

**Barn at Ufford Hall Farm,
Fressingfield,
Suffolk
FSF 069**

Historic Building Record

OASIS ID: Suffolkc1-110270



Leigh Alston MA (Oxon), Architectural Historian
on behalf of
Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service

**The Archaeological Service
(Field Projects Team)
Suffolk County Council, Shire Hall
Bury St Edmunds IP33 2AR
Tel. (01284) 352446**

September 2011

Barn at Ufford Hall Farm, Laxfield Road, Fressingfield, Suffolk

(TM 273 746)

Historic Building Record

This report provides a record at English Heritage (2006) Level 3 of a grade II-listed redundant barn in the curtilage of a grade II-listed house. It has been prepared to a specification written by Edward Martin of Suffolk County Council's Archaeological Service (ref. SpecHBR&Mon(EM)_UffordHallBarn_Fressingfield_2867_10, dated 1st June 2011) and is intended to fulfil a condition of planning permission for conversion (Mid Suffolk District Council consent 2867/10 condition 3). Material is incorporated from an earlier historic assessment of May 2010 by the same author.*

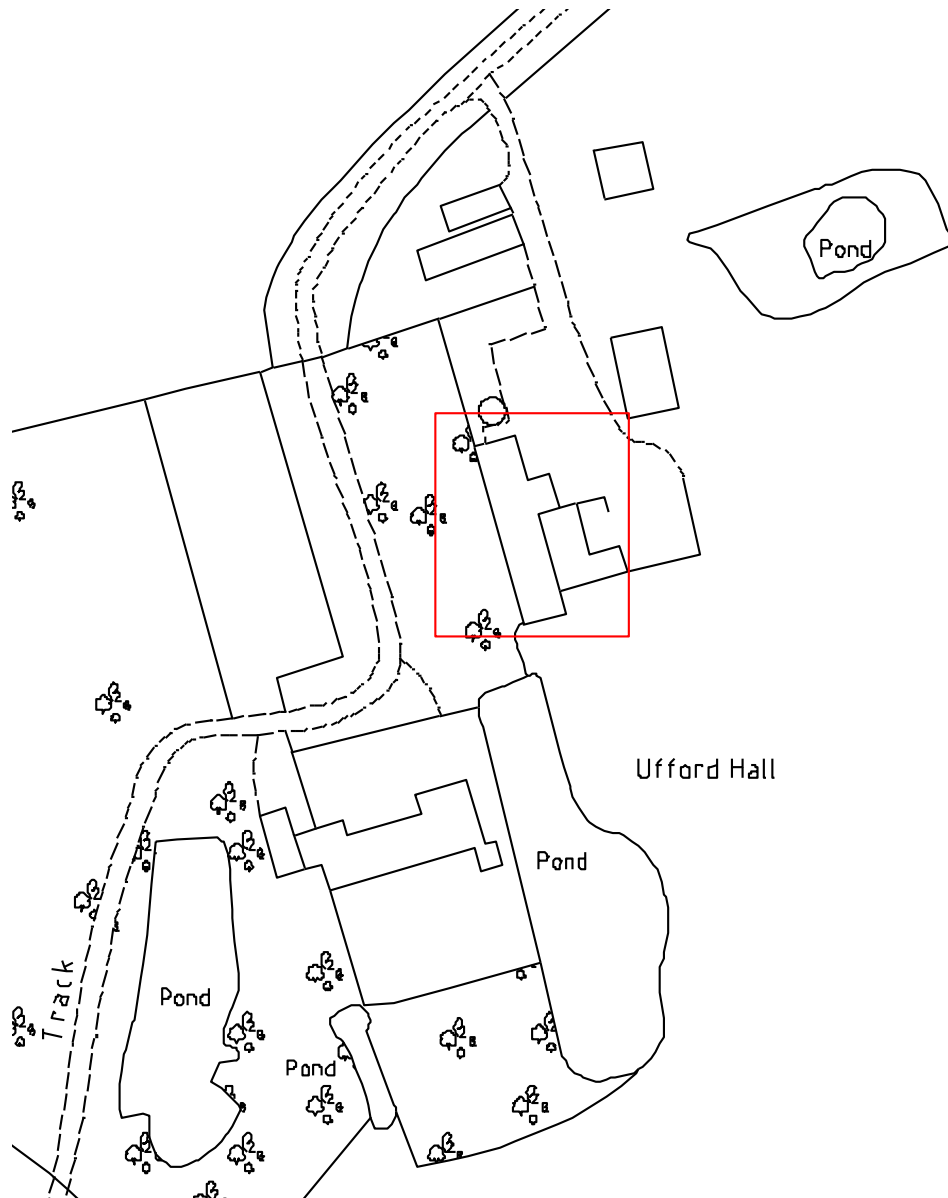
Introduction

The report is accompanied by a CD containing a full photographic record in the form of 80 digital images of 21 megapixels (Appendix 1), but also includes 12 printed photographs of key features. Each image is described in a separate schedule and wherever possible includes a scale rod with half-metre divisions in red and white. The site was inspected on 14 Sept. 2011.

Summary

Ufford Hall lies in open countryside approximately 3 km south-east of Fressingfield village. It occupies the site of a medieval manor and the present house is a picturesque timber-framed building of the 15th and 16th centuries which is listed at grade II* and features in Eric Sandon's 'Suffolk Houses'. The unspoiled site is of special historic interest as the childhood home and place of retirement of Dr William Sancroft, the Archbishop of Canterbury who attended King Charles II on his death bed and crowned James II.

The large timber-framed and weatherboarded barn of *circa* 1620 which lies 30 metres north-east of the house is listed at grade II in its own right and in the 17th century would have formed part of an entrance courtyard (or 'base court') in front of the house. It is accordingly of considerable historic significance as part of a Jacobean 'gentry' landscape. The frame extends to nine bays and includes two stables with hay lofts at both ends of a central threshing barn of five bays. The southern stable was probably added in *circa* 1600 to a medieval barn which was subsequently rebuilt on the same site, re-using much timber from its predecessor (including tie-beams with trenches for passing-braces in the manner of the early-14th century). The threshing barn was entered by full-height doors from the east, where it now adjoins a late-20th century porch, and contained a small rear door in its western elevation facing the base court. Its original thatch has been replaced by corrugated asbestos but in all other respects the structure remains exceptionally intact with a full complement of arch-braces to its tie-beams and a complete arcade of decorative wind-braces to the clasped-purlins of its roof. A series of sharply cranked raking queen-struts links the tie-beams to the principal rafters in a visually striking manner that is unique in my experience. These various features combine to create a dramatic and highly impressive interior. The survival of stables and lofts at both ends is of particular historic interest, representing a typical East Anglian combination rarely found elsewhere in the country.



© Crown Copyright. All rights reserved. Suffolk County Council Licence No. 100023395 2008

Figure 1
Modern Ordnance Survey
 Enclosing the grade II-listed barn and attached late-20th century sheds in red and showing its close proximity to the broadly contemporary grade II*-listed hall to the south-west. The barn flanks the original northern approach to the house.

Documentary and Cartographic Evidence

Ufford Hall lies in open countryside at the southern edge of Fressingfield parish, approximately 3 km south-east of the village and within 100 metres of its boundary with Stradbroke. It is approached by an unmade track from the B1116 to the east, and the house is a picturesque timber-framed building which is listed at grade II* and described in the Schedule as a late-16th century structure with a 15th century core. It features heavily in Eric Sandon's 'Suffolk Houses' (Woodbridge 1977) and the site can be equated with the medieval manor of Ufford Hall, which is documented from the 13th century when it belonged to the eponymous Robert de Ufford (W.A. Copinger, *Manors of Suffolk*, 1909). From the 14th century until 1778 the property was owned by the Sandcroft or Sancroft family, whose most

famous son, Dr William Sancroft, was born here in 1617 and served as Archbishop of Canterbury between 1677 and 1690, after which he retired to the house and was buried in Fressingfield churchyard on his death in 1693. Sancroft attended Charles II on his deathbed and crowned King James II, and the largely unspoilt site of Ufford Hall is accordingly of considerable historic importance.



Figure 2

The area of Ufford Hall on the Fressingfield tithe map of 1838 (Suffolk Record Office) showing north towards the top right-hand corner. The site was entered from the main road between Laxfield and Fressingfield to the right (now the B1116) and lay in close proximity to the Stradbroke parish boundary as indicated by the dotted line at the edge of the map to the left.

By 1842, when the parish was surveyed by the tithe commissioners, the farm was a substantial tenanted holding on the estate of Lord Henniker of Thornham Hall in Thornham Magna, whose ancestor Sir John Major had purchased it in 1778. It contained 96 acres in Fressingfield with more land in Stradbroke, and was occupied by Thomas Green. There was no clear sign of a moat, as might have been expected on a site of this status, but the house was flanked by two large, rectangular ponds of a type that was highly fashionable in the 17th century when they were known as ‘canals’. The name was preserved in ‘Canal Pightle’ to the south of the barn (‘pightle’ being a common 19th century term for a paddock). The barn was the only outbuilding of any substance depicted on the tithe map, but is likely to have once formed part of an enclosed service courtyard in front of the hall. Tudor ‘gentry’ houses of this quality were typically approached from ‘base courts’ with a barn on one side and a range containing riding stables and other service buildings such as bake-houses on the other: most were also provided with gatehouses at their entrances. The barn is separately listed at grade II, and while it now stands alone it still forms part of an important historic landscape for which archaeological evidence may survive below ground.



Figure 2a

Detail of the 1838 tithe map showing the barn to the north-east (with what appears to be a central porch to its eastern elevation) flanking the yard in front of the north-facing house. A similar building may have existed to the west at some stage in the usual manner of Tudor ‘base courts’. The site was named only as ‘homestead’ on the contemporary apportionment (plot 427) but the field to the north (430) was ‘Barn Meadow’. The land to the east (426) was ‘Canal Pightle’ – referring to the linear pond which divided it from the house (a standard 17th century name for decorative garden ponds of this form). A second, smaller example lay to the west of the house.

The barn was a free-standing structure in 1838 with a broad projection in the centre of its eastern elevation which presumably represented the gabled porch for which dovetail joints can still be seen. It occupied a broad enclosure, perhaps defined by brick walls, but a narrow yard adjoined the western elevation of the stable at its northern end. A similar enclosure on the western side of the narrow avenue in front of the house was empty but for a small structure in its south-western corner. The situation had been transformed by the Ordnance Survey of 1886, which shows an extensive complex of yards and open-sided animal shelters to the west (figures 2 & 3). Many local farms were altered in this way during the 1850s and 1860s as the system of mixed animal husbandry now known as Victorian High Farming was introduced to compensate for the falling price of grain. The yards were usually designed for cattle, but nothing now remains to bear witness and the site is overgrown. The present porch and the lean-to adjoining the southern gable are 20th century additions which are not shown on the early Ordnance Surveys, although a similar structure probably occupied the same site as the lean-to since the gable’s render and boarding was never tarred.

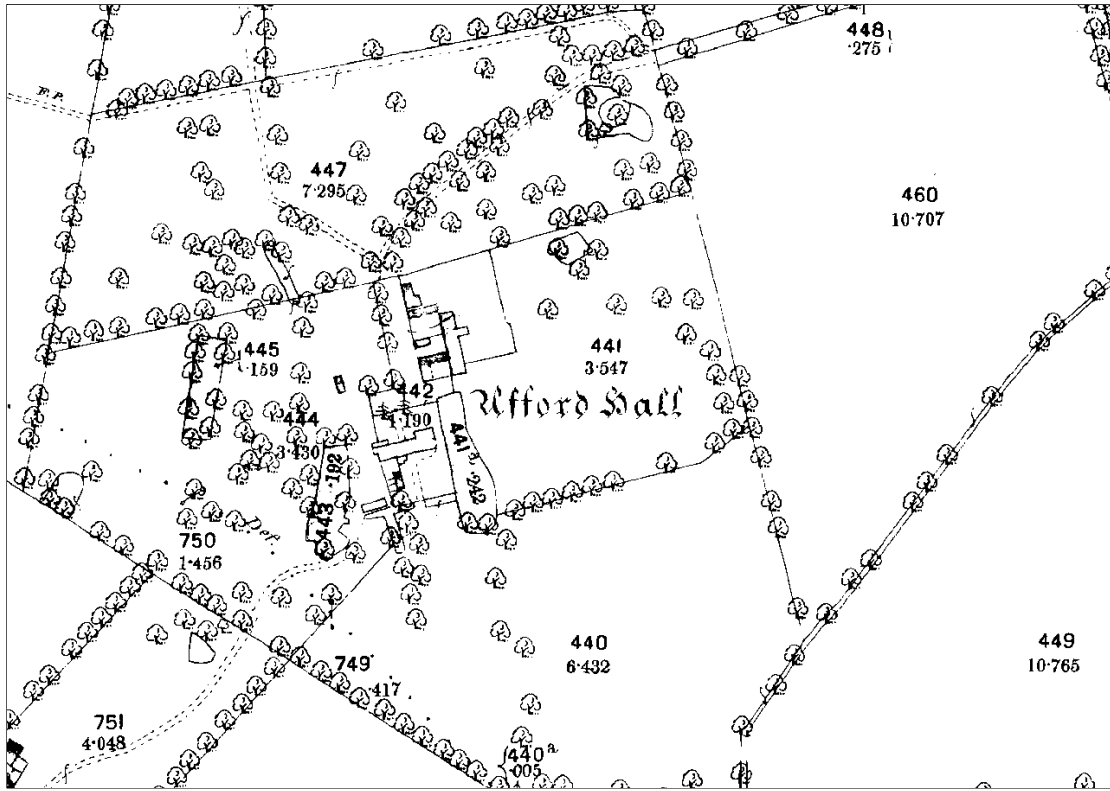


Figure 3
 The first edition 25 inch Ordnance Survey of 1886 showing the boundary with Stradbroke to the south-west (indicated by a dotted line).

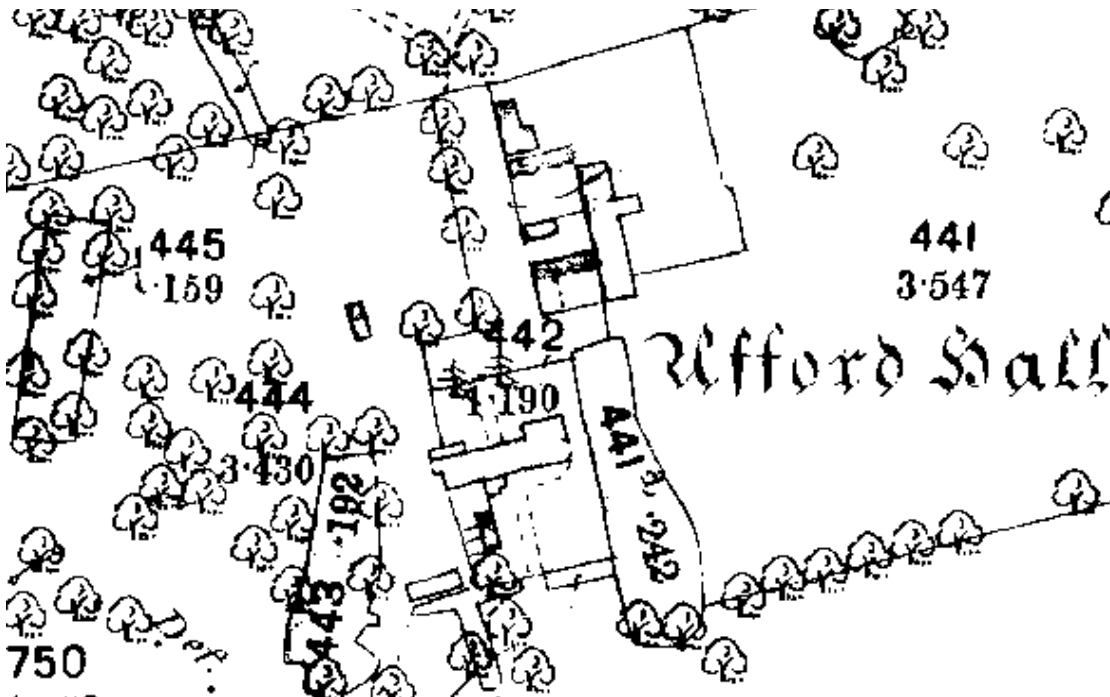


Figure 3a
 Detail of the 1886 Ordnance Survey showing a new range of sheds and yards to the barn's western elevation. The porch also appears to have been altered since 1838. No trace of the western sheds now survives.

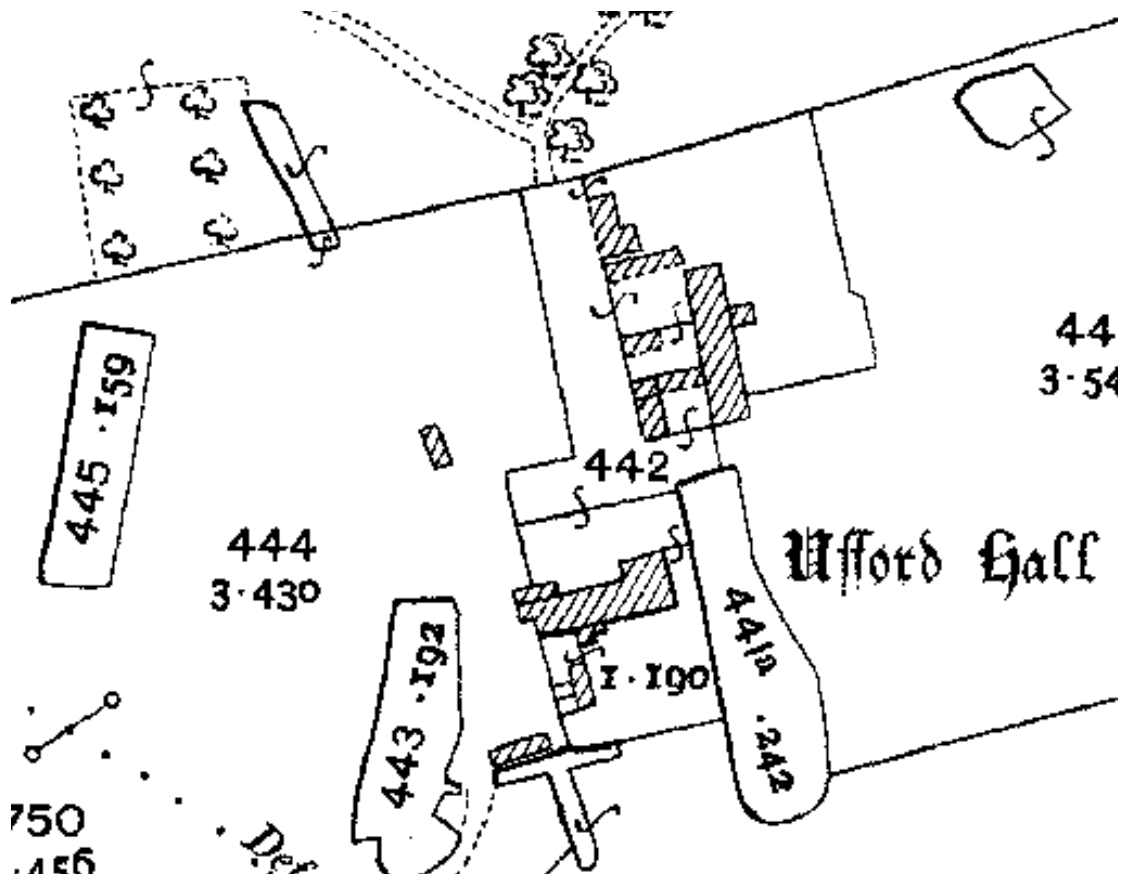


Figure 4
 Second Edition 25 inch Ordnance Survey of 1904, which uses broken lines to indicate the open sides of the animal shelter-sheds adjoining the barn's western elevation.

Building Analysis

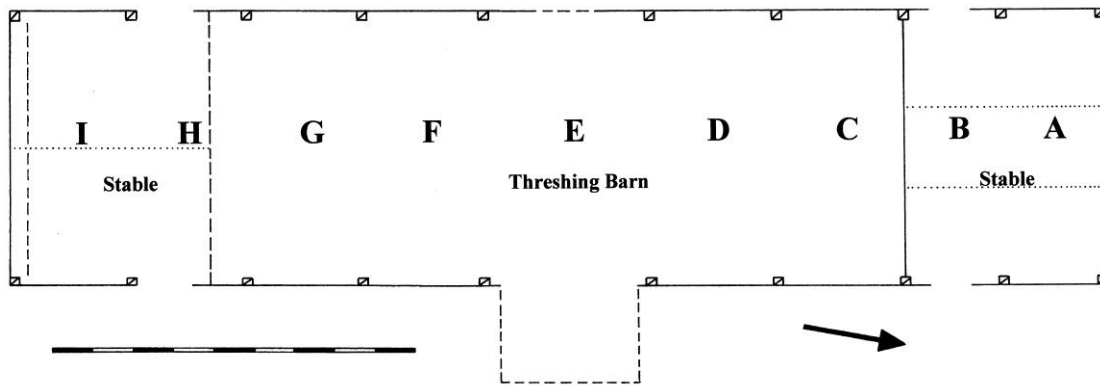


Figure 5

Ground plan of the barn identifying each bay with a letter for ease of reference in the text and photographs.

The 20th century lean-to porch and narrow lean-to wood-shed adjoining the southern gable are not shown, but the site of the earlier (possibly original) gabled porch is indicated by broken lines.

Scale in metres

Structure and Date

The barn at Ufford Hall is a grade II-listed timber-framed and weatherboarded structure on an approximately north-south axis which lies 30 metres north-east of the house. It contains a total of nine bays and extends to 27 m in length (excluding a 20th century pantiled lean-to against its southern gable) by 6.9 m in overall width (88.5 ft by 22.5 ft). Its internal walls rise to 3.6 m at their roof-plates (12 ft) with uninterrupted studs of 3.3 m between the plates and sills (11 ft) and a shallow brick plinth which appears to have been rebuilt in the 19th century. The steep pitch of the roof was designed for thatch but is now covered with corrugated asbestos.

The walls are fully framed with pegged joints and internally trenched braces. Many timbers show evidence of re-use from at least one earlier barn, including passing-brace trenches to the tie-beams in the manner of the 13th and early-14th centuries, but the jowled storey posts all appear to be primary. The roof-plates contain numerous face-halved and bladed scarf joints of a type not normally found before the beginning of the 17th century, but include a single edge-halved and bridled example of 15th or 16th century type which probably indicates re-use. An origin of *circa* 1620 is entirely consistent with the cranked (i.e. sharply angled) braces and other carpentry features which are primary to the present building (rather than re-used from elsewhere). The Schedule of Listed Buildings suggests a date in the late-16th century but this is less likely given the scarf joints. The roof structure contains an upper tier of clasped purlins with a full complement of wind-braces and a lower tier of linear butt-purlins. Each open truss contains a cranked raking queen-strut linking its tie-beam and principal rafter, but these may be secondary insertions as they are tenoned and pegged to the tie-beams but apparently nailed to the rafters. Their heavy section suggests they date from no later than the mid-17th century, however, and whether primary or secondary they form a visually dramatic roof structure that is unique in my experience.

The roof of the two-bay southern stable differs significantly from the rest in possessing only clasped-purlins, with neither queen-struts not butt-purlins, and the wall timbers are of better

quality than elsewhere with no evidence of re-use. The purlins of the main barn extend into its first bay but terminate before the gable and are crudely nailed to the rafters, while the stable's eastern purlin contains an empty lap-joint for a wind-brace that projected towards the barn but for which there is no corresponding mortise in the relevant principal rafter (i.e. between bays G and H). The opposite section of purlin is missing. It therefore seems certain that the southern stable is an earlier structure of *circa* 1600 that was probably built as an extension to the gable of a still earlier barn – quite possibly an aisled barn with passing braces of *circa* 1300. The roof-plates of the two structures are linked by crudely tenoned scarf joints. There is no evidence to suggest the stable is a later addition to the barn, as stated in the Schedule of Listed Buildings, although the re-used tie-beam at the junction contains empty stud mortises that might be misinterpreted as such. The truncation by the stable's internal partition of the original framed doorway in its eastern wall (bay H) is likely to have occurred when the barn was rebuilt.

Original Layout and Function

The centre of the structure forms a traditional threshing barn of five bays with central doors, but both ends of the building contain two-bay stables with hay lofts of 4.9 m in length (16 ft). The threshing barn was entered by full-height doors in the eastern elevation (facing away from the house), as indicated by mortises for jambs and a central door-bar in the roof-plate, but these have been replaced by a late-20th century lean-to porch of no historic value. A wider porch (perhaps with grain sheds on both sides) appears to be shown on the tithe map of 1838 (figure 1) but this had been replaced by a smaller example by 1886 (figure 2). Dovetail joints in the roof-plate above each jamb mortise indicate the former presence of a gabled porch but it is unclear whether this was an original feature. The floor has been renewed in concrete, although a brick threshing floor may survive beneath. The roof-plate of the rear (western) elevation contains original stud mortises and would have possessed a much smaller door in the usual manner of the period (sufficient to create a through-draught for threshing and winnowing but not to admit vehicles). This doorway was widened in the 18th or early-19th century, truncating the studs, but the present doors date from the 20th century. The wall braces of the threshing barn are arranged in a symmetrical pattern (rising to both tie-beams and roof-plates from the corner posts and to the roof-plates from the central posts of the outer bays), but this symmetry is curiously interrupted by the presence of mid-rails in the western elevations of the two bays flanking the entrance. These rails are entirely original and were probably occasioned by a shortage of long studs in the assemblage of re-used material available to the carpenters.

The ceiling joists of the southern loft are neatly chamfered with soffit tenons in the 16th century style and contain a hay drop against the gable (i.e. a gap through which the hay rack attached to the gable was loaded from above). The boards of the northern stable have been removed and it is not clear whether it too possessed a similar feature (as is highly likely). The western half of this southern loft has been lost entirely. Both stables possessed cross-entries (i.e. opposing doors) in the usual manner at the opposite ends to their respective hay racks, although the ground-floor partition between the barn and stable to the south is largely missing (but indicated by stud mortises in its lateral joist). The northern edge of the eastern door in bay H is formed by a re-used section of early-17th century timber carved with dentilation and now opens onto a modern lean-to shelter shed of no historic value. The northern stable contains 20th century brick stalls and its lower walls are hidden by corrugated iron which blocks the rear (western) entrance.

External Cladding

The present external weatherboarding is heavily tarred and with the exception of sections of 20th century repair dates from the late-19th century. There is no indication of the yards and shelter sheds attached to the western elevation as shown on the Ordnance Surveys of 1886

and 1904. The southern gable preserves an area of earlier two-tier cladding, with roughcast wattle-and-daub above unpainted weatherboarding. In its present form this probably dates from the late-18th century or early-19th century, when many East Anglian barns were clad in this way, but the daub illustrates the barn's original appearance: the timbers are consistently of poorer quality to the exterior than the interior and would have been rendered from the outset. The present lean-to shed which preserves the southern lean-to dates only from the 20th century but presumably occupies the site of a 19th century predecessor which protected it from the tar applied elsewhere.

Historic Significance

The barn at Ufford Hall is an exceptionally intact early-17th century structure which preserves a full complement of original arch-braces to its tie-beams. The great majority of such braces were replaced by bolted knees to increase headroom in the 19th century. The roof structure also retains a complete arcade of wind-braces and the tie-beams are linked to the principal rafters by raking queen-struts of a unique form. These various features combine to create a dramatic and highly impressive display that is among the finest 17th century interiors in the county. The survival of stables and lofts at both ends is also of historic interest, illustrating a typical East Anglian combination rarely found elsewhere in the country, as is the presence of re-used material from what may have been the original 13th century barn on the site. The structure is of additional importance given its location as part of a seigniorial (gentry) landscape, forming the base court of a grade II*-listed manor house, and its link to a major figure in English history (Dr William Sancroft). The building fully justifies its grade II status, and a case could be made for re-listing at grade II*.

Frame drawings follow on pages 10-13

Frame Drawings

All scales in metres

Figure 6 (page 11)

Internal elevations: Front (east) with roof structure below and rear above.

The rear roof structure is identical.

Note the original framed door lintels to both stables in the eastern elevation and the evidence of an earlier gabled porch which may also be an original feature. Although the roof of the northern stable (bays A & B) is fully integral to that of the threshing barn and there is no evidence of former hips there were (unusually) no wind-braces to the four corners of the barn or the adjoining corners of the stable. The roof of the southern stable (I & H) is an entirely different structure which once either extended further to the north or abutted an earlier barn – as indicated by the lap-joint in the purlin for a wind-brace for which there is no corresponding mortise in the original principal rafter of the barn. Most individual timbers of the barn and northern stable (bays A-G) show signs of re-use – including an apparent passing-brace trench in the eastern roof-plate of bay G - but there is no similar evidence in the southern stable. The ostensibly random mid-rails flanking the threshing bay in the western elevation are original features that were presumably intended to facilitate the re-use of short lengths of timber.

Figure 7 (page 12)

Typical open truss of threshing barn (specifically that between bays F and E viewed from the south). The unusual raking queen struts with sharp cranks (angles) may be early insertions as they are nailed rather than tenoned and pegged to the principal rafters, but this anomaly may have been a means to avoid weakening the junction by cutting a third mortise near those of the butt-purlins.

Figure 8 (page 13)

Open truss of threshing barn with re-used tie-beam (specifically that between bays G and F viewed from the south). Three tie-beams were re-used from an older frame and contain trenches for passing braces and mortises for shorter arch-braces in a manner associated with aisled barns of the late-13th and 14th centuries. Trenches can be seen in the southern side of the open truss in the stable (between bays A and B) and the northern side of the tie between bays C and D. The tie-beam between bays G and H contains stud mortises and is also re-used, but the ties of the remaining open trusses appear to be primary.

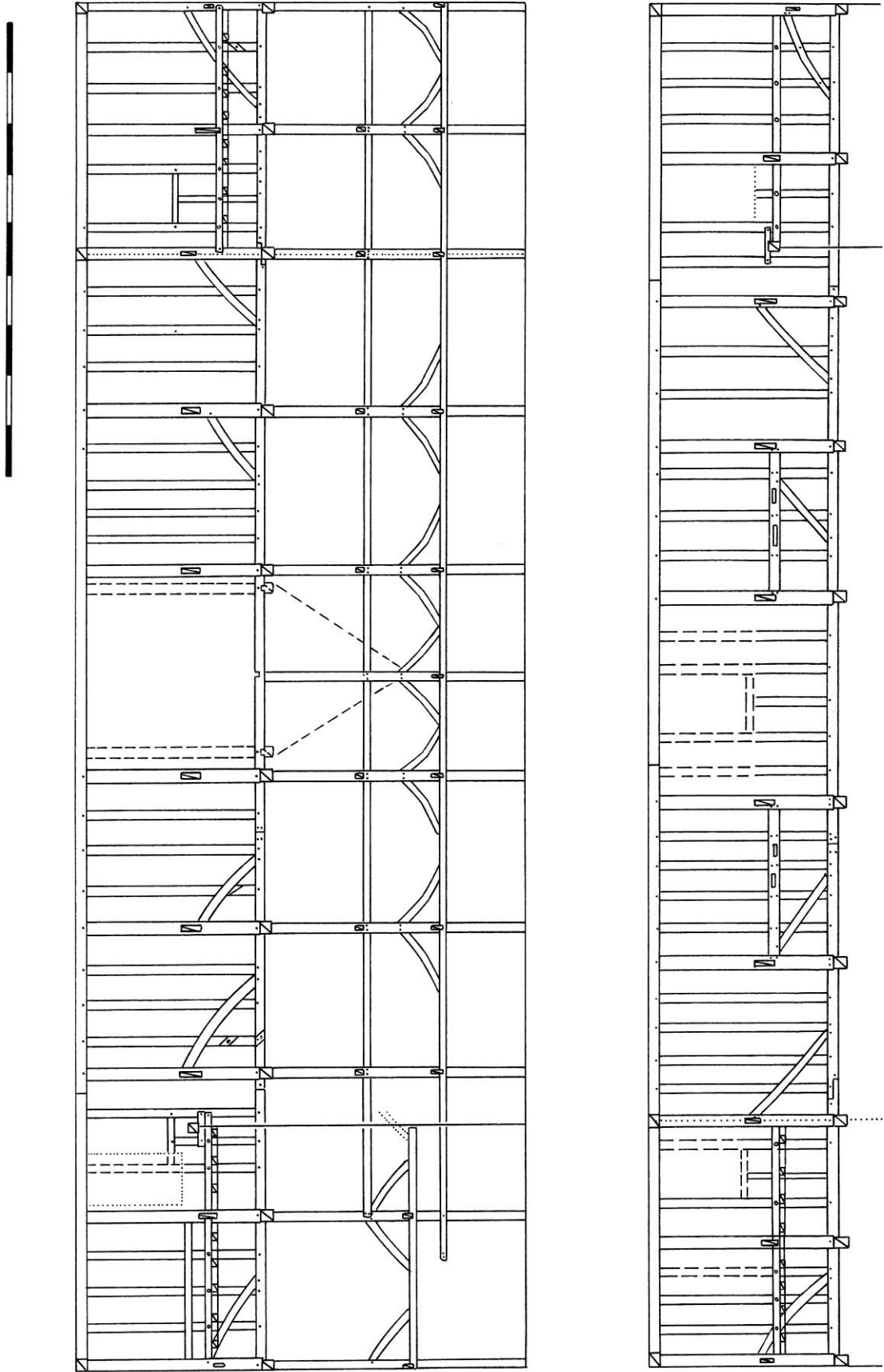


Figure 6

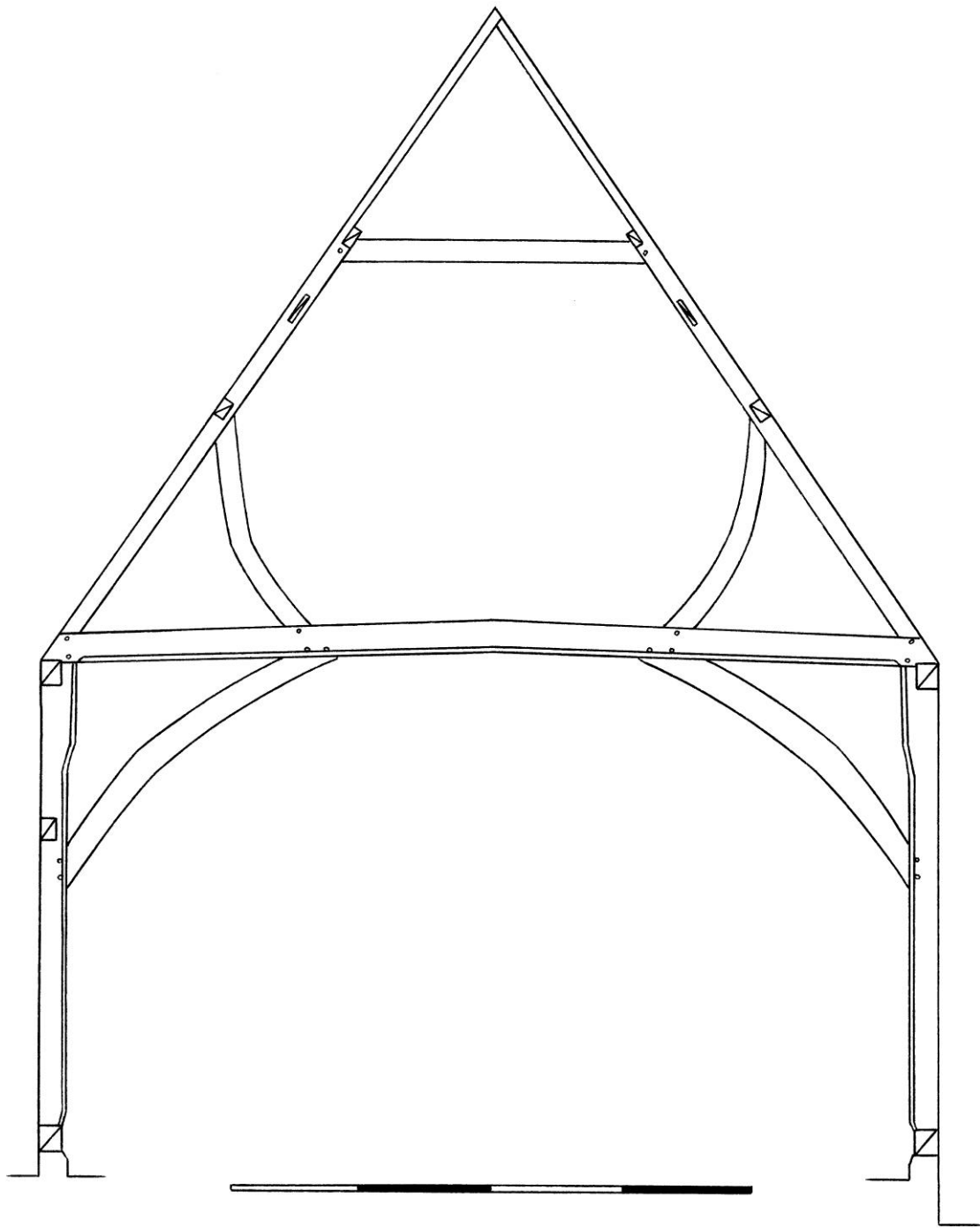


Figure 7

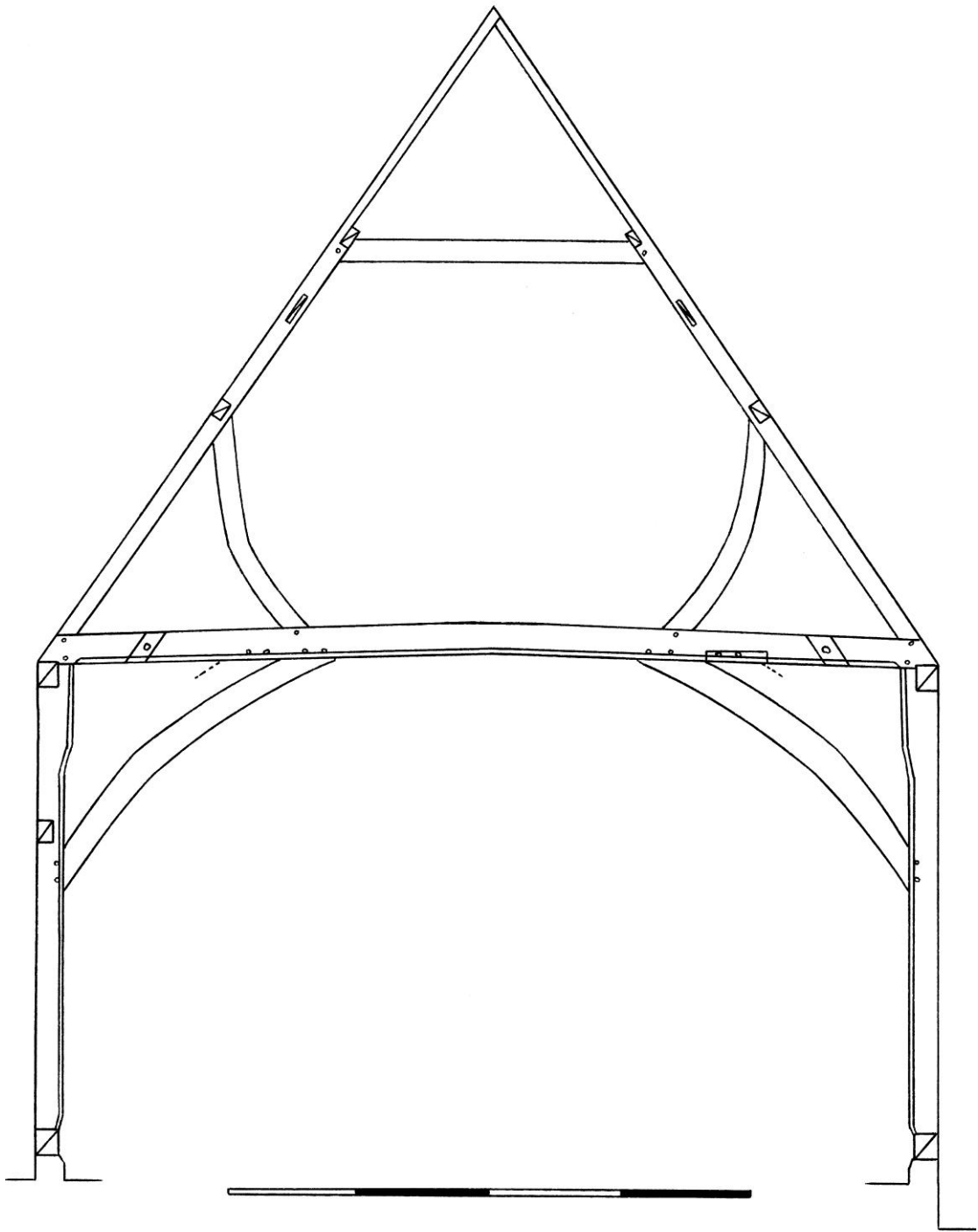


Figure 8

Appendix 1 (on accompanying CD): Full Photographic Record

Descriptions of Photographs in Appendix 1

Photograph no.

1. General view of site from north showing 20th century farm sheds in foreground and barn in rear to right.
2. General view of site from east showing proximity of barn to right and Ufford Hall in tress to left.
3. Northern facade of Ufford Hall from former base court flanked by the barn. Included for site context.
4. The barn (behind trees to right) from the entrance to Ufford Hall showing overgrown site of demolished 19th century sheds.
5. General view of site from south-east showing 20th century sheds with barn and lean-to adjoining southern gable to left.
6. Eastern exterior showing 20th century lean-to porch with half-hung door to northern stable (A & B) to right.
7. Exterior of northern gable showing loading hatch to loft.
8. Western exterior from north-west showing half-hung rear door to northern stable (bay B) to left.
9. External western doors to threshing bay (E).
10. Western exterior from south-west showing doors to southern stable (H) to left and southern gable lean-to to right.
11. Interior from west of southern lean-to showing Fletton brickwork to right and external gable of barn to left.
12. Interior from east of southern lean-to showing original external gable of barn with two-tier cladding to right.
13. Exterior of southern gable in lean-to shed showing 18th century two-tier cladding with wattle-and-daub above boarding.
14. Detail of early wattle-&-daub to southern external gable showing split laths between studs tied to nailed horizontal lath.
15. Eastern exterior showing lean-to covered yard to south of porch.
16. Interior of lean-to covered yard from north showing eastern exterior of barn to right.
17. Eastern exterior of barn within southern covered yard showing door to stable bay (H) to left & porch to right.

18. General view of interior of main barn (C-G) from north.
19. General view of main barn (C-G) from north-west showing tractor parked in central threshing bay (E) and passing brace trenches in re-used tie-beam in foreground.
20. General view of main barn (C-G) from south showing profiles of roof trusses.
21. Detail of roof structure from south showing cranked queen-struts, butt-purlins & upper tier of wind-braced clasped purlins.
22. Interior of rear (western) elevation from south-east showing partition of southern stable to left.
23. Detail of roof structure from north showing profiles of cranked queen-struts.
24. Detail of roof structure from north-east showing intact wind-braces to upper tiers of clasped-purlins.
25. Interior of western gable showing twin axial joists of hay loft in bays A and B.
26. Eastern interior of bay A showing stable loft with northern gable to left and 20th century brick calf boxes.
27. Eastern interior of bay B showing original doorway to stable with pegged and tenoned lintel and access to main barn right.
28. Detail of bent-wood harness hooks in south-eastern corner of stable bay B.
29. Interior of stable bays A & B from north showing boarded partition to main barn with 20th century calf boxes in foreground.
30. Western interior of stable bays A & B showing blocked door behind corrugated asbestos to left.
31. Interior of stable bays A & B from south showing remnants of lath-and-plaster to ceiling joists.
32. Western interior of northern stable loft (A & B) showing arch-braced open truss and intact roof structure.
33. Western internal re-used roof-plate of bay B showing narrow unpegged stud above position of blocked original stable door with passing brace mortise in re-used tie-beam.
34. Interior of northern loft (A & B) from south showing raking queen struts pegged to tie-beam but nailed & bolted to rafters.
35. Eastern interior of northern stable loft showing intact roof structure and passing brace trench with nailed reinforcement to original arch-brace mortise in re-used tie-beam.
36. Eastern internal re-used roof-plate of bay B showing narrow unpegged stud above position of existing original stable door.

37. Interior of northern stable loft from south showing studs of northern gable and lodged & nailed floor joists.
38. Northern interior of main barn (bay C) showing intact partition originally rising only to tie-beam & open to hay loft above.
39. Eastern interior of northern bays of main barn (C & D) showing reverse-curved wall-braces.
40. Eastern interior of roof-structure of bays C & D showing continuity with roof of northern stable but without wind brace.
41. Central bay of eastern interior (E) showing position of original entrance.
42. Detail of eastern roof plate of central bay E showing door jamb mortises right & left & door bar housing in centre.
43. Eastern exterior of central bay (E) showing modern porch with edge of earlier narrow porch in tarred weatherboarding.
44. Eastern exterior of roof-plate of bay E showing door jamb mortises with dovetails above for earlier or original gabled porch.
45. Southern interior of modern (late-20th century) lean-to porch adjoining central bay E to right.
46. Northern interior of modern (late-20th century) lean-to porch adjoining central bay E to left.
47. Eastern interior of southern bays of main barn (F & G) showing partition of southern stable to right.
48. Eastern interior of roof-structure of bays F & G showing lack of wind brace & change of purlins to roof of stable to right.
49. Central section of roof structure from south-west showing intact arch-braces to upper tier of clasped purlins.
50. Detail of re-used eastern roof-plate of bay G showing apparent trench for passing brace.
51. Western end of re-used tie-beam between bays G & F from south showing passing-brace trench to left.
52. Eastern end of re-used tie-beam between bays G & F from south showing passing-brace trench to right.
53. Northern end of eastern roof-plate of bay H showing simple tenoned scarf joint with stable loft partition to right.
54. Southern interior of main barn (bay G) showing boarded partition to southern stable and stud mortises in tie-beam.
55. Underside of mid-rail of southern stable partition (bay H) showing empty stud mortises & lapped junction with axial joist.

56. Eastern interior of bay H showing tenoned lintel of door truncated by larger door to right & post supporting mid-rail.
57. Eastern interior of southern stable (bays H & I) showing partly blocked original door to left and hay drop to right.
58. Detail from west of hay drop in ceiling of southern stable (bay I) showing southern gable to right.
59. Southern internal gable showing position of hay rack beneath hay drop with removed western ceiling to right.
60. Western interior of southern stable (bays H & I) showing apparently secondary door in bay H to right.
61. Interior of southern stable (H & I) from south showing partly removed boarded partition to main barn & loft loading door.
62. Western roof structure of southern stable (bays H & I) showing clasped purlins without butt-purlins (barn purlins are nailed to rafters).
63. Roof structure of southern stable (bays H & I) from south showing lack of raking queen struts & butt-purlins.
64. Eastern roof structure of southern stable (bays H & I) showing intact wind braces & lower height of clasped-purlin.
65. Detail of eastern roof structure of southern hay loft (H & I) showing nailed ends of main barn purlins to left.
66. Eastern interior of southern loft (H & I) showing wide gap of possible loading hatch in bay H to left.
67. Internal southern gable of southern hay loft showing remains of wattle and daub infill.
68. Boarded partition of southern hay loft (bay H) seen from south, showing loading door to main barn.
69. Chamfered axial joist of southern stable (H & I) from north, showing bare-faced soffit tenons of common joists.
70. Tie-beam between bays H & G from south-east showing empty mortises in soffit.
71. Western interior of southern bays of main barn (G & F) showing original mid-rail in bay F to right & stable partition left.
72. Detail of simple tenoned scarf joint of western roof-plate at junction of bays H & G.
73. Western roof structure of bays G & F showing lack of wind brace mortise in principal rafter adjoining stable bay H to left.

74. Western interior of bay F showing original mid-rail and extensive evidence of re-used timber.
75. Western interior of northern bays of main barn showing truncated original studs of central bay E to left.
76. Western interior of bays D & C showing original mid-rail of bay D with face-halved scarf joint above inserted window.
77. Detail of typical face-halved scarf joint in roof-plate above inserted window of western interior of bay D.
78. Detail of north-western corner of main barn (bay C) showing edge-halved and bridled scarf joint in roof-plate.
79. Detail of edge-halved and bridled 16th century-type scarf joint to west of bay C showing empty mortises of re-used timber.
80. Northern end of western roof of main barn (bays D & C) showing the lack of wind-brace and mortise to the corner (as in the other three corners of the main barn).

Photographic Appendix 2 follows on pages 19-24

Appendix 2 (pp. 19-24): Selected Printed Photographs



Illus. 1. The eastern exterior showing the corrugated asbestos roof (steeply pitched for its original thatch) with a late-20th century lean-to porch adjoining bay E to the left (on the site of an earlier, narrower gabled porch) and the half-hung entrance door to the northern stable in bays A and B to the right.



Illus. 2. The western exterior from the south-west showing the half-hung door to the southern stable (bays H and I) with the entrance to the 20th century lean-to against the southern gable to the right.



Illus. 3. The exterior of the southern gable preserved in the lean-to shed, showing the 18th or early-19th century ‘two-tier’ cladding of wattle and daub above weatherboarding. The entire barn is likely to have been clad in this manner before the addition of the present tarred weatherboarding.



Illus. 4. A general view from the north-west of the main threshing barn (bays C-G) between the two stables, showing a tractor parked in the central threshing bay (E). The tie-beam between bays C and D in the foreground has trenches for passing-braces at both ends and has been re-used from an early-14th century or earlier building.



Illus. 5. A general view of the main barn (C-G) from the south, showing the distinctive profile of its roof trusses. The original mid-rail in bay F is visible to the left – apparently a device to allow the re-use of short lengths of timber.



Illus. 6. The roof structure seen from the north-east, showing the exceptionally intact array of curved wind-braces to the upper tier of clasped-purlins and the lower tier of butt-purlins.



Illus. 7. The highly unusual cranked queen-struts between the tie-beams and principal rafters, seen from the north-east. These are tenoned and pegged to the tie-beams but nailed to the rafters and may possibly be secondary insertions.



Illus. 8. The internal gable of the northern stable (bays A and B) showing the twin axial joists of the hay loft with remnants of lath-and-plaster. The mid-20th century brick partitions and wainscot of corrugated asbestos were probably designed to form loose boxes for calves.



Illus. 9. The interior of the northern hay loft (bays A and B) from the south, showing the raking queen struts to the re-used tie-beam (with passing-brace trenches to left and right) and a loading hatch in the gable. The wind-braces extend to the gable in contrast to those of the main threshing barn.



Illus. 10. The western end of the re-used tie-beam between bays G and F seen from the south, showing a trench for a passing brace of a type normally associated with barns of the early-14th century or before. An identical trench occurs at the opposite end of the same timber (as would be expected), but while many studs and roof-plates show similar indications the majority of the remaining tie-beams appear to be primary.



Illus. 11. The southern internal gable showing early wattle-and-daub and the remaining section of hay loft to the left. A hay rack and manger would have been attached to this gable, as indicated by a hay drop (narrow gap) in the ceiling of the loft immediately above.



Illus. 12. The southern stable (bays H and I) from the west, showing the empty soffitenon mortises in the axial joist for the missing western half of the hay loft. Note the junction with the different roof of the main barn: The clasped and butt purlins of the latter project through the boarded loft partition to the left and are nailed to the rafters. This roof consists only of clasped-purlins and lacks queen-struts. This end of the building also differs in the absence of re-used timber and appears to pre-date the rest of the barn.