

HERITAGE NETWORK



THE GREAT BARN, Rectory Farm, Pirton, Herts.

HN976

HISTORIC BUILDING RECORD

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Archaeological Director: David Hillelson, BA MIFA

GREAT BARN, Rectory Farm, Pirton, Hertfordshire

Project ref.: HN976

Historic Building Record

Prepared on behalf of Turtle Creek Investments Inc.

by

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The cover photograph shows the Great Barn looking SE

Acknowledgements

The historic building record was carried out by David Hillelson and the photography was carried out by Giles Sholl. The report text and illustrations were prepared by David Hillelson & Helen Ashworth and edited by David Hillelson.

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Summary

Site name and address:	Great Barn, Rectory Farm, Pirton, Herts.		
County:	Hertfordshire	District:	North Hertfordshire
Village/town:	Pirton	Parish:	Pirton
Planning reference:	n/a	NGR:	TL 14107 31886
Client name and address:	Turtle Creek Investments Inc.		
Nature of work:	Building conversion	Former use:	Barn
Site Status:	Listed Building	Reason for investigation:	n/a
Position in planning process:	Pre-application	Project brief originator:	Local Authority
Site Code:	HN976	HER consultation:	n/a
Organisation:	Heritage Network	Site Director:	David Hillelson
Project type, methods etc...	HBR	Archive Recipient:	HALS
Start of work	01/02/2012	Finish of work	01/02/2012
Related HER Nos:	HHER 6302	Periods represented:	Medieval / post-medieval
Oasis UID	Heritage1-118268	Significant finds:	none
Monument types:	Barn		
Physical archive:	none		
Previous summaries/reports:	Ashworth, H. 1998 <i>Rectory Farm, Pirton, Herts. Watching Brief Report</i> . Heritage Network New Series report no.48		

Synopsis:

As part of an application for listed building consent and planning consent for the development of the Great Barn, Rectory Farm, Shillington Road, Pirton, Herts, the Heritage Network was commissioned by the developers to create a record of the building in its present state.

The Great Barn was built as a tithe barn in the 15th or early 16th century. It has remained in use as an agricultural barn until recent years. It is a 10-bay structure, measuring approximately 10m in width, 40m in length and 10m in height.

The barn has undergone a number of changes over the centuries, including the replacement of the original wattle and daub infill with brick nogging and the replacement of the thatched roof with slate tiles. The rebuilding of much of the east elevation and the replacement of the internal framing on the east side suggests that this side was subject to more rapid decay, possibly as a result of the prevailing weather.

1. Introduction

1.1 This report has been prepared on behalf of *Turtle Creek Investments Inc*, as part of an application for listed building consent and planning consent for the conversion of the Great Barn, Rectory Farm, Pirton, Herts.

1.2 The present site forms part of the Rectory Farm complex which lies to the north-west of Pirton village on the north side of Shillington Road, centred on NGR TL 14107 31886 (Figure 1). The Great Barn is located on the western side of the farmyard, adjacent to the access track (Figure 4) at approximately 65mOD.

1.3 The study area is located within Area of Archaeological Significance no. 75, as identified in the District Local Plan. This encompasses the medieval settlement at Pirton, including the motte and bailey castle, the parish church of St Mary, at least 15 acres of ridge and furrow earthworks and the moated site at Rectory Farm.

1.4 The aim of the building recording has been to make a detailed record of the historic building in its present condition and to undertake additional research, as necessary, to place the building in its local and regional archaeological and historical context. It was considered that such recording had the potential to contribute to an understanding of the origin and construction of the barn, its setting within the manorial complex and its context currently and historically.

1.5 The present document presents the results of the fieldwork and data-gathering and is intended to advise the planning authority on the likely impact of the development proposals on the historic structure.

2. Archaeological & Historical Background

2.1 The study area, which forms the western range to the farmyard at Rectory Farm, is located on the north side of Shillington Road. The farm lies on the north-western edge of the village of Pirton.

2.2 The county Historic Environment Record (HHER) details evidence of archaeological activity in the vicinity of the present site, ranging from chance finds to full-scale excavations.

2.3 Limited evidence for prehistoric activity has been recorded from the immediate vicinity of the study area. Excavation in advance of the construction of the Humberside to Buncefield oil pipeline, which ran approximately 500m to the west of Rectory Farm, identified several shallow and irregular pits (HHER 9780) one of which contained a sherd of late Neolithic pottery. Bronze Age artefacts have also been found close to the present site. These include a possible hoard (HHER 553) from an unknown site called 'Hilly Fields' and a group of metal and flint implements (HHER 554) from 'Cats Brains Field', approximately 700m to the south-west.

2.4 A possible early Iron Age cemetery (HHER 197) which contained a large number of burials, was identified on Dane Field in the late 18th century, to the south-west of Rectory Farm. Some of the graves are recorded as containing pottery vessels and other items. A further group of inhumations, laid in two nearly parallel rows and with accompanying grave gifts, was discovered in 1835. Later archaeological investigations have indicated that the cemetery is, in fact, of sub-Roman or Saxon date (HHER 1621).

2.5 An extensive settlement (HHER 6978), which started in the late Iron Age and continued into the sub-Roman period, was identified during archaeological investigations ahead of the construction of the Humberside to Buncefield pipeline towards the northern end of Dane Field, approximately 500m to the WSW. The remains of a Roman road were exposed to the north of the site and evidence for iron working was also encountered. Further evidence for Roman activity in Pirton includes a spindle whorl (HER 1480) found at an unspecified location and a pit containing late Roman pottery at Pirton Primary School (HHER 17170), approximately 500m to the south-east.

2.6 By the time of the Norman Conquest, Pirton was a thriving manorial estate, held by Stigand, Archbishop of Canterbury. He was stripped of his offices and lands by William I and Pirton was granted to a Norman knight, Ralph de Limesy, as part of his barony of Ulverly, Warwickshire.

2.7 The Domesday Survey of 1086 records that Pirton answered for 10 hides (approximately 1,200 acres) and lists 79 males as living on the manor, comprising a priest, the 2 chief tenants who had lived there in Archbishop Stigand's time, 25 villagers, 29 smallholders, 12 cottagers and 10 slaves (Morris 1976). This gives an estimated total population of between 300 and 400. At this time the manor of Pirton also included the modern parishes of Ickleford and Cadwell and it is likely that the population was spread across the estate in small hamlets and farmsteads.

2.8 There were 4 watermills on the manor and enough oak or beech woodland to support 500 pigs. The manor was divided between arable land, of which there was enough to allow 20

teams of oxen to work, and pastoral land. Eighteen plough teams were in use in 1086, although there was only enough meadow for 10 teams (40 oxen). There was, however, sufficient lower grade pasture land for all the village livestock.

2.9 Recent archaeological test pitting across the area of the present village (HHER 16620) appears to show an interesting story. There appears to have been continuity of occupation from the Roman period into the post-Roman period on the eastern side of the village. This was apparently subsequently abandoned until the later Saxon period, when settlement became widespread, focussed in particular around Burge End Farm (to the north-east of Rectory Farm), the land to the south of West Lane (to the east of Rectory Farm) and the area to the north of Walnut Tree Farm (to the south-east of Rectory Farm). The areas between these sites appears to be blank, suggesting polyfocal settlement. The centre of settlement gradually became focussed around the church and the castle between the 12th and 14th centuries. However, the village contracted after the 14th century, presumably as the result of plagues and poor harvests, and may have been reduced to no more than 5 tiny hamlets, probably clustered around farms such as Rectory Farm, Hammonds Farm (HHER 4513) and Burge End Farm (HHER 15902) with deserted land between. Recovery was slow, not occurring until the 17th or even 18th centuries.

Rectory Farm

2.10 Ralph de Limesy founded the Priory of St Mary in Hertford, which he endowed with 2½ hides (c.300 acres) of land in Pirton. This land also included the church, a mill and rights of pasture and pannage for the livestock. Succeeding generations of the family added to the original endowment, increasing the amount of land granted to the Priory to approximately 500 acres.

2.11 The de Limesy family held the manor of Pirton for four generations. During this time they may have erected the motte and bailey castle in the centre of the village, now known as Toot Hill (HHER 32), as protection during the civil wars between Stephen and Matilda in the mid 12th century.

2.12 At the end of the 12th century the manor of Pirton was divided between Ralph's great-granddaughters, Basilia de Odingsells and Eleanor de Lindsey (Page 1912). Lordship of the manor passed through Eleanor's descendants to the Pinkney family. However, Basilia's descendants held half the manor, called Oddingselles, in sub-fee from the Pinkneys.

2.13 The land that Ralph de Limesy granted to the Priory at Hertford remained as church property until the Dissolution of the Monasteries in the 1530s. In 1538 Henry VIII granted this land, now known as the manor of Pirton rectory, to Anthony Denny and his wife to be, Joan Champernowne.

2.14 The manor remained in the Denny family until 1609, when Arthur Denny conveyed it to Sir John Davies. His daughter, Lucy Hastings, inherited the manor and was in possession in 1634. It was sold shortly afterwards to the Poulton family and again in 1656 to Thomas Knight. The manor was sold in 1686 to Sir Anthony Dean and in 1736 to Robert, 2nd Lord Raymond, from whom it passed to Benesham Filmer. The estate remained in the Filmer family until 1870, when the manor was sold to Messrs Paine and Brettel of Chertsey, solicitors, and the farm, with about 415 acres, was sold to Mr Daniel Davies of Hexton.

2.15 The present manor house (HHER 154), to the east of the farmyard, is a Grade II* listed building (list entry no. 1103158) which was possibly built for Anthony and Joan in 1538, though the listing details date it to the early 17th century. The house lies across part of the infilled moat (HHER 2221), so is unlikely to be located on the footprint of the original manor house. The medieval moat is a Scheduled Monument (SM 20648) and is unusual in that it has a double island, of which one may have been for habitation and the other for horticulture.

2.16 The farmyard, which lies to the west of the manor house, consists of four ranges of largely listed buildings, set around a central courtyard (Figure 2). The north range forms a Grade II listed building (list entry no. 1103159) and consists of a dovecote, stable and granary which date between the early 17th century and the 19th century. The south range is also Grade II listed (list entry no. 1347094) and comprises a late 16th century barn (called the Rectory Barn) with attached stable of late 17th century date. The east range is a 19th century structure and is unlisted. The west range, which forms the present study area, is a Grade II* listed barn (list entry no. 1175545) of late medieval or early post-medieval date and is the earliest building on the site.

2.17 Extensive areas of ridge and furrow earthworks (HHER 4715) have been recorded in fields either side of Shillington Road to the north-west of Rectory Farm. These earthworks, which were surveyed by the North Hertfordshire Field Archaeology Section in the 1980s, also revealed evidence for a probable medieval farmstead on the north side of the road, immediately west of the present site (Ashworth 1998, Figure 2).

Cartographic Evidence

2.18 The layout of Rectory Farm probably changed little from the early post-medieval period to the late 19th century. The Pirton Enclosure map of 1818 (HALS PC528) shows the early plan of the farm, which consisted of three ranges of buildings set around a central yard, open to the east (Figure 3).

2.18.1 The present site is marked as a rectangular structure on the west side of the yard. The extension adjoining the east elevation of the Great Barn had not been constructed at this time.

2.18.2 Part of the western moated enclosure lay immediately to the north of the barn. A large sub-rectangular pond, which may originally have formed part of the western arm of the enclosure, is shown to the north-west of the Great Barn.

2.19 The present layout of the farmyard had been established by the late 19th century (Figure 4). The cartlodge on the east elevation had been added to the Great Barn by this period and is shown as open-fronted on both sides. The southern extension had also been added by the late 19th century.

3. Building record

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

3.1 The Rectory Farm Tithe Barn is located on the western side of the farmyard (Figure 2). It is an aisled, timber-framed structure of ten bays (Figure 5) with a half-hipped slate-covered roof, originally thatched. A photograph exists which shows Bays 9 and 10 still thatched in the 1950s (HALS CV380(1)).

3.2 It is a Grade II* structure (list entry no. 1175545), described as:

Tithe Barn. C15 or early C16. Timber frame on sill of narrow red brick, dark weatherboarded, W side has exposed frame with early C17 red brick infill. Steep pitched roof half hipped now slated. A tall, 10-bays aisled rectorial tithe barn lying N-S on W side of farmstead facing E. Double doors in 3rd bay from each end. Raised threshing floor in 2 S bays. Low hipped extension on S end. Measures 135ft x 37ft, with narrow aisles and wide nave. Peninsular brick sills remain in some bays, carrying the sill plate across the aisle to take the foot of the arcade posts. Heavy jowled arcade-posts and jowled wall-posts. 5 studs in walls to each bay with one large tension brace to each bay cut into outside of studs. Holes in wallplate for wattle-and-daub infill replaced by brick infill with 2 rows of ventilating holes. Heavy aisle tie-beams and passing brace up to back of arcade post. Heavy slightly curved long braces to cambered tie-beams, and heavy curved braces to arcade plate. Edge-halved scarf joints with bridled butts in arcade plate. Single clasped-purlin to each slope of nave roof carried on trusses with collars and inclined queen-struts. Long slender flat rafter as if for thatched roof. Gable-end frame has central post flanked by a mid-height rail jointed in-line. Slender tension braces from main posts. Hip-rafters and collar link cantilevered ends of purlin.

EXTERIOR

South exterior elevation

3.3 The southern exterior elevation is dominated by a lean-to extension, offset to the west, faced with weatherboard and roofed with slate (Figure 6; Plate 1). The main barn is also weatherboarded in modern softwood, above a plinth formed of Arlese white bricks laid in English bond with a lime mortar. Just to the east of the end of the lean-to roof, a modern 8-over-8 sliding sash window has been inserted. The horns of the arcade plate project below the hip, and those of the aisle plate project at the eaves. Within the lean-to, the elevation of the Tithe Barn preserves some earlier weatherboarding, above a plinth consisting of six courses of modern Arlese white brick (Plate 2).

West exterior elevation

3.4 The western exterior elevation has exposed studwork with some surviving diagonal bracing in Bays 4, 6 & 10, and evidence for a lost brace in Bay 1. The framing is infilled, for the most part, with brick nogging, much of it formed of narrow red bricks measuring 8½” x 2” x 3½” (216mm x 51mm x 89mm) set in a lime mortar (Figure 6; Plate 3). These bricks are likely to be of 17th century date, contemporary with the Manor and with the granary. Where they survive, each bay has 5 studs on 24 – 28-inch (0.61 – 0.71m) centres. The sill beam is

much decayed but survives in Bays 1, 2, 6, 7, 9 & 10. This rests on a brick plinth, formed of Arlesey white bricks measuring 8½” x 2¾” x 4¼” (216mm x 70mm x 108mm) in Bays 1, 2 & 3 and the southern end of Bay 10 (Plates 4, 5 & 9), and narrow red bricks measuring 8½” x 2” x 3½” (216mm x 51mm x 89mm) in Bays 6, 7, 9 and the northern end of Bay 10 (Plates 7 & 9). Bays 4 and 5 are supported on modern shuttered concrete (Plate 6). Bay 5 has two rows of holes punched through the upper half of the brick nogging, possibly intended for ventilation (Plate 6). The underside of the aisle-plate in Bay 2 shows drilled dowel holes to house wattle-and-daub infill that would have pre-dated the brick nogging (Plate 10). A modern personnel door with glazed light above the transom has been inserted at the north end of Bay 3; a modern sliding hatch has been inserted at the north end of Bay 6; and modern double doors have been inserted in Bay 8.

3.5 The western exterior elevation of the lean-to is weatherboarded with a modern window offset to the south (see Plate 3).

North exterior elevation

3.6 The northern exterior elevation has exposed studwork below the line of the eaves, with diagonal primary bracing to the aisles, and to the western half of the nave, infilled with nogging of narrow red brick (Figure 6; Plate 11). The framing sits on a modern buttressed brick plinth of five courses laid in Flemish bond with a header course to the top. The eastern half of the nave is occupied by modern double doors and a concrete ramp. Above the level of the eaves, there is modern softwood weatherboarding, and a modern single light window of 9 panes, offset to the west. The horns of the arcade plate project below the hip, and those of the aisle plate project at the eaves.

East exterior elevation

3.7 The eastern exterior elevation is bisected by a remodelled 19th century barn, the western end of which forms part of the present property (Figure 6). To the north of this, Bay 1 retains its original studwork and primary bracing, very badly weathered where the modern weatherboarding has fallen away, resting on a decayed white brick plinth of indeterminate bond (Plate 12). From Bay 2 to the northern end of Bay 5, the elevation has been completely rebuilt below the aisle plate in modern Fletton brick with metal framed windows inserted in Bays 2, 4 and 5 (Plate 13). A string course marks the line of the sill in Bay 4. Bay 3 has been provided with a gabled midstrey that appears to be a completely modern addition, though possibly on the site of an original opening. Modern double doors, offset to the north, extend above the aisle-plate to the level of the arcade plate, and a three-light window occupies the gable above, which is otherwise weatherboarded.

3.8 To the south of the 19th century barn, the elevation is faced with modern weatherboarding (Plate 14). Bay 8 sits on a concrete plinth, with a modern three-light casement inserted below the eaves. Bays 9 and 10 sit on a plinth of Arlesey white bricks measuring 8¾” x 2¾” x 4¼” (222mm x 70mm x 108mm). A modern door has been inserted at the junction of Bays 7 and 8.

3.9 The eastern exterior elevation of the lean-to is weatherboarded with a heavy plank door on the northern side (Figure 6).

Barn to east

3.10 The 19th century barn to the east of the Tithe Barn, which now forms an extension to it, was originally a cartlodge open on its northern and southern elevations. The wall plate is supported on posts with bolsters, resting on tapered concrete staddle-stones (Plate 15). The barn was enclosed in the mid-1990s with a weatherboarded structure resting on a modern red brick plinth constructed on the inside of the posts.

INTERIOR

3.11 The internal structure of the barn is formed of nine pairs of jowled arcade posts supporting arcade plates and cambered tie beams, and nine pairs of jowled wall posts resting on sills and supporting wall plates and aisle ties tenoned into the adjacent arcade posts, with passing braces linking the posts (Figure 7; Plate 16). The arcade posts are braced to the tie beams with curving braces, mostly original on the west side and mostly replaced on the east side (with the exception of those to Bays 1/2, 2/3 and 8/9 which may be original); and to the arcade plate with similar curved braces.

3.12 The roof structure is formed of rafters, mostly running through from the wall plate and meeting at a ridge plate, supported on collars in line with the tie beams, and braced by raking queen-struts, and a single clasped purlin in each slope (see Plate 16).

3.13 The arcade and wall plates are formed of lengths of wood of around 27 feet, each extending across approximately two bays, and joined together by edge-halved and bridled scarf joints (Plate 17).

3.14 The northern gable end has, in addition to the jowled arcade and wall posts, a centre post running from tie beam to sill, linked to the arcade posts on each side by a tenoned mid-rail (Plate 18). The lower faces of the mid-rails have each been cut back suggesting former openings, although the three 7-inch wide studs on 32-inch centres below the western rail have primary bracing and are pegged top and bottom. A modern opening sits below the eastern rail. Above the rails and in the aisles the layout is similar. Above the tie beam are close spaced rafters on c. 15-inch centres (Plate 19).

3.15 The southern gable end exhibits peg holes indicative of a similar original layout to that found in the northern gable, but replaced with narrower and more closely spaced studs at a later date, possibly to support the later weatherboarding (Plate 20). Some original rafters to the hip survive (Plate 21).

3.16 The arcade posts would originally have rested on peninsular sills running back to the main sill, but these have been replaced in all cases by a concrete pad (Plate 22). A fragment of decayed wood does survive on the east side of the eastern arcade post between Bays 5 and 6, and the listing description suggests that peninsular sills and brick plinths were extant in 1968. Since then the floor of the barn, between Bays 1 and 8, has been replaced in concrete. Evidence may survive in Bays 9 and 10 where a raised wooden threshing floor is still extant, and the elevations are lined with wooden slats to retain the threshed grain (Plate 23).

3.17 Although much of the east elevation of the barn appears to have been replaced, Bay 1 retains its studwork (though badly weathered on the exterior, as noted above), and the absence of nogging provides evidence for the original form (Figure 8). Between the wall posts are five

studs, each 7” in width and set on 28” centres, and mortice, tenoned and pegged into the wall plate and sill. Between each stud are groups of three drilled dowel or wattle holes on 8” centres, separated by 10” across the stud and demonstrating that the nogging on the western elevation, and the weatherboarding on the east, were preceded by wattle and daub in-fill at the time of the construction of the barn (Plate 24).

3.18 The western elevation retains much of its studwork and much of the brick nogging that replaced the original wattle and daub infill (Figure 8).

4. Discussion

4.1 Rectory Farm, which is located to the north-west of Pirton village, is the centre of a medieval estate, formed from the lands granted to the Priory of St Mary at Hertford by the de Limesy family. A moated manor house was established on the lands, with the farmyard to the south-west of the manor house.

4.2 The Great Barn, which forms the western range of the farmyard, is thought to have been erected as a Tithe Barn. The use of face-halved and bridled scarf joints in the wall and arcade plates dates the building to a range from the early 15th to the mid-17th century, but, as a Tithe Barn belonging to the Priory of St Mary in Hertford, it must pre-date the 1530s when the Manor was seized by Henry VIII and granted to Anthony Denny.

4.3 The barn has remained in agricultural use from the date of its construction until the latter half of the 20th century, and has been regularly repaired over the centuries. These repairs can be more readily identified because of the continuity of function; change of use in a building often resulting in additions and changes which mask earlier features.

4.4 The basic framework of the building has survived well, though it is clear that the structure on the eastern side has been subject to greater repair and remodelling. It has been assumed that the prevailing weather took its toll on this face of the building, where the western face benefitted from better shelter.

4.5 The identification of auger holes in the base of both the eastern and western wall plates demonstrates that the infill panels between the studs were formed of wattle and daub originally. This was replaced throughout by early 17th century brick, which matches brickwork found in the Manor and in the dovecote, and may mark the acquisition of the site in 1609 by Sir John Davies. It is likely that the brick plinth was introduced at this time, and there are a number of locations around the barn where the use of similar 17th century brick can be seen. Both the plinth and the nogging have been repaired periodically and much of the existing plinth is formed of Arlesey white bricks bonded with a lime mortar, and is likely to date to the later 19th century.

4.6 The latest major phase of repair in the building is likely to post-date the listing in 1968, when much of the eastern elevation was rebuilt in Fletton brick and concrete, and the floor was relaid in concrete following the removal of the peninsular sills and brick plinths to the arcade posts. Some early evidence may survive beneath the raised threshing floor in Bays 9 and 10, the date of which could not be ascertained for certain.

4.7 The lean-to at the south end of the Great Barn is likely to have been added between 1818 and 1880, probably in the early part of that period, judging from the framing. The East Barn, a timber-framed former cartlodge originally open on its north and south elevations, was added to the east elevation of the Great Barn, probably in the mid-1800s. It was enclosed in the 1990s.

Conclusion

4.8 The Great Barn was built to store the agricultural produce from the manorial estate in the 15th or early 16th century. It has remained in use as an agricultural barn until recent years.

4.9 The barn has undergone a number of changes over the centuries, including the replacement of the original wattle and daub infill with brick nogging and the replacement of the thatched roof with slate tiles. The rebuilding of much of the east elevation and the replacement of the internal framing on the east side suggests that this side was subject to more rapid decay, possibly as a result of the prevailing weather.

.Confidence Rating

4.10 During the course of the building record, structural elements were visible and accessible throughout, and on this basis, the confidence rating for the work should be considered to be *High*.

5. Sources Consulted

Hertfordshire Archives and Local Studies

Reference	Date	Details
PC 528	1818	Pirton Enclosure Map
CV380(1)	1950s	County Views photographic collection - Pirton

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- Images of England: www.imagesofengland.org.uk
- OS historic mapping: www.promap.co.uk

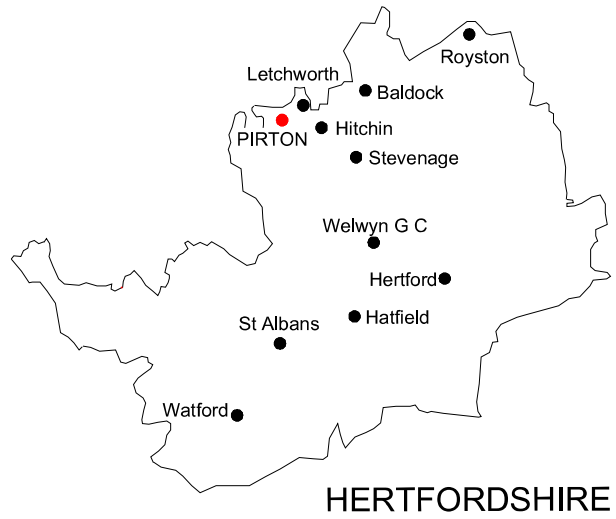
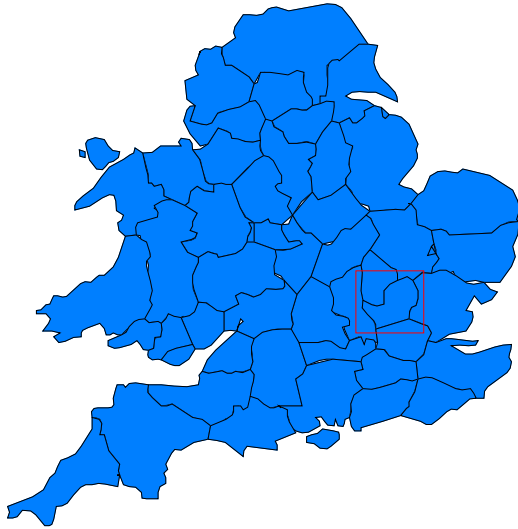
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Plate 24	Bay 1, east interior elevation, underside of wall plate

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Great Barn, Rectory Farm,
Shillington Road, Pirton, Herts.

HN976



TL 32

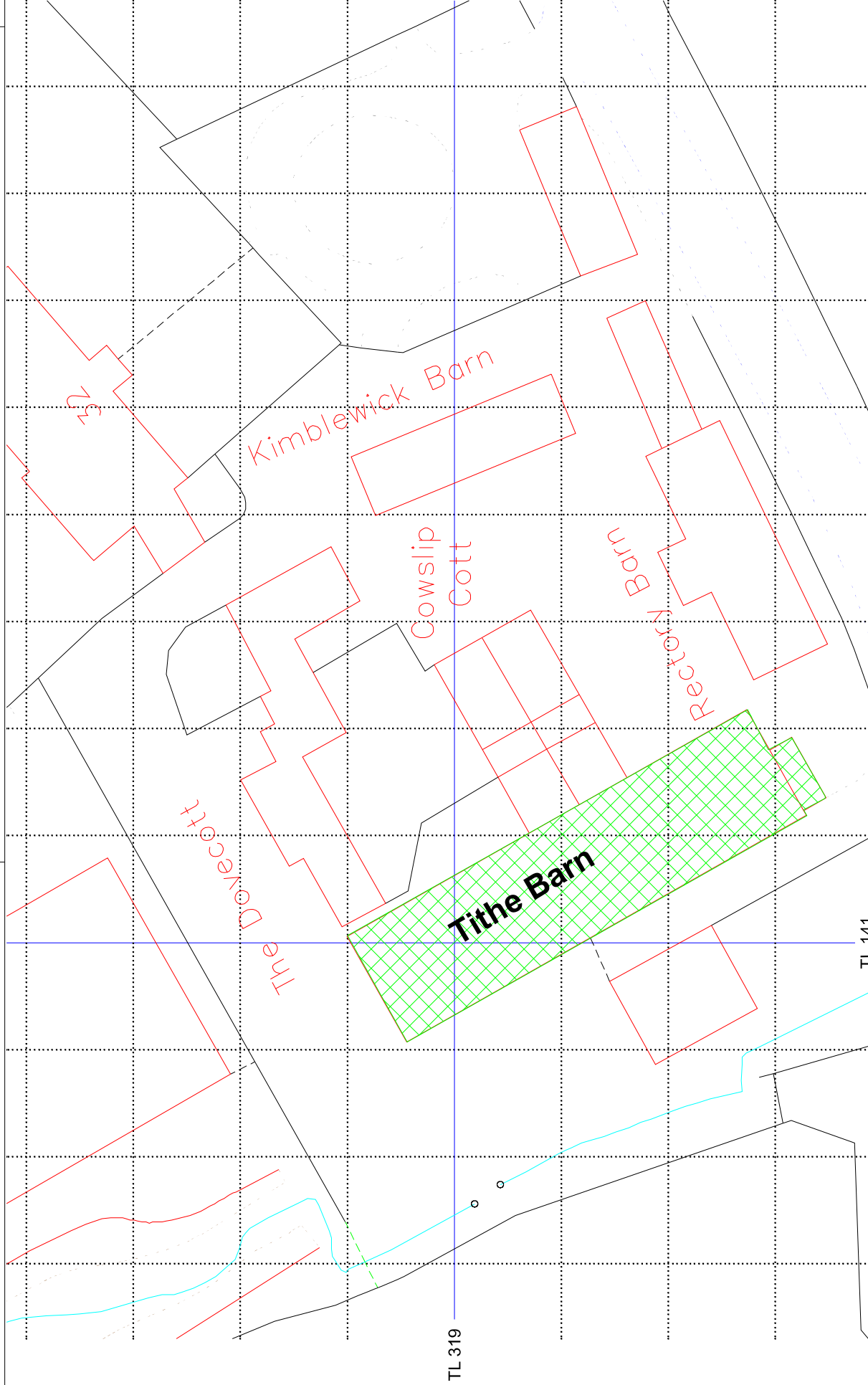
TL 14

Site Location

Scale 1:5000

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Figure 1

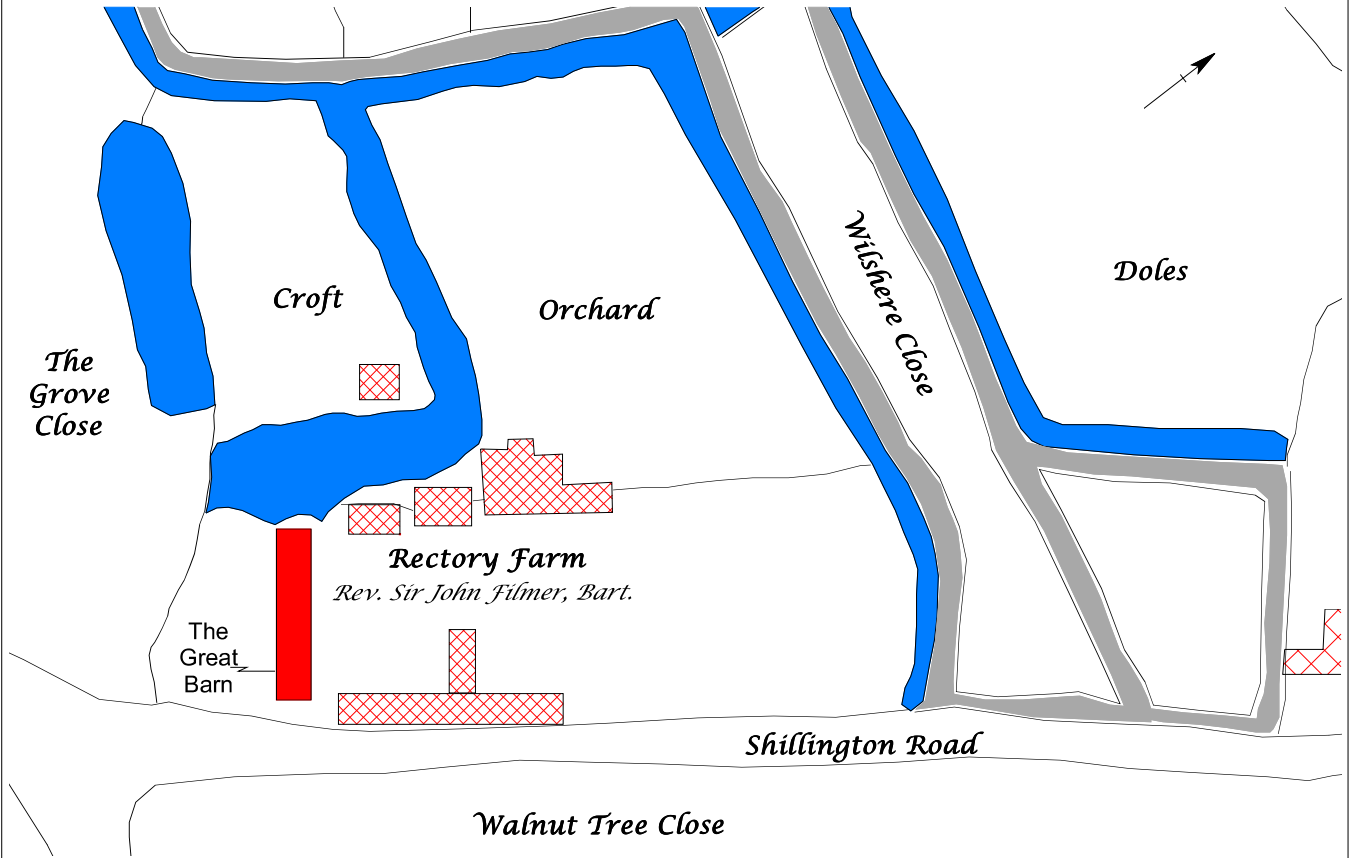


Site layout

Ordnance Survey (c) Crown Copyright 2012. All rights reserved. Licence number 100020449

Scale 1:500

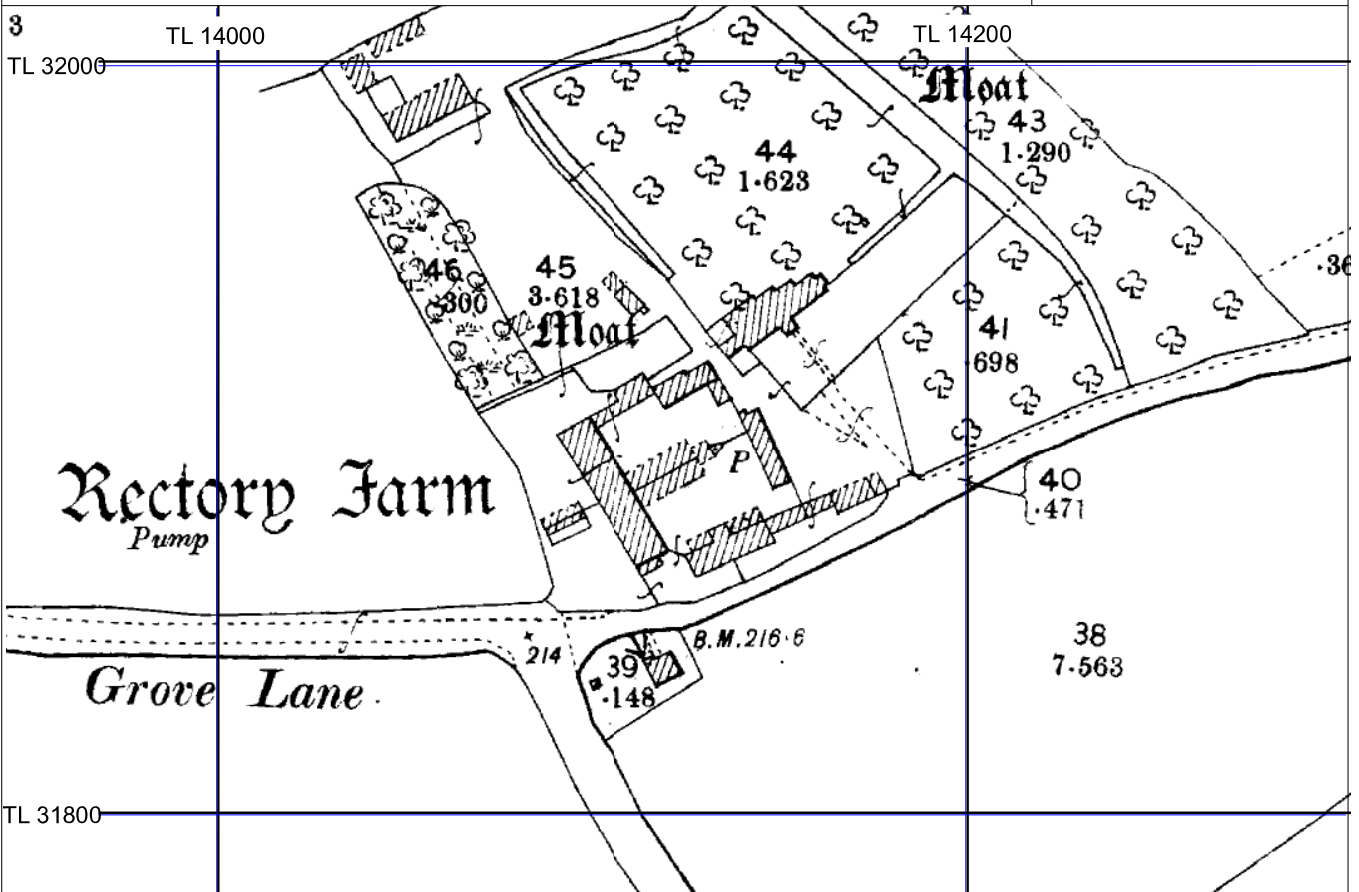
Figure 2



Tracing taken from the Enclosure map of Pirton, 1818 (HALS PC 528)

Scale 1:1000 (approx)

Figure 3

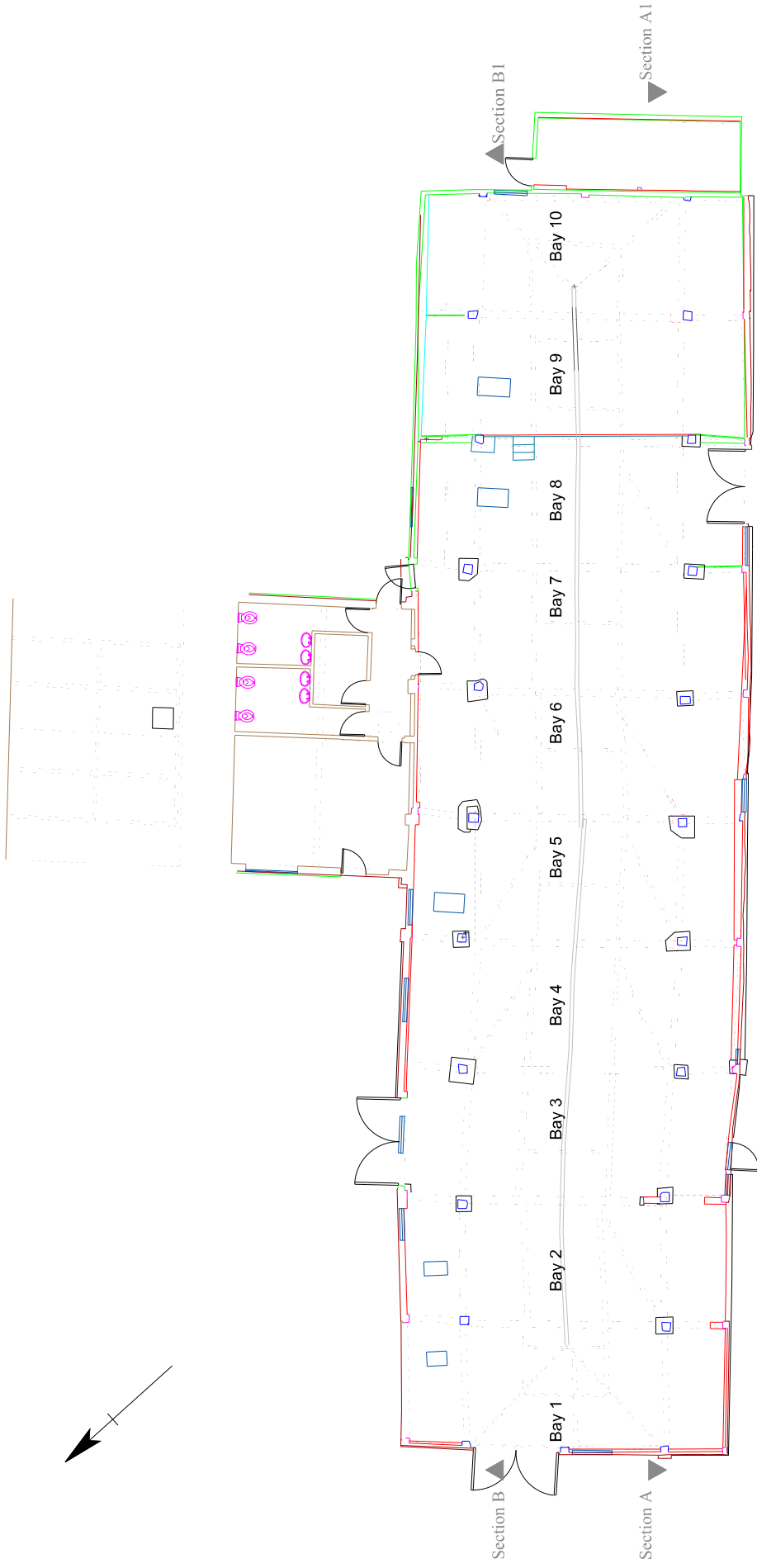


2nd edition OS map, 25" scale, 1898

Scale 1:2000

Figure 4

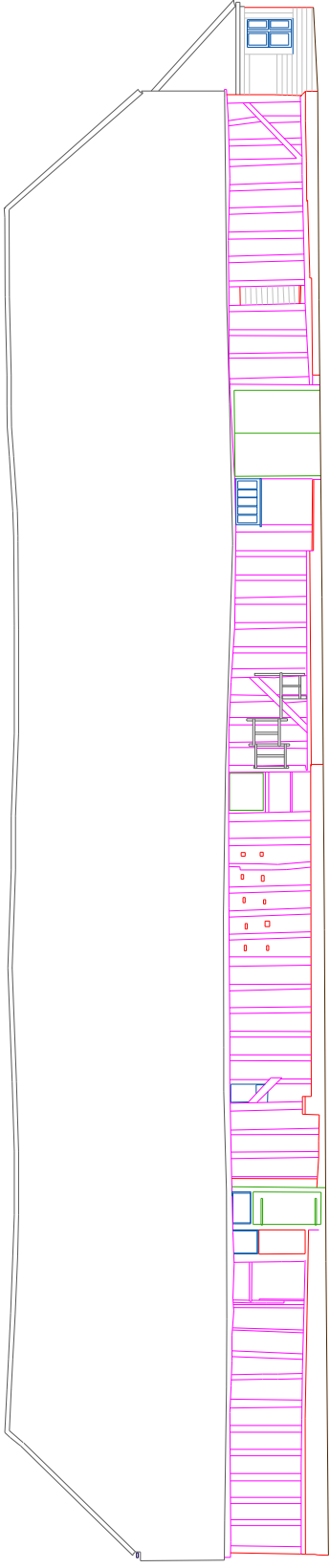
Roof space above the eastern cartlodge



Great Barn, Rectory Farm, Pirton, Herts.

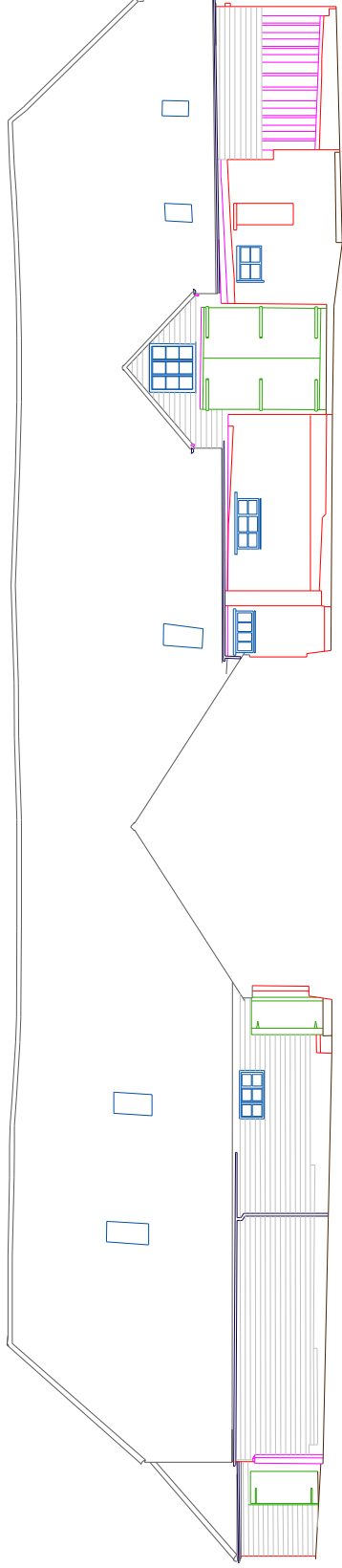
HN976 Scale 1:150 Figure 5

Barn plan
by courtesy Pentangle Design Group



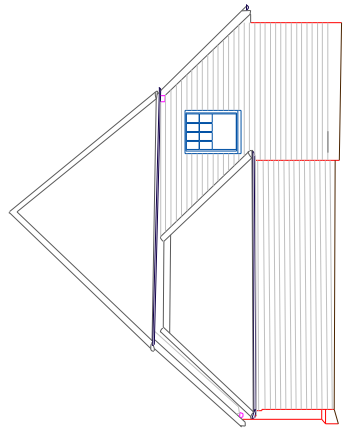
WEST ELEVATION

▼Datum 18.00m



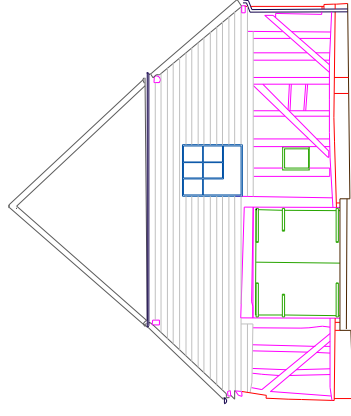
EAST ELEVATION

▼Datum 18.00m



SOUTH ELEVATION

▼Datum 18.00m



NORTH ELEVATION

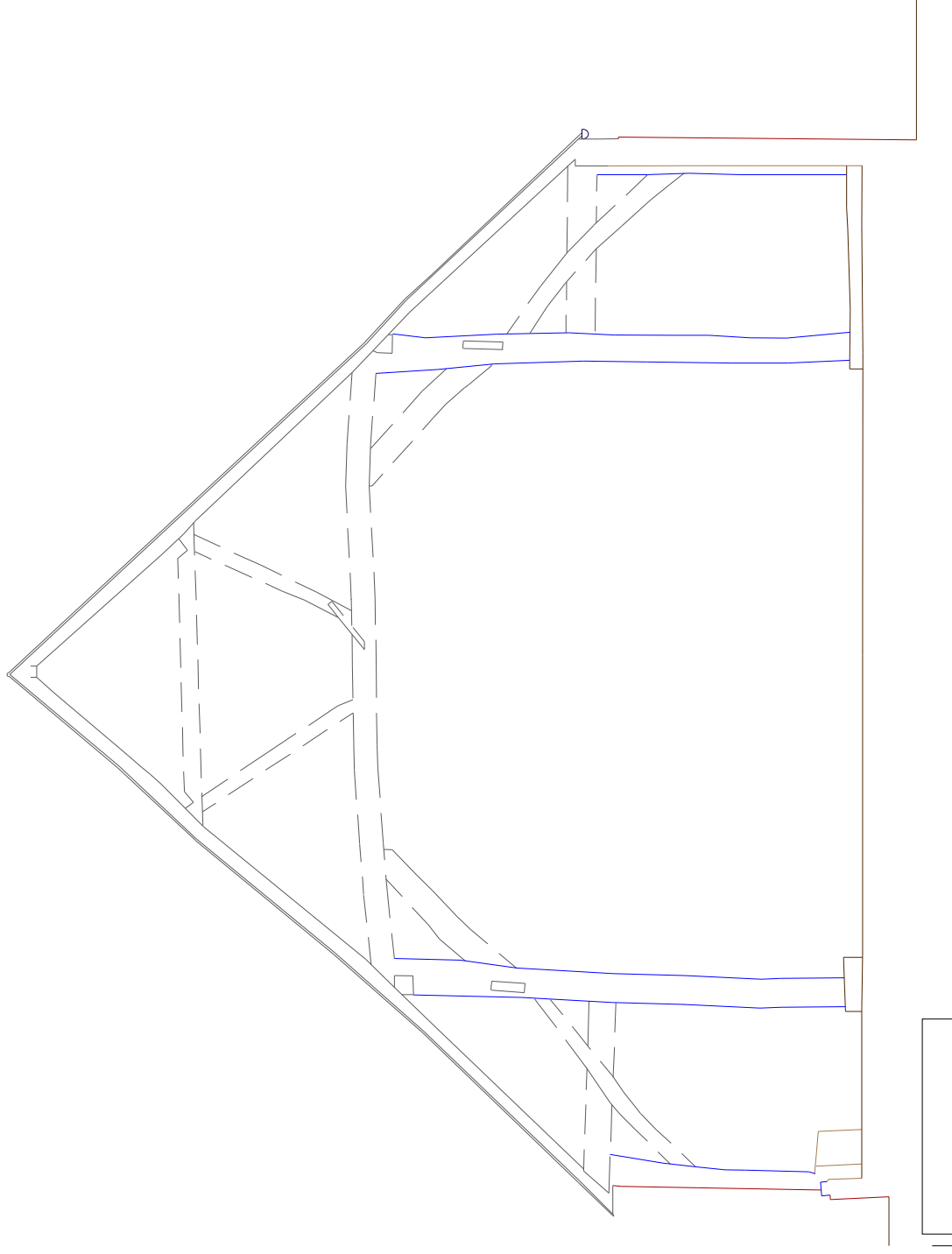
▼Datum 18.00m



Great Barn, Rectory Farm, Pirton, Herts.

HN976	Scale 1:150	Figure 6
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Exterior elevations
by courtesy Peniangle Design Group



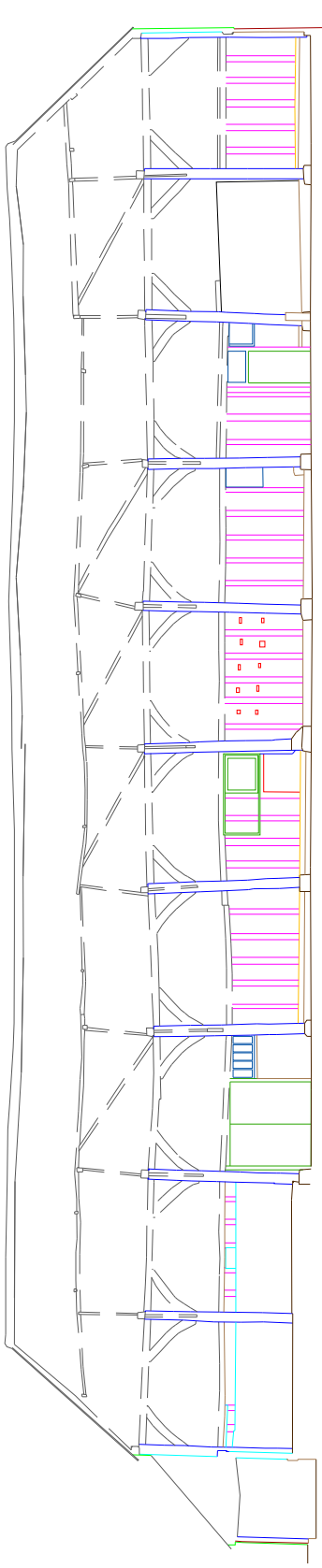
Great Barn, Rectory Farm, Pirton, Herts.

HN976 Scale 1:50 Figure 7

Internal structure
by courtesy Pentangle Design Group

SE

NW

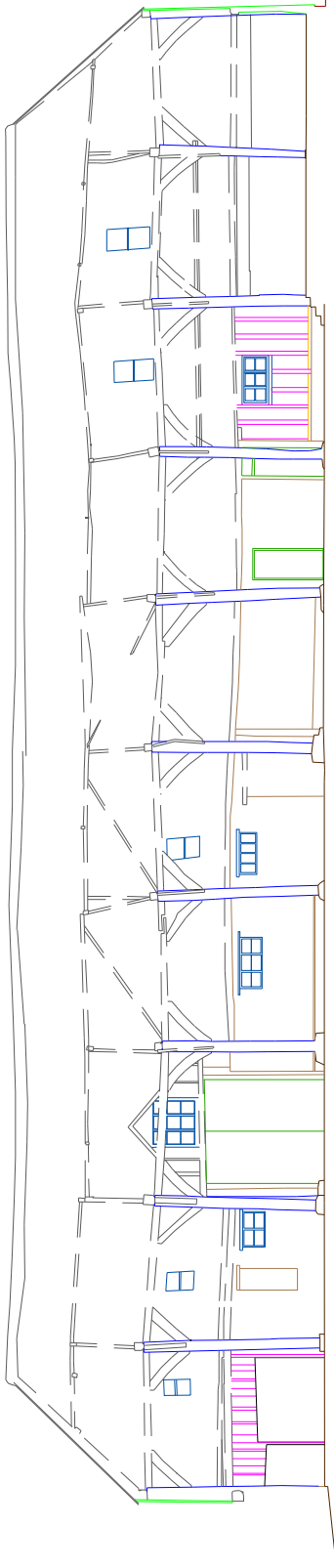


SECTION A1 Datum: 18.00m

SECTION A

NW

SE



SECTION B Datum: 18.00m

SECTION B1

SECTION B



Great Barn, Rectory Farm, Pirton, Herts.

Longitudinal sections through the barn
by courtesy Pentangle Design Group

HN976

Scale 1:150

Figure 8



Plate 1: South exterior elevation, looking N



Plate 2: S elevation of main barn from interior of lean-to



Plate 3: West exterior elevation, looking NE



Plate 4: Detail shot - Bays 1 - 2, west exterior elevation



Plate 5: Detail shot of Bays 3 - 4 west exterior elevation



Plate 6: Detail shot of Bays 4-5, west elevation



Plate 7: Detail shot, Bays 6 - 7, west elevation



Plate 8: Detail shot, Bays 7 - 8, west elevation

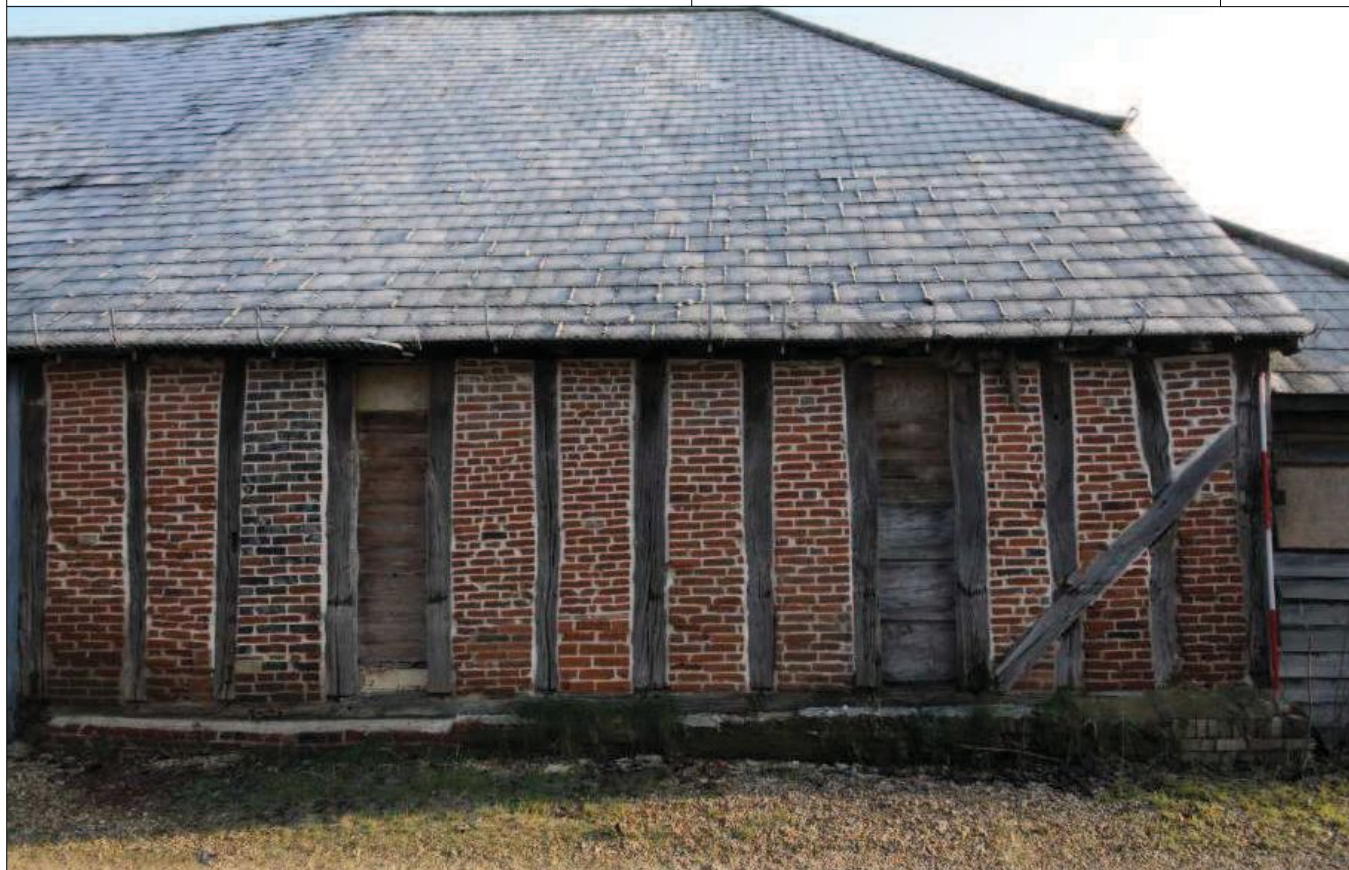


Plate 9: Detail shot, Bays 9 - 10, west elevation



Plate 10: Detail shot, underside of wall plate in Bay 2, west elevation, showing dowel holes



Plate 11: North exterior elevation, looking S



Plate 12: East exterior elevation, Bay 1, looking SSW



Plate 13: East exterior elevation, Bays 2 - 5, looking NW



Plate 14: East exterior elevation, south end, looking NW



Plate 15: East barn, north elevation, looking S



Plate 16: Great Barn interior, looking north



Plate 17: Edge halved and bridled scarf joint to W arcade plate, Bay 7



Plate 18: North gable interior elevation



Plate 19: Hipped roof space above north gable



Plate 20: South gable interior elevation



Plate 21: Hipped roof space above south gable



Plate 22: Detail of concrete pad below arcade post and remains of peninsular sill



Plate 23: Wooden threshing floor, Bays 9 - 10, looking E



Plate 24: Bay 1, east elevation, underside of wall plate showing dowel holes

Appendix 1

Digital Photographic Log

Frame	Details	Elev'n	Facing	B&W	Date
HN976_001	Tithe Barn - exterior	N	S	✓	01/02/2012
HN976_002	Tithe Barn - exterior	W	NE	✓	01/02/2012
HN976_003	Tithe Barn - exterior	S	N	✓	01/02/2012
HN976_004	Tithe Barn - exterior, S end	E	NW	-	01/02/2012
HN976_005	Tithe Barn - exterior, S end	E	W	-	01/02/2012
HN976_006	Tithe Barn - exterior, Bays 9-10	W	E	-	01/02/2012
HN976_007	Tithe Barn - exterior, Bays 8-7	W	E	-	01/02/2012
HN976_008	Tithe Barn - exterior, Bays 7-6	W	E	-	01/02/2012
HN976_009	Tithe Barn - exterior, Bays 5-4	W	E	-	01/02/2012
HN976_010	Tithe Barn - exterior, Bays 4-3	W	E	-	01/02/2012
HN976_011	Tithe Barn - exterior, Bays 2-1	W	E	-	01/02/2012
HN976_012	Eastern Barn - exterior	S	N	-	01/02/2012
HN976_013	Tithe Barn - interior, Bay 1	W	W	✓	01/02/2012
HN976_014	Tithe Barn - interior, Bay 1 (roof)	W	W	✓	01/02/2012
HN976_015	Tithe Barn - interior, Bay 2	W	W	✓	01/02/2012
HN976_016	Tithe Barn - interior, Bay 2 (roof)	W	W	✓	01/02/2012
HN976_017	Tithe Barn - interior, Bay 3	W	W	✓	01/02/2012
HN976_018	Tithe Barn - interior, Bay 3 (roof)	W	W	✓	01/02/2012
HN976_019	Tithe Barn - interior, Bay 4	W	W	✓	01/02/2012
HN976_020	Tithe Barn - interior, Bay 4 (roof)	W	W	✓	01/02/2012
HN976_021	Tithe Barn - interior, Bay 5	W	W	✓	01/02/2012
HN976_022	Tithe Barn - interior, Bay 5 (roof)	W	W	✓	01/02/2012
HN976_023	Tithe Barn - interior, Bay 6	W	SW	✓	01/02/2012
HN976_024	Tithe Barn - interior, Bay 6 (roof)	W	W	✓	01/02/2012
HN976_025	Tithe Barn - interior, Bay 7	W	NW	✓	01/02/2012
HN976_026	Tithe Barn - interior, Bay 7 (roof)	W	W	✓	01/02/2012
HN976_027	Tithe Barn - interior, Bay 8	W	W	✓	01/02/2012
HN976_028	Tithe Barn - interior, Bay 8 (roof)	W	W	✓	01/02/2012
HN976_029	Tithe Barn - interior, Bay 9	W	W	✓	01/02/2012
HN976_030	Tithe Barn - interior, Bay 9 (roof)	W	W	✓	01/02/2012
HN976_031	Tithe Barn - interior, Bay 10	W	W	✓	01/02/2012
HN976_032	Tithe Barn - interior, Bay 10 (roof)	W	W	✓	01/02/2012
HN976_033	Tithe Barn - interior	View	N	✓	01/02/2012
HN976_034	Tithe Barn - interior	View	N	-	01/02/2012
HN976_035	Tithe Barn - interior, Bay 10	E	E	✓	01/02/2012
HN976_036	Tithe Barn - interior, Bay 10 (roof)	E	E	✓	01/02/2012
HN976_037	Tithe Barn - interior, Bay 9	E	E	✓	01/02/2012
HN976_038	Tithe Barn - interior, Bay 9 (roof)	E	E	✓	01/02/2012
HN976_039	Tithe Barn - interior, Bay 8	E	E	✓	01/02/2012
HN976_040	Tithe Barn - interior, Bay 8 (roof)	E	E	✓	01/02/2012
HN976_041	Tithe Barn - interior, Bay 7	E	NE	✓	01/02/2012
HN976_042	Tithe Barn - interior, Bay 7 (roof)	E	E	✓	01/02/2012
HN976_043	Tithe Barn - interior, Bay 6	E	E	✓	01/02/2012
HN976_044	Tithe Barn - interior, Bay 6 (roof)	E	E	✓	01/02/2012
HN976_045	Tithe Barn - interior, Bay 5	E	E	✓	01/02/2012
HN976_046	Tithe Barn - interior, Bay 5 (roof)	E	E	✓	01/02/2012

Frame	Details	Elev'n	Facin g	B&W	Date
HN976_047	Tithe Barn – interior, Bay 4	E	E	✓	01/02/2012
HN976_048	Tithe Barn – interior, Bay 4 (roof)	E	E	✓	01/02/2012
HN976_049	Tithe Barn – interior, Bay 3	E	E	✓	01/02/2012
HN976_050	Tithe Barn – interior, Bay 3 (roof)	E	E	✓	01/02/2012
HN976_051	Tithe Barn – interior, Bay 2	E	E	✓	01/02/2012
HN976_052	Tithe Barn – interior, Bay 2 (roof)	E	E	✓	01/02/2012
HN976_053	Tithe Barn – interior, Bay 1	E	E	✓	01/02/2012
HN976_054	Tithe Barn – interior, Bay 1 (roof)	E	E	✓	01/02/2012
HN976_055	Tithe Barn – interior	View	S	✓	01/02/2012
HN976_056	Tithe Barn - interior	View	S	✓	01/02/2012
HN976_057	Tithe Barn – interior, western aisle truss 1/2	N	SW	✓	01/02/2012
HN976_058	Tithe Barn – interior, north gable	N	N	✓	01/02/2012
HN976_059	Tithe Barn – interior, north gable (roof)	N	N	✓	01/02/2012
HN976_060	Tithe Bran – interior, Bay 1, E wall plate, underside	E	E	-	01/02/2012
HN976_061	Tithe Barn – interior, south gable	S	S	✓	01/02/2012
HN976_062	Tithe Barn – interior, south gable	S	S	✓	01/02/2012
HN976_063	Tithe Barn – interior, south gable (roof)	S	S	✓	01/02/2012
HN976_064	Tithe Barn – interior, W arcade post, foot detail	-	NW	-	01/02/2012
HN976_065	Tithe Barn - exterior	W	SE	✓	01/02/2012
HN976_066	Tithe Barn – exterior, Bay 2, W wall plate, underside	W	E	-	01/02/2012
HN976_067	Tithe Barn – exterior from inside lean-to	S	NW	-	01/02/2012
HN976_068	Lean-to – interior	S	SE	-	01/02/2012
HN976_069	Lean-to – interior	S & E	SE	-	01/02/2012
HN976_070	Lean-to – interior	S & E	SE	-	01/02/2012
HN976_071	Tithe Barn – exterior, N end	E	NW	✓	01/02/2012
HN976_072	Eastern Barn - exterior	N	S	✓	01/02/2012
HN976_073	Tithe Barn – exterior, Bay 1	E	SSW	✓	01/02/2012



HN976_001



HN976_002



HN976_003



HN976_004



HN976_005



HN976_006



HN976_007



HN976_008



HN976_009



HN976_010



HN976_011



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HN976_014



HN976_015



HN976_016



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HN976_071



HN976_072



HN976_073

Appendix 2

OASIS Data Entry

OASIS ID: heritage1-118268	
Project details	
Project name	Pirton, Great Barn (Tithe Barn), Rectory Farm
Short description of the project	As part of an application for listed building consent and planning consent for the development of the Great Barn, Rectory Farm, Shillington Road, Pirton, Herts, the Heritage Network was commissioned by the developers to create a record of the building in its present state. The Great Barn was built as a tithe barn in the 15th or early 16th century. It has remained in use as an agricultural barn until recent years. It is a 10-bay structure, measuring approximately 10m in width, 40m in length and 10m in height. The barn has undergone a number of changes over the centuries, including the replacement of the original wattle and daub infill with brick nogging and the replacement of the thatched roof with slate tiles. The rebuilding of much of the east elevation and the replacement of the internal framing on the east side suggests that this side was subject to more rapid decay, possibly as a result of the prevailing weather.
Project dates	Start: 01-02-2012 End: 01-02-2012
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	HN976 - Contracting Unit No.
Type of project	Building Recording
Site status	Listed Building
Current Land use	Other 2 - In use as a building
Monument type	TITHE BARN Medieval
Monument type	BARN Medieval
Significant Finds	NONE None
Methods & techniques	'Photographic Survey', 'Survey/Recording Of Fabric/Structure'
Prompt	Listed Building Consent
Project location	
Country	England
Site location	HERTFORDSHIRE NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE PIRTON Great Barn (Tithe Barn), Rectory Farm
Postcode	SG5 3DH
Study area	400.00 Square metres
Site coordinates	TL 14107 31886 51.9732757873 -0.338630070671 51 58 23 N 000 20 19 W Point
Project creators	
Name of Organisation	Heritage Network
Project brief originator	None
Project design originator	none

Project director/manager	David Hillelson
Project supervisor	David Hillelson
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
Project archives	
Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive recipient	Hertfordshire Archives and Local Studies
Digital Contents	'other'
Digital Media available	'Images raster / digital photography'
Paper Archive recipient	Hertfordshire Archives and Local Studies
Paper Contents	'none'
Paper Media available	'Diary','Photograph','Report'
Project bibliography 1	
Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Great Barn, Rectory Farm, Pirton, Hertfordshire
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Hillelson, D.
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Ashworth, H.
Other bibliographic details	report no.707
Date	2012
Issuer or publisher	Heritage Network
Place of issue or publication	Letchworth, Herts.
Description	A4 booklet, comb bound, green cover, 16 pages, 8 figures, 24 plates