-8.5cm in the north. The sole plates are also variably sized, from 8cm in the north wall to 10cm in the east. Re-used timbers, such as the braces in the southern bay and a vertical post that was adzed on the eastern face, are present in the west elevation (Plate 8).

The joists at the northern end of the structure are made from poles (Plate 9), but elsewhere they are halved timbers. The loft floor above is made of timber slats, approximately 4cm wide, set 2cm apart to form vents. However, at the front of the loft are some boards giving a 40cm wide solid floor to allow safer access into the vented loft space.

The studs at first floor level are 8cm wide and set 35-40cm apart, and the distance from the floor to the top of the wallplate is just 1.12m (Plate 12). Immediately below the wallplate is a board, some 22cm deep, below which are 4cm side louvres also set 2cm apart. There is primary bracing to either side of the door but not on the opposite wall.

The building has a queen post roof with diagonal bracing and birds mouth joints that support the purlins to either side (Plate 13). The rafters are 3-6cm wide and set 28-30cm apart. The timbers are all softwood.

### 4.3 The Cowshed/Stable (Fig. 13-16, Plates 1-2, 14-30)

This is a 4-bay timber structure built to provide a single stable in the easternmost bay whilst the remainder was used as a cowshed. Like the Onion Shed, it is weatherboarded and sits on a brick supporting dwarf wall but has a slate roof rather than a tiled one. The only openings are in the south elevation, where there are two ledged and braced stable doors and four timber windows with 8 panes above hit and miss vents (Plate 14).

The dwarf wall varies in height from 43cm in the east wall to 60cm in the north wall. The brickwork is also variable with some handmade red bricks and machine made Fletton bricks in



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the east wall. These are set in Flemish Bond using lime mortar. The south wall appears to have been rebuilt as the bricks are in Stretcher Bond using cement mortar.

The timber frames have primary bracing, with studs that are 5cm wide and posts and sole plates that are 7 or 8cm (Plates 17-19). There are two edge-halved scarf joints in the northern wallplate in the cowshed, with the possibility of another in the stable. The supporting dwarf wall, on which the partition rests between the cowshed and the stable, is 49cm high and built of Fletton bricks in Stretcher Bond using cement mortar. The timber frame above, which also has primary bracing, is weatherboarded on the eastern face. The east wall of the stable is again built predominantly of red bricks with some Flettons.

The floor of the cowshed is concrete, but stops some 3cm short of the north wall. A 37cm wide gully runs along the south wall (Plates 22-24) and returns at the eastern end. The gully in the stable (Plates 25-29), which is also aligned east-west, is considerably smaller at 18cm in width. There is no evidence for feeding troughs in either part of the building, although this may exist along the north wall of the Stable, which is obscured.

The roof has trenched purlins with cleats and raking queen post trusses with metal rods forming the central upright (Plate 30). Missing slates at regular intervals suggest the former presence of louvres or roof vents of some form.



**Plate 1:** Onion Shed & Cowshed/Stable from the southwest



**Plate 2:** Onion Shed & Cowshed/Stable from the northwest



**Plate 3:** Onion Shed: south elevation



**Plate 4:** Onion Shed: north wall



**Plate 5:** Onion Shed: view to south



**Plate 6:** Onion Shed: northeast corner



**Plate 7:** Onion Shed: southern end of east wall



**Plate 8:** Onion Shed: adzed studs in the east wall



**Plate 9:** Onion Shed: northwest corner



**Plate 10:** Onion Shed: southern end of west wall



**Plate 11:** Onion Shed: northernmost joists looking



**Plate 12:** Onion Loft: louvre detail



**Plate 13:** Onion Loft: queen post truss



**Plate 14:** Cowshed: from the southeast



**Plate 15:** Cowshed: western end



**Plate 16:** Cowshed: Bay 1, north wall



**Plate 17:** Cowshed: Bay 2, north wall



**Plate 18:** Cowshed: Bay 3, north wall



Plate 19: Cowshed: east wall



Plate 20: Cowshed: west wall



Plate 21: Cowshed: roof truss detail



Plate 22: Cowshed: Bay 1, south wall



Plate 23: Cowshed: Bay 2, south wall



Plate 24: Cowshed: Bay 3, south wall



Plate 25: Stable: east wall



Plate 26: Stable: east wall



Plate 27: Stable: north wall



Plate 28: Stable: roof detail



Plate 29: Stable: south wall



Plate 30: Roof truss



Figure 13: Elevations (Scale 1:100)



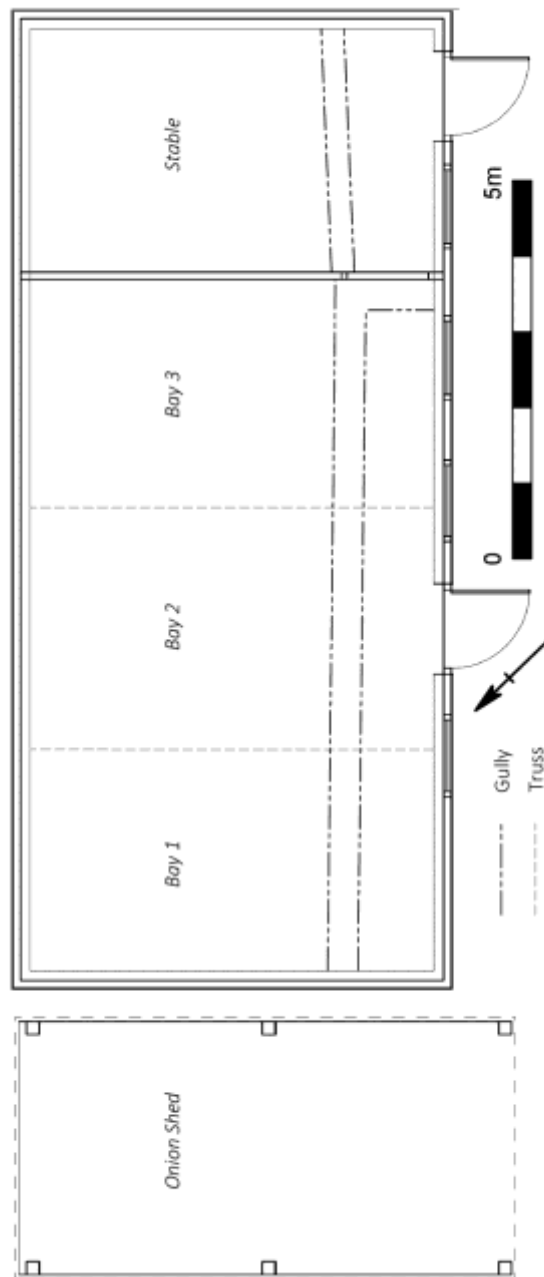
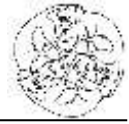


Figure 14: Floor plan (scale 1:100)



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## 5 Conclusions

Whilst neither of the two outbuildings could be considered to be of outstanding architectural significance, the Onion Shed is nonetheless of local importance, representing as it does a type of architecture found only within the Bedfordshire landscape. It appears to have been built in the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century when market gardening was at its height. The building is a fairly typical example of its type, providing a space at ground floor level for a variety of uses whilst the upper floor was specifically constructed to dry onions. By the time this example was constructed, machine processed timbers were readily come by, but there are still some halved and quartered timbers as well as re-used studs and posts, as is common in farm buildings of all types.

The Cowshed/Stable is an early 20<sup>th</sup> century structure, purpose built for Villa Farm, and may well have supplemented other cowsheds, as Thomas Mayhew, the farm tenant at the time of construction, is listed as a dairyman/cow keeper in Kelly's Directory. The building is again typical of its type. It is well constructed with the sort of architectural features, such as the roof truss and the hit and miss vents, which one would expect to see of a building of this type and date.

That both buildings have been repaired is clear as, for example, Fletton bricks and cement mortar replaced the original red brick/lime mortar wall construction. Minor modifications have also taken place, such as the removal of the original louvres in the Cowshed roof. The buildings are otherwise extremely good examples of their kind.



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## 6 Acknowledgements

KDK Archaeology is grateful to Tim and Angela Wood for commissioning this report. Thanks are also due to the staff of Bedfordshire & Luton Archives for their assistance in the historic research and to Geoff Saunders of Bedford Borough Council for monitoring the project.

The fieldwork was carried out by Karin Kaye MA MCIfA, David Kaye BA ACIfA and Timothy Lewis BA. The report was written by Timothy Lewis, and edited by Karin Kaye.

## 7 Archive

7.1 The project archive will comprise:

- Brief
- Written Scheme of Investigation
- Report
- Historical & Survey notes
- Architect's survey drawings
- List of photographs
- B/W prints
- B/W negatives
- CDROM with copies of all digital files.

7.2 The archive will be deposited with Bedford Borough Museum (Accession Number: BEDFM 2016.16).



## 8 References

### *Standards & Specifications*

- Barclay Jones, C 2016 *Written Scheme of Investigation for an Historic Building Recording at Villa Farm, Great Barford, Bedfordshire* KDK Archaeology 205/GBV/1
- ClfA 2014 Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Code of Approved Practice for the Regulation of Contractual Arrangements in Field Archaeology* Reading: Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
- ClfA 2014 Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Code of Conduct* Reading: Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
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### **Books and Historical Sources**

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- Kelly's Directory of Bedfordshire 1910 London: Kelly's Directories Ltd
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- Stocks, C 2009 *Forgotten Fruits: The story behind Britains traditional Fruit and Vegetables* London: Windmill
- Williams & Martin 2003 *The Domesday Survey* London: Penguin Classics

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Victoria County History: <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/vch/beds/vol3/pp181-185>

### **Documents**

- |  |                      |
|--|----------------------|
| Finding, T 1912 <i>Additions to Cottage &amp; New Stable &amp; Cowshed</i> | [BLARS – RDBP 1/214] |
| Great Barford Inclosure Award 1824   | [BLARS – P23/26/1]   |
| Ratings & Valuation Book 1927  | [BLARS – DV1/H13/70] |
| Usher, J 1842 <i>Plans for Great Barford House</i>                         | [BLARS – CDE54/1-19] |



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## Maps

Blaeu, J 1645 '*BUCKINGHAMIENSIS*' *Map of Bedfordshire*

Jefferys, T. 1765 *The County of Bedford*

1884 1<sup>st</sup> Edition OS Bedfordshire XII.8

1901 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition OS Bedfordshire XII.8

1926 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition OS Bedfordshire XII.8



## Appendix 1: List of Photographs

SITE NO/CODE: 205/BGV			Site Name: Villa Farm, New Road, Gt. Barford, Bedfordshire
Shot	B&W	DSLR	Subject
1	x	x	South elevation of onion shed
2	x	x	South elevation of onion shed and cowshed looking E
3	x	x	South elevation of cowshed, west end
4	x	x	South elevation of onion shed and cowshed, looking NW
5	x	x	North elevation of cowshed & onion shed
6	x	x	North elevation of onion shed and cowshed, looking SE
7	x	x	Interior of onion loft
8	x	x	Onion shed: N wall
9	x	x	Onion shed: S view
10	x	x	Onion shed: northern end of east wall
11	x	x	Onion shed: southern end of east wall
12	x	x	Onion shed: southern end of E wall, stud details
13	x	x	Onion shed: northern end of W wall
14	x	x	Onion shed: southern end of west wall
15	x	x	Onion shed: joists
16	x	x	Cowshed: Bay 1, N wall
17	x	x	Cowshed: Bay 2, N wall
18	x	x	Cowshed: Bay 3, N wall
19	x	x	Cowshed: E wall
20	x	x	Cowshed: W wall
21	x	x	Cowshed: roof truss detail
22	x	x	Cowshed: Bay 1, S wall
23	x	x	Cowshed: Bay 2, S wall
24	x	x	Cowshed: Bay 3, S wall
25	x	x	Cowshed: roof truss
26	x	x	Stable: E wall
27	x	x	Stable: E wall
28	x	x	Stable: N wall
29	x	x	Stable: roof detail
30	x	x	Stable: S wall
31	x	x	East elevation of cowshed/stable
32	x	x	Onion loft: interior view looking north
33		x	Onion loft: interior view looking north
34		x	Onion loft: west wall
35	x	x	Onion loft: louvre detail

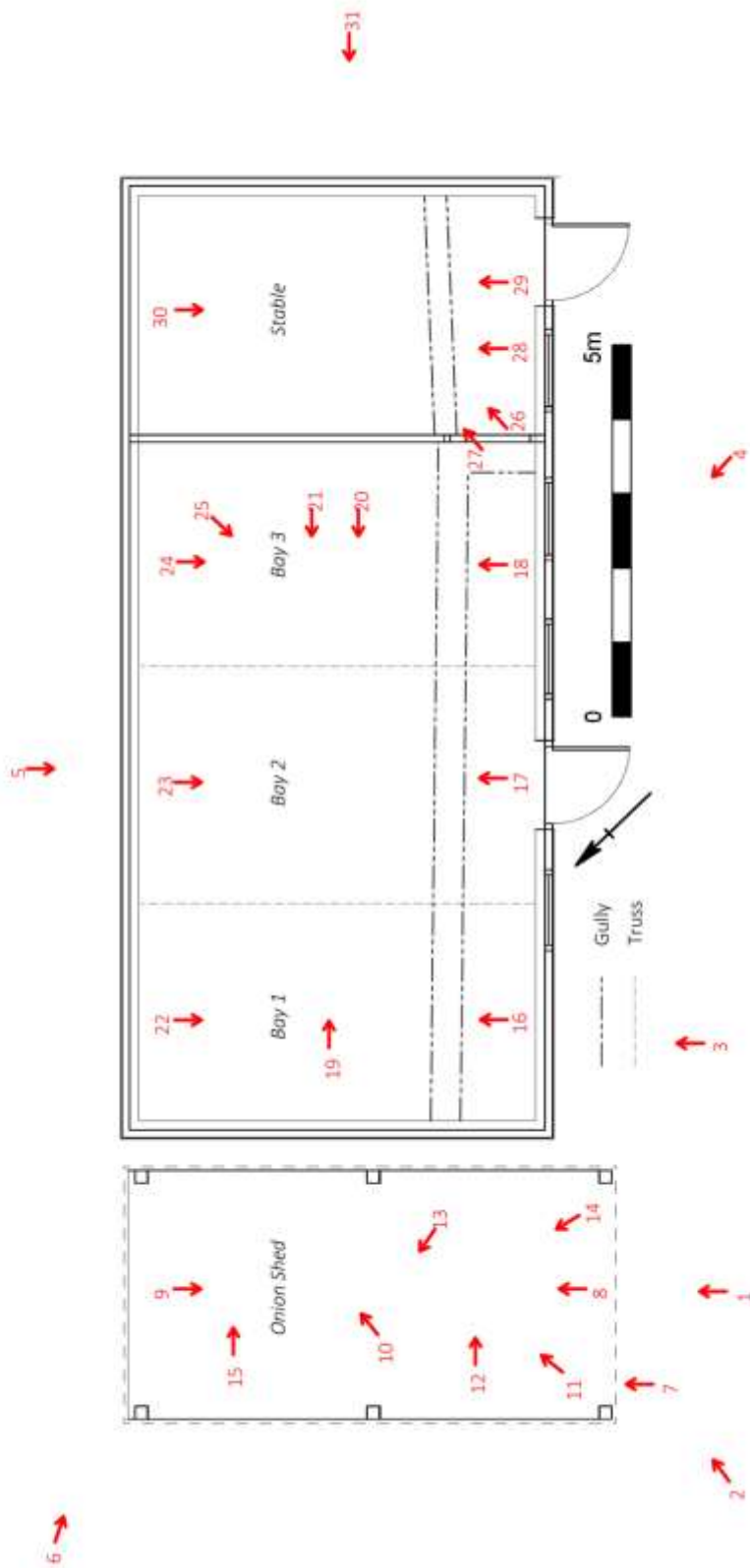


Figure 15: DSLR & 35mm photographs (scale 1:100)



Medium Format Photographs	
Shot	Subject
1	South elevation, looking NE
2	South elevation, looking NW
3	North elevation, looking SE
4	North elevation, looking S
5	South elevation of onion loft, looking N
6	Internal of onion loft, looking N
7	Internal of onion loft, east elevation, looking NE
8	Internal of onion loft, east elevation, looking NE
9	Internal of onion loft, west elevation, looking NW
10	Internal of barn, north and west elevations, looking NW
11	Internal of barn, south and east elevations, looking SE
12	Detail of truss
13	Internal of barn, south elevation, looking S
14	Internal of barn, north and west elevations, looking NW



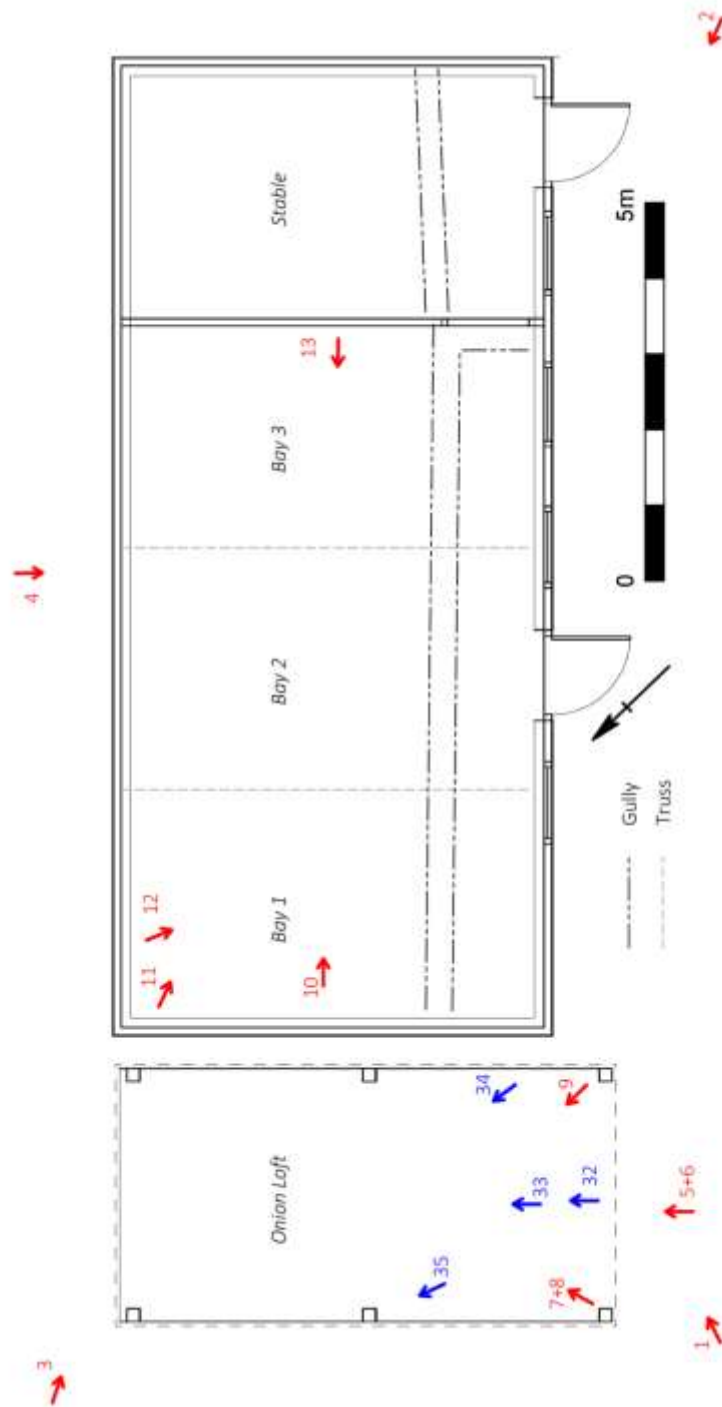
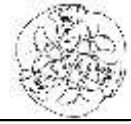


Figure 16: Medium format photographs and, in blue, Onion Loft (scale 1:100)



## Appendix 2: OASIS and Site Data

PROJECT DETAILS			
Project Name & Address	Villa Farm, New Road, Gt.Barford, Bedfordshire	Project Site Code	205/BGV
OASIS reference	kdkarcha1-245378	Event/Accession no	BEDFM 2016.16
OS reference	TL 13842 53010	Study area size	N/A
Project Type	Historic Building Recording	Height (mAOD)	19m AOD
Short Description	<p>Between March and October 2016 KDK Archaeology Ltd carried out a program of Historic Building Recording at Villa Farm, New Road, Great Barford, Bedfordshire as a condition of planning permission for the development of buildings on the site. Two buildings were recorded; an early 20<sup>th</sup> century Cowshed and a 19<sup>th</sup> century Onion Shed. The Cowshed was designed by local architect T. Finding in 1912 and replaced an earlier building on the site. The Onion Shed, which is a type of building found only in Bedfordshire and then predominantly on the terraces of the River Ivel. This particular example is one of very few that were built in the Ouse valley. Both buildings have retained many of the original structural features although there was no evidence for the feeding passage or troughs during the survey.</p> <p>The cowshed was built during the tenancy of Thomas Mayhhew, a dairyman who presumably was still growing onions despite the decline in the industry caused by foreign imports. The Onion Shed was built in the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, probably by J. Arnold Whitchurch who acquired the farm along with Great Barford House and Barford Villa in the 1880s.</p>		
Previous work	No	Site status	HER No. 16293
Planning proposal	Demolition of cow shed and erection of residential annexe, including conversion of existing onion loft.	Current use	Storage
Local Planning Authority	Bedford Borough Council	Planning application ref.	TL 13842 53010.
Monument type	Farm buildings	Monument period	Industrial Age
Significant finds	N/A	Future work	No
PROJECT CREATORS			
Organisation	KDK Archaeology Ltd		
Project Brief originator	Bedford Borough Council	Project Design originator	KDK Archaeology Ltd
Project Manager	Karin Kaye	Director/Supervisor	Karin Kaye
Sponsor/funding body	T & A Woods		
PROJECT DATE			
Start date		End date	
PROJECT ARCHIVES			
	Location	Content (eg. pottery, animal bone, files/sheets)	
Physical	Bedford Museum	None	
Paper		Brief, WSI, report, photos, survey sheets, architects drawings	
Digital		1 CD	
BIBLIOGRAPHY (Journal/monograph, published or forthcoming, or unpublished client report)			
Title	Historic Building Recording: Villa Farm, New Road, Gt Barford, Bedfordshire		
Serial title & volume	KDK Archaeology 205/GBV		



<b>Author(s)</b>	Timothy Lewis BA		
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