

**Historic building recording
of The Forge,
The Street, Bradwell,
Essex, CM77 8EG**

October 2020



**report prepared by
Mark Baister**

**commissioned by
Mike Bradburn,
Fairfield Holdings Ltd**

CAT project ref.: 2020/10d
NGR: TL 80575 23063 (c)
Planning reference: 20/00972/FUL
ECC code: BDTF20
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CAT Report 1615
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1 Summary

A programme of historic building recording was carried out by Colchester Archaeological Trust at The Forge, The Street, Bradwell, Essex in October 2020.

The building is a late 19th-century single-storey brick-built structure which would have originally been divided into two rooms. Surviving on the north-eastern wall is a forge, almost entirely intact and with ash and debris from its last firing. Also within the building are two hardwood tables that are probably original to the structure. An original window with shutters survives on the north-western elevation which has had iron straps added on the interior for increased security.

2 Introduction (Fig 1)

This is the archive report of a historic building recording carried out on The Forge, The Street, Bradwell. The recording work was commissioned by Mike Bradburn of Fairfield Holdings Ltd and was carried out by Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT) in October 2020. The site is located on the west side of The Street at its junction with Forge Crescent, at NGR TL 80575 23063 (Fig 1).

A planning application (planning ref. 20/00972/FUL) was submitted to Braintree District Council in June 2020 proposing demolition of the forge building and the erection of two dwellings with parking and amenity spaces.

In response to this application, the Place Services Historic Environment Advisor (HEA) recommended to the council that a Historic England building recording be made of the forge building prior to its demolition (ECC 2020). This recommendation was given based on the site's location in an area highlighted by the EHER as having the potential for significant heritage assets. The recommendation was based on the National Planning Policy Framework (DCLG 2019).

A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for the building recording was prepared by Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT 2020) and agreed with the HEA. All work was carried out in accordance with this WSI.

All work was carried out according to standards and practices contained in the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (2014a), *Standard and guidance for archaeological investigation and recording of standing buildings or structures* (2014b), *Management of research projects in the historic environment* (Historic England 2015), *Standards for field archaeology in the East of England* (EAA 14) and *Research and Archaeology Revised: A Revised Framework for the East of England* (EAA 24). In addition, the guidelines contained in *Understanding Historic Buildings: A guide to good recording practice* (Historic England 2016) were followed.

3 Aims

The aim of the building recording was to provide a detailed record and assessment of the building prior to its demolition. The building recording was carried out to Level 2 (Historic England 2016) which is defined as:

“...a descriptive record, made in similar circumstances to Level 1 but when more information is needed. It may be made of a building which is judged not to require a more detailed record, or it may serve to gather data for a wider project. Both the exterior and interior of the building will be seen, described and photographed. The examination of the building will produce an analysis of its development and use and the record will include the conclusions reached, but it will not discuss in detail the evidence on which this analysis is based. A plan and sometimes other drawings may be made but the drawn record will normally not be comprehensive and may be tailored to the scope of a wider project.”

In particular the record considered the:

- Plan form of the site.
- Materials and method of construction.
- Date(s) of the structure.
- Original function and layout.
- Original and later fixtures and fittings.
- Significance of the site in its immediate local context.

4 Methodology

The following are included in this report:

- A documentary, cartographic and pictorial survey of the evidence pertaining to the history and evolution of the site.
- A large-scale block plan of the site.
- Annotated and phased floor-plan of the building at a scale of 1:50.
- A description of the building. The description addresses features such as materials, dimensions, method of construction and phasing.
- A photographic record, comprising digital photographs of both general shots and individual features. Selected examples of the photographic record are clearly tied into the drawn record and reproduced as fully annotated photographic plates supporting the text. The photographic record is accompanied by a photographic register detailing location and direction of shot (Appendix 1).

5 Historical background (Fig 1)

The following historical background draws on cartographic sources and the Essex Historic Environment Record (EHER) accessed via Heritage Gateway (www.heritagegateway.org.uk).

The building is located within the village of Bradwell, on the west side of The Street (Fig 1). Immediately opposite is Ruffles, a Grade II listed cottage dating from the early 17th century (NHLE no 1123851, EHER 29954). Further along The Street, at the junction with the A120, is The Swan, a 16th-century dwelling that has since been converted into a public house, with many later additions (NHLE no 1168494, EHER 29947). Directly adjacent to the building is Forge House, constructed in 1903, which was originally within of the same parcel of land.

The name of the site and the building is "The Forge", but for the purposes of this report, and to avoid confusion with the surviving forge within the structure, the building will be referred to as a smithy.

The smithy is not present on the 1875 first edition OS map; there is a large "L"-shaped building in its location. A building further to the north, adjacent to the Swan Inn, is instead labelled as a smithy (Map 1).



Map 1 1875 6-inch OS map. Approximate location of the building highlighted in red. Building labelled as "smithy" highlighted in blue.



Map 2 1896 25-inch OS map. The forge highlighted in red.

The building detailed in this report first appears on the 1896 OS map, where it too is labelled as smithy (Map 2). Interestingly the building labelled as a smithy on the 1875 OS map (Map 1) is still present but not labelled, suggesting that the smithy has moved. The large "L"-shaped building present on the 1875 OS map appears to have been largely demolished.

A photograph from 1903 shows the smithy during the construction of the adjacent Forge House (Photograph 1). Visible in this photograph are the original windows on the south-east elevation, the tile roof-covering and a chimney projecting at the north-eastern end (none of which survive today).



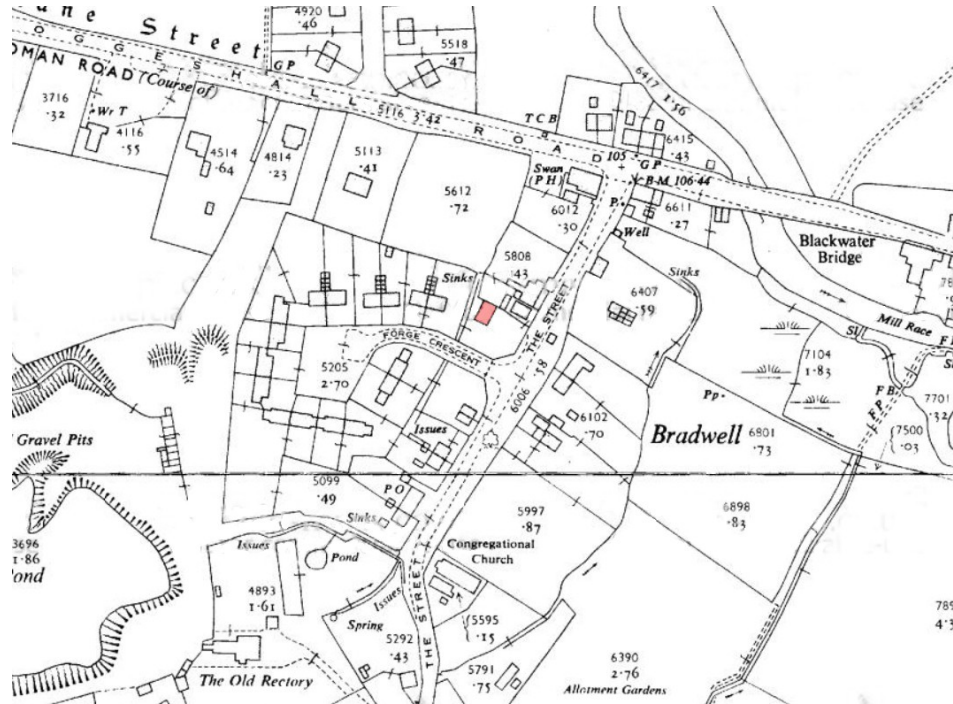
Photograph 1 1903 photograph showing Forge House under construction, with the forge visible to left of frame. Photograph taken facing north-west. Photograph courtesy of residents of Forge House.

The 1920 OS map shows the site as largely unchanged, although the site's boundary has been altered slightly in alignment compared to earlier mapping (Map 3).



Map 3 1920 25-inch OS map. The forge highlighted in red.

The 1953 OS map shows the building footprint as unchanged, but it is no longer labelled as a smithy and is now in a separate plot of land from Forge House. This map also shows significantly more development around the village, including the construction of "Forge Crescent", which has resulted in another altering of the site's boundaries (Map 4). Additionally, for the first time, the village is labelled as Bradwell. On previous mapping (see above) it is labelled as Blackwater.



Map 4 1953 1:2,500 OS map. The smithy highlighted in red.

Subsequent mapping after this date shows no change in the site's layout (Fig 1).

Discussion with local residents provided the information that the site was used as a garage until relatively recently (*pers comm*).

6 Building recording descriptive record (Figs 2-5)

Exterior

The building is a single-storey brick-built structure, aligned north-east to south-west. It measures approximately 10.7m x 6.4m in size and covers around 69 square metres. It has a gabled roof, covered in corrugated asbestos panels (Photograph 2).

Where exposed, the brickwork of the building is visible as being laid in an irregular Flemish-bond and bonded in lime mortar. The brick dimensions are 220-225mm x 105-110mm x 60-65mm.

Despite the intact forge on the interior of the building (see below), there is no surviving chimney projecting above the ridge-line.



Photograph 2 South-east elevation of the building. Photograph taken facing north-west.

The south-east elevation of the building (Fig 3) has two replacement entrances, one stable door and one large double-width door (Photograph 2). Both these doors are vertically-planked and constructed of machine-cut timber. Also on this elevation are two replacement wooden-framed single-light awning windows (Photograph 2). The brickwork on this elevation is covered in render.



Photograph 3 North-east elevation of building, showing weatherboarding on gable. Photograph taken facing west.

The north-east elevation (Fig 5) has no features, but on this elevation the brickwork is exposed and the top of the gable is covered in weatherboarding (Photograph 3).

The north-west elevation (Fig 4) also has exposed brickwork and contains an original wooden-framed 12-light casement window with external shutters (Photograph 4).



Photograph 4 Detail of shutters of original window on north-west elevation. Photograph taken facing south.

The south-west elevation of the building (Fig 5) contains a central wooden-framed single-light fixed window, and the gable is covered in corrugated asbestos panels, identical to the ones on the roof (Photograph 5).



Photograph 5 South-west elevation of building. Photograph taken facing north-east.

Interior

The interior of the building is a single room, although originally it appears to have been subdivided into two (Fig 2). Two internal walls project from the south-east and north-west elevations, but the north-western one has been cut short and a door jamb survives on the south-eastern wall, suggesting they originally formed a doorway (Fig 2, Photograph 9).

The floor of the building is entirely concrete, and the interior walls are all unrendered. At the north-eastern end of the building, built into the wall of the structure, is the forge itself (Photograph 6). The interior brickwork of the building, particularly at its northern end, is smoke and soot blackened.



Photograph 6 Detail of forge within the building. Soot blackening visible on walls. Photograph taken facing north.

The forge appears largely intact and contains much ash and debris, presumably from its last firing. Like the rest of the building, its brickwork is bonded in lime mortar. The forge's chimney rises from its western side and has only a small opening (Photograph 8), containing a surviving cast iron firefront inscribed with "A. J. Pledger & Co Stamford". The chimney contains a section of brick repair bonded in cement mortar (Photograph 7). This repair must have been in place for some time, however, as the bricks are suitably soot blackened on their eastern side (Photograph 6). The eastern end of the forge has two tiers of steps (Photograph 6).



Photograph 7 North-west side of forge, showing more recent bricks bonded in cement mortar. Photograph taken facing east.



Photograph 8 Detail of opening in chimney of forge, showing firefront. Photograph taken facing north-west.



Photograph 9 Interior of building showing modern additions and furniture. Photograph taken facing south.



Photograph 10 Detail of hardwood table in north corner of building. Photograph taken facing north.

The building contains much in the way of modern furniture and fittings (Photograph 9), but in the eastern corner and along the southern eastern wall are two large hardwood tables (Photograph 10). These tables are heavily worn and appear partially built into and supported by the structure's brickwork, suggesting they are original.



Photograph 11 Detail of roof structure. Photograph taken facing south.

The roof of the building is obscured by plastic covers (on account of the asbestos panelling), but it was possible to observe part of the roof through a gap in the plastic (Photograph 11). This showed the roof to be constructed entirely of machine-cut timbers, supported by clasped-collars and a single purlin on each pitch.

The original casement window on the north-west elevation has had several iron straps added to its frame on the interior, presumably for the purposes of security (Photograph 13).



Photograph 12 Interior shot of building. Photograph taken facing north.



Photograph 13 Original 12-light casement window on north-west elevation, viewed from interior. Iron straps on frame shown. Photograph taken facing north-west.

7 Discussion

The construction of the building can be accurately dated to between the survey of the first edition OS map in 1875 and second edition in 1896 (see historical background). An earlier smithy building seems to have been present in Bradwell adjacent to the Swan Inn on the 1875 map, but by the time of the 1896 OS map survey it had moved to its current location.

The building is labelled as a smithy until the 1920 OS map, but subsequent to this it is not labelled on mapping, suggesting it ceased to be used for this purpose. This is not unusual, as the blacksmith trade declined rapidly in the later 19th and early 20th centuries as a result of the modernisation brought about by the industrial advances of the Victorian era.

In earlier centuries blacksmiths would have served a vital part in the community, constructing tools, household objects and weapons, and repairing them when they became damaged. The advent of industrialisation and widespread rapid manufacturing techniques in the early 19th century was devastating to the blacksmithing trade. The same tools and objects were able to be constructed on a much larger scale, more quickly and cheaply than could be achieved by a blacksmith.

Faced with a decline in the necessity of their livelihoods, blacksmiths began focusing more and more on farrier work (the shoeing and maintenance of horse's hooves) and over time the term blacksmith effectively came to embody the farrier trade.

It may be this decline in fortunes that encouraged the relocation of the smithy in Bradwell from adjacent to the The Swan Inn to a new property to the south. The original building may not have been suitable for the access or egress of horses and so a more accessible building with a larger external space would have been desirable.

In more recent years the site has been in use as a motor garage, and this, too, is not an uncommon development. As the personal auto-mobile spread in popularity in the early 20th century (propelled by the technological developments of the First World War being refocussed to more commercial avenues), many blacksmiths, with their profession already in decline, retrained to become the first generation of motor mechanics.

The casement window on the north-west elevation, the two substantial hardwood tables and the forge itself are all that survive as the original elements of the smithy, with the remainder of the furniture and fittings within the structure being 20th century (or later) in origin. The chimney, the tile roof-covering and the doors and windows on the south-east elevation have all been removed or replaced, but are visible on the photograph of the smithy from 1903 (Photograph 1). The reason for their replacement is probably a simple one of wear and tear, although the possibility of a more serious event having caused it, such as a fire, is not unfeasible.

Of particular interest is the fireback in the forge. The company "A. J. Pledger & Co Stamford" still exists today and was founded in the late 19th century (<http://www.pledger.co.uk/about.asp>), suggesting that the forge's surviving fittings may be original.

8 Acknowledgements

Colchester Archaeological Trust would like to thank Mike Bradburn of Fairfield Holdings Ltd for commissioning and funding the historic building recording.

The recording was carried out by Mark Baister and Sarah Carter.

Figures are by Mark Baister.

The project was monitored by Teresa O'Connor for Essex County Council.

The text was reviewed by Philip Crummy, director of CAT.

CAT would like to thank the occupants of Forge House, Mr and Mrs Holloway, for their assistance on site and providing the photograph in the historical background.

9 References

Note: all CAT reports, except for DBAs, are available online in .pdf format at

<http://cat.essex.ac.uk>

Brunskill, R.W.	1990	<i>Brick Building In Britain (1st ed)</i>
Brunskill, R.W.	1994	<i>Timber Building In Britain (2nd ed)</i>
CAT	2020	<i>Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for a historic building recording of The Forge, The Street, Bradwell, Essex, CM77 8EG by E. Holloway</i>
CIfA	2014a	<i>Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials</i>
CIfA	2014b (updated 2019)	<i>Standard and guidance for archaeological investigation and recording of standing buildings or structures</i>
DCLG	2019	<i>National planning policy framework</i>
EAA 14	2003	<i>Standards for field archaeology in the East of England</i> East Anglian Archaeological occasional papers 14 by D. Gurney
EAA 24	2011	<i>Research and Archaeology Revisited: A Revised Framework for the East of England</i> , East Anglian Archaeological occasional papers 24 by Medlycott, M
ECC	2020	<i>Brief for historic building recording and trial trenching evaluation at The Forge, The Street, Bradwell</i> by T. O'Connor
Historic England	2015	<i>MoRPHE: Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment</i>
Historic England	2016	<i>Understanding Historic Buildings. A guide to good recording practice</i>

Websites consulted include

<https://www.oldfieldforge.co.uk/history-of-blacksmithing/>

10 Abbreviations and glossary

CAT	Colchester Archaeological Trust
CIfA	Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
collar	a horizontal timber in a roof spanning between a pair of inclined timbers (such as rafters)
EHER	Essex Historic Environment Record, held by the ECC
ERO	Essex Records Office
Flemish-bond	a brickwork bond created from alternating headers and stretchers within a single course
HE	Historic Environment
header	a brick laid at right-angles to the face of the wall, i.e widthways
modern	period from the 19th century onwards to the present
NGR	National Grid Reference
OASIS	O nline A ccess to the I ndex of A rchaeological I nvestigations, http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main
stretcher	a brick laid parallel to the face of the wall, i.e. lengthways

11 Archive deposition

The paper and digital archive is currently held by the Colchester Archaeological Trust at Roman Circus House, Roman Circus Walk, Colchester, Essex CO2 7GZ. The digital archive will be permanently deposited with the Archaeological Data Service (<https://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/>) under EHER code BDTF20.

12 Contents of archive

Paper record

One A4 document wallet containing:
The report (CAT Report 1615)
Original site record (plans and notes)
Site digital photos and log

Digital record

The CAT WSI
The report (CAT Report 1615)
Digital plans
Site digital photos and log

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Distribution list

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checked by: Philip Crummy
date: 11/11/2020

Appendix 1:
Full digital photographic record
(images on accompanying CD)

BDTF20_PhotoGraph_001.JPG South-east elevation of building. Photograph taken facing north-west.
BDTF20_PhotoGraph_002.JPG South-east elevation of building. Photograph taken facing north-west.
BDTF20_PhotoGraph_003.JPG Detail of double-door on south-east elevation of building. Photograph taken facing north-west.
BDTF20_PhotoGraph_004.JPG Detail of awning window on south-east elevation of building. Photograph taken facing north-west.
BDTF20_PhotoGraph_005.JPG Detail of stable door on south-east elevation of building. Photograph taken facing north-west.
BDTF20_PhotoGraph_006.JPG Detail of awning window on south-east elevation of building. Photograph taken facing north-west.
BDTF20_PhotoGraph_007.JPG South-west elevation of building. Photograph taken facing north-east.
BDTF20_PhotoGraph_008.JPG South-west elevation of building with Forge House in background. Photograph taken facing north-east.
BDTF20_PhotoGraph_009.JPG Detail of fixed window on south-west elevation of building. Photograph taken facing north-east.
BDTF20_PhotoGraph_010.JPG Detail of shutters recently removed from south-west elevation of building.
BDTF20_PhotoGraph_011.JPG North-west elevation of building. Photograph taken facing north-east.
BDTF20_PhotoGraph_012.JPG North-west elevation of building. Photograph taken facing east.
BDTF20_PhotoGraph_013.JPG North-west pitch of roof. Photograph taken facing east.
BDTF20_PhotoGraph_014.JPG Interior of building. Photograph taken facing north.
BDTF20_PhotoGraph_015.JPG Interior of building. Photograph taken facing north-east.
BDTF20_PhotoGraph_016.JPG Interior of building showing hardwood tables in north corner. Photograph taken facing north-east.
BDTF20_PhotoGraph_017.JPG Interior of building showing intact forge. Photograph taken facing north.
BDTF20_PhotoGraph_018.JPG Interior of building showing intact forge. Photograph taken facing north-east.
BDTF20_PhotoGraph_019.JPG Interior of building showing intact forge. Photograph taken facing north-east.
BDTF20_PhotoGraph_020.JPG Interior of building showing modern shelving. Photograph taken facing north-east.
BDTF20_PhotoGraph_021.JPG Interior of building showing original window. Photograph taken facing north-west.
BDTF20_PhotoGraph_022.JPG Interior of building. Photograph taken facing west.
BDTF20_PhotoGraph_023.JPG Interior detail of original casement window on north-west elevation. Photograph taken facing north-west.
BDTF20_PhotoGraph_024.JPG Detail of fittings on original casement window on north-west elevation. Photograph taken facing north-west.
BDTF20_PhotoGraph_025.JPG Detail of timber lintel above original casement window in north-west elevation. Photograph taken facing north-west.
BDTF20_PhotoGraph_026.JPG Detail of brick repair to forge, bonded in cement mortar. Photograph taken facing east.
BDTF20_PhotoGraph_027.JPG Detail of chimney-stack of forge from below.
BDTF20_PhotoGraph_028.JPG Detail of chimney-stack of forge from below.
BDTF20_PhotoGraph_029.JPG Interior of building, showing intact forge. Photograph taken facing north-east.
BDTF20_PhotoGraph_030.JPG Interior of building, showing modern furniture. Photograph taken facing south.
BDTF20_PhotoGraph_031.JPG Interior of building, showing cut short wall. Photograph taken facing south-west.
BDTF20_PhotoGraph_032.JPG Interior of building, showing stable door on south-east elevation. Photograph taken facing south-east.
BDTF20_PhotoGraph_033.JPG Interior of building, showing intact awning window on south-east elevation. Photograph taken facing south-east.
BDTF20_PhotoGraph_034.JPG Interior of building, showing awning window on south-east elevation. Photograph taken facing south-east.
BDTF20_PhotoGraph_035.JPG Interior of building, showing interior wall. Photograph taken facing south-west.
BDTF20_PhotoGraph_036.JPG Interior of building, showing double-doors on south-east elevation. Photograph taken facing south-east.
BDTF20_PhotoGraph_037.JPG Interior of building. Photograph taken facing north-west.
BDTF20_PhotoGraph_038.JPG Interior of building. Photograph taken facing north.

BDTF20_Photo_039.JPG Interior of building, showing fixed window on south-west elevation. Photograph taken facing south-west.

BDTF20_Photo_040.JPG Interior of building, interior wall. Photograph taken facing north-east.

BDTF20_Photo_041.JPG Interior of building, showing electric boxes. Photograph taken facing west.

BDTF20_Photo_042.JPG Interior of building, showing electric boxes. Photograph taken facing north-west.

BDTF20_Photo_043.JPG Interior of building, showing electric box. Photograph taken facing north-west.

BDTF20_Photo_044.JPG Interior of building, showing hood badges from cars from building's use as a garage. Photograph taken facing south-west.

BDTF20_Photo_045.JPG Interior of building, showing hood badges from cars from building's use as a garage. Photograph taken facing south-west.

BDTF20_Photo_046.JPG Interior of building, showing electric meter and boxes. Photograph taken facing south-west.

BDTF20_Photo_047.JPG Interior of building, showing intact forge. Photograph taken facing north.

BDTF20_Photo_048.JPG Interior of building, showing intact forge. Photograph taken facing north-west.

BDTF20_Photo_049.JPG Interior of building, showing intact forge. Photograph taken facing north-west.

BDTF20_Photo_050.JPG Interior of building, showing intact firefront in forge. Photograph taken facing north-west.

BDTF20_Photo_051.JPG Interior of building, showing repair to forge. Photograph taken facing east.

BDTF20_Photo_052.JPG Interior of building, showing repair to forge. Photograph taken facing east.

BDTF20_Photo_053.JPG Interior of building, showing roof structure. Photograph taken facing south.

BDTF20_Photo_054.JPG Interior of building, showing hardwood table in east corner. Photograph taken facing east.

BDTF20_Photo_055.JPG Interior of building, showing later inserted table. Photograph taken facing north-east.

BDTF20_Photo_056.JPG Interior of building, showing later inserted table. Photograph taken facing north-east.

BDTF20_Photo_057.JPG Interior of building, showing detail of original table in east corner. Photograph taken facing east.

BDTF20_Photo_058.JPG Interior of building, showing later inserted table meeting original table in east corner. Photograph taken facing east.

BDTF20_Photo_059.JPG Interior of building, showing original table on south-east wall. Photograph taken facing south-east.

BDTF20_Photo_060.JPG Interior of building, showing original table on south-east wall. Photograph taken facing south-east.

BDTF20_Photo_061.JPG Interior of building, showing original table on south-east wall. Photograph taken facing east.

BDTF20_Photo_062.JPG Interior of building, showing cut short interior wall. Photograph taken facing north-west.

BDTF20_Photo_063.JPG Interior of building, showing damage to north-west wall. Photograph taken facing north-west.

BDTF20_Photo_064.JPG Interior of building, showing damage to north-west wall. Photograph taken facing north-west.

BDTF20_Photo_065.JPG Interior of building, showing original casement window on north-west elevation. Photograph taken facing north.

BDTF20_Photo_066.JPG Interior of building, showing timber within wall. Photograph taken facing north.

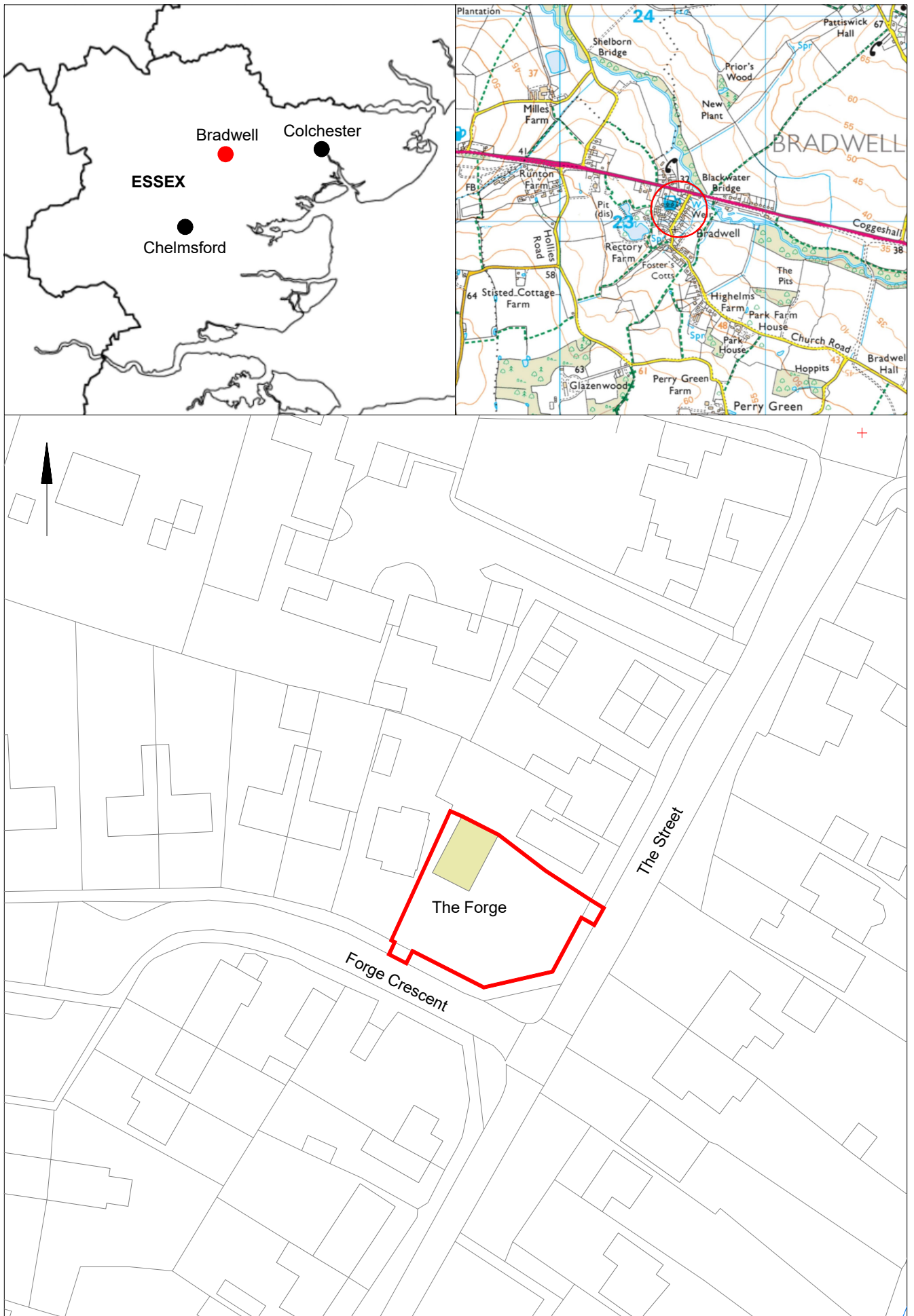
BDTF20_Photo_067.JPG Interior of building, showing sill of original casement window on north-west elevation. Photograph taken facing north.

BDTF20_Photo_068.JPG Interior of building, showing intact forge. Photograph taken facing north-east.

BDTF20_Photo_069.JPG Interior of building, showing timber in north-east wall. Photograph taken facing north-east.

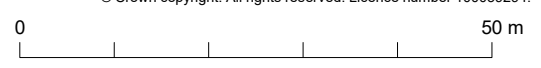
BDTF20_Photo_070.JPG Interior of building, showing timber in north-east wall. Photograph taken facing north.

BDTF20_Photo_071.JPG Interior of building, showing awning window and original table in east corner. Photograph taken facing south-east.



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Fig 1 Site location.



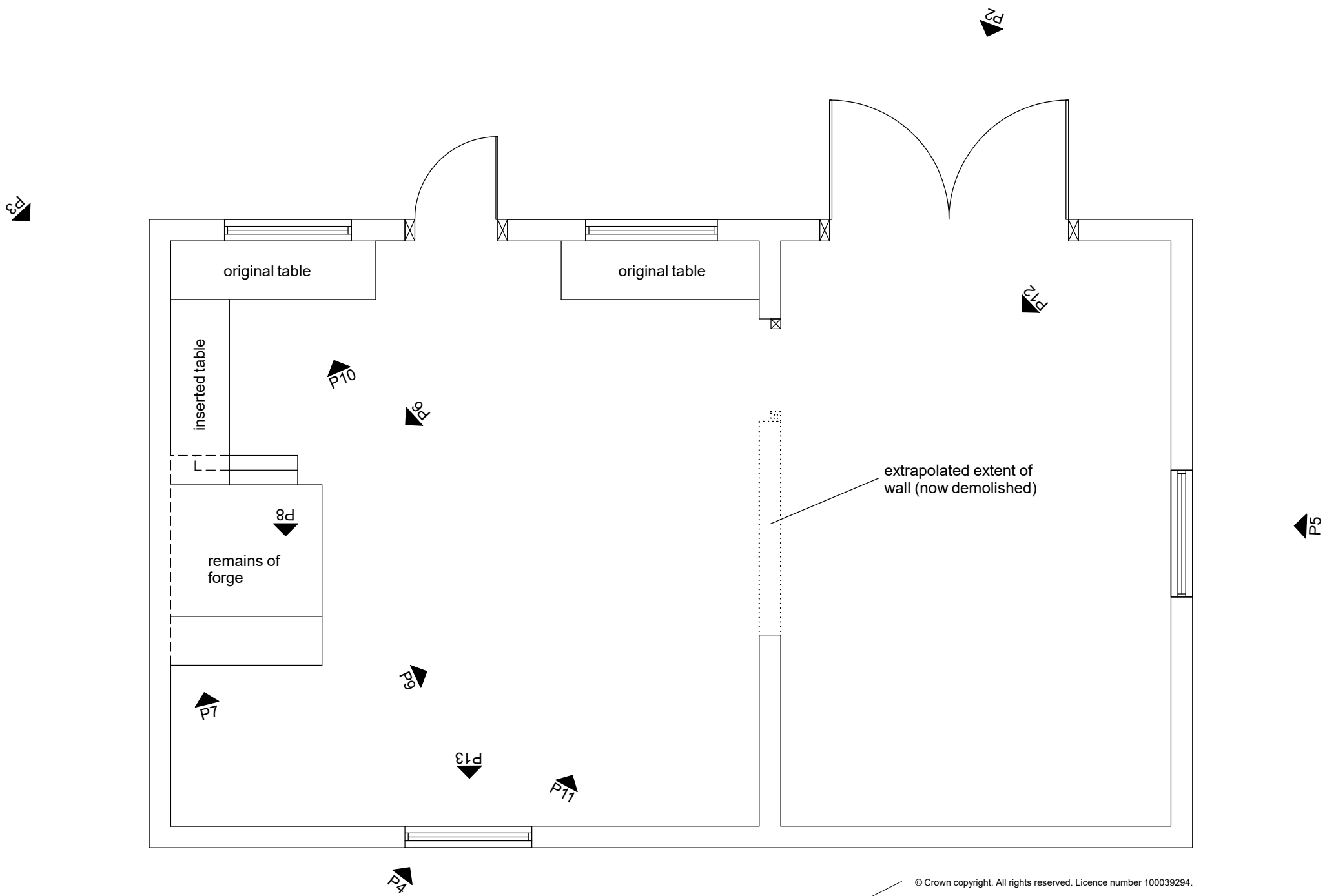
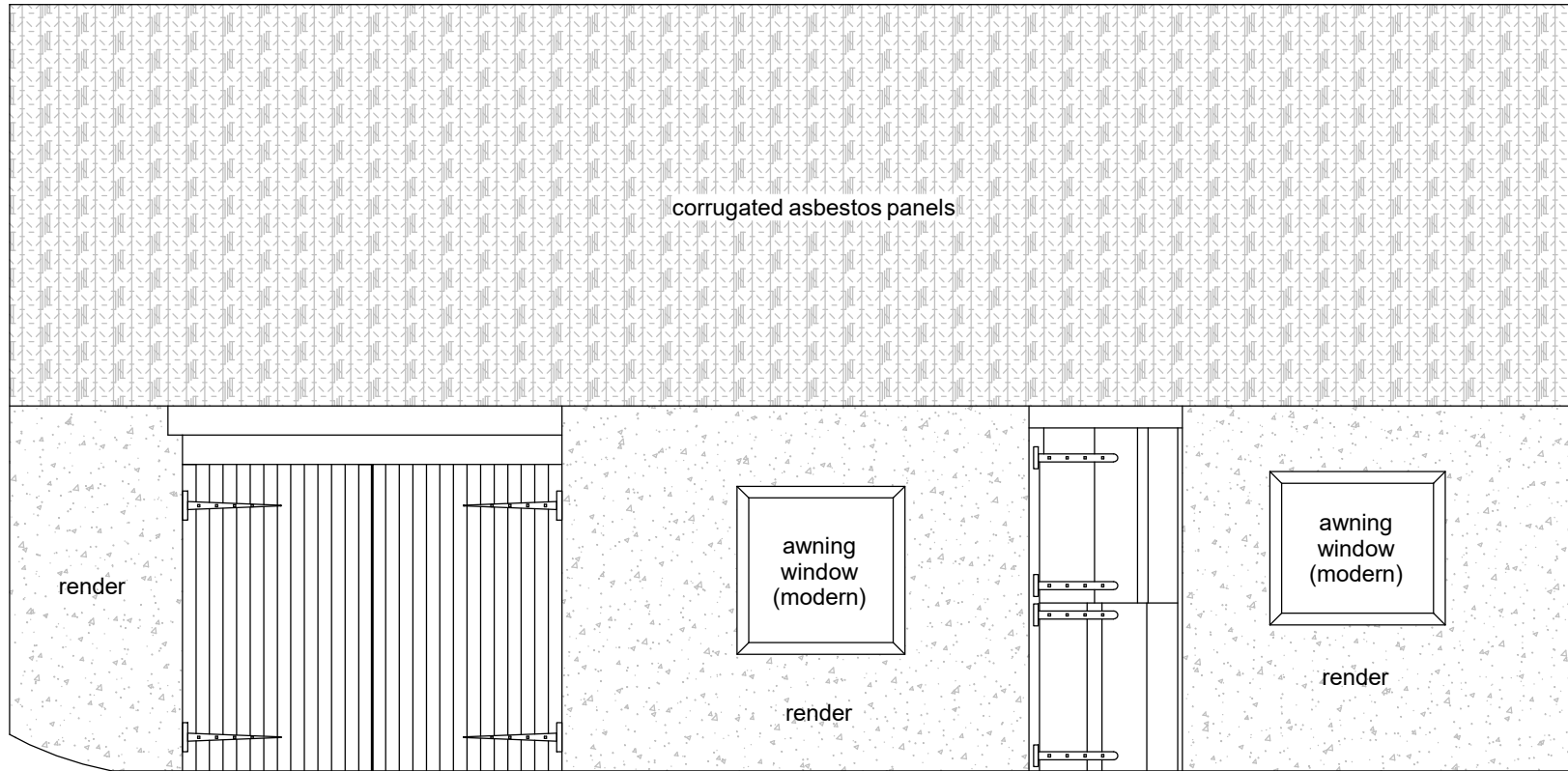


Fig 2 Floor-plan of the building. Location and direction of photographs reproduced in text shown.

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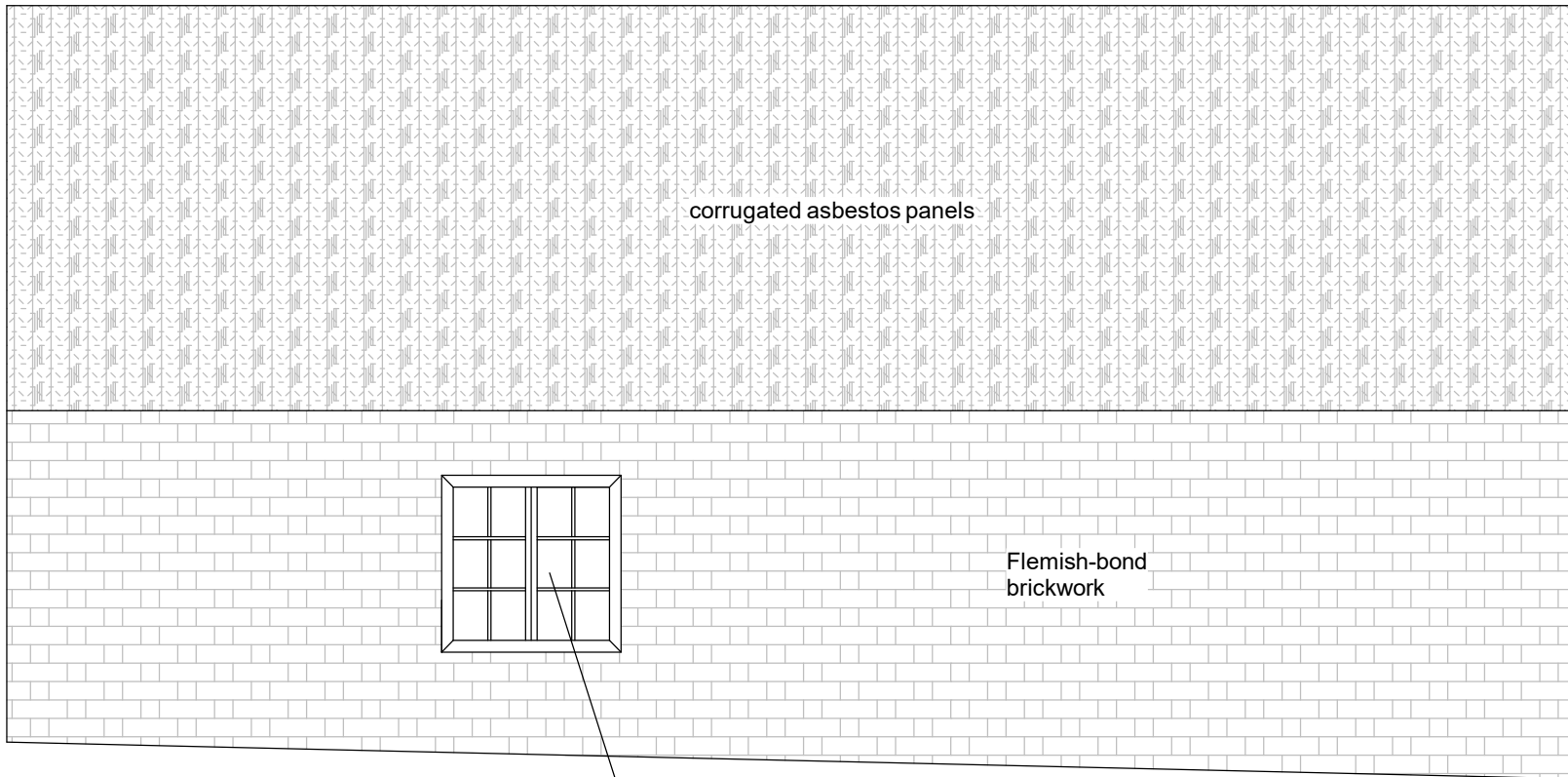




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Fig 3 South-east elevation of the building.



corrugated asbestos panels

Flemish-bond
brickwork

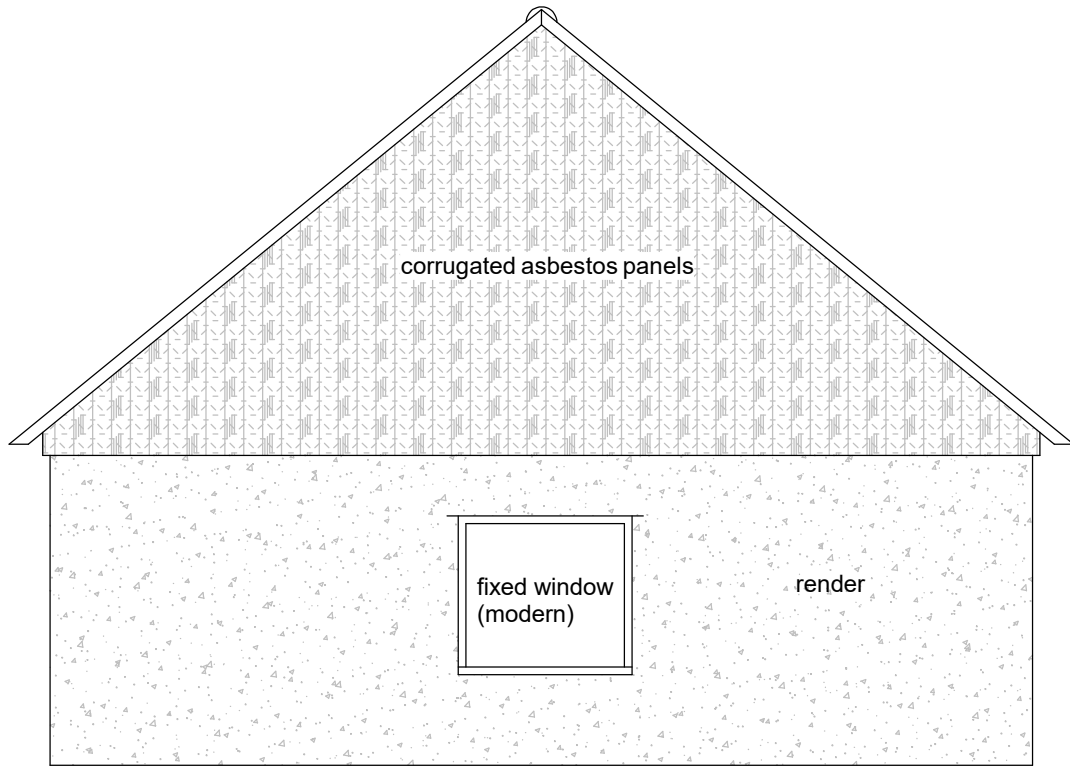
casement
window
(original)

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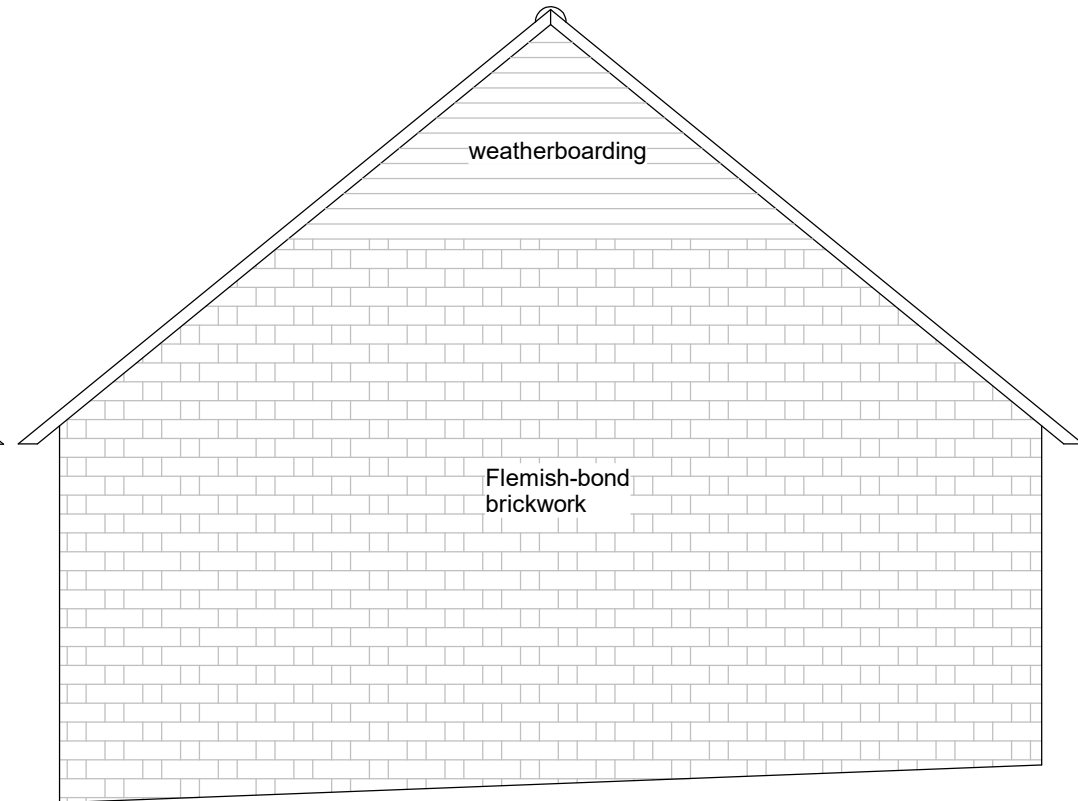
0 2 m

Fig 4 North-west elevation of the building.

SOUTH-WEST



NORTH-EAST



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Fig 5 North-east and south-west elevations of the building.

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OASIS ID: colchest3-405169

Project details

Project name	Historic building recording of The Forge, The Street, Bradwell, Essex, CM77 8EG.
Short description of the project	A programme of historic building recording was carried out by Colchester Archaeological Trust at The Forge, The Street, Bradwell, Essex in October 2020. The building is a late 19th-century single-storey brick-built structure which would have originally been divided into two rooms. Surviving on the north-eastern wall is a forge, almost entirely intact and with ash and debris from its last firing. Also within the building are two hardwood tables that are probably original to the structure. An original window with shutters survives on the north-western elevation which has had iron straps added on the interior for increased security.
Project dates	Start: 10-10-2020 End: 11-11-2020
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	20/00972/FUL - Planning Application No.
Any associated project reference codes	2020/10d - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	BDTF20 - HER event no.
Type of project	Building Recording
Site status	None
Current Land use	Vacant Land 3 - Despoiled land (contaminated derelict and ?brownfield? sites)
Monument type	SMITHY Post Medieval
Significant Finds	HEARTH Post Medieval
Prompt	National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF

Project location

Country	England
Site location	ESSEX BRAINTREE BRADWELL The Forge, The Street, Bradwell, Essex
Postcode	CM77 8EG
Study area	69 Square metres
Site coordinates	TL 80575 23063 51.876358159842 0.623604127946 51 52 34 N 000 37 24 E Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Colchester Archaeological Trust
Project brief originator	HEM Team Officer, ECC
Project design originator	Emma Holloway
Project director/manager	Chris Lister
Project supervisor	Mark Baister
Name of sponsor/funding body	Fairfield Holdings Ltd

Project archives

Physical Archive Exists?	No
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Digital Archive recipient	Braintree Museum
Digital Archive ID	BDTF20
Digital Contents	"none"
Digital Media available	"Survey","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Braintree Museum
Paper Archive ID	BDTF20
Paper Contents	"Survey"
Paper Media available	"Miscellaneous Material","Photograph","Plan","Report","Survey "

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Historic building recording of The Forge, The Street, Bradwell, Essex, CM77 8EG October 2020
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Baister, M
Other bibliographic details	CAT Report 1615
Date	2020
Issuer or publisher	Colchester Archaeological Trust
Place of issue or publication	Colchester
Description	A4 bound report with clear plastic front and opaque black cardboard back.
URL	http://cat.essex.ac.uk/summaries/CAT-1615.html
Entered by	Mark Baister (mb@catuk.org)
Entered on	11 November 2020

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