

**Barn at
White House Farm,
Southolt, Suffolk
SLT 008**

Heritage Asset Assessment

OASIS ID: Suffolkc1-133994



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Barn at White House Farm, Athelington Road, Southolt, Suffolk

(TM 2036 7034)

Heritage Asset Assessment

This report provides a record and analysis at English Heritage (2006) Level 3 of a grade II-listed timber-framed barn. It has been prepared to a specification written by Edward Martin of Suffolk County Council's Archaeological Service dated 5th July 2012, and is intended to inform and accompany an application for conversion to Mid Suffolk District Council.

Introduction

The report is accompanied by a CD containing a full photographic record in the form of 56 digital images of 21 megapixels (Appendix 1), but also includes 14 printed photographs of key features to illustrate the text. 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 31st August 2012.

Summary

White House Farm lies in open countryside in the north-eastern corner of Southolt parish, adjoining its boundary with Athelington. The property includes two grade II-listed timber-framed buildings of *circa* 1600: the former farmhouse flanking the northern entrance to the site and a four-bay barn to the south. The original layout of the two-cell farmhouse was highly unusual and it probably originated as a detached bake-house or 'unit-house' belonging to a demolished contemporary farmhouse to the east. The building consisted of a narrow central 'hall' flanked by a gable chimney on the south and a large two-bay parlour entered from a cross-passage on the north. A second domestic house occupied the site of the adjacent lawn at the time of the tithe survey in 1839. The barn is also unusual in that it contained a small threshing area of just two bays to the south and a two bay stable with a hay loft to the north. The scale of the threshing barn is consistent with the 17.5 acres associated with the holding in 1839, but at 6.25 m (20.5 ft) in length the stable seems unnecessarily large. Most of the building's oak frame is intact, including an impressive clasped-purlin roof containing a full complement of reverse-cranked wind-braces, and substantial areas of original wattle-and-daub survive in the western elevation. The barn was entered from a yard behind the demolished house to the east, and preserves rare evidence of a small rear doorway immediately opposite. A good threshing floor of mixed red and gault brick survives from the 19th century, and a pair of much rebuilt single-storied yard sheds was added to the eastern facade at a similar period. The internal partition and loft have been removed, but the walls contain evidence of at least four and possibly six diamond-mullion windows lighting the stable bays along with a separate entrance in the northern gable. This gable has been 'restored' in recent years, inserting new diamond mullions and window sills that have obscured the evidence of its original appearance. The reason for the large size of the floored area relative to the threshing barn is unclear: In the absence of original fixtures and fittings it may have served as a neat-house for cattle rather than a stable, or perhaps met the needs of a horse dealer or carter instead of a normal arable farmer. Given its well preserved frame and unusual layout the barn is of considerable historic interest and fully merits its listed status.

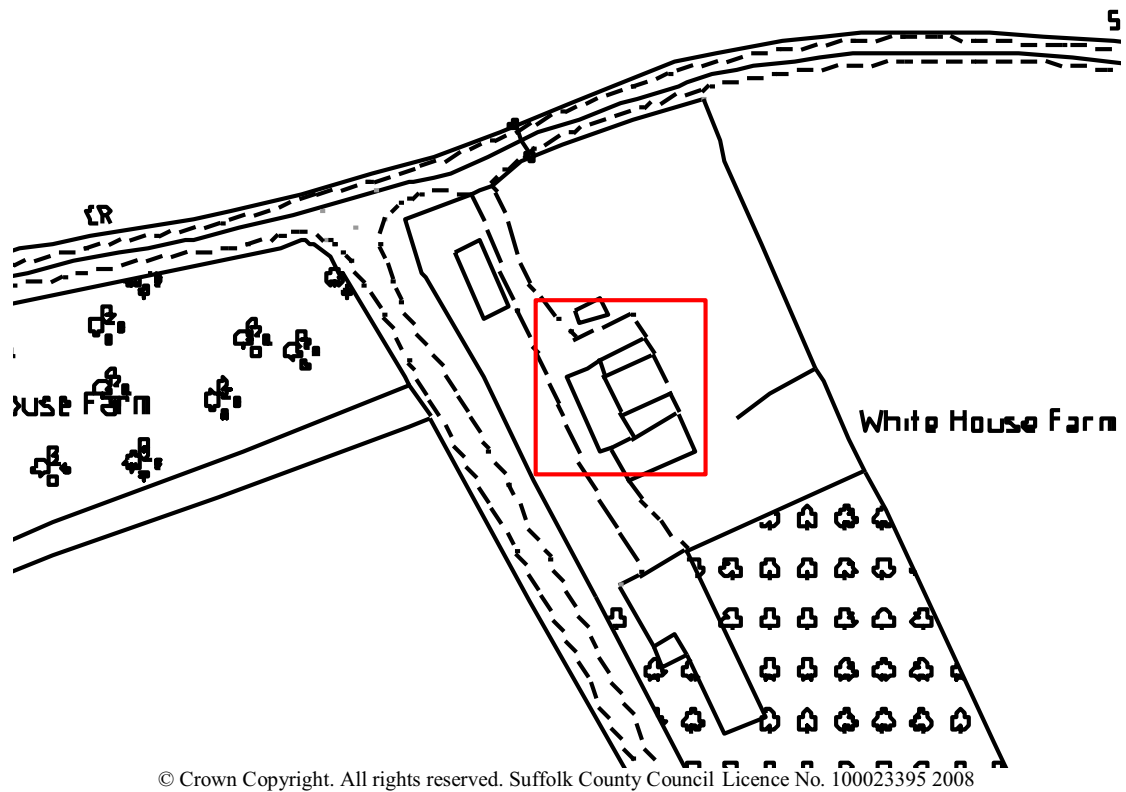


Figure 1
Modern Ordnance Survey
 Enclosing the barn and adjoining sheds in red and showing the separately listed house to the north-west. See figure 6 for more detail.

Documentary and Cartographic Evidence

White House Farm lies in open countryside in the north-eastern corner of Southolt parish, approximately 1.75 km from St Margaret's church. The property is bounded by the entrance track to the medieval moated site of Southolt Hall on the west and by the boundary with Athelington parish to the north and east. Both the former farmhouse and the barn to the south are listed at grade II. The farmhouse is a timber-framed and rendered structure of *circa* 1600 which was heavily renovated in 1985 using much reclaimed timber with traditional pegged joints that is often difficult to distinguish from the original framing. The building's original layout differed significantly from the domestic norm of the period, with a southern 'hall' entered by a cross-passage adjoining a large, two-bay 'service' room to the north instead of the standard buttery and pantry. A stair rose from the back (west) of the cross-passage alongside the single connecting door, and the opposite end of the hall was open-framed against a large gable chimney that was rebuilt on a smaller scale in the late-18th or 19th century. The structure is well-framed in oak with a clasped-purlin roof and edge-halved scarf joints, but is exceptionally narrow at just 4.25 m (14 ft) internally and there is no evidence that it continued further south. The building more closely resembles a 'unit-house' than a principal farmhouse, i.e. a detached kitchen or bake-house with ancillary accommodation for a semi-independent family member such as a widow. Similar outbuildings are not uncommon in rural Suffolk, often standing in close proximity to the main house on the holding, and the maps below reveal the presence of another house on the modern lawn to the east until its demolition in the mid-20th century. Such an interpretation would also explain the otherwise abnormal orientation of the broadly contemporary barn, which faces away from the present house where most examples were entered from yards to the front or rear of their respective farmhouses.

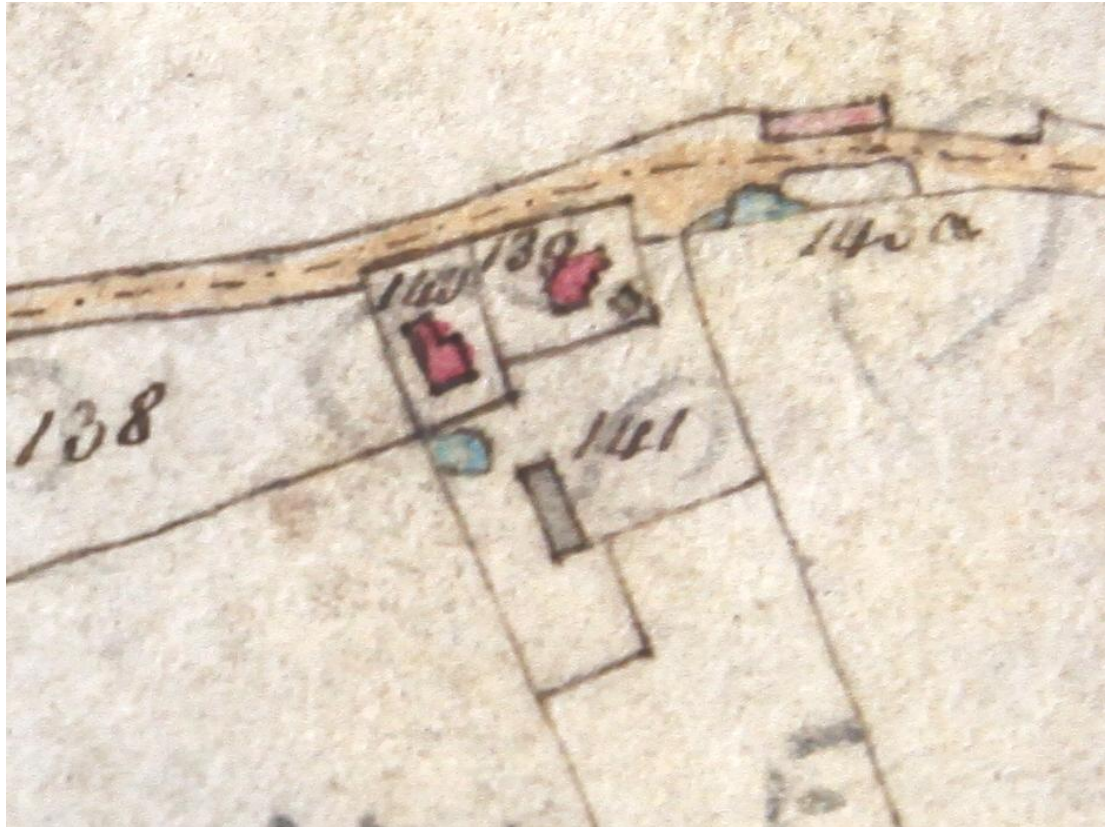


Figure 2. White House Farm as depicted on the Southolt tithe map of 1839, showing the barn in grey with a simple rectangular outline (141) and a pair of houses in red to the north.

At the time of the Southolt tithe survey of 1839 White House Farm was a modest tenanted holding with just 17.5 acres in the parish, although more land extended over the boundary with Athelington. The farm belonged to John Fisher and was occupied by Francis Baldry. The tithe map shows the barn with a rectangular outline to the south of the present house together with a second ‘cottage and yard’ of similar scale immediately to the east. The latter was in separate occupation and ownership (belonging to Anthony Todd and tenanted by Samuel Clark), but the close proximity of the two dwellings in an otherwise isolated rural location strongly suggests they were linked originally. The site of the barn was described in the apportionment only as ‘farm yards, etc.’, but the absence of any separate structure indicates that the barn contained an integral stable.

By the time of the first edition 25 inch Ordnance Survey of 1886 the surviving pair of single-storied sheds had been added to the barn’s eastern elevation to create a small yard. The presence of the narrow pantiled lean-to against its northern gable, as shown in figure 5, is revealed by the slight projection of the barn’s outline beyond the northern shed. Similar additions were made to most East Anglian barns during the middle decades of the 19th century, reflecting the increase in cattle numbers as cereal prices fell after the Repeal of the Corn Laws in 1846 and the new Victorian fashion for keeping animals in enclosed yards rather than abroad in the fields. The situation remained unaltered in 1904, and the eastern cottage was still depicted on the Ordnance Survey of 1957 but had been demolished by that of 1977.

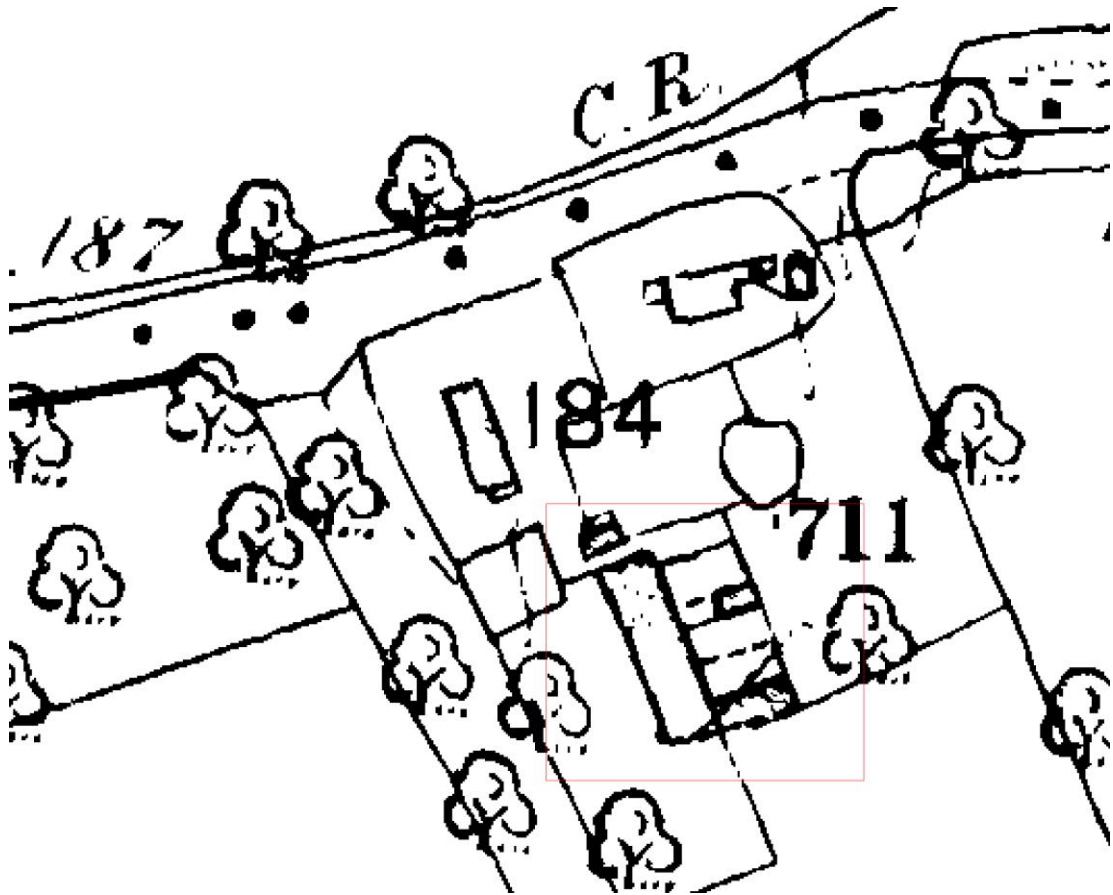


Figure 3. First Edition 25 inch Ordnance Survey of 1886, showing the new single-storied sheds against the barn's eastern elevation.

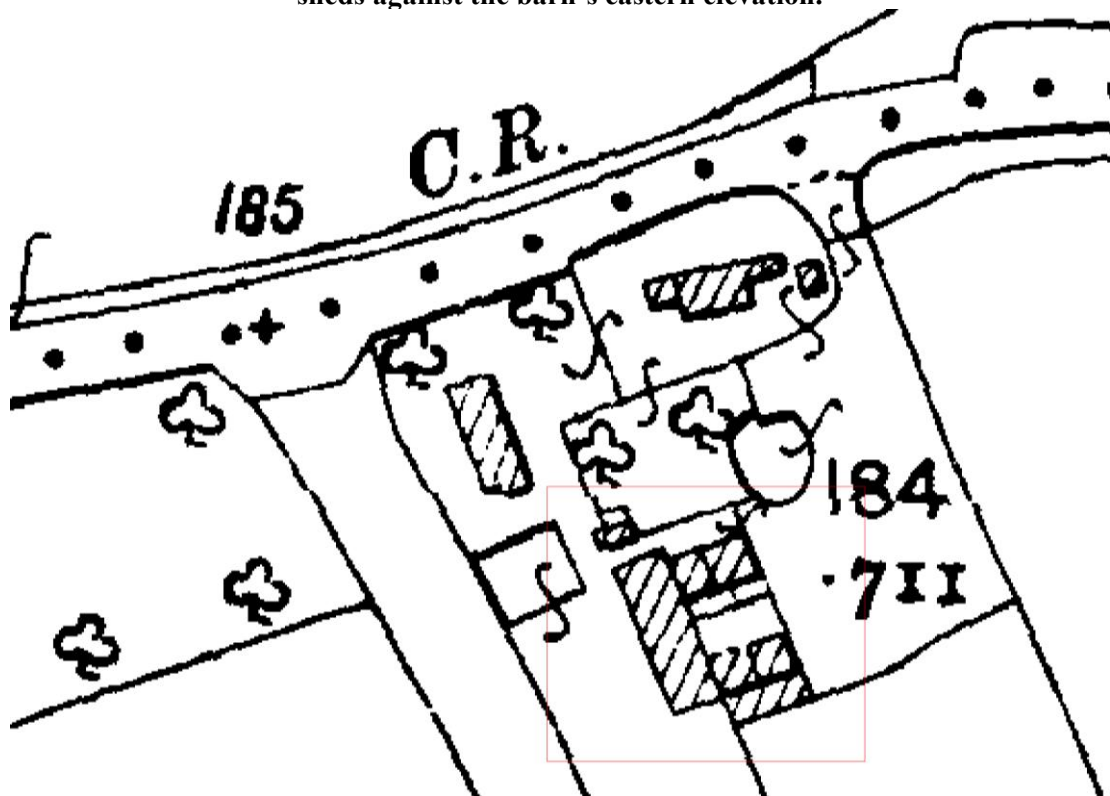


Figure 4. The Second Edition 25 inch Ordnance Survey of 1904, showing for the first time the internal partitions of the two yard sheds

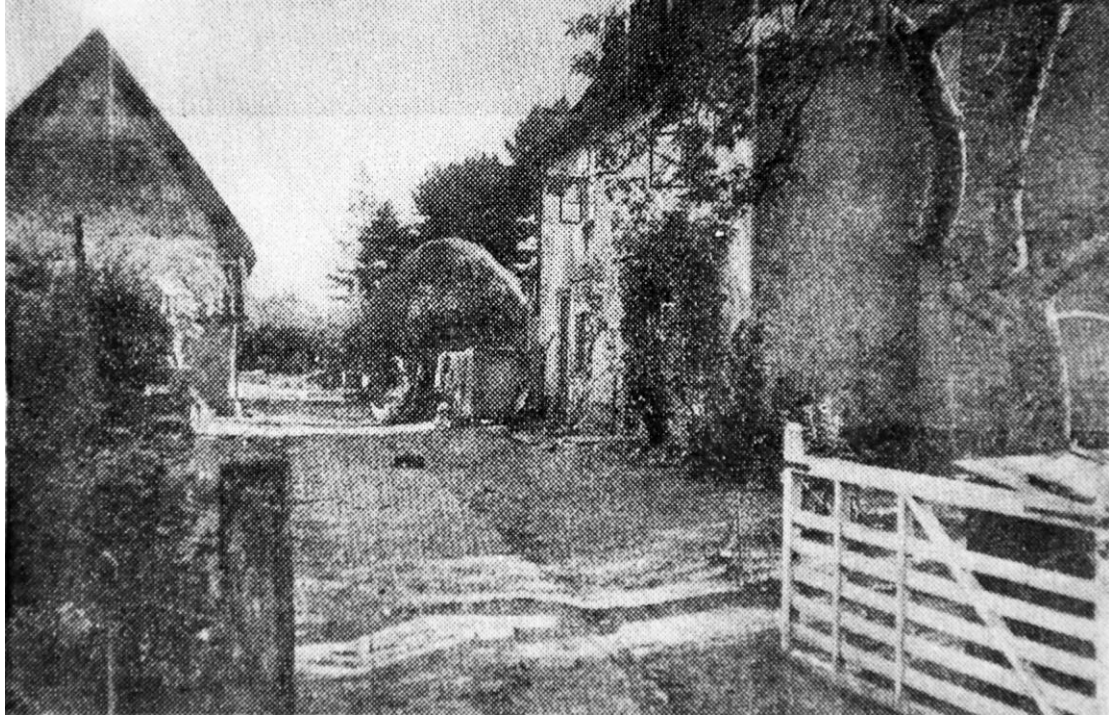


Figure 5

Photograph of the farm yard from its northern entrance published in the Southolt entry of the 'Pocket Histories of Suffolk Parishes' series (Suffolk Chronicle, 1936). The view is clearly of White House Farm but was labelled only 'Beautiful Sunlight Effect on a Farmyard'. Note the thatched roof and the pantiled lean-to shed adjoining the barn's northern gable to the left. If the barn was designed with windows in this gable they had been blocked prior to this date.

Building Analysis

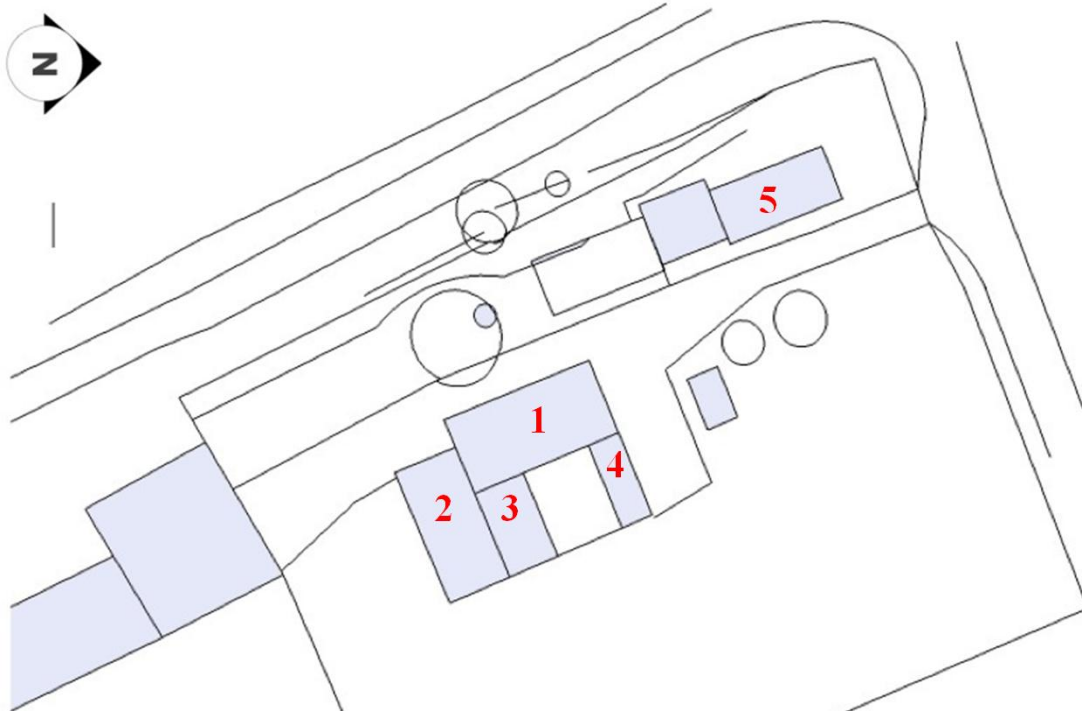


Figure 6

Block plan of the site identifying each key building with a number for ease of reference in the text and photographic record.

Adapted from a survey drawing by Barbara Ann Spencer Architectural Design.

Key

1. A grade II-listed timber-framed four-bay barn of *circa* 1600 with a clasped-purlin roof retaining its full complement of reverse-cranked wind-braces. Originally divided by a central partition into a two-bay open threshing barn to the south and an unusually large two-bay ‘stable’ with a hay loft to the north. The stable and loft originally lit by at least four and possibly six diamond-mullion windows and with evidence of an original entrance door in its northern gable. The threshing barn entered by full-height doors with pin hinges to the east, with evidence of a small, low door to the rear. The threshing bay retaining a largely intact 19th century brick threshing floor. The western elevation preserves large sections of original wattle-and-daub, now cement rendered externally and replaced by 20th century weatherboarding elsewhere. The roof formerly thatched but now covered in corrugated iron. Both gables much rebuilt, with recent diamond mullion windows to the north, but the framing otherwise largely intact.
2. A 20th century shed of weatherboarded studwork with mono-pitched roof, recently converted into a swimming pool.
3. A mid- to late-19th century single-storied pantiled shed of red-brick with a weatherboarded northern elevation and eastern gable on red-brick plinths. Much rebuilt and recently converted into a wet room and boiler house for the adjoining swimming pool, but apparently reflecting its original layout with two loose boxes entered by half-hung doors from the north. Probably designed as a pair of loose boxes for cattle, although figures 3 and 4 above suggest it may have been adapted from an open-sided shelter-shed.

4. A mid- to late-19th century single-storied pantiled shed of red-brick with a weatherboarded southern elevation and eastern gable on red-brick plinths. Much rebuilt, with a new roof of softwood, but apparently reflecting its original layout with two loose boxes entered by half-hung doors from the south.
5. Grade II-listed former farmhouse of *circa* 1600, possibly designed as a detached bake-house belonging to a farmhouse on the site of the modern lawn to the east. (See description on page 2 above).

N.B. The sheds adjoining the barn have been extensively rebuilt in recent years and are not of historic value except insofar as their external appearance illustrates the development of the site in the 19th century. They are not discussed further below.

Threshing Barn with Integral Loft, *circa* 1600

Proportions, Structure and Date

The barn at White House Farm is a substantial oak-framed structure in four bays on an approximately north-south axis which extends to 13 m in length by 6 m in total width (42.75 ft by 19.75 ft). The walls rise to 3m (10 ft) at the roof-plates but in places the storey posts about the modern internal concrete floors and the ground level may have risen by as much as half a metre; the present ground sills, where visible, are not pegged to the studs and appear to be secondary. The concrete floor of the northern bay is 0.5 m higher than elsewhere forming a platform that was probably designed to support grain silos. Internally trenched corner braces rise from the corner posts to both the gable tie-beams and the roof-plates, and the tie-beams flanking the well preserved threshing floor of mixed red and gault brick in the penultimate southern bay (B in figure 7) are arch-braced to the jowled storey posts. The north-western brace has been removed but the others remain *in situ*. The roof structure consists of clasped purlins with reverse-cranked wind-braces to every principal rafter, all of which are intact, and is steeply pitched for thatch (as shown in figure 5) but is now covered with galvanised corrugated iron. The sharply cranked (angled) profiles of the wind-braces are typical of the first half of the 17th century, as are the chiselled carpenters' numerals found throughout the frame; the edge-halved and bridled scarf joints of the roof-plates, in contrast, are normally associated with 15th and 16th century structures and were quickly superseded by face-halved joints at the beginning of the 17th century. The combination of these features therefore indicates a date of *circa* 1600.

Much of the western elevation retains what appears to be original wattle-and-daub between its studs, albeit crudely patched internally with cement. The outer surfaces of the timbers are roughly hewn and waney, indicating they were intended to be rendered from the outset, and the clay daub still extends to the exterior of the barn beneath a modern layer of black-painted cement. This daub is likely to have extended to the ground sills in the 17th century but has been replaced by weatherboarding and cement block-work to a height of 1.25 m. The resulting 'two tier' cladding is typical of the 18th and 19th centuries and probably reflects the appearance of the building at that date despite the replacement of much of the boarding during the 20th century.

Original Layout and Alterations

Although now open to its roof along its entire length, the barn was very different when first built. The northern bay (D) contains evidence of original first and ground floor windows to both front and rear, as shown in figures 8 and 9, and empty mortises in the storey posts

between bays B and C held the rail of an internal half-height partition that divided an open threshing barn of two bays to the south from a floored-over area of similar scale to the north. The threshing barn was entered by full-height doors in the eastern elevation of bay B, as shown by the lack of stud mortises in its roof-plate and by the presence of circular holes which held the original pin hinges. A central, un-pegged mortise in the same section of roof-plate held the vertical bar to which the doors were secured. The rear, western elevation of the same bay contained a small, low door with studs above and beside its lintel, as reconstructed in figure 11. The width of this door is indicated by the wider infill panels flanking the remaining central stud, but its precise height is unclear as it was raised and widened in the 18th or 19th centuries. Small rear doors of this kind were intended to create a through-draught for threshing and winnowing but not to admit carts, and were standard features of English barns until the 19th century when vehicle thoroughfares were introduced to accommodate threshing machines. By the mid-20th century very few local barns had escaped the insertion of full-height rear doors, and the survival of so much original studwork here is unusual and of considerable historic interest. The threshing floor of the entrance bay is a replacement of the 19th century in both red and gault (white) brick, but this too represents an increasingly rare survival and may hide an earlier floor beneath.

The internal partition between the two halves of the barn has been removed along with the northern loft, but its position is revealed by two double-pegged mortises in the storey posts between bays B and C (1.8 m or 6 ft above the modern floor). These secured a rail with studs or boarding beneath and arch-braces to the tie-beam above, as reconstructed to the right of figure 10. The arch-braces are approximately 35 cms (14 ins) higher than those of the truss to the south of the threshing floor in order to accommodate the rail, and it was possible to load the loft from the threshing floor. The joists of the loft would have been lodged upon or possibly tenoned to this rail, and there is evidence of a similar rail at the same height in the northern gable; this was tenoned and pegged to the corner posts but lapped and pegged over the inner faces of the studs as shown by trenches in the extant timbers adjoining the reconstructed window. The loft was 6.25 m in length (20.5 ft), as opposed to the open barn of 6.75 m (22 ft), and its joists cannot have spanned this distance without additional support. The central tie-beam between bays C and D is not arch-braced (in order to avoid restricting access on the loft) and lies above a common stud rather than a storey post as would normally be expected. In the absence of any mortises in this stud for a lateral binding joist it must be presumed that the ends of any lateral joist penetrated the walls where they were secured by external wedges, or were supported by internal Sampson posts.

The lofted bays were lit by ground and first-floor windows containing diamond mullions (square bars set diagonally) as shown in the drawings. Those of the eastern facade were slightly wider at 1.1 m as opposed to 0.9 m to the rear (43 ins and 35 ins respectively). This anomaly must explain the curious 'double' mullion mortises in the underside of the western roof-plate where the carpenter appears to have attempted to accommodate four mullions as he had to the east before realising he had room for only three. The original mullions have been removed, but the original first-floor window sill and ground-floor lintel survive to the west. The latter was at some time converted into the lintel of a secondary door, as outlined in the external weatherboarding, the insertion of which required the removal of the corresponding sill. The two windows of the northern gable are modern reconstructions using pegged joints which have unfortunately damaged the evidence of the original arrangement. The window jambs contain pegged sill mortises that may be original, and appear to pre-date the modern sills that now lie within (the present sill obstructs the peg hole of the upper western jamb), but a central stud mortise in the tie-beam suggests the windows are insertions. However, this mortise may not be original and it is possible that the barn contained gable windows of similar scale from the outset. The other studs of the same gable are modern replacements, but a pegged mortise in the western corner post corresponds with a gap in the original stud mortises and reveals the position of an original external door as shown to the left in figure 10. The southern gable preserves only a single original stud below its tie beam.

Historic Significance

Many Tudor and 17th century barns in East Anglian contained integral stables and hay lofts at one or sometimes both ends, but this example is highly unusual in the relative size of its stable compared to its threshing bays: At 6.25 m and 6.75 m respectively the two are of almost identical length (20.5 ft and 22ft). The small, two-bay threshing barn seems appropriate for a modest holding of 17.5 acres (as recorded in 1839) but the two-bay stable could have housed many more than the one or two working horses that such a farm required. Most local threshing barns of two or even three times this scale are associated only with single-bay stables. It is coincidental that the farmhouse is unusual in a similar manner, with a single northern 'service' room of two bays instead of the standard single bay. Given the absence of its loft and any original fixtures and fittings it is impossible to determine the precise purpose of the ground-floor area, although the lack of any partition between the threshing floor and the loft suggests the latter was designed for hay and straw in the usual manner. The ground-floor room may perhaps have been a neat-house for cattle rather than horses, or possibly the farm's owner in *circa* 1600 was engaged in horse breeding and required a larger stable than his arable land alone might warrant. There is no evidence of sooting or adjoining kilns to suggest it may have been a malting. Whatever the explanation, and despite the mutilation of its gables, the barn remains a well-preserved structure of *circa* 1600 with an impressive original roof, large areas of original wattle-and-daub infill and evidence of an unusual original layout that fully justify its separate listing at grade II.

Elevation drawings and Schedule of Photographic Appendix follow (pp. 10-17)

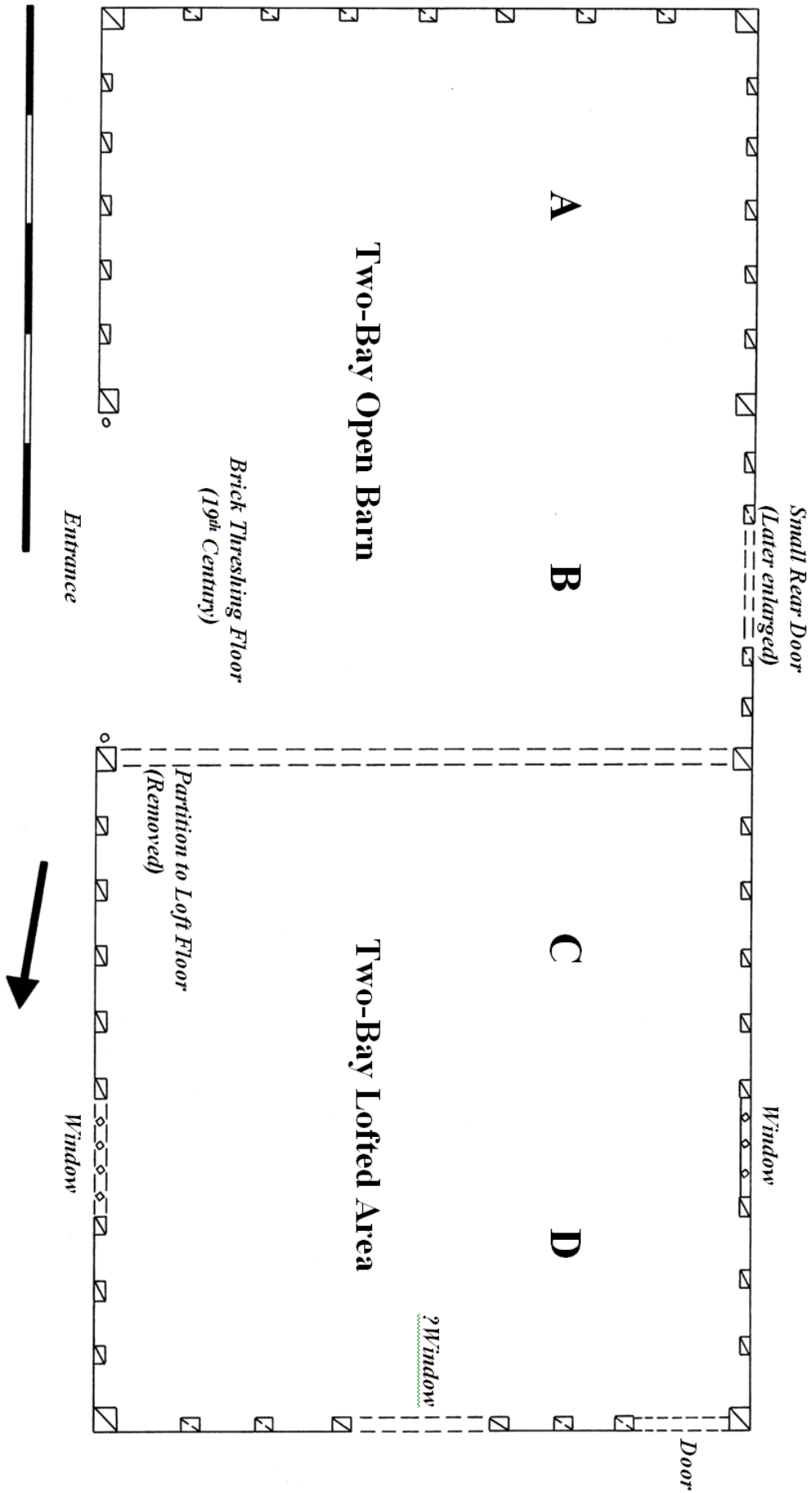


Figure 7. Original Ground Plan (missing timbers indicated by broken lines)

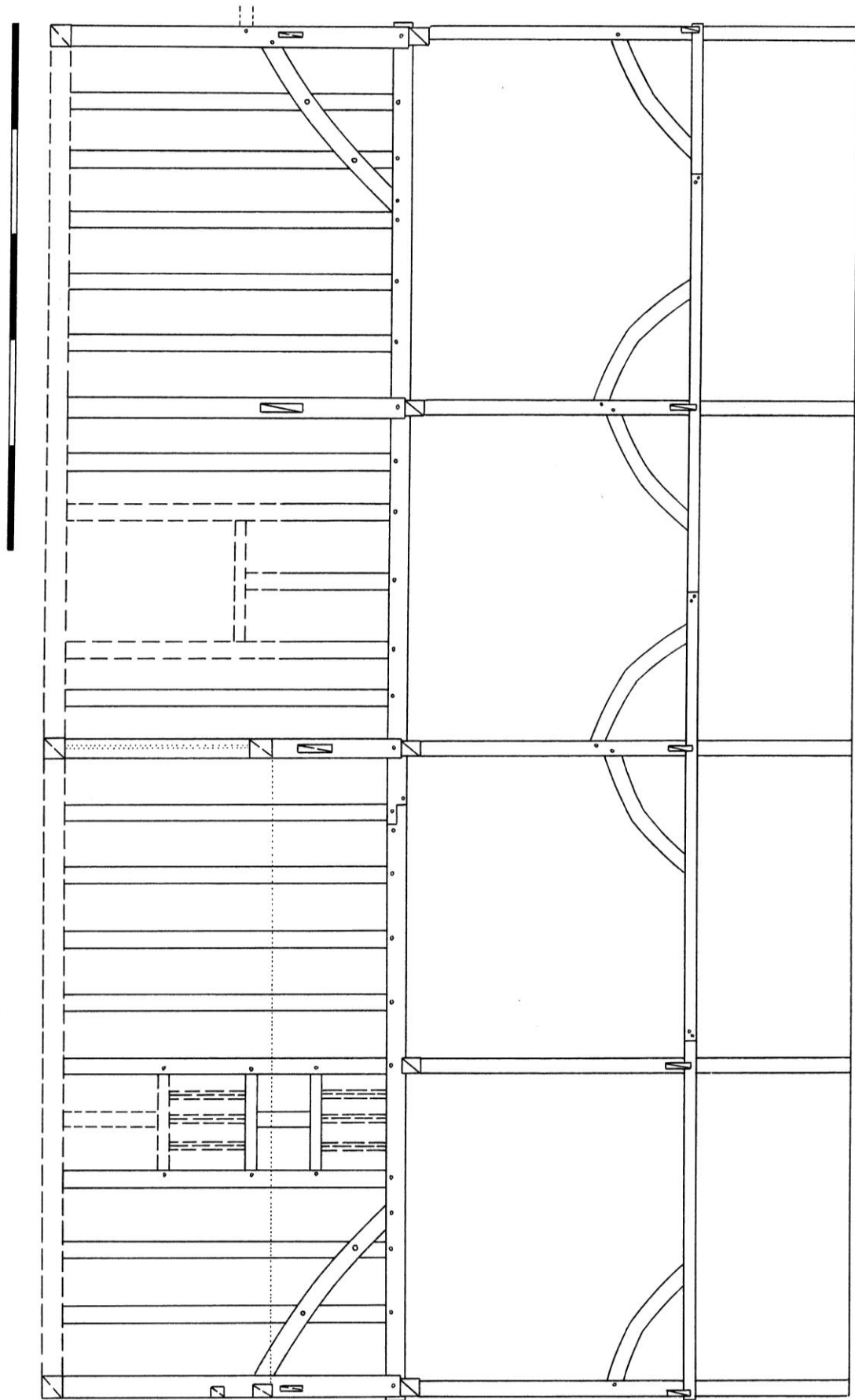


Figure 8. Internal Rear (Western) Elevation (omitting common rafters)

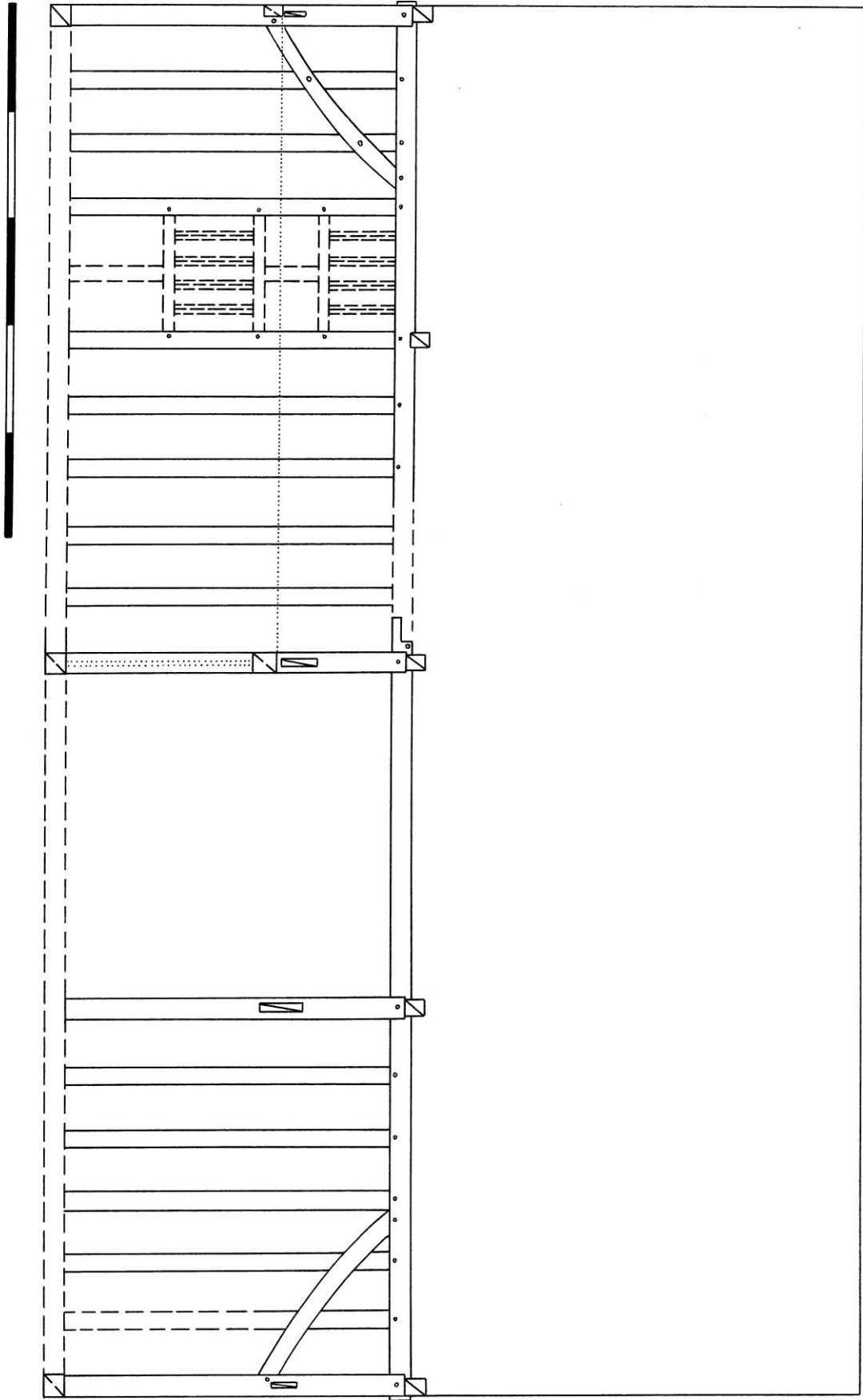


Figure 9. Internal Front (Eastern) Elevation (omitting roof, which is identical to fig.9)

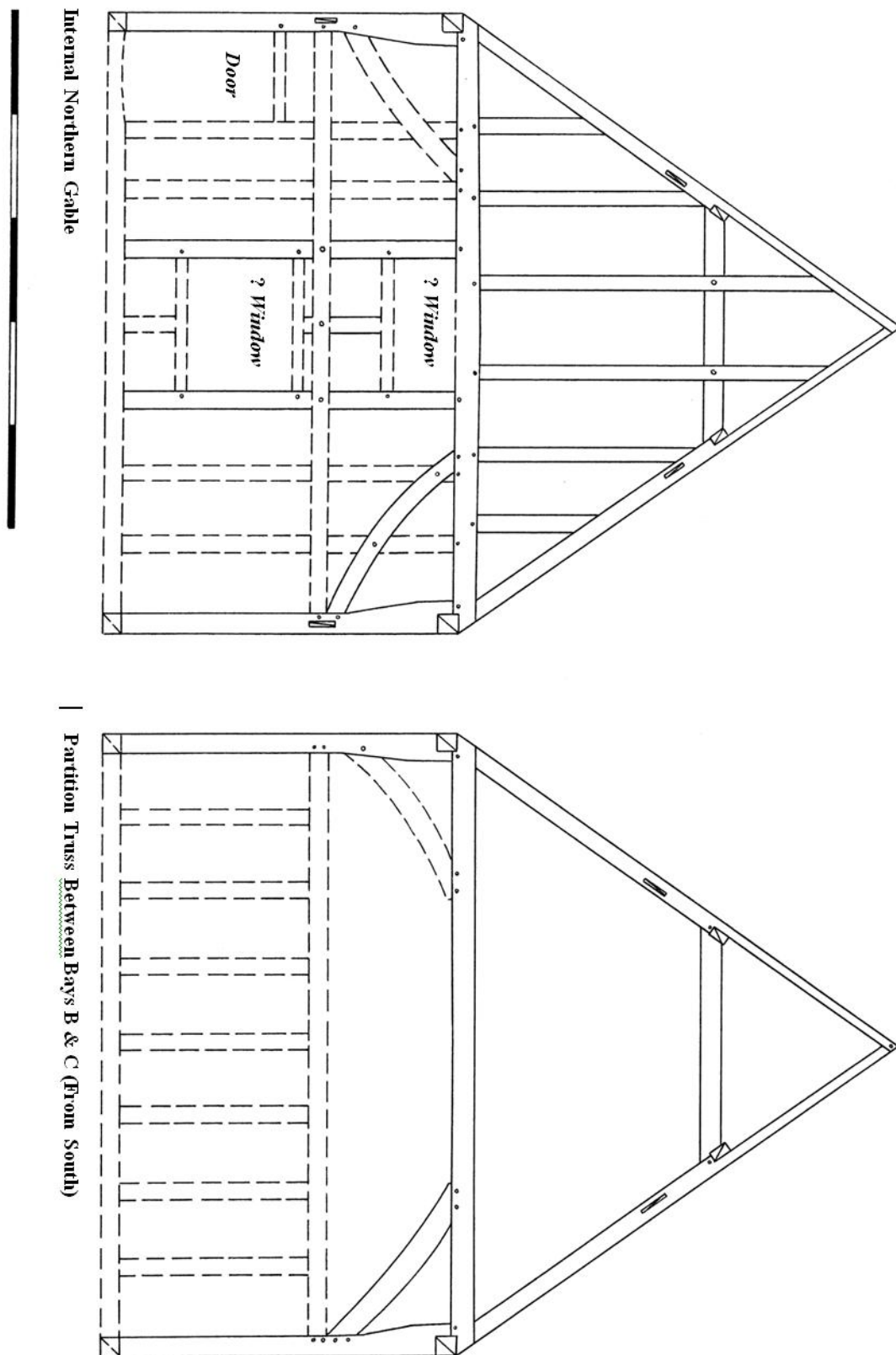


Figure 10. Internal elevation of northern gable and internal partition between two-bay open barn (A-B) to south and floored bays (C & B) to north – viewed from south. It is not clear whether the recently ‘restored’ diamond mullion windows of the gable are original as modern timber has distorted the evidence.

Appendix 1 (on accompanying CD): Full Photographic Record

Descriptions of Photographs in Appendix 1

Photograph no.

1. 1964 Aerial photograph from north-east showing farmhouse (5) to right and barn complex with covered cattle yard to left.
2. Aerial photograph from north-east circa 1990s showing farmhouse (5) to right and renovated barn complex to left.
3. Copy of photograph published 1936 showing pantiled lean-to adjoining northern gable of barn (1) to left.
4. Site entrance from Athelington Road to north showing grade II-listed farmhouse (5) to right and barn (1) in rear to left.
5. Eastern facade of farmhouse (5) showing porch and fenestration of 1985 restoration.
6. General view of site from north-east showing site of demolished house in centre of lawn in foreground.
7. General view of site from north-east showing the barn complex (1-4) to left and the farmhouse (5) to right.
8. General view of site from south-east showing lean-to swimming pool (2) left and brick yard sheds (3-4) to right.
9. Barn complex from east showing early-17th century threshing barn (1) in rear with 19th century yard sheds (3 & 4) to left and right.
10. Southern external gable of barn (1) showing lean-to swimming pool (4) to right and farmhouse (5) in rear to left.
11. Southern external gable of barn (1) from lean-to swimming pool (4) showing brick wall of southern yard shed (3) to right.
12. Northern exterior of southern yard shed (3) showing blocked half-hung doors with 20th century barn door to right.
13. Southern exterior of northern yard shed (4) showing half-hung doors with 20th century barn door to left.
14. Brick northern exterior of northern yard shed (3) showing weatherboarded gable of barn (1) to right.
15. Western loose box of northern yard shed (4) showing weatherboarding to exterior of barn (1).
16. Western loose box of northern yard shed (4) seen from west, showing modern rafters and eastern loose box.

17. Western loose box of southern yard shed (3) from east (now converted into wet room).
18. Eastern loose box of southern yard shed (3) now converted into boiler room for swimming pool.
19. Exterior of barn (1) from north-west showing late-20th century diamond mullion windows in gable.
20. Northern external gable of barn (1) showing late-20th century cladding and diamond mullion windows.
21. Western exterior of northern bays of barn (1) showing outline of blocked door in position of original window.
22. Western exterior of southern bays of barn (1) showing two-tier cladding of cement render above boarding.
23. Western exterior of barn (1) from south showing its close proximity to farmhouse (5) to left.
24. Eastern exterior of barn (1) showing recently renewed weatherboarding & doors in position of original entrance.
25. Interior of barn (1) from north showing original tie-beam without braces between bays C & D in foreground.
26. Southern bays of barn (1) from north showing brick threshing floor in bay B with missing arch-brace to right.
27. 19th century threshing floor of mixed red and gault brick in bay B of barn (1), seen from eastern entrance.
28. Western interior showing largely intact wall and roof framing with 20th century concrete platform in northern bay (D) right.
29. Interior of southern gable showing single original wall stud to right of swimming pool door (rest renewed below tie-beam).
30. Western interior of southern bay (A) showing intact framing with original internal brace & wattle-and-daub.
31. Intact western clasped-purlin roof structure of southern bay (A) showing reverse-cranked wind braces.
32. Western interior of bay B showing position of original small rear door (raised and widened) with original wattle-&-daub above.
33. Western interior of roof of bay B showing intact reverse-cranked wind braces with inserted collars between purlins.
34. Western interior of originally floored bays C & D showing lack of storey post beneath dividing tie-beam.

35. Detail of 16th century-type edge-halved and bridled scarf joint in western roof-plate of bay C.
36. Detail of western storey post between bays B & C showing empty mortise of original lateral partition rail beneath arch-brace.
37. Detail of double diamond mullion mortises (correcting carpenter's spacing error) in western roof-plate of bay D with original sill beneath.
38. Detail from north of original window sill in western interior of bay D showing three single-cut diamond mullion mortises.
39. Detail of original lower window lintel in western interior of bay D showing three diamond mullion mortises.
40. Detail of chiselled Roman carpenter's numerals to western wind-braces between bays A & B (II & III).
41. Detail of chiselled Roman carpenter's numerals to western wind-braces between bays B & C (III & V).
42. Detail of chiselled numeral to tenoned scarf joint with housed soffit to western purlin of bay C.
43. Western roof structure of northern bays (C & D) showing intact reverse-cranked wind braces & un-braced tie-beam.
44. Interior of northern gable showing recently renewed framing and windows but original window jambs and right-hand brace.
45. Interior of northern gable showing pegged mortise and wider gap to first (renewed) stud of original door to left.
46. Detail of modern upper window in northern internal gable showing central stud mortise (unclear whether pegged & original or not).
47. Eastern interior of originally floored bays C & D showing central window positions & lack of storey post beneath dividing tie-beam.
48. Detail of eastern roof-plate of bay D showing four diamond mullion mortises and mortises for missing sill in studs.
49. Detail of damaged eastern roof-plate of bay C showing remains of 16th century type edge-halved & bridled scarf joint to right.
50. Eastern roof structure of northern bays (C & D) showing intact reverse-cranked wind braces & un-braced tie-beam.
51. Eastern interior of bay B showing position of original full-height entrance with late-20th century doors.
52. Eastern roof-plate of bay B showing lack of stud mortises with circular pin-hinge housings of original doors to left & right.

53. Detail of eastern roof-plate of bay B showing circular pin-hinge housing of original entrance door.
54. Eastern interior of roof of bay B showing intact reverse-cranked wind braces with later diagonal braces & collars between purlins.
55. Eastern interior of southern bay (A) showing intact studs (one cut to right) and later internal diagonal brace to bottom left.
56. Intact eastern clasped-purlin roof structure of southern bay (A) showing reverse-cranked wind braces & later diagonal braces.

Photographic Appendix 2 follows on pp. 18-24

Appendix 2 (pp. 18-24): Selected Printed Photographs



Illus. 1. An Aerial photograph of 1964 taken from the north-east and showing the close proximity of the grade II-listed farmhouse (5, right) and the grade II-listed barn (1, centre). The yard adjoining the barn's eastern elevation is walled and roofed as a lean-to, with a separate lean-to against the northern yard shed (4) – both since demolished. The house has two doors and appears to form a pair of cottages.



Illus. 2. A general view of the site from the north-east showing the barn complex (1-4) to the left and the renovated farmhouse (5) with new porch and windows to the right. A separate dwelling stood on the lawn in the foreground until its demolition in the mid-20th century.



Illus. 3. The barn complex from the east showing the timber-framed threshing barn (1) with its corrugated iron roof in the rear and the 19th century yard sheds (3 & 4) to left and right. The 20th century lean-to to the extreme left (4) houses a swimming pool and the adjoining yard shed has been converted into boiler and wet rooms.



Illus. 4. The exterior of the barn (1) from the north-west showing the late-20th century diamond-mullion windows in its gable. There is internal evidence of an original gable door to the left of the scale rod.



Illus. 5. The western exterior of the barn's northern showing the outline of a blocked secondary door in the position of the original ground-floor window in bay C (the window lintel forming the door lintel to the right of the scale rod). The two-tier cladding of cement-rendered clay daub above weatherboarding reflects the barn's appearance in the 18th and 19th centuries, although the daub probably extended to the ground initially.



Illus. 6. The interior of the barn (1) from the north, showing the original tie-beam without braces between bays C and D in the foreground and three of the original four arch-braces flanking the threshing floor in bay B to the rear. The braces were omitted to maximise headroom on the (removed) loft in the two northern bays.



Illus. 7. The well preserved 19th century threshing floor of mixed red and gault brick in bay B of the barn (1), seen from its eastern entrance. The floor is of modern concrete elsewhere.



Illus. 8. The barn's internal western elevation showing the largely intact wall and roof framing with a 20th century concrete platform in the northern bay (D) to the right. The wattle-and-daub between the studs appears to be original (with recent patching in cement) but has been replaced by cement block-work where it adjoins the lower tier of external weatherboarding shown in illus.5 above.



Illus. 9. The western interior of the two northern bays (C and D), divided by a tie-beam and principal roof truss but not a storey post. These bays were originally floored over at the height of the horizontal batten 2 m above the present ground level in bay C to the left, and there is evidence of original ground and first-floor windows to the right. The battens of bay D are modern and probably relate to the use of the raised concrete platform as a grain store.



Illus. 10. A detail of the 16th century-type edge-halved and bridled scarf joint in the western roof-plate of bay C. Joints of this kind were quickly superseded during the first quarter of the 17th century.



Illus. 11. A detail of the unusual ‘double’ diamond mullion mortises in the western roof-plate of bay D with the original window sill beneath. This window lit the missing loft, and its mortises relate to the correction of an error by the carpenter who seems to have intended four mullions before realising there was only room for three. The eastern window immediately opposite was 20 cm wider (8 ins) and was able to accommodate four mullions. The error was not repeated in the sill.



Illus. 12. Detail of the chiselled Roman carpenter's numerals III and V to the western reverse-cranked wind-braces between bays B and C. Chiselled marks of this type (as opposed to scored marks) are typical of the 17th century and later, and are rarely found in conjunction with edge-halved scarf joints.



Illus. 13. The interior of the northern gable. The vertical studs were replaced as part of a late-20th century restoration, and the left-hand brace is also secondary, but the right-hand brace and window jambs are original with pegged trenches for a missing mid-rail. A pegged mortise in the left-hand corner post and a corresponding gap in the studwork reveal the position of an original external door. The diamond mullion windows are modern and it is unclear whether they recreate original features or are entirely secondary.



Illus. 14. A detail of the eastern roof-plate of bay B showing the circular pin-hinge housing of the original entrance door. The present doors are modern replacements.

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