

**THE BYRE, MILTON STREET, POLEGATE,
EAST SUSSEX, BN26 5RW**

(NGR: 553461 104209)

HISTORIC BUILDING RECORD
(Historic England Level 3)



Commissioned by Mark Poland

**THE BYRE, MILTON STREET, POLEGATE,
EAST SUSSEX, BN26 5RW**

(NGR: 553461 104209)

HISTORIC BUILDING RECORD

(Historic England Level 3)

Commissioned by Mark Poland

Project no: 160764

Report ref: 2016376

Site code: BYR16

**Planning refs: SDNP/16/02592/FUL &
SDNP/16/02954/LIS**

HER ref: 467/16

OASIS ID: archaeol6-265966

Prepared by:	Amy Williamson	Senior Archaeologist	<i>A. Williamson</i>
Reviewed and approved by:	Ron Humphrey	Assistant Director	<i>R. Humphrey</i>
Date of Issue:	October 2016		
Revision:			

Archaeology South-East
Units 1 & 2
2 Chapel Place
Portslade
East Sussex
BN41 1DR

SUMMARY

In September 2016 Archaeology South-East (a division of the Centre for Applied Archaeology, UCL) carried out a programme of historic building recording (Historic England Level 3) of The Byre, Milton Street, Polegate, East Sussex. The work was commissioned by Mark Poland to satisfy a condition placed on planning consent (refs. SDNP/16/02592/FUL and SDNP/16/02954/LIS) concerning the conversion of the building to residential use.

The building was constructed c. 1800 as a cattle byre and is fortunate in that it retains many fixtures and fittings relating to its original function. Fragmentary remains of an earlier structure have been incorporated at the south end of the building, which appear to date to the 17th century; these, together with a nearby dovecot provide tangible evidence of the occupation of the site prior to the 18th century. A rudimentary shelter attached to the north end of the building is of little interest, although retains fragmentary remains of an enclosure noted on historical mapping which was augmented in the early 20th century structure to form an extension for additional livestock.

CONTENTS

Summary

List of Contents

List of Plates

List of Figures

1.0 Introduction

2.0 Scope and Methodology

3.0 Site Location

4.0 Historic Background

5.0 Description of the Building

6.0 Discussion

7.0 Sources Consulted

8.0 Deposition of the Archive

9.0 Acknowledgements

Plates

Figures

Appendix 1: Building List Description

Appendix 2: Photographic Archive

Appendix 3: OASIS Data Collection Sheet

LIST OF PLATES

Plate 1: East elevation of the building (1)

Plate 2: Variation in the wall construction, showing early fabric below and later fabric above (10)

Plate 3: South elevation of the building, showing early fabric contained within the lower portion. Note the blocked window towards the left-hand side (11)

Plate 4: West elevation of the building, showing the different materials used in its construction. Note the blocked opening towards the north end (18)

Plate 5: North elevation of the building (60)

Plate 6: Interior of the building, looking north-west (24)

Plate 7: Interior of the building, looking south (26)

Plate 8: Walling material of the earlier structure retained within the east wall of the present building (30)

Plate 9: Walling material of the earlier structure surviving beneath the window within the south wall of the present building (28)

Plate 10: View of the roof, looking south (56)

Plate 11: Hay-rack along the west side of the building. Note truncated stall-partition (44)

Plate 12: Detail of trough and hay-rack towards north end of the building. Note the blocked opening behind (51)

Plate 13: Detail of hay-rack. Note the brick ledge which is integral to the wall, thus indicating the hay-rack to be an original feature (49)

Plate 14: Harness-rack retained on east wall (38)

Plate 15: East elevation of northern shelter (5)

Plate 16: North wall of northern shelter, showing original enclosure walls at base, with later, probably early 20th century brickwork above (63)

Plate 17: West wall of northern shelter, showing original enclosure walls at base, with later brickwork (right) and timber mullions (left) above. Note the early/mid-20th century door to far left (62)

LIST OF FIGURES

- Figure 1 Site location
- Figure 2 Site plan
- Figure 3 Yeakell and Gardner map, 1778-1783
- Figure 4 Ordnance Survey draft map, c. 1800
- Figure 5 Estate map by William Figg, 1827
- Figure 6 Estate map, c. 1827
- Figure 7 Tithe map of Arlington, c. 1843
- Figure 8 Ordnance Survey map, 1874
- Figure 9 Ordnance Survey map, 1899
- Figure 10 Ordnance Survey map, 1909
- Figure 11 Ordnance Survey map, 1928
- Figure 12 Ordnance Survey map, 1977
- Figure 13 Existing floor plan, elevations and cross-section

1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In September 2016 Archaeology South-East (a division of the Centre for Applied Archaeology, UCL) carried out a programme of historic building recording (Historic England Level 3) of The Byre, Milton Street, Polegate, East Sussex (Figures 1 and 2; NGR 553461 104209). The work was commissioned by Mark Poland to satisfy a condition placed on planning consent (refs. SDNP/16/02592/FUL and SDNP/16/02954/LIS) concerning the conversion of the building to residential use.
- 1.2 The site is situated within an archaeological notification area defining the medieval and post-medieval hamlet of Milton. The building itself is Grade II listed (National Heritage List entry no. 1413905; Appendix 1) as a byre of probable early 19th century date which incorporates part of an earlier structure at its south-west corner.
- 1.3 In light of the nature of the building and the archaeological potential of the site, the South Downs National Park Authority has attached the following condition to planning consent:

Condition No. 3

No development shall take place until the applicant has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological works in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted by the applicant and approved by the Local Planning Authority. A written record of any archaeological works undertaken shall be submitted to the Local Planning Authority within 3 months of the completion of any archaeological investigation unless an alternative timescale for submission of the report is first agreed in writing with the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: To ensure that the archaeological and historical interest of the site is safeguarded and recorded to comply with the National Planning Policy Framework 2012 and the first Purpose of the National Park.

- 1.4 A brief issued for the work by East Sussex County Council set out the requirements for the work. In addition to historic building of the structure at Historic England Level 3 prior to its alteration, it is required that an archaeological watching-brief be carried out on any groundworks associated with the development. The results of the latter will be presented as a separate subsequent report.

2.0 SCOPE & METHODOLOGY

- 2.1 The scope of work and methodology for the building recording is detailed in a written scheme of investigation produced for the work by Archaeology South-East, dated October 2016. The work was also carried out in accordance with the relevant ClfA standards and guidance (ClfA 2014a & b) and the *Sussex Archaeological Standards* (2015).

- 2.2 The building was recorded to Historic England Level 3 as defined in *Understanding Historic Buildings: A guide to good recording practice* (Historic England 2016). A Level 3 record is essentially an analytical record.
- 2.3 The site was visited by Amy Williamson and Ron Humphrey on 23rd September 2016 in order to carry out the recording work. This entailed the compilation of written notes and the production of a photographic and drawn record.
- 2.4 The drawn record comprises a plan, cross-section and elevations of the building. These are based on existing measured drawings, which have been augmented and annotated where necessary. The resulting scaled drawings are included within the report as Figure 13.
- 2.5 The photographic record was made using high-quality digital photography. Within the report selected digital images have been reproduced as plates, together with a full index of the digital photography and location plots (Appendix 2). A full catalogue of all photographs is included in the archive.

3.0 SITE LOCATION

- 3.1 The hamlet of Milton Street site is situated to the eastern edge of the Cuckmere Valley, on the southern edge of the Low Weald of Sussex close to the scarp slopes of the South Downs. The site is located on the west side of Milton Street, the main road which runs in a north – south alignment through the hamlet.
- 3.2 The site historically formed part of Milton Street Farm, whose associated farmhouse and farm buildings survive to the south and west. It comprises the former cattle byre of the farmstead, which faces east onto the road. A path leads around the south side of the building to its associated rear plot which is occupied predominantly by a dried-up pond of the former farmstead, while an additional, heavily-overgrown plot, lies to the north. The farmstead is surrounded by agricultural/pastoral fields.

4.0 HISTORIC BACKGROUND

- 4.1 The surviving buildings of Milton Street farmstead are ostensibly of 18th/19th century construction, including the farmhouse which is listed as being of 18th century date (National Heritage List entry no. 1353291; Appendix 1). Nevertheless, earlier occupation on the site is evidenced by the associated dovecot (National Heritage List entry no. 1043325) which is listed as being of 17th century or earlier date, while the building forming the subject of this survey also incorporates part of an earlier structure at its southern end (Appendix 1).
- 4.2 The earliest map to show occupation of the site is Yeakell and Gardner's map of Sussex (Figure 3), dated 1778-1783. Although it is drawn at an insufficient scale to accurately depict the individual buildings on the site, a group of three buildings is shown demonstrating that the farmstead had been established prior to the late 18th century. It is tempting to identify the northernmost structure with

the byre or its predecessor, although this cannot be confirmed with certainty. The farmstead is labelled Milton Court.

- 4.3 The Ordnance Survey draft map of c. 1800 (Figure 4) represents the site at a similar scale to the previous map, but appears to show four structures, one of which is located in the approximate position of the byre.
- 4.4 By 1827, when the estate was mapped by William Figg (ESRO ref. GWY 5/1/1; Figure 5), the farmstead was known as Milton Street Farm and amounted to 247 acres. The farmstead (Parcel 8) is identified as 'House Buildings Yards &c' with 'Orchards' to the north, and 'Running Field' to the west; the surrounding agricultural and pastoral fields are depicted by the use of different mapping conventions. The map shows the individual buildings in a much more useful level of detail than previous maps, including the farmhouse, dovecot and other ancillary structures. The extant barn is shown fronting the road to the south of the entrance to the farmstead, while the byre is shown to the north. To the rear of the byre there is a large pond which at that date extended right up to the building. To the north of the pond and byre is a small enclosure which is shaded differently – presumably the farmstead's kitchen garden/hop garden.
- 4.5 An undated map (ESRO ref. ACC 3412/2/46; Figure 6) showing the estate held by a Mrs Thomas, must date to around the same time as the William Figg map as it shows little variation in either the buildings or land plotted, or the ownership of the adjoining properties. The exception is that the landholding shown is smaller than that represented on the Figg map so perhaps slightly predates it, since the additional lands shown on the Figg map continued to form part of the estate when it was recorded for the purposes of tithe apportionment (see below). The map portrays the farmstead in much the same way as the other map, although provides a slightly greater level of detail in terms of the building footprints, yard enclosures and positioning of gates. The byre is shown with a small enclosure adjoining its north end.
- 4.6 The tithe map of Arlington (ESRO ref. TD/E51; Figure 7) is undated, although the accompanying award is dated 1843. It shows the farmstead in much the same way as the two previous maps. At that date the farm was owned by Nicholas Willard and occupied by James Hallett.
- 4.7 The ensuing sequence of Ordnance Survey mapping (Figures 8-12) portrays a relatively constant picture. The 1874 map (Figure 8) records the addition of the extant cart shed/granary to the south of the barn plus the construction of a few small ancillary structures scattered around the farmstead; however the byre continues to be shown as before, with the pond extending as far as its rear wall and a small enclosure at its north end. The enclosed garden located beyond is shown with a formal path encircling it. By 1909 (Figure 10), the northern half of the enclosure at the north end of the byre had gained a small structure within it; this continued to be shown on the 1928 map (Figure 11).

5.0 DESCRIPTION OF THE BUILDING

Exterior

- 5.1 The building comprises a north – south aligned single storey range with a rudimentary shelter attached at its north end. Its wall construction is predominantly of coursed field flints, with brick quoins forming the building's corners, and window and door openings. Unless otherwise stated, the brickwork is orange in colour and includes a substantial quantity of over-fired headers; the average brick dimensions are 220-230mm x 105-110mm x 65mm. The roof has hipped terminals and a slate covering.
- 5.2 The east elevation fronts directly onto Milton Street (Plate 1). It contains a full-height double-width doorway positioned off-centre to the south, north of which is an unglazed window closed by a modern timber shutter hung on iron pintels. The window's original pegged timber frame survives, but now contains two replacement diamond mullions. The doorway contains a pair of modern boarded doors and its jambs have clearly been reworked in modern times; however, it is possible that it may preserve the position of an earlier doorway, or perhaps another window matching that adjacent. North of the doorway, the wall includes a mid-height brick lacing course. To the south of the doorway, but at a higher level, there is a similar lacing course, although here it marks a differentiation in the building's fabric: the flintwork above being of the same date as that to the north of the entrance; the flintwork below being of more tightly-bonded split flints laid in rough courses (Plate 2). The associated brick quoining at the corner of the building is clearly of earlier date, being duller in colour than that elsewhere and measuring on average 210-230mm x 100-110mm x 50-55mm: a 17th century date would seem likely.
- 5.3 The early fabric extends at the same height for almost the whole width of the south elevation, indicating that the corner of a pre-existing structure was incorporated into the present building (Plate 3). The early fabric terminates just short of the south-west corner, where it seems to have been truncated since there is no original quoining surviving to indicate this was its original extent. To the east, there is a single doorway which seems to be original to the 17th century structure as its jambs are formed of early bricks at the lower level. It contains a modern boarded door which matches those elsewhere, but also contains an unglazed over-light set with diamond mullions, presumably replicating its previous form. A similar unglazed window set with modern diamond mullions is set off-centre to the west within the later fabric. Below it and to the west, the early fabric contains a slightly smaller window with chamfered brick jambs, which has been infilled with brickwork, possibly at the same time the structure was rebuilt.
- 5.4 The rear (west) wall of the building is more varied in its construction than the front (Plate 4), although there is no reason to think this has any significance in terms of phasing, more a result of utilising whatever materials happened to be at hand during construction. The lower third of the wall is of similar construction to the front, being of coursed field flints, and has a slight off-set at its base. The middle third is of a rather haphazard combination of brick and flint, a technique

known locally as 'bungaroosh'. The upper third is of brickwork laid essentially in a raking English garden wall bond. The elevation is largely featureless except at its north end, where there is an original (?) door opening whose threshold lies some distance above the present external ground level (Plate 4). Beyond this is a further full-height doorway opening which is probably a later insertion, but which could not be inspected fully at the time of the survey as it was obscured by vegetation and modern cladding. At this end of the building, the roof is pierced by a small roof-light.

- 5.5 The north elevation of the building is visible from within northern addition (Plate 5). It comprises coursed field flints with a brick lacing course at the mid-height. It contains a window similar to that surviving at the sound end of the building, although here it retains an early frame which has not been subject to modern repair.

Interior

- 5.6 The interior forms a single space which is open to the roof (Plates 6 and 7). It has a worn, cobbled floor with a shallow drainage gully positioned just off-centre to the east, running down its length. A small, discrete area of brick pavements survives at the north-east corner of the building. The walls are generally formed of a mixture of coursed flints and bungaroosh, although at the south end, in the location of the earlier structure, the east wall contains an area of coursed sandstone and chalk/clunch blocks (Plate 8), while the south wall is formed of a less regular mixture of flint, brick and stone (Plate 9). The walls have a limewash finish, a common feature of buildings used for housing animals.
- 5.7 The roof is of good quality, regular, sawn softwood. It is of double-framed type, having principal trusses carrying a common rafter roof over a single purlin in each roof pitch (Plate 10). The principal trusses, of which there are three, each comprise a straight tie-beam from which a joggled king-post supports a pair of raking struts, which in turn extend to the principal rafters. The purlins are supported over the backs of the principal rafters on cleats, and the common rafters meet at a ridge-board at the apex. The construction utilises a mixture of traditional jointing and pegging, as well as iron – in the form of bolted stirrup-straps securing the king-posts to the tie-beams, and straps attaching the tie-beams to the wall-plates. There is no obvious carpentry marking.
- 5.8 Evidence of the building's function as a cattle byre survives in the form of fragmentary timber feeding troughs and a hay-rack positioned along the west wall (Plates 6, 7, 11 and 12). The troughs and hay-rack are original features – the troughs being secured by timber supports housed within sockets in the walls, while the hay-rack is supported on a ledge formed by a course of bricks set at right angles within the wall (Plate 13). There has nevertheless been some historical modification or repositioning of these fixtures, since the surviving section of feeding trough towards the north end of the building, together with the hay-rack, block the original opening at this end (Plate 12). The surviving sections of feeding trough are accompanied by timber stall partitions; these have been truncated, although the positions of former partitions can be traced within the floor. The troughs and stall partitions also retain several iron tethering rings.

The hay-rack is constructed in several sections: at the join of two of the sections it is possible to see a pair of neatly-chiselled 'III' carpentry marks. No others were observed at the time of the survey. On the opposite wall, there survives a timber harness-rack which would have been used to hang the harnesses for the draught oxen (Plate 14).

Northern shelter

- 5.9 The enclosure at the northern end of the building is largely of modern construction. Externally, most of the structure is obscured by vegetation, with the exception of the front (east) elevation which is formed by a pair of double-width doorways which contain modern boarded doors (Plate 15). Internally, it is clear that the lower parts of the north and west walls are of a similar mixture of flint and brick construction to the main building, and survive as remnants of the enclosure noted on the early mapping (Figure 6). The north wall has been extended upwards in brickwork (Plate 16), as has the northern half of the west wall (Plate 17) – this coincides with the extent of the structure noted on the 1909 and 1928 maps (Figures 10 and 11). The remainder of the space above the west wall has been enclosed by a series of timber mullions. At the far south end, there is a doorway which retains a boarded and ledged door of early / mid-20th century type. The floor is covered with brick pavements; these seem to extend into the northern half of the structure, but this has latterly been covered with a concrete screed. The floor within the southern half has an east – west aligned drain. The roof structure is entirely modern: over the southern half it is flat, while over the northern half it is gently pitched.

6.0 DISCUSSION

- 6.1 Constructed c. 1800 as a cattle byre, the building is a fortunate survival of a specific agricultural building type. Although open-fronted cattle shelters are common survivals of farmsteads of the late 18th/19th centuries, buildings purpose-built for the housing of draught oxen are few and far between, particularly those that retain evidence for their original function, in this case feeding troughs, hay-rack and harness-rack. Sussex cattle were highly regarded for their abilities as draught animals and were selectively bred for the purpose. It is thought that the turn of the 19th century was the period when the numbers of Sussex cattle bred in the Weald reached its peak, a phenomenon which seems to have declined by the middle of the 19th century (Boxall nd, 18-19): amongst other reasons it seems to have been the case that their popularity waned in favour of using horses for farm labour (*ibid.* 23). Despite this, there are references to Sussex cattle in the Lewes area continuing to be used as draught animals into the early 20th century.
- 6.2 Although there have been some alterations, the basic configuration of the building remains unaltered. There was a series of six stalls arranged along the west side of the building, the effluent from which would have drained into the gully within the floor. Beyond the gully was a passage, entered through the extant door at the south end of the building. The three original window openings reflect the then newly-recognised need for the provision of adequate light and

ventilation for cattle, although the blocked opening on the west side of the building is of obscure purpose.

- 6.3 The fragmentary remains of the earlier structure incorporated at the south end of the building appear to date to the 17th century, which together with the dovecot situated beyond the pond to the west, provide tangible evidence of the occupation of the site prior to the 18th century. Beyond this however, few details relating to the form and nature of this early structure can be recreated.
- 6.4 The rudimentary modern shelter attached to the north end of the building is of little interest, although retains fragmentary remains of the enclosure noted on historical mapping. The early 20th century structure inserted within its northern half partially survives, and represents an extension to accommodate additional livestock, probably cattle.

7.0 SOURCES CONSULTED

ASE, 2016. *The Byre, Milton Street, Polegate, East Sussex, BN6 8TS: Historic Building Recording and Archaeological Watching-Brief Written Scheme of Investigation.*

Boxall, J. P., nd. *The Sussex Breed of Cattle in the Nineteenth Century.*
<http://www.bahs.org.uk/AGHR/ARTICLES/20n1a2.pdf>
Accessed: 13.10.16

ClfA, 2014a. *Standard and guidance for the archaeological investigation and recording of standing buildings or structures.*

ClfA, 2014b. *Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives.*

Historic England, 2015. *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment.*

Historic England, 2016. *Understanding Historic Buildings: A Guide to Good Recording Practice.*

National Heritage List
<https://historicengland.org.uk/>
Accessed: 12.10.16

WSSC, ESCC & CDC, 2015. *Sussex Archaeological Standards*

8.0 DEPOSITION OF THE ARCHIVE

A full archive will be produced intended for deposition with a suitable local museum/record office (Eastbourne Museum / The Keep, Falmer) under the site code BYR16. The archive will be prepared according to the principles of Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE) (Historic England 2015) and the requirements of the recipient museum/record office. The archive will comprise a hard copy of the full report, a pdf version of the report on CD, the full photographic record with registers, field notes and drawings. A copy will also be submitted to ESCC to be added to the Historic Environment Record.

9.0 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeology South-East would like to thank Mark Poland for commissioning this report, and the kind assistance of the staff at The Keep, Falmer.



Plate 1: East elevation of the building (1)



Plate 2: Variation in the wall construction, showing early fabric below and later fabric above (10)



Plate 3: South elevation of the building, showing early fabric contained within the lower portion. Note the blocked window towards the left-hand side (11)



Plate 4: West elevation of the building, showing the different materials used in its construction. Note the blocked opening towards the north end (18)



Plate 5: North elevation of the building (60)



Plate 6: Interior of the building, looking north-west (24)



Plate 7: Interior of the building, looking south (26)

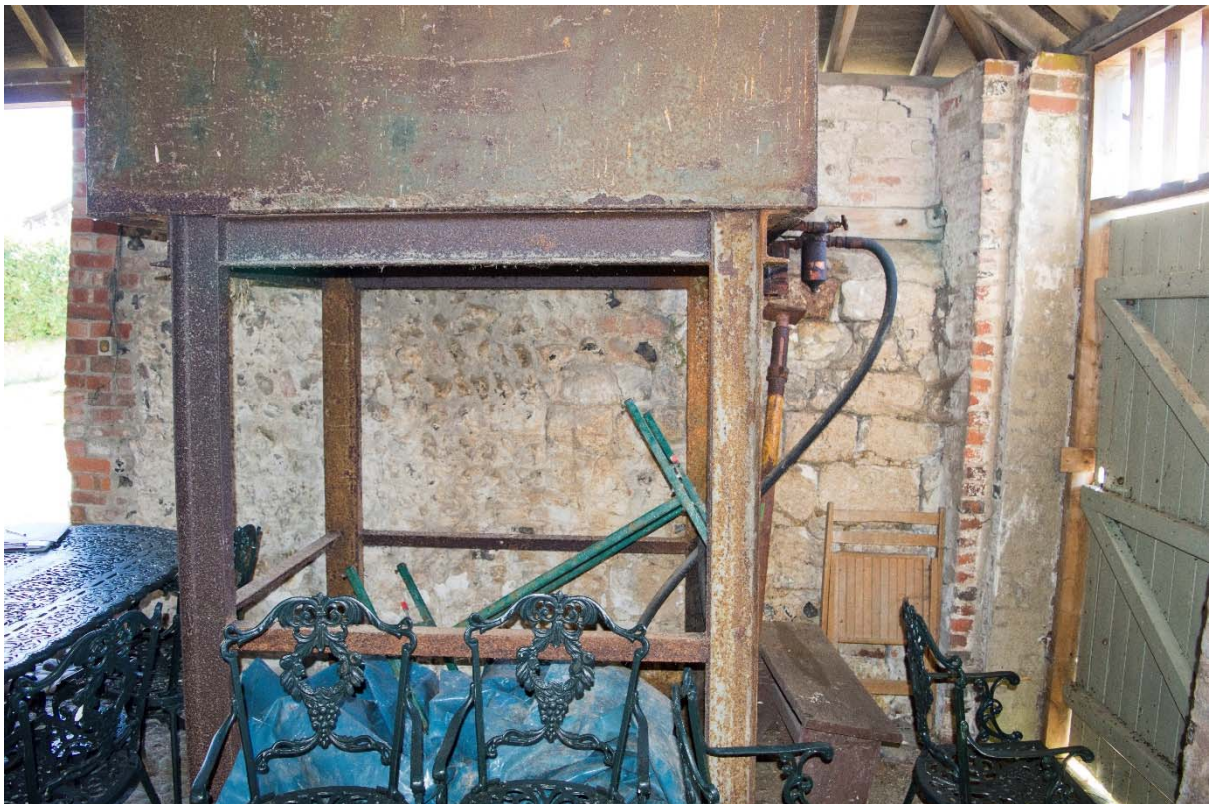


Plate 8: Walling material of the earlier structure retained within the east wall of the present building (30)



Plate 9: Walling material of the earlier structure surviving beneath the window within the south wall of the present building (28)



Plate 10: View of the roof, looking south (56)



Plate 11: Hay-rack along the west side of the building. Note truncated stall-partition (44)



Plate 12: Detail of trough and hay-rack towards north end of the building. Note the blocked opening behind (51)



Plate 13: Detail of hay-rack. Note the brick ledge which is integral to the wall, thus indicating the hay-rack to be an original feature (49)



Plate 14: Harness-rack retained on east wall (38)



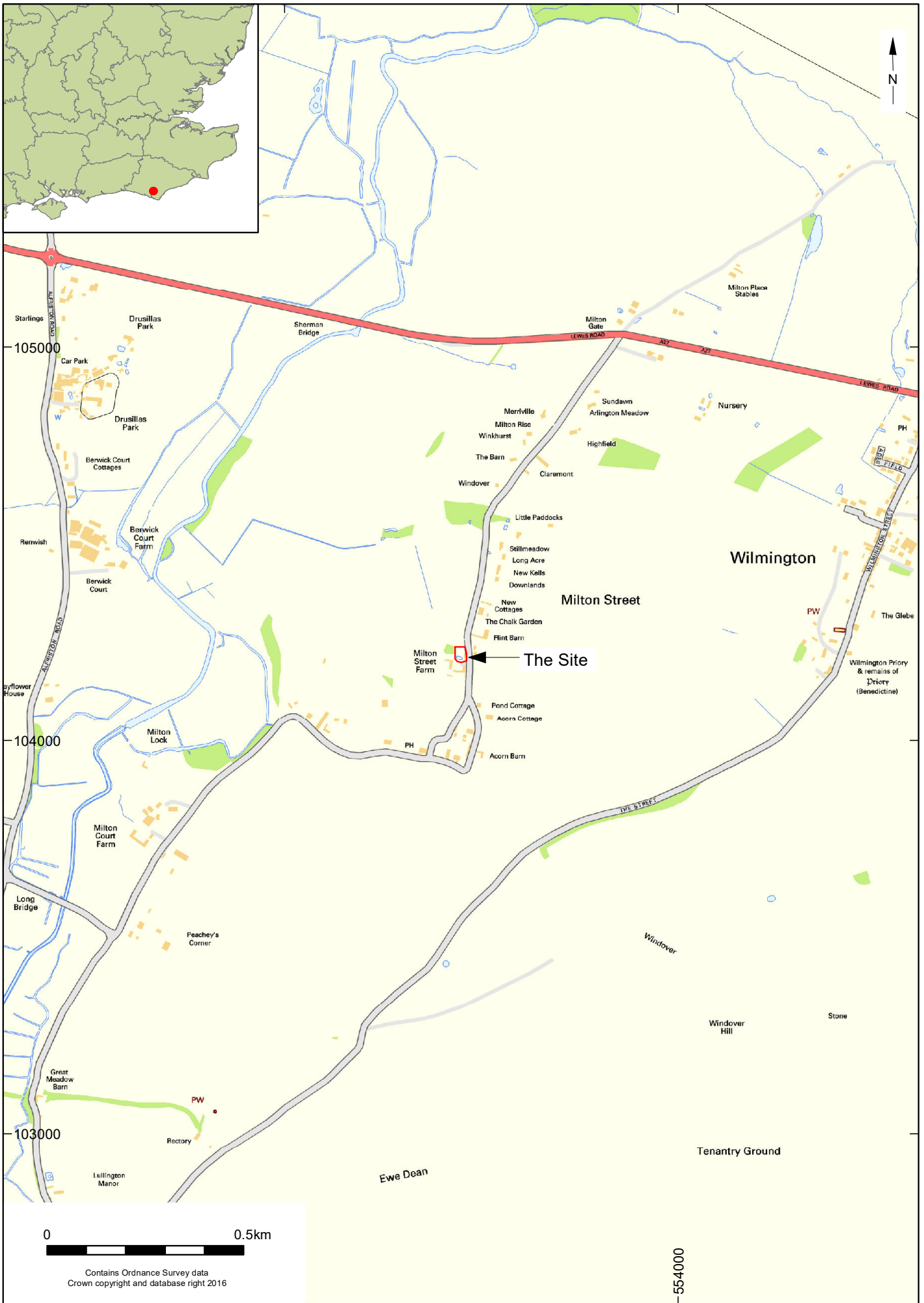
Plate 15: East elevation of northern shelter (5)



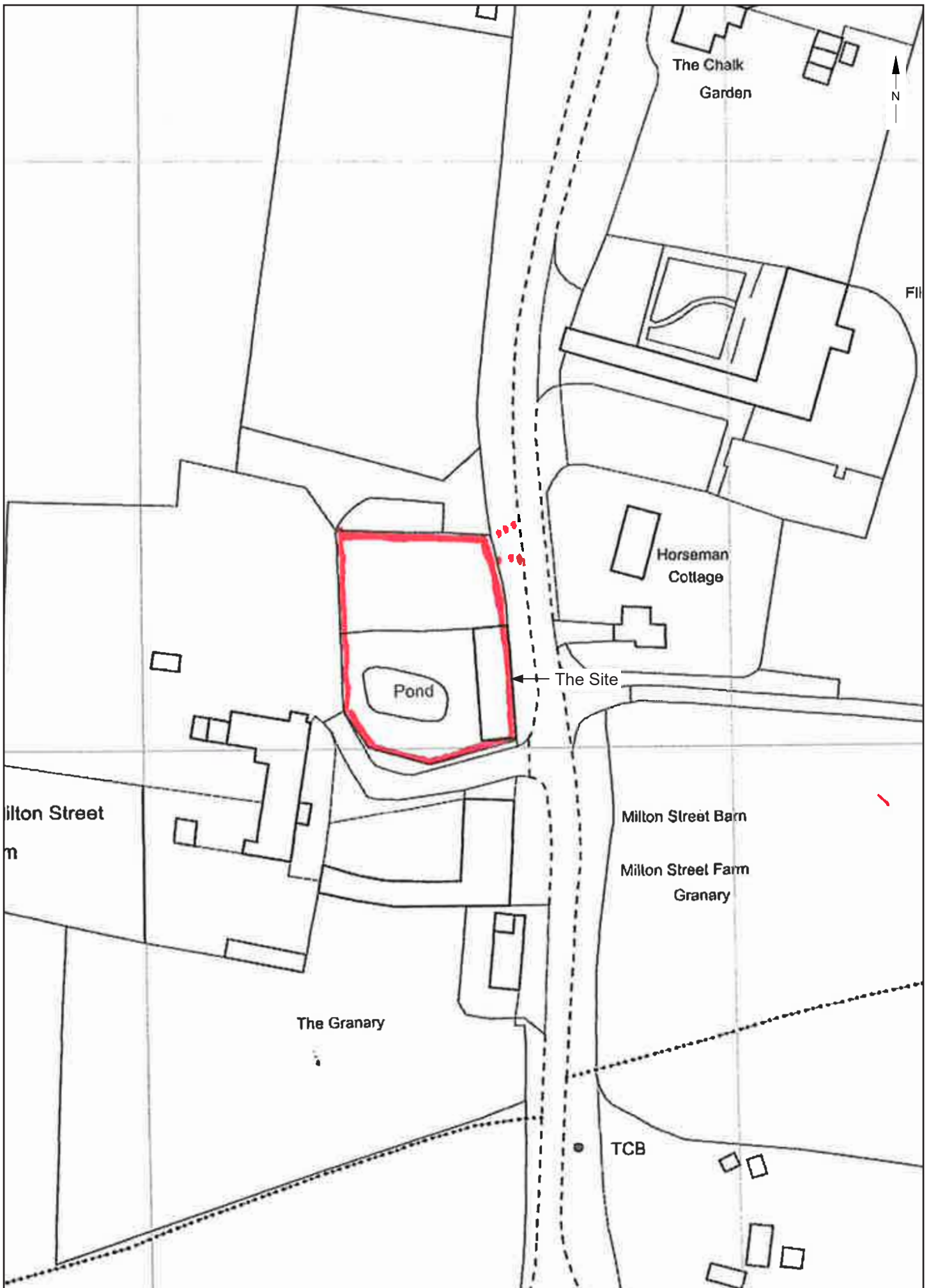
Plate 16: North wall of northern shelter, showing original enclosure walls at base, with later, probably early 20th century brickwork above (63)



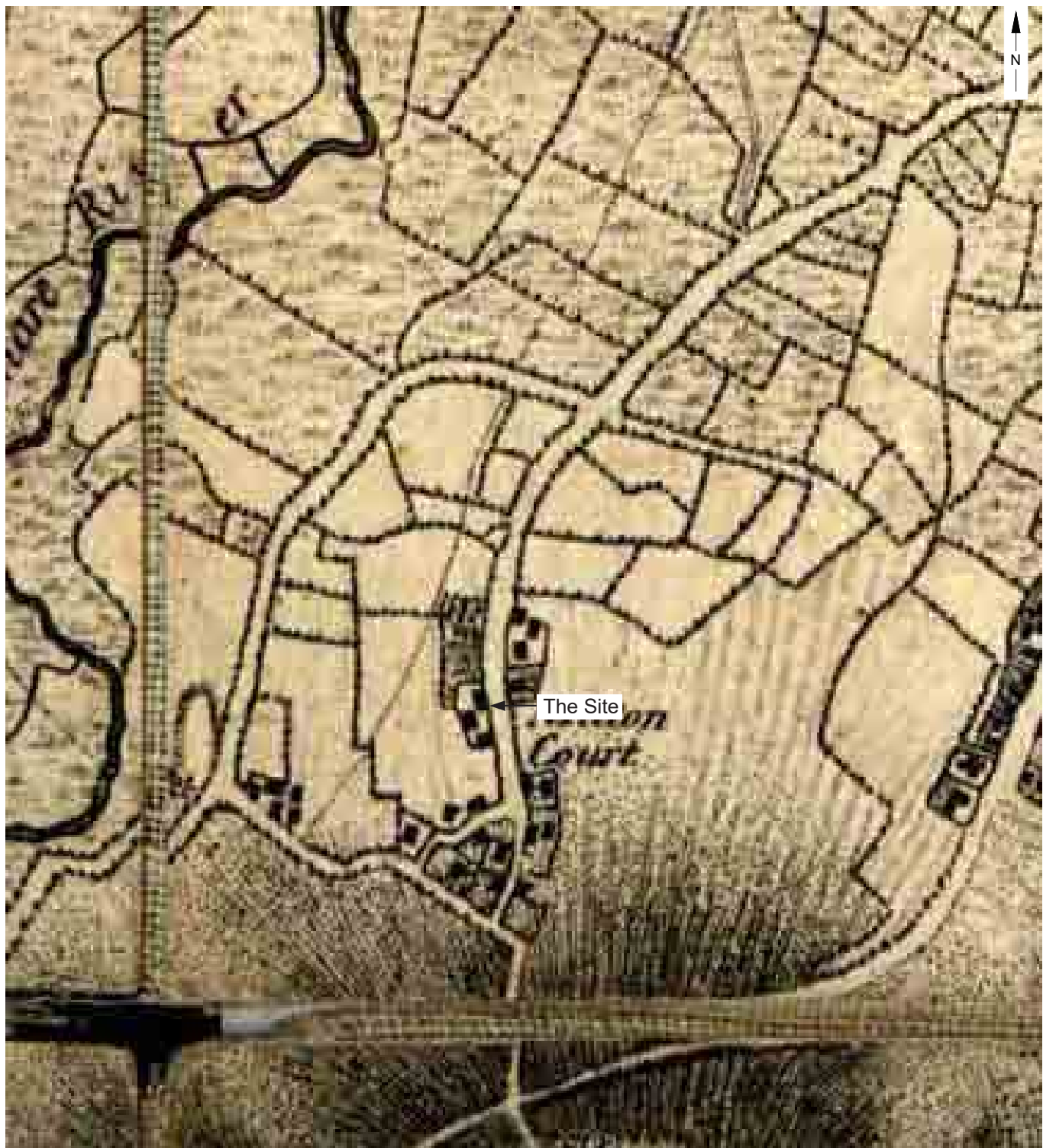
Plate 17: West wall of northern shelter, showing original enclosure walls at base, with later brickwork (right) and timber mullions (left) above. Note the early/mid-20th century door to far left (62)



© Archaeology South-East		The Byre, Milton Street	Fig. 1
Project Ref: 160764	Oct 2016	Site location	
Report Ref: 2016376	Drawn by: JLR		



© Archaeology South-East		The Byre, Milton Street	Fig. 2
Project Ref: 160764	Oct 2016	Site plan	
Report Ref: 2016376	Drawn by: JLR		



© Archaeology South-East		The Byre, Milton Street, Polegate	Fig. 3
Project Ref: 160764	October 2016	Yeakell and Gardner map, 1778-1783	
Report Ref: 2016376	Drawn by: AW		



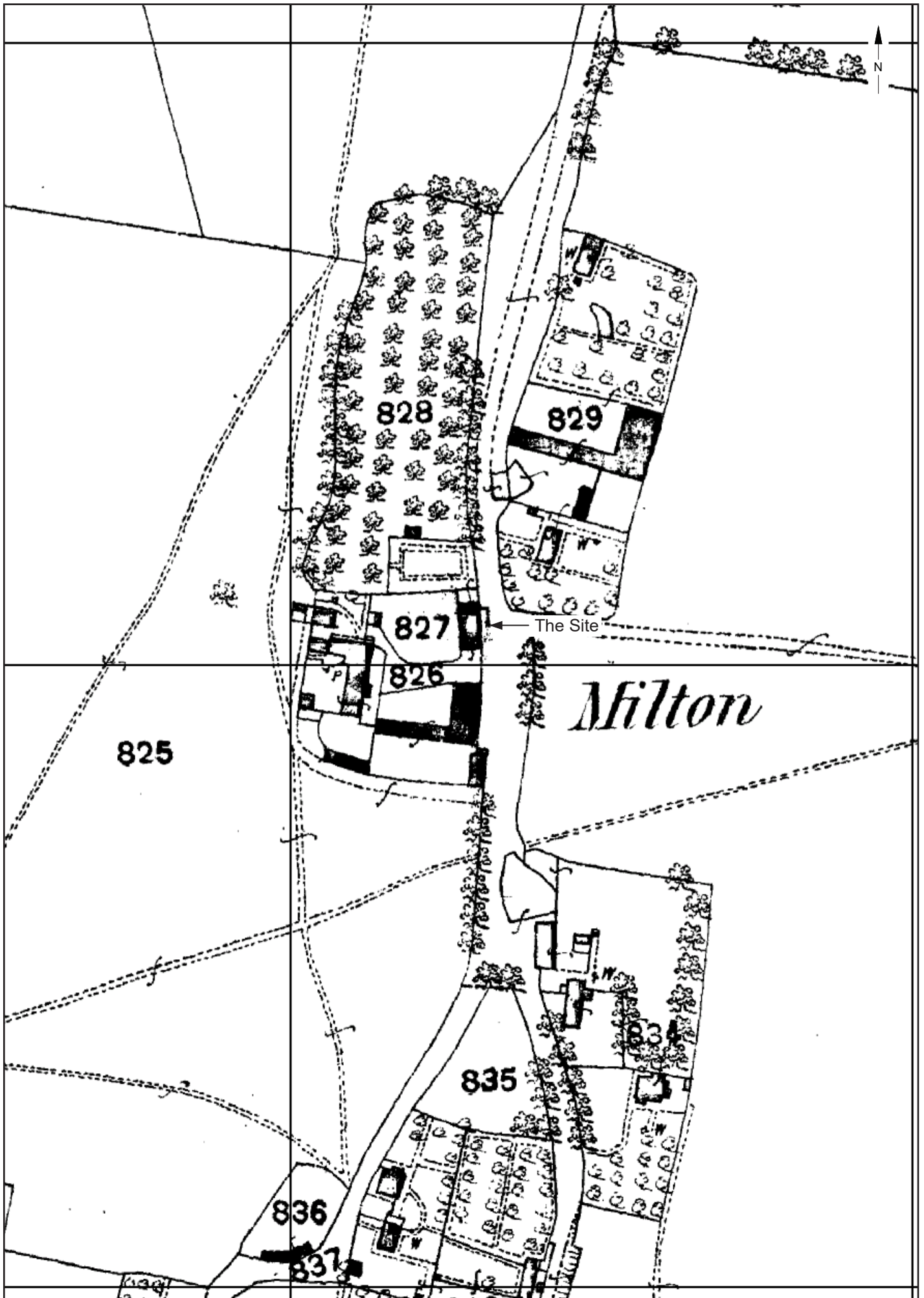
© Archaeology South-East		The Byre, Milton Street, Polegate	Fig. 4
Project Ref: 160764	October 2016	Ordnance Survey draft map, c. 1800	
Report Ref: 2016376	Drawn by: AW		



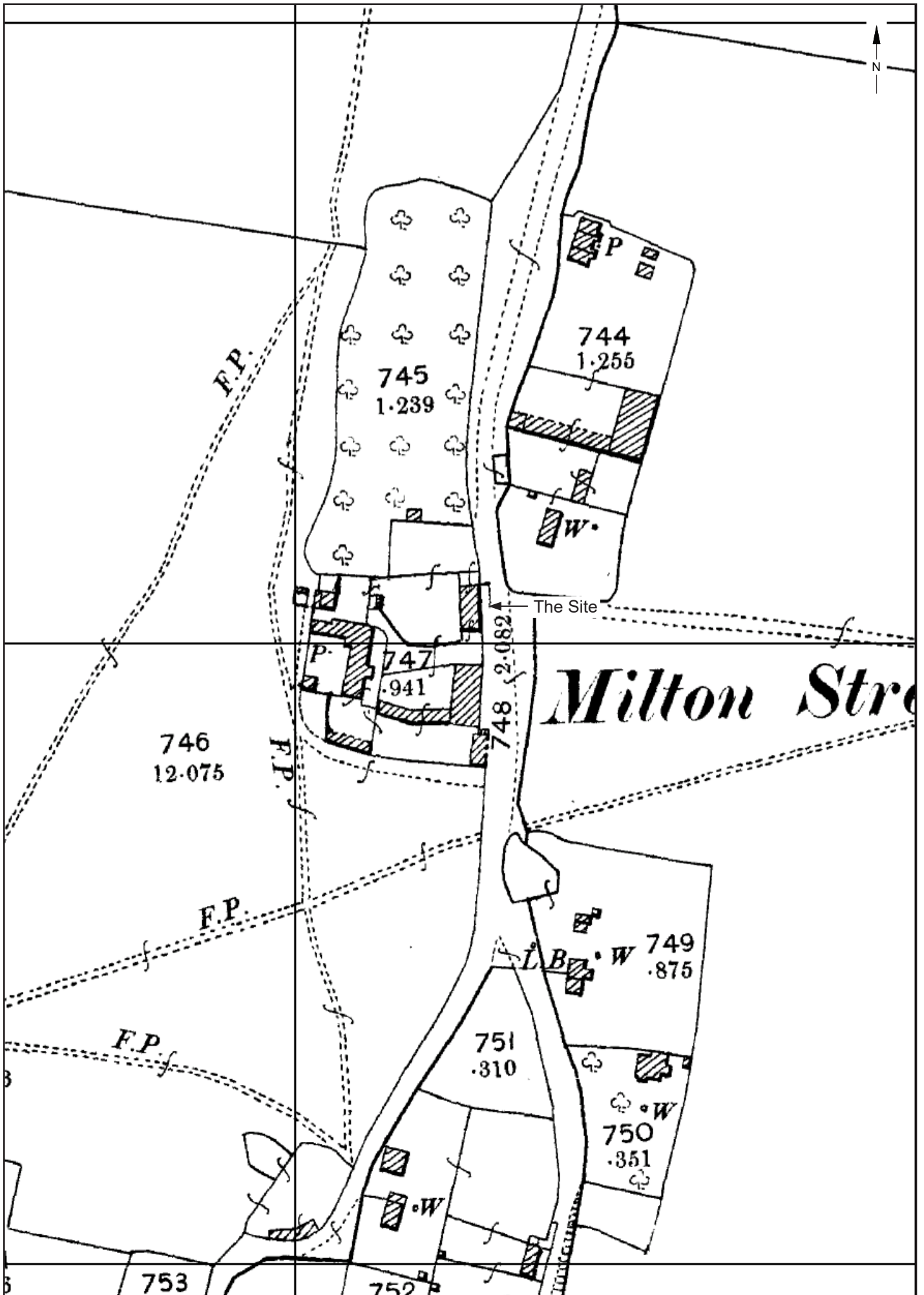
© Archaeology South-East	The Byre, Milton Street, Polegate	Fig. 5
Project Ref: 160764	October 2016	
Report Ref: 2016376	Drawn by: AW	
Estate map by William Figg, 1827		



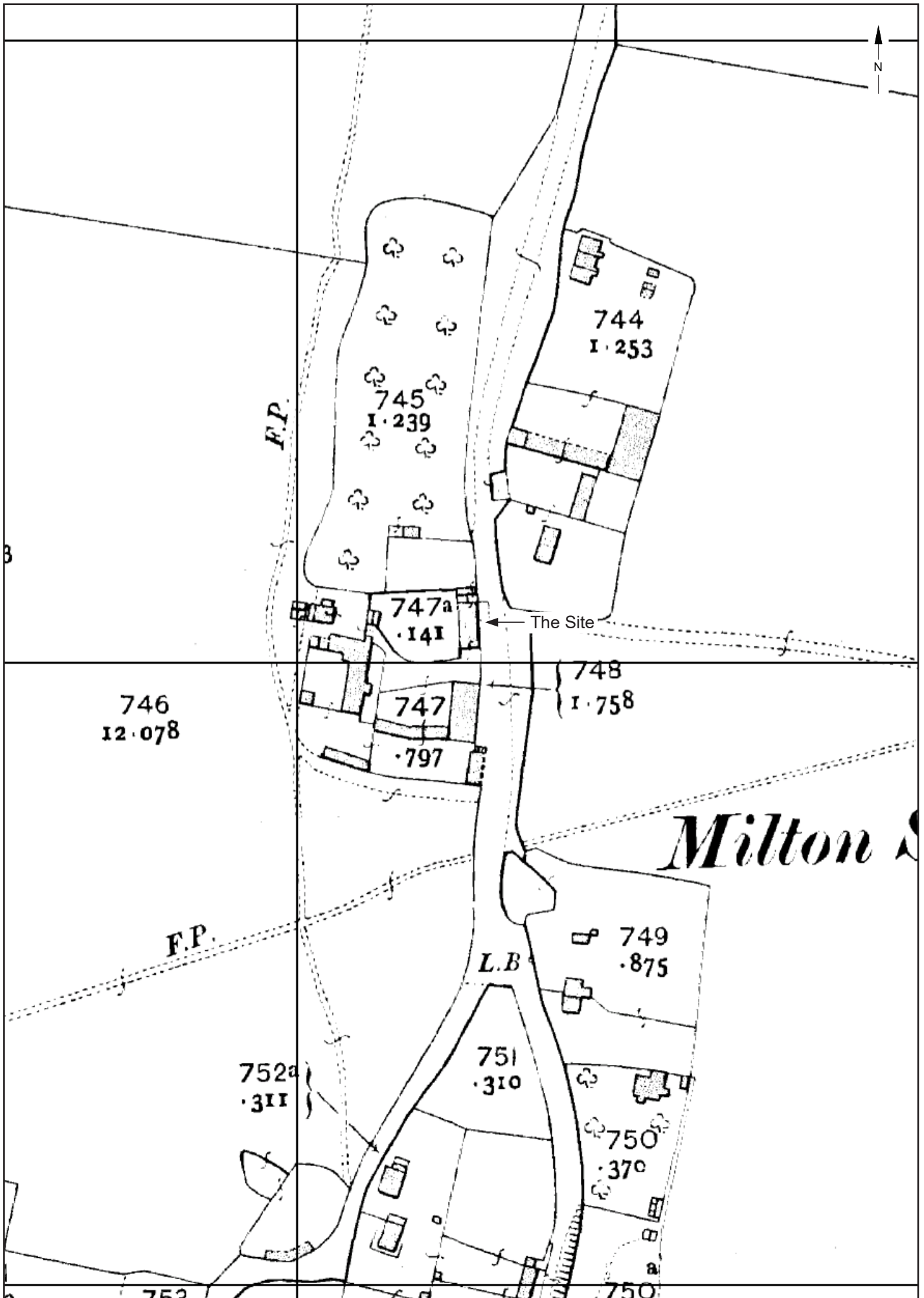
© Archaeology South-East		The Byre, Milton Street, Polegate	Fig. 7
Project Ref: 160764	October 2016	Tithe map of Arlington, c. 1843	
Report Ref: 2016376	Drawn by: AW		



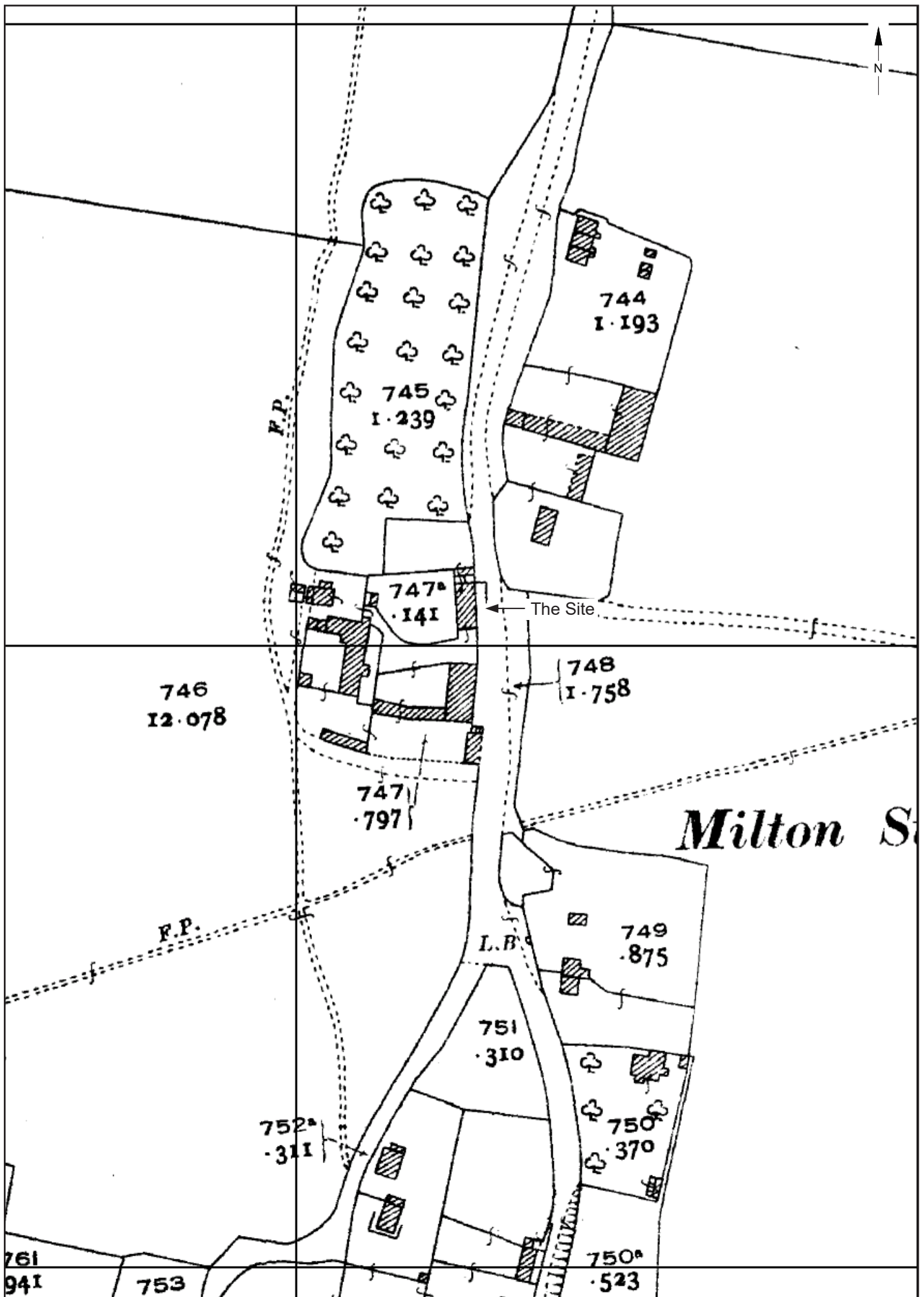
© Archaeology South-East		The Byre, Milton Street, Polegate	Fig. 8
Project Ref: 160764	October 2016	Ordnance Survey map, 1874	
Report Ref: 2016376	Drawn by: AW		



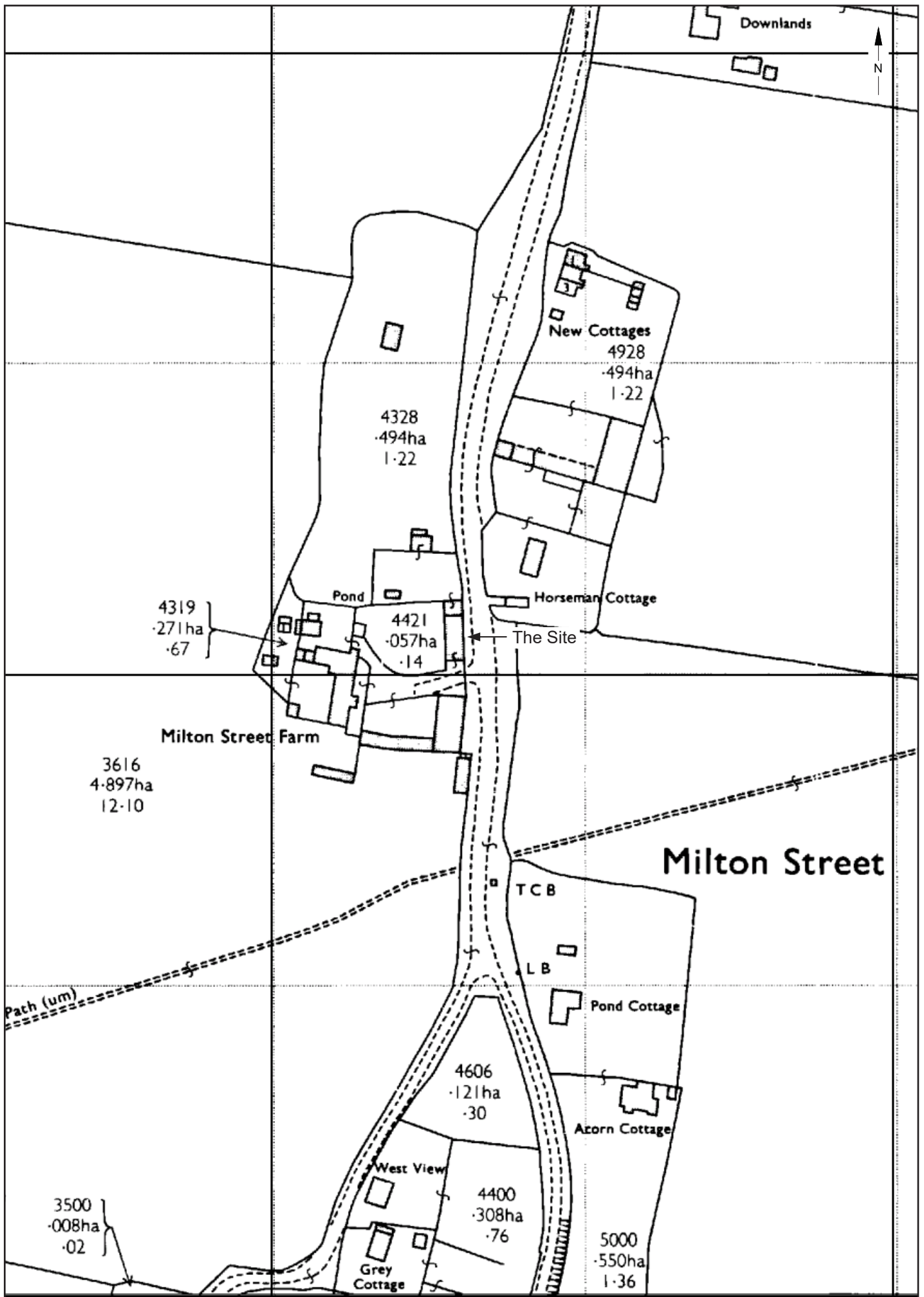
© Archaeology South-East		The Byre, Milton Street, Polegate	Fig. 9
Project Ref: 160764	October 2016	Ordnance Survey map, 1899	
Report Ref: 2016376	Drawn by: AW		



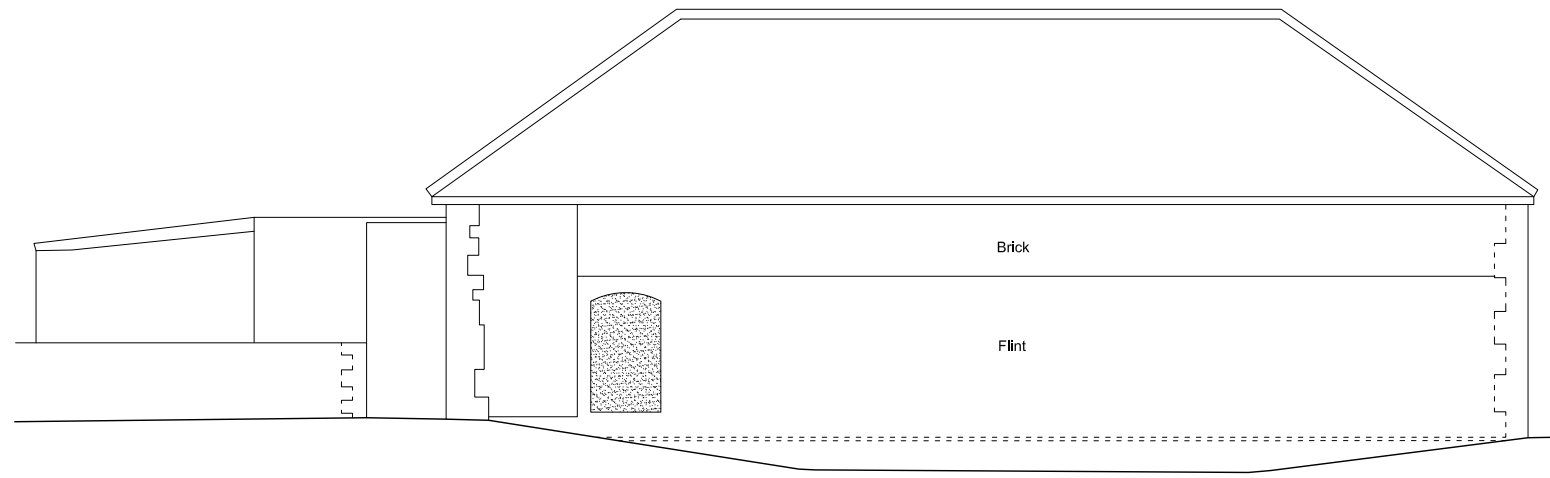
© Archaeology South-East		The Byre, Milton Street, Polegate	Fig. 10
Project Ref: 160764	October 2016	Ordnance Survey map, 1909	
Report Ref: 2016376	Drawn by: AW		



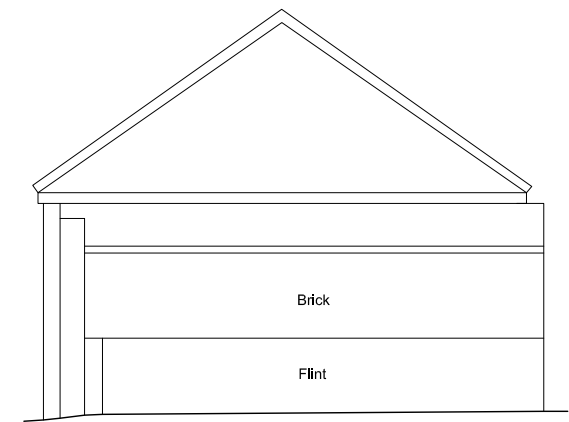
© Archaeology South-East		The Byre, Milton Street, Polegate	Fig. 11
Project Ref: 160764	October 2016	Ordnance Survey map, 1928	
Report Ref: 2016376	Drawn by: AW		



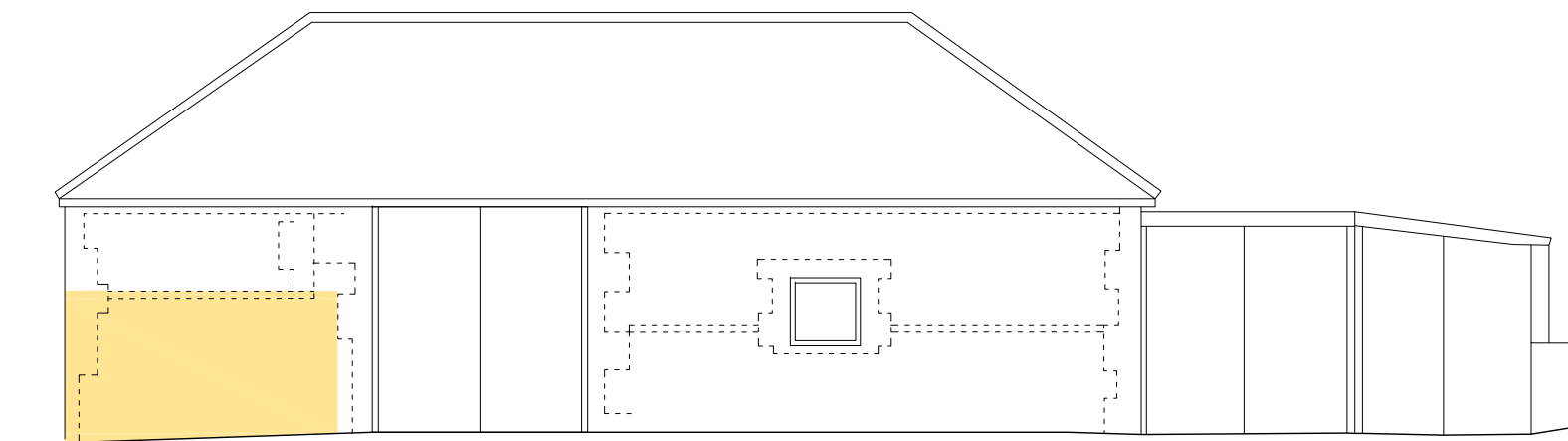
© Archaeology South-East		The Byre, Milton Street, Polegate	Fig. 12
Project Ref: 160764	October 2016	Ordnance Survey map, 1977	
Report Ref: 2016376	Drawn by: AW		



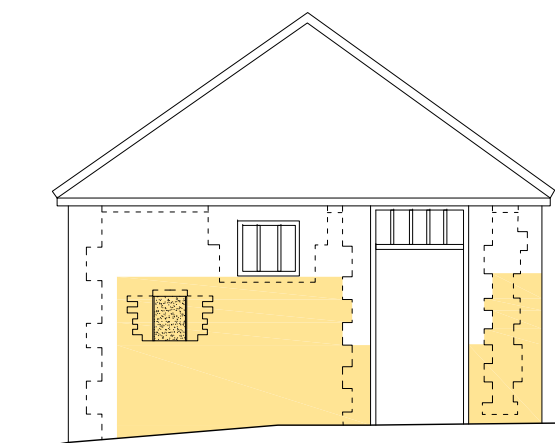
WEST ELEVATION



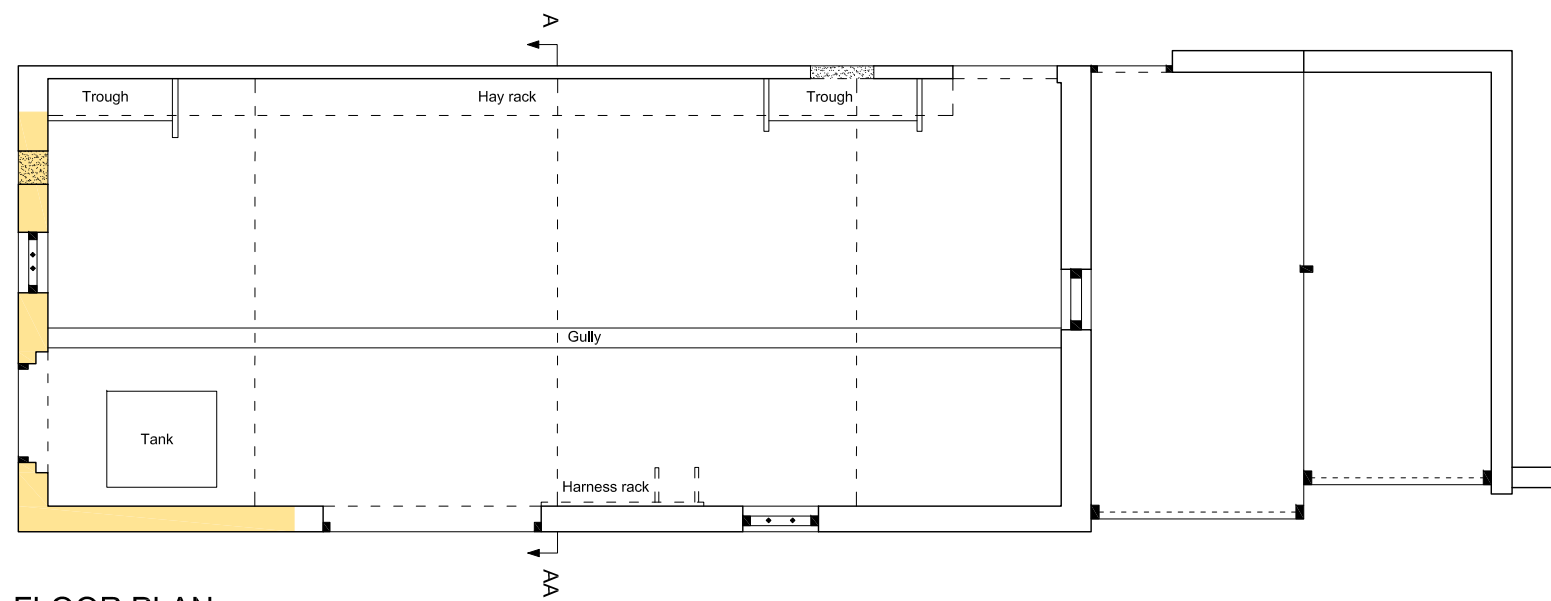
NORTH ELEVATION



EAST ELEVATION



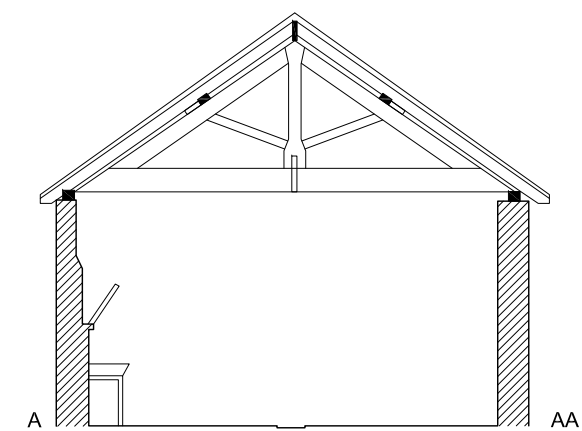
SOUTH ELEVATION



FLOOR PLAN



Surviving extent of earlier structure



CROSS-SECTION

Appendix 1: Building List Description

Name: The Byre, Milton Street
List entry Number: 1413905

Location

Milton Street Farmhouse, Milton Street, Polegate, Polegate, BN26 5RW
The building may lie within the boundary of more than one authority.
County: East Sussex
District: Wealden
District Type: District Authority
Parish: Long Man
National Park: SOUTH DOWNS
Grade: II
Date first listed: 03-Apr-2013
Date of most recent amendment: Not applicable to this List entry.

Asset Groupings

This list entry does not comprise part of an Asset Grouping. Asset Groupings are not part of the official record but are added later for information.

List entry Description

Summary of Building

Byre, early C19.

Reasons for Designation

The Byre, Milton Street, is listed at Grade II for the following principal reasons: * Architectural interest: an early C19 farm building constructed of local materials in a variety of local flints (rough, knapped or interspersed with bricks) which survives substantially intact; * Interior features: the interior retains a wooden feeding rack along the whole length of the back wall and a wooden feeding trough below it. There are vestiges of stall partitions, two large wooden harness hooks and a cobbled floor; * Rarity of building type: it is likely to have housed a plough team of oxen; such teams survived in use longer on the South Downs than in other areas; * Group value and landscape setting: part of a farmstead of medieval origins of which the farmhouse and dovecote are already listed. The farmstead is highly visible with the South Downs National Park.

History

This building was formerly a byre belonging to Milton Street Farm. The farmhouse dates from 1450 and belonged to the Dumbrell Family until the C21. The byre is situated to the north-west of the farmhouse adjoining Milton Street and is north of the former barn and granary to the farm.

For a time the farm was occupied by the painter, biographer and collector Sir Roland Penrose (1900-1984) and his wife the famous model and war photographer Lee Miller. Picasso visited the house in the 1960s.

The byre is shown on the First Edition 25 inch Ordnance Survey map of 1874 to its present extent and on subsequent editions without any change in outline.

In the early C21 The Byre became separately owned from the farmhouse.

Details

DATE: the building was probably mainly constructed in the early C19 but incorporates some earlier fabric in its south west corner. External doors and some window mullions were replaced in the early C21.

MATERIALS: it is constructed of flint, knapped and unknapped, with red brick quoins and slate roof.

PLAN: it is a single-storey three-bay structure.

EXTERIOR: the east or entrance front has off-central ledged and braced wooden double doors and a cambered opening with a wooden pegged architrave and wooden shutters further north. The wall north of the double doors has rough flints with a single brick course halfway up. The wall to the south of the double doors has knapped flint up to two thirds of the height, then a course of red brick and above that knapped flints. The southern corner has some earlier two-inch bricks and a flat stone possibly reused from a local medieval site. The south wall has a wooden pedestrian entrance at the eastern end and a high level opening with restored mullions. The lowest third of the west side is constructed of knapped flints. Above is a section constructed with alternate upended brick stretchers flanked by knapped flints. The top section has a number of courses of brickwork laid mainly in English garden wall bond. There is a blocked opening to the north. The north side is mainly concealed by a wooden lean-to addition.

INTERIOR: the roof is a C19 kingpost roof of three bays with clasped purlins and iron ties. There is a wooden feeding rack along the whole length of the west wall and a wooden feeding trough below it at the north end. There are vestiges of three wooden stall partitions and some gaps in the feeding rack indicate that there may have been three other stall partitions originally. The east wall contains two large projecting wooden hooks probably for hanging harnesses. The floor is cobbled.

Selected Sources

None.

National Grid Reference: TQ5346004211

Appendix 2 Index of Digital Photographs



BYR16-0001



BYR16-0002



BYR16-0003



BYR16-0004



BYR16-0005



BYR16-0006



BYR16-0007



BYR16-0008



BYR16-0009



BYR16-0010



BYR16-0011



BYR16-0012



BYR16-0013



BYR16-0014



BYR16-0015



BYR16-0016



BYR16-0017



BYR16-0018



BYR16-0019



BYR16-0020



BYR16-0021



BYR16-0022



BYR16-0023



BYR16-0024



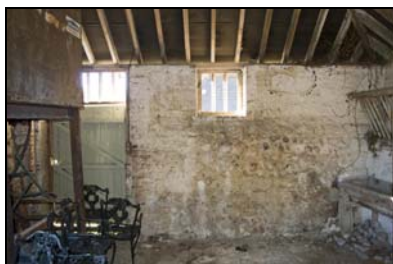
BYR16-0025



BYR16-0026



BYR16-0027



BYR16-0028



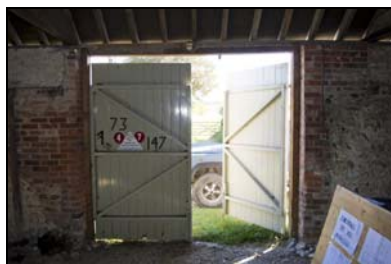
BYR16-0029



BYR16-0030



BYR16-0031



BYR16-0032



BYR16-0033



BYR16-0034



BYR16-0035



BYR16-0036



BYR16-0037



BYR16-0038



BYR16-0039



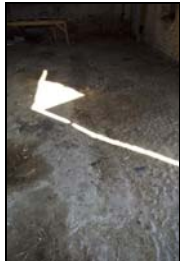
BYR16-0040



BYR16-0041



BYR16-0042



BYR16-0043



BYR16-0044



BYR16-0045



BYR16-0046



BYR16-0047



BYR16-0048



BYR16-0049



BYR16-0050



BYR16-0051



BYR16-0052



BYR16-0053



BYR16-0054



BYR16-0055



BYR16-0056



BYR16-0057



BYR16-0058



BYR16-0059



BYR16-0060



BYR16-0061



BYR16-0062



BYR16-0063



BYR16-0064



BYR16-0065



BYR16-0066



BYR16-0067



BYR16-0068



BYR16-0069



BYR16-0070



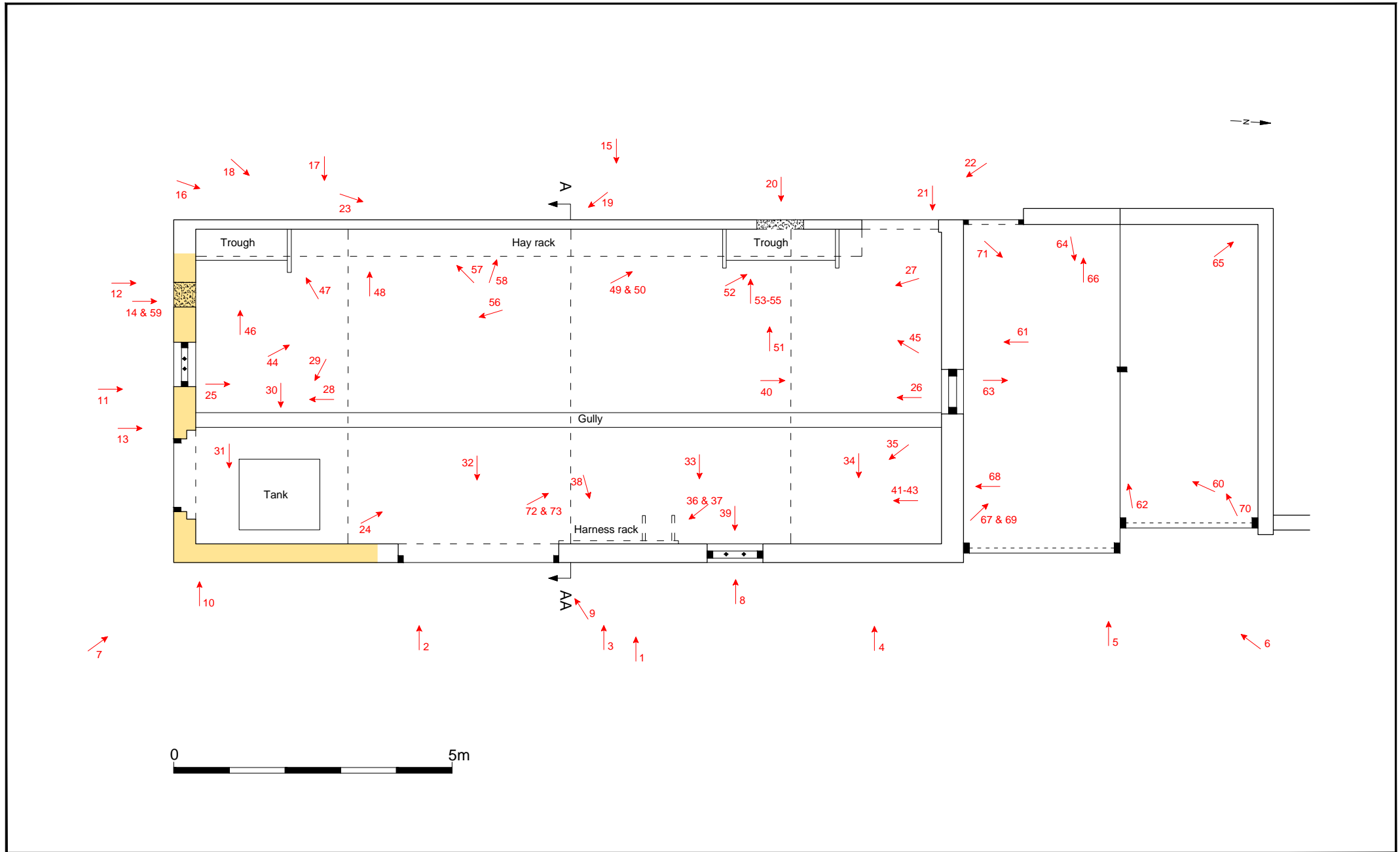
BYR16-0071



BYR16-0072



BYR16-0073



© Archaeology South-East		The Byre, Milton Street, Polegate	App. 2
Project Ref: 160764	Oct 2016	Photograph locations	
Report Ref: 2016376	Drawn by: AW		

Appendix 3 OASIS Data Collection Sheet

OASIS ID: [archaeol6-265966](#)

Project details

Project name	The Byre, Milton Street, Polegate
Short description of the project	In August 2016 Archaeology South-East (a division of the Centre for Applied Archaeology, UCL) carried out a programme of historic building recording (Historic England Level 3) of The Byre, Milton Street, Polegate, East Sussex. The work was commissioned by Mark Poland to satisfy a condition placed on planning consent (refs. SDNP/16/02592/FUL and SDNP/16/02954/LIS) concerning the conversion of the building to residential use. The building was constructed c. 1800 as a cattle byre and is fortunate in that it retains many fixtures and fittings relating to its original function. Fragmentary remains of an earlier structure have been incorporated at the south end of the building, which appear to date to the 17th century; these, together with a nearby dovecot provide tangible evidence of the occupation of the site prior to the 18th century. A rudimentary shelter attached to the north end of the building is of little interest, although retains fragmentary remains of an enclosure noted on historical mapping which was augmented in the early 20th century structure to form an extension for additional livestock.
Project dates	Start: 23-09-2016 End: 19-10-2016
Previous/future work	No / Yes
Any associated project reference codes	BYR - Sitecode
Any associated project reference codes	160764 - Contracting Unit No.
Type of project	Building Recording
Site status	Listed Building
Current Land use	Other 2 - In use as a building
Monument type	CATTLE BYRE Post Medieval
Significant Finds	NONE None
Significant Finds	NONE None

Project location

Country	England
Site location	EAST SUSSEX WEALDEN LONG MAN The Byre, Milton Street
Postcode	BN26 5RW
Study area	1200 Square metres
Site coordinates	553461 104209 553461 00 00 N 104209 00 00 E Point
Lat/Long Datum	Unknown

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Archaeology South-East
Project brief originator	East Sussex County Council
Project design originator	Archaeology South-East
Project director/manager	Ron Humphrey

Project supervisor Amy Williamson
Type of sponsor/funding body private client

Project archives

Physical Archive Exists? No
Digital Archive recipient Eastbourne Museum
Digital Archive ID BYR16
Digital Media available "Images raster / digital photography","Images vector","Text"
Paper Archive recipient Eastbourne Museum
Paper Archive ID BYR16
Paper Media available "Drawing","Notebook - Excavation',' Research',' General Notes","Photograph","Plan","Report"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title The Byre, Milton Street, Polegate, East Sussex, BN26 5RW
Author(s)/Editor(s) Williamson, A.
Other bibliographic details 2016376
Date 2016
Issuer or publisher Archaeology South-East
Place of issue or publication Portslade
Description A4 heat-bound volume

Entered by Amy Williamson (amy.williamson@ucl.ac.uk)
Entered on 19 October 2016

Sussex Office

Units 1 & 2
2 Chapel Place
Portslade
East Sussex BN41 1DR
tel: +44(0)1273 426830
email: fau@ucl.ac.uk
www.archaeologyse.co.uk

Essex Office

27 Eastways
Witham
Essex
CM8 3YQ
tel: +44(0)1376 331470
email: fau@ucl.ac.uk
www.archaeologyse.co.uk

London Office

Centre for Applied Archaeology
UCL Institute of Archaeology
31-34 Gordon Square
London WC1H 0PY
tel: +44(0)20 7679 4778
email: fau@ucl.ac.uk
www.ucl.ac.uk/caa

