

# Whispers Cottage, Church Lane, Tydd St Mary, Lincolnshire



## Historic Building Survey and Archaeological Monitoring



March 2009

**Client: Mr David Bays**

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**Whispers Cottage, Church Lane, Tydd St Mary, Lincolnshire**


*Historic Building Survey and Archaeological Monitoring*

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## ***Summary***

On 13th March 2009, OA East conducted a historical building survey at Whispers Cottage, Church Lane in the village of Tydd St Mary, Lincolnshire in advance of alterations scheduled to be made to the former cottage.

This work was carried out in response to a brief issued by Lincolnshire County Councils Historical Environment Officer. The brief required that a historic building survey was carried out on the existing building followed by archaeological monitoring of all groundworks for the construction.

Four main phases of development were identified during the survey; construction of the original one-up -one down, addition of a single storey out-shot to the east, complete replacement of all fenestration and doors and finally addition of a single storey entrance porch. The absence of any original fixtures and fittings makes putting a precise date on the original building very difficult, however, with the aid of cartographic sources available and physical evidence, the earliest phase of building is likely to date to no earlier than the mid-late 18th century and later extended in the 19th century with new windows and doors in the early 20th century and finally the entrance porch addition in the mid-late 20th century.

An archaeological investigation was carried within the footprint of the proposed new dwelling on 14th April 2009. This revealed evidence of a single rubbish pit, dated to the mid 17th/early 18th century and may be a rubbish pit associated with the house.

## 1 INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Scope of work

- 1.1.1 An historic building recording survey and archaeological watching brief were conducted at Whispers Cottage, Church Lane in the heart of the village of Tydd St Mary, Lincolnshire. The work was carried out in advance of alterations to the existing “Whispers Cottage” and construction of a new three bedroom dwelling and detached garage on the site.
- 1.1.2 The work was undertaken in accordance with a Brief issued by Louise Jennings (Jennings, 2009), Development Control Archaeologist for South Holland Local Planning Authority (Planning Application H21/0875/08), supplemented by a Specification prepared by OA East (Gane 2009).
- 1.1.3 The work was designed to adequately record the structure in its current state before the alteration work began.
- The specific aims of the project were: To collate information about the building in order to compile a record of the structure, with analysis and interpretation of the structure in conjunction with an associated documentary survey.
  - To determine the presence or absence, character and extent, date, integrity, state of preservation and relative quality of the features of the buildings, in order to make an assessment of its merit in context.
  - To make a permanent record of the structures, as they are, in order to preserve by record the character, state, preservation and architectural and historic significance of the building.
  - To assess the archaeological value and research potential of known or possible structures to be measured against appropriate local, regional and national research agendas.
  - To produce a high quality, fully integrated archive suitable for long-term deposition in order to ‘preserve by record’ the buildings in their current form.
  - To undertake an archaeological watching brief of all groundworks relating to the construction of the new dwelling. This would define the character and extent of any archaeological remains within the proposed redevelopment area, in accordance with the guidelines set out in *Planning and Policy Guidance 16 - Archaeology and Planning* (Department of the Environment 1990). The results will enable decisions to be made by Lincolnshire County Councils Historic Environment Officer on behalf of the Local Planning Authority, with regard to the treatment of any archaeological remains found.
- 1.1.4 The site archive is currently held by OA East and will be deposited with the South Holland/Lincolnshire Museum (The Collection, Accession Code: LCNCC : 2009.39) in due course.

### 1.2 Location and topography

- 1.2.1 Whisper Cottage is located on Church Lane, in the centre of the village of Tydd St Mary, centred at grid reference TF 544555 318607 (Figure 1 and 2).



- 1.2.2 Tydd St. Mary is both a village and parish approximately 105 miles north of London, 9 miles east of Spalding and 5 miles north of Wisbech and a mile south of the A17 trunk road. It includes the hamlet of Tydd Gote (part of which is in Cambridgeshire). The parish sits like a cap on top of Cambridgeshire, with a short tail trailing off to the southwest. Sutton Bridge parish lies to the northeast and Tydd St. Giles (in Cambridgeshire) lies to the south. The River Nene forms a portion of the eastern boundary and the South Holland Main Drain a portion of the northern border. The area is flat and marshy Fen land and covers over 4,600 acres ([www.genuki.org.uk](http://www.genuki.org.uk)).

### **1.3 Acknowledgements**

- 1.3.1 The author would like to thank Mr David Bays for commissioning the work and provision of copies of the historic maps. The author carried out all on-site recording, photography and background research. The project was managed by Toby Gane. The pottery spot dating was carried out by Dr Alasdair Brooks.

## 2 AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

### 2.1 Aims

- 2.1.1 The aim of this investigation was to carry out a historic building survey equivalent to English Heritage Level 2 (English Heritage 2006) at Whispers Cottage.
- 2.1.2 The brief also required archaeological monitoring of the excavation of all footings of the proposed new dwelling.

### 2.2 Site Conditions

- 2.2.1 Conditions within and around the building were generally good, allowing measured and photographic survey to take place. Some basic building work had taken place at the house including the removal of plasterboard from the walls and ceiling, however this did not hinder or compromise the work.
- 2.2.2 The building was vacant at the time of recording. All carpets and fittings had been removed and all walls were free from plasterboard leaving all brickwork exposed.
- 2.2.3 Plaster render had recently been removed from most of the external walls, exposing the brickwork.
- 2.2.4 Lights and fittings were still in place although the lights were not in use and additional lighting for photographs was obtained using Halogen lamps.
- 2.2.5 Access to all parts of both structures was possible, including the roof spaces.

### 2.3 Methodology

- 2.3.1 The measured survey was carried out using basic equipment including: a distometer, tower tape, 30m tapes, hand tapes, a 30cm ruler and a plumb line.
- 2.3.2 Photographic survey (equivalent to English Heritage Level 2) was carried out by the author using a 35mm camera (monochrome) with additional digital photographs using a high resolution Canon EOS 450D digital SLR camera.
- 2.3.3 All building recording work carried out complied with standards and guidance set out in by the IfA (2001) and was undertaken by an experienced buildings archaeologist. Scaled architects drawings, supplied by the client in AutoCAD format, were used for field notes and were annotated and amended on site as necessary.
- 2.3.4 Elevations were drawn at a scale of 1:20 or 1:50 and structure techniques and full descriptions of the building structure were carried out whilst on site.

### 3 HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

#### 3.1 Historical Background of Tydd St Mary

- 3.1.1 Whispers Cottage is located in the heart of the medieval village (HER number 20498) which is also a protected Conservation Area. Tydd St Mary is referred to in the Domesday book and during a watching brief carried out at Common Way in 1998, a single sherd of twelfth to fourteenth century pottery was recorded as well as an undated posthole.
- 3.1.2 Tydd St Mary is within an area known for salt-making and as such has high potential for such remains to be surviving within the development area. A series of low earthworks were observed east of Mill Lane, which may be evidence of Medieval saltern mounds (HER number 23676)
- 3.1.3 A possible Roman settlement has been identified at Edwards Farm (HER number 22330). Evidence for this has come from aerial photographs which have shown cropmarks which may be relating to a Roman settlements comprising a group of annular enclosures and possible old watercourses. Sherds of pottery have also been recovered from the site.
- 3.1.4 There are a number of historic buildings surviving within the village, including St Mary's Church (HER number 22333) which retains elements of the building which date back to the Norman period.
- 3.1.5 Cartographic evidence suggests there was once a windmill in the village at Mill Lane (HER number 23675). The windmill is depicted on the 1793 map of the "Commons and Waste Lands of the Parish of Tidd St Marys" This windmill is also depicted on the Enclosure Map (Figure 5) dating to 1760 – 1820.

#### 3.2 Cartographic Sources

As part of the background research, a number of historic maps were consulted to assist with providing a date for the building. Most of these maps were copies of originals kindly provided by the client, most of which are held at Lincolnshire Archives. Each map is briefly described and evaluated below in chronological order.

##### ***Survey and Map of Tidd St Mary, 1779***

- 3.2.1 The earliest map found dated from 1779 and was entitled "An Actual Survey and Map of the Parish of Tidd St Mary" (Figure 3). This map shows very little detail about buildings, and is more concerned with the apportionment of land and boundaries. In the area outlined in green, labelled church field, the Church of St Mary and two other buildings have been depicted.
- 3.2.2 Maps of this date are rarely to scale and may be subject to interpretation of buildings locations and size which can be misleading. It is likely that only significant buildings have been added to the map, and given the size of the building recorded, it is not likely to be either of these shown. We know that there would have been other buildings in this part of the parish at this time (see table 1) and can therefore assume that although buildings are not depicted, does not mean they were not present at the time.

### ***Estate Map, 1816***

- 3.2.3 The next available map dated from 1816 and entitled “Part of Map from “Mr John Strangers Estate, Tydd St Mary” (Figure 4). this map was kindly supplied by My Bays – the original is held in Wisbech Museum.
- 3.2.4 This map shows more buildings than the previous 1779 one, however, none of them appear to correspond with the size or appearance of Whispers Cottage. Scale is completely irrelevant in this map demonstrated by the oversized representation of the church and what is marked “Church Lane” looks more like the road which is now “Common Way” suggesting a change in street names as opposed to an error on the map-makers part.

### ***Enclosure Map, c1760-1820***

- 3.2.5 A copy of a map, thought to be the Enclosure Map for Tidd St Mary was provided by the client (Figure 5) – the original is held at Lincolnshire Archives. Although the precise date for this map is unknown, the Enclosure Acts generally span the years 1760-1820 ([www.microsites.lincolnshire.gov.uk/archives](http://www.microsites.lincolnshire.gov.uk/archives)).
- 3.2.6 Enclosure maps were instruments of land reorganisation and control which both reflected and consolidated the power of those who commissioned them, they were never intended to depict buildings or their precise form or location, however, some larger buildings and churches are used as landmarks and points of reference.
- 3.2.7 This particular map (Figure 5) depicts the church, the windmill (HER number 23675) and enough roads (although unnamed) to allow orientation and recognition of the current road layout. In the area to the west of the church, where Whispers cottage is located today, the map does show a building in this location. Although there is no suggestion of form or name, there is a building on the “triangle” of land between the current Common Way and Church Lane where Whispers Cottage is located, however the orientation of the building does not correspond and may be located too far to the west.

### ***Tysdale Estate map, 1881***

- 3.2.8 The next map dates to 1881 and was a map drawn up for the sale of the Tysdale Estate (Figure 6). The client has an association with Tysdale as he spent many years renovating it in the 1970s-80s.
- 3.2.9 This is the first reliable cartographic source found which accurately shows the location of buildings and boundaries, possibly derived from an earlier Ordnance Survey map. In this map Church Lane has now become Churchway (now Common Way) and the use of some areas of land has been identified such as orchard and church field.
- 3.2.10 This plan shows detail of buildings belonging to the Tysdale estate and names referenced at various buildings such as P Thopre at the Windmill, Blye, Greenwood and Thorpe at properties on Church Way may refer to the names of occupying tenants.
- 3.2.11 This map provides the earliest available evidence of the existence of the building surveyed, now known as Whispers Cottage. A rectangular building appears on this map, in the location of the current building. The rectangular form respects that of the current building and single-storey extension to the east. Within the parcel of “triangular-shaped land where Whispers Cottage is located, there are also a number of other buildings on a north-south orientation in adjacent rows. This map provides no suggestion of function or ownership of these buildings.

### 1st Edition Ordnance Survey Map, 1889

- 3.2.12 By the time of the 1st edition Ordnance Survey Map (1889), scaled and more reliable, accurate mapping is available. The land in which Whispers Cottage is situated on this map (as is today) is bounded by Common Way to the north, Church Lane to the south and St Marys Church to the east (Figure 7). There are number of interesting features visible in this plot, no longer present, which feature on this map.
- 3.2.13 This map now shows Church Lane, with not only what is now Whispers Cottage, but what appears to be three/four small buildings in a row. Unfortunately, this map does not distinguish between buildings and small enclosed areas, so it is not possible;e to say for certain that these are all buildings.
- 3.2.14 The parallel row of north-south orientated buildings to the north have now gone and what appears to be a fenceline (?) encloses a small area in the southeast of the plot. The letter “P” denotes a pump. Another building appears for the first time on this plot which appears to front onto Common Way (which was Church Way).

## 3.3 Listed Buildings within the Parish

- 3.3.1 A search of English Heritages on-line catalogue of listed buildings ([www.lbonline.english-heritage.org.uk](http://www.lbonline.english-heritage.org.uk)) shows a number of important and historic buildings surviving within the village. These buildings are summarised in the table below:

Table 1: Listed buildings within the parish of Tydd St Mary

Listed Building Number	Building name/address	Brief Description	Date	Listed Building Status/Grade
197948	TYSDALE MANOR	15th century hall house with alterations made in 16th, 17th, early 18th and late 20th century. Originally H-plan hall house. 2 storeys, 4 bays. The outer single bays with garret, the central 2 bays with parapet.	C15th	Grade II
197947	CHURCH OF ST MARY	Parish church. C12, C13, C14, C15, C16, restored 1869. Ashlar, coursed rubble, red brick and render. Lead and slate roofs. Coped gables with single ridge crosses to the east nave and chancel. Parapets to north aisle and chancel. Buttressed.	C12th	Grade I
197949	STRAWBERRY HALL	House. Early C19. Red brick. Hipped slate roof. 2 lateral stacks. Paired bracketed wooden eaves cornice. Single giant order corner pilaster strips. Deep	Early C19th	Grade II

		plinth. First floor painted sill band. Central open porch with single pair of fluted Doric columns and Doric pilasters behind, entablature and cornice.		
197951	DUNTON HALL	House. Early C19. Red brick. C20 tile roof. 2 gable stacks. Brick coped gables. L-plan. 2 storeys, 3 bays. Central brick and glazed lean-to porch with inner glazed door with moulded doorcase.	Early C19th	Grade II
197952	GREYFRIARS, HANNATH ROAD	House. Early C17 with mid C18 and C20 alterations. Red brick with fragments of ashlar rubble and moulded, possibly medieval, ashlar. Slate roof with C20 tiles to left hand range. Brick coped gables with kneelers and some tumbling, the main range being half hipped to the right and the projecting right hand range with rendered gable. Single projecting left gable, large ridge and lateral stacks. Some dentillation. 2 storeys, 4 bays to the main range.	Early C17th	Grade II
197953	MINERVA FARMHOUSE, LOW GATE	Farmhouse. Early C18, refronted early C19, C20 extension. Red brick. Slate roof. Single ridge stack. Left gable with tumbling and C19 bargeboard.	Early C18th	Grade II
197955	ROMAN LODGE, MARY MILL LANE	House. Early C19. Red brick. Slate roof. 2 gable stacks. Rendered coped gables. 2 storeys, 3 bays. Central doorway with decorative panelled door and fanlight with radiating glazing bars, fluted and reeded reveal, moulded surround with impost and key blocks, key block decorated with carved lion.	Early C19th	Grade II
197957	WOAD FARMHOUSE, WOADMILL BANK	Farmhouse. Mid C18, C20. Red brick. Slate roof. 2 gable stacks. Brick coped and tumbled gables. Set on a plinth. 2 storeys, 5 bays. The single central bay slightly projects.	Mid C18th	Grade II

## 4 WHISPERS COTTAGE : DESCRIPTIONS

### 4.1 External description

Whispers cottage was a brick-built construction comprising two elements : a two-storey square shaped building with a steep pitched roof and raised gables at either gable end and a single storey out-shot located on the eastern side with a moderate sloped roof. The roof of the entire building was covered with concrete tiles and until recently, a concrete/cement render had concealed all external elevations. Although mostly removed, some render remained at the time of the survey. A tall brick chimney extends from the centre of the roof where the two different pitches met. The brick was a light yellowy colour, much different to that of the rest of the build or local buildings. Two terracotta pots sat on top of the stack.

#### ***South-Facing elevation (Figure 8)***

- 4.1.1 This elevation clearly had a number of phases as demonstrated in plate 1 which shows the differences in brickwork. From this elevation, the building can be divided into three main elements (from left to right, plate 1); two storey building, single story extension and wall of earlier demolished buildings.
- 4.1.2 The two storey building (plate 2) is constructed of a dark red brick in a English/random bond. The average brick dimension is 24 x 6.5cm (  $9^{3/4} \times 2^{1/2}$  ") and many had diagonal pressure marks. The bricks had been set in a soft, crumbly ash mortar with small crushed flint inclusions. This elevation demonstrates the pitch of the roof which is approximately 60° with brick tumbling . A nine-pane, wooden-framed casement window with thin wooden glazing bars and wooden lintel was located at first floor level. This window is likely to date to the early-mid 20th century. Above this window was a cement lintel with three incised lines to give the impression of a keystone. There was a substantial crack in the brickwork from ground level to just beneath the window. Two iron tie plates were recorded above the window on either side which may be for reinforcement/structural support and from the level of the window upwards, cement render was still in place. This element of the building measured 5.06m wide.
- 4.1.3 To the immediate right (east) of the two storey building was a single storey construction which, on close inspection of the brickwork, appears to have been built against, rather than keyed into the other building. The bricks in this part are a lighter orangey red and measure on average 24 x 7cm (  $9^{1/2} \times 2^{3/4}$  "). The bond is mostly English Garden Wall comprising three courses of stretchers followed by one course of headers and the mortar was the same ash/flint mortar as the two-storey structure to the left. The window in this part of the building is contemporary with that to the left; a nine-pane, wooden-framed casement window with thin wooden glazing bars and wooden lintel. Above the window was a brick arch comprising a single row of header bricks. Evidence of a wider opening was recorded to the right of the window, suggesting this was a replacement of an earlier one (plate 3). the slope of pitch of this roof line is significantly shallower than the pitch of the first part of the building, with an angle of approximately 45° This element of the building measured 3.79m wide.
- 4.1.4 Further along this elevation is what appears to be a wall remaining from a previous building. The brick has the same colouration as the first part of the building recorded on this elevation and the bond was English Garden Wall/random. The same ash/flint mortar was recorded and it appears to have been a continuation of the wall to the left using a different brick or keyed into it. There was no coping stones on the top and no

evidence to suggest it supported a roof or how much higher it may have continued. This length of wall measured 4.15m wide.

- 4.1.5 The final element of this elevation was recorded at the eastern end (far right in plates 1 and 4). Although it was almost entirely covered with concrete render, the lower courses of brick were visible where it meets the previously mentioned wall. All that can be seen from this elevation is that they are not contemporary and not joined/keyed together. The remains of a wooden framed window was recorded in this element of the wall – all glass had been removed.

***West-Facing elevation (Figure 8)***

- 4.1.6 The west facing elevation shows a single phase of construction (plate 5). The brickwork matches that of the first element of the south-facing elevation; an English/random bond with the average brick dimension of 24 x 6.5cm (  $9^{3/4}$  x  $2^{1/2}$  "). The bricks had been set in the same soft, crumbly ash mortar with small crushed flint inclusions and all render had been removed.
- 4.1.7 Only one storey is visible in this elevation (the second concealed within the steeply pitched roof). From this elevation, the concrete roof tiles and parapets at either gable end can be most clearly seen.
- 4.1.8 The fenestration in this elevation appears contemporary with that on the southern side, however this was a two-part casement window measuring 1.43m (H) by 1.22m (W) with eight panes per side in a two-two-two-two arrangement (plate 5). The window is set beneath a brick arch comprising two courses of headers. The brickwork on the left of the window respects the opening, however, the brick on the other side appears to have been cut to allow the window to be inserted. A substantial crack was recorded running from the corner of the window towards the roofline.
- 4.1.9 The door, like the windows, also appears to be an early-mid 20th century replacement. The door is set below a brick arch which appeared to be original to the first phase of construction, comprising headers and stretchers on their side. The brickwork on both sides of the door appeared to respect its opening.

***North-Facing elevation***

- 4.1.10 the north-facing elevation was still partially covered with concrete render at the time the survey took place, leaving some brickwork exposed (plate 6).
- 4.1.11 This elevation shows the two main components of the Whispers Cottage (the double and single storey elements) and another small extension providing an entrance porch.
- 4.1.12 The entrance porch comprised a brick base of approximately 11 courses of 20th century frogged-bricks with a wooden frame and large sheet glass windows beneath a flat, felt covered roof. The total height of this extension was 2.30m.
- 4.1.13 There were two windows recorded in this elevation, both located in the two-storey part of the house, one window on each floor. The window in the first floor was identical to that on the opposite, southern gable end; a nine-pane, wooden-framed casement window with thin wooden glazing bars and wooden lintel. Above this window was a cement lintel with three incised lines to give the impression of a keystone. The window recorded on the ground floor was a small single-pane casement wooden window, contemporary with all other fenestration recorded. It was set beneath a cement lintel scored lines. The brick around the opening has been cut on both sides to allow for the insertion of this window.



- 4.1.14 To the right of the ground floor window was a small cast iron drainpipe with narrow conical hopper, both were painted green.
- 4.1.15 Continuing towards the east is a north-facing wall which appears to show evidence of previous structures on the site in this location (plate 7). As the wall leads eastwards, away from the house, changes in the brickwork which corresponding with the south-facing elevation, can be seen. Two brick buttresses supporting the wall may suggest this was originally only a single garden or boundary wall. This length of wall was painted white on the upper half.
- 4.1.16 Evidence of a return wall was recorded within this elevation and a corresponding brick floor was recorded within the limits (plate 8). this may be evidence of another small external building.

#### ***East-Facing elevation (Figure 8)***

- 4.1.17 The east-facing elevation of Whispers cottage comprises the brick-built end wall of the single story element of the house which was entirely white-washed with white paint (plate 9). The brickwork was all visible which showed, unlike the south-facing elevation of the same part of the building, was in a random bond, using mostly, but not exclusively courses of stretchers. Many had diagonal pressure marks.
- 4.1.18 There was no evidence of any openings such as doors or windows in this elevation.

## **4.2 Internal description**

### ***Ground Floor (G1-3)***

#### ***G1***

- 4.2.1 This room was square in plan, measuring approximately 4.83 x 4.26m (Figure 9). This room was accessed via an external door on the west facing elevation and via an internal door from G2. Access was also provided to an under-stairs storage area via an internal door. All plasterboard had been removed from the ceiling, leaving floor joists exposed and all plasterboard had been removed from the walls (if there had been any..) leaving all brickwork exposed.
- 4.2.2 The floor was covered with wooden floorboards measuring approximately 17cm wide, aligned east-to west (from door to door).
- 4.2.3 The wall which separated G1 and G2 (and west-facing) had a number of features to be recorded which included the doorway, a small window and a fireplace (plate 10). The doorway measured 1.16m in width and although the door itself was a 20th century replacement, the opening itself appeared to be original, respected by the brickwork on either side of the opening. Above the door was a timber lintel which was set within the brickwork on either side. A timber door frame was also recorded and although clearly not modern, it may be an early replacement. The door opening allowed the thickness of the walls to be measured here which were 0.43m.
- 4.2.4 To the immediate right of the door was a small blocked-up window. From G1, all that remained of the window was the opening, a wooden cill and the wooden lintel above which, like the door was set in the brickwork, indicating it is contemporary with the original structure. The brickwork around the opening also supports this suggestion. A window in this location indicates that this was once an external elevation before the addition of G2.

- 4.2.5 Right of the window was an opening for a small, modest fireplace. A stone hearth extended forward into the room. There was no evidence of there having ever been a surround and a change in the brickwork immediately above the opening indicates that the opening has been repaired, altered or possibly created. The brick used here is contemporary/same as that used to build the stack – c.19th century. Located within, but not built in is a wide metal grate bearing the initials “A.J.” (plate 11).
- 4.2.6 Part of the room has been divided to create an under-stairs storage area. This partition was created using tongue and groove boards and a door had been inserted to allow access. This was probably created when the stairs were added and all evidence suggests a 19th century date. The floor of small storage area was covered with concrete and the brick walls were all plastered. From inside the small window recorded on the north-facing elevation was visible. This window was very slightly splayed measured 51cm wide.
- 4.2.7 The ceiling joists were roughly chamfered and ran width of the room on the same orientation as the floorboards (door to door) and were set into the brickwork at either end (plate 12). There were nail/tack marks on the joists indicating that it once supported a plasterboard ceiling.

## **G2**

- 4.2.8 G2 was rectangular in plan measuring approximately 5.10 x 3.36m (Figure 9). This room was accessed via internal doors from G1 and G3. All plasterboard had been removed from the ceiling, leaving ceiling joists exposed. There was no evidence of there having ever been any plasterboard on the walls which had mostly been simply plastered over the brickwork.
- 4.2.9 This room had a mud/earth floor, it was not possible to tell if it had previously had any bricks or tiles covering it.
- 4.2.10 On the north-facing wall (opposite wall to the entrance from G3) were two brick buttresses. These buttresses were the same as those which were on the external wall which continued eastwards, outside.
- 4.2.11 The wall between G1 and G2 (east-facing) had the back of the three features recorded in G1; an opening which backed onto the fireplace, the blocked window and the doorway (plate 13). The fireplace and chimney breast were brick-built, plastered and painted white. There was no evidence of a fire surround and inside the opening had been sealed with an iron sheet into which was a round hole where a flue had recently been for an Aga (recently removed).
- 4.2.12 The other side of the small blocked-up window was also recorded from G2. On this side a wooden frame was still *in-situ* which had been painted with white gloss paint. The opening measured 78cm (h) x 54cm (w).
- 4.2.13 The opening around the doorway showed a wide arched recess above, however as this wall was plastered and painted, there was no further detail.
- 4.2.14 The door which led into G3 appeared to be in its original location as the brickwork on one side of respected the opening (the other side was plastered), although the door itself was a thin, plank and batten modern replacement.
- 4.2.15 The window located on the southern elevation has already been described (section 4: 4.1.3). There was another window on the opposite elevation, between G2 and G3. This window was a horizontal-sliding sash, with two panes per sash. It had thin wooden

glazing bars and wooden frame, all painted white. A window in this location indicates that this was once an external elevation before the addition of G3.

### **G3**

- 4.2.16 This room was rectangular in plan, measuring approximately 2.90m x 1.90 (Figure 9) and was accessed via an internal door from G2 and an external door on the north-facing elevation. At the time of the survey this room was being used to store various pieces of gardening equipment.
- 4.2.17 The floor was covered with a modern linoleum.
- 4.2.18 The window on the wall between G2 and G3 was visible from this room, clearly once an external window (plate 14). There were no other architectural features in this room.

### **Stairs**

- 4.2.19 Access to the first floor was gained via a set of stairs in G1 (plate 15). The stairs were very narrow with each tread and riser measuring approximately 0.16m. White paint was noted on either side indicating a carpet runner had been in the middle. A narrow wooden handrail ran on one side with a wooden newel at the top of the stairs. The top of the stairs entered directly into F1 (plate 16).

### **First Floor**

#### **F1**

- 4.2.20 F1 was roughly square in plan and measured approximately 5.0m x 4.28m (Figure 9) and was accessed via the stairs from G1 only. The walls were all free from plaster or plasterboard leaving all brickwork exposed. The ceiling plasterboard had also been removed exposing the ceiling joists and the roof construction.
- 4.2.21 The floor was covered with wooden floorboards approximately 12cm wide, running the width of the room (orientated east to west).
- 4.2.22 The exposed brickwork revealed no particular bond and the same ash/flint mortar recorded on the external elevation was also present here.
- 4.2.23 There were two windows, one on either gable end which were described previously from the external elevations (Section 4.1). The window in the south-facing gable end is clearly not original, however, evidence from this internal elevation shows that there was an opening in this location previously (plate 17). This opening was much narrower as indicated by the brick arch of headers. There is no indication of length as this has been lost with the insertion of the later window. A wooden lintel has been inserted when the window was replaced for additional support and to prevent the collapse of the arch. The wall plate has also been sawn to accommodate the later window. There is no indication of an earlier window on the opposite gable end from the brickwork (plate 16), although this may have been lost when the replacement window was inserted.
- 4.2.24 A timber wall plate was present on all four elevations of F1. On the gable ends it rested on approximately 13 courses of brick and measured approximately 13 x 7cm. A wall plate which supported the roof structure was recorded on the east and west sides of the room, measuring approximately 38 x 12cm.

### **Roof Construction**

- 4.2.25 The roof pitch has been fairly recently altered in order to widen it slightly to allow water to run off more effectively, Secondary rafters had been used, attached to the common rafters and set at a wider angle (plate 18)
- 4.2.26 There were fourteen rafters, ten common : narrow, sawn rafters measuring approximately 5-7cm wide, and and four principal rafters: wide, cut and roughly chamfered which measured approximately 16cm in width. There were four principal rafters on each side of the structure, evenly spaced and two narrower (common rafters) between them. The common rafters may represent a secondary support added at a later date, perhaps when the building ceased to be thatched and more rafters added to support a heavier roof.
- 4.2.27 Contemporary with the common, secondary rafters, are secondary collars. The wider, more substantial collars which extend from the wide, chamfered rafters are secured with three iron clasps/nails and carefully cut around and to support (?) the purlins (plate 19), however, the thinner, smaller collars which join the narrow sawn rafters are less well fitted around the purlins and secured to the rafters with a single iron nail.

## 5 DISCUSSION

### 5.1 Phase 1 c. mid-late 18th century (*Figure 9*)

- 5.1.1 Whispers Cottage began life as a small, brick-built, square building with one room on each floor (G1 and F1). The steeply pitched roof was covered with thatch. The ground floor had two opposing doors on the east and west sides with small windows set to the side and the first floor had small windows at the gable ends.
- 5.1.2 Access was probably gained to the first floor via a set of ladders or narrow stairs.
- 5.1.3 Whether its original function was to provide living accommodation is uncertain. If it was a for accommodation, a one-up-one-down would have been an acceptable house for a family in this period, perhaps a labourers cottage, however, this first phase had no source of heating. Its plan form and brick parapets at either gable end would fit the model of a building of this date.
- 5.1.4 Other buildings which share this square plan form are dovecotes. Many manor houses had dovecots attached to their estates – manors such as Tysdale, which can be seen from Whispers Cottage, on Common Way. Churches also had Dovecots such as Somersham in Cambridgeshire and plate 20 clearly shows the close proximity of the the building to St Mary's (plate 20). Many dovecotes still survive in Cambridgeshire (79 according to Jeevars in 1977), and many have been converted into houses and stores. Many have been re-roofed and altered structurally including the removal of the pigeon holes (Jeevar, 1977). The 18th century was the height of the pigeon trade and the pigeonhouse (dovecot) was commonplace, averaging two to each parish (Jeevar, 1977). Although there is no evidence of the voids within the walls for the birds. Most brick built dovecots have pigeon holes incorporated into the walls; others have either wooden or hand-shaped clay and straw ones (Jeevar, 1977). It is possible that the frames with nest boxes for the birds were wooden and free-standing, either way, it is still a suggestion worth exploring.

### 5.2 Phase 2 c. mid-late 19th century (*Figure 9*)

- 5.2.1 During the mid-late 19th century, the cottage was extended with the addition of a single storey extension on the eastern side (G2). It may be that this is the first time the building is utilised for accommodation, or it was extended to allow for better facilities. The rectangular form of the building (which incorporates this extension) is present by 1881 (Figure 6).
- 5.2.2 The fireplace in G1 may originally have been much smaller and opened up at a later date. There was no first floor heating.
- 5.2.3 This single room extension included a new fireplace to allow food preparation and heating and an opening was created in G1 to allow for a fireplace. The gault brick used to create this opening was also used to build the tall chimney stack.
- 5.2.4 The stairs were inserted to allow better access to the first floor and a tongue and groove panelled screen created an under-stair storage area in G1.

- 5.2.5 The roof was re-covered, which required stronger support and the secondary, common rafters were added.
- 5.2.6 Along with the construction of the extension, an outbuilding was added to the east of the house sometime between 1881 and 1889. Little physical evidence of this survives other than the brick floor (measuring 4.40m by 3m) (plate 8), however cartographic sources suggest there was more buildings in this location, east of the house in 1889 (Figure 7).
- 5.2.7 The supporting buttresses on the external wall which continue into the extension (G2) may indicate the extension utilised an earlier boundary wall already in place.
- 5.2.8 It is worth noting that this is one of a group of buildings showing in this plot immediately west of the church on the 1881 map (Figure 6). These group may have served a function together such as outbuildings, stables, barns etc belonging to one of the larger houses or the church. The date of these buildings is unknown.

### **5.3 Phase 3 c. Early-mid 20th century (Figure 9)**

- 5.3.1 Phase 3 sees the wholesale replacement of all external doors and windows and the insertion of some new ones. This work probably took place in the 1920s or 30s. The southern elevation most clearly demonstrates the changes in the windows, evident within in the brickwork. It may be at this time that the house is rendered in order to disguise the repair and damage caused to the brick. The location of the large cracks on both southern and western elevations may have been a result of the work undertaken.

### **5.4 Phase 4 c. Late 20th century (Figure 9)**

- 5.4.1 The late 20th century sees the addition of the front porch area (G3). This additional room allows for more security and storage space.

## 6 CONCLUSIONS

- 6.1.1 The building recording survey at Whispers Cottage has confirmed the presence of an historical building which has four clear phases of development.
- 6.1.2 The wholesale replacement of all doors and fenestration in the 20th century has removed the evidence of any original ones and their location.
- 6.1.3 As to the function of the original building, there are two suggestions; either a dovecot or storage building, part of a group located in this part of the village, or a small labourers cottage.
- 6.1.4 The lack of original, datable features presents a problem in precisely dating the original, phase 1 part of the house. The later phases are shown either on cartographic sources or datable by their building materials and styles, however the first phase has been so greatly altered, dating remains problem. The first reliable cartographic evidence shows the building, including its 19th century extension dating to 1881 (Figure 6), however it is clear that the first phase pre-dates this.
- 6.1.5 The building is of vernacular style, using local materials and traditional methods of construction as opposed to fitting into a readily datable form or style. There is no academic or historical architectural models into which such a building easily fits in order to readily date. Datable styles are lacking in the early phase of the building and the segmental brick arches which may be suggested are an eighteenth century feature are not exclusive to the period and may have been used to copy the style of other nearby buildings; there is evidence that they have been incorporated into the 19th century extension also.
- 6.1.6 The tumbling brickwork visible on the south-facing gable end may support the suggestion of an 18th century date. Although tumbling brickwork is found in a number of 17th century buildings, particularly in Cambridgeshire, it is a construction style witnessed more in Lincolnshire into the 18th century ([www.lbonline.english-heritage.org.uk](http://www.lbonline.english-heritage.org.uk)). Perhaps a suggestion of styles and influences spreading northwards from London around this time.
- 6.1.7 Brick dimensions cannot provide a precise date of construction and the diagonal pressure marks noted on many bricks in almost all elevations only indicates a pre-late 19th century date (Ryan, 1999).
- 6.1.8 It has been suggested by the local planning authority that the original building has “typical vernacular features of the late 17th century including its plan-form, brick parapets and steeply pitched roof” however, there is no evidence to support such an early date and the materials and form could equally fit into a building of a mid-late 18th century date. The planning authority also states that there is an “original oak door and pegged door frame to the rear elevation” - however, the survey and evidence presented demonstrates that all interior and exterior doors are replacements.
- 6.1.9 The only way of clearly settling the debate surrounding the age of the original building is to carry out dendrochronological dating to the ceiling joists or original elements of the roof structure or perhaps more reliably, to the wooden lintel over the door or original window frames in G1. Thermoluminescence dating of the brick may also be an option worthy of consideration.
- 6.1.10 Despite the varying opinion concerning the original date, what is clear is Whispers Cottage is at least 200 years old and as part of the local building group and given its

setting in close proximity to the church, once renovated it will continue to represent the development of this historical parish.



## 7 BIBLIOGRAPHY

English Heritage	2006	Understanding Historic Buildings – A Guide to Good Recording Practice
Gane, T	2009	Specification for Historic Building Recording and monitoring at Whispers Cottage, Tydd St Mary, Lincolnshire
Hall, L.	2007	Period House Fixtures and Fittings 1300-1900
IFA	2001	Standard and Guidance for the Archaeological Investigation and Recording of Standing Buildings
Jeevar, P	1977	Dovecots of Cambridgeshire
Jennings, L	2009	Brief for Historic Building Recording at Whispers Cottage, Tydd St Mary. Lincolnshire
Lloyd, N.	1990	A History of English Brickwork
Ryan, P	1999	Brick in Essex : The Clayworking Craftsmen and Gazetteer of Sites
South Holland District Council	2008	Planning Application : Whispers Cottage, Tydd St Mary

## MAPS AND OTHER SOURCES CONSULTED

<b>Description</b>	<b>Date</b>
“Survey and Map of the Parish of Tidd St Mary”	1779
Part of Map from “Mr Jonn Strangers Estate, Tydd St Mary”	1816
Enclosure Map date unknown	1760-1820
Plan of the Tysdale Estate in Tyd St Mary from Auction Catalogue	1881
1 <sup>st</sup> Edition Ordnance Survey Map, 1889 (1” to	1889

25 miles)

## WEBSITES CONSULTED

[www.genuki.org.uk](http://www.genuki.org.uk)

[www.heritagegateway.org.uk](http://www.heritagegateway.org.uk)

[www.lbonline.english-heritage.org.uk](http://www.lbonline.english-heritage.org.uk)

[www.microsites.lincolnshire.gov.uk/archives](http://www.microsites.lincolnshire.gov.uk/archives)

## APPENDIX A. ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING

### A.1 Introduction and Aims

- A.1.1 Three trenches totalling 20m in length were investigated, located to the north of Whispers Cottage (Figure 2).
- A.1.2 The brief required that archaeological monitoring was carried out when the foundations for the proposed new building were being excavated. However, following discussions between the client and the Historic Environment Officer (HEO), it was agreed that trenches could be excavated within the footprint of the building instead. Following approval from the HEO, it was decided that two trenches, forming a “T” shape would provide sufficient sample of the area to be developed. A further third trench was added later.
- A.1.3 The work was carried out by the author on the 14th April 2009 and was designed to assist in defining the character and extent of any archaeological remains within the proposed redevelopment area, in accordance with the guidelines set out in *Planning and Policy Guidance 16 - Archaeology and Planning* (Department of the Environment 1990). The results will enable decisions to be made by South Holland District Council, on behalf of the Local Planning Authority, with regard to the treatment of any archaeological remains found.

### A.2 Methodology

- A.2.1 Machine excavation was carried out under constant archaeological supervision with a tracked mini-digger excavator using a narrow 0.60m wide ditching bucket.
- A.2.2 All archaeological features and deposits were recorded using OA East's *pro-forma* sheets. Trench locations, plans and sections were recorded at appropriate scales and colour, monochrome and supplementary digital photographs were taken of all relevant features and deposits.
- A.2.3 All trench locations were surveyed in by the author using a Leica TCR 705 TST which was tied into the Ordnance Survey grid. Drawn plans were incorporated with the survey date to accurately plot the position of the trenches.
- A.2.4 Weather conditions were good, with constant sunshine and no rain.

### A.3 Results

The results of each trench are presented below, for location, see Figure 2. All trenches were 0.60m wide. Cut numbers will be displayed in **bold** text, all other contexts in normal text. Table 2 summarises all archaeological contexts.

### **Trench 1**

- A.3.1 Trench 1 was 9m in length, orientated approximately north to south. The trench was machined to a depth of approximately 0.86m where the natural undisturbed geology was encountered. A layer of soft, crumbly, light greyish brown silty topsoil (100) with an average thickness of 0.41m was recorded over a light yellowish brown soft, silty subsoil (101) which measured approximately 0.45m.
- A.3.2 No archaeological features were recorded within this trench.

### **Trench 2**

- A.3.3 Trench 2 was 7m in length, orientated approximately east to west (plate 21). The trench was machined to a depth of approximately 0.80m where the natural undisturbed geology was encountered. A layer of soft, crumbly, light greyish brown silty topsoil (200) with an average thickness of 0.40m was recorded over a light yellowish brown soft, silty subsoil (201) which measured approximately 0.34m.
- A.3.4 This trench contained a feature which has been interpreted as a pit.

Pit **202** was located at the eastern end of Trench 2 and continued beyond the north and south edges. It had very steep sloping edges and a rounded base (Figure 11, Section 1 and plate 22) and measured 1.20m wide and at least 0.60m in length with a maximum depth of 0.74m. It contained four distinct fills: 203, 204, 205 and 206.

Fill 203 was a compacted, very dark, blackish brown silt with very occasional small stone inclusions. Finds included a number of fragments of clay pipe stem, a single sherd of glazed Staffordshire slipware dating to c.1650-1700 and a frequent amount of fragments of brick. A complete brick was retrieved from the very base of the fill which measured 25cm (9<sup>3/4</sup>" ) x 6cm (2<sup>1/2</sup>" ) x 11cm (4<sup>1/2</sup>" ).

Fill 204 was a moderately compact, dark grey brown silt with very occasional small stone inclusions. Finds included a number of fragments of clay pipe stem, two sherds of glazed Staffordshire slipware dating to c.1650-1700, a sherd of tin glazed earthen ware c. 1680-1780 and a number of fragments of brick.

Fill 205 was a soft, crumbly, light yellowish brown sandy silt with very occasional small stone inclusions. Finds included a number of fragments of clay pipe stem, a single sherds of glazed Staffordshire slipware dating to c.1650-1700 and a number of fragments of brick.

Fill 206 was a lens of light mortar-like material with no obvious inclusions and no finds.

### **Trench 3**

- A.3.5 Trench 3 was 4.20m in length, orientated approximately east to west. This trench was excavated in order to establish whether ditch **203** recorded in Trench 2 could be identified continuing here. The trench was machined to a depth of approximately 0.75m where the natural undisturbed geology was encountered. A layer of soft, crumbly, light greyish brown silty topsoil (300) with an average thickness of 0.40m was recorded over a light yellowish brown soft, silty subsoil (301) which measured approximately 0.35m.
- A.3.6 No archaeological features were recorded within this trench.

Table 2: Summary of archaeological contexts

Context No.	Trench	Description	Dimensions
100	1	Topsoil	0.41m
101	1	Subsoil	0.45m
200	2	Topsoil	0.40m
201	2	Subsoil	0.34m
202	2	Cut of pit	1.2m x 0.6m x 0.74m (depth)
203	2	Primary fill of pit <b>202</b>	0.18m max. thickness
204	2	Fill of pit <b>202</b>	0.16m max. thickness
205	2	Fill of pit <b>202</b>	0.40m max. thickness
206	2	Fill of pit <b>202</b>	0.08m max. thickness
300	3	Topsoil	0.40m
301	3	Subsoil	0.35m

## A.4 Discussion and Conclusion

A.4.1 The only archaeological feature recorded during this investigation was the pit in Trench 2 which, by the nature of the finds in the deposits, has been interpreted as a late 17th/early 18th century rubbish pit. Although the edges look fairly straight, the absence of the continuation of the feature in Trench 3 would suggest that this was a pit rather than a ditch.

The section (Figure 11, Section 1), clearly shows that this pit was cut through the subsoil level. The pottery used to date it was retrieved from the base of the pit and therefore a reasonable level of confidence is placed on the dating of the pit.

Although the precise date of Whispers cottage could not be established, it is possible that this pit is associated, however, it does not assist in dating the building as the pit may have been in use much later. Alternatively, it may be for the disposal of rubbish from one of the other buildings located within the immediate area, such as those shown on Figure 7.

Interestingly, the dimension of the bricks were very close to those recorded on the original part of the house and although not all retained, this pit did contain a frequent amount of brick fragments, particularly in its lower fill (203)

A.4.2 The absence of any other features or archaeological finds present in the topsoil or subsoil pre-dating the 19th century would suggest that this part of the development area has not been previously utilised or has any other evidence of settlement or industrial activity associated.

## APPENDIX B. OASIS REPORT FORM

All fields are required unless they are not applicable.

### Project Details

OASIS Number	Oxfordar3-57201			
Project Name	Historic Building Survey and Archaeological Investigation at Whispers Cottage, Tydd St Mary, Lincolnshire			
Project Dates (fieldwork)	Start	13-03-2009	Finish	14-04-2009
Previous Work (by OA East)	No		Future Work	Unknown

### Project Reference Codes

Site Code	XLIWCT09	Planning App. No.	H21/0875/08
HER No.	n/a	Related HER/OASIS No.	n/a

### Type of Project/Techniques Used

Prompt: Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPG15

### Please select all techniques used:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Annotated Sketch	<input type="checkbox"/> Photogrammetric Survey
<input type="checkbox"/> Dendrochronological Survey	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Photographic Survey
<input type="checkbox"/> Laser Scanning	<input type="checkbox"/> Rectified Photography
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Measured Survey	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Survey/Recording Of Fabric/Structure

### Monument Types/Significant Finds & Their Periods

List feature types using the [NMR Monument Type Thesaurus](#) and significant finds using the [MDA Object type Thesaurus](#) together with their respective periods. If no features/finds were found, please state "none".

Monument	Period	Object	Period
Building	Post Medieval 1540 to 1901	Pottery	Post Medieval 1540 to 1901
Pit	Post Medieval 1540 to 1901	Clay pipe	Post Medieval 1540 to 1901
n/a	Select period...		Select period...

### Project Location

County	Lincolnshire	Site Address (including postcode if possible)	
District	South Holland	Whispers Cottage, Church Lane Tydd St. Mary, WISBECH Lincolnshire, PE13 5QJ	
Parish	Tydd St Mary		
HER	Lincolnshire County Council		
Study Area	100sqm	National Grid Reference	TF 544555 318607

### Project Originators

Organisation	OA EAST
Project Brief Originator	Lincs County Council, Historic Environment Office
Project Design Originator	Toby Gane
Project Manager	Toby Gane
Supervisor	Taleyna Fletcher

### Project Archives

Physical Archive	Digital Archive	Paper Archive
South Holland/Lincolnshire Museum	OA East Offices	South Holland/Lincolnshire Museum
LCNNC : 2009.39	XLIWCT09	LCNNC : 2009.39

### Archive Contents/Media




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Ceramics	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Environmental	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Glass	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Human Bones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Leather	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Metal	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stratigraphic		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Survey		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Textiles	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wood	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Worked Bone	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Worked Stone/Lithic	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
None	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Digital Media	Paper Media
<input type="checkbox"/> Database	<input type="checkbox"/> Aerial Photos
<input type="checkbox"/> GIS	<input type="checkbox"/> Context Sheet
<input type="checkbox"/> Geophysics	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Correspondence
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Images	<input type="checkbox"/> Diary
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Illustrations	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Drawing
<input type="checkbox"/> Moving Image	<input type="checkbox"/> Manuscript
<input type="checkbox"/> Spreadsheets	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Map
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Matrices
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Text	<input type="checkbox"/> Microfilm
<input type="checkbox"/> Virtual Reality	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Misc.
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Research/Notes
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Photos
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Plans
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Report
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sections
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Survey


### Notes:

## Drawing Conventions

### Plans

Limit of Excavation	_____
Deposit - Conjectured	-----
Natural Features	_____
Sondages/Machine Strip	- - - - -
Intrusion/Truncation	.....
Illustrated Section	<u>      S.14      </u>
Archaeological Deposit	
Excavated Slot	
Modern Deposit	
Cut Number	<b>118</b>

### Sections

Limit of Excavation	-----
Cut	_____
Cut-Conjectured	-----
Deposit Horizon	_____
Deposit Horizon - Conjectured	-----
Intrusion/Truncation	.....
Top Surface/Top of Natural	_____
Break in Section/ Limit of Section Drawing	- - - - -
Cut Number	<b>118</b>
Deposit Number	117
Ordnance Datum	18.45m OD ^
Inclusions	

### Convention Key



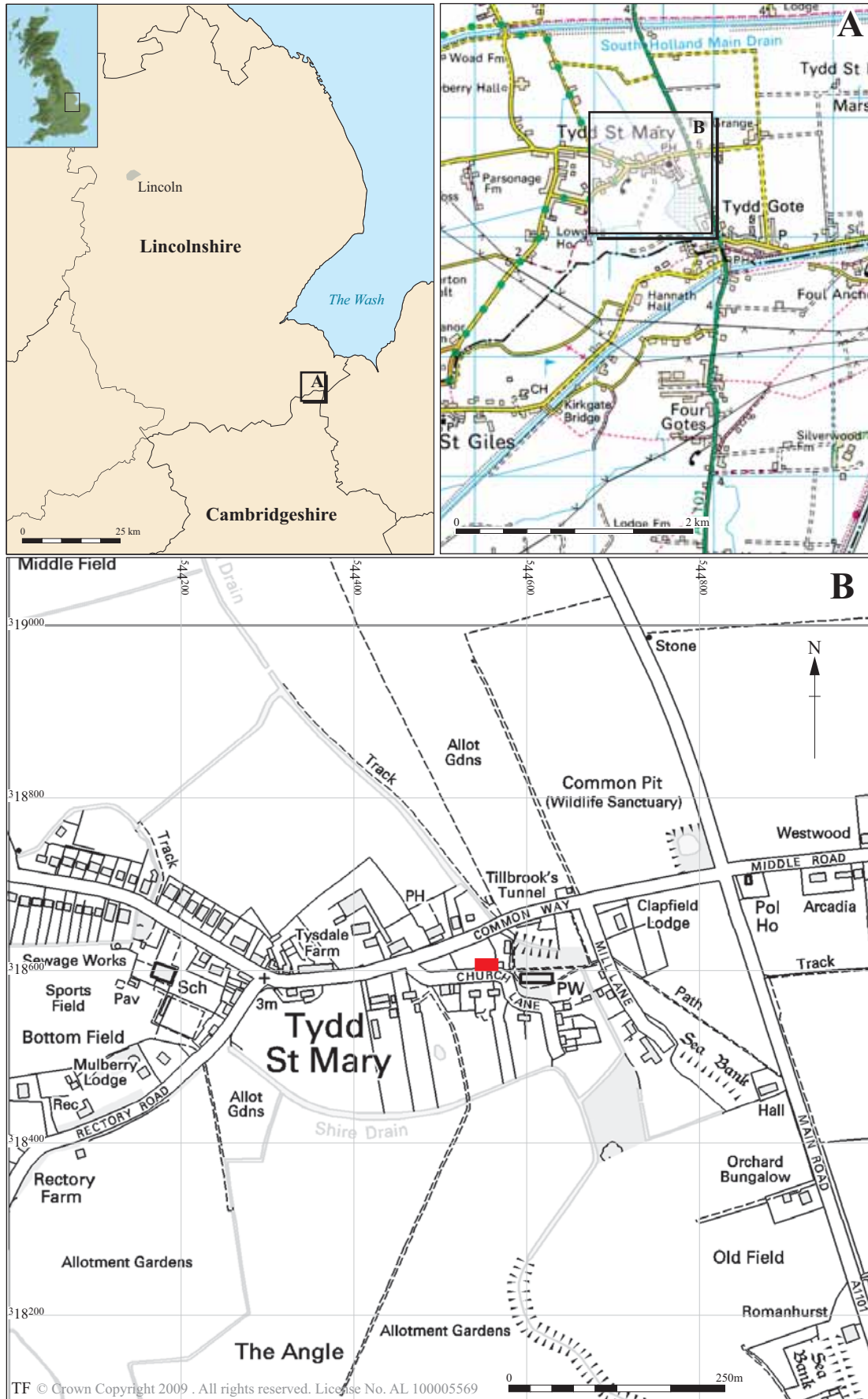


Figure 1: Location of the investigation area (red)

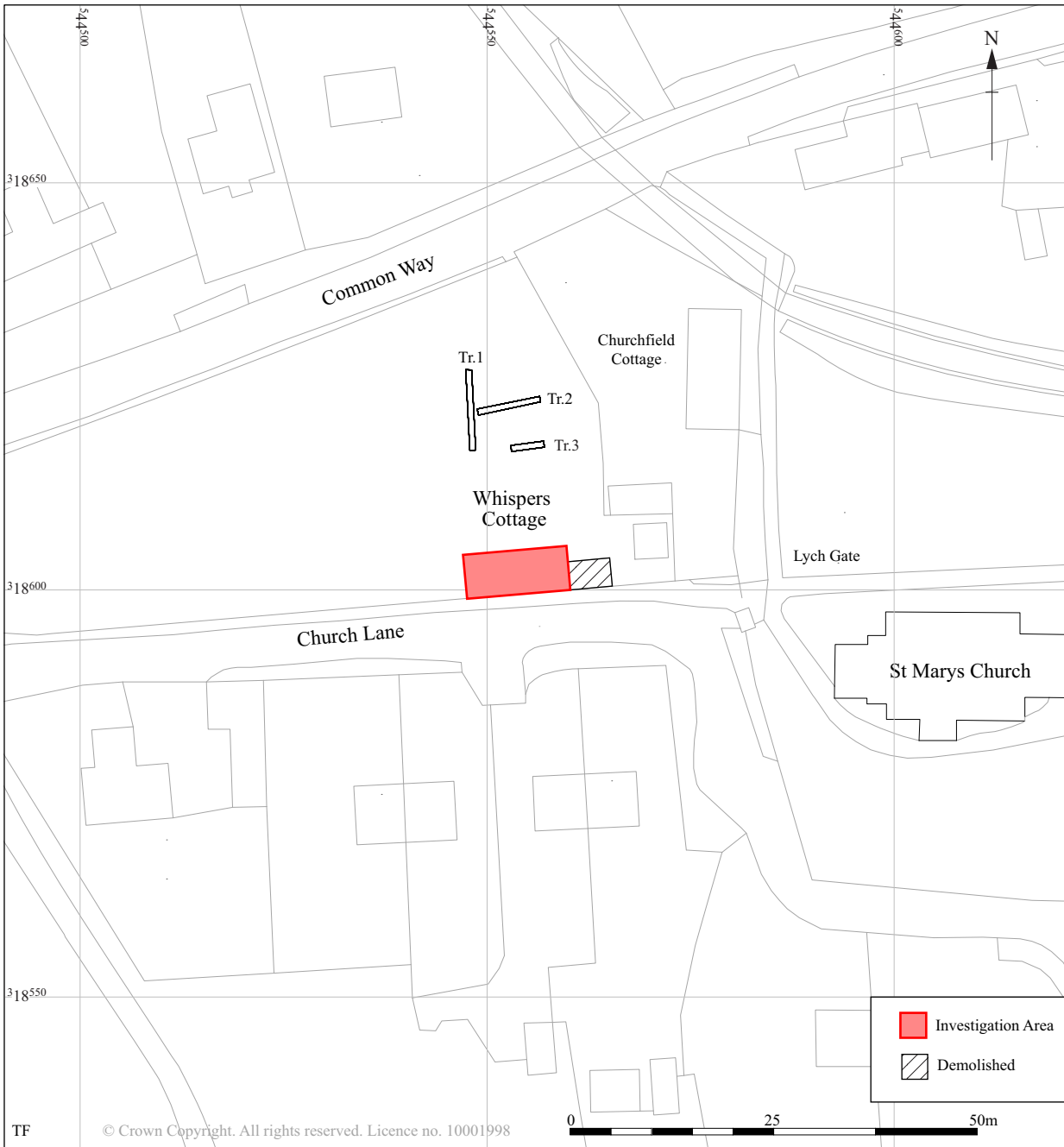


Figure 2: Site location



Figure 3: Survey and Map of the Parish of Tidd St Mary", 1779, showing the approximate location of Whispers Cottage, in blue

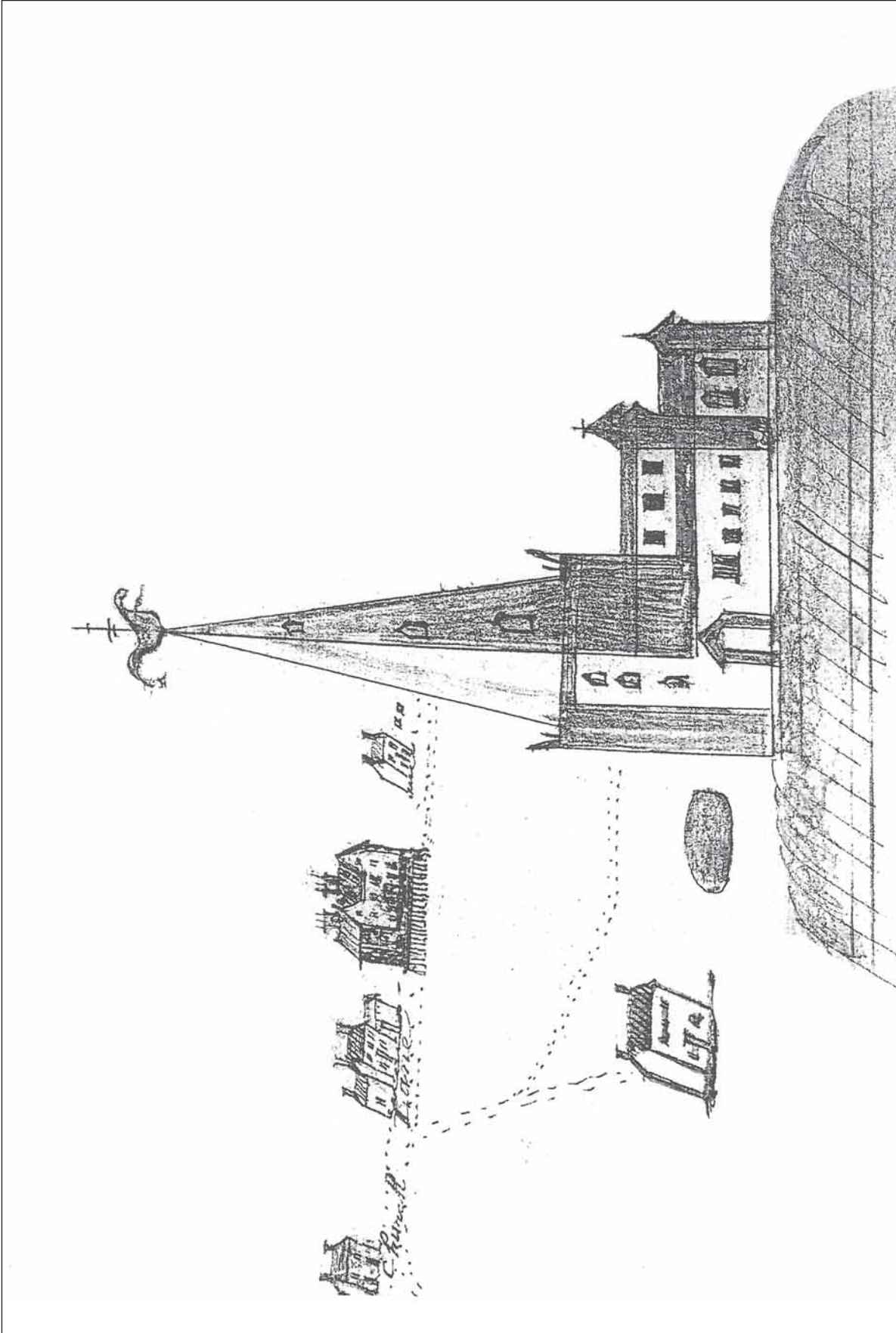


Figure 4: Extract from the map of Mr John Strangers Estate Tydd St Mary, 1816

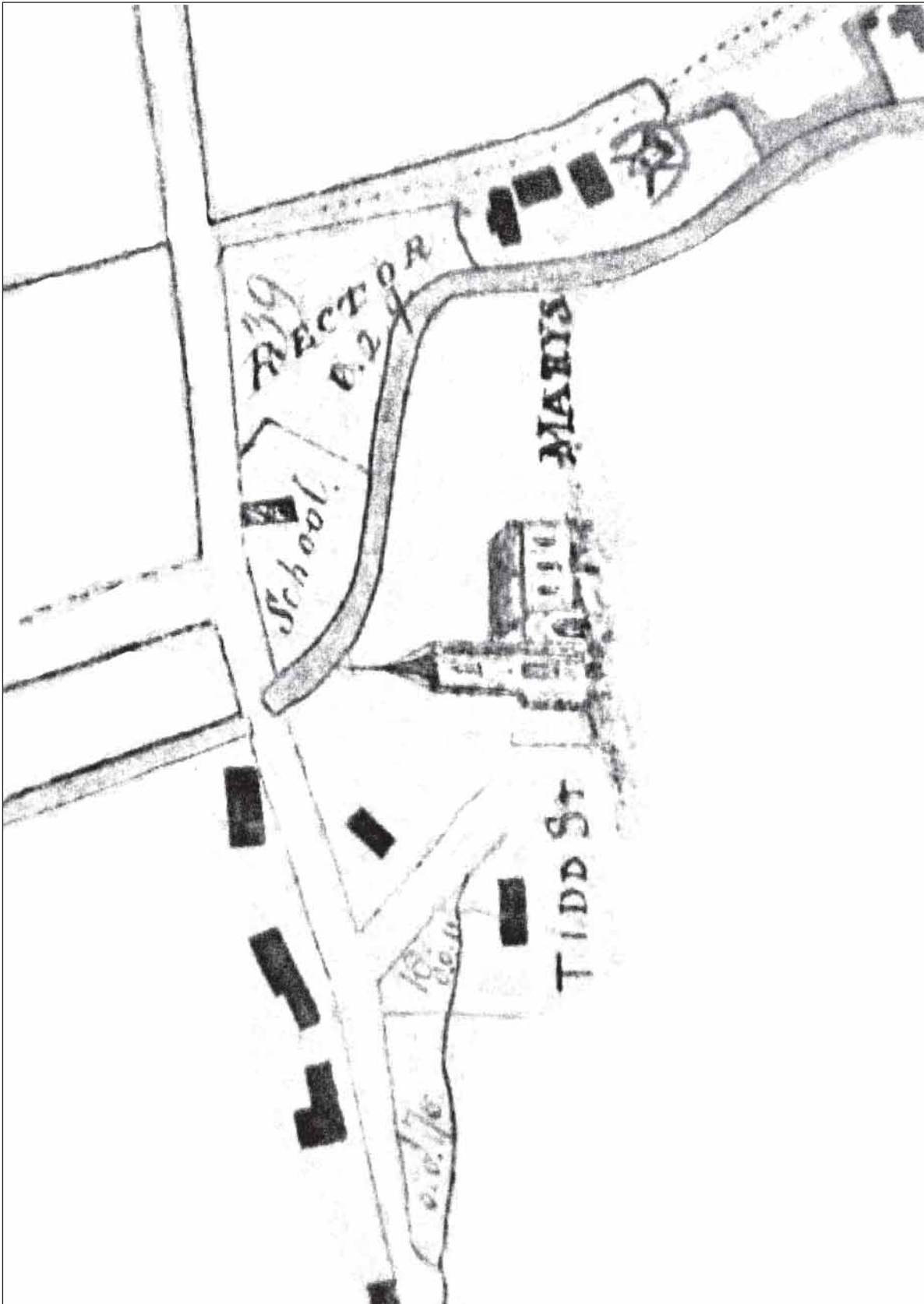


Figure 5: Enclosure map, 1760-1820

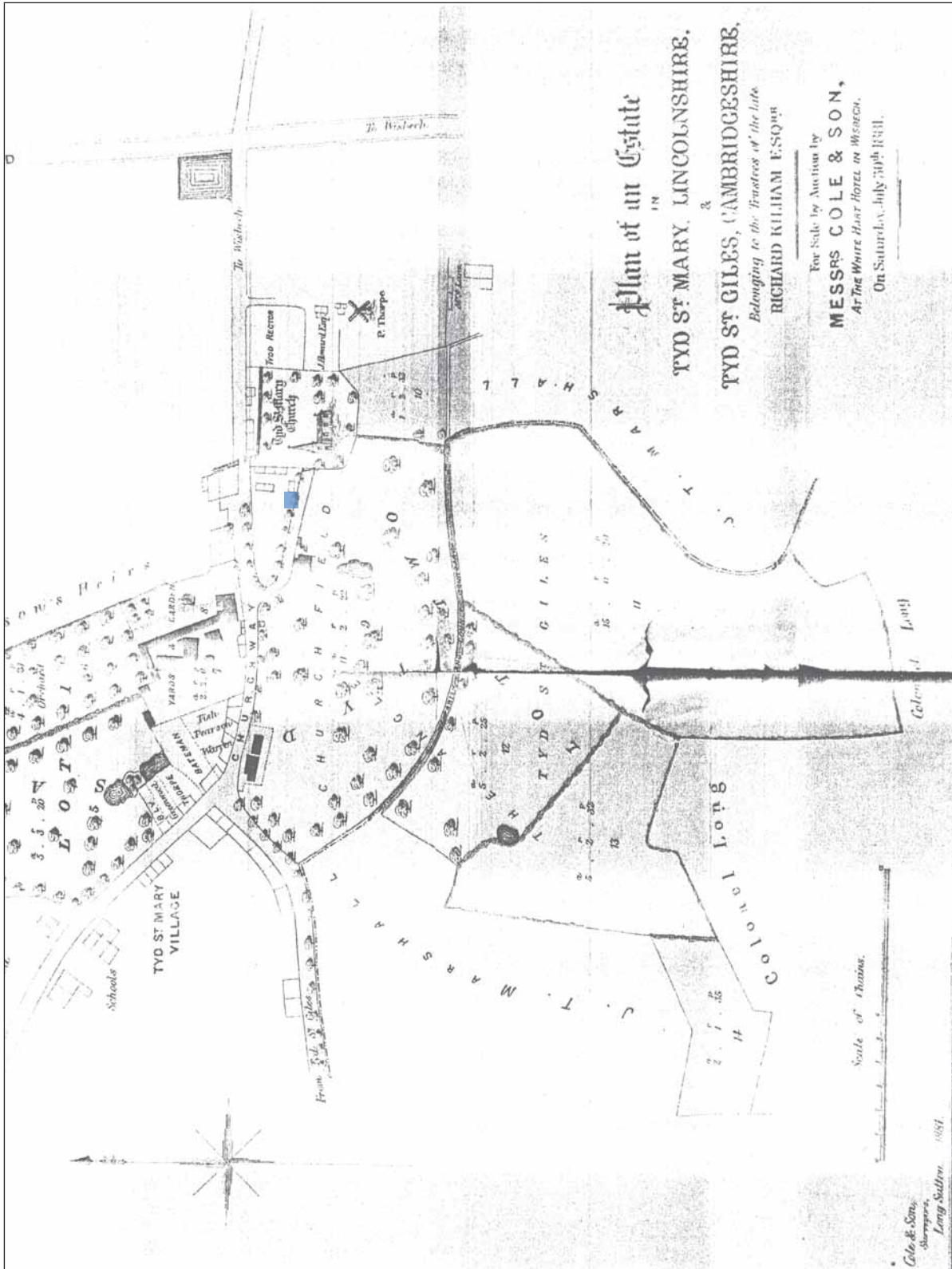


Figure 6: Plan of the estate in Tydd St Mary, from auction catalogue, 1881, showing Whispers Cottage, highlighted in blue

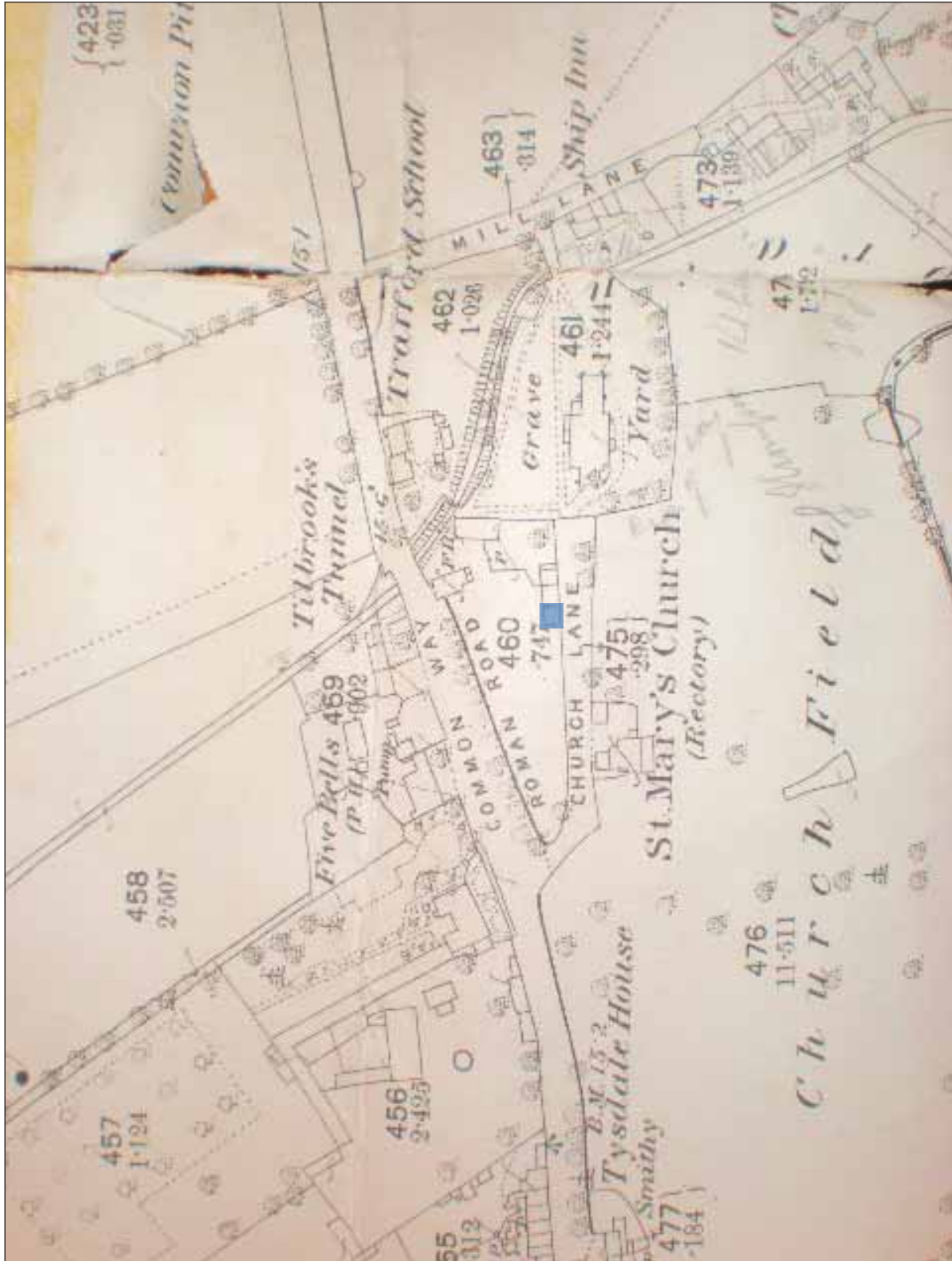


Figure 7: 1st Ed Ordnance Survey, 1889 (25" to 1 mile) with the location of Whispers Cottage highlighted in blue

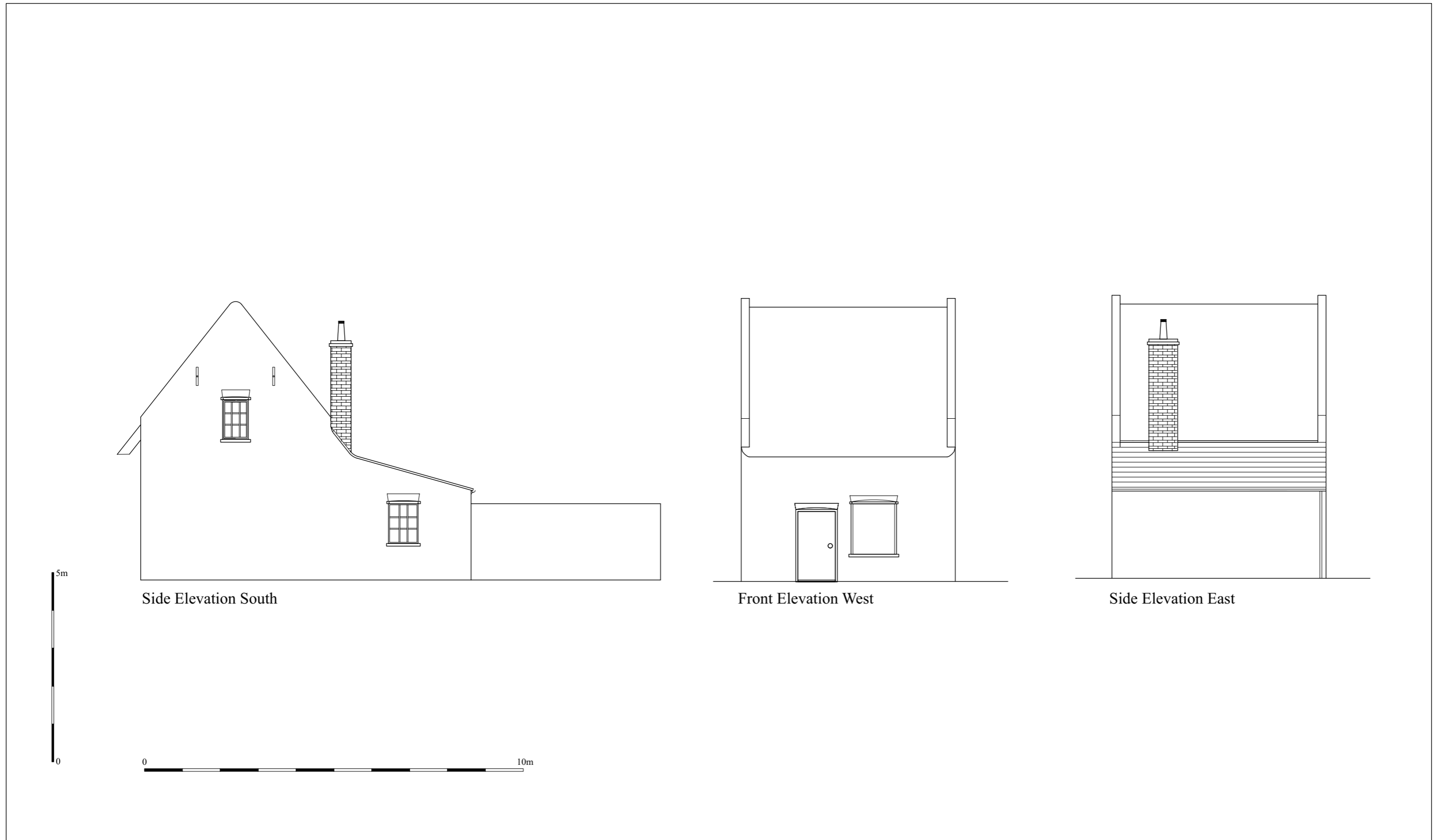


Figure 8: South, West and East-facing elevations, from data supplied by the client (Scale 1:100)



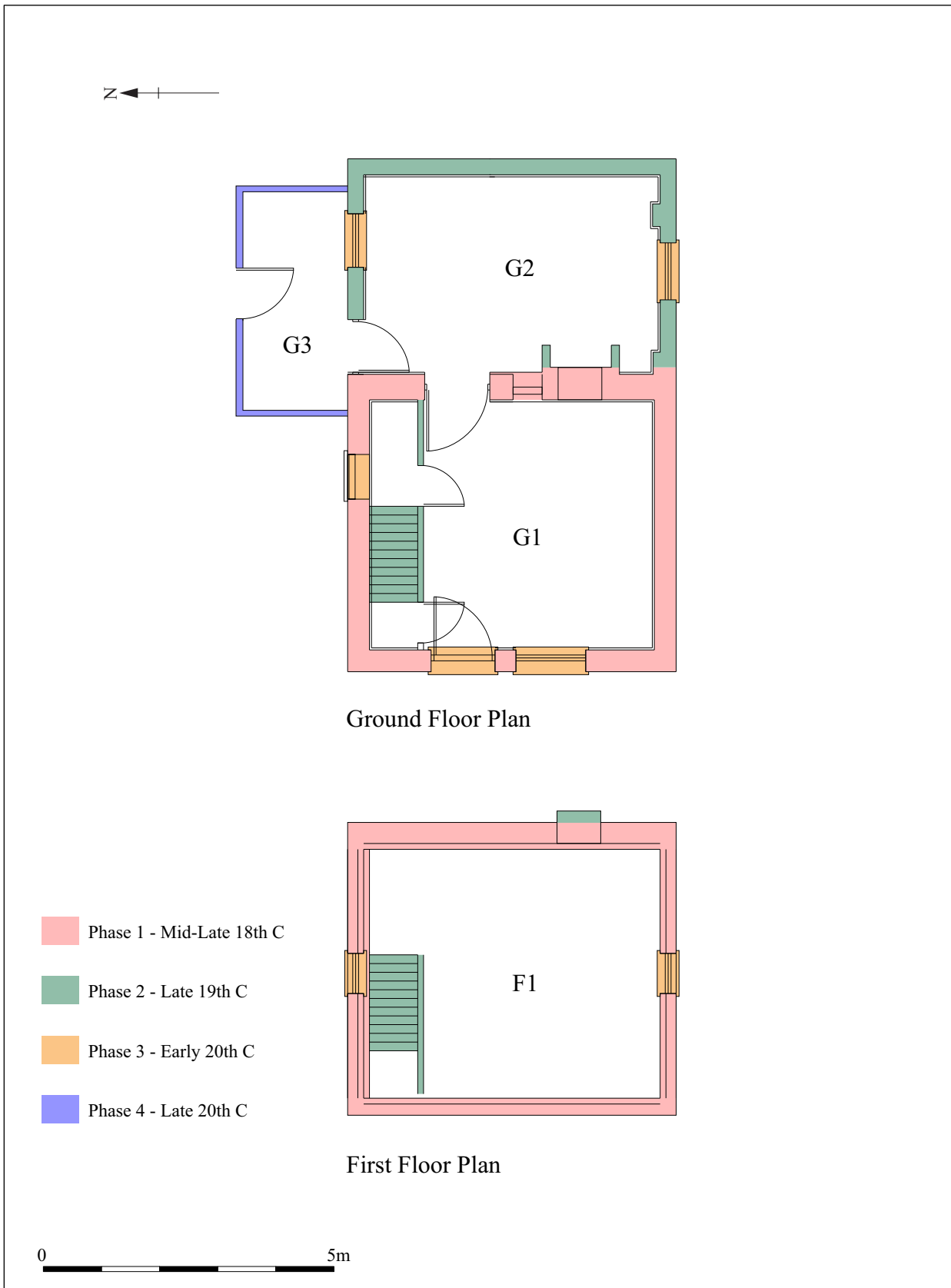


Figure 9: Whispers Cottage, ground and first floor plans, including phasing (Scale 1:100)

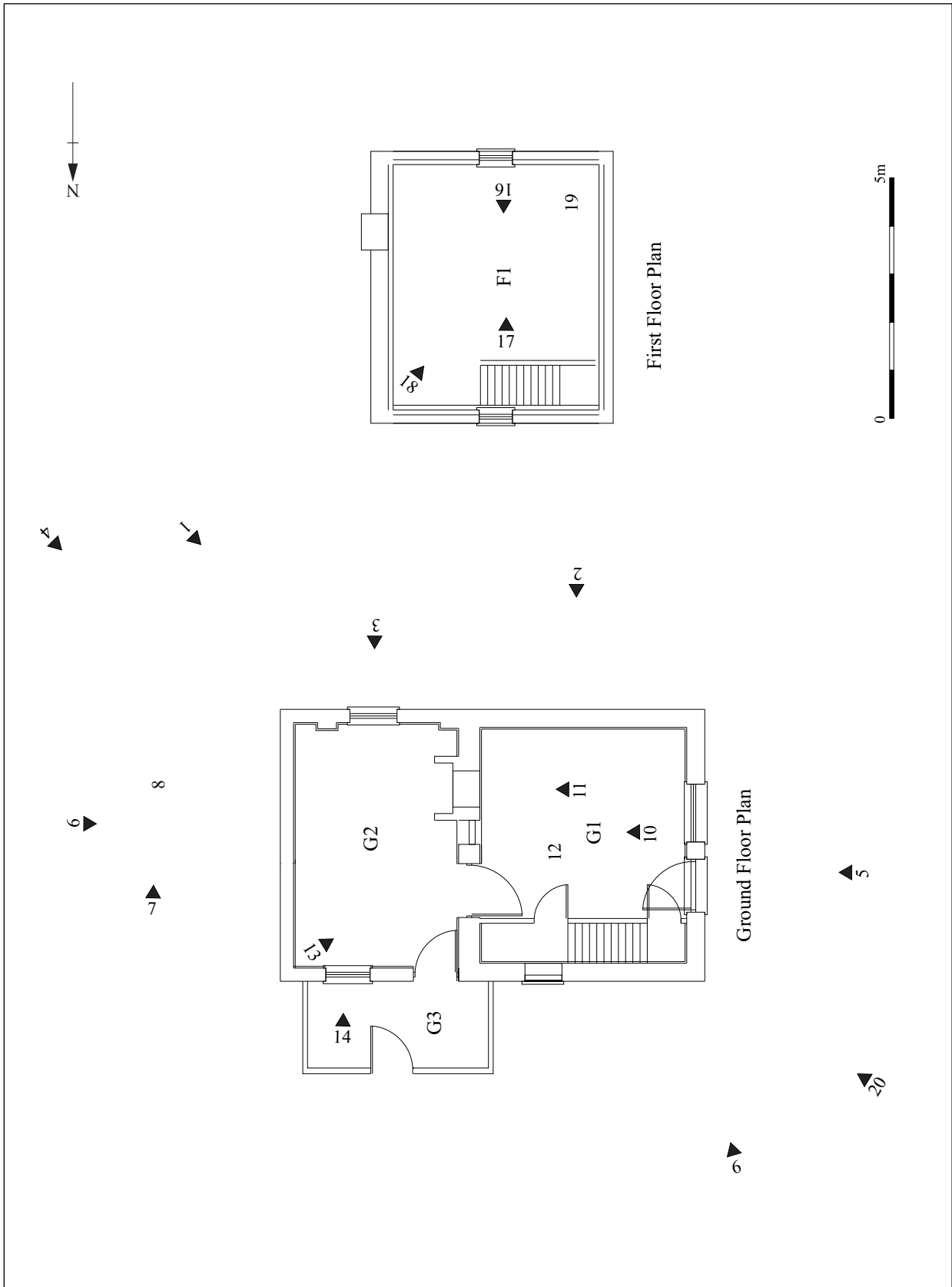


Figure 10: Location of plates used in the report

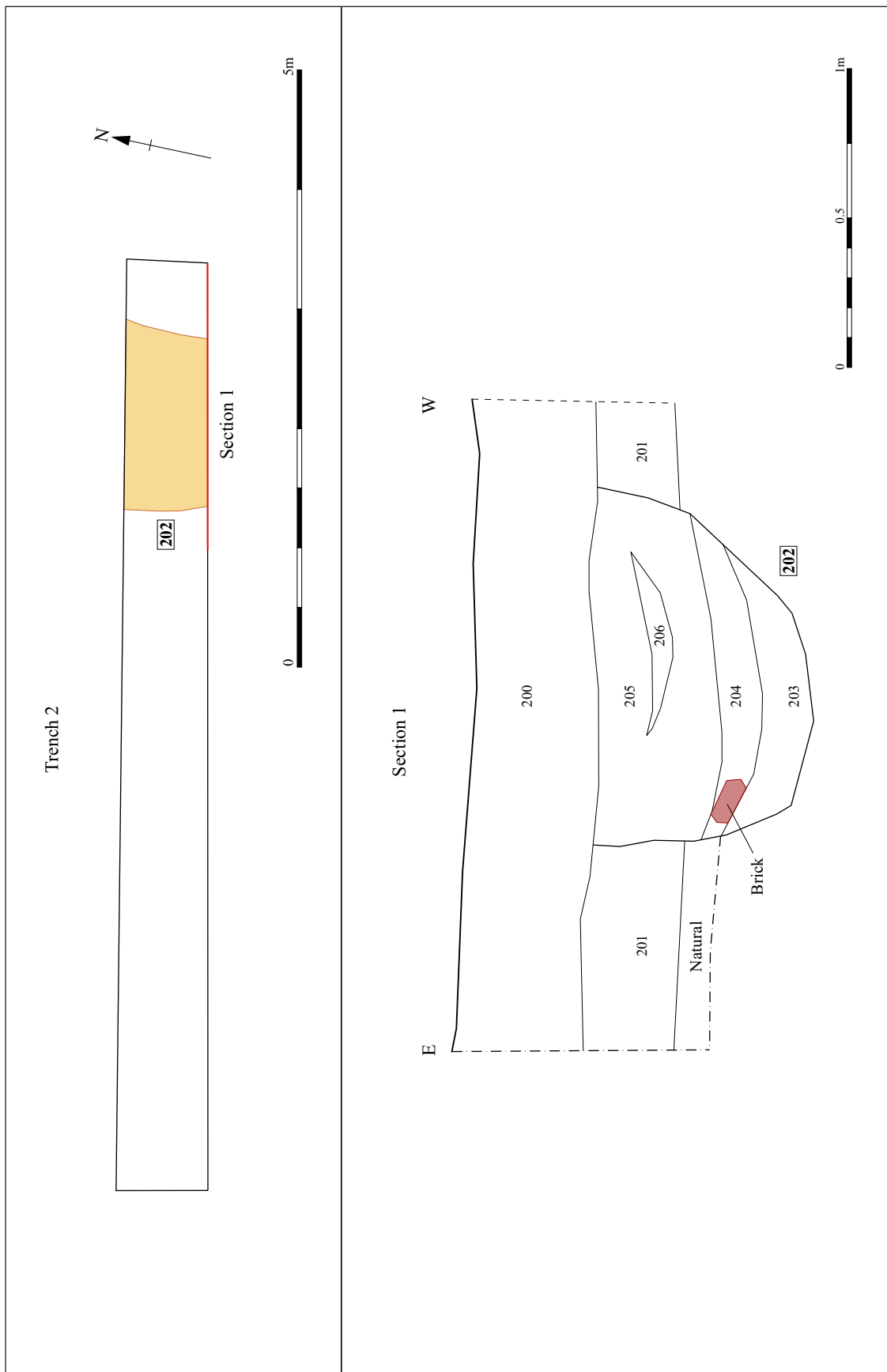


Figure 11: Trench plan (scale 1:50) and section drawing (scale 1:20)



*Plate 1. South-facing elevation (from southeast)*



*Plate 2. South-facing elevation (from east)*



*Plate 3. Detail of window on south-facing elevation*



Plate 4. South-facing elevation (from southeast)



*Plate 5. West-facing elevation*





*Plate 6. North-facing elevation*



*Plate 7. North-facing wall*



*Plate 8. Detail of brick floor*



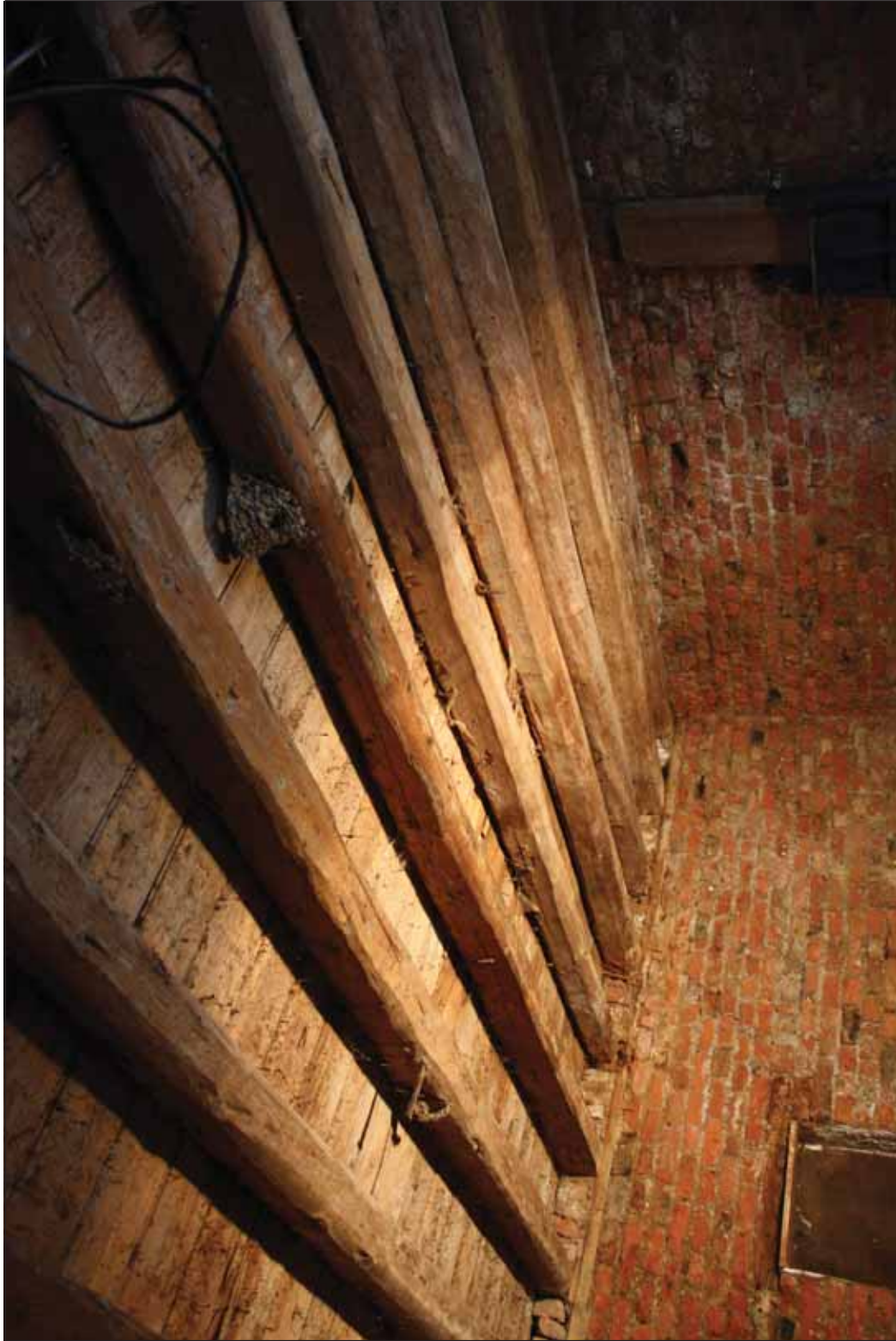
Plate 9. East-facing elevation



Plate 10. Interior wall, G1



*Plate 11. Detail of fireplace, G1*



*Plate 12. Detail of ceiling joists, G1*



Plate 13. Interior wall, G2



*Plate 14. Detail of window (from G3)*





*Plate 15. Stairs*

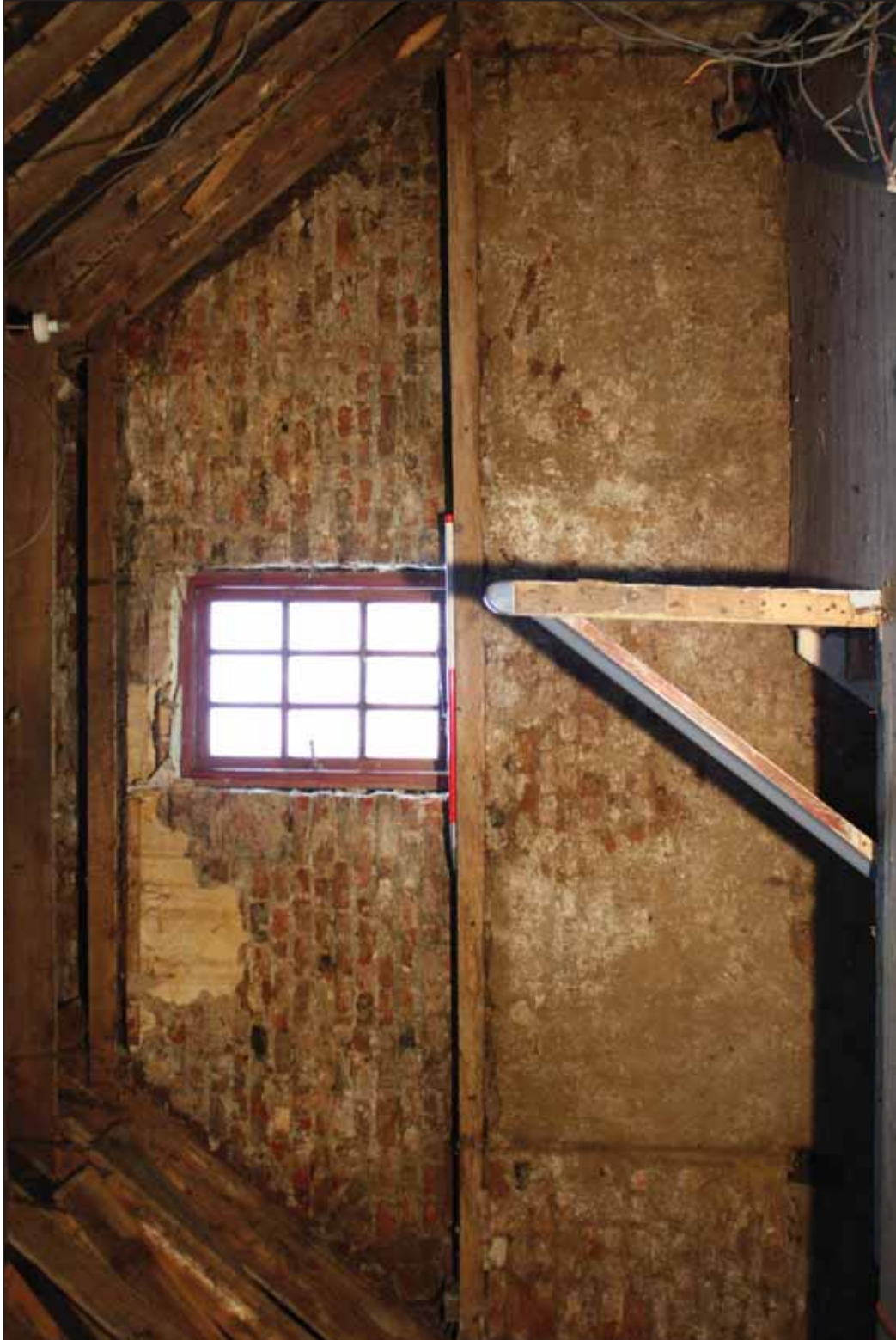


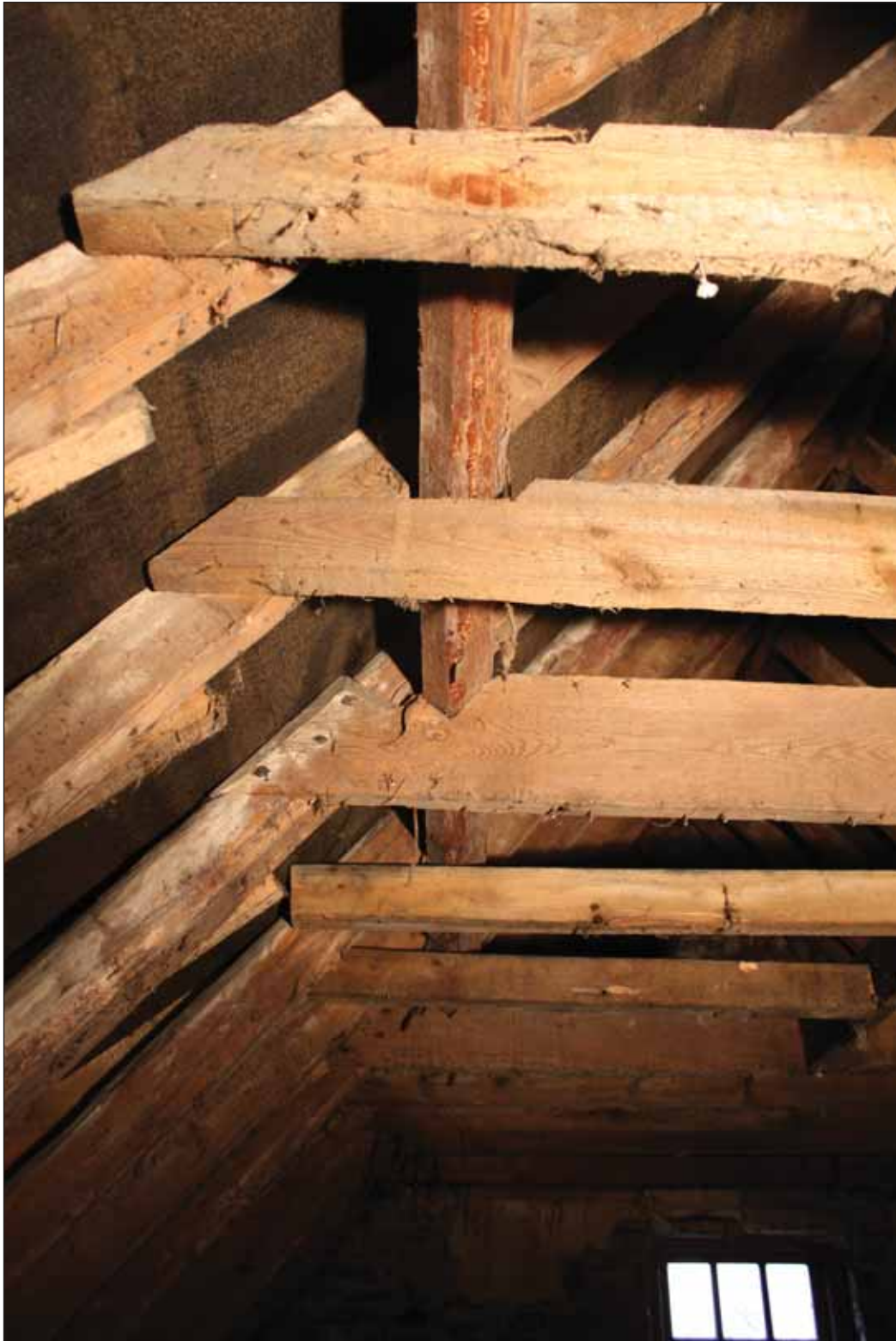
Plate 16. Internal shot of northern gable end (F1)



Plate 17. Internal shot of southern gable end (F1)



Plate 18. Room shot showing rafters, wall plates and collars, F1



*Plate 19. Detail of roof structure (rafters, purlin, collars), F1*



Plate 20. Whisper Cottage (from northwest) showing proximity to St Marys Church



Plate 21. Trench 2



Plate 22. Section 1





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