

"Barn Grounds",

Binfield Heath.

Owner:- Coppid Hall Estate.

*Listed Cd II Aug. 1985*

This survey was carried out by kind permission of the Coppid Hall Estate.



*Westgables of  
barns I & II*

"Barn Grounds" is situated on high grounds between two fields called Barn Grounds and Gulmers. At the time of the Tithe Award in 1840 it still had a house, as it did on the 1913 O.S. Map (see enclosed copies) as well as a further building to the west of the two barns, probably a stable. A small open shelter shed with hay loft over is attached to Barn II. There is a well to the west of the shed. A pond next to the cottage site is probably a natural feature. In 1840 Barn Grounds was part of a large farm belonging to Mary Atkins <sup>Wright</sup> of Crowsley Park, and farmed by William Simmons. The Tithe Award does not tell us where W. Simmons lived but it was probably at No. 89 on the Tithe Map, which is Crowsley Park Farm, a very substantial farm, whilst the cottage at 116 was probably used for a farm worker's family. If it ever was a farm in its own right, and it certainly appears so, it must have fallen victim to early engrossment. R. Ford in his "Description of Binfield Heath" says that Barn Grounds is mentioned in 1620 when it was tenanted by Mathew Keene. He does not mention his source of information. The existence of the cruck trusses in Barn I leads me to speculate on the possibility of an earlier medieval house on the site, which, at the time



of the building of Barn I (perhaps late 16th C. to 17th C.) was replaced.

### ARCHITECTURAL EVIDENCE.

BARN I. This is a timber framed barn with weather boarding on a brick and flint plinth. Corrugated sheeting replaces tiles. The barn consists of 3 bays, which are 4m. long, and one additional one of 5m<sup>(bay IV)</sup>. The roof above this bay is half hipped. The barn has an aisle on the north side, and measures 8.50m. across. There are two large doors opposite each other in the central bay, the one in the aisle wall has a raised dormer roof. They are 3.50m. high. No signs of a threshing floor remain.

The most interesting features are the many re-used timbers. The four arcade posts seem to be parts of cruck blades (see enclosed drawing and photographs). A I and D I appear to be a pair, and so do B I and C I. Very curved timbers in the gable and side walls also show signs of previous use with their many interesting notches. Some tie beams, collars and purlins have large brace slots and many mortices. In spite of this the barn is very well and solidly built. There are matching carpenters' marks, some chiselled, some cut by knife. The trusses have jowelled wall posts, curved braces, tall queen struts to the collar which clasp the upper purlins. The lower purlins are clasped between lower queen struts and half collars. The additional bay is built in the same style as the rest, i.e. with a middle rail, but has very narrow machine cut rafters and very new looking corner posts. The off-set brick and flint plinth has 3 holes at the corners, and the weather boarding is in a poor condition. The oak timbers are in good condition throughout. The barn is probably of 18<sup>th</sup> C. date, with the cruck blades going back several hundred years more. (1454 dendro dated)

BARN II. Barn II is a timbered framed barn with weather boarding on a brick and flint plinth. The barn consists of three bays, which are just over 4m. long and some 7½m. wide. The centre bay has a porch on the north side with two large doors some 3.03m. wide. These doors are matched on the south side with similar doors opening up on to an enclosed yard. On the north side there is also an aisle divided from the main body of the barn by a number of arcade posts (4 No.) of which three are supported by wooden sills on brick 'piers'. The roof was tiled but has largely been covered by corrugated iron sheeting, however part of the roof over the aisle and porch still retain their original tiles.

The trusses have wall posts with jowls with curved braces to the tie beam, queen struts to the collar and one clasped purlin. The brick plinth and part of the wall to the north east side of the porch has fallen down and generally the barn is in dire need of repair. On the west side a smaller building, a shelter shed with hay loft, has been built against the side of the barn. The only connection with the barn is via the enclosed yard. The centre bay of the barn has the remains of a wooden threshing floor; the bays on either side have floors of compacted soil. The brick plinth looks re-built. There are 6 courses of narrow bricks in English bond at the bottom, and machine cut bricks above in Flemish bond. The sole plate timber looks newer than the rest of the timbers and some of the wall posts have joints in them about 0.40m. above the sole plate, as if repairs were carried out. (see enclosed scarf joint drawing). The west gable wall used to be half hipped.

A. Cottingham, a member of the Henley Archaeological & Historical Group has numerous colour slides of the buildings.

RECORDED:- by members of the Henley Archaeological & Historical Group.

SCALE DRAWINGS BY:-

J. Howard.  
P. Anderson.  
R. Gibson.

PHOTOGRAPHS:-

P. Anderson.  
R. Gibson.

REPORT BY:- R. Gibson.



Barn I  
north side



THE ESTATE OFFICE,  
COPPID HALL,  
HENLEY-ON-THAMES,  
RG9 4JS.

Our Ref: A 2.0

M/s Ruth Gibson,  
7 Vicarage Road,  
Henley-on-Thames,

22 May 1984

Dear Ruth Gibson,

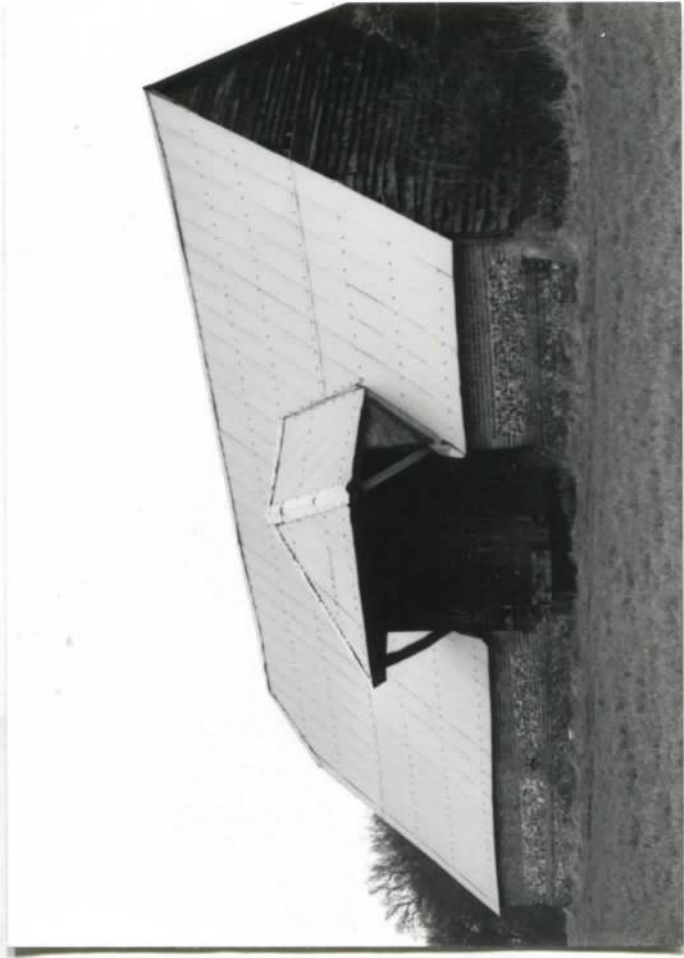
Thankyou so much for the excellent report on "Barn Grounds" and you are to be congratulated on the effort which you have all obviously put into the project.

Sadly Colonel Phillimore passed away on the 19th May and was unable to read the report. I can assure you however that he would have been delighted with your effort and with the result, had he still been with us.

Yours sincerely,



R. F. Cumpston  
Estate Steward



Barn 1, north side



BARN GROUNDS

Barn 2 and stable, south side



Barn 2, barn 1 south side



Barn 2, north side



Barn 1  
porch & aisle  
north side



Barn 1  
east gable



Barn 1 B - A south side



Barn 1 truss B - B1 looking west

last 1452 Dendro Date  
(ie Felling Date)

BARN GROUNDS BINFIELD HEATH (BIN-A)

DENDRO SAMPLE RECORD AND SUMMARY  
INITIAL REPORT 13 FEBRUARY 1990  
NOTTINGHAM UNIVERSITY TREE-RING DATING LABORATORY

Barn I Dendro Date for  
re-used cruck timbers. R.C.

SITE INFORMATION

Address	Barn Grounds, Binfield Heath
Area	Oxfordshire
Site type	Barn built of reused arched brace cruck blades
Name of occupants	Phillamore Estate, Coppid Hall
Grid reference	SU 739794

SAMPLE INFORMATION

Number of Samples	09
Sample type(s)	Cores
Sampling date	18.12.89
Collected by	R.Howard.
Felling date range with likely felling date in brackets	Ca 1452

SAMPLE No.	LOCATION	TOTAL RINGS	SAP RINGS	FMR DATE	LHR DATE	LMR DATE
BIN-A01	Cruck blade as arcade post D1	81	HS	1353	1433	1433
BIN-A02	Cruck blade as arcade post B1	37	HS	1406	1438	1438
BIN-A03	Cruck blade as arcade post C1	45	06	1405	1443	1449
BIN-A04	Cruck blade as arcade post A	57	HS	1380	1436	1436
BIN-A05	Cruck blade as main post A1	79	18c	1374	1434	1452
BIN-A06	Cruck blade as main post A	63	HS	----	----	----
BIN-A07	Cruck blade as main post A-B	57	HS	1379	1435	1435
BIN-A08	Wall plate Truss B1-C1	40	HS	----	----	----
BIN-A09	Rafter truss B1-C1	54	HS	1376	1429	1429



## BINFIELD HEATH (BIN-A)

### SUMMARY

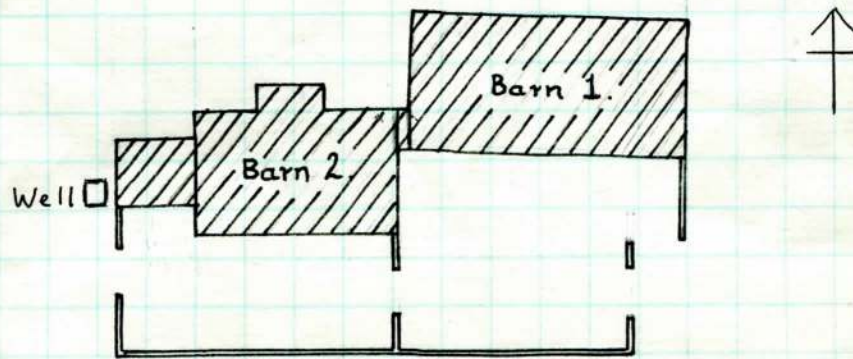
Nine samples were obtained from this building. All samples were cross-matched by the Litton/Zainodin grouping procedure. At  $t=4.5$  four samples cross-matched to form BINASQ04, a sequence of 79 rings. BINASQ01 was then cross-matched against the National and Local Reference Chronologies matching when the date of the first ring is 1374 and the date of the last measured ring is 1452.

BINASQ04 was then cross-matched against the remaining five samples allowing a further three samples, BIN-A01, 03 & 09, to be combined to form BINASQ05, a sequence of 100 rings. BINASQ05 was then cross-matched against the National and Local Reference Chronologies matching when the date of the first ring is 1353 and the date of the last measured ring is 1452.

At the time of coring it was observed that the sample with the latest dated ring, BIN-A05, came from a timber which appeared to have complete sapwood and possibly the underside of the bark. There is no bark on the sample and probably one or two rings have been lost in coring. However, the last measured ring date is probably within two or three years of the felling date.



BARN GROUNDS BINFIELD HEATH.

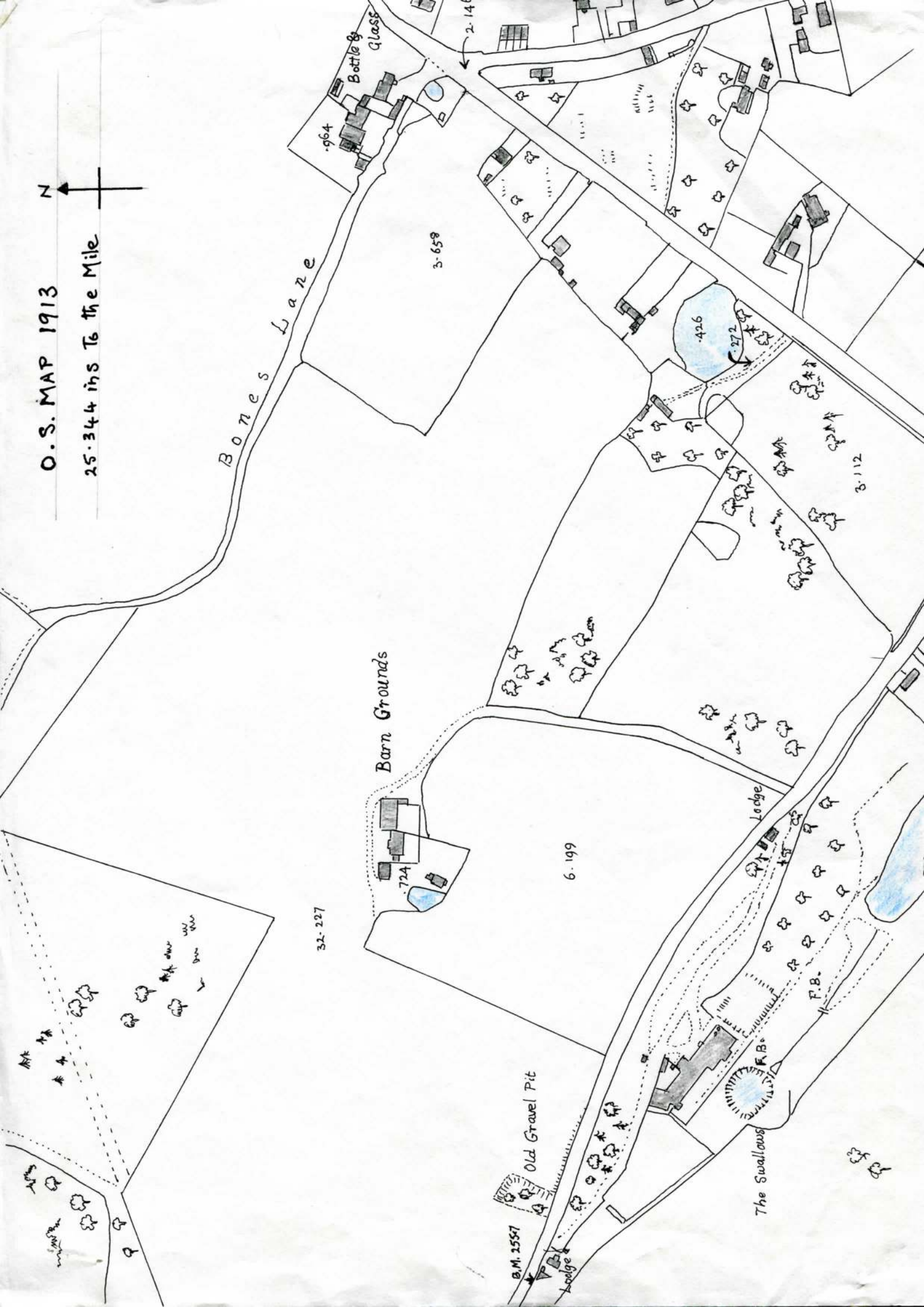


SITE PLAN

Scale 1:500

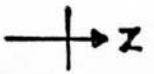
J.H. 1984.

25.344 ins To the Mile

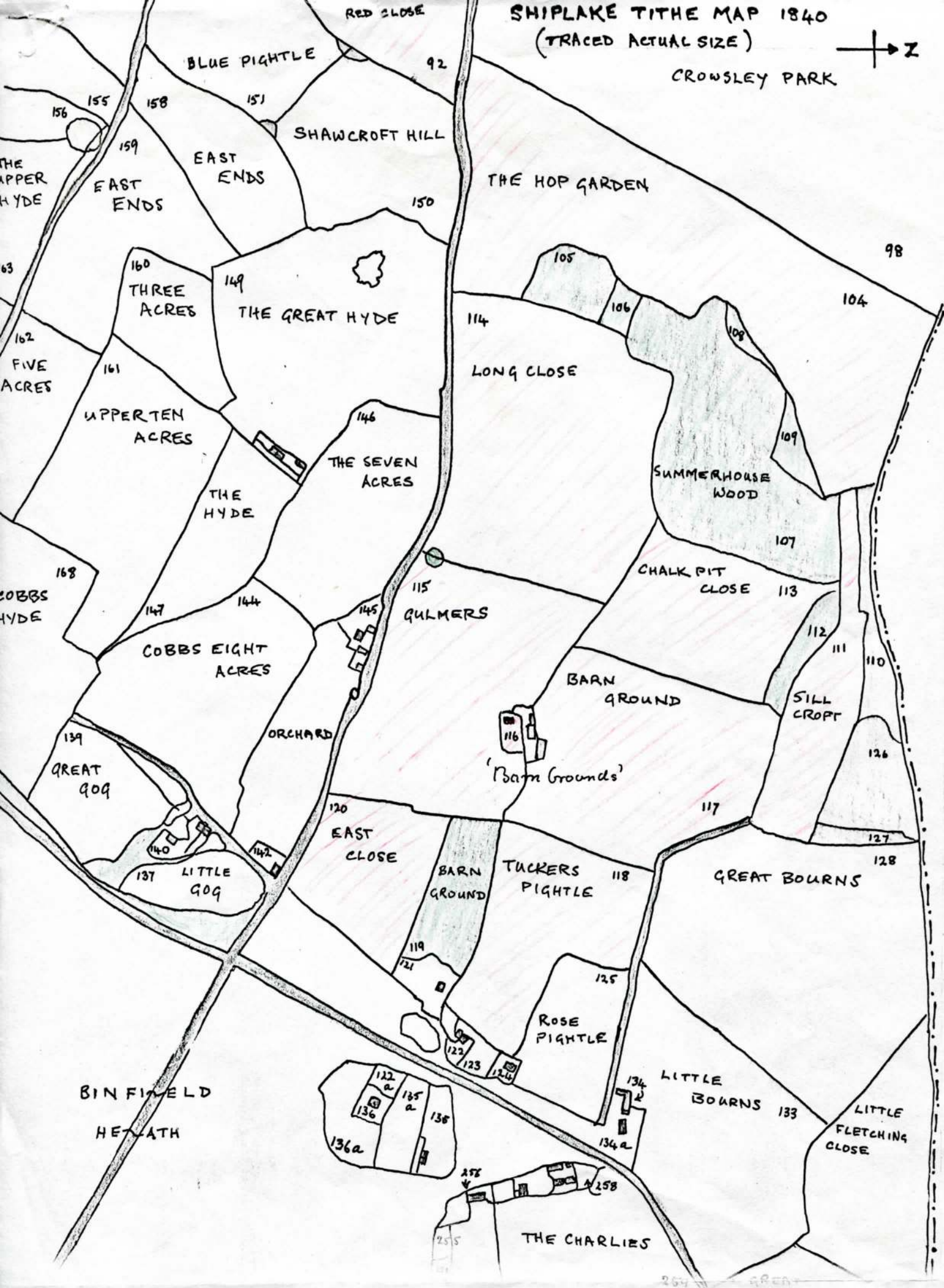




SHIPLAKE TITHE MAP 1840  
(TRACED ACTUAL SIZE)



CROWSLEY PARK



Mary Atkyns Wright

William  
Simmons  
(cont.)

77	Georges ground		
79	Part of the Dean	arable	7. 2. 25.
80	" " " "	"	8. 2. 27.
78	The seven acres		
81	Duffin's Hill		
82	Duffin's pightle		
83	House, garden & premises		
85	Part of Duffins		
86	" " "		
87	" " "		
88	Garden		
89	House, yard & buildings		
90	Home close	arable	
91	Leighton's Hill	"	
92	Red close	"	
96	Sixteen acres	"	
97	Part of Gravel pit ground	arable	8. 0. 24.
111	Sill croft	arable	
113	Chalk pit close		
114	Long close		
104	The Hop garden	arable	22. 1. 4.
115	Gulmers	"	
X 116	House, garden & buildings		
117	Barn ground		
118	Tuckers pightle		
120	East close		
150	Show croft hill	arable	16. 3. 25.
151	Blue pightle		
152	Hurst Hill		
158	Part of East Ends		
159	" " " "		

Henry Sadler

167 Sadler's Hyde  
175 Cottage & garden  
244 The Two acres

Joseph Sadler

189 Two cottages & gardens  
250 Cottage & garden  
251 Orchard

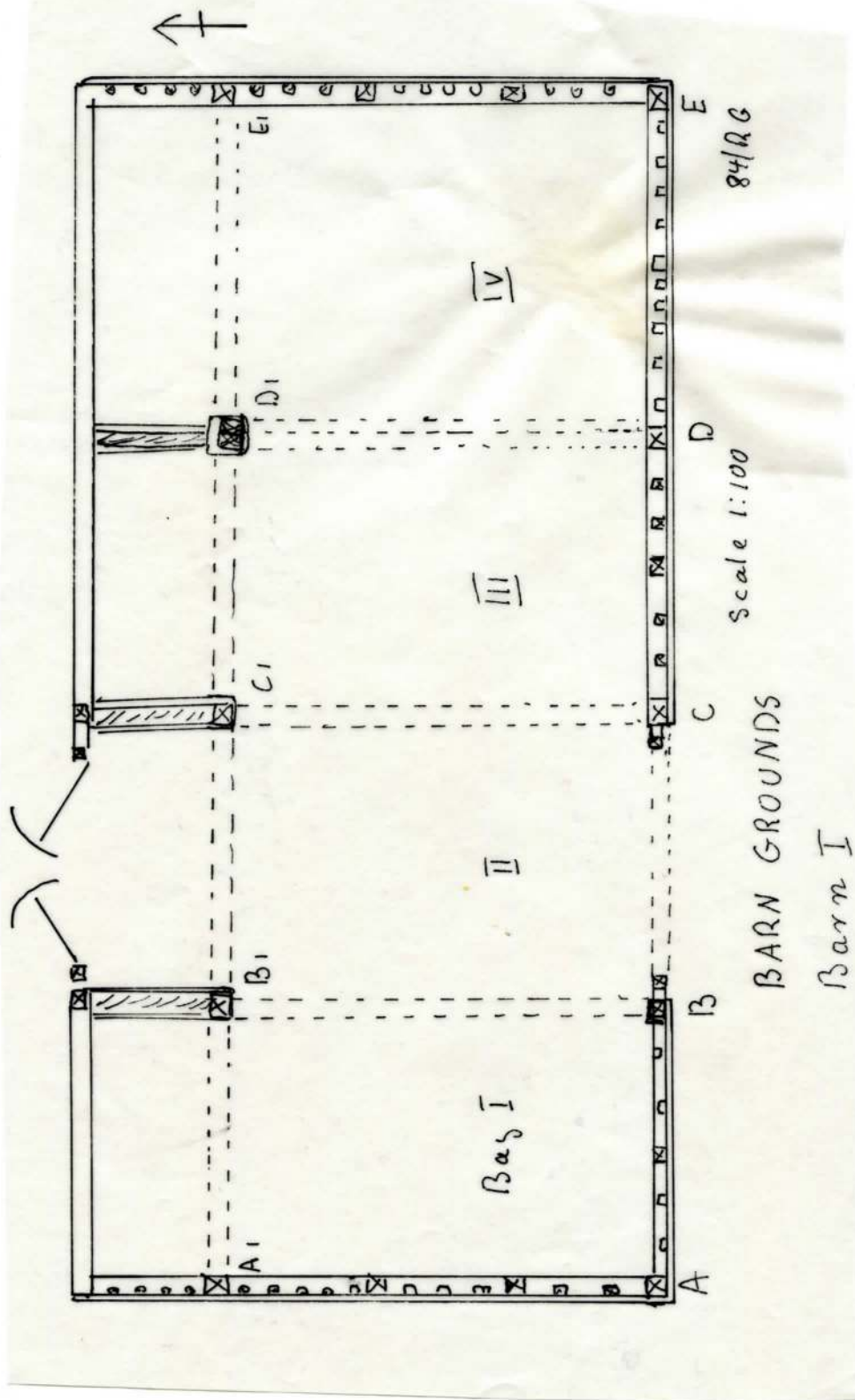
Francis Gutteridge & ano. 12 Two cottages & gardens

Francis Gutteridge 13 Plot adjoining 12

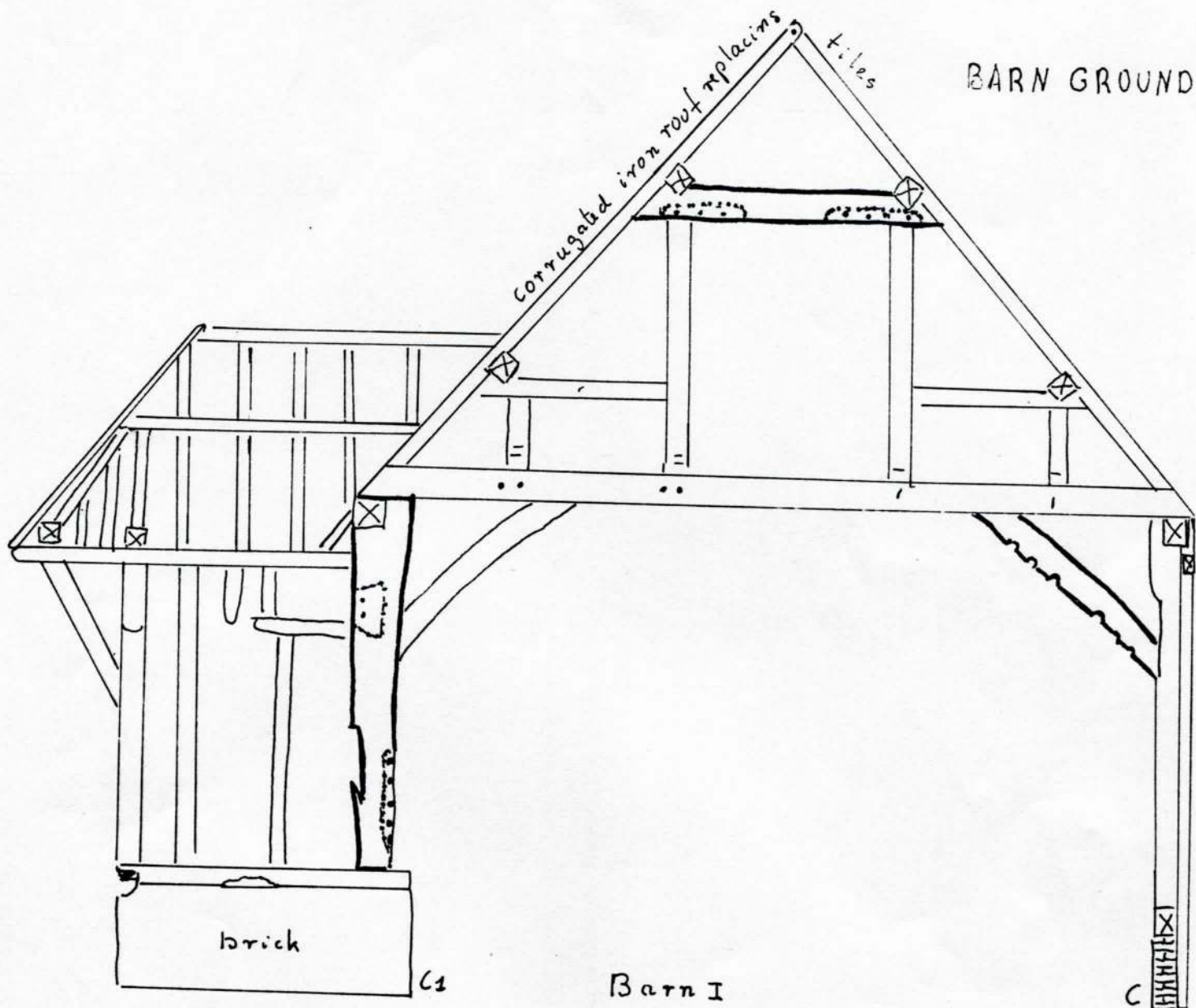
Richard Shurvel 14 " " 13

James Pigeon & ano. 15 Two cottages & gardens





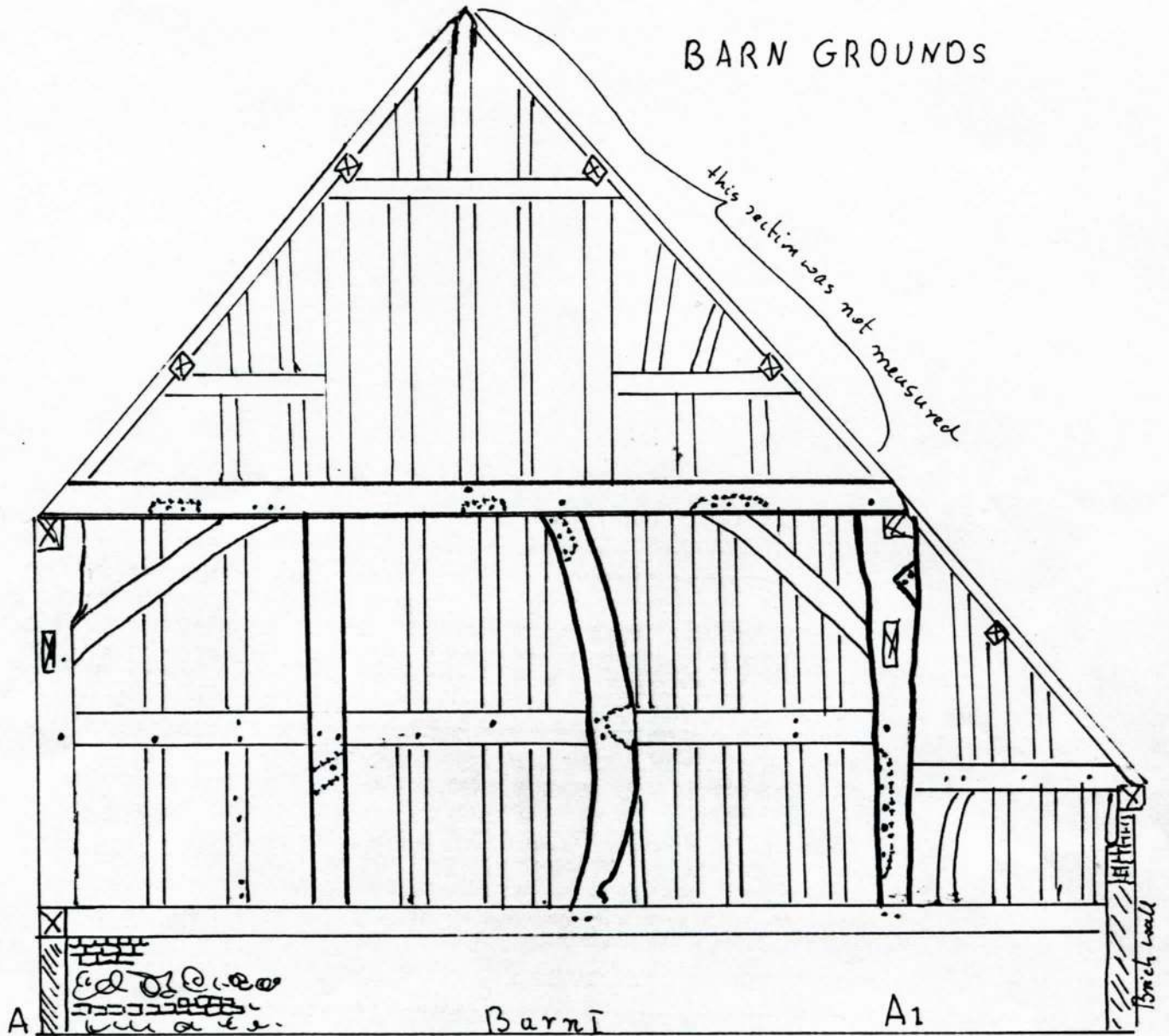
BARN GROUNDS



Barn I  
Scale 1:50 84/RG



# BARN GROUNDS



Barn I

Scale 1:50

84/RG

# BARN GROUNDS

Barn I

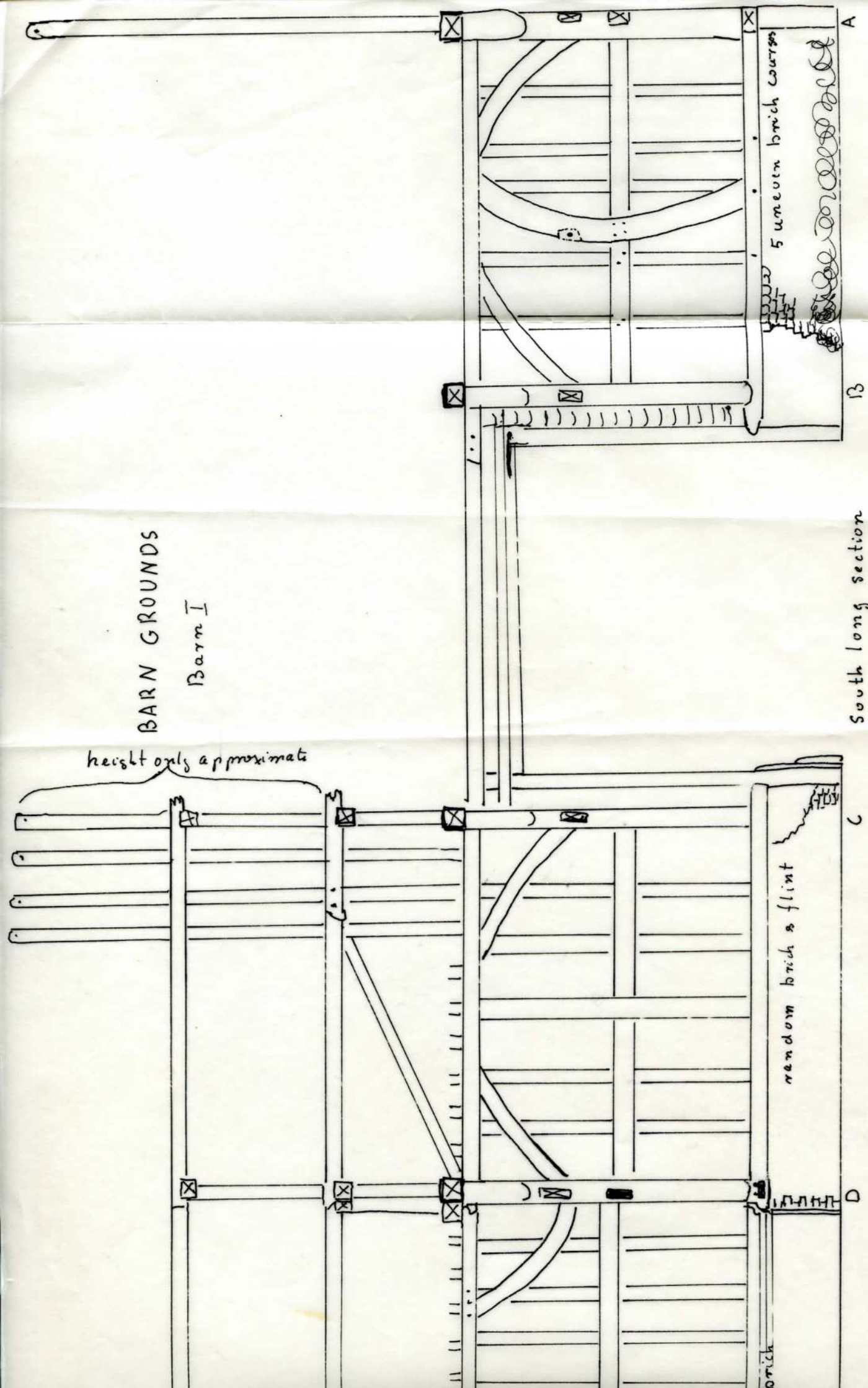
height only approximate

random brick & flint

brick

5 uneven brick courses

South long section  
Scale 1:50 RG/84



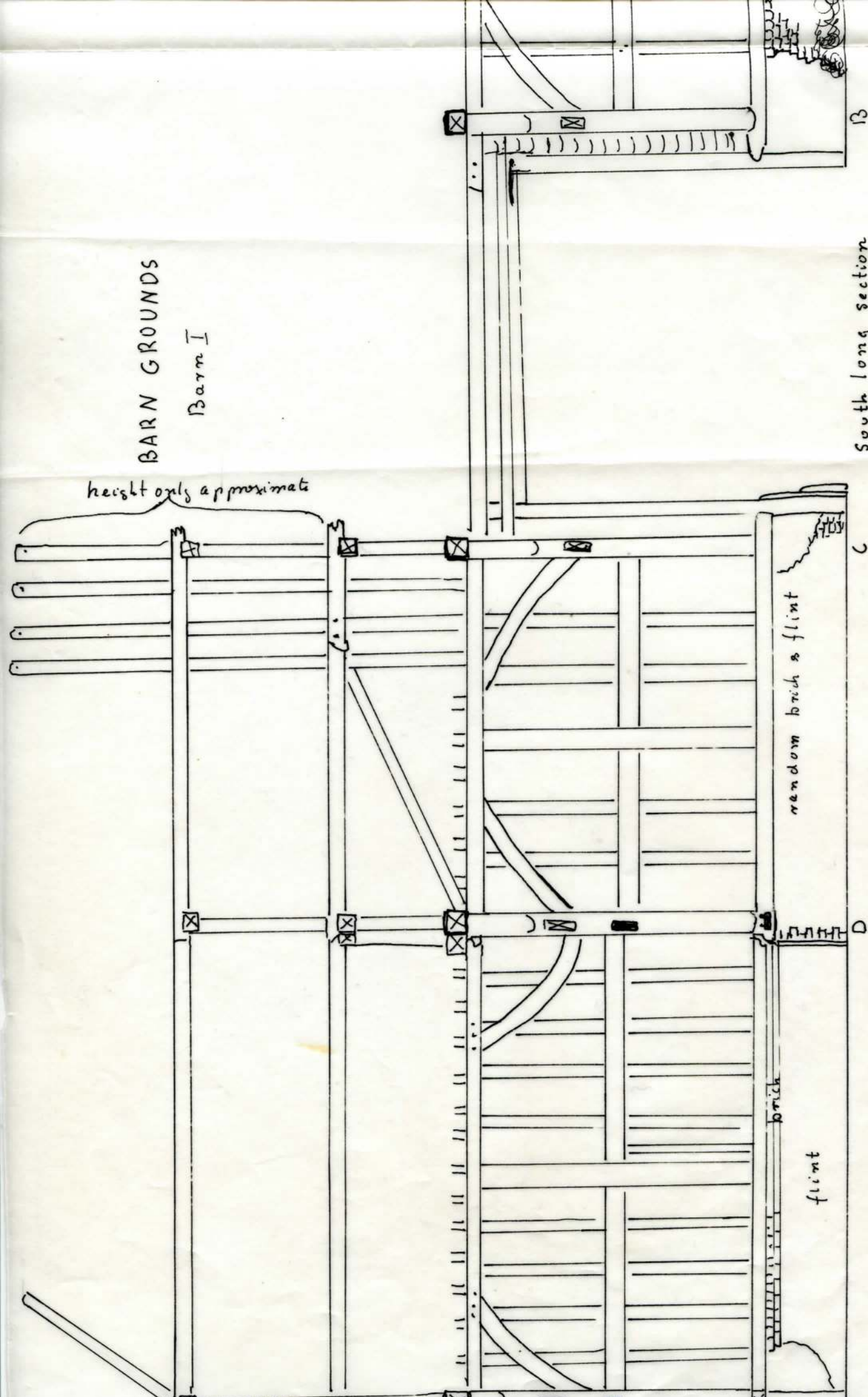


BARN GROUNDS

Barn I

height only approximate

South long section  
Scale 1:50 RG/84

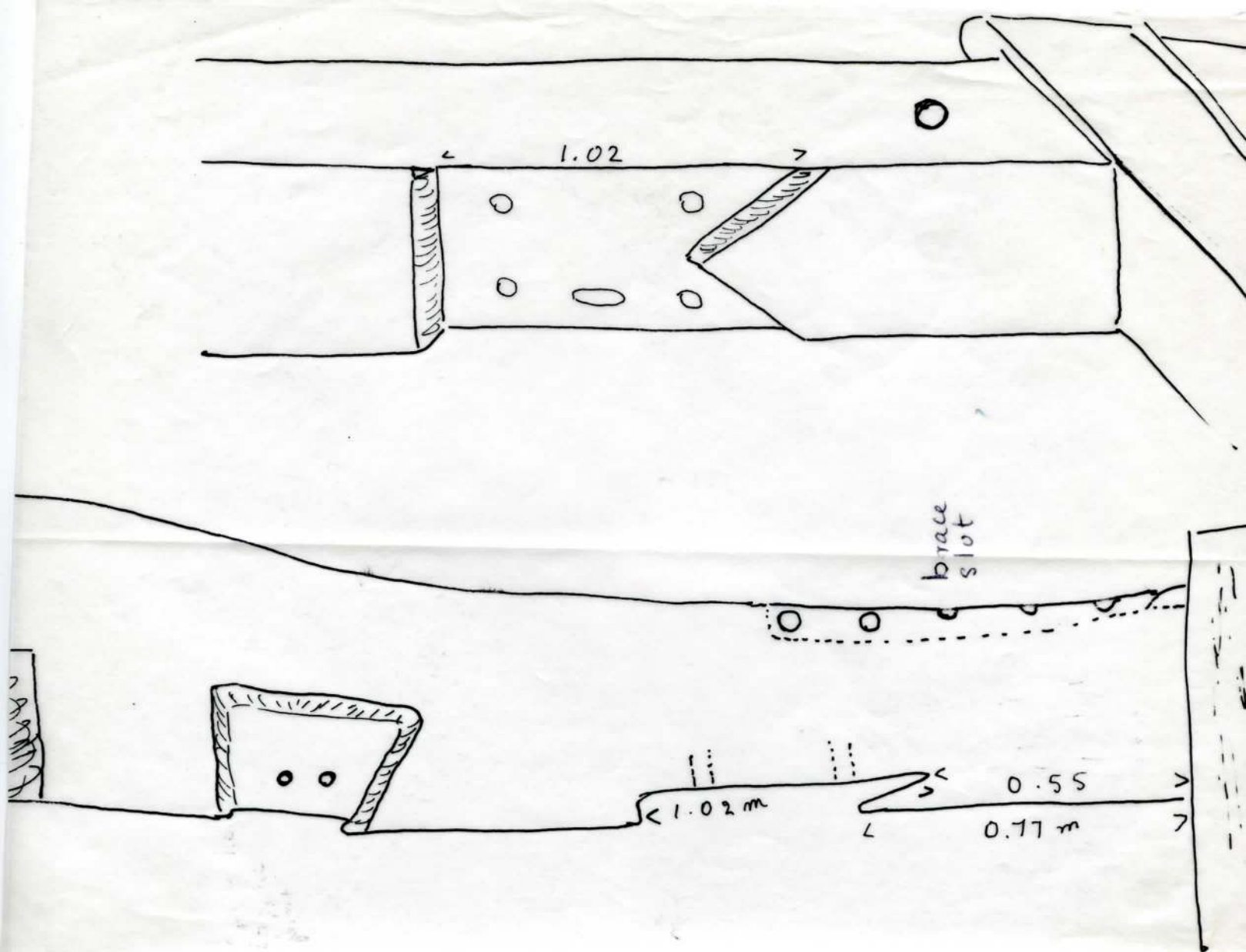
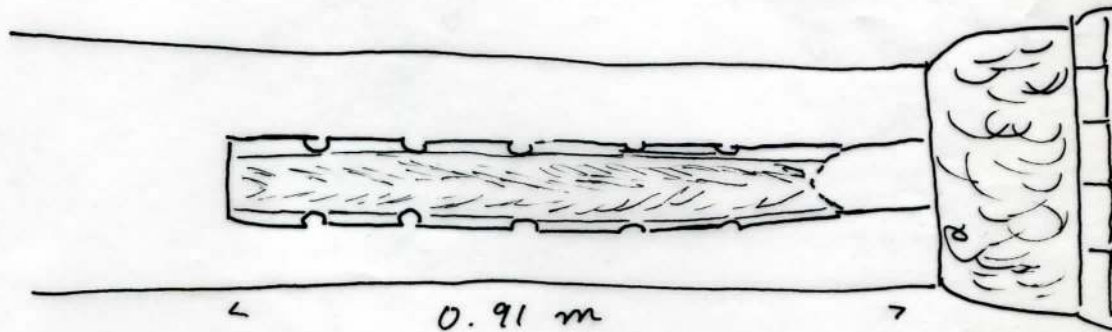


# BARN GROUNDS

Barn I

details of arcadepost C1

sketch by R. Gibson/1984





BARN GROUNDS Barn I



Outside plinth between B & A



Outside plinth between C & D



Arcade post D<sub>1</sub>



Arcade post C<sub>1</sub>



# BARN GROUNDS

Barn 2 South door, lift,  
threshing floor, scarf joint



Barn 2, north aisle C1-D1

lift →

Barn 2, north aisle B1-A1

←  
threshing  
floor →



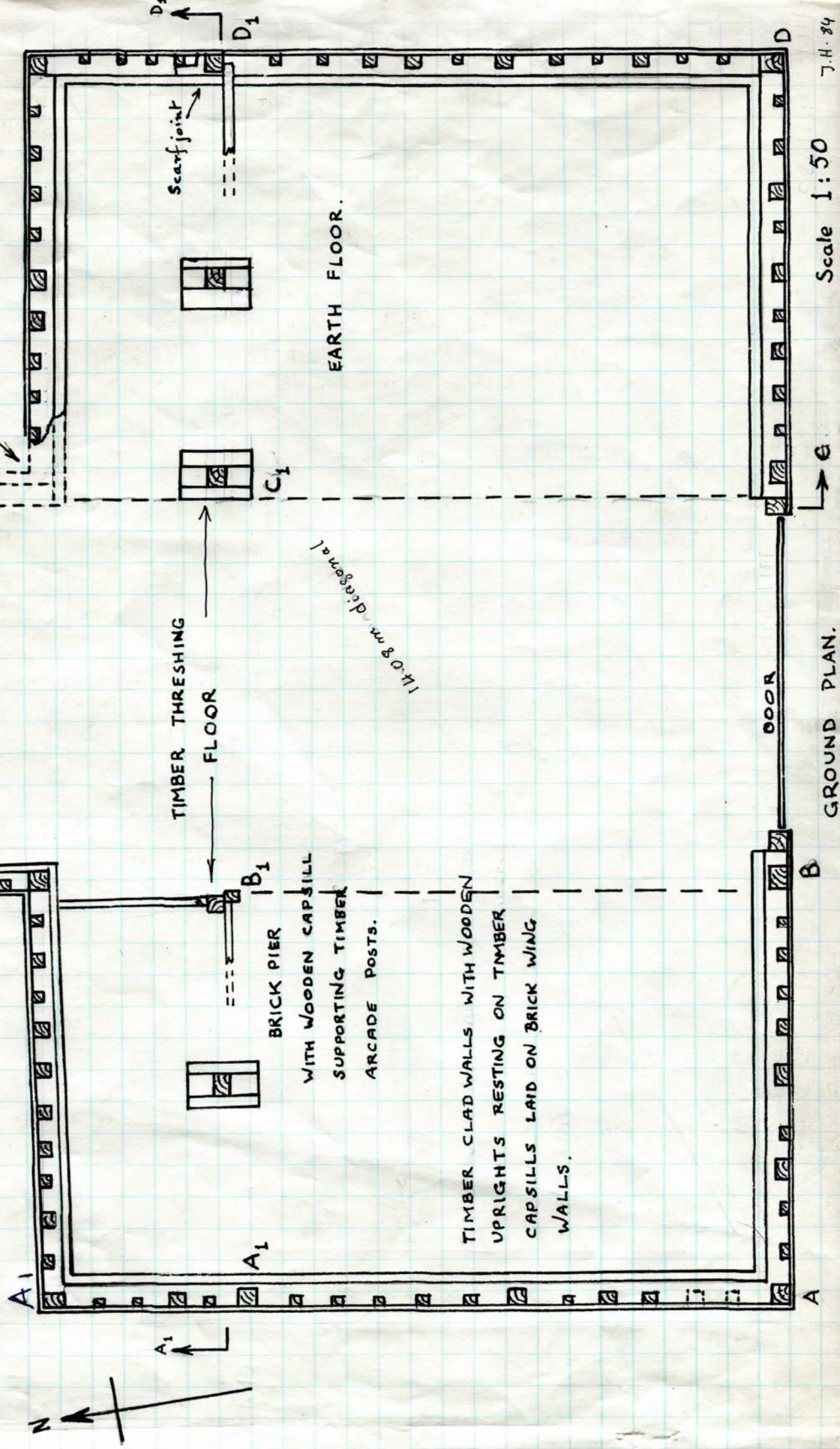
Barn 2, roof trusses looking east





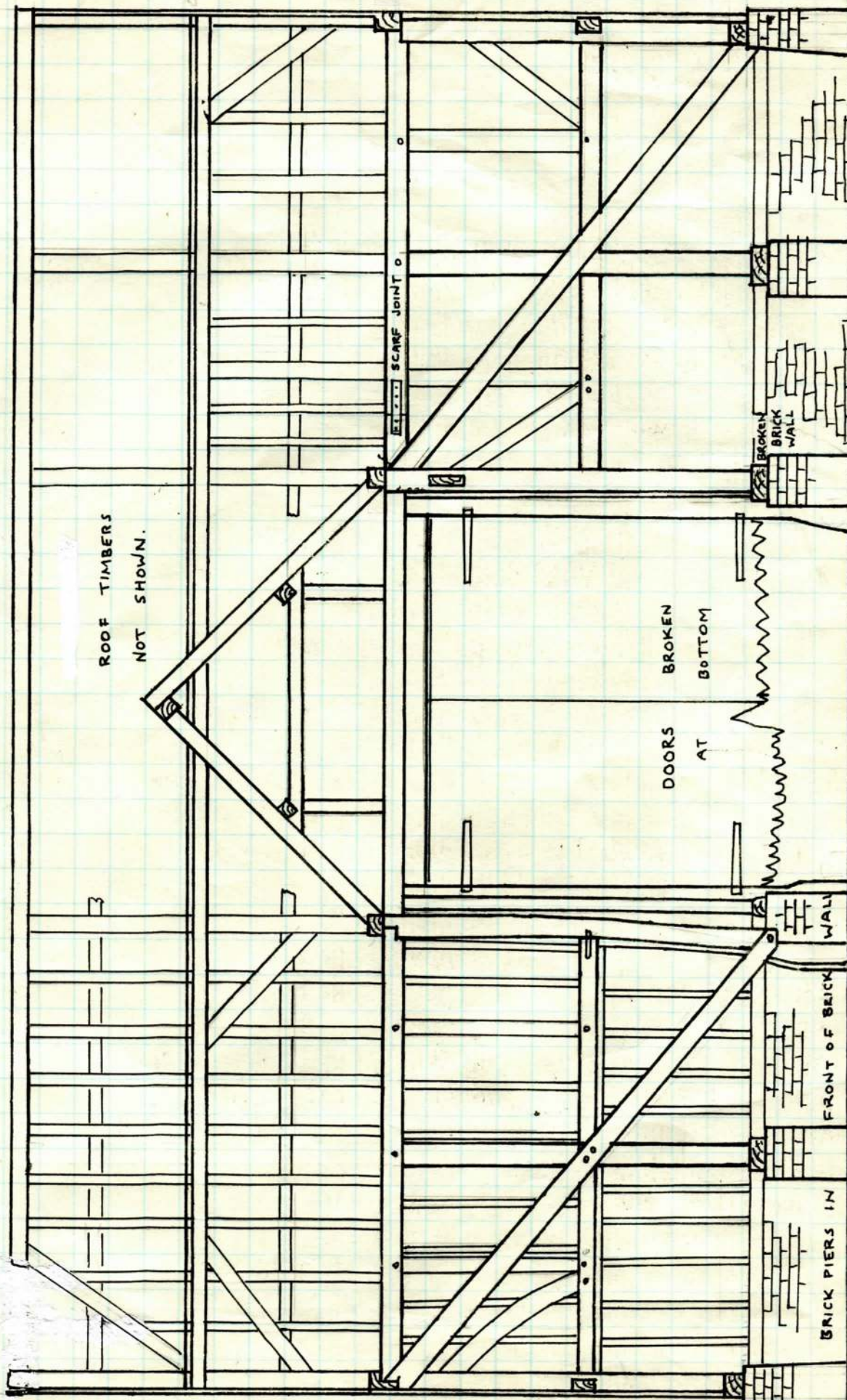
# 3 BAY BARN at BARN 2

## GROUND PLAN.





BARN GROUNDS - BARN 2.



A1 B1 C1 D1  
SECTION A1-D1  
Scale 1:50 J.H./84



Some tiles remaining  
on area over aisle

Corrugated roof  
covering.

Weather  
boarding

End Wall not accessible.

LINE OF REAR WALL & SILL

Fallen  
Wall

BRICK PIER with  
Timber Cap Sill

BRICK & FLINT  
WING WALLS  
with timber Sills

C<sub>2</sub>

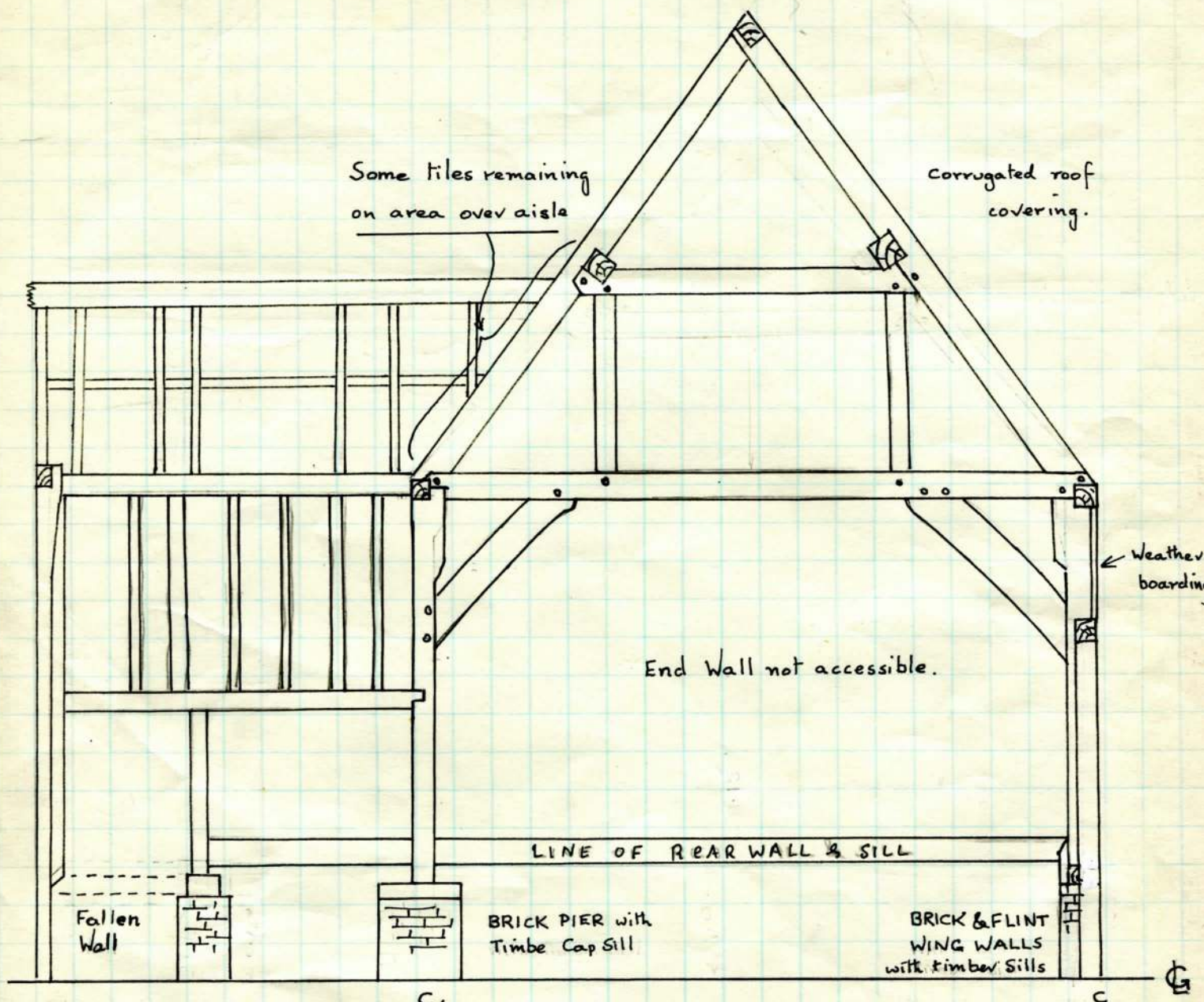
C<sub>1</sub>

C

SECTION thro' BARN 2 at C C<sub>2</sub>

Scale 1:50

J.H. 1984





# BARN GROUNDS

## BARN 2

