#### ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOLUTIONS LTD

# CLAVERING HALL BARNS, CLAVERING, ESSEX

## HISTORIC BUILDING RECORDING

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NGR: TL 47615 30815	Report No. 3481
District: Uttlesford	Site Code: CVCH10
Approved: Claire Halpin MIFA	Project No. 3534
Signed:	Date: February 2010

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#### **OASIS SUMMARY SHEET**

Project details	
Project name	Clavering Hall Barns, Clavering, Essex. Historic Building Recording
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#### Summary

In January 2010 Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) carried out a programme of historic building recording at Clavering Hall Barns, Clavering, Essex (NGR TL47615 30815). The historic building recording was carried out to comply with a planning condition to convert the existing agricultural buildings to residential use.

The assessment found that the main barn and associated dairy were constructed at the same time as the farm-house and other buildings - most probably in the second quarter of the 19th century as part of a model-farm arrangement. The partially open-fronted Drovers' Barn to the north was added at the end of the 19th century. The main barn remains in good condition and remarkably little altered from its original concept, being constructed of brick with a timber-framed yard elevation, complete with cosmetic midstreys and low outshuts for storage, workshops and use as cart-sheds. The associated dairy range is also contemporary, and originally combined open-fronted bays for cart-sheds with partitioned storage cells, though latterly most of the building was consolidated, enclosed and then divided again for dairy use.

Project dates (fieldwork)	28 <sup>th</sup> January	/ 2010				
Previous work (Y/N/?)	N	Future	e work (Y/N/?)	?		
P. number	3534	Site c	ode	CVCH	110	
Type of project	Historic Buil	ding Re	ecording	•		
Site status	Grade II liste	ed build	lings			
Current land use	Agricultural	building	gs			
Planned development	Convert agr	icultura	l buildings to res	idential	use	
Main features (+dates)	19 <sup>th</sup> century	farm b	uildings			
Significant finds (+dates)	-					
Project location						
County/ District/ Parish	Essex		Uttlesford		Clavering	
SMR for area	Essex County Council Historic Environment Branch					
Post code (if known)	-					
Area of site	-	-				
NGR	TL 47615 30	0815				
Height AOD (max/ min)	90m – 95m	AOD				
Project creators						
Brief issued by	Essex Coun	ty Coul	ncil Historic Envi	ronmen	t Branch	
Project supervisor/s (PO)	L Smith, L F	Prosser				
Funded by	De Vere Ho	mes Lir	mited			
Full title	Clavering Hall Barns, Clavering, Essex. Historic Building					
	Recording					
Authors	Prosser, L. Smith, L. Tweedie, H.					
Report no.	3481					
Date (of report)	February 2010					

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#### Summary

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#### 1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In January 2010 Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) carried out a programme of historic building recording at Clavering Hall Barns, Clavering, Essex (NGR: TL 47615 30815; Figs 1 -2). The work was commissioned by De Vere Homes Limited. The historic building recording was carried out to comply with a planning condition to convert the existing agricultural buildings to residential use (Planning Ref. UTT/1040/07, UTT1041/07/LB).
- 1.2 The work was conducted according to a specification and written scheme of investigation prepared by AS (dated 11<sup>th</sup> June 2009), and a brief issued by Essex County Council Historic Environment Management Team (June 2009). The recording was carried out to Level 3 as defined by English Heritage in 'Understanding historic buildings: a guide to good recording practice, 2006'. The works followed the Institute of Field Archaeologists' 'Standard and guidance for the archaeological investigation and recording of standing buildings or structures' (IFA, revised 2001).
- 1.3 Planning Policy Guidance Note 15 'Planning and the Historic Environment' (PPG15) and Note 16 'Archaeology and Planning' (PPG16) issued by the former Department of the Environment in 1994 protects the historic environment and listed buildings from unsympathetic change or uncontrolled alteration and guides

policy towards safeguarding fabric and setting as far as is possible. These guidelines have been adopted widely by local authorities.

- 1.4 The objectives of the project are set out in the brief, specification and the IFA and English Heritage guidance documents. These are:
  - Archaeological recording of the existing buildings in advance of conversion and any additional recording/research necessary to place these findings in the context of the site as a whole;

The objectives of the Building Recording were:

- To compile a high quality record of the structures identified for conversion, with analysis and interpretation of those structures in conjunction with an associated documentary survey.
- To provide a review of the local and regional historical context of the structures recorded by the project. It will be adequately detailed to place the findings of the archaeological recording in context.
- To produce a high quality, fully integrated archive suitable for long-term deposition in order to 'preserve by record' the structures proposed for alteration at Clavering Hall Barns, prior to the alteration.

## 2 DESCRIPTION OF THE SITE (Figs 1 & 2)

2.1 The existing complex at Clavering Hall Barns is a planned or 'model' farmstead dating from the first years of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The buildings sit in isolation in flat open country to the south of the village of Clavering, adjoining Stortford Road. The farm comprises the Grade II Listed farm house (not part of the assessment) and a range of agricultural buildings including a barn, former dairy and partly open vehicle shed adjoining to the north. Modern buildings are represented by a steel and cement milling barn.

#### 3 METHODOLOGY (historical and archaeological research)

#### 3.1 Archaeological databases

3.1.1 The standard collation of all known archaeological sites, chance finds and historic landscape features in Essex is the Essex Historic Environment Record (HER). The HER database was searched for all known entries within a *c*. 1km radius of the assessment site (Fig 3). Where relevant, entries have been discussed in Section 4.2.

#### 3.2 Cartographic and primary documentary sources

3.2.1 The principal source for maps and historic documents was Essex Record Office. All available material regarding the site was consulted and is listed in Appendix 2. Where relevant, these sources have been discussed in Sections 4.2-3 and reproduced in Figs. 4-8.

#### 3.3 Secondary sources

3.3.1 The principal sources of secondary material were Essex Record Office and AS's own reference library. All sources used have been referenced in the appendices and bibliography.

#### 3.4 Geological/ geotechnical information

3.4.1 Information was compiled from appropriate maps published by the Geological Survey of Great Britain and the Soil Survey of England and Wales (SSEW 1983).

#### 3.5 The building

- 3.5.1 The site was visited on the 28<sup>th</sup> January 2010 in order to undertake the technical analysis, drawing and photographic work. Lee Prosser and Lisa Smith compiled the written descriptions and carried out the photographic recording. Kathren Henry completed the drawing work. Floor plans, sections and an elevation based upon drawings provided by the client are included with annotations (Figs. 9-12).
- 3.5.2 The photographic recording was conducted using medium format (4.5cm x 6cm) black and white film and included all external views and general internal shots. This utilised a Zenza Bronica ETRS camera and Ilford HP5 IOS 400 120mm film. Colour photographs were taken using a Canon 1000D (10 megapixels) digital camera, duplicating the black and white photography. Architectural detail was captured using 35mm black and white film. Supplementary colour photography used 35mm Ektachrome transparency. External lighting and weather conditions were good at the time of the survey. A scale was used wherever possible, and a flash was employed for internal shots. A pictorial index of the digital photography and selected colour plates are included below together with location plots (Fig. 2, 9 & 12)

#### 4 PHYSICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

### 4.1 Topography, geology and soils

- 4.1.1 Clavering Hall Farm lies on the eastern side of Stortford Road, approximately 1 km to the south of the village of Clavering and to the north-east of the village of Berden. The local landscape slopes gently eastwards towards the river Stort, and lies at a height of c.90m AOD.
- 4.1.2 The solid geology of the site is London Clay; a grey-blue clay with interbedded silt and silty sand (BGS 1978). This is overlain by soils of the Hanslope association, which is characterised by slowly permeable calcareous clayey soils, with some slowly permeable non-calcareous clayey soils (SSEW 1983).

### **4.2** Archaeological and historical background (Fig. 3)

- 4.2.1 The earliest recorded occupation in the area dates to the Bronze Age. During the construction of Berden Wesleyan Chapel *c*.1.25km to the south-east, a Bronze Age extended inhumation with a beaker was recovered (HER 3863). No evidence of associated settlement has been discovered to date. Other prehistoric evidence includes a crop-mark of a ring ditch *c*.1.25km to the south of the site, which might represent a prehistoric round barrow (HER 46430). To the immediate east (*c*. 0.85km) of Clavering Hall, Iron Age and Roman remains have been recovered (HER 3933). Some Iron Age C-type pottery was recovered alongside a hard grey copy of a Gallo-Belgic platter, late Roman ledge-rimmed bowls and a bronze brooch.
- 4.2.2 Clavering Caste (HER 113), which is designated as a Scheduled Ancient Monument, is thought to be one of the castles to which the French party of Edward's court fled in 1052, meaning that the castle predates the Norman Conquest. Its remains today consist of a rectangular enclosure 150m east-west and 100m north-south, whose arms are *c*.26m wide and 5m deep, while the irregularity of the surface within the moat suggests the presence of foundations. Local tradition suggests that a bridge crossed the moat at the northern side of the site, where a probable Anglo-Saxon inhumation and other bones have been recorded.
- 4.2.3 The Domesday Book of 1086 records Clavering as belonging to Swein, and rendering to him 25 shillings a year. Within a 1km radius of the site, no archaeological remains are recorded until the later medieval period. Within the village a number of properties are listed as being of special historical or architectural significance, including 1-5 Church Walk; a set of late 15<sup>th</sup> century timber-framed buildings which were probably formerly almshouses (HER 35682) and Great Spenders farm which is recorded as early as 1327 in the possession of John Spendour (HER 46431). Moated homesteads are also located at Cranes

Farm, associated with the family of Hugh le Crane and documented as early as 1272 (HER 7504), and a second at Curls, believed to be associated with the family of Peter Curl, which is mentioned in documentary sources dating from the early 15<sup>th</sup> century onwards. The moat surrounds a 17<sup>th</sup> century farmhouse (HER 3902).

- 4.2.4 During the post-medieval period Clavering expanded considerably, as indicated by many historic buildings (HER 35750, 35484, 35483, 35482, 35480, 35684, 35683, 35734, 35752). Within close proximity to the site a number of undated crop-marks have been recognised, including several sub-rectangular enclosures (HER 4021, 19832), ring ditches (HER 19809, 19812, 19808) and the remains of former field boundaries (HER 19565, 46361).
- 4.2.5 Clavering Hall Farm comprises the farm house and two ranges of farm buildings, known as the barn and dairy, framing an open yard. The farmhouse is Grade II listed (Appendix 4) and was built by John Guillemard to replace the former manorial farm at The Bury. The buildings were formerly more extensive. A third range closed the yard along the road frontage, but has been demolished. The buildings are typical, early examples of the leap in agrarian development known as the 'High Farming' tradition. John Spencer, farmer at Clavering Hall, was among those supporting a prize system created by the local agricultural society to reward faithful workers (Cooper 2003).

#### 4.3 Cartographic Sources

#### 4.3.1 Chapman & Andre

(Fig. 4)

Chapman and Andre's map of 1777 is the earliest cartographic source to depict the area of Clavering and Clavering Hall Farm in any detail. The map shows no development along Stortford Road and it is clear that the area remained undeveloped at this time.

#### 4.3.2 Clavering Tithe Map 1840

(Fig. 5)

The Tithe map of 1840 is the first cartographic source to depict the site in any detail. The map shows the farm and its existing buildings, including the third, now demolished range along the road frontage to the west. The site was then owned by John Guillemarde and occupied by John Spencer (see Appendix 3) with many of the surrounding plots.

# **4.3.3** 1<sup>st</sup> Edition Ordnance Survey 1877 (Fig. 6)

By 1877 the first edition Ordnance Survey map shows that the existing pair of workers' cottages had been constructed opposite the farm on the west side of the road. The farm itself had been extended to the east to incorporate the out-

building seen on previous sources but otherwise little change is discernible. Due to its larger scale, the landscaped gardens to the south of Clavering Hall can be seen in greater detail with ornamental paths and a large number of trees.

#### 4.3.4 Ordnance Survey Map 1897

(Fig. 7)

The 1897 Ordnance Survey map depicts minor alterations. The farmyard has been divided into two halves by the construction of additional buildings or pens running northwest-southeast across the centre of the farmyard. Drovers barn, located to the north of the main complex is now featured and a second workers cottage and an associated outbuilding has been constructed along the western side of Stortford road.

#### 4.3.5 Ordnance Survey 1985

(Fig. 8)

The Ordnance Survey map from 1951 (consulted but not reproduced) shows no obvious changes to the layout at Clavering Hall Farm though between 1951 and 1985 the western wing of the farm building range was demolished. Two large rectangular barns and two silos were also constructed in this period, completing the existing modern arrangement.

#### 5 THE BUILDINGS

- 5.1 Clavering Hall Farm is laid out as a typical if modest model farm, with standard but high quality materials, arranged in a systematic manner typical of the time. The farm house presides over a courtyard dominated by the barn to the north and a lesser dairy range returning to the east. A contemporary cart shed (Drovers barn) located to the north of the main barn on the opposite side of a second courtyard dates from slightly later, as do a pair of farm workers' cottages located on the western side of Stortford Road.
- 5.2 The surveyed buildings comprised the main 'L' shaped group including the main brick and timber barn with the range to the east (The Old Dairy) and Drovers Barn to the north. A brief inspection was made of the large modern barn, though it is of no historic interest.

*The Barn* (Fig. 9-11)

Exterior

5.3 The barn is aligned south-west to north-east and comprises six bays with two midstreys facing the main courtyard to the south (Plate 1). The outer, 'public' façade and the gable ends are constructed of brick while the inward facing elevation and midstreys are timber-framed and weather-boarded. The roof is

half-hipped, now covered in corrugated asbestos sheeting, which replaced the original slate or tile roof. Brick cogging can be seen beneath the eaves on the brick elevations.

- 5.4 The brickwork is laid in Flemish bond and consists of a variable orangey-purple fabric with a few over-burnt headers and occasional straight skintles, measuring an average of 9" x 2½" x 4½" with half-inch joints of flinty lime mortar. In places, the brickwork shows signs of delamination and an 'S' tie and restraining bar have been added for support at high level in the centre of the long north façade.
- 5.5 Modern softwood doors pierce the northern elevation directly opposite the midstreys (Plate 2). These never, in fact accommodated large loading doors, so that the main access for carts has always been given from this side. The door apertures were originally larger but have since been reduced in height with softwood studwork and weather-boarding. At high level the lintels are exposed and retain fragments of nailed-on brackets for a short overhanging hood. Metal runners still *in situ* above each of the doorways indicate earlier sliding doors.
- 5.6 The western gable end is blank but retains marks for a shorter lower pitched range now demolished. The east façade is enclosed within the lateral dairy range, noted below.
- 5.7 The southern façade is dominated by two gabled midstreys which have been partly subsumed by pent-roofed outshuts which bring the roofline and external walls flush with the midstreys. A substantial quantity of oak or elm weather-boarding survives, all stained, though with some softwood replacement, particularly at the western end. The outshut walls are partly rebuilt in blockwork. Conventional vertically boarded doors give access to both midstreys and central and eastern outshuts, while two windows light the central outshut.

#### Interior

- 5.8 The midstreys occupy the second and fifth of six bays. The barn is currently divided at the centre by a partition clad in plywood, though this may lie over earlier studwork which is not visible. The internal brickwork on three walls is laid in English bond with the gables off-set at wall-plate level. A lower plinth of cement render has been applied to varying heights.
- 5.9 The timber framing is well preserved, regular and systematic in its construction, in identical bay panels. Most of the lower framing is oak, while roof elements such as the tie-beams, braces and rafters are of knotty softwood.
- 5.10 The sole plate rests on a brick dwarf wall. The principal posts rise at bay divisions to splay-cut and shaped jowls (Plate 3) except at the outer gable ends where they are plain and waney. The wall plate is made up of short pieces, scarfed with edge-halved and bladed scarf joints in each bay. Each bay panel is

framed with an intermediate upright and in-line mid-rails. Both upper and lower registers are framed identically with downward primary braces from the principals and five common studs in each half-bay (Plate 4). In the conventional manner, only the stud meeting the downward brace is pegged at top and base.

- 5.11 The outshuts are probably contemporary, because the original external weather-boarding to the main body of the barn survives intact. This is hand-sawn oak or elm, limewashed and in excellent condition.
- 5.12 The timber scantling can be summarised as follows:

Principal posts (variable)  $7" \times 7\frac{1}{2}" (178 \text{mm} \times 190 \text{mm})$ Intermediate bay posts  $6" \times 7" (165 \text{mm} \times 178 \text{mm})$ Common stud  $3" \times 2\frac{1}{4}" (76 \text{mm} \times 57 \text{mm})$ Wall-brace  $7" \times 2\frac{1}{4}" (178 \text{mm} \times 57 \text{mm})$ Mid-rail  $6\frac{1}{2}" \times 5" (165 \text{mm} \times 127 \text{mm})$ 

- 5.13 The roof is similarly systematic in construction. Softwood tie-beams are triangulated on the south by long, straight braces. These are double-pegged to the principals and triple-pegged to the tie-beam (Plate 5). Slender raking struts extend to softwood principal rafters with an upper collar clasping a slender purlin in each pitch. Softwood rafter couples of varying quality rise to a ridge board; those at half-bay intervals are larger and jointed with an intermediate collar for additional support.
- 5.14 The midstreys differ slightly in construction and in places show signs of alteration. The side panels have no intermediate post, but are braced from the outer principals as elsewhere, and have nine studs in each register. The mid-rail is staggered slightly to its companions in the main façade. In the west midstrey, a brace and three studs in the lower register have been removed from the west wall panel to accommodate a doorway leading to the outshut adjoining, but redundant mortices show that this is a later modification. In the eastern midstrey the east panel is pierced to the south by a large 19<sup>th</sup> century domestic, four-panelled door. The western panel has also been cut through to provide access to the central outshut.
- 5.15 In the midstrey gables large subsidiary uprights are framed in the position of conventional wide door jambs, but a properly pegged mid-rail at low level with upper primary-braced studwork show that these were never designed to accommodate large doors (Plate 6). Below the lintel, studwork is also present, but it could not be ascertained whether these replace earlier doors. The roof apex on both midstreys has been altered and formerly half-hipped gables straightened with softwood. The east midstrey gable has suffered modification following damage from fire and subsequent decay. This extends along the wall-

plate and corner post, while most of the western jamb-upright and mid-rail have been replaced with waney timber. The roof purlins also show signs of charring.

- 5.16 The large doorways piercing the northern elevation are framed by robust oak jambs and lintels below shallow strainer arches (Plate 7). A second machine-cut lintel has been inserted at lower level to accommodate smaller doors and the area above infilled with studwork and weatherboarding. The jambs are scarfed at the base, possibly a sign of repair, or a deliberate detail to allow easy replacement. The eastern doors retain a socket for a locking bar on one side. A small doorway leading to an adjoining barn in the northern elevation has been blocked with pink Flettons while a second sliding door in the eastern gable end has been boarded over.
- 5. 17 Few traces of earlier activity remain in the barn. Some posts retain nailedon chocks with redundant mortices indicating the earlier presence of stall partitions, though these are no longer discernible with certainty. Assembly marks are present in the form of Roman numerals chiselled on all the principal posts and surrounding members at the bay divisions. A number of tie-beams preserve legible Baltic bracking marks to the soffit. One clearly reads '366'.

#### Western Outshut

5.18 The western outshut is only accessible from the midstrey. Rudimentary studwork is notched into a softwood wall-plate. Two oak ties are supported on the inner face of the barn by a simple cleat; the upper member clasping a purlin (Plate 8). A redundant socket in the weatherboarding of the main elevation for an earlier tie indicates that the existing structure has been rebuilt though the wall-plate is probably original.

#### Central Outshut

- 5.19 The central outshut spanning the midstreys was latterly used as a workshop and store. The south wall has been replaced with masonry, but elements of the earlier timber-framing remain apparent, including the wall-plate and waney rafters. Three lower ties ride over the wall plate while upper ties are pegged to a purlin for support. Most of the studwork now visible is modern, but pegs remain in the wall-plate to indicate the presence of earlier members. Light is provided by a four-light fixed window to the west and an early 20<sup>th</sup> century single light with four panes to the east.
- 5.20 The eastern outshut is open to, and contiguous with the dairy range, and is described below.

#### The Old Dairy

#### Exterior

- 5. 21 The Old Dairy occupies the lateral range extending along the eastern side of the farm yard abutting the barn at its eastern end (Plate 9). In the same manner as the barn, the outward-facing elevations are of brick, while the inner face is of timber with weatherboarding, although a short, lower range is constructed entirely of brick, and terminates in a small WC. The roof is half-hipped and covered in corrugated asbestos.
- 5. 22 The western façade shows much sign of modification with softwood weather-boarding and modern masonry infill, pierced by two doors. At the junction of the lower, bricked range, a short stretch of Flettons has been inserted.
- 5. 23 The eastern façade is entirely of orange-red brick laid in Flemish bond rising on two high offsets reflecting the gradual fall in the land at this point (Plate 10). A regular arrangement of three-over-three casement windows pierce the brickwork with a further four-light window to the south, but these are clearly 20<sup>th</sup> century enlargement of earlier, smaller apertures as they retain queen closers on only one jamb. A modern door giving access to the southern extension is flanked by an inserted six-light window to the north and single fixed light to the south. A three-light window has been inserted into a blocked door aperture on the southern façade.
- 5.24 The W/C lean-to extension attached to the south eastern corner of the range retains a small east facing two light window with access gained from a door in the northern elevation.

#### Interior

- 5. 25 Internally the range is of nine bays but divided into several elements; five open-plan northern bays, together with the eastern barn outshut. The northernmost bay abutting the east gable of the barn is a larger, possibly later addition. The remaining four bays to the south are partitioned by a rudimentary timber and ply wall. The brick southern range is structurally separate.
- 5. 26 The eastern wall is pierced by five six-light bottom-hung casement windows with horizontal security bars. These are 20<sup>th</sup> century insertions, as noted above. The former use of the space as a dairy remains marked by rendered lower walls and a cement floor, though latterly the area has been given over to storage and workshop use.
- 5.27 The north end, where the building abuts the eastern brick gable of the barn is of slightly differing form with a structurally separate, though continuous roof to the rest of the building. The external barn brickwork is pristine and must

have been protected since construction (Plate 11). The roof of this area rests on a section of wall-plate fixed directly to the brickwork of the barn, appearing to be an afterthought. The tie-beam is chamfered and stopped, unlike its companions elsewhere, while the outer wall retains scarring for a demolished return suggesting that this was partitioned with brick below the tie-beam, but now all removed. The main roof immediately to the south abuts with very waney hip rafters which never appear to have been used (Plate 12). Overall, this may suggest that the northern bay was simply added at the time of construction as there is little else to differentiate it.

- 5.28 The western wall of Bays 2, 3 and 4 were formerly open-fronted, with jowled bay-division posts supporting short, straight braces to the wall-plate. Bay 2 remains open, in its original form to the eastern outshut of the barn, but the adjoining areas have been infilled with modern studwork and a door.
- 5.29 The eastern outshut appears to have been constructed as an open-fronted lean-to. The external wall retains its original posts and braced wall-plate, subsequently infilled with modern masonry and weather-boarding. A modern door gives external access, while a 19<sup>th</sup> century domestic door leads to the barn midstrey (as noted above)(Plate 13).
- 5. 30 The roof of the main range is systematic with a large tie-beam, braced from the bay-division posts by long, straight members (Plate 14). These are all properly pegged. The principal rafter-couples are off-set from the tie-beam and have slender collars supporting a clasped purlin in each pitch. The tie-beams on either side of Bay 4 retain notches for studs, indicating earlier partitions at this point.
- 5. 31 The existing partition between the two areas is modern and ephemeral. The four southern bays continue the systematic construction but remain closed to the farm yard with original primary-braced and weather-boarded studwork. The south tie-beam retains redundant mortices for studwork indicating an earlier partition; notched mortices remain on its companion to the north also suggesting a closed partition below tie-beam level. Bay 8 retains a lintel on the west for a possible external earlier door now blocked. Bay 6 is pierced by a modern door.
- 5. 32 The southern wall is constructed of brick below tie-beam level with robust horizontal boarding extending to the apex. A block doorway is visible on the western side of the wall (Plate 15).
- 5.33 The farm yard elevation of the southern range is, as noted above entirely blank, but of brick. Access is given from a modern door on the east. Internally, the space is divided into two undistinguished rooms on the east, with a dark, unlit corridor on the west; this much disturbed, with a partially excavated floor. The two rooms have under-drawn ceilings. The WC at the southern end is utilitarian with mid-20<sup>th</sup> century fittings.

#### *Drover's Barn* (Fig. 12)

- 5. 34 The Drover's Barn, latterly used for vehicle storage comprises a small symmetrical arrangement with a two-bay central element flanked by similar but lower ranges; the two bays to the west partitioned and enclosed with modern softwood doors (Plate 16). As elsewhere, the external rear and side walls are constructed of brick, with timber reserved for the yard frontage and roof. More robust bevelled brick piers add support at each gabled end and to the rear while brick pilasters define the bay divisions.
- 5.35 The open frontage is framed with softwood principal posts, two of which have been scarfed and repaired at lower level. The roof trusses are of similar form; slightly curved braces are pegged to the principals while a central tensioned king-rod and two steep raking struts triangulate the truss with the principal rafters (Plate 17). Three purlins in each pitch and an additional ridge-purlin are cogged over the principal rafters and held by cleats. Where the central bays rise to a higher level, the rear wall has been built up with evenly-spaced studwork. Diagonal wind-braces have been nailed across the purlins of the eastern, lower bays.
- 5. 36 The western bays are divided from the central unit by studwork and weather-boarding; a similar partition also divides these bays into individual cells. The trusses, though identical with their companions have been incorporated into the partitioning with great skill, clearly contemporary with the construction of the building.

#### <u>Modern Barn</u>

- 5. 37 The modern barn (Plate 18) is constructed from modular steel units, with lower brick and pre-cast cement infill. The frame is formed from 'l' girders all bolted with 'L' beams used as lateral members to which the cladding is attached.
- 5. 38 The roof trusses consist of bolted 'L' beams supporting three purlins in each pitch. Sheets of corrugated asbestos form the roof covering pierced at intervals by roof lights.
- 5. 39 The southern bays are occupied by an Alvan Blanch oil fired continuous drier extending to roof level. The remaining areas are inaccessible housing large silos encased in brick and concrete slabs tied with iron straps.

#### 6 DISCUSSION

- 6.1 Clavering Hall is a typical early 19<sup>th</sup> century model estate farm, constructed loosely, but not slavishly on the ideal pattern, and clearly intended to express efficiency, economy and pride. The farm-house was not part of the assessment, but its spartan exterior is embellished with bay windows and slight decorative finishes, reflecting a modest level of gentility and respectability. Anybody approaching the farm in the 19<sup>th</sup> century would have been impressed by this deliberately contrived image of modernity and prosperity. With the farm, barn and other buildings a little carriage house and stable also survive, to complete the ensemble.
- 6.2 It is unusual why such a conspicuous mixture of brick and timber would be used for both the main barn and the dairy. Expense was undoubtedly a factor, but there may also be a picturesque quality to the group, as the barn has proper, traditional looking midstreys which were clearly never intended to be used to back carts into, and might just as easily have been dispensed with completely. The propensity of oak suggests that a good supply of estate timber was to hand, but for the major structural elements Baltic pine was imported. The quality of the carpentry is superb, but the absence of machine-cut timber or assistance with iron places the buildings at the cusp of the great Victorian revolution of the 1840s onwards. Almost all the original timber still performs adequately, and a high degree of the original weather-boarding has been preserved within the later outshuts. These have not fared as well, but were clearly contemporary or added soon after the barn was finished.
- 6.3 The lateral 'dairy' range was constructed at the same time as the rest, but has undergone much more radical modification in line with changing needs. It probably comprised a mixture of open-fronted cart sheds and enclosed storage areas or perhaps livestock pens, but has been reordered and most of the original partitions lost. The northern bay may have been distinct originally. The southern unit presents a curious blank face to the farm-yard and has a much more domestic feel to it but its original use is not known.
- 6.4 In the later 19<sup>th</sup> century, the northern, 'Drover's Barn' was added. This is of a typical, systematic construction, using mechanically-sawn softwood which could be dated anywhere from the 1880s into the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. It is possible that the brick rear and flanking walls represent fragments of an earlier structure, which has been rebuilt or remodelled.
- 6.5 The modern barn is probably of 1950s date; too recent and still too common to be considered historic, and an ugly interloper in this assemblage, but a typical example of its time.

#### 7 CONCLUSION

7.1 Given the alterations to the dairy and the later date of the northern Drover's Barn, the principal barn remains the least altered from its original, early 19<sup>th</sup> century concept. Notwithstanding fire damage and localised decay, it remains in excellent condition, little altered in outline and represents the transition at that time from local to imported materials, and traditional to modern techniques of construction.

#### **DEPOSITION OF THE ARCHIVE**

The requirements for archive storage will be agreed with Saffron Walden Museum. The archive will be deposited within six months of the conclusion of the fieldwork. The archive will be prepared in accordance with the UK Institute for Conservation's *Conservation Guideline No.2* and other relevant reference documents. The archive will be adequately catalogued, labelled and packaged for transfer and storage in accordance with the guidelines set out in the United Kingdom Institute for Conservation's *Conservation Guideline No.2* and other relevant reference documents. The archive will be quantified, ordered, indexed and cross-referenced and checked for internal consistency.

#### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

AS would like to thank De Vere Homes Limited for funding the works, and for their assistance (in particular Messrs Barry Pestell and John Couling).

AS would also like to acknowledge the assistance of the staff at Essex Historic Environment Record, and Essex Records Office.

AS would also like to acknowledge the input and advice of Mr Richard Havis of ECC HEM team.

#### **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

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Cooper, J. 2003 History Walks in Clavering: a Journey in Time Through an Essex Village. Cooper Publications.

Institute of Field Archaeologists (revised 2001) Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs

Soil Survey of England and Wales 1983 Legend for the 1:250,000 Soil Map of England and Wales. Harpenden

#### APPENDIX 1 HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT RECORD

The main archaeological database consulted was the Essex Historic Environment Record (HER).

SMR No.	NGR	Description						
Prehistoric remains (before AD 43)								
46430	TL 48051	Coles Green; cropmark of ring ditch, possible a prehistoric round barrow. <i>c</i> .27m diameter. Former field boundaries as shown on OS 1 <sup>st</sup> Edition are also visible as cropmarks.						
3863	TL 4694 2985	Berden Wesleyan Chapel; a Bronze Age extended inhumation with a beaker (A type) was found beneath the main entrance during the excavation of foundations. A metal bangle or armlet recovered nd a copper or bronze ring had left a green stain on the bones. Beaker decorated with bar chevron in plain zig zag bands with open lozenges on a dotted ground.						
3933	TL 485 308	Iron Age remains near to Clavering Hall; c.930 yards east of the hall Iron Age C type pottery recovered alongside some Roman pottery. A very early and very late occupation are inferred.						
Roman (AD 43 -	<b>– 410</b> )							
3934	TL 485 308	Roman remains near to Clavering Hall; Hard grey copy of a gallo-belgic platter of form CAM13 and late Roman ledge-rimmed bowls of form f305 were recovered. A bronze brooch has also been recovered and a subrectangular cropmark is noted nearby (HER 4021).						
Medieval remai	ns (1150 - 1500)							
35694	TL 47628 31802	The Druce. 15 <sup>th</sup> – 16 <sup>th</sup> century 3-bay hall house with solar.						
46431	TQ 7283 9032	Great Spenders. Recorded as a medieval farm belonging to John Spendour in 1327. Recorded until 3 <sup>rd</sup> Edition of Ordnance Survey map.						
35481	TL 46864 29828	White House Farmhouse; Grade II Listed, 16 <sup>th</sup> century timber framed farmhouse.						
7504	TQ 7283 9039	Cranes Farm; Homestead moat. Watching brief/ trial trenching in 1969/1971 revealed a late medieval pit cut by the moat, but evidence for the moat being of medieval date. The farm was associated with the family of Hugh 'le Crane' (1272). In the 1920s/30s the Crane family took over Great Spenders.						
35682	TL 47044 31764	1- 5 Church Walk; Grade II* Listed, late 15 <sup>th</sup> century timber framed buildings, probably almshouses						

3902	TL 4672 3120	Moat at Curls; oblong and partly dry. Name is probably associated with family of Peter Curl, and is mentioned in 1422, 1483 and 1548. The moat surrounds a 17 <sup>th</sup> century farmhouse, and is 12m wide and measures 85m north – south and 66m east – west. The north arm of the moat is water filled, the other three sides would always have been dry due to the slope of the land.
Post-medieval	remains (1500 –190	0)
35750	TL 47652 30760	Clavering Hall; Early 19 <sup>th</sup> century brick house. Grade II Listed.
35484	TL 46758 29858	Martins Green; mid 16 <sup>th</sup> century timber framed house. Grade II Listed.
35483	TL 46828 29848	Rose Cottage; Grade II Listed, 17 <sup>th</sup> century timber framed house.
35482	TL 46834 29810	Post Office and store; Grade II Listed. 18 <sup>th</sup> century or earlier timber framed house with bowed shop front.
35480	TL 46908 29814	The Forge Cottage; Grade II Listed, 17 <sup>th</sup> century timber-framed house
35684	TL 47060 31766	Church End Cottage; Grade II Listed; 17 <sup>th</sup> or 18 <sup>th</sup> century timber framed house
35683	TL 47026 31728	The Old Hall; Grade II* Listed; late 16 <sup>th</sup> – early 17 <sup>th</sup> century timber framed house, with addition of 1690.
35734	TL 46992 31698	Piercewebs; Grade II Listed, Late 18 <sup>th</sup> – early 19 <sup>th</sup> century red brick house
35752	TL 47362 31710	Apple Tree Cottage; Grade II Listed, 17 <sup>th</sup> – 18 <sup>th</sup> century timber-framed house.
Undated remain	ns	
19812	TL 4807 3156	Cropmarks; two ring ditches overlooking river Stort, 40m and 35m diameter. Also former field boundaries.
4021	TL 485 308	Sub-rectangular cropmark. No surface features visible other than irregular soil discolouration.
19832	TL 4901 3118	Cropmarks; 2 rectangular enclosures, 58m x 60m and 92m x 60m. The larger has 2 possible entrances both facing NE. Further cropmarks in the area could be former field boundaries.
19565	TL 477 291	Cropmarks; former field boundaries
46361	TL 46564 30118	Cropmarks of former field boundaries as marked on OS 1 <sup>st</sup> Edition.
19808	TL 4700 3150	Cropmarks; ring ditch and 2 linear features probably former field boundaries. Ring ditch measures 22m diameter, with an east facing entrance and an internal off centre pit.

19809 T	L 4680 3150	Cropmarks; ring ditch 35m diameter.
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# APPENDIX 2 CARTOGRAPHIC SOURCES

Date	Title	Scale	Location
1777	Chapman and Andre	2 inches :	ERO
		1 mile	
1840	Clavering Tithe Map	10 chains :	ERO
		1 inch	
1861	Clavering Enclosure Map	5 chains : 1	ERO
		inch	
1876/8	OS 1 <sup>st</sup> Edition XIII	6"	ERO
1877	OS 1 <sup>st</sup> Edition XIII:7	25"	ERO
1897	OS 2 <sup>nd</sup> Edition XIII:7	25"	ERO
1898	OS 2 <sup>nd</sup> Edition XIII:NW	6"	ERO
1951	OS Provisional Edition 52/43	6"	ERO
1985	OS Pathfinder Sheet 1074	1:25000	ERO

# **APPENDIX 3**

# TITHE APPORTIONMENT (17 July 1839)

Entry No.	Owner	Occupier(s)	Plot/field Name	Land Use	Area (a.r.p)	Rent Charge (£ s. d.)
809	Rev. Ed Barlee	Thos Stubbing	Giles Orchard	G	1.0.26	
889	James Rolfe	Self	In Great Bolster Common	A	1.3.3	
890	James Rolfe	Self	In Great Bolster Common	A	4.1.19	
891	James Pavitt	Self	Wren Park	Α	1.0.11	
892	Christ's Hospital	Thos Seabrook	In Great Bolster Common	A	5.0.37	
893	John Guillemarde	John Spencer	In Great Bolster Common	A	1.2.21	
894	James Pavitt	Self	In Great Bolster Common	A	2.1.3	
895	John Guillemarde	John Spencer	In Great Bolster Common	A	1.0.14	
896	James Pavitt	Self	In Great Bolster Common	А	0.3.35	
897	John Guillemarde	John Spencer	In Great Bolster Common	A	1.2.36	
898	John Guillemarde	John Spencer	House and Garden	-	1.0.15	
900	John Guillemarde	John Spencer	Middle Hyde	А	9.1.14	
901	John Guillemarde	John Spencer	Great Mead	G	12.3.22	
904	John Guillemarde	John Spencer	Further Oxleys	G	6.3.16	
906	John Guillemarde	John Spencer	Middle Hyde	А	7.0.34	
907	John Guillemarde	John Spencer	Great Severalls	А	2.1.20	

#### APPENDIX 4

#### LISTED BUILDING ENTRIES

Clavering Hall

Grade II Listed.

Early 19<sup>th</sup> Century brick house with low pitched hipped slate roof with wide eaves. Two storeys. East garden front 3 bays. First floor 2 small sashes beneath the eaves and left hand window blind. Ground floor 2 wooden semicircular bay windows with sashes and glazing bars, and central sash window with glazing bars. The south elevation 3 bays, ground floor French window and central doorway with traceried semi-circular fanlight. The west elevation to the road has lower wing and lean-to.

# APPENDIX 5 HER SUMMARY SHEET

County: Essex Uttlesford	
Villaga IT and Olambia	
Village/Town: Clavering   Parish: Claverin	ng
Planning application UTT/1040/07, U	TT1041/07/LB
reference:	
Client name/address/tel: De Vere Homes	Limited
	ural buildings to residential use
Present land use: Agricultural build	lings
Size of application area: Size of area inv	restigated
<b>NGR (8 figures):</b> TL 47615 30815	
Site Code: CVCH10	
Site director/Organization: Archaeological S	Solutions
Type of work: Historic Building	
Date of work: 28 <sup>th</sup> January 201	
<b>Location of finds/Curating</b> Saffron Walden	Museum
museum:	
Related SMR Nos: Periods represe	ented: 19 <sup>th</sup> century and later
Relevant previous	
summaries/reports: -	
	Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) carried out a
Barns, Clavering building recording	historic building recording at Clavering Hall g, Essex (NGR TL47615 30815). The historic ng was carried out to comply with a planning convert the existing agricultural buildings to
were constructed buildings - most century as part open-fronted Drown the 19th century remarkably little constructed of complete with constructed workshops and is also contemplete bays for cart-sheeps.	t found that the main barn and associated dairy d at the same time as the farm-house and other st probably in the second quarter of the 19th of a model-farm arrangement. The partially overs' Barn to the north was added at the end of the transport of the north was added at the end of the altered from its original concept, being brick with a timber-framed yard elevation, osmetic midstreys and low outshuts for storage, use as cart-sheds. The associated dairy range porary, and originally combined open-fronted eds with partitioned storage cells, though latterly utilding was consolidated, enclosed and then redairy use.
Author of summary: Date of Summa	ry:
Lee Prosser 14.02.10	

# APPENDIX 6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOLUTIONS BUILDING RECORDING ARCHIVE FORM

Site Details										
Site Name: Clavering Hall Barns, Cl					avering, <b>NGR</b> : TL 47615 30815				30815	
	Essex									
County: Essex				Museum Collecting Area: Saffron Walden						
	ode: CVCl				Project Number: P3534					
	of Work: 28	3 <sup>th</sup> ,	Janua	ry 2010	Rel	ated Wo	rk:			
Brief/s	3					Specifi	icatio	n/s		
Date			Prese	ent		Date			Pres	ent
June 2			Yes			11 <sup>th</sup> Jui	ne 20	09	Yes	
Site R	ecords (Do	esc	criptio	n)						
Notes	taken on si	ite	(7 pag	jes A4)						
Site D	rawings (C	Siv	e Deta	ails of For	rmat	s & Size	)			
-							•			
Plans	ect's Draw and elevati I Drawings	on		heets A3 a	and 1	I sheet a	t A4 -	- anno	otated	
	uts of Dra		nas	Printouts	s of	Data		Digi	tal Dat	а
In repo		****	190	Timeout	<del>.</del>	Dutu		_		ographs
ППОРС	71 (				and drawings in					
					digital format on					•
Repor	ts								-	
Repor			Repo	ort Type					Pres	ent
3481				ric Buildin	g Re	cording			Yes	
Site P	hotograph	S								
Black	& White Co	nta	act Pri	nts			Colo	our Sli	des	
Film	Film	N	egs	Negs	C	ontacts	Film	1	Negs	Present
No	Type			Present	P	resent	No			
1	120mm	_	-15	Yes		es	1	1 2-		Yes
2			Yes Yes	_	es					
	3 120mm 1-15				_	es				
4	120mm		-5	Yes		es				
	graphic Lo						Detail	s)		
	ort and sep					e folder				
Digita	Digital Photographs (Give Details):									

Digital photography. Index and selected plates printed in report. Separate printout of index included in archive folder and digitally on CD

# **PLATES**



Plate 1 The Old Barn, south-eastern elevation, taken from the south (DP 2)



Plate 2 The Old Barn, north-western elevation, taken from the west (DP 14)



Plate 3 The Old Barn, jowled principal post, taken from the west (DP 20)

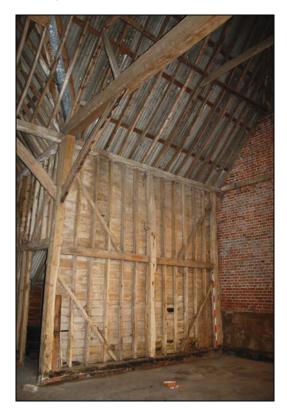


Plate 4 The Old Barn, internal panelling, taken from the north (DP 23)



Plate 5 The Old barn, roof structure, taken from the south-west (DP 27)



Plate 6 The Old Barn, south-western midstrey internal timber framing, taken from the north-west (DP 22)



Plate 7 The Old Barn, large doors at north-eastern end, taken from the south-east (DP 33)



Plate 8 South-western outshut, taken from the north-east (DP 25)



Plate 9 The Old Dairy, south-western elevation, taken from the south-west (DP 3)



Plate 10 Old Dairy, north-eastern elevation, taken from the south-east (DP 8)



Plate 11 North-eastern gable end of the Old barn, taken from the north-east (DP 44)



Plate 12 Roof structure at the north-western end of the Old Dairy, taken from the south-east (DP 45)



Plate 13 North-eastern outshut, accessed from the Old Dairy, taken from the north-East (DP 42)



Plate 14 The Old Dairy, taken from the north-west (DP 43)



Plate 15 The Old Dairy, south-eastern gable end, taken from the north-west (DP 49)



Plate 16 Drovers Barn, south-eastern elevation, taken from the south (DP 16)



Plate 17 Drovers barn, four open bays to the north-east, taken from the south-west (DP 36)



Plate 18 1950s grain store and drier, taken from the south-east (DP 11)

#### **PHOTOGRAPHIC INDEX**



The Old Barn, south-eastern elevation, taken from the south-east



The Old Barn, south-eastern elevation, taken from the south1



The Old Dairy, south-western elevation, taken from the south-west



Midstrey at north-eastern end of the Old Barn, taken from the south



Junction between the Old Barn and the Old Dairy, taken from the south-west



Brick extension to the Old Dairy, south-west elevation, taken from the south-west



Old Dairy with W/C extension, south-eastern elevation taken from the south-east



Midstrey at south-western end of the Old Barn, taken from the south-east



1950s grain store and drier, taken from the southeast



Old Dairy, north-eastern elevation, taken from the south-east



Old Dairy, north-eastern elevation, taken from the north-east



The Old Barn, south-western elevation, taken from the south-west



Brick extension to the Old Dairy, north-eastern elevation, taken from the north-east



Large barn doors, south-western end of the Old Barn, taken from the north-west



Drovers Barn, north-western elevation, taken from the west



The Old Barn, north-western elevation, taken from the west



Drovers Barn, south-eastern elevation, taken from the south

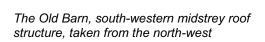


Fuel tank at the south-western end of Drovers Barn, taken from the south-east





24



19



west

The Old Barn, jowled principal post, taken from the



The Old Barn, internal panelling, taken from the west



The Old Barn, south-western midstrey internal timber framing, taken from the north-west



The Old Barn, internal panelling, taken from the north

The Old Barn, south-western end, taken from the north-east

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South-western outshut, taken from the north-east



The Old barn, roof structure, taken from the southwest



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The Old Barn, north-eastern end, taken from the west



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The Old Barn, south-western midstrey internal panelling, taken from the south-west



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The Old Barn, north-eastern end, looking towards internal partition, taken from the north-east

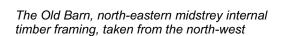


30

The Old Barn, north-eastern midstrey internal timber framing, taken from the north-west









The Old Barn, north-eastern midstrey, domestic door giving access to an outshut, taken from the south-west



The Old Barn, large doors at north-eastern end, taken from the south-east



The Old Barn, remnants of farm machinery, taken from the south



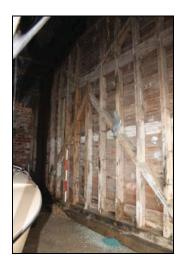
The Old Barn, blocked doorway north-western elevation, taken from the south

Drovers barn, four open bays to the north-east, taken from the south-west

35



Drovers Barn, bay 1 partition, taken from the southwest



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Drovers Barn, bay 2 partition, taken from the southwest



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Outshut located between the two midstreys of the Old Barn on the south-eastern elevation, taken from the south-west



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Drovers Barn, bay 1, taken from the south-east



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Drovers Barn, bay 2, taken from the south-east



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North-eastern outshut, accessed from the Old Dairy, taken from the north-east



The Old Dairy, taken from the north-west



Roof structure at the north-western end of the Old Dairy, taken from the south-east



The Old Dairy, north western end, taken from the south-west



North-eastern gable end of the Old barn, taken from the north-east



The Old Dairy, roof structure, taken from the north



The Old Dairy, bracing of timber frame, taken from the north-east



The Old Dairy, south-eastern gable end, taken from the north-west



The Old Dairy, taken from the south



The Old Dairy, tie-beam with redundant mortices for an internal partition, taken from the south-west



The Old Dairy, assembly marks on brace, taken from the north

52



The Old Dairy, assembly marks on brace, taken from the north



The Old Dairy, tie-beam retaining notches for internal partition, taken from the north-west



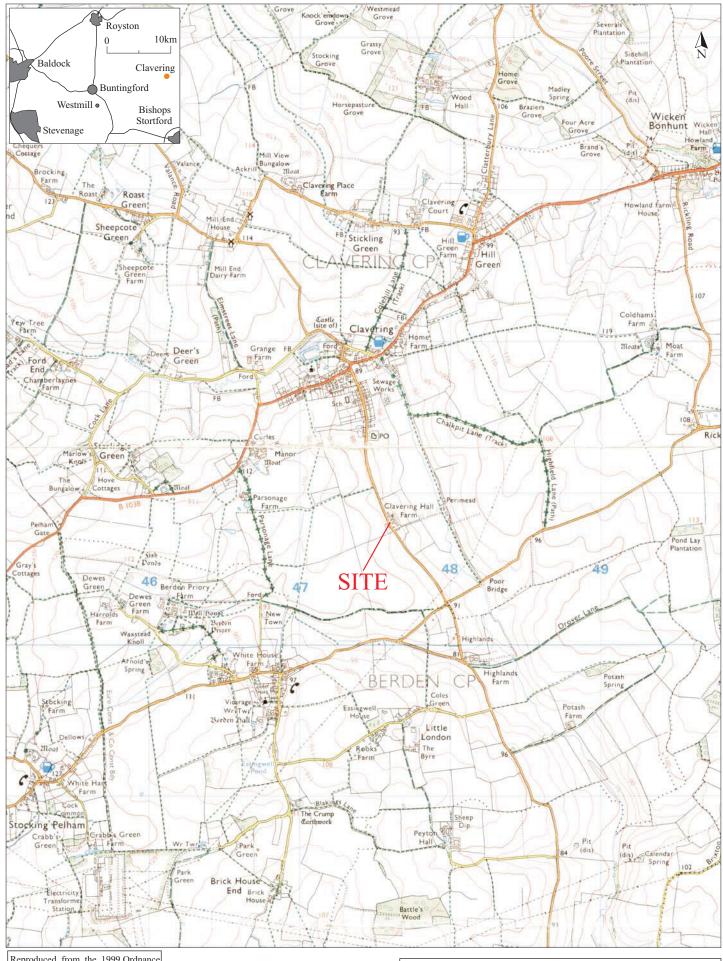


55

The Old Dairy, remains of original gable end at north-western end before extension, taken from the south-west

56

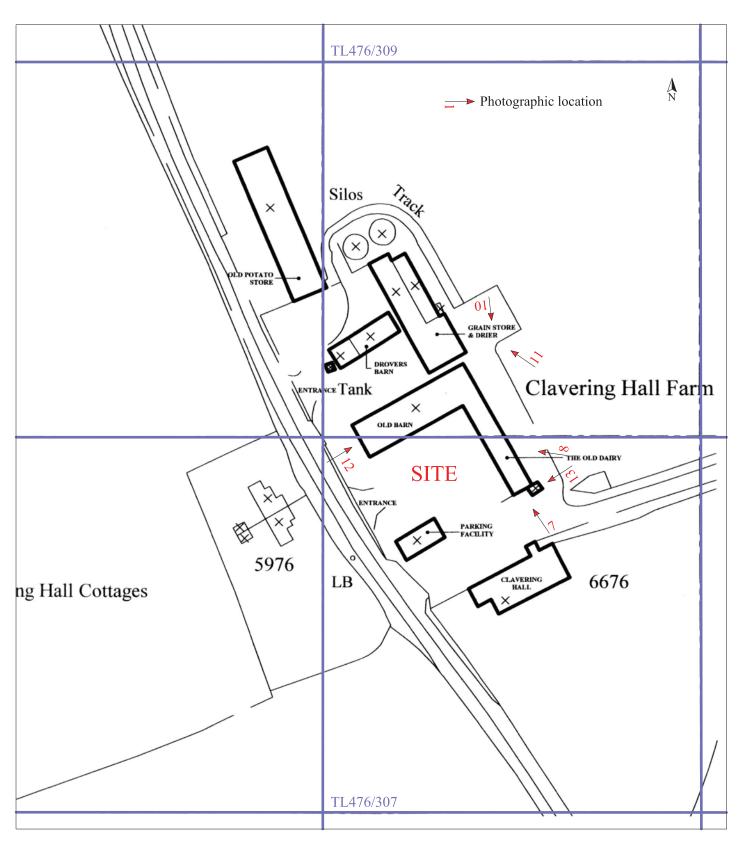
The Old Dairy, bracing at junction with outshut, taken from the east



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Archaeological Solutions Ltd Fig. 1 Site location plan

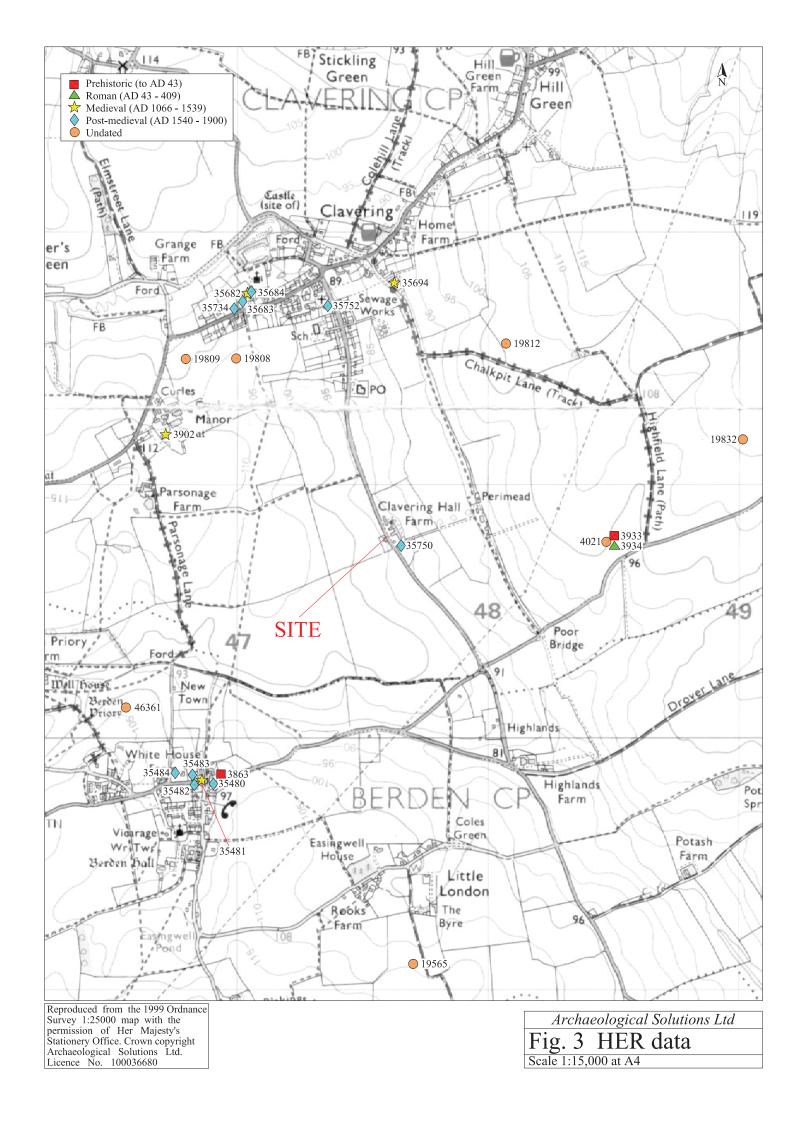
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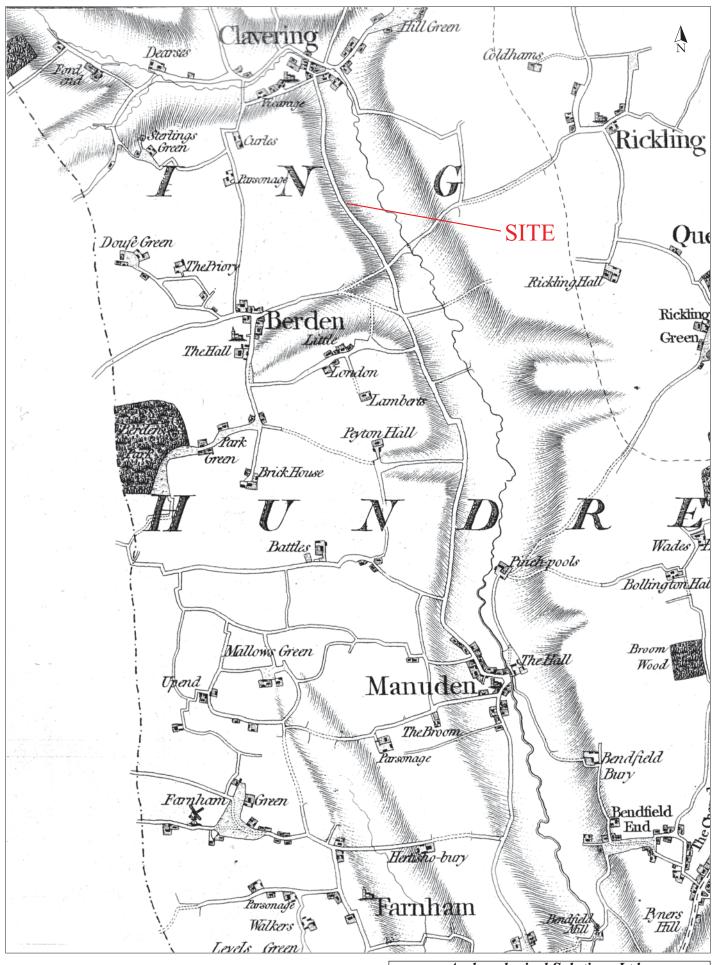


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Detailed site location plan Fig. 2 Det Scale 1:1000 at A4





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Fig. 4 Chapman & Andre, 1777
Not to scale

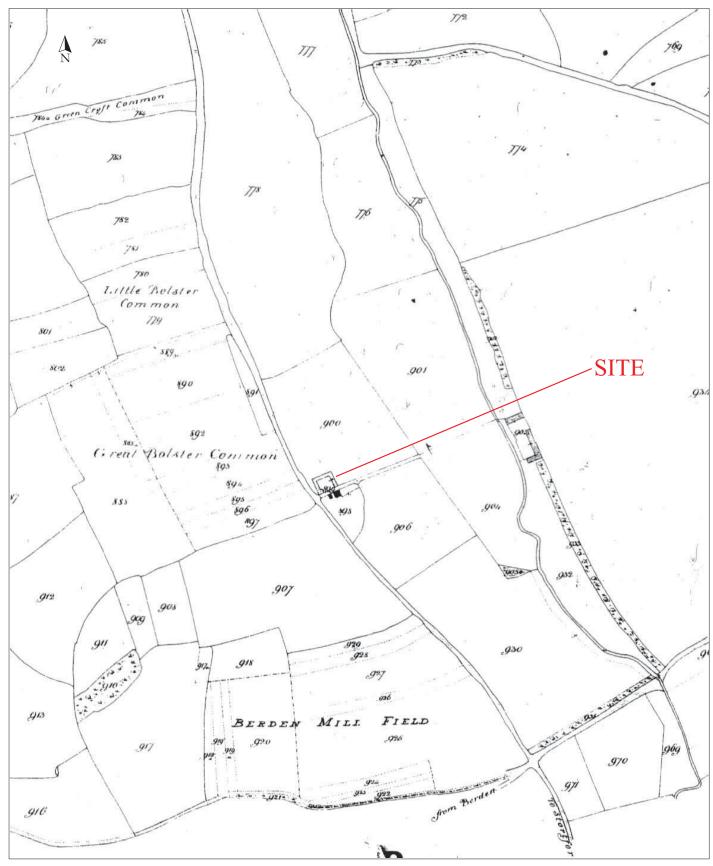
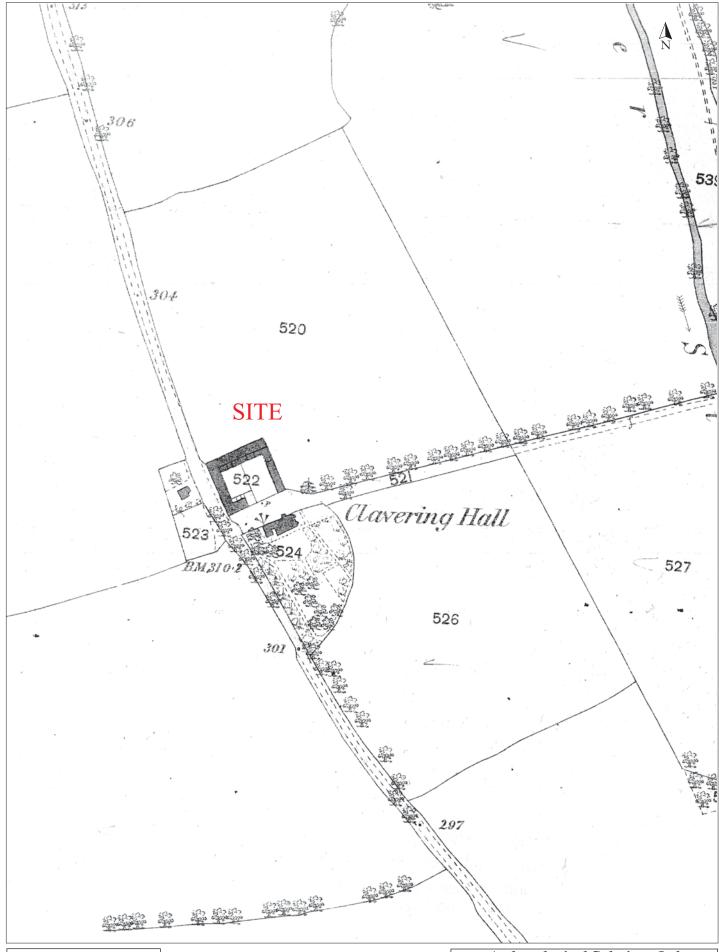
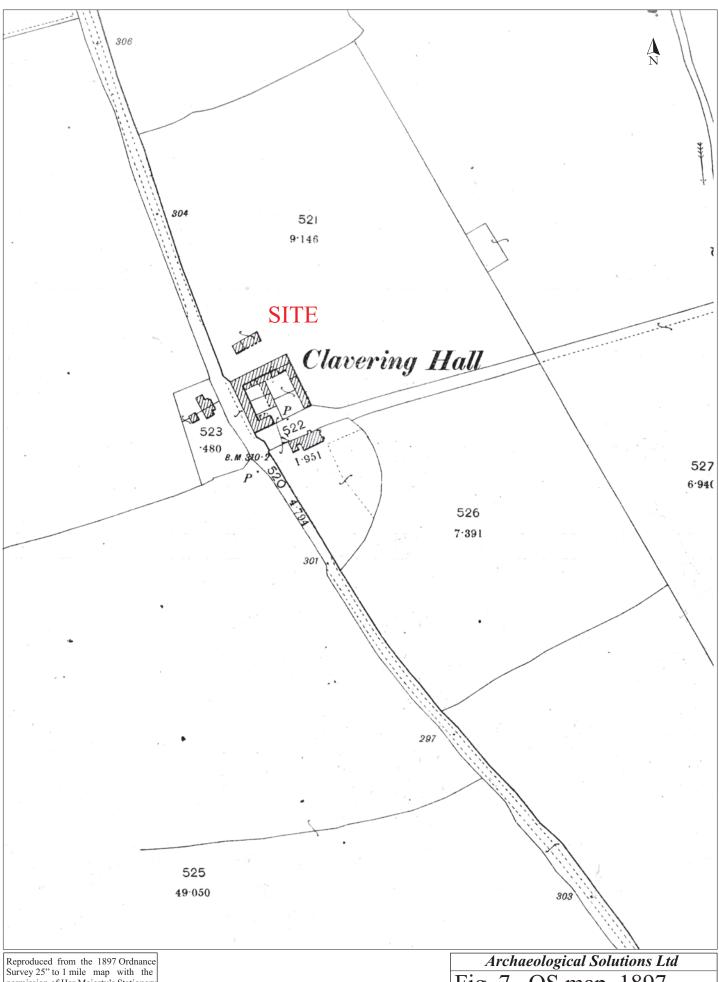


Fig. 5 Tithe map, 1840
Not to scale



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Archaeological Solutions Ltd Fig. 6 OS map, 1877
Scale 25 inch to 1 mile at A4



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Fig. 7 OS map, 1897
Scale 25 inch to 1 mile at A4

