

Essex Barn and Cart Lodge at Little Canfield Hall

Little Canfield, Essex

Historic Building Record and Archaeological Monitoring

NGR ref: TL 58575 21920



Project No.: 8183

Site Code: LCCH 14

Report No.: 2014236

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Commissioned by Mrs Suzi Rea

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SUMMARY

In May 2014 Archaeology South-East carried out historic building recording and archaeological monitoring of an Essex Barn and Cart Lodge at Little Canfield Hall, Little Canfield, Essex. The work was commissioned by Suzi Rea to satisfy archaeological conditions placed on Planning Application UTT/1946/11 prior to residential conversion.

The building forms part of an important medieval and post-medieval farmstead that includes several timber-framed and brick-built historic farm structures, some of which are Listed. They include a large grade II-listed medieval aisled barn and the grade II-listed 16th-century farmhouse. Other historic structures, the Essex barn and cart lodge, stables and a malting, are curtilage listed. In the medieval period the hall was enclosed by a moat and was in control of one of four manors in the village. In the post-medieval period the manor was under the ownership of the wealthy Easton Lodge estate and let out to tenant farmers.*

The barn was probably built in the 17th century as a hay barn in the traditional Essex timber-framed and half-boarded form. In the late 19th or early 20th century the roof was replaced. The cart lodge dates to the late 19th century and has similar fabric to the barn. Given its proximity to the hall, it most likely served a domestic rather than agricultural function. Both buildings retain their historic character and have not been affected by modern activity on the site. Prior to the survey being carried out they had been used for general storage purposes and for keeping modern farm vehicles and machinery.

Monitoring works on a pipe trench and new Klargestor unit around the barn found natural clay and sand deposits under modern overburden to the east and south and no evidence of archaeological activity.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 In May 2014 Archaeology South-East (a division of the Centre for Applied Archaeology, University College London) carried out historic building recording of an Essex Barn and cart lodge at Little Canfield Hall (NGR TL 58575 21920; Fig. 1). The survey was carried out to satisfy a condition placed on Listed Building Consent reference UTT/1946/11/FUL and UTT/1948/12/LL, prior to residential conversion of three buildings: the Essex Barn, malting and stables (recorded separately). The work was based on a brief prepared by Essex County Council Place Services team (2012) and follows earlier ASE surveys of other historic buildings on the site, namely a late 14th century Grade II-listed tithe barn (Letch 2012), the 16th century 'bean barn' (Letch 2011), an 18th century stable and 18th century malting (both Letch 2014).

2.0 SCOPE AND METHODOLOGY

2.1 The recording involved the survey of the building to Level-3 standard as defined by English Heritage (2006).

2.2 A Level-3 survey is intended to provide an analytical record of a structure or group of structures. It involves written descriptions of the exterior and interior noting its form, methods of construction, architectural detailing and historic fixtures and fittings. In addition, readily accessible cartographic and documentary resources are drawn upon to provide a broader understanding of development of the structure within the context of the historic farmstead. Such a survey also includes measured plans and a photographic record.

2.3 For the survey, measured plans and elevations were provided by the architects that were annotated on site by the author and updated digitally for the report site. The building and its setting were photographed using digital photography. The photographic survey included general external and internal elevations and any surviving architectural detail, fixtures, fittings and machinery. A plan showing photo locations is included as an appendix to the report.

2.4 The building was surveyed by the author in May 2014 prior to the start of conversion works, and monitoring visits were undertaken in July of the same year.

2.5 Previous building recording reports on the site were used to inform background research included in this report and no new research was undertaken.

3.0 SITE LOCATION AND SETTING

3.1 Little Canfield Hall lies to the hamlet of Canfield End at NGR TL 5853 2192, to the west of Great Dunmow and is accessed by a trackway leading westwards off the B1256 Dunmow Road (Fig. 1). The Essex Barn is a well-built timber-framed structure probably dating to the 18th century, which appears to have been a time of great prosperity and rebuilding on the Canfield Hall estate. It stands to the east side of the Hall on the north side of the multi-phase farm complex (Fig. 1).

3.2 Various other brick and timber built barns and outbuildings are arranged around the centre of the site, all of which are curtilage listed. The main structures include the grade II* listed late 14th century tithe barn to the west, the grade II listed 16th century farmhouse (the Hall), the largely 16th century 'bean barn' to the east and the stables to the south-west.

3.3 The site lies in an isolated position within an historic agrarian landscape, mainly used for growing crops and keeping horses and cattle. The old hall and many elements of the old traditional farmstead remain along with some modern farm structures, particularly on the east side of the yard (Fig 1).

3.4 On the west side of the complex is the in-filled remains of the old moat, the western arm of which is represented by a long linear earthwork that ruins to the west of the tithe barn and returns just to the north of the stable. The River Roding passes the site further to the west and originally fed the moat.

3.5 The underlying geology is a mixture of chalky clay and fine yellow sand.

4.0 STATUTORY DESIGNATIONS

Listed Buildings

- 4.1 The Essex Barn and cart lodge are not listed in their own right but are curtilage-listed with the Tithe Barn (Grade II* List entry number: 1380959.) and Little Canfield Hall (Grade-II List entry number: 1380959).

5.0 HISTORIC BACKGROUND (Cartographic and documentary evidence)

- 5.1 The origins of Little Canfield Hall are likely to date back to at least the 12th or 13th century when many moated sites were established in Essex (HEM 2012). A manor house and farmstead occupied the area inside the moat in the medieval period, when it was one of four manors in the parish. Various families owned the hall in this period, culminating in the Fitch family c.1450 (Morant 1763).
- 5.2 The tithe barn is the only medieval structure to remain on the farm and is believed to date to the late 14th century (LBS 412029). The bean barn appears to contain reused medieval elements (Letch 2011).
- 5.3 According to the List description (Listed Buildings Online), the timber-framed farmhouse, Little Canfield Hall, was built in the 16th century (LBS 353518). It probably replaced the old medieval hall house, which was a common practice of the time on richer estates.
- 5.4 The rebuilding of the Hall may coincide with a change of ownership during the Elizabethan period to the Maynard family of Easton Lodge, who were one of the largest landowners in the area. The 1590 Survey of Little Canfield Manor indicates the house within a courtyard setting with the aisled barn to the west (with the moat behind it) and other buildings including a dovecote (Fig. 2). This map predates the construction of the Essex Barn. Much of the moat had been filled-in by this time except for the western arm behind the tithe barn, but its outline remains, demarcating the hall and farm area.
- 5.5 The barn was probably constructed in the 17th or 18th century but is not visible on the Chapman and Andre map of 1777 (sheet 7, Fig. 3). However this map is rather sketchy and omits some of the major structures such as the tithe barn. The grounds

of Easton Lodge are shown to the north-east of the Hall (labelled as 'Lord Maynard').

- 5.6 The first map to show the barn is the Little Canfield tithe map of 1842, which shows many of the existing farm buildings that are still standing. It depicts the barn, drawn with a wider porch, an adjoining building to the west and a diagonal probable shed range linking from the barn to the bean barn (Fig. 4). The building to the west is no longer standing although until recently the rear wall of the diagonal range was. This map predates the construction of the cart lodge. The accompanying tithe award (D/CT 68A) mentions a largely arable farm with a holding of just over 150 acres. The farm is owned by Viscount Maynard (of Easton Lodge) and tenanted by John Barnard who lived at the hall and also owned at least 50 acres of grassland by the church and land to the west of the village.
- 5.7 The first edition Ordnance Survey map of 1878 indicates no substantial change to the farm layout apart from the addition of some minor structures and division of yards (Fig. 5). The front garden of the hall appears to have been re-shaped and the building to the east is gone, but the small scale of the map makes this difficult to confirm. By the time of the 1897 Ordnance Survey map, which is drawn to a larger scale, the cart lodge has been constructed against the east garden wall (Fig. 6). This map shows the late 19th century farmstead with the greatest clarity.
- 5.8 Part of the Easton Lodge estate was sold off in 1912 by the Countess of Warwick (SALE A280). During the Second World War troops were garrisoned at the Hall. After the war the door on the front of the barn was replaced along with some of the windows and electricity was installed.
- 5.9 Over the past three years the four main historic farm buildings (bean barn, tithe barn, stable and malting) have been converted for residential use and all have been subject to English Heritage level 3 historic building records for planning purposes. During the current survey, the stables were nearing completion and work was under way on refurbishing and converting the tithe barn, malting and part of the Hall, which was empty at the time.
- 5.10 The present farm has 400 acres of land that is used for mixed farming around modern farm buildings and grazes cattle beside Hatfield Forest. In recent times the barn has

been used for storage purposes and the cart lodge used for farm vehicles and small items of machinery.

6.0 BUILDING DESCRIPTIONS

6.1 General description

6.1.1 The barn and cart lodge (Plates 1 and 2) are timber-framed and half-boarded buildings with tile roofs that together form a good group, retaining much historic character and displaying little in the way of modern alterations.

6.2 Building 1: Essex Barn

6.2.1 The barn is a medium-sized single-storey timber-framed structure with a plain tile roof standing on a west to east alignment with a porch on the north side. Its dimensions are 13m by 5.7m for the main part, with a 4.5m by 4.5m porch. It stands to a height of 7.6m. Inside there are three 4m-wide bays and a fourth slightly shorter bay for the porch to the north.

6.2.2 The walls are of primary-braced construction and half-boarded, standing on a low 0.15m high brick plinth comprising 220 x 115 x 50-70mm red bricks, which vary in size but are more conducive to an 18th or early 19th century date (based on Ryan 1996). The walls are clad in the lower half in black-painted 6.5-inch feather board and are lath and plastered in the upper half, which is typical of the Essex Barn form. The gable ends are rendered on the west side and both boarded and rendered to the east. The porch has brick noggin infill between the timbers and a coat of plaster over the top. All roofs have a 45 degree pitch. The only entrance is on the south side facing the yard.

6.2.3 Internally, the timbers are in good condition with few replaced ones, apart from the roof, which was rebuilt in the modern period in machine-sawn timbers.

External description

6.2.4 The exterior is clad in historic feather board and covered in lime render and modern cement render, which matches in quite well. Parts of the external wall fabric is failing.

Main (south) elevation

- 6.2.5 At the centre of the south elevation (Plates 3 and 4) is the doorway, which has been replaced by a pair of later (post-war 20th century) sliding doors constructed from corrugated tin sheets on a light wooden frame. Above and to the west is an inserted fixed 6-pane window that may be contemporary with the modern door, or slightly earlier. Laths are exposed above the doorway and in the southwest corner where the render has failed.

East elevation

- 6.2.6 A large portion of cladding has failed on the east elevation (Plate 5), revealing the studwork beneath. The boards finish at eaves level, after which the gable is rendered in cement rather than lime.

North (rear) elevation and porch

- 6.2.7 The same traditional half-boarded themes continue on this side (Plates 5 and 2). Here the boarding has been adversely affected by damp and formed algae; ivy has also been allowed to spread over the east side of the porch. Render is failing where the porch connects to the main body of the barn, on the end wall of the porch and on the main body of the barn to the west of the porch. Some of the brick noggin is exposed at the base of the porch wall comprising historic bricks laid in lime mortar with some later brick repairs laid in cement.

West elevation

- 6.2.8 The cart lodge is partly attached to the west elevation, which is half-boarded and has suffered least from failure (Plate 3).

Internal description

- 6.2.9 The interiors (Plates 6 & 7) were dry, clear and free to access and particularly well-preserved with good timberwork suggesting a 17th century date. Oak and elm appear to be used in the construction. In Figs. 8-10 original wall-framing is shown in black and replaced areas of framing are indicated in red.
- 6.2.10 There are three equal 4.5m-wide bays in the main part of the barn and a single bay to the north for the porch. All floors are laid to concrete. The wall timbers in the main part of the building are clad in pine boarding in the lower register but are exposed in the upper part with lath and plaster between. In the porch, the lower register is

rendered and the upper part is exposed in the same manner as the main part of the building.

- 6.2.11 Main framing (posts, plates and beams) comprises c.200mm square timbers. The main trusses, which mark the bays, are formed from tall posts with jowled heads connected by tie beams of similar width, dovetailed to the heads. Between the post and beam either side are curved braces triple-pegged either end (Fig. 8). The trusses finish with a machine-sawn softwood queen strut frame, kept in compression by an iron king rod, which is a later replacement. Jowled heads are indicative of a pre-1650 date in normal buildings but continue up to the 18th century in farm buildings. The well-built curved braces are likely to be of similar date.
- 6.2.12 Wall-framing is divided into two registers by midrails double-pegged to the bay posts and framed by sole and wall plates top and bottom. Studwork in the lower register is largely masked by boarding but where it was exposed on the north wall was unbraced and tenoned to the sill plate and generally pegged to the rail. The upper register is consistently primary-braced with the studs generally only tenoned and clearly nailed to the braces apart from the middle 'locking' studs that are pegged either end. The studs are fairly straight and in-line between the registers with dimensions around 130mm x 130mm (5 inches) with c.420mm centres. The braces fall from post to midrail and are pegged at either end. They tend to be curved or even 'cranked', which suggests the early form of primary-bracing. Modern thin vertical studs have been added between the main studs to provide greater support to the plaster panels.
- 6.2.13 Sole plates sitting on the brick plinth at the base of the frames are connected by simple lapped joints, suggesting some sections have been replaced. There is only one example of a proper scarf joint on this level, a face-halved and bladed scarf joint connecting the plates on the east side of the porch. Conversely, there are several such joints in the wall plates, which are all of one-bay lengths. The most common of these are positioned either end of the midstrey (circled in Fig. 9). The wall and sole plates are connected by secondary iron strapwork.
- 6.2.14 The southern wall contains the only entrance into the barn, which is original and retains the rebates for locking bars on the sides. The window on this side is, however, inserted (Plate 8). Modern roof struts have been added to the gables either end to carry the modern roof purlins. The east wall contains the only evidence

for an early window, divided into two lights beneath the wall plate on the north side of the middle post (Plate 6), but this was blocked-in some time ago. The north wall contains some quite waney locking studs in the upper register and the west elevation continues the common build themes and is also well-preserved.

6.2.15 The porch (Plate 9) appears to be contemporary with the main part of the barn and the brick infilling between the studs on the lower register uses bricks of similar size to those of the plinth. They are laid in single width courses and rendered either side. Part of the north wall has been rebuilt since there is a higher proportion of machine-sawn timbers on this side, but this is only relative. Both lapped and bladed scarf joints were recorded in the side walls. Studwork in the upper half of the east wall appears to have been rebuilt in more regular timbers and straight primary bracing, falling from the middle post (Fig. 10).

6.2.16 No carpenter's marks were observed in the survey but some graffiti was recorded in two places. The first was on the south face of the west midstrey post of the north wall as a small cross and the figure '22' and other more vague markings (Fig. 9 and Plate 10) and the second on the west midrail of the porch where the date of 1776 is recorded, which is perhaps the build date of the barn (pre-fixed with the word 'wow', which is a later comment) (Fig. 10 and Plate 11). Other fixtures and fittings comprise items such as modern cast iron brackets and early post-war electricity boxes that have minor historic value.

6.2.17 The roof was replaced in the late 19th or early 20th century with pre-fabricated machine-sawn raking strut frames fitted with bolted iron king rods and modern rafters (Fig. 8). No evidence of the earlier roof form was recorded in the survey. The roof appears to retain its original, re-laid, tiles.

6.3 **Building 2: Cart lodge**

6.3.1 The cart lodge is a largely half-boarded timber-framed structure built over three bays onto the existing front garden wall of the Hall, from which there is direct access through an arched opening (Plate 5). It stands on a five-course brick plinth that has no particular bond, and comprises bricks of varying sizes. It has two open bays at the front south side, facing the farmyard, and a formerly enclosed bay to the east, under a 45-degree pitched roof, gabled at the ends. Although later, its half-boarded exterior matches the main building to which it is attached to the east. There is a modern concrete hardstanding at the front.

6.3.2 The interior comprises the main cart area and two smaller rooms in the eastern bay with access to a hay loft/storage area above the cart area. Internal layout appears to be unaffected by later events.

External description

6.3.3 The two open bays on the main (south) elevation (Plate 12) are divided by a central post that appears to be a modern replacement or insertion. Pintels on the east side of the middle bay indicate there was once a door here, and there is likely to have been a door on the other side as well, for securing the carriages. The third bay at the east end was originally enclosed but has been opened up to admit a modern metal roller door.

6.3.4 On the east elevation (Plate 13) the main features here are a single doorway at the south end that provided access into Room 2 and a window to the north of the elevation that lit Room 3. The doorway is fitted with a replaced ledged, braced and boarded door with T-hinges, but occupies an earlier aperture. The window is a plain fixed four pane type with narrow mullions probably contemporary with the building and perhaps with the one in the barn. At the base of the wall, between the two features where some of the boarding has been removed, is a blocked square aperture approximately 0.5m wide and 0.4m high that is neatly built into the wall plinth (Fig. 7 and Plate 13). This may be the aperture for an old power drive shaft.

6.3.5 The north (rear) elevation has the same traditional half-boarding as the east side (Plate 14). A doorway stands to the east beneath a small canopied porch. The porch is Gothic in style with a tiled pitched canopy supported on brackets with trefoil-decorated spandrels and a naturalistic 'daisy wheel' design in the plaster above the door head (Plate 15), perhaps a later addition. The door is boarded on the outside with a round knob and connected with the garden gateway. It leads into small panelled Room 2.

6.3.6 The cart lodge was built onto the existing front garden wall of the Hall, which forms the west wall and is the same wall that contains the gateway through to the back of the lodge. Subsequently a lean-to greenhouse was built onto the garden side (Plate 16). According to historic maps the wall, constructed from Flemish-bonded soft red bricks, was built between 1842 and 1878. The gable above is rendered in the same fashion as the barn.

Internal description (Fig. 7)

- 6.3.7 Inside, the cart lodge was still in use during the survey and contained farm vehicles and machinery. The main open part, referred to as Room 1 (Fig. 7), has a gault brick herringbone floor, occupied by a vehicle, farm machinery and other items (Plate 17). The west (brick) wall is rendered and the north wall is constructed in machine-sawn primary-braced timbers typical of its late 19th century date. The east wall is boarded and also lime-washed. This wall has various home-crafted cast iron brackets attached to the wall carrying chains and leather straps likely to have been harnesses or other items of horse furniture (Plate 18). Two narrow later shelves have been added behind the doorway. The ceiling above is plastered and above it is the loft.
- 6.3.8 Room 2, entered from the east side, was originally enclosed at the front but has since been opened-up. The floor is laid to concrete and the walls are primary braced and clad in feather-board except for the west wall where the frame is exposed and includes a built-in ladder in its construction that leads to the loft over Room 1 (Plate 19).
- 6.3.9 Room 3 is a small room accessed by an ornate doorway which suggests it was an area of some importance, but its function is unclear. It has a gault brick herringbone floor and 6-inch pine boarded walls stood on a low rendered plinth. The ceiling is also boarded (Plate 20). The layout appears to be original and there is no indication of the blocked opening recorded on the east side coming into the room.
- 6.3.10 The hay loft is plain, with no floorboards, a nailed collar purlin roof and exposed rafters (Plate 21).

7.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING

- 7.1 Archaeological monitoring was undertaken on the excavation of a waste pipe trench around the barn and a trench for a new 'Klargester' unit on the south side of it (Fig. 11).

Waste pipe trench and Klargester unit

- 7.2 A pipe trench was dug around the barn from the north side to carry a waste pipe to the new Klargester unit to be installed on the south side of the barn. The trench was 0.5m wide and around 0.6m deep, cut into the natural clay and sand (sand closer to

the house). The sections to the north and east of the barn were dug and the pipes laid around the manholes prior to the visit (Plate 22). The excavation of the final section was monitored, which showed a layer of 0.20m thick brick rubble over natural yellow brown chalky clay. Further to the south-west, the ground was disturbed by former track/yard surfaces comprising rubble, tarmac and gravel mixed in with a brown grey silt clay topsoil (Plate 23).

- 7.3 The tank trench was excavated 11m to the south of the barn and measured 2m x 5m and was 1.2m deep. At the top was topsoil, 0.5m thick, mixed with gravel and other modern debris and disturbed by roots from a neighbouring tree. This lay above a thick brown grey clay layer on the north side, with chalky clay at the bottom, and fine mid yellow orange sand on the south side, demonstrating the abrupt changes in natural geology on the site (Plate 24).
- 7.4 No archaeological features were observed or finds collected during the monitoring works.

8.0 DISCUSSION

- 8.1 The barn is a small three-bay porched structure whose timber-framed half-boarded exterior is a traditional Essex vernacular form that matches other timber-framed buildings on the site such as the tithe barn, bean barn and stables, whose date range spans the late 14th century to the 18th century. Externally, most of the changes to the structure have occurred in the 20th century, with replacement cart doors at the front and an inserted window on this side also. Formerly there was a window on the east gable end but this has been blocked-in. There is no sign of an opposing window on the west gable. Internally much of the wall-framing survives except for the porch where the upper register of the east wall has been rebuilt, probably when the roof was replaced. In the main body of the barn, the lower part of the frame is hidden from view by historic wooden boarding but the exposed upper part is in good order and retains many lime plaster panels. The use of boarding in barns is conducive to either straw or hay storage or for animals, though often farm buildings can have a dual function. The wide cart door on the southern side suggests a storage function and the small size of the barn and the fact that there are two other large barns in operation (probably for storing different crops), suggests

this was the hay barn, which are traditionally quite small. On the other hand, the porch frame has lime-plastered brick-noggin infill to the panels instead of boarding over the top, which may suggest the porch was used for keeping animals, since the thicker walls would provide insulation. In this case therefore, the hay would be kept in the two end bays with the central bay providing access to the animals. Unfortunately there are no substantial surviving historic fixtures and fittings and any evidence for internal divisions may have been lost when the floor was replaced, or, more likely, such divisions were made from wooden hurdles of a semi-permanent nature.

8.2 Dating the barn is difficult, especially as the roof was replaced at a similar time to the roof of the nearby malting building. However a date sometime in the 17th century, possibly the latter part, is likely, based on stylistic attributes and the quality of the timber framing. The main components are the trusses, particularly the jowl-headed bay posts, which are good-quality well-fashioned examples more indicative of pre-18th century date, by which time they are generally cruder. The curved bracing to the trusses suggests a similar date. Although there are good examples in the 18th century, by the end of that century braces tend to be straighter and more 'waney'. The main timbers are fairly substantial and straight and the well-executed form of the common post-medieval bladed scarf joint suits a 17th century date. Regarding the wall-framing, the primary-braced form employed here is a general characteristic of post-medieval carpentry in Essex. Here, the studwork, though not substantial like earlier periods, is straight and there are no reused timbers. Generally by the 18th century, due to the limited supply of timber, the studs have become waney and older studs are reused, to which this construction method is entirely suited. In addition, the curved and cranked nature of the wall braces is more typical of the earlier form where the braces tried to emulate the arch-braces of medieval buildings before becoming completely straight like those in the replaced wall in the porch.

8.3 Stylistically therefore the building shows indications of a 17th century build date. However, given the overall build quality of the farm buildings in general, it could be later, especially if one considers that the carved date of 1776 found inside may signify its build date, rather than just casual graffiti. However, if it were a build date, it would more likely be found in the main part of the barn rather than the porch. Such a date would also seem unlikely in comparison with the stables on the south side of

the farmstead which conform more generally to this date, particularly with their straight-headed posts and greater number of re-used timbers (Letch 2014).

- 8.4 The cart lodge is later in date to the barn and replaced an earlier structure that was removed when the front garden of the hall was altered. This structure dates to the late 19th century which is shown by its machine-sawn primary-braced wall-framing and the fact that the west end was constructed over a mid-late 19th century garden wall. Its proximity to the house and main access from the garden rather than the farm indicates it had a domestic rather than agricultural function, probably to garage the family's carts and buggies. The front of the building is now open-side but originally there were doors at the front to the two cart bays inside. The third bay was also enclosed but most likely had a smaller doorway to gain access to the front. The larger of the two rooms on this side, Room 2 had access to a small loft area, perhaps a hay loft though its lack of floor would limit its use. The smaller room at the back clearly was of some importance, with its rather ornate gothic entrance porch and panelled interior, but its function is unclear apart from its association with the house (for gardening tools, perhaps, or a tack room for the horses pulling the buggies, though no fixtures or fittings remain). The aperture on the east wall is likely to be associated with mechanisation of some form but this is more likely to be a later adaptation.

9.0 CONCLUSION

- 9.1 The Essex Barn and cart lodge at Little Canfield Hall are important components of the traditional farm complex that mirror the general form and fabric of the surrounding historic buildings that as a group retain a high level of historic character. Close analysis of the built fabric suggests the barn was part of the 17th century development of the farm, of which little is known. The cart lodge is late 19th century in date and contemporary with the outbuilding range associated with the tithe barn (Letch 2012).
- 9.2 The study of Essex farmsteads is an ongoing research objective and the opportunity to study such a well-preserved medieval and post-medieval farming complex as Little Canfield Hall is unusual. To date all the historic buildings on the site, apart from the hall itself, have been recorded; three barns, a cart lodge, cart

shed/outbuilding range and a malting, whose construction dates indicate a broad range of development from the late 14th to late 19th centuries. This makes it important in the study of historic farmsteads on a regional and national level. Examples of other similar well-preserved multi-phase farming groups associated with wealthy manorial farmsteads in the area are Colville Hall, White Roding and Wolseys Farm, High Duton, which have also been recorded for planning purposes.

- 9.2 Despite the historic nature of the site, limited archaeological monitoring works associated with the conversion of the barn and cart lodge found only natural clay and sand deposits under modern overburden and no evidence of archaeological activity.

ARCHIVE DEPOSITION

The site archive will be stored with Saffron Walden Museum together with the rest of the work generated by the planning proposals under the site codes LCCH 13 and 14. The archive will comprise a hard copy of the full report, a pdf version of the report on CD along with the full photographic record and register and hard copies of the survey drawings, with field notes.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

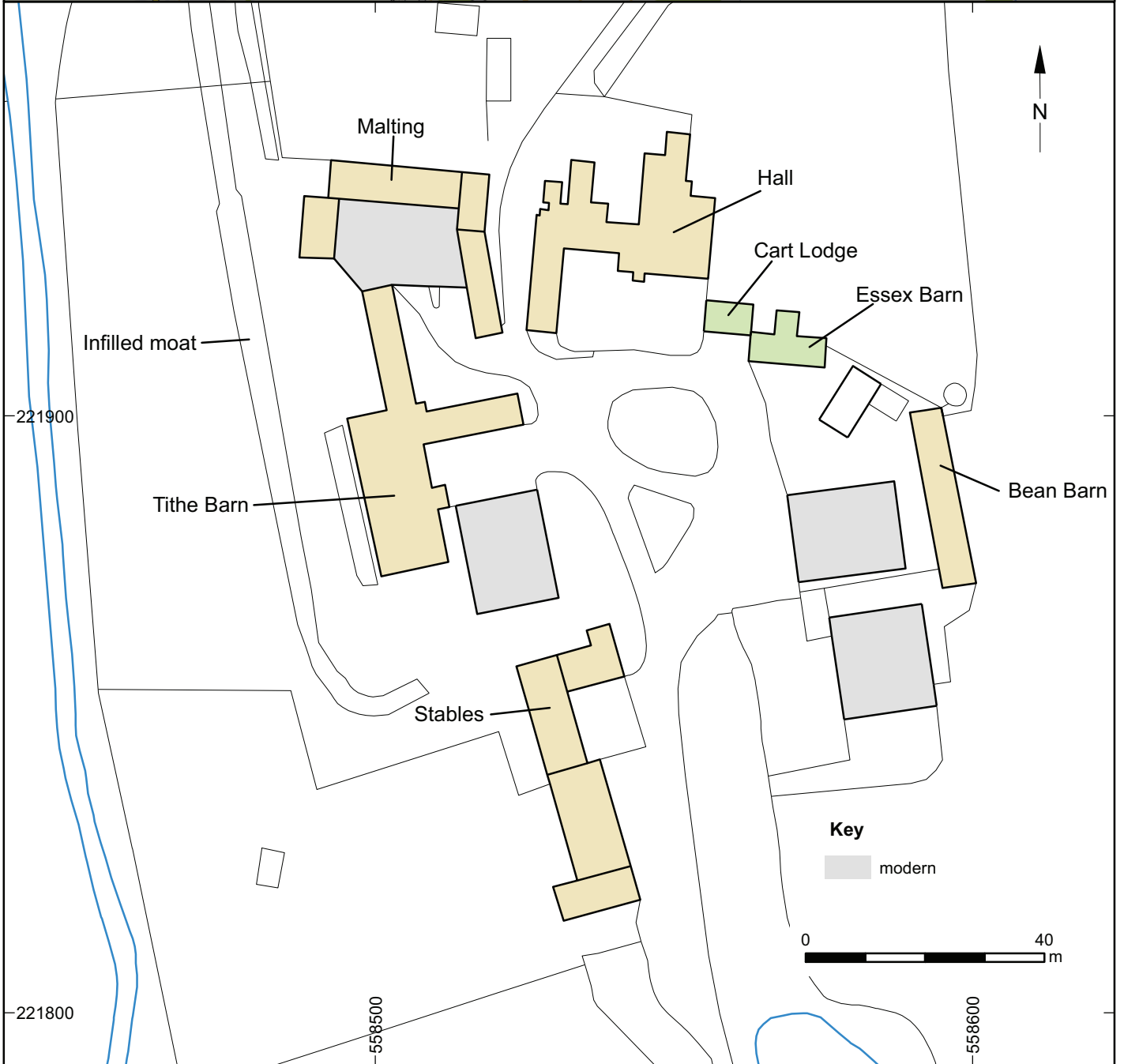
Archaeology South-East would like to thank Mrs Suzi Rea for commissioning and facilitating the works and to Charlotte King at Sworders Agricultural for supplying drawings used in the survey and this report. Fieldwork, recording and photography were undertaken by the author. Illustrations were prepared by the author and produced by Andrew Lewsey. Richard Havis monitored the work on behalf of the Local Planning Authority. Adrian Scruby managed the project and report production.

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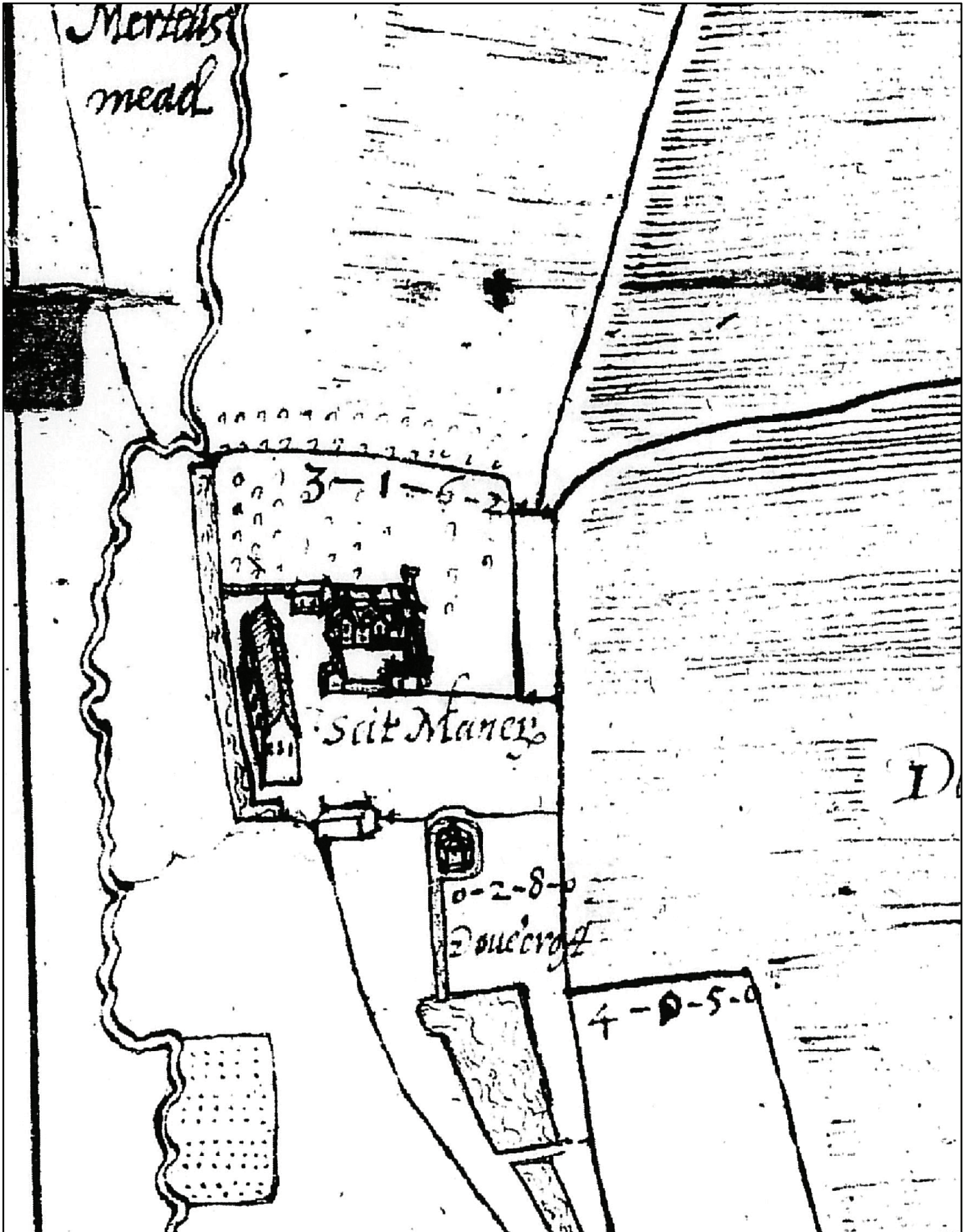
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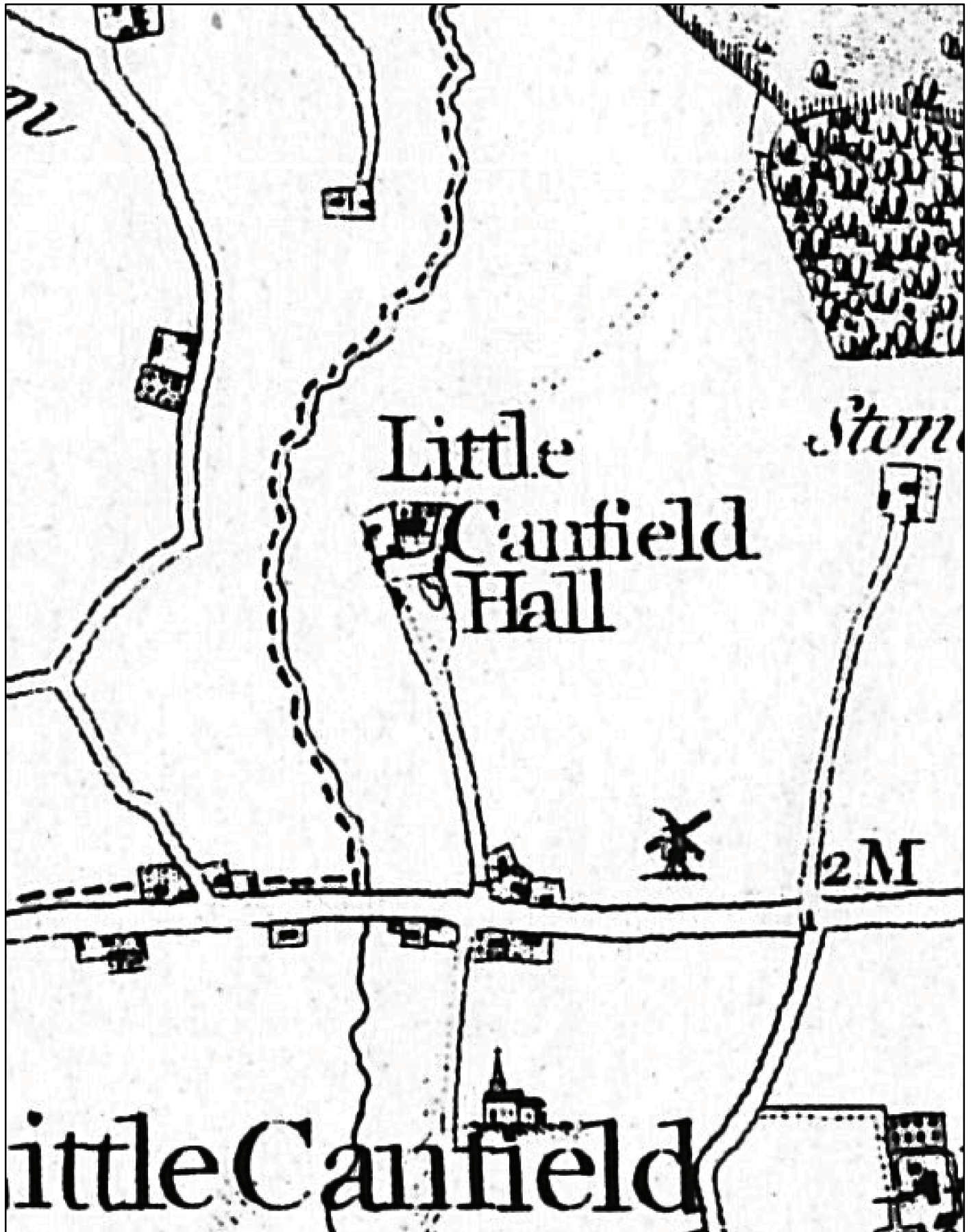


© Archaeology South-East		Essex Barn at Little Canfield Hall, Little Canfield	Fig. 1
Project Ref: 8183	Aug 2014		
Report Ref: 2014236	Drawn by: APL	Site location and block plan	

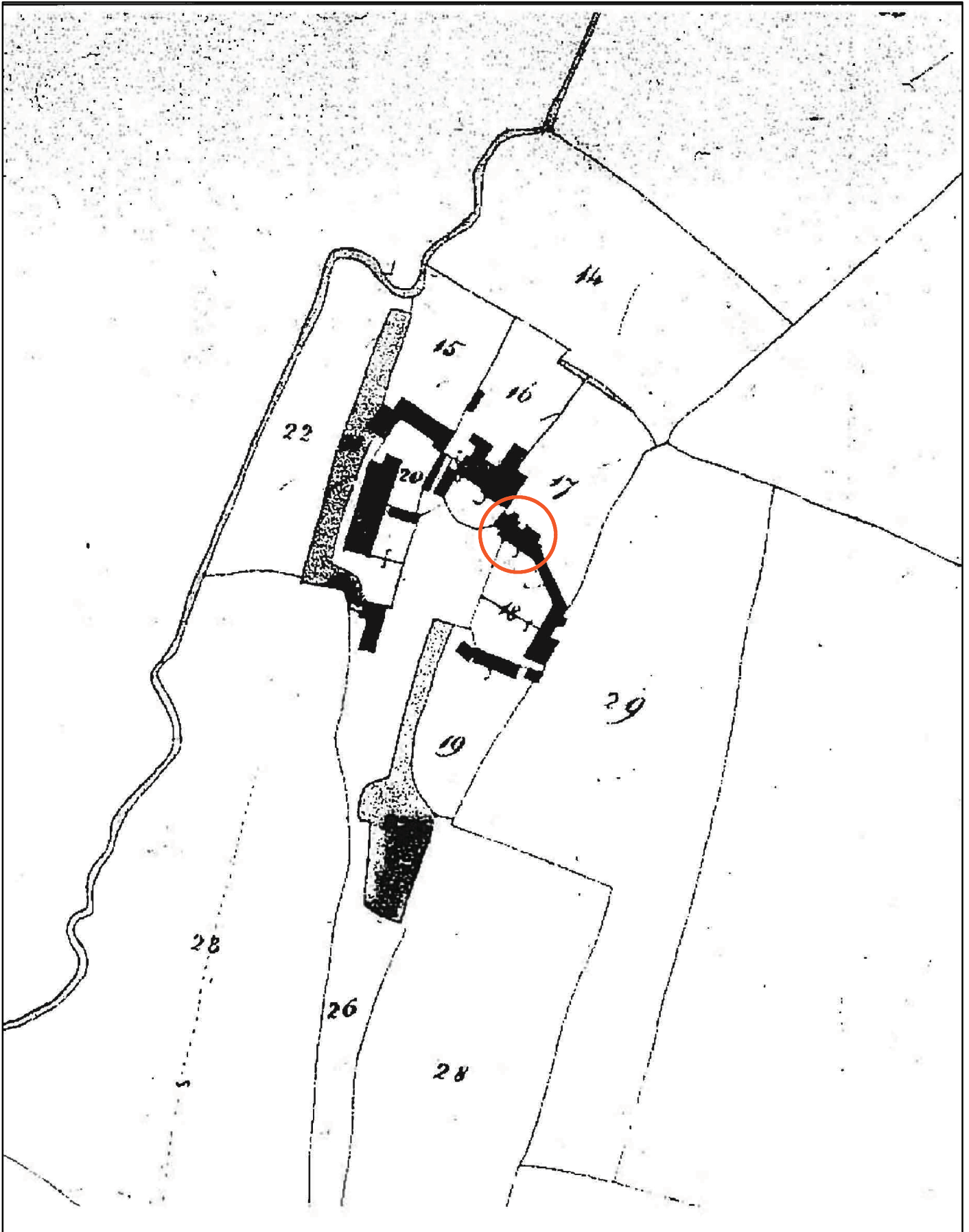
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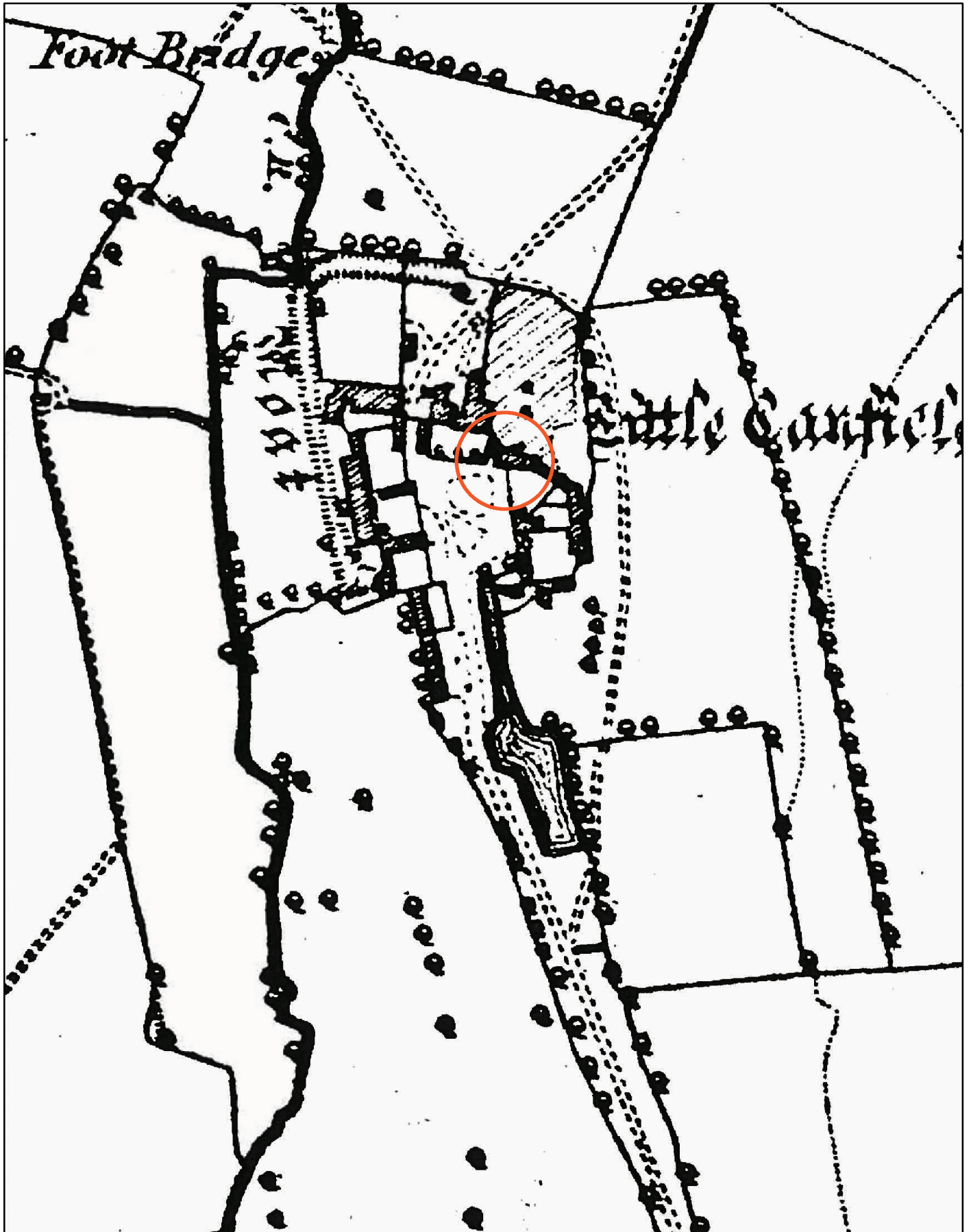
© Archaeology South-East		Essex Barn at Little Canfield Hall, Little Canfield, Essex	Fig. 2
Project Ref: 8183	July 2014	Chapman and Andre map, 1777 (plate 7)	
Report Ref: 2014236	Drawn by: AL		



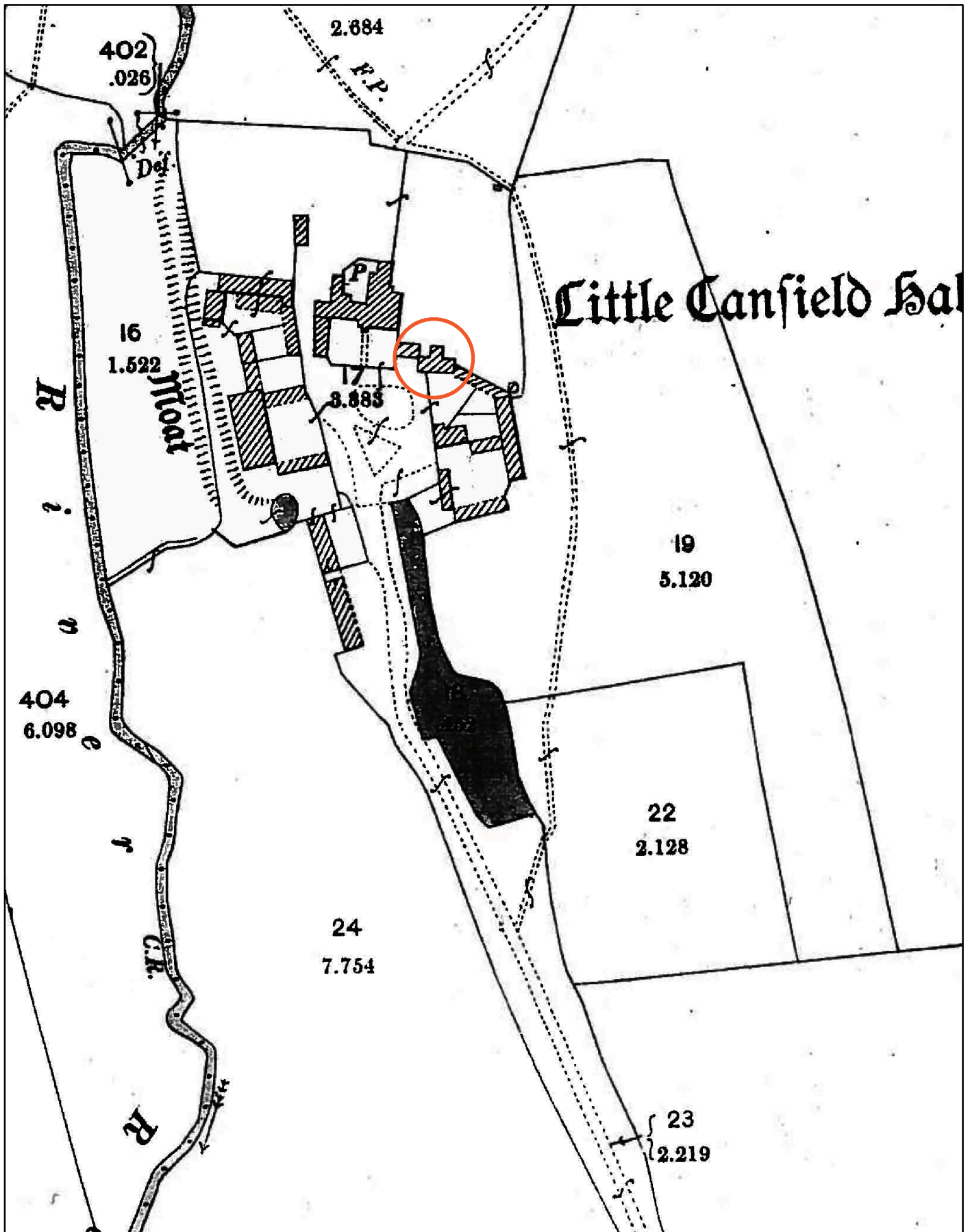
© Archaeology South-East		Essex Barn at Little Canfield Hall, Little Canfield, Essex	Fig. 3
Project Ref: 8183	July 2014	Chapman and Andre Map of Essex, 1777 (plate 7)	
Report Ref: 2014236	Drawn by: AL		



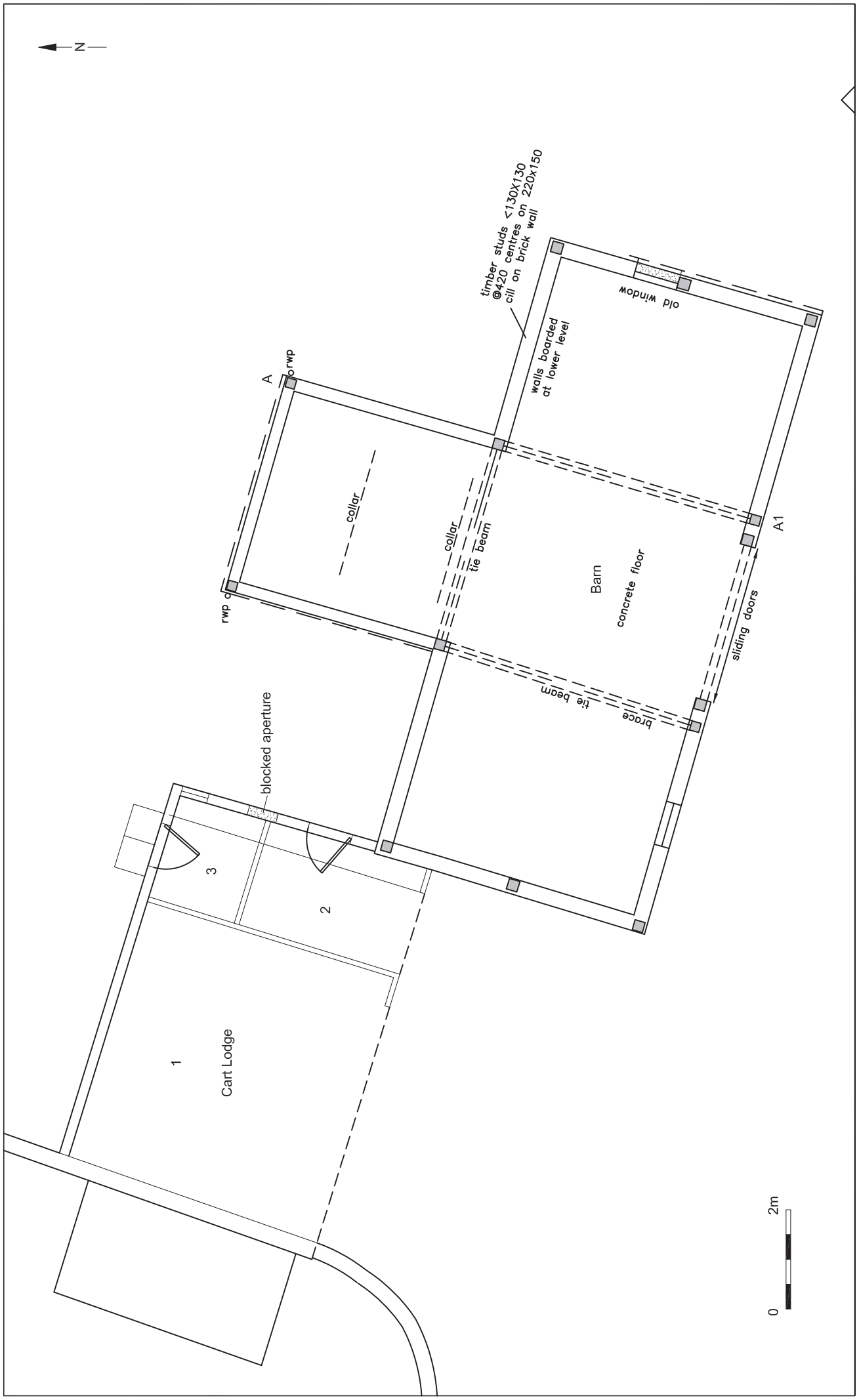
© Archaeology South-East		Essex Barn at Little Canfield Hall, Little Canfield, Essex	Fig. 4
Project Ref: 8183	July 2014	Little Canfield tithe map, 1842 (D/CT 68)	
Report Ref: 2014236	Drawn by: AL		



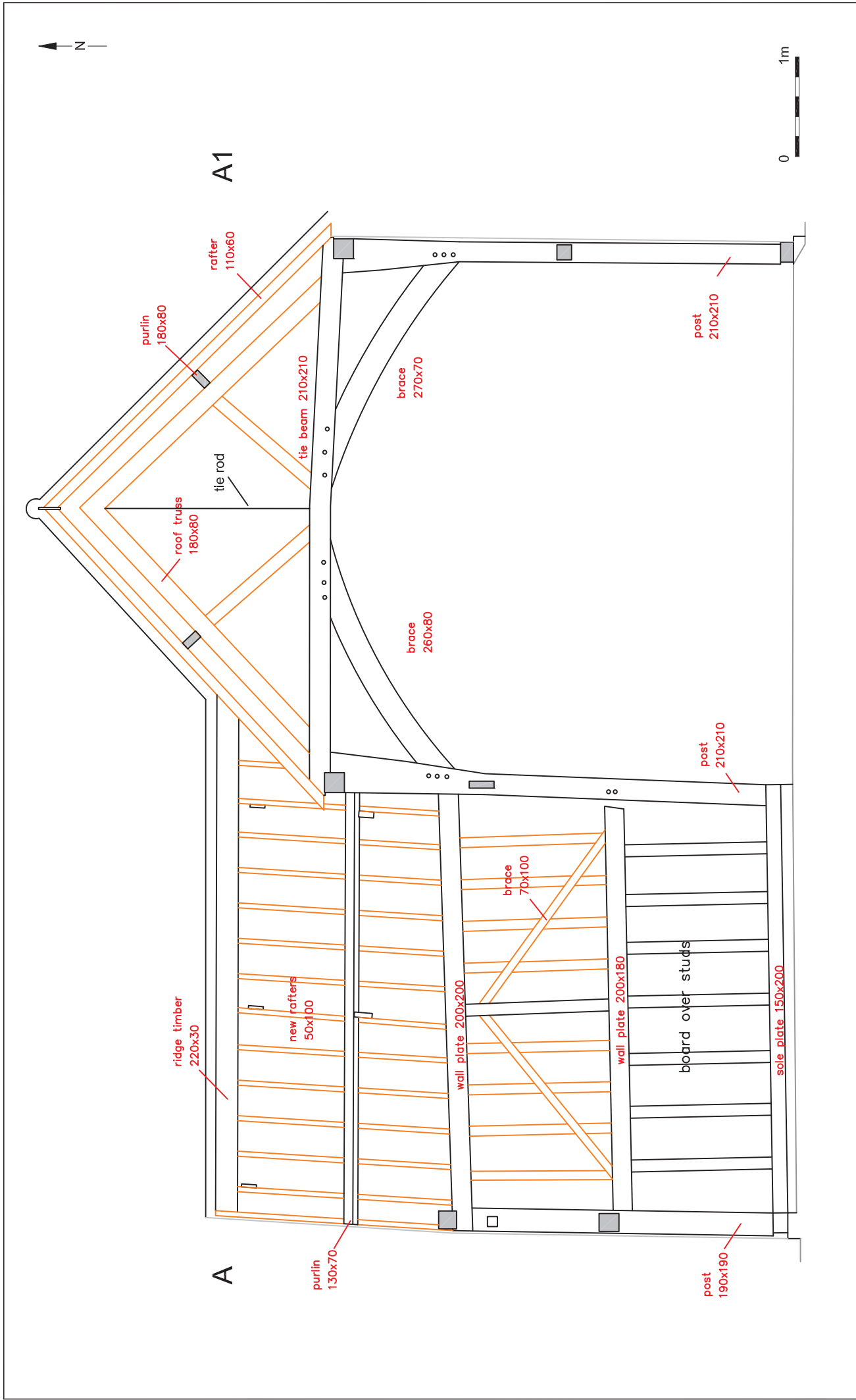
© Archaeology South-East		Essex Barn at Little Canfield Hall, Little Canfield, Essex	Fig. 5
Project Ref: 8183	July 2014	First edition 6" OS map, 1875 (sheet 23)	
Report Ref: 2014236	Drawn by: AL		



© Archaeology South-East		Essex Barn at Little Canfield Hall, Little Canfield, Essex	Fig. 6
Project Ref: 8183	July 2014	Second edition 25" OS map, 1897 (sheet 23/15)	
Report Ref: 2014236	Drawn by: AL		



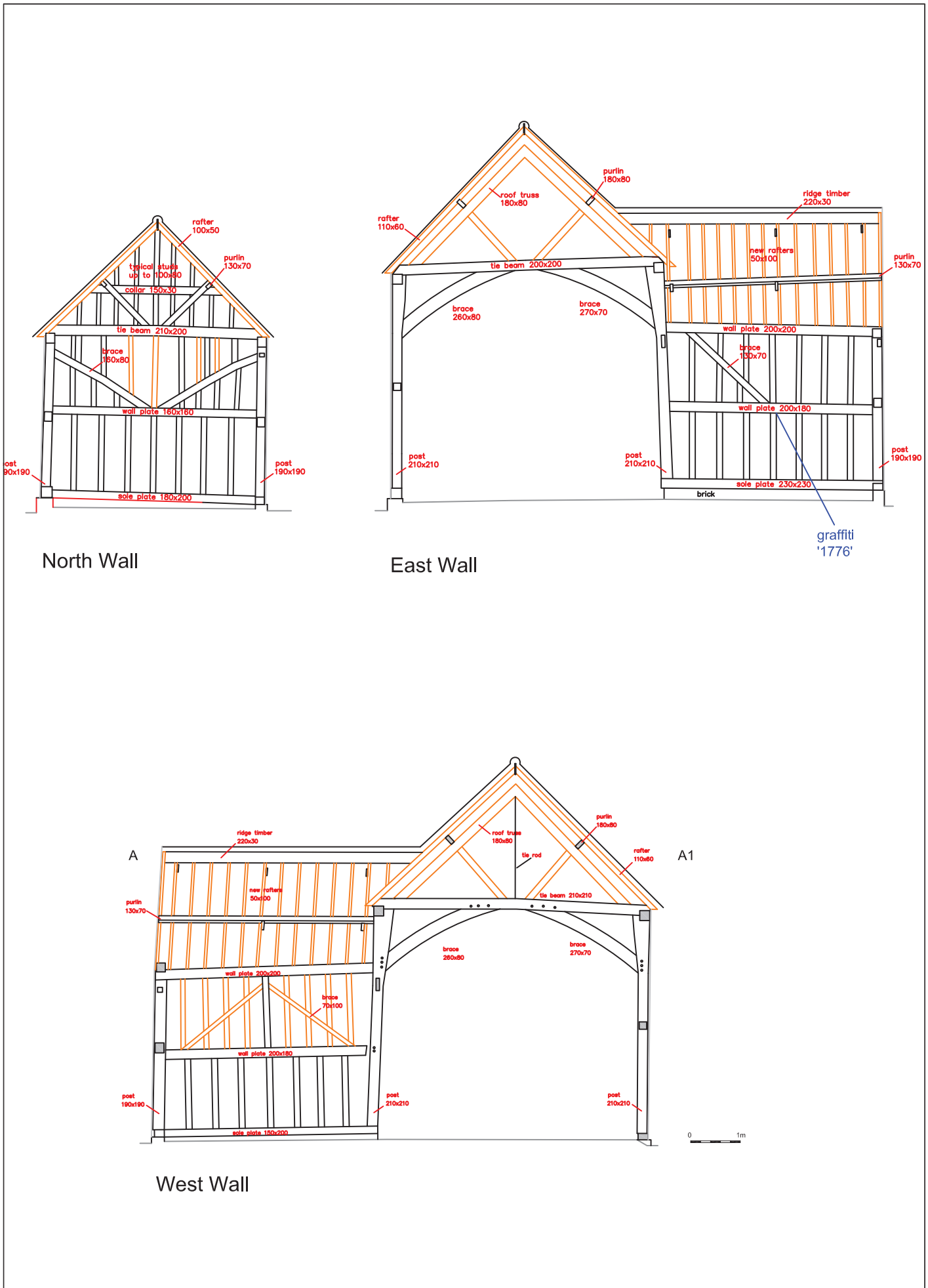
© Archaeology South-East		Essex Barn at Little Canfield Hall, Little Canfield		Fig.7
Project Ref: 8183	Aug 2014	Existing floor plan		
Report Ref: 2014236	Drawn by: APL			



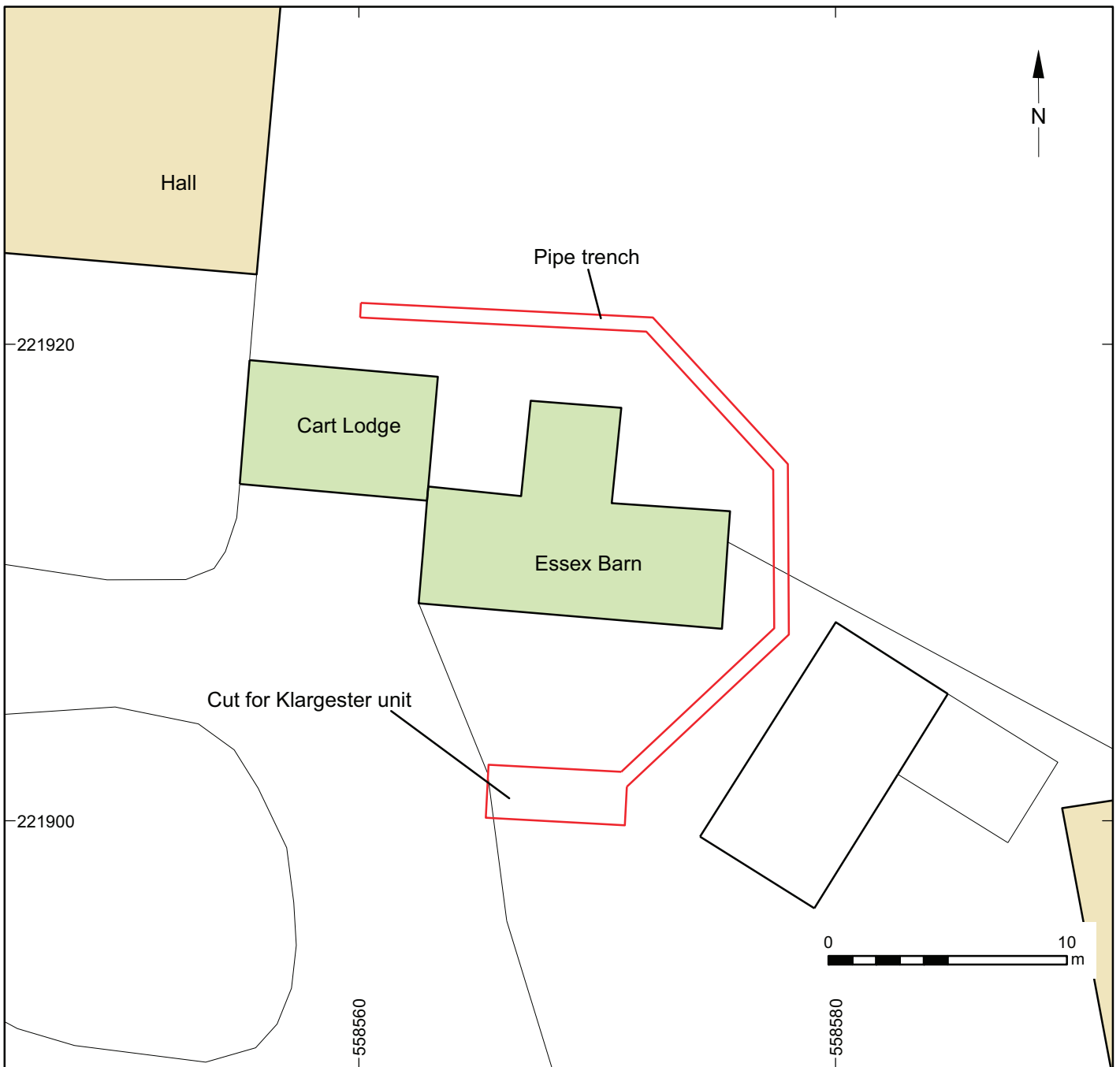
© **Archaeology South-East** Essex Barn at Little Canfield Hall, Little Canfield Fig.8

Project Ref: 8183	Aug 2014
Report Ref: 2014236	Drawn by: APL

Cross-section A-A1



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Project Ref: 8183	Aug 2014	Timber survey: Porch	
Report Ref: 2014236	Drawn by: APL		



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Project Ref: 8183	Aug 2014	Areas of archaeological monitoring	
Report Ref: 2014236	Drawn by: APL		

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Plate 1 Barn and cart lodge viewed to north-east



Plate 2 Barn and cart lodge viewed to south



Plate 3 Barn viewed to north-east



Plate 5 Barn viewed to north



Plate 5 Barn viewed to south-west



Plate 6 Interior of barn viewed to east



Plate 7 Interior of barn viewed to west



Plate 8 Internal south wall



Plate 9 Porch interior



Plate 10 Graffiti on bay post



Plate 11 Graffiti on midrail



Plate 12 South elevation of cart lodge



Plate 13 Rear of cart lodge viewed to south-west, showing blocked aperture at base of wall



Plate 14 North elevation of cart lodge



Plate 15 Detail shot of entrance porch



Plate 16 Cart lodge viewed to north-east



Plate 17 Interior of cart lodge viewed to north (Room 1)



Plate 18 Iron wall fixtures on east wall of Room 1



Plate 19 Room 2 viewed to west



Plate 20 Room 3 viewed to north-east



Plate 21 Hay loft viewed to west



Plate 22 Location of pipe trench, viewed to south-west



Plate 23 Pipe trench at front of barn, viewed to north-east



Plate 24 Klargester pit viewed to south



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8183 (3)



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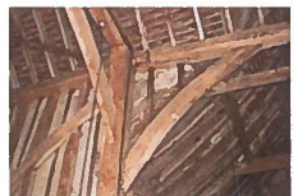
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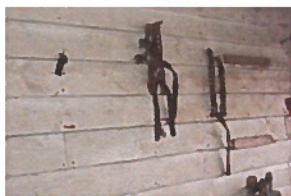
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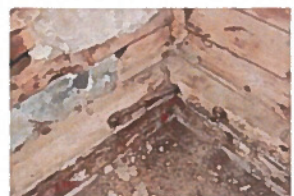
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Appendix 2: EHER Summary Sheet

Site Name/Address: Essex Barn and Cart Lodge at Little Canfield Hall, Little Canfield	
Parish: Little Canfield	District: Uttlesford
NGR: TL 58575 21920	Oasis ref.: 183421
Type of Work: Building recording & archaeological monitoring	Site Director/Group: Andy Letch, ASE
Dates of Work: May-July 2014	Size of Area Investigated: 200sqm
Curating Museum: Saffron Walden	Funding Source: Mrs Suzi Rea
Further Work Anticipated? No	Final Report: Summary in EAH
Periods Represented: Post-medieval (?17th & 19th centuries)	
<p>SUMMARY OF FIELDWORK RESULTS:</p> <p>A programme of building recording and archaeological monitoring was undertaken on an Essex Barn and cart shed at Little Canfield Hall prior to residential conversion. The buildings form part of a large medieval and post-medieval farmstead that includes a Grade II*-listed late 14th century aisled barn and the 16th-century farmhouse (Hall) and lies within a large in-filled medieval moat.</p> <p>The survey suggests the barn was probably built in the 17th century as a hay barn in the traditional Essex half-boarded form. Its construction comprises a primary-braced timber-frame, jowled bay posts and timbers connected by faced-halved and bladed scarf joints. The date of 1776 is carved on one of the porch timbers. In the late 19th or early 20th century the roof was replaced.</p> <p>The cart lodge dates to the late 19th century and has similar fabric. Given its proximity to the hall, it most likely garaged domestic carts and buggies. Both buildings retain their historic character and have not been badly affected by modern activity.</p> <p>Monitoring works on a pipe trench and new Klargester unit around the barn found natural clay and sand deposits under modern overburden and no evidence of archaeological activity.</p>	
<p>Previous Summaries/Reports <i>The Malting at Little Canfield Hall: Historic Building Record & Archaeological Monitoring</i> (ASE rep. no.2014135); <i>Stables at Little Canfield Hall: Historic Building Record & Archaeological Monitoring</i> (ASE rep. no.2014138); <i>Tithe Barn at Little Canfield Hall: Historic Building Record</i> (ECC FAU rep. no. 2577); <i>The Bean Barn at Little Canfield Hall: Historic Building Record & Archaeological Monitoring</i> (ECC FAU rep. no. 2360).</p>	
Author of Summary: Andy Letch	Date of Summary: 14th August 2014

Appendix 3: OASIS Form

OASIS ID: archaeol6-183421

Project details

Project name	Essex Barn and Cart Lodge at Little Canfield Hall
Short description of the project	<p>In May 2014 Archaeology South-East carried out a historic building record and archaeological monitoring of an Essex Barn and Cart Lodge at Little Canfield Hall, Little Canfield, Essex, prior to residential conversion. The barn was probably built in the 17th century as a hay barn in the traditional Essex timber-framed and half-boarded form. In the late 19th or early 20th century the roof was replaced.</p> <p>The cart lodge dates to the late 19th century and has similar fabric. Given its proximity to the hall, it most likely served a domestic rather than agricultural function. Both retain their historic character and have not been badly affected by modern activity on the site. Prior to the survey being carried out they had been used for general storage purposes and for keeping modern farm vehicles and machinery. Monitoring works on a pipe trench and new Klargestor unit around the barn found natural clay and sand deposits under modern overburden to the east and south and no evidence of archaeological activity.</p>
Project dates	Start: 21-05-2014 End: 04-07-2014
Previous/future work	Yes / Yes
Any associated project reference codes	8183 - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	LCCH 14 – Site code
Type of project	Building Recording
Site status	None
Current Land use	Other 2 - In use as a building
Monument type	ESSEX BARN Post Medieval
Monument type	CART LODGE Post Medieval
Significant Finds	NONE None
Methods & techniques	"Survey/Recording Of Fabric/Structure"

Project location

Country	England
Site location	ESSEX UTTLESFORD LITTLE CANFIELD Little Canfield Hall
Study area	200.00 Square metres
Site coordinates	TL 58575 21920 51.8728024728 0.303735462963 51 52 22 N 000 18 13 E Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Archaeology South-East
Project brief originator	Essex County Council Place Services

Project design originator	Archaeology South-East
Project director/manager	Adrian Scruby
Project supervisor	Andy Letch
Type of sponsor/funding body	Client
Name of sponsor/funding body	Mrs Suzi Rea

Project archives

Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive recipient	Saffron Walden Museum
Digital Contents	"other"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography","Survey","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Saffron Walden Museum
Paper Contents	"other"
Paper Media available	"Photograph","Report"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Essex Barn and Cart Lodge at Little Canfield Hall
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Letch, A.
Other bibliographic details	rep no. 2014236
Date	2014
Issuer or publisher	ASE (Essex)
Place of issue or publication	Braintree, Essex
Description	Bound A4 level 3 report

Entered by	Andy Letch (a.letch@ucl.ac.uk)
Entered on	14 August 2014
