

# Archaeological Services & Consultancy Ltd

## **HISTORIC BUILDING RECORDING AND WATCHING BRIEF:**

**THE BARN  
163 HIGH STREET  
OLD AMERSHAM  
BUCKINGHAMSHIRE**

NGR: SU 9539 9749

*on behalf of Mrs B Biddlecombe*



Karin Semmelmann MA MIFA

June 2010

ASC: 1249/AHS/2



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## Site Data

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<i>OASIS ref:</i>	Archaeol2-71424	<i>Event/Accession no:</i>	TBC
<i>County:</i>	Buckinghamshire		
<i>Village/Town:</i>	Amersham		
<i>Civil Parish:</i>	Amersham		
<i>NGR (to 8 figs):</i>	SU 9539 9749		
<i>Present use:</i>	Barn		
<i>Planning proposal:</i>	Conversion of barn to kitchenette, bathroom and studio		
<i>Planning application ref/date:</i>	CH/2009/1322/HB		
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<i>Commissioned by:</i>	HAP Chartered Architects The Orangery 22 Amersham Hill High Wycombe Bucks HP13 6NZ		
<i>Client:</i>	Mrs B Biddlecombe The New House East Meon Nr Petersfield Hants GU32 1PD		
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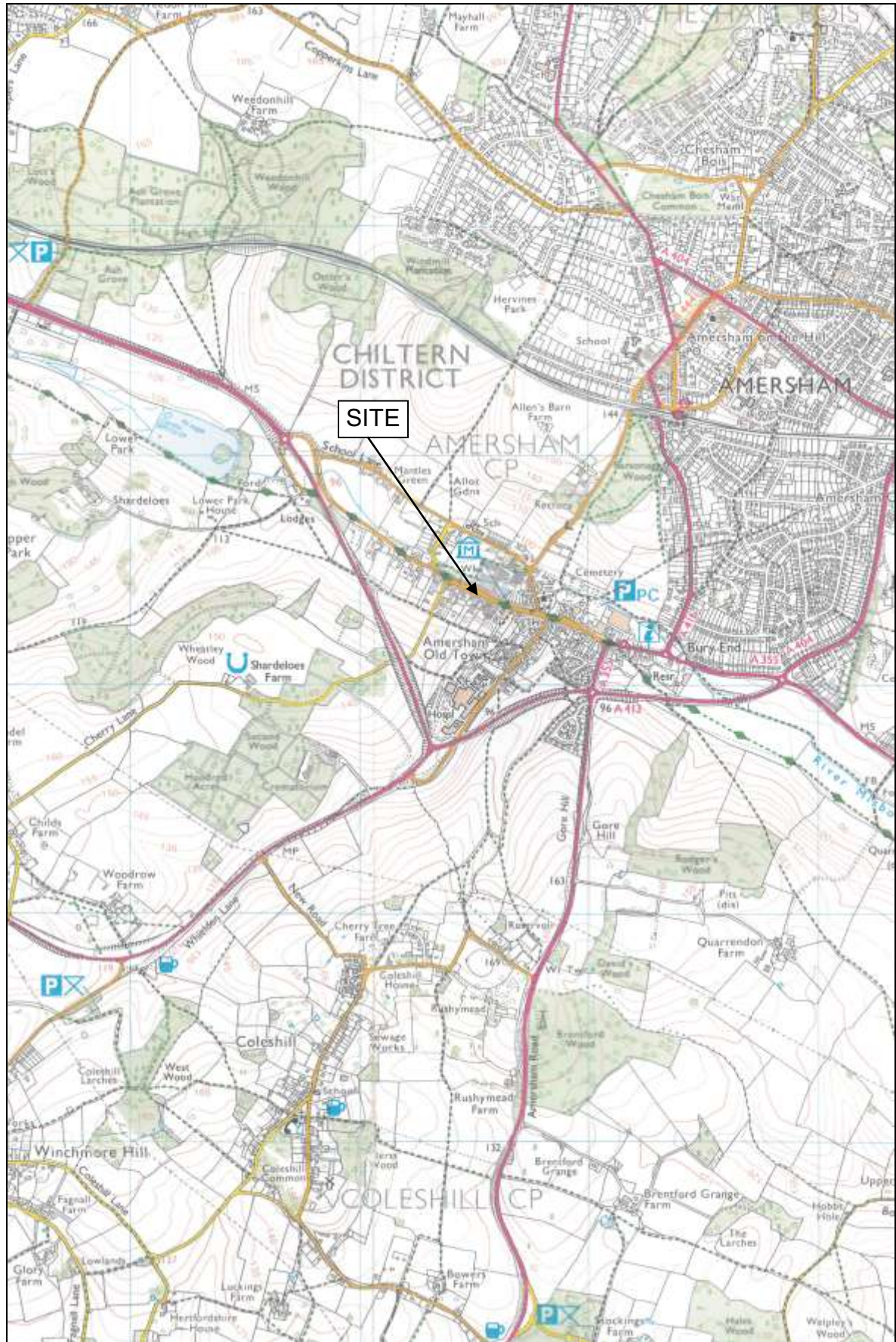
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**Figure 1:** General location (scale 1:25,000)

## Summary

*Between February and May 2010 Archaeological Services and Consultancy Ltd carried out historic building recording and watching brief at The Barn, 163 High Street, Old Amersham, Buckinghamshire as a condition of planning permission for the development of the building.*

*The barn is a 3-bay, 17<sup>th</sup> century timber framed structure with a late 19<sup>th</sup>/ early 20<sup>th</sup> century extension to the southwest. It has been modified on various other occasions including the insertion of windows in the north, east and west walls and the introduction of a mezzanine in the eastern part of Bays 1 and 2. The original entrance to the barn appears to have been at the southern end of the east wall, which now houses a single door with a window above.*

*Ground reduction revealed quantities of 19<sup>th</sup> century and later bottles, ceramics and building materials, some of which were in the backfill of three small pits. The floor appears to have been largely dug out and replaced to include a concrete layer.*

*Cartographic evidence suggests that the barn may have been part of a complex of buildings forming a courtyard to the rear of the High Street at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. If this is the case, the yard was short-lived as it was clearly subdivided by 1911. The barn was directly associated with number 159 High Street in the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, when it was used as a motorcycle repair shop by the inhabitant of number 159.*

## 1 Introduction

1.1 Between February and May 2010 *Archaeological Services and Consultancy Ltd* (ASC) carried out historic building recording and watching brief of The Barn, 163 High Street, Old Amersham, Buckinghamshire. The project was commissioned by HAP Chartered Architects on behalf of Mrs Biddlecombe, and was carried out according to a project design prepared by ASC (Rouse 2010), and a brief (Beckley 2010) prepared on behalf of the local planning authority (LPA), *Chiltern District Council*, by their archaeological advisor (AA), *Buckinghamshire County Council Archaeology Service*. The relevant planning application reference is CH/2009/1322/HB.

### 1.2 ***Planning Background***

This project has been required under the terms of *Planning Policy Guidance Note 15* (PPG15), as a condition of planning permission for development involving buildings on the site.

### 1.3 ***Archaeological Services & Consultancy Ltd***

*Archaeological Services & Consultancy Ltd* (ASC) is an independent archaeological practice providing a full range of archaeological services including consultancy, field evaluation, mitigation and post-excavation studies, historic building recording and analysis. ASC is recognised as a *Registered Organisation* by the Institute for Archaeologists, in recognition of its high standards and working practices.

#### 1.4 *Management*

The project was managed by Karin Semmelmann BA MA MIFA, and was carried out under the overall direction of Bob Zeepvat BA MIFA.

#### 1.5 *The Site*

##### 1.5.1 *Location & Description*

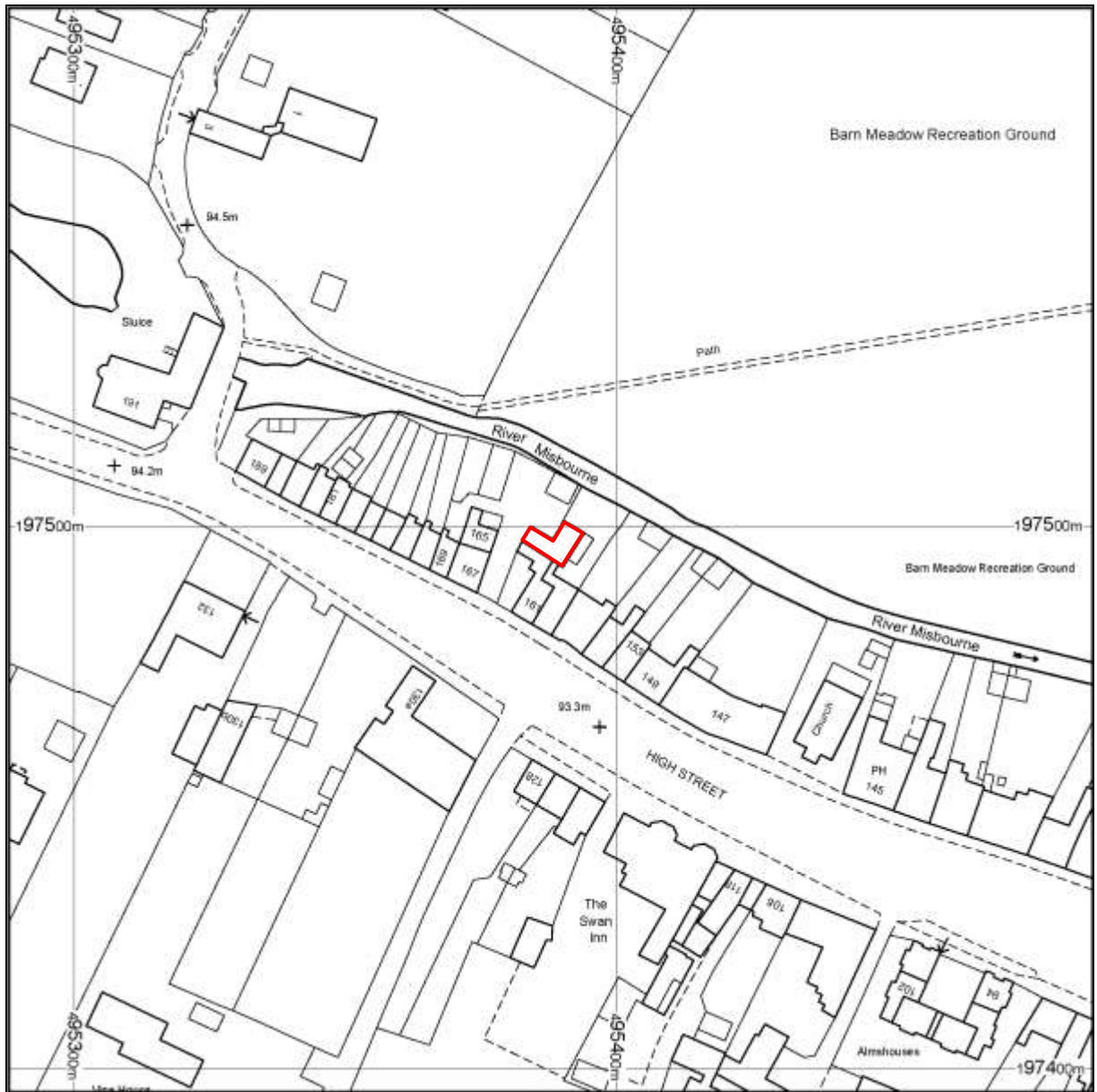
The site is located in the Chiltern district of Buckinghamshire, within the parish of Amersham. It is situated within the village of Old Amersham, at NGR SU 9539 9749 (Fig. 1).

The building is located on the north side of the High Street, to the rear of number 161. Access to the site is from the north west, from a driveway adjoining the High Street. The site is bordered by residential gardens to the north, east and west, beyond which to the north is the River Misbourne (Fig. 2).

The building is a single storey, L-shaped timber framed structure under a tiled roof. The original build is orientated northeast to southwest, and the later addition is located at the southern end of the west elevation. For the purposes of this report the building is described as being orientated north to south.

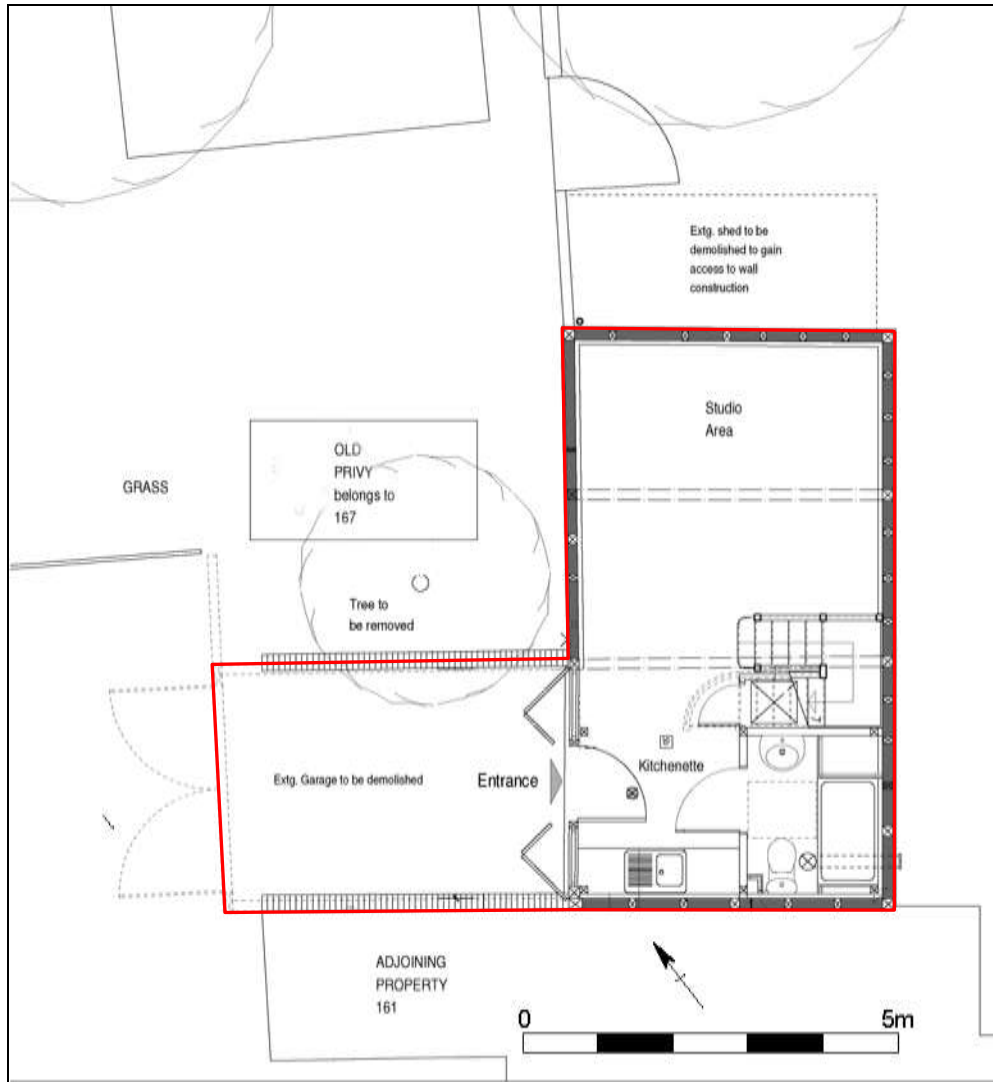
##### 1.5.2 *Proposed Development*

The proposed development comprises the conversion of the existing barn to a kitchenette, bathroom and art studio (Fig. 3).



**Figure 2:** Site plan (scale 1:1250)





**Figure 3:** Proposed development (scale 1:100)

## 2 Aims & Methods

### 2.1 *Aims*

As described in the brief (Section 6), the aims of the project were:

*Building Recording:*

- To identify and record any significant structural features or relationships paying particular regard to the chronology, construction, fabric and development of the building.
- To produce an annotated ground plan, photographic record and interpretation of the structure.
- In addition, the following questions raised in the *Amersham Historic Towns Report* (Beckley and Green 2008) were considered: What are the true dates of the historic barn? Do some retain medieval fabric? Are there identifiable patterns of redevelopment/renovation across the town? What further information can be gleaned from the historic records?

*Watching Brief:*

- To identify and record any significant archaeological remains, in particular the potential for medieval and post medieval features relating to understanding the barn (see above) or more widely to the origin, nature and organisation of settlement on the north side of the market place.
- To establish whether there was any evidence for commercial, craft or industrial activities in the fabric of the building

### 2.2 *Standards*

The work conforms to the project design, to the relevant sections of the Institute of Archaeologists' *Code of Conduct* (IFA 2000) and *Standard & Guidance Notes* (IFA 2001), to current English Heritage guidelines (EH 2006), and to the relevant sections of ASC's own *Operations Manual*.

### 2.3 *Methods*

The work was carried out according to the brief (Section 9), which required:

- A programme of historic building recording to English Heritage Level 3 (EH 2006). The initial survey was undertaken before building work commenced. The extraneous timbers and roof were removed before the groundworks began, which revealed more of the historic fabric and allowed a more comprehensive analysis to take place.
- A watching brief on the ground reduction within the barn.

### 2.4 *Constraints*

No constraints other than those imposed by the size and configuration of the barn were encountered.

### 3 Historical Background

3.1 The following section provides a summary of the readily available historical background to the site and its environs. This section has been compiled with information from the Centre for Buckinghamshire Studies, the internet and ASC's own library.

#### 3.2 *Medieval* (1066-1500)

The first known reference to Amersham is in a document of 1066 when the settlement was known as Agmodesham. The Domesday Survey some 22 years later records 6 manors (Williams & Martin 2003), which presumably are the subdivisions of an earlier 10-hide estate. The largest of these manors, which had been held by Queen Edith, was awarded to Geoffrey de Mandeville. This consisted of a 7½ hide estate with ample woodland. The other manors were half hide estates, the most significant of which had been held by Beorhtric of Queen Edith. This not only had twice the woodland that Queen Edith's own estate had, but also was a source of iron. This also had a mill, as did the manor held by Alwine of Queen Edith and that of Aelfric who held of Godric, the sheriff. The vill was well provided for with natural resources capable of providing a satisfactory income to the manorial estate. No church or priest was recorded, but this is one of the characteristics of the Buckinghamshire survey and does not necessarily mean that a church did not exist.

The present town layout was established c.1200 when Geoffrey Fitz Piers, Earl of Essex and Lord of the Manor received a grant of a market and fair (Historic Town Assessment: 30). It would appear that the borough was established at much the same time and the south side of the town, which was within his manorial estate, was laid out anew. The legacy of the medieval town planning is the wide High Street, designed to hold a large market. The plots of land on the north of the High Street were held by Rectory Manor and were not part of the Borough. As a result they are small and narrow and are bounded by the market to the south and the river to the north.

A church was first recorded in a foundation charter of Walden Abbey c.1140. The church was one of 19 granted to the abbey by its founder Geoffrey de Mandeville. It is thought that this early church may have been on the same site as the present church dedicated to St Mary. The location of the church is of particular interest as it is offset from the main focus of the settlement (Historic Town Assessment: 31) and could indicate the focal area of (part of) the earlier settlement. The present church dates from the 13<sup>th</sup> century but was heavily rebuilt in the 19<sup>th</sup> century by Preedy (Pevsner & Williamson 2000: 128).

More burgage plots were created as the town grew in size and another mill was built at Bury Farm in the 13<sup>th</sup> or 14<sup>th</sup> century (Historic Town Assessment: 30-31, 33). However, the development stopped short of providing the town with schools or monastic institutions.

The river Misbourne inevitably played an important role in the town during the medieval and post-medieval periods. A number of mills were sited along the river,

some processing corn and others producing paper. The riverfront would also have been utilised by the tanners, dyers, maltsters and others who relied on a generous water supply.

### 3.3 *Post-Medieval* (1500-1800)

The town appears to have grown only slightly in the early post-medieval period, with development taking place along Whielden Street and Church Street in the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries (Historic Town Assessment: 34). Non-Conformist chapels tended to cluster in Whielden Street with two Baptist chapels and a Friends Meeting House all established there in the 17<sup>th</sup> century (Historic Town Assessment: 34).

Two schools were also founded in the 17<sup>th</sup> century; Dr Challoner's Grammar school in 1624 and Cheyne's Writing School in 1698. Both were held in Church House (Historic Town Assessment: 36). The upper floor of the market hall, built by William Drake in 1682, was also used as a schoolroom at some time.

In 1627 Tohill's Workhouse was established as a cloth factory in the High Street. It remained there until 1798 when it moved to Whielden Street where it combined with the second workhouse to be founded in the town. This was a parish workhouse, founded in 1726 to the east of Church House (Historic Town Assessment: 35).

Employment was available in the maltings and tanneries that sprang up in the early post-medieval period. A brewery was also built in the late 16<sup>th</sup> century (Historic Town Assessment: 35). The market hall was rebuilt in 1682 by Sir William Drake and a number of inns were built or rebuilt in the 17<sup>th</sup> century (VCH online), all of which suggests a flourishing community. This is further supported by the number of buildings that were erected or rebuilt in the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries (Historic Town Assessment: 19; RCHME 1907; Pevsner 2000). The London Road was turnpiked in 1757 and the Whielden Street/Stanley Hill turnpike was established in 1768 (Historic Town Assessment: 35).

One of the most influential families in the development of Amersham was the Drake family. William Drake bought Amersham manor in 1637 and had six almshouses built in 1657. His nephew, another William, was responsible for building the market hall (VCH online). One of the earliest maps detailing properties in the town was created to show which were owned by William Drake and on whose votes he could count on during parliamentary elections (Historic Town Assessment: 95). These included the terrace behind which the barn is located (Fig. 4). From the late 18<sup>th</sup> century the family was known as Tyrwhitt-Drake.

### 3.4 *Modern* (1800-present)

More public services were established in the 19<sup>th</sup> century including the British School (1842), the National School (1873) and the Amersham Poor Law Union Workhouse (1839).

Brewing maintained its importance as a local industry until the 20<sup>th</sup> century, but otherwise trade and industry appears to have become less diverse and involving fewer individuals (Historic Town Assessment: 37). A new employer was the railway, which

finally arrived 1 mile north of the town in 1892. The impetus for development was not realised until the Metropolitan Railway Estate Company built a number of residential estates across Amersham Common in the 1920s and 1930s (Historic Town Assessment: 13). This resulted in the new settlement of Amersham-on-the-Hill where new schools and churches were also built in the post-war years to satisfy the needs of the growing town.

### 3.5 *Cartographic Evidence*

The earliest detailed map showing the terraces at the western end of the High Street is that of 1742 (Fig. 4). However, neither this map nor the Tithe Map (Fig. 5), thought to date from c.1840, depicts the barn. The Tithe award lists twenty-five individuals associated with the houses, cottages and gardens in the terraces then owned by Thomas Tyrwhitt-Drake. By cross referencing the tenants names to the 1832 trade directory, one finds Edward Stone, chair maker and John Toms, brazier. Two families appear to have been represented although the Christian names are not the same; Edward Lee was a corn dealer and Thomas Atkins a dyer. It is highly likely that they were related to Samuel Lee and John Atkins who lived in the terraces when the Tithe award was drawn up.

The first edition Ordnance Survey map shows the building to have had an adjoining structure to the north of the present western extension (Figs 6-7). This was demolished and the present extension constructed before 1925 when a building was also present immediately to the east of the barn. The 1925 map suggests that the southern range of 169 High Street was part of the barn at that time (Fig. 7).

The 1910 Domesday Survey, which utilised the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition Ordnance Survey Map to record property ownership for taxation purposes could not be reproduced here. It records number 161 as being rented from William Drake by Mrs E Stacey and number 159 by James Stacey. Both were simply cottages. However, the property next door to number 159 was a cottage and shop rented by E.J. Wilkinson. The property beyond that was a house and shop, rented by Mrs Aldridge. Mr Wilkinson was a boot maker and Mrs Aldridge was a draper (Kelly's Directory 1911:22).

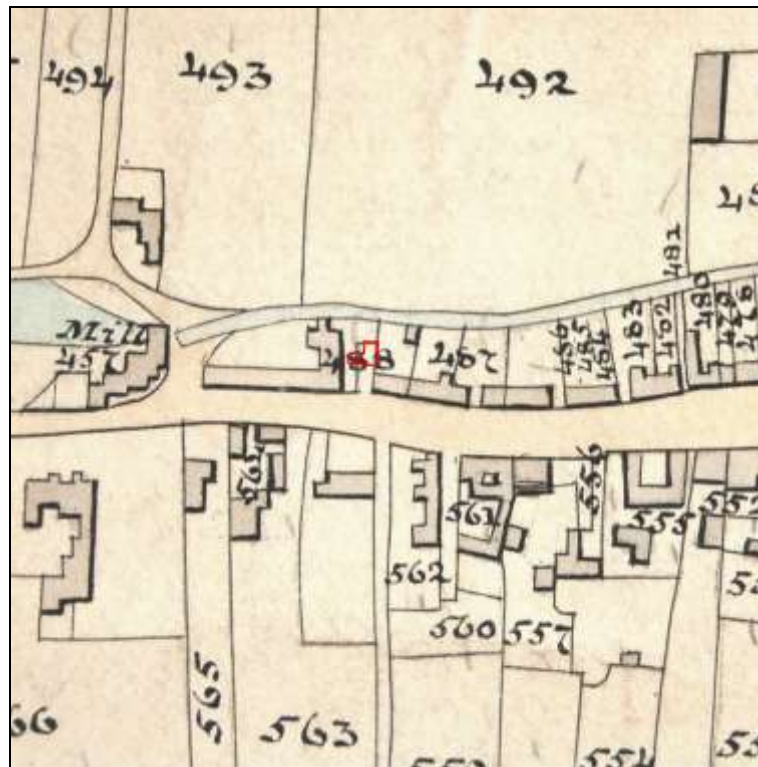
By 1962 a passage or similar had been constructed between 159 High Street and the barn (Fig. 8). This would accord with the known history of the relationship between the house and the barn, which was a workshop used by the inhabitant of number 159. The eastern building has since been demolished.

### 3.6 *Listed Building Description*

161 High Street is a Grade II Listed building, and the barn to the rear is included within the listing description: *No 161 - outbuilding to rear of No 161 II GV 2. C18 colourwashed brick, old tile roof, two storeys, first floor band, door on right with wood on posts, 3 light casement with raised cambered arch, 3-light casement to first floor. Double gabled west flank wall with two floorbands, two 2-light attic windows, door and 3-light casement to left of ground floor. 1-storey rear wing, weatherboard; old tile roof, linking house with small barn, also weatherboard with old tile roof.* (www.imagesofengland.org.uk).



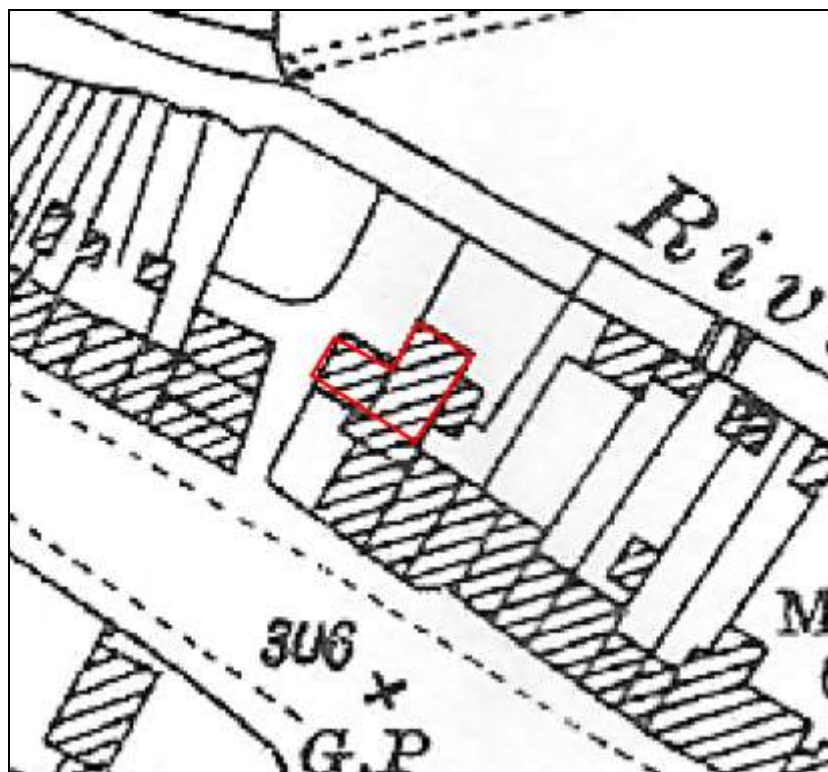
**Figure 4:** Extract from the 1742 map of the town of Agmondesham (*not to scale*)



**Figure 5:** Extract from the Tithe Map c.1840 (*not to scale*)



**Figure 6:** Extract from the 1880 Ordnance Survey Map (scale 50 inches to 1 mile)



**Figure 7:** Extract from the 1925 Ordnance Survey Map (scale 50 inches to 1 mile)



**Figure 8:** Extract from the 1962 Ordnance Survey Map (*scale 1:1250*)



## 4 Description

### 4.1 *General*

The barn is an L-shaped, timber framed building with weatherboarding and a tiled roof. The older part of the barn is orientated north to south and lies to the east of the modern addition. The building is located towards the end of short driveway, at the end of which is the river Misbourne. The south wall of the building is abutted by 161 High Street.

The barn is weather boarded and has a tiled roof. Double doors in the western extension currently provide the only access into the building, although a door in the west wall once opened into the garden of number 159. The barn is lit by a window in the north wall, another below the eaves in the west wall and a third in the east wall (Plates 1-2, 4).

The barn's three bays are labelled from north to south for the purposes of this report (Fig. 9). The frame is made from oak and the rafters are elm. It has primary bracing and a queen post rafter roof. There is some evidence for re-use in the northern collar, western purlin and the northern sill beam. Otherwise the carpenters' assembly marks on the north frame and the trusses all correspond.

The brick supporting dwarf wall is made of handmade red bricks measuring approximately 22 x 10 x 6cm (8<sup>5</sup>/<sub>8</sub> x 4 x 3<sup>3</sup>/<sub>8</sub> inches) set in lime mortar. Two bricks were chosen at random for closer inspection. One was very poorly puddled with some Spanish and was a deep red. The other, which had a more orange hue, was a finer brick with no Spanish. The foundations are approximately 37cm deep.

A mezzanine had been inserted on the east side of Bays 1 and 2. There was no fixed access to the floor, which obscured some of the timberwork during the initial survey.

The sections below describe the barn in further detail.

### 4.2 *South Wall* (Figs. 10 & 11, Plates 4-5)

The lower part of the wall was partially covered by horizontal planks during the initial survey. This did not completely obscure the timber and brickwork behind. A rail was revealed approximately 40cm below the wallplate during the building works. Between this and the wallplate is a pair of curved braces. Both vertical posts have slightly sloping jowls.

### 4.3 *West Wall* (Figs. 10 & 11, Plates 6-7)

A window has been inserted in Bay 1, which truncates the primary bracing below. Bay 3, which opens into the garage area, has a bark covered pole tying the vertical posts. There is an edge halved butt joint in the wallplate of Bay 2.

4.4 **East Wall** (Figs. 10 & 11, Plates 8-9)

The brick supporting dwarf wall is only present in Bays 1 and 2, which would suggest that Bay 3 originally had a door. It now has vertical studs and no bracing, a narrow door and a window above. The primary bracing Bays 1 and 2 was largely obscured by panelling during the initial survey. An edge halved joint is present in the wallplate in Bay 2.

4.5 **North Wall** (Figs. 10 & 11, Plates 10-14)

The north wall has gunstock jowlposts and the remains of a primary brace behind two additional diagonal braces that have been added to the front of the frame. A window has been inserted to the left of the vertical post and a mezzanine floor to the right.

During a subsequent visit three mortices were observed in the collar beam, which suggest that this is a re-used timber. Carpenters assembly marks in the shape of the letter V were also seen on the collar and the corresponding stud.

A bridled scarf joint in the sill beam suggests that this was also re-used.

4.6 **Trusses** (Plates 15-19)

The northern truss (Truss 1) is set on unjowled vertical posts and has straight queen posts. There is additional bracing between this and the southern truss. Carpenters assembly marks IIII and III were noted on the eastern and western end of the collar and the associated rafters respectively.

The southern truss (Truss 2) has curved braces and a pole has been used for the straining beam. The truss rests on squared off gunstock jowlposts and has a straight brace to the east and a modern timber nailed to the post and tiebeam to the west.

4.7 **Roof** (Plates 12, 13, 15, 19)

The barn appears to have retained the original rafters but has new roofing felt and some replacement tiles. The purlins have edge halved butt joints which have failed and are being propped by wooden struts.

4.8 **Western extension** (Fig. 10, Plates 21-24)

The western extension is a late 19<sup>th</sup>/early 20<sup>th</sup> addition to the barn and has a modern south wall. The north wall has primary bracing with waney edged and machine cut timbers. The wall has been heightened above the frame to create a sloping roof.

4.9 **Ground Reduction** (Fig. 9, Plates 25-26)

The ground was reduced by c.600mm throughout the barn. This was done in two phases to allow for the underpinning.

The floor was seen to consist of concrete over a conglomerate of materials some 170mm deep. This contained brick and tile fragments as well as quantities of 19<sup>th</sup> century domestic debris. Between this and the silts beneath was an intermittent layer of

chalk. Another chalk layer, approximately 150mm deep, was present *c.*400mm below the modern floor level. Below this was clean, undisturbed silts.

Two postholes were revealed 400mm from the northern end of the barn. The western one was 230mm in diameter and filled with a very dark, sooty, oily matrix containing large amount of modern detritus. The eastern posthole was 170mm in diameter and similarly filled. A third posthole some 200mm in diameter filled with bottles was found against the east wall, 900mm from the southeast corner of the barn.

The bricks forming foundations at the junction of the barn and the garage were revealed and were found to be of the better made orange/red bricks.



**Plate 1:** Barn and neighbouring privy from the east



**Plate 2:** Exterior of the barn from the northwest



**Plate 3:** Western extension from the southwest



**Plate 4:** South wall



**Plate 5:** South wall during building works



**Plate 6:** West wall



**Plate 7:** West wall during building works



**Plate 8:** East wall



**Plate 9:** East wall during building works



**Plate 10:** North wall



**Plate 11:** North wall during building works



**Plate 12:** North wall and roof



**Plate 13:** Mortices in north wall



**Plate 14:** Carpenters assembly mark on north wall



**Plate 15:** Truss 1



**Plate 16:** Trusses 1 and 2 from the scaffold



**Plate 17:** Carpenters assembly marks on Truss 1



**Plate 18:** Carpenters assembly marks on Truss 1



**Plate 19:** Truss 2



**Plate 20:** Edge halved scarf joints and purlin props



**Plate 21:** Western extension: west wall



**Plate 22:** Western extension: north wall



**Plate 23:** Western extension: south wall



**Plate 24:** Pole at barn/extension juncture



**Plate 25:** Stratigraphy at northern end of the barn

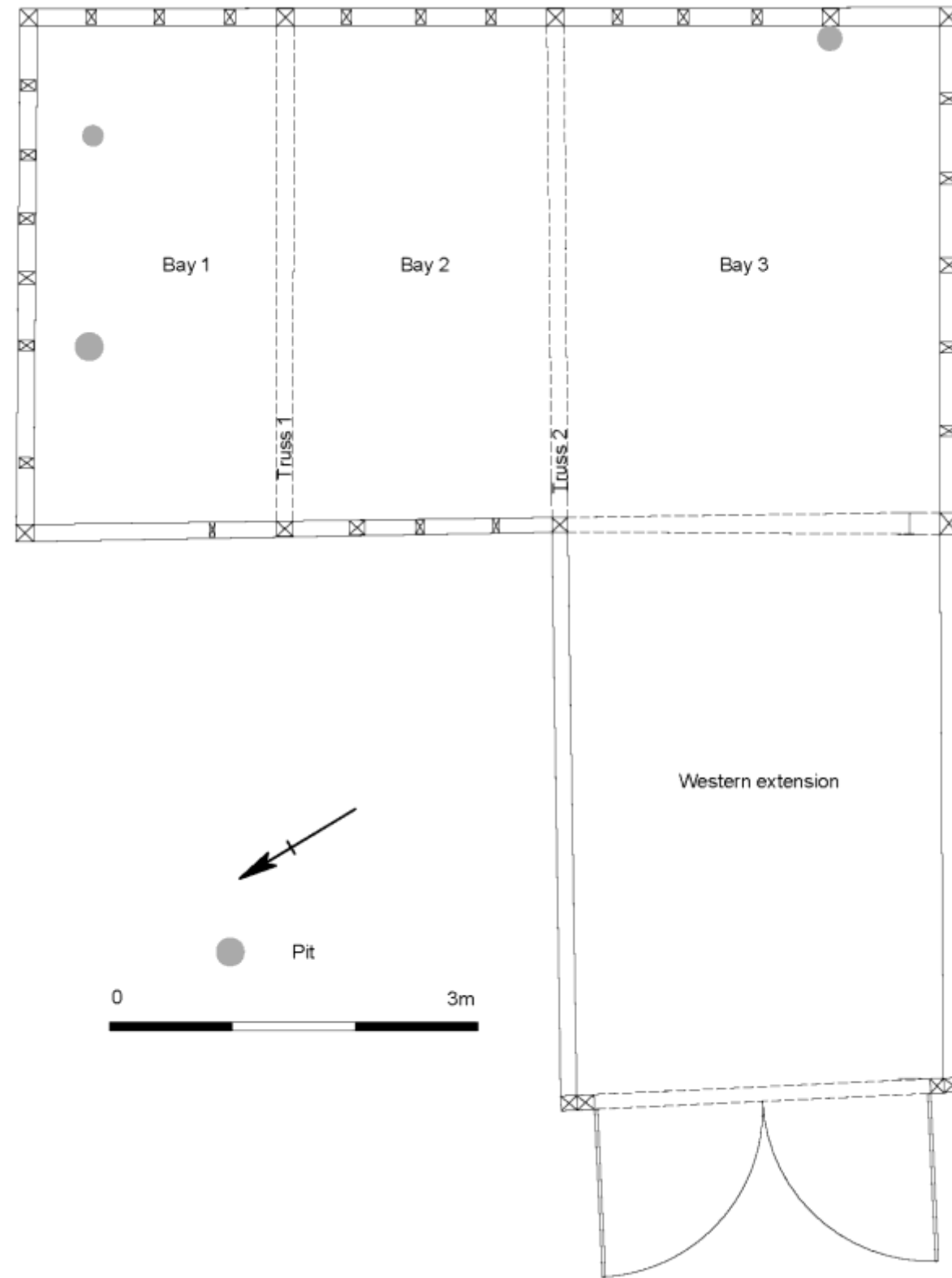


**Plate 26:** Ground reduction along the east wall



**Plate 27:** Samples of the ceramic remains in the barn floor





**Figure 9:** Barn layout and archaeological features (*Scale 1:50*)

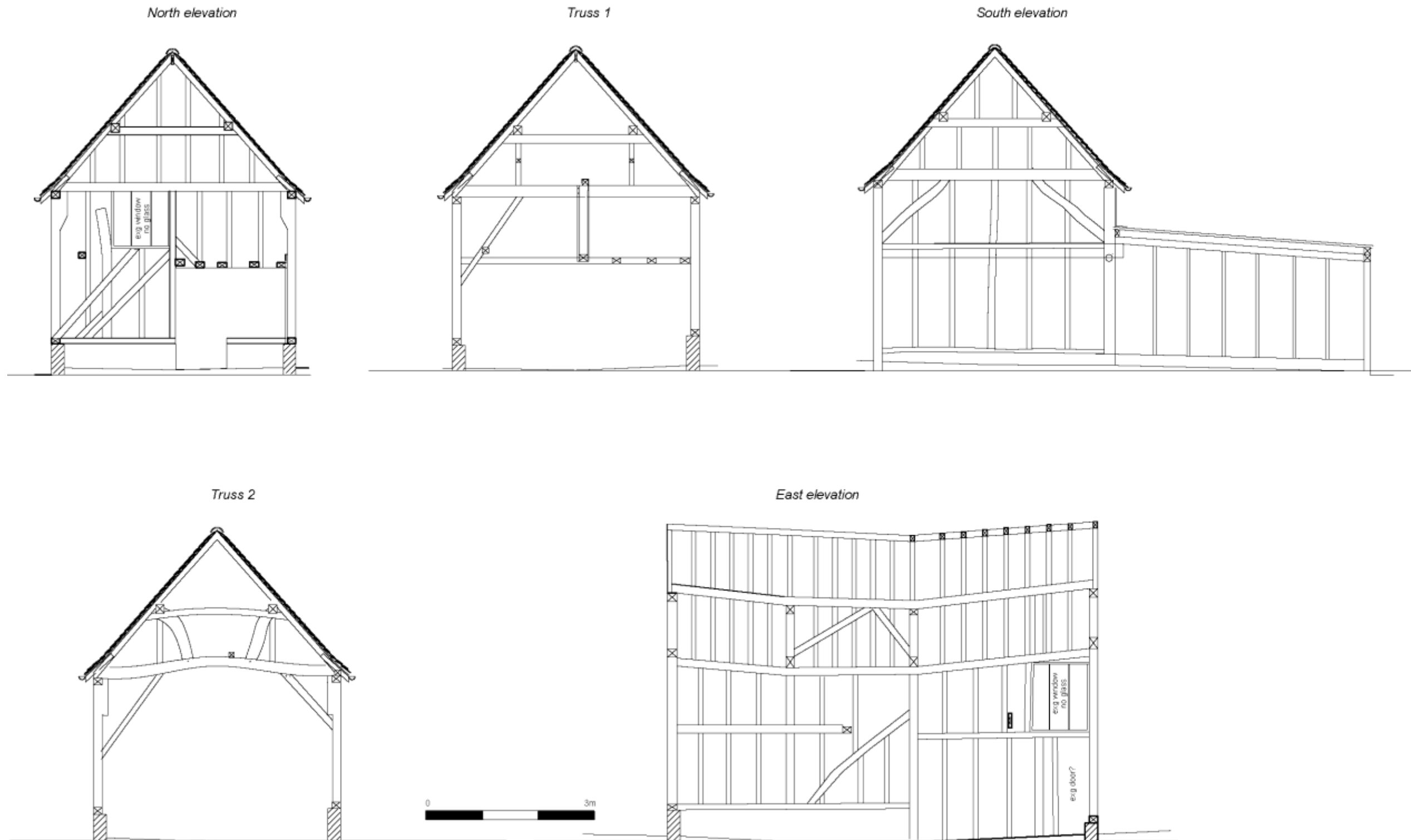
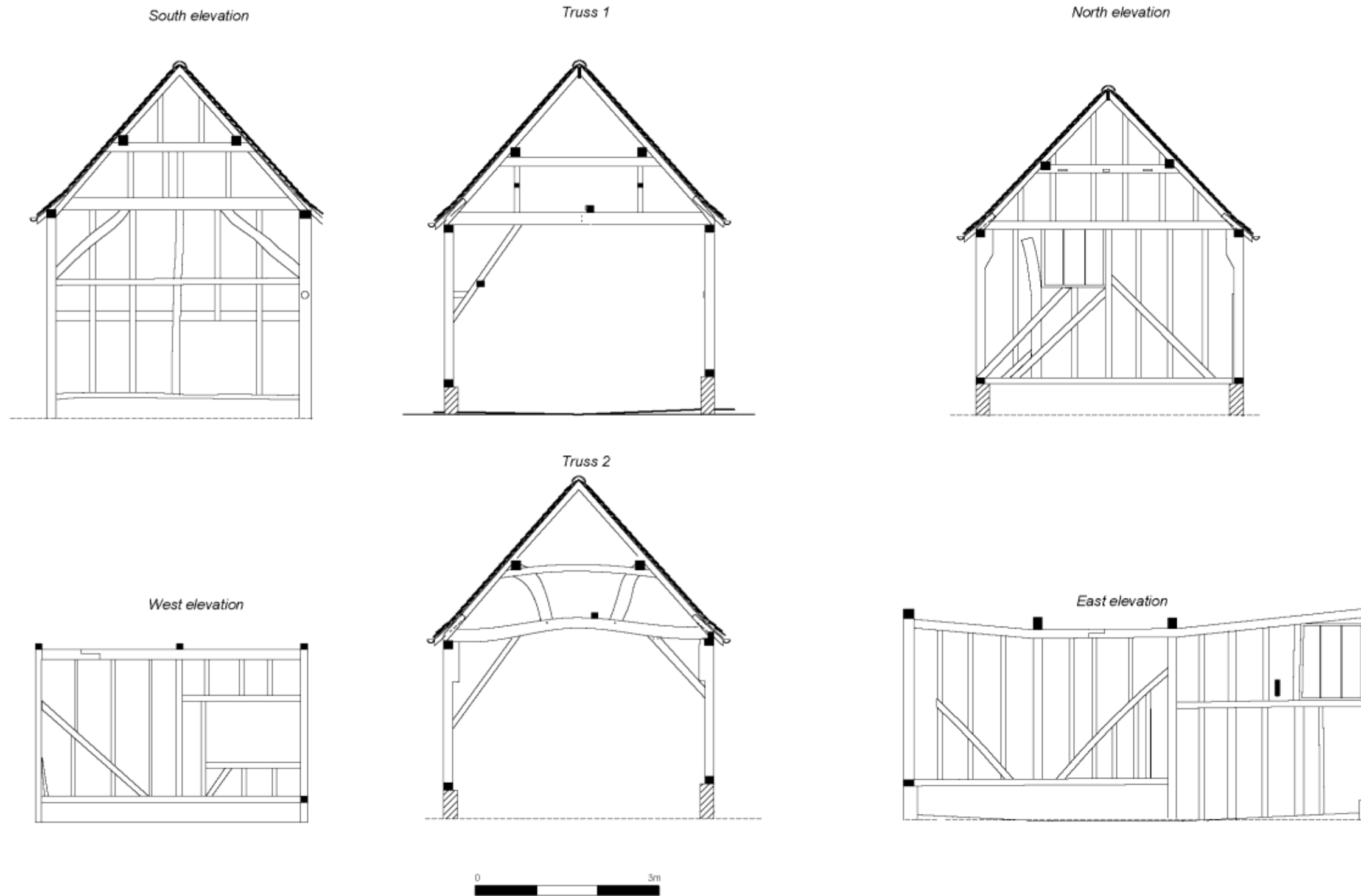


Figure 10: Barn walls prior to the building works (scale 1:75)



**Figure 11:** Barn walls after extraneous material was removed (scale 1:75)

## 5 Conclusions

- 5.1 After removing the extraneous timbers it became clear that the main body of the barn was built in the 17<sup>th</sup> century. This was evidenced in the timber scantling, the nature of the roof trusses and the predominant use of oak. The carpenters' assembly marks suggest the barn was largely purpose built for site and not a hybrid as the different styles of jowl posts initially suggested.
- 5.2 A feature that would be considered anachronistic in Hertfordshire and Essex is the edge halved scarf joint, found here in the wallplates and purlins. The use of edge halved scarf joints had generally given way to counterbladed scarf joints by the time this barn was constructed, but it is not unusual to find anachronistic building methods in lower status buildings. Indeed, a barn associated with King James I in Royston had similar characteristics to this building; the use of edge halved scarf joints (although in the Royston barn counterbladed scarf joints were also used) and different styles of jowlposts (Semmelmann 2003). In Buckinghamshire the edge halved scarf joint appears to have continued in used in the post-medieval period in domestic settings as well as outbuildings (*cf* Trench 1998:53).
- 5.3 The barn was extended in the late 19<sup>th</sup>/early 20<sup>th</sup> century. The south wall of the extension was rebuilt in the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century probably at the same time as the roof to the extension was rebuilt. The roof of the barn itself has also been rebuilt.
- 5.4 The interior of the barn has undergone a number of changes. The original opening in the east wall had been replaced by a single door with a window above it; windows have been inserted into the north and west walls and a mezzanine floor added over the eastern half of Bays 1 and 2.
- 5.5 The ground reduction revealed three small circular pits that contained modern debris. These were cut into a deposit that also appeared to have been fairly modern as it contained building material, glass and pottery fragments dating from no earlier than the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Given the age of the barn, this would suggest that the earlier floor had been partially cleaned out and new material brought in to create the present subfloor. Chalk deposits that could be the remnants of earlier floor surfaces were patchy and likely to have been redeposited material. A layer of concrete had been laid over hard core and provided a modern hardstanding floor surface.
- 5.6 These developments suggest a change of emphasis of the use of the barn. The lack of an eastern supporting dwarf wall in Bay 3 suggests that the main access into the barn may have been from the rear of 159 High Street. Although getting carts into the barn could have been difficult given the barns relation to the rest of the terrace and the river, access need not have been impossible. Whether the barn ever actually functioned as an agricultural building is debatable. It is more likely to have had a commercial function, serving perhaps a carter or as a store. Although it has not been possible to pinpoint function either in the documentary sources or through archaeological evidence, the barn may have been associated with one of four individuals in 1832; a corn dealer, brazier, dyer or a chair maker. The only known function of the barn was as a

motorcycle repair shop in the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, when the proprietor lived in 159 High Street.

- 5.7 The mezzanine floor and the small pits appear to be early – mid 20<sup>th</sup> century. The fills of the pits by the north wall contained oily residues and modern debris, but the one in the southeast corner was quite dry. None provided any indication of purpose.

## 6 Acknowledgements

The project was commissioned by HAP Chartered Architects on behalf of Mrs Biddlecombe. The writer is grateful to Julian Castle for his assistance and for providing the drawings which were used as the basis for some of the illustrations within this report. Thanks are also due to Calli Rouse BA PIFA and the staff of the Centre for Buckinghamshire Studies for their assistance with the historical research. The project was monitored by Ruth Beckley, Buckinghamshire County Council Archaeology Service, on behalf of the local planning authority. The writer is would also like to thank the building contractors on site who could not have been more helpful.

The project was managed for ASC by Karin Semmelmann MA MIFA. Fieldwork was carried out by Karin Semmelmann. The report was prepared by Karin Semmelmann and edited by Bob Zeepvat, BA MIFA

## 7 Archive

7.1 The project archive will comprise:

1. Brief
2. Project Design
3. Report
4. Historical & Survey notes
5. Architect's survey drawings
6. List of photographs
7. B/W prints
8. B/W negatives
9. CDROM with copies of all digital files.

7.2 The archive will be deposited with Buckinghamshire County Museum.

## 8 References

### *Standards & Specifications*

- ALGAO 2003 *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England*. East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper 14.
- Beckley, R. 2010 *Brief for Archaeological Building Recording and Watching Brief: Barn to the rear of 161 High Street* Bucks County Council
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- Rouse, C. 2010 *Project Design for Historic Building Recording & Watching Brief: The Barn 163 High Street, Old Amersham, Buckinghamshire* ASC 1249/AMHS/1

### *Books and Historical Sources:*

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- Trench, J C 1998 House Carpentry in Buckinghamshire 1200-1550 in Stennings D.F. & Andrews, D. D. (eds) *Regional Variation in Timber-Framed Building in England and Wales Down to 1550: Proceedings of the 1994 Crossing Conference* Essex County Council
- Williams, A & Martin, G.H, 2002 *Domesday Book: a complete translation* London: Penguin
- Victoria County History 1925 *A History of the County of Buckingham: Volume 3*  
:www.british-history.ac.uk/report.aspx?compid=42541&strquery=amersham

### *Maps*

- |   |                  |
|---|------------------|
| Map of Agmondesham (1742)               | CBS Ma/Dr/1.T    |
| Amersham (1792)                         | CBS Ma 280 T     |
| Inclosure Map (1816)                    | CBS IR/12A.Q     |
| Tithe Map (c. 1840)                     | CBS PR 4/27/14.R |
| Ordnance Survey Maps (1880, 1897, 1925) | XLIII.5          |
| Ordnance Survey Map (1962)              | SU 99 NE         |

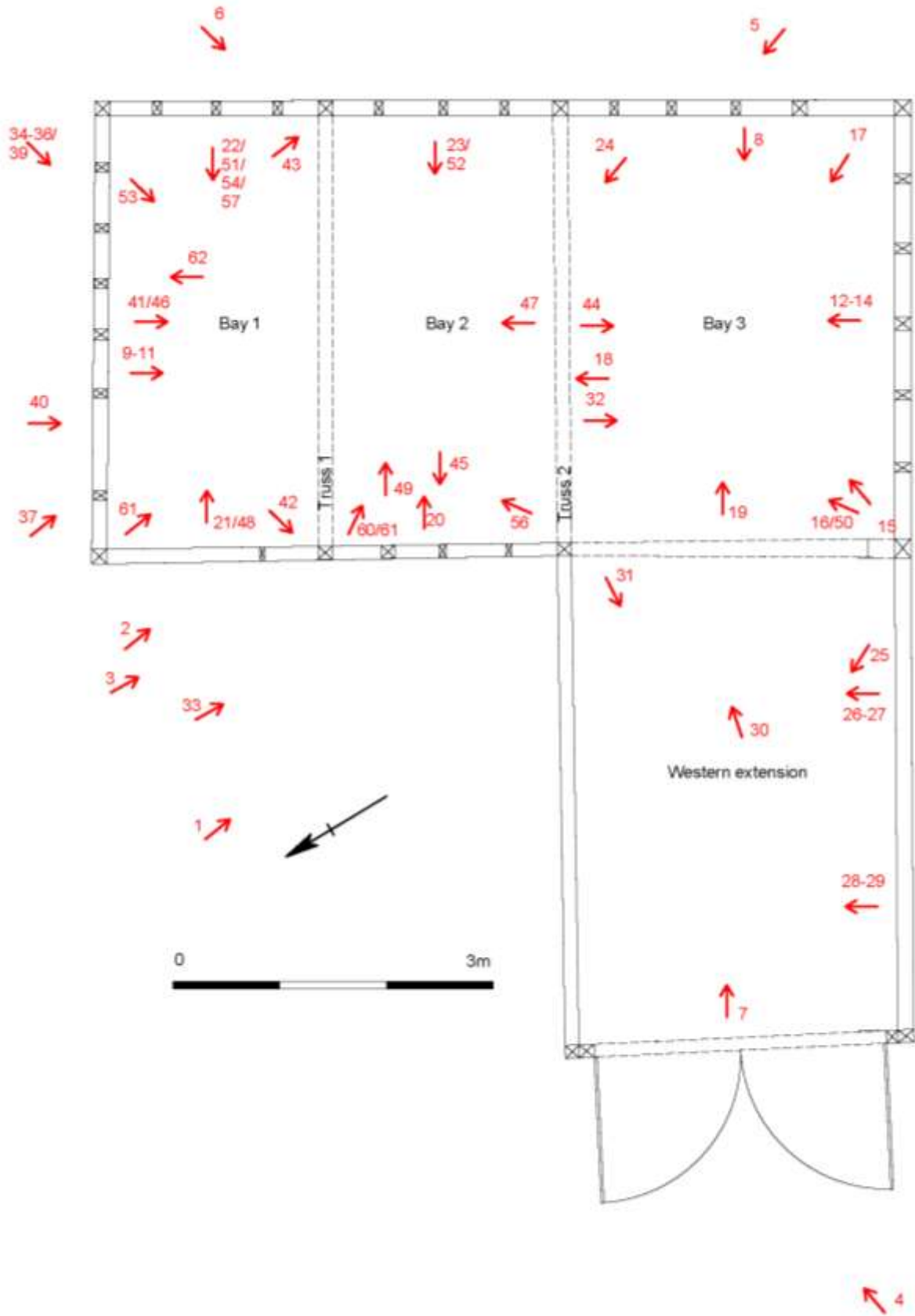


Figure 12: Photo plan (scale as shown)



## Appendix 1: List of Photographs

SITE NO/CODE: 1249/AHS			Site Name: Old Barn, High Street Amersham
Shot	B&W	Digital	Subject
1	X	X	Western side of barn and neighbouring privy
2	X	X	West elevation
3	X	X	North elevation from the northwest
4	X	X	West elevation of western extension
5	X	X	East elevation
6	X	X	South elevation
7	X	X	Western extension looking east
8	X	X	Western extension looking west
9	X	X	South wall
10	X	X	South wall; top
11	X	X	South wall: bottom
12	X	X	North wall
13	X	X	North wall: bottom
14	X	X	North wall top and Truss 1
15	X	X	East wall
16	X	X	Northeast corner
17	X	X	West wall
18	X	X	Truss 2
19	X	X	East wall: Bay 3
20	X	X	East wall: Bay 2
21	X	X	East wall: Bay 1
22	X	X	West wall: Bay 1
23	X	X	West wall: Bay 2
24	X	X	West wall
25	X	X	Western extension: north wall
26	X	X	Western extension: north wall, east
27	X	X	Western extension: north wall, east
28	X	X	Western extension: north wall, west
29	X	X	Western extension: north wall, west
30	X	X	Barn/western extension juncture
31	X	X	Western extension: south wall
32	X	X	South wall: top
33		X	Western side of roof
34		X	Eastern side of roof
35		X	Top of north wall from the scaffold
36		X	Top of north wall from the NE corner of the scaffold
37		X	Top of north wall from the NW corner of the scaffold
38		X	NE jowlpost detail from the scaffold
39		X	North wall mortices detail
40		X	Carpenters assembly marks on stud in north wall
41		X	Trusses from the northern end of the scaffold
42		X	Carpenters' assembly mark on eastern end of Truss 2
43		X	Carpenters' assembly mark on western end of Truss 2
44		X	Top of south wall from the scaffold
45		X	Edge halved scarf joints in the western wall plate and purlin
46		X	South wall during building works

47		X	North wall during building works
48		X	East wall, Bay 1 during building works
49		X	East wall, Bay 2 during building works
50		X	East wall from the southwest
51		X	West wall: Bay 1
52		X	West wall: Bay 2
53		X	West wall
54		X	Initial ground reduction
55		X	Ground reduction in northeast corner
56		X	Ground reduction in northeast corner
57		X	Ground reduction looking towards west wall Bay1
58		X	Bottles found during ground reduction
59		X	Whisky bottle found in eastern pit
60		X	Ground reduction east wall
61		X	Ground reduction east wall
62		X	Bridled scarf joint in sill beam

A CDROM containing copies of all the digital photos listed above is included in the back cover of this report

## Appendix 2: ASC OASIS Form

PROJECT DETAILS			
Project Name:	The Barn 163 High Street Amersham Bucks	OASIS reference:	Archaeol2 71424
Short Description:	<p>Between February and May 2010 Archaeological Services and Consultancy Ltd carried out historic building recording and watching brief of The Barn, 163 High Street, Old Amersham, Buckinghamshire as a condition of planning permission for the development of the building.</p> <p>The barn is a 3-bay, 17<sup>th</sup> century timber frame structure with a late 19<sup>th</sup>/ early 20<sup>th</sup> century extension to the southwest. It has been modified on various other occasions including the insertion of windows in the north, east and west walls and the introduction of a mezzanine in the eastern part of Bays 1 and 2. The original entrance to the barn appears to have been at the southern end of the east wall, which now houses a single door with a window above.</p> <p>Ground reduction revealed quantities of 19<sup>th</sup> century and later bottles, ceramics and building materials, some of which were in the backfill of three small pits. The floor appears to have been largely dug out and replaced to include a concrete layer.</p> <p>Cartographic evidence suggests that the barn may have been part of a complex of buildings forming a courtyard to the rear of the High Street at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. If this is the case, the yard was short-lived as it was clearly subdivided by 1911. The barn was directly associated with number 159 High Street in the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, when it was used as a motorcycle repair shop by the inhabitant of number 159.</p>		
Project Type:	Historic Building Recording and Watching Brief		
Previous work: (eg. SMR refs)	None	Site status: (eg. none, SAM, listed)	Grade II listed HER 1245509
Current land use:	Derelict building	Future work: (yes/no/unknown)	No
Monument type:	Building	Monument period:	Post-medieval
Significant finds: (artefact type & period)	N/A		
PROJECT LOCATION			
County:	Buckinghamshire	OS reference: (8 figs min)	SU 9539 9749
Site address: (+ postcode if known)	The Barn 163 High Street Amersham Bucks		
Study area: (sq. m. / ha)	48.29 sq m	Height OD: (metres)	100m AOD
PROJECT CREATORS			
Organisation:	Archaeological Services & Consultancy Ltd		
Project brief originator:	Ruth Beckley (Bucks CC)	Project design originator:	Calli Rouse
Project Manager:	Karin Semmelmann	Director/Supervisor:	Karin Semmelmann
Sponsor / funding body:	Mrs Briddlecombe		
PROJECT DATE			
Start date:	2 <sup>nd</sup> February 2010	End date:	12 <sup>th</sup> May 2010

<b>PROJECT ARCHIVES</b>			
	Location (Accession no.)	Content (eg. pottery, animal bone, files/sheets)	
Physical:	Bucks County Museum		
Paper:		Photos, field notes, architects drawings etc	
Digital:		1 CD	
<b>BIBLIOGRAPHY</b> (Journal/monograph, published or forthcoming, or unpublished client report)			
Title:	Historic Building Recording and Watching Brief: The Barn 163 High Street Amersham Bucks		
Serial title & volume:	ASC Ltd Report ref. 1249/AHS/2		
Author(s):	Karin Semmelmann MA MIFA		
Page nos	35	Date:	29 <sup>th</sup> June 2010