



# NAA

## HISTORIC BUILDING RECORDING

COWCLOSE HOUSE,  
BARNINGHAM, COUNTY DURHAM

prepared for  
Edward Milbank

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# COWCLOSE HOUSE, BARNINGHAM, COUNTY DURHAM

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## COWCLOSE HOUSE, BARNINGHAM, COUNTY DURHAM

### HISTORIC BUILDING RECORDING

#### *Summary*

*Northern Archaeological Associates Ltd (NAA) was commissioned by Edward Milbank to undertake a phase of archaeological historic building recording at Cowclose House, Barningham, Durham. This work was completed in advance of the conversion of the Grade II listed property for holiday accommodation and partially fulfils Condition 10 of the related planning consent (DM/17/00849/FPA).*

*Cowclose House is located approximately 2km south-east of Barningham on an unnamed road that follows the northern edge of Barningham Moor. The farmstead lies on the western shore of an artificial lake that was created by the damming of Gordale Beck in the late 20th century. The building is a traditional Yorkshire longhouse, built of sandstone and limestone rubble, with a carved lintel on the main door bearing the date 1697. The documentary evidence seems to support a late 17th-century construction date and much of the surviving fabric can be attributed to this period, except for the projecting east byre, which was constructed in the mid-19th century. By the late 1930s, the building was abandoned and remained in a semi-ruinous state until a recent phase of renovation made the southern bay watertight for use as a shelter for anglers. The proposed conversion plans will see the restoration of the whole building, ensuring a long-term sustainable future for this historic structure.*

*Cowclose House is considered to be of high heritage significance as a good example of a former longhouse that features preserved evidence of a byre, barn and domestic quarters under the same roof. The building is historically significant not only for its age but also its association with land-ownership changes over the centuries. In addition, it forms an important part of the historic landscape.*

*In accordance with Condition 10 of the granted planning consent, a Level 2 written, drawn and photographic survey of the Grade II listed building was undertaken, which is suitable to mitigate against any loss of heritage significance arising from the conversion. Although there remain a number of outstanding questions as to the phasing and development of the building, the following report and accompanying archive are considered to be sufficient to meet the building recording requirement. However, a phase of archaeological monitoring will be required during the removal or partial dismantling of any internal dividing walls, floor surfaces or blocked features.*

## COWCLOSE HOUSE, BARNINGHAM, COUNTY DURHAM

### BUILDING RECORDING

#### 1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Northern Archaeological Associates Ltd (NAA) was commissioned by Edward Milbank, to undertake a phase of Level 2 Historic Building Recording at Cowclose House, Barningham, DL11 7DY (NZ0638809577). The requirement for work was stipulated under Condition 10 of the planning consent (DM/17/00849/FPA) for the conversion of the building to holiday accommodation. All work was carried out in accordance with the relevant standards and guidance as published by Historic England (2016) and the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA 2014).
- 1.2 Cowclose House is a Grade II Listed Building located on the north edge of Barningham Moor, approximately 2.5km south-east of Barningham village (Fig. 1). The farmstead consists of a house and a byre, with a lintel stone dating to 1697. The property was occupied until the early 20th century, after which it soon fell into disrepair. It remained unoccupied until 2014, when the first bay of the structure was made watertight for use as a shelter for anglers.



*Plate 1: view of the east elevation of Cowclose as seen from the south-east.*

- 1.3 The following report provides a Historic England (2016) Level 2 ‘descriptive’ record of

Cowclose House and uses both documentary and physical evidence to explore the origins and development of the building.

### **Scope of Work**

- 1.4 This building recording covered the extant property, which comprises the house, barn, byre and eastern extension. The survey did not include any field boundary walls except that abutting the south elevation (Fig. 2).

### **Aims and Objectives**

- 1.5 The aim of the project was to undertake a Historic England Level 2 building survey of the exterior and interior of the property and prepare a written and photographic record of the structure suitable to mitigate against any potential loss of heritage significance arising from the conversion of the building to holiday accommodation.
- 1.6 In achieving this, the following objectives were identified and met:
- production of a detailed assessment of locally available primary and secondary documentary material (including cartographic references) associated with the farm in order to inform an understanding of the original layout of the complex and subsequent phases of development;
  - a written, drawn and photographic survey of the property to act as a permanent record of the building; and
  - the production of a report detailing the results of the survey and a discussion of recommendations for further archaeological monitoring during conversion works.
- 1.7 The property is referred to variously as Cow Close House, Cowclose House, Gordale House and Gardale House at different times in its history. For the sake of consistency, Cowclose House is used throughout this document unless in association with a specific reference.

## **2.0 METHODOLOGY**

### **Documentary Evidence**

- 2.1 A survey was conducted of all readily available documentary and cartographic material in order to inform an understanding of the development and history of the farmstead. These sources included published and unpublished material available at the Durham

County Record Office, North Yorkshire County Record Office and the Barningham Local History Group. The following sources were used:

- Historic cartographic sources (tithe and Ordnance Survey)
- Primary documents, including Orders of Exchange and Milbank Estate documents
- Published historical studies
- Newspaper archive
- Census data

### **Building Recording**

- 2.2 Fieldwork was carried out on the 26 July 2018. Full access to the property, both interior and exterior, was granted by the client, and a comprehensive record of the property was produced without any restrictions.
- 2.3 Each room or feature was given a unique identification number (context number). All external features were numbered 1000+, e.g. north elevation (1100), and interior features 2000+, e.g. north central room (2200). Each room in the interior then increased in a related sequence e.g. north central room (2200) and niche in northern wall (2212). A full list of contexts is included in Section 9.
- 2.4 A written description of each feature and room was produced together with a full photographic record, both internal and external. All elevations were photographed as parallel to the buildings as possible in order to avoid distortion. Detailed photographs of important architectural features were taken as well as more general room shots.
- 2.5 Photographs were taken using a digital camera and contained a graduated photographic scale of appropriate dimensions, as well as a north arrow where apposite. A suitably ordered catalogue of all photographs will be submitted with the site archive.

## **3.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

### **Location**

- 3.1 Cowclose House is situated just north of an unnamed road that traverses the northern edge of Barningham Moor between Barningham and Stang Lane (Fig. 1). The house is located on the west side of an artificial lake, which is a modern addition created by damming a tributary of Gordale Beck.

- 3.2 The main linear range, oriented north-south, comprises four bays, with the projecting east byre forming a fifth bay.

### **Topography and land use**

- 3.3 Cowclose House sits at the junction of three agricultural fields on the northern edge of Barningham Moor at approximately 252m above Ordnance Datum. The building lies on a steep north-facing slope that rises southward to the crest of Barningham Moor. To the north and west of the house is gently sloping pasture. To the east of the house, the land dips down to accommodate the modern man-made lake before rising toward Barningham Moor (Fig. 2).

### **Geology**

- 3.4 The property is located on sandstone from the Alston Formation, formed during the Carboniferous period. This sandstone layer lies among other sandstones and mudstones of the Alston Formation deposited in the deltaic or estuarine environments of the Carboniferous period. The Yard Limestone member of the Alston Formation lies a few metres to the south, which formed in a shallow marine environment off the Carboniferous coast (BGS 2018). These limestones and sandstones were used as the primary building material for Cowclose House, almost certainly derived from the nearby quarry to the south of the property, which is shown on historic maps of the site.
- 3.5 Above the Carboniferous rocks are Devensian tills with some glaciofluvial sand and gravel, which formed during the last glacial maximum of the Quaternary period. Above these tills, stagnogley soils with fine loamy topsoil from the Dunkeswick Association formed in the drift from the receding glacier. These deposits and soils would have provided good drainage for the agricultural land around Cowclose House (Jarvis *et al* 1984).

### **Designations**

- 3.6 Cowclose House is a Grade II listed building (NML No. 1160281), listed as 'a house and attached byre dated to 1697 with early 19th-century alterations.' Separate Listed Building Consent has been granted (DM/14/01194/LB).

### **Previous work**

- 3.7 Cowclose House has previously been surveyed by the North Yorkshire Vernacular Buildings Study Group (NYVBSG 1976). At the time of survey, the building, although derelict, was recorded as having a relatively new slate roof that has now gone. The barn



is referred to as housing hay bales, which limited any in-depth analysis of the building. The survey concluded that the building had originally been of joint domestic and agricultural use, with two (possibly three) domestic rooms to the south and a barn and byre to the north (*ibid.*)

- 3.8 The southern bay of the building was renovated in 2014 and made watertight. This work involved raising the wall level in some sections, replacing the doors and lintels, replacing the windows, and reflagging the floor. A wooden kingpost truss was inserted to support the new roof and the north and south walls were re-plastered (Harris Irwin Architects and Designers 2014a)
- 3.9 In support of the current planning application, a heritage statement has been prepared by Harris Irwin Architects and Designers (2016), which includes a short historical assessment of the development of the building.

#### **Limiting factors**

- 3.10 The re-plastering of walls and floors as part of the recent renovation of the south bay did limit interpretation to a certain extent. Prior to this work commencing, excavations of the floor had been carried out (Harris Irwin Architects and Designers 2014b).

### **4.0 DOCUMENTARY SURVEY AND HISTORIC CONTEXT**

#### **Early development**

- 4.1 There is considerable evidence of prehistoric activity recorded across on Barningham Moor. In close proximity to Cowclose House is a Bronze Age unenclosed settlement site (NML No. 1017423), located 240m south-southeast of the property, and a prehistoric carved stone and sub-rectangular Romano-British enclosed settlement situated 400m south-east, adjacent to Moorcock Farm (NML No. 1017421).
- 4.2 The settlement of Barningham itself is almost certainly early medieval in origin; the name is derived from the Old English '*inga*' meaning people and '*tun*' denoting village, together with the Anglo-Scandinavian personal name *Beorn*, translating literally as the farm or village of the people (or family) of Beorn (Mills 2003). However, the documentary and landscape evidence suggest that Cowclose remained marginal land until the post-medieval period.
- 4.3 The name 'Cow Close' indicates that the area was formerly moorland and was probably 'enclosed' fairly early to provide additional cow pasture. Cow Close is therefore

encroachment land. This history is reflected in the shape of the surrounding fields, which form small allotted parcels of land. This is as opposed to the linear strips of medieval field systems, which are characteristic of property plots within the main village, or the large geometric fields of parliamentary enclosure. The earliest documented enclosure agreements at Barningham date to 1608–1610, although they are not specific to Cow Close (NYCRO I). As marginal moorland on the outskirts of the village, Cow Close was probably enclosed sometime after this, possible during the period of agricultural expansion that followed the Restoration in 1660 (Jones 1965).

- 4.4 The lintel stone at Cowclose House bears the date 1697, and although date stones can sometimes be misleading, the architectural form of the building does indicate it was constructed in the late 17th century. This date is seven years after the Milbank family purchased the Barningham Estate from Francis Tunstall and began building Barningham Park. The following century was characterised by a period of extensive rebuilding in and around Barningham, with most of the buildings in the village dating to the 18th century.
- 4.5 The first cartographic evidence of Cow Close is from the c.1800 Millbank Estate map (BLHG; Fig. 3), which shows the land at Cowclose House belonging to Rev F. Bowerbank. The land is recorded as Glebe land—property held within an ecclesiastical parish used to support the parish priest—and had probably been held as such since its initial enclosure in the 17th century. In 1803, during parliamentary enclosure, the land was allotted to Rev. Samuel Swire, and formalised in 1807 (BLHG 2013; Fig. 4).

### **Tithe map**

- 4.6 The 1838 Barningham tithe map (BLHG; Fig. 5) shows the impact of parliamentary enclosure on Barningham Moor. Around Cowclose House, this was primarily the rationalisation of the older enclosure fields. However, the Cowclose allotment remained unchanged, retaining its original boundaries, although the land was further subdivided, with the addition of a new field wall immediately south of the Cowclose House. The tithe is the first map to depict the farmstead, although the building was almost certainly in existence prior to this. It is recorded as plot 364, which, along with the adjoining plot (358), is described in the accompanying apportionment book as ‘Cowclose allotment.’ The tithe map is the first cartographic depiction of the farmstead (plot 361), which is described as a ‘house’ lying above two parcels of ‘waste’ land (plots 362 and 363).
- 4.7 The tithe map names the owner of the land as Rev. William Wharton. William Fitzwilliam Wharton was the brother of John Wharton of Skelton Castle (Burke 1871,

1498). He remained Rector of Barningham until his retirement in 1879 and was renowned in the local area as an inventor of agricultural machinery including an award-winning seed drill (Hay 2012). Cowclose was tenanted to Thomas Macdonald, who had formerly served as inn-keeper of the Black Horse Inn in Barningham (Baines 1823). The census of 1841, three years after the tithe, lists Thomas MacDonald as a farmer, living in what is assumed to be Cowclose House with his wife Isabella, and their five children.

- 4.8 In 1854, Cowclose House and its adjacent fields (plots 358, 362, 363 and 364) were exchanged by Reverend William Wharton with Mark Millbank, who in turn ceded land nearer to the centre of the village (DCRO-EP/Ba 2/22). A plan accompanying the Order of Exchange showed that the land comprised three 'allotments' at Cow Close (plots 358, 363 and 365), a 'cottage' (plot 361—Cowclose House) and two parcels of 'waste land' (plots 362 and 363; Fig. 6). Despite the parcels of land being very similar to those shown on the 1838 tithe map, the farmstead on the Order of Exchange plan appears very different in layout; an upside down 'U' forms a courtyard to the south of the building. This arrangement is not replicated on any other map.

#### **Historic OS maps**

- 4.9 The land marked 'waste' on the tithe appear on the 1856 six-inch Ordnance Survey (OS) map as two quarries with a tributary of Gordale Beck shown emerging from the west quarry (Fig. 7). Two limekilns are depicted beside these quarries, indicating that they were primarily used for making lime. This was probably for agricultural use and would have been spread on the fields to increase crop yields before the advent of commercial chemical fertilizers. The quarries also had a secondary use, namely providing some of the stone for the house.
- 4.10 With reference to the farmstead, the name 'Gordale House' first appeared on the 1856 OS map, with 'Cowclose House' being the property immediately to the east. It is unknown when or why the property changed names, but this discrepancy may cause some confusion in the documentary record.
- 4.11 The layout of the property is shown on the First Edition OS map, and in greater detail on the later 1893 Second Edition 25-inch OS map (Fig. 8). The farmstead is shown as an F-shaped building, aligned north to south, with a projecting east wing and two small extensions, one adjoining the north-east corner and the other the south-west corner.
- 4.12 By 1893, the farmstead was referred to as Cow Close House, with the property to the

east becoming Moorcock Hall. The 1891 census recorded the house as occupied by Parkin Blades (62), a shepherd, his wife Alice (71) and granddaughter, Agnes Wilkinson (4) (PRO RG12; Piece: 4081; Folio: 7; Page: 8). Prior to this, the census of 1881 listed John Elwood (33), a mole-catcher, as residing at Cow Close, alongside his wife Mary (23) (PRO RG11; Piece: 4933; Folio: 114; Page: 12). Elwood was probably the parish molecatcher. In contrast to the often rather lowly position of the itinerant catcher, this was a lucrative profession with a reliable annual income.

- 4.13 There is little visible change in the layout of the farmstead between the 1856 and 1893 OS maps. The latter shows the main access road to the house to the south-east, skirting along the eastern field boundary before continuing west to cross Gordale Beck. In front of the house was a small rectangular enclosure—possibly a garden—which was accessed from a footpath branching off from the access road, with front steps lead up to the farmstead. A loop from the main track led into a small enclosure between the two eastern extensions of the building, and a second track lay to the south, connecting the property with the quarry, limekiln (both disused by this period and marked as ‘old’) and a spring.
- 4.14 On the Third Edition 25-inch OS map (1914), the layout and access of the farmstead remained largely unchanged, except that the north-eastern extension had fallen out of use by this period and is depicted as un-roofed (Fig. 9). There is no direct reference to Cowclose in the 1901 census data but, based on the location of entries in the folio, the farmstead was probably occupied by Thomas Chilton (66), a farmer and shepherd, together with his wife Elizabeth (68), two sons, a niece, a grandson and a farm labourer (PRO G13; Piece: 4657; Folio: 5; Page: 13).
- 4.15 By the 1930s, Cowclose House was largely a ruin (Anon. 2009). By the publication of the 1979 OS map (not reproduced) the north and small south-western extension had disappeared. The access track is also not shown, indicating the property was infrequently used.
- 4.16 Between 1980 and 2001, a dam was built across the Gordale Beck to create the lake at the front of the property. On the shores of the lake, now a good fishing spot, Cowclose House (also known locally as ‘Gardale House’) was used as a fishing refuge by the Jervaulx Fly Fishers.

## 5.0 BUILDING SURVEY

### Layout and form

- 5.1 The building is a traditional stone longhouse, aligned on a north–south axis with a protruding wing extending east (a later addition; Fig. 10). The lintel stone at the entrance of the building dates to 1697, although the structure has undergone considerable modification, most notably in the early 19th century with the addition of the east extension. There is little evidence to suggest that the lintel is not original to the building, although this cannot be wholly discounted, and the stone could have been reused from another structure in the vicinity.



*Plate 2: general view looking south-west, with byre and barn in the foreground.*

- 5.2 The farmstead is currently single storey and composed of four bays; the two south bays, which comprise the domestic accommodation, and the north bays, the barn and byre. Wall scars in the southern bay indicate that the building originally had a second storey, at least over the domestic part of the structure. Today this bay is the only one to be roofed; a recent construction to make the building water tight (Plate 1). The walls are composed of sandstone and limestone rubble with large cut and dressed door surrounds. The building is primarily accessed from the east, with three doorways on the east facing elevation, and only one on the west (Plate 2).



**Main building exterior (1000)**

***North elevation (1100)***

- 5.3 The north gable elevation (Fig. 11; Plate 3) comprises a rubble-built wall that survives to a height of 5.00m with rough-hewn quoins (**1101**) on the eastern corner. There is evidence of quoins at the western corner (**1102**) but most of the wall has collapsed.



*Plate 3: north facing elevation (1100).*



*Plate 4: oblique photograph of west facing (rear) elevation (1200).*



***West elevation (1200)***

- 5.4 The west, rear facing elevation (Fig. 13; Plate 4) features a single door (1201) providing access into the barn (2200). The door has a stone threshold that is raised 0.50m off the ground and large dressed stone surrounds. To the north of the door is the semi-collapsed wall of the north bay (Plate 4). To the south is a ventilation slit (1202) and a square blocked opening (1203). Both the north and south corners have large stone quoins (1205) that, on the south wall, abut a short rubble-built boundary wall.



*Plate 5: south facing elevation (1300).*

***South elevation (1300)***

- 5.5 The north bay has recently been renovated, meaning that the pointing on this gable end is new (Fig. 12; Plate 5). The door (1301) seems to be a later addition, as it has a cement threshold and a machine cut lintel. A series of rectangular stones on the gable (1302) mark the location of the flue. There is also a short chimney stack above the wall head.

***East elevation (1400)***

- 5.6 The east elevation (Fig. 14; Plate 1) is the front façade of the building. It features the main entrance to the south bay (1401), which forms domestic part of the building. The door features cut and dressed jambs with a dated lintel, inscribed 'I L' with the date 1697 (Plate 6). It is unknown who or what 'I L' refers to or whether the stone is in its



original position, although the evidence from the surrounding fabric suggests that it is. The door is set 0.50m above ground level and is accessed via three steps, which have been recently re-flagged.



*Plate 6: lintel above the main door with the inscription 'I L 1697.'*



*Plates 7 and 8: setting for gatepost (1406) and square settings in quoins (1407).*



- 5.7 To the south of the main door is a sash window (**1402**), a recent replacement set in a machine-cut stone surround. This is replicated to the north of the door with another window (**1403**), beside which is the remainder of a metal downpipe (**1408**). The pipe is a metre long and runs down from the top of the wall.
- 5.8 On the north side of the elevation are a further two doors (**1404** and **1405**), each leading into different rooms. Both doors have dressed stone surrounds. The northern door has a large stone threshold, whereas the southern door does not.
- 5.9 On the very northern edge of the elevation, set into the quoins, are two metal hinge posts (**1406**) which indicate the position of a former gate (Plate 7). Similarly, on the very southern edge of the building there are two square holes, located 0.50m apart, in one of the quoins, which is placed approximately 1.20m off the ground (**1407**) (Plate 8). These holes may be from some other gate, fence or shelf.



*Plate 9: north elevation of east projecting wing (2300) showing the existing door (1311) and a blocked doorway (1111), now a window.*

***East projecting wing (2300)***

- 5.10 The east projecting wing (**2300**) was constructed as an addition byre and now stand separate from the main linear farmstead range, although it would have presumably been adjoined by a single roof covering both buildings. The floor level in the wing is lower than that of the core building and it is also plainer in construction, suggesting it is a later addition.

- 5.11 The north elevation (Plate 9) comprises a doorway (1111) and blocked door that is now a window (1112), with a single door (1311) on the south elevation. The eastern elevation is rubble-built with no distinct features save a 20x20mm groove in one of the central stones, the reason for which is unknown.

**Interior (2000; Fig. 10)**

*Byre (2100)*

- 5.12 The north room of the main building was used as a byre with access from the east. The eastern wall has a doorway (1405) with a chamfered, L-shaped stone door jamb and a large wooden lintel. Beside the door, to the north, there are several pieces of wood extending from the wall (2142). Located 750mm from the floor level, there are three pieces of wood approximately 1–1.25m apart, which extend from the wall. Parallel to these are floor level pieces associated with former animal stalls.



*Plates 10, 11: wooden remains of stall division (2142) and L-shaped drain (2101).*

- 5.13 In the middle of the room is a large L-shaped drain (2101), which begins along the north wall and turns toward the east door, providing drainage for waste from the byre. To the west is a ledge (2121) that runs along the whole length of the wall about 30–40cm above floor level, and almost certainly represents fittings for a manger or feeding trough of some form.



- 5.14 On the south wall is a doorway (2131; Plate 12) with a wooden lintel and jambs that provides access to the barn (2200). Beside the wall is a lamp niche (2132).



*Plate 12: south wall of byre showing door (2131) and storage niche (2132).*

***Barn (2200)***

- 5.15 The north central room served as a barn evident from the ventilation slits in the centre of both the east and west walls. The north wall has a door (2131), which provides access to the byre (2100). Above the door is a vent (2213) that runs 400mm up from the lintel and connects the barn and byre. Beside the door is a lamp niche (2212) and there is a second niche on the west wall in the north corner of the room (2222) for a lamp or storage.
- 5.16 The west wall contains the only western access to the building (1201). The door frame, which is of dressed stone with an L-shaped jamb, shows four hinge posts and two latches, suggesting it was a stable door. There is a second doorway directly opposite on the east wall (1404; Plate 13).
- 5.17 To the south of the doors, on both the east and west walls (1203 and 2243), there are splayed ventilation slits, which demonstrate the agricultural function of this space. These slits are located centrally 1.25m off the floor. To the south of the west slit, is a blocked opening (1204), which probably originally served as a window. Opposite the window,

on the east wall, is a door frame with a wooden door jamb and lintel (**2241**). This leads into the east projecting wing (**2300**). Beside the door and the ventilation slit is a vertical scar in the wall (**2244**) that descends from the south corner of the ventilation slit to the floor. This scar is not duplicated elsewhere in the building and may indicate the position of a wall that was later demolished.



*Plate 13: east wall of north-central room showing (from right to left) the exterior door, ventilation slit, wall scar and interior door to the eastern addition.*

- 5.18 Beneath the ventilation slit in the west wall were two large iron nails (**2225**), each of which were 300mm long and spaced 1.00m apart. They probably represent fittings for a shelf.
- 5.19 The south wall of the room is partially collapsed. Above the collapse and remains of a wooden doorframe (**2231**) are several putlog holes (**2232**). These are not reflected on the north wall, suggesting a floor or platform formerly extended only partially across the room. This may be indicative of a hay loft.
- 5.20 The remains of white wall plaster (**2233**) were observed on the south-east corner of the room. This possibly indicates that this part of the barn was formerly divided from the agricultural area and instead had a domestic function. It is possible that the partial collapse of the wall on the west side (**2234**) indicates a former fireplace.





*Plate 14: oblique view of the west wall of the barn showing (from right to left) several niches, the exterior door, ventilation slit, and blocked window.*



*Plate 15: south wall of the north-central room (2200) showing door (2231), remains of internal wall plaster (2233), and possible remains of a fireplace (2234); this area may have formerly been sub-divided from the barn as part of the domestic living space.*



***East projecting byre wing (2300)***

- 5.21 The eastern addition has lower ground levels and walls than the remainder of the building. It has only shallow foundations, further supporting the assumption that it is a later build. The room has three entrances, two doors on the north and south walls respectively (**1311** and **1111**), and one door (**2241**) into the main building. The latter door is set considerably higher than the other doors on the north and south wall yet all three have wooden frames with only the lintel tied into the wall, indicating that the structure was added later. Notably, door **2241** is the only door into the main building which has a wooden surround confirming it is a later insert (Plate 9).
- 5.22 The walls of the projecting wing do not extend higher than the lintel of both the north and south doors, and there is no a lintel for the window on the north wall. This window (**1112**), shows visible scars descending to the floor, indicating that it was once a door.



*Plate 16: south wall of south-central room (2400) showing fireplace (2432), flue scar (repaired) and door (2431).*

***South-central room (2400)***

- 5.23 The south-central room originally served a domestic purpose, indicated by the fireplace (**2432**) located in the centre of the south wall (Plate 16). The fireplace has a cut and dressed stone surround with chisel marks on the mantel and a visible flue scar leading up to a stack at the top of the gable. The interior of the fireplace is of brick. The flue of the fireplace was still open at the time of survey.

- 5.24 The room has a window on the eastern wall (**1403**) and a blocked opening on the western wall (**2421**). The eastern window is splayed, with cut stone surrounds and set into a larger bay extending down to the floor. Below the window is a large stone, probably no longer in situ, which may have formerly been a lintel or threshold.



*Plate 17: west wall of the south-central room with the blocked window (2421) visible above a square scar in the plaster.*

- 5.25 The blocked opening on the west wall (**2421**) shows no evidence of former stone surrounds (Plate 17) and may have been a window or a large cupboard niche. It retains a wooden lintel and the scar is visible on the exterior of the building primarily as a variation in the pointing. Below it there is a layer of white plaster that runs along the base of the wall that rises 500mm above the floor level. A faint wall scar (**2422**) indicates the position of a shelf or an extension of the cupboard below the opening.
- 5.26 The room is accessed from two different doorways, one from the north (**2231**) and one from the south (**2431**). Both doorways have wooden jambs and lintels, with modern renovation of the south doorway.

#### *South room (2500)*

- 5.27 The south room has been recently renovated and is the only water-tight room in the building. The north and south walls have been plastered, the floor has new flagging, and a new king post truss roof has been added. The room has three entrances: from the



main door to the east (**1401**), from a back door to the south (**1301**), and from a door into **2400** from the north (**2431**).

- 5.28 The main door (**2541**) has an interior wooden lintel, with large stone quoins on the north side and smaller stones on the south side. There is a 400mm high niche (**2541**) set into the south side of the door surround, probably for a candle or lamp, although it is quite shallow. There is no wear on the stonework or recess to suggest this was a draw-bolt or hinge.



*Plate 18: east wall of the southern room (2500). Wall scars are visible in the plaster of the north and south walls. Beside the main door is a small niche, indicated by the 0.25m ranging rod.*

- 5.29 Beside the main door is the only window into the room (**1402**). The window is a modern sash window, set in a splay that extends down to the floor, similar to that of the south-central room (**2421**).
- 5.30 Visible in the new plaster work on the north and south walls are two horizontal wall scars (**2512** and **2532**), which are indicative of a former floor level. Both walls have new wooden-framed doors and a new layer of plaster. In the centre of the south wall is a modern vent and an obvious scar of a modern stove on the wall, above a hearth in the new flagstone floor.

## **6.0 PHASING AND DISCUSSION**

- 6.1 The farmstead is a typical Yorkshire longhouse, combining both domestic and agricultural space under one roof. This tradition has long since fallen out of favour and most longhouses in the area have either been lost or converted, with the byre being incorporated into domestic use as a kitchen or service room (Harrison and Hutton 1984). However, Cowclose House shows no evidence of such changes and seems to have remained as a dual-use building until its abandonment. As such, it is a relatively rare example of the form, particularly with a cowhouse surviving in situ (English Heritage 2013). However, today the building is in a semi-ruinous state and in urgent need of re-purposing to ensure a sustainable future.
- 6.2 Longhouses usually contained a single entrance, with a through passage for cattle and humans predominantly located below the chimney stack (English Heritage 2013). This passage separated the residential part of the building from the cowhouse, which was generally built on the downhill side of the building (Harrison and Hutton 1984). In the case of Cowclose House, however, there is little evidence of any such single entrance; instead, there were separate entrances to both the residential and agricultural bays.
- 6.3 It is uncertain exactly how much of the building dates from its original construction. As a rare example of a surviving longhouse, the main section of the building likely dates from the 17th or early 18th century, but it is uncertain whether the layout or use of the rooms within the building have significantly changed over the years. The building most likely contained two sections, the southern section being domestic and the northern, agricultural. The evidence for this basic division lies in the windows and doors. The southern bays contain two large matching windows facing east and separated by a fireplace whereas the northern bays retain the evidence of byre stalls and ventilation slits.
- 6.4 The main block of the farmstead (excluding the east extension) contains four rooms; the evidence would suggest that at one point it contained five. Fabric changes in the structure indicate four main phases of development reflecting various changes in agricultural purpose. These four phases are discussed below and are based on a possible interpretation of the building's development. Figure 15 provides a visual interpretation of the proposed phasing.

### **Phase 1: 17th and 18th century**

- 6.5 The original longhouse farmstead contained southern domestic bays and northern

agricultural bays. Based on the historic evidence, and the date stone above the main door, the building was constructed in the late 17th century during a period of agricultural expansion across the country that followed the Restoration. The enclosure of land around the edges of Barningham Moor resulted in the foundation of a number of small farmsteads outside of the village core, which were primarily associated with raising cattle and sheep, as well as with some arable production. This process continued into the 18th and early 19th century with the expansion of parliamentary enclosure.

- 6.6 It is possible that the domestic section of the building was originally larger to accommodate more residents for an altogether smaller farm. As farming practices improved into the 19th century, the barn would have been expanded to accommodate a larger farming operation with a smaller family.
- 6.7 The basic layout of the extant structure appears not to have significantly altered since this period, except for the addition of the east projecting wing. The two (or possible three) southern bays would have provided domestic accommodation for the family that farmed the adjacent fields. The windows of the south bays are not original but rather later additions designed to take more vertical sashes. These windows would have replaced earlier windows, of which no traces remain (YVBSG 1976).
- 6.8 Horizontal scars across the wall of the south bay indicate the former presence of an upper storey. This space would have been relatively low (although the floor level may have also been reduced) and used for storage and sleeping. However, there is no evidence of a second storey in the north-central room and the putlogs on the south wall of the barn seem to be a later addition, as the upper floor would have otherwise transected the window (1203) on the west barn wall. Traditionally, ground floor windows in a barn frequently double as muckholes, placed to conveniently remove the waste from animals. However, there seems to be no evidence to suggest that the barn was ever dedicated specifically to housing animals. Instead, this window may have provided light into a third domestic room that would have extended partially into the barn (annotated as a blue line in Fig. 15).
- 6.9 The plaster on the south east corner of the barn (Plate 15) may be evidence that there was originally a third domestic room; plaster, as opposed to lime wash, is not generally associated with a barn wall. Further support for this theory is provided by the wall scar that extends below the east ventilation slit, possibly evidence of a partition wall associated with such a third room.

- 6.10 This configuration would have resulted in a shorter barn, perhaps used as a small threshing barn. The presence of two doors opposite each other would have provided the necessary airflow for threshing the grain. Although threshing barns are generally much larger, there is evidence for barns with smaller threshing floors for processing small amounts of grain (English Heritage 2013).
- 6.11 The byre to the north of the barn was also part of the original construction. The use of the room as a byre or cowhouse is evident from the drain and the remains of byre stalls. The chamfered door in the east wall matches those of the barn and main door, implying that they are all probably original.
- 6.12 The evidence suggests that the domestic section of the building was originally larger than it is now but, as farming practices improved into the 19th century, the barn would have been expanded to accommodate a larger farming operation with a smaller family. The census data also indicates a change in the fortune of the farm, with sheep replacing cattle in terms of the primary focus of production.

#### **Phase 2: 18th and 19th century**

- 6.13 At some point in the 18th century or early 19th century, the barn was expanded, and the residential quarters reduced. The barn was enlarged to make more space for storing hay and other products. The expansion was achieved by removing the north wall of the third domestic room
- 6.14 The putlog holes on the south wall of the barn indicate the presence of a floor that was possibly inserted at this time. These could be associated with scaffolding during construction, but the seeming lack of such holes elsewhere in the building suggest instead that they were associated with a platform at the rear of the barn that was possibly used as a loft for storing grain or hay. This platform must have been built following the demolition of the third room as it would have otherwise cut across the existing window.
- 6.15 The ventilation slits were possibly added to the barn at this time for the ventilation of hay. The ventilation slit on the east wall was built over the wall scar and therefore denotes a later construction date.

#### **Phase 3: c.1850**

- 6.16 Subsequent to the expansion of the barn, the eastern extension was constructed to provide additional animal accommodation. The ventilation slit that now stands on the

east wall of the barn would have originally been built to provide fresh air to the interior of the building, which would not have been possible once the east extension (2300) was built. The extension is also not tied into the exterior walls of the main buildings and has no foundation, clearly implying it is of a later date. It originally had two doors opening to the north.

- 6.17 The tithe map of 1838 (Fig. 16A) shows the structure as a simple longhouse, with no projecting buildings. Therefore, it is probable that the addition was constructed after this date, but before the First Edition OS map of 1856 (Fig. 16C), which shows two projecting structures on the east side. As evident on the 1856 map, these two additions formed a courtyard or foldyard to the east of the house.



*Figure 16: compilation of historic maps. A) 1838 tithe map; B) 1854 Order of Exchange; C) 1856 First Edition OS map; D) 1914 OS map.*

- 6.18 The Order of Exchange in 1854 (Figure 16B) shows the farm as a U-shaped building arranged around a central foldyard. Although this would appear to be a cartographic error based on the surviving evidence, the existence of a former, more extensive east range cannot be completely dismissed. Both the First Edition OS map (Fig. 16C) and the Order of Exchange (Fig. 16B) were surveyed in 1854, with the OS map being published two years later. The other buildings marked on the Order of Exchange are less accurate than those of either the OS map or tithe map, suggesting it is an issue with the accuracy in its portrayal of Cowclose House. However, it is also possible that the surviving projecting wing was part of a larger complex constructed to the east of the main farm range, and that the bulk of this building was destroyed soon after construction. If this were the case, then sub-surface archaeological remains may survive in this area.
- 6.19 The projecting east wing that is visible on the First Edition OS map remained visible in the 1893 25-inch OS map, but the north-east addition is shown as un-roofed on the 1914 OS map (D). There was no extant evidence of this building visible during the recent survey. It is possible that when this structure fell into disrepair, the function of 2300 changed, and the east door was blocked to create the south doorway.

#### **Phase 4: post 1850**

- 6.20 The modifications to the east extension imply a change of use, perhaps from animal accommodation to storage, with the eastern doorway blocked to create a window. At this time, the southern doorway was added to improve access for storage. It is unknown when this change occurred or why, but it may have corresponded to changes in the agricultural production of the farmstead.

## **7.0 STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

- 7.1 Any heritage asset has a distinct cultural significance derived from a wide range of varying values and perspectives, encompassing not just the physical fabric of a site but also its setting, use, history, traditions, local distinctiveness and ability to bring people and communities together. The following assessment considers the significance of the Cowclose House according to four high level themes, as set out in Conservation Principles, Policies and Guidance for the Sustainable Management of the Historic Environment (English Heritage 2008):

- **Evidential Values:** the potential capacity of the farm to advance further research and provide a better understanding of past human activity. This generally covers

elements associated with the physical fabric of the building and any potential archaeological remains.

- **Historical Values:** the potential of the farm to contribute to a better understanding of the historic narrative of County Durham's past, and to forge a connection between the present and the past through association with people, events and other aspects of life.
- **Aesthetic Values:** the potential to derive sensory and intellectual stimulation from the property through design, art, character and setting.
- **Communal Values:** the potential for the site to bring people and communities together, or to relate to a collective experience or memory.

7.2 Overall, Cowclose House is considered to be of high significance in terms of its evidential, historic and aesthetic values. As a Listed Building, the property is nationally significant not only because of its age but also as rare example of a Yorkshire longhouse with evidence of both domestic and agricultural use still preserved.

7.3 The evidential value of the property is high to moderate. The surviving fabric and features do provide a greater understanding of both the function and operation of the building and give some indication of changes in agricultural practice over the past 300 years. Evidence of the housing of animals and humans under the same roof has become increasingly rare across Yorkshire as properties have been lost or converted (Harrison and Hutton 1984). However, the current state of the building is very poor, and some elements are in a state of partial collapse, which threatens the continued evidential significance of the structure. As such, it is considered that ensuring a long-term sustainable future for the building outweighs the potential risk to the evidential value of the property and that any loss of heritage significance has been suitably mitigated by this building recording.

7.4 The historic value of Cowclose is considered to be high, as it is integrally linked with the development of the village and wider historic landscape over the past 300 years. The documentary evidence has shown that the property was originally Glebe Land, which belonged to the rector of the parish of Barningham until the farm was transferred to the Millbank family in 1854. It has been tenanted by a number of families since, the majority of whom were recorded as farmers and shepherds. The property was abandoned in the mid-20th century and has since gradually declined

7.5 As a ruined farmstead, Cowclose House contributes to the visual quality of the



surrounding landscape and is considered to be of moderate aesthetic value. However, this is in direct conflict with the arguably more important historic and evidential values of the site. The farm was built along the edge of Barningham Moor with a wide view out to the north. Driving west, along the unnamed road just south of Barningham Moor, it is a key view against the backdrop of the moorland.

7.6 The original setting of the building has been altered considerably by the addition of the lake, constructed in the last quarter of the 20th century. Although not part of the historical setting, this has added considerably to the aesthetic value of the building, which now lies on its western shore.

7.7 The building is considered to have a low communal value.

**Table 1: Summary of heritage significance:**

Values	Assessment	Ranking	Overall
Evidential	The layout of the farmstead is a rare example of a longhouse and byre.	High	High-Moderate
	There are visible changes in the fabric of the building that demonstrate changes in agricultural practices.	High-Moderate	
	Remnants of agricultural fixtures provide evidence of the specific uses of each room.	High-Moderate	
	Provides an example of the use of local stone as a direct product of the nearby quarry	Low	
Historic	Closely associated with late 17th-century agricultural expansion and the rise of small farmsteads on enclosed, previously marginal land. Important with regards the local development of Barningham and North Yorkshire as a whole.	High-	High
	The direct history of the building, i.e. original ownership and land divisions, together with the individual histories of its tenants.	High	
	Landscape history, i.e. enclosure and the encroachment of moorland through to developments in pastoral agricultural production.	High-Moderate	
Aesthetic	Located on the shore of the lake, the building is a significant part of the view driving down the road around Barningham Moor.	Moderate	Moderate
	Situated against Barningham Moor and overlooking lands to the north, the house contributes significantly to the aesthetic character of the area.	Moderate	
	Particular features are of significant aesthetic value, such as the large quoins on the doors and the ventilation slits.	Moderate	
Communal	The building acted as a refuge for members of the Jervaulx Fly Fishing Club and was a local favourite fishing spot.	Low	Low
	Sitting right on the edge of Barningham Moor it is appreciated as part of the view by visitors to the moor	Low-Moderate	

7.8 Any loss of heritage significance to the historic fabric arising from the proposed conversion works is considered to have been suitably mitigated by this building recording, although further archaeological monitoring will be required during any ground works (See below).

## **8.0 FURTHER DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS**




- 8.1 A number of questions remain regarding the construction and phasing of Cowclose house, most notably its change of use over time. The lintel on the main door is most likely original and dates the building to the late 17th century. However, apart from this stone, there is little evidence to firmly date the subsequent phases of development. It is evident that the building underwent at least two phases of construction, with the change in the wall structure of the barn and then the addition of the east and north projecting extensions, but it is difficult to assign any firm dates to these changes.
- 8.2 The existence of the possible east range, shown on the Order of Exchange map, is also uncertain. Similarly, it is clear that there was an extension on the north-eastern corner of the building, although no traces of this currently survive above ground. Wall footings, floor surfaces and other deposits associated with these buildings, and the farmstead as a whole, may be preserved below ground and would warrant further archaeological investigation should the opportunity arise.
- 8.3 Though post-medieval agricultural buildings have long been studied, particularly with regards to land enclosures, changes in agricultural practices in the post-medieval period remains one of the key research agendas for the North East (Petts and Gerard 2006). The greater understanding of the form, function and history of Cowclose House represented in this report is considered to make a valuable contribute to the overall discussion on the development of post-medieval farmsteads across the region, particularly on the edge of marginal land.
- 8.4 In accordance with the outstanding research issues, and the conditions placed on the Cowclose House planning consent, a phase of archaeological monitoring is recommended as part of the next phase of development. Monitoring should take place in the form of a watching brief, with particular focus on any works carried out to the area to the east of the building and to the barn.




### **Buildings monitoring**

- 8.5 There should be a phase of monitoring during sub-surface interventions associated with the conversion, including any reduction of ground levels or the installation of service, particularly in the area immediately to the east (front) of the current building, which is considered to be of high archaeologically sensitivity.



- 8.6 A phase of monitoring should also be carried out if there are to be any major structural changes to the barn arising from the development. This would include the dismantling of any internal walls or divisions and the excavation of the floor surface.
- 8.7 The extent of the monitoring is set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI), which has been approved in advance by Durham County Council, as required under Condition 10 of the planning consent.




## 9.0 SITE INVENTORY AND ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Number	Name	Description	Related Features	Date	Significance	Photo
1100	North elevation	The north elevation is of sandstone and limestone rubble-build and is gabled.	1101 – east quoins 1102 – west quoins	Late 17th century	Aesthetic – Low/Mod Evidential – Low	
1110	North elevation of east byre	The north elevation of the east projecting byre is lower than the main body of the building and contains a door to the west and a window (once a door) to the east.	1111 – door 1112 – blocked door	18–19th addition	Has moderate historic value as evidence of the later modification of the building. Indication of changes in agricultural practice.	
1200	West elevation	Long elevation of rubble, the northern section has partially collapsed.	1201 – door 1202 – ventilation slits 1203 – blocked muck hole 1205 – quoins 2421 – blocked window	Late 17th century with later alteration	The blocked features and wall scars provide evidence of the development of the building over time.	



Number	Name	Description	Related Features	Date	Significance	Photo
1300	South elevation	South elevation of the main building. This part of the building has been refurbished with new pointing and a new door. A flu scar remains visible.	1301 – door 1302 – flue scar	Late 17th century with modern refurbishing	Aesthetic – Mod Evidential – Mod, includes only surviving chimney.	
1310	South elevation of east projecting wing	The south wall of the projecting byre is lower than the main building and contains a single door.	1311 – door	18-19th addition	Aesthetic – Low Evidential – Low	
1400	East elevation	The east elevation is the front of the building with three entrance and two windows. The windows are on the south two bays on either side of the main entrance. The northern wing has	1402 – south window 1403 – north window 1404 – central door 1405 – north door 1406 – hinge posts 1407 – shelf post holes 1408 – gutter pipe	Late 17th century with later alteration	Aesthetic – High Evidential – High Historic – High	








Number	Name	Description	Related Features	Date	Significance	Photo
		two large doors, each into a different room.				
1401	Main door	The main door is of stone ashlar quoins with moulding along the frame. The lintel above the door way reads 'I L 1697.' Two flag-stone steps lead up to the stone threshold. The inside of the door has modern lintel and a single niche next to the southern door jamb that is about 35x10x10cm.		Late 17th century	Aesthetic – High Evidential – High Historic – High	
1410	East elevation of projecting east wing	East wall of the eastern addition. A single hole (2x2cm) lies in the centre of the wall; its use is unknown.		18-19th addition	Aesthetic – Low Evidential – Low	
2100	North room	Northern-most room of the building used as byre as evident from remains of stall doors, drain, and ledge on the west wall.	2101 – drain 2121 – ledge 2132 – niches	Late 17th century	High evidential and historic value in terms of the function, use and development of the farmstead.	

Number	Name	Description	Related Features	Date	Significance	Photo
2131	Door on south wall	Wooden lintel with a surround of larger stones on west side. On the western side of the door is a large lamp niche.	2132 – lamp niche	Late 17th century	Aesthetic – Low Evidential – Mod	
1405	Door on east wall	Chamfered door opening east with wooden lintel. Contains one hinge post and latch.		Late 17th century	Aesthetic – Moderate/High Evidential – Low/Moderate	
2142	Byre remains	A few remains of posts both at the base of the wall and chest height appearing at two separate places along wall. Single bent nail sticking out of wall in between two stalls. Possible byre stalls with room for two cows.		Unknown	Aesthetic – Low Evidential – Moderate/High	




Number	Name	Description	Related Features	Date	Significance	Photo
2200	North central room	Originally of agricultural use which may have varied over time, it was accessed from both east and west.	2212 – northern niche 2222 – western niches 2244 – eastern niches	Late 17th century with later alteration	Aesthetic – Mod. Evidential – Moderate, relating to potential domestic quarters at the north end.	
2231 2241	Interior doors	Door frames of wood where the lintel is tied in to the wall, but not the frame.		Unknown	Aesthetic – Low Evidential – Low	
2213	Ventilation hole	A ventilation hole above lintel of door between north room and north central room running from lintel about 50cm up.		Late 17th century	Aesthetic – Low Evidential – Low	



Number	Name	Description	Related Features	Date	Significance	Photo
1201 1404	Exterior doors	The doors are of large ashlar surrounds. The interiors have an L-shaped door jamb made of large ashlar surrounds. Four hinge posts on north side with three latches on south side. Wooden lintel on interior of door jamb.		Late 17th century with later alteration	Aesthetic – Mod Evidential – High	
1203 2243	Ventilation slits	Narrow splayed ventilation slit in the centre of east and west about 80x40x40.		Unknown	Evidential – High Historic – High Aesthetic – Mod	
1204	Muck hole	Was blocked put part of infill has collapsed.		Unknown	Evidential – Mod	



Number	Name	Description	Related Features	Date	Significance	Photo
2225	Nails	Two large nails stick out roughly 30cm from the wall beneath the ventilation slit about 1m off the floor. Probably used to hold a shelf		Unknown	Evidential – Low	
2232	Putlog holes	Visible are four small niches across the wall above the door for possible beams.		Unknown	Evidential – Mod	
2233	Plaster	The lower east corner of the east wall contains remains of lime-plaster usually reserved for domestic spaces		Unknown	Moderate historic and evidential value as an indication of a possible separate room with a domestic function.	See above
2234	Fireplace	Partially collapsed section of wall on the west side that may indicate the former location of a fireplace.		Unknown	Evidential – Mod	See above





Number	Name	Description	Related Features	Date	Significance	Photo
2244	Line in wall	Visible line in the wall beneath the south corner of the ventilation slit all the way down the wall. Not replicated on the opposite wall		Unknown	Evidential – Mod	
2300	East projecting wing	Byre added in the 19th century	2322 – ventilation slit 2323 – line in wall 2332 – niche in south wall	18th-19th century	High historic and evidential value in terms of the development and use of the building and changes in agricultural production	




Number	Name	Description	Related Features	Date	Significance	Photo
1111 1311 2241	Doors	Doors on north, west, and south walls of addition. North and south doorframes are of wood and only lintel is tied into wall. The west door is raised about 30cm off the floor, but also consists of a wooden doorframe.		18th–19th century	Evidential – High	
1112	Blocked door/window	U-shaped opening in the wall as top part of window is missing.		Unknown	Evidential – Mod/High	
2400	South central room	Residential use. Accessed from either 2200 or 2500. No exterior access.	2421 – blocked window 2422 – wall scar 2433 – lamp niche	Late 17th century	Evidential and historic value in terms of the original layout and function of the property.	

Number	Name	Description	Related Features	Date	Significance	Photo
2432	Fireplace	Small fireplace with stone lintel and side. Backed in brick, the flue is intact and has a visible scar up the wall.		19th century	Evidential – High	
1403	South central room window	Splayed window in centre of wall with machine cut stone surround. Interior has wooden lintel. Width of window extends from window to base of wall. At base is large worked stone spanning the width of the window.		Late 17th century with subsequent alteration	Aesthetic – Mod/High Evidential – High	
2500	South room	Recently renovated	2501 – Hearth and floor 2502 – Roof truss	Late 17th century with later alteration	High evidential and historic value as the primary domestic quarters, however some elements may be obscured by modern renovation.	

Number	Name	Description	Related Features	Date	Significance	Photo
2511 2531	Side doors	Doors have modern wooden lintel.		Modern?	Evidential – Mod	
2431 1301	North and south wall scar	White plastered wall. Wall has evident line in plaster that traverses the room horizontally showing former floor.		Unknown	Evidential – Mod	
2533	Fireplace	Large square scar in plaster with a ventilation tube for an oven still sticking out.		Modern	Evidential – Low but plaster may conceal remains of earlier hearth.	See above



Number	Name	Description	Related Features	Date	Significance	Photo
2542	South room window	Window has modern lintel with sash window, each sash with a single pane. The window alcove descends to the floor of the room.	2441 – south central room window	Late 17th century	Evidential – High	

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#### **Map References:**

1856 First Edition six-inch Ordnance Survey Map

1893 25-inch Ordnance Survey Map

1923 25-inch Ordnance Survey Map

1979 Ordnance Survey Map

#### **Barningham Local History Group**

Millbank Estate Map c.1800

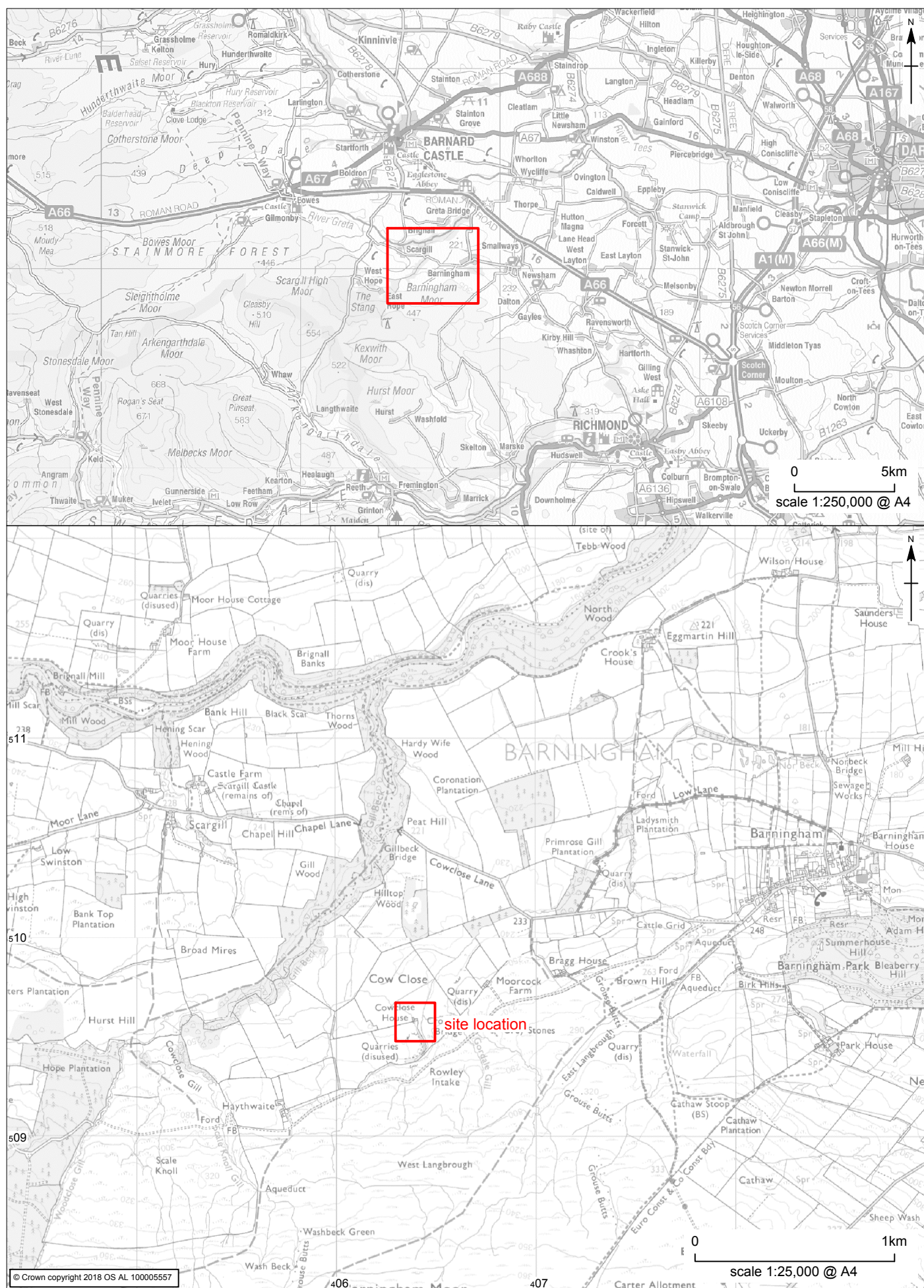
Barningham Tithe Map 1838 and apportionment book

#### **Durham Record Office**

EP/Ba 2/22 – Order of Exchange

EP/Ba 14-5 – Barningham Cowclose Enclosure Award





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Cowclose House, Barningham: site location

Figure 1



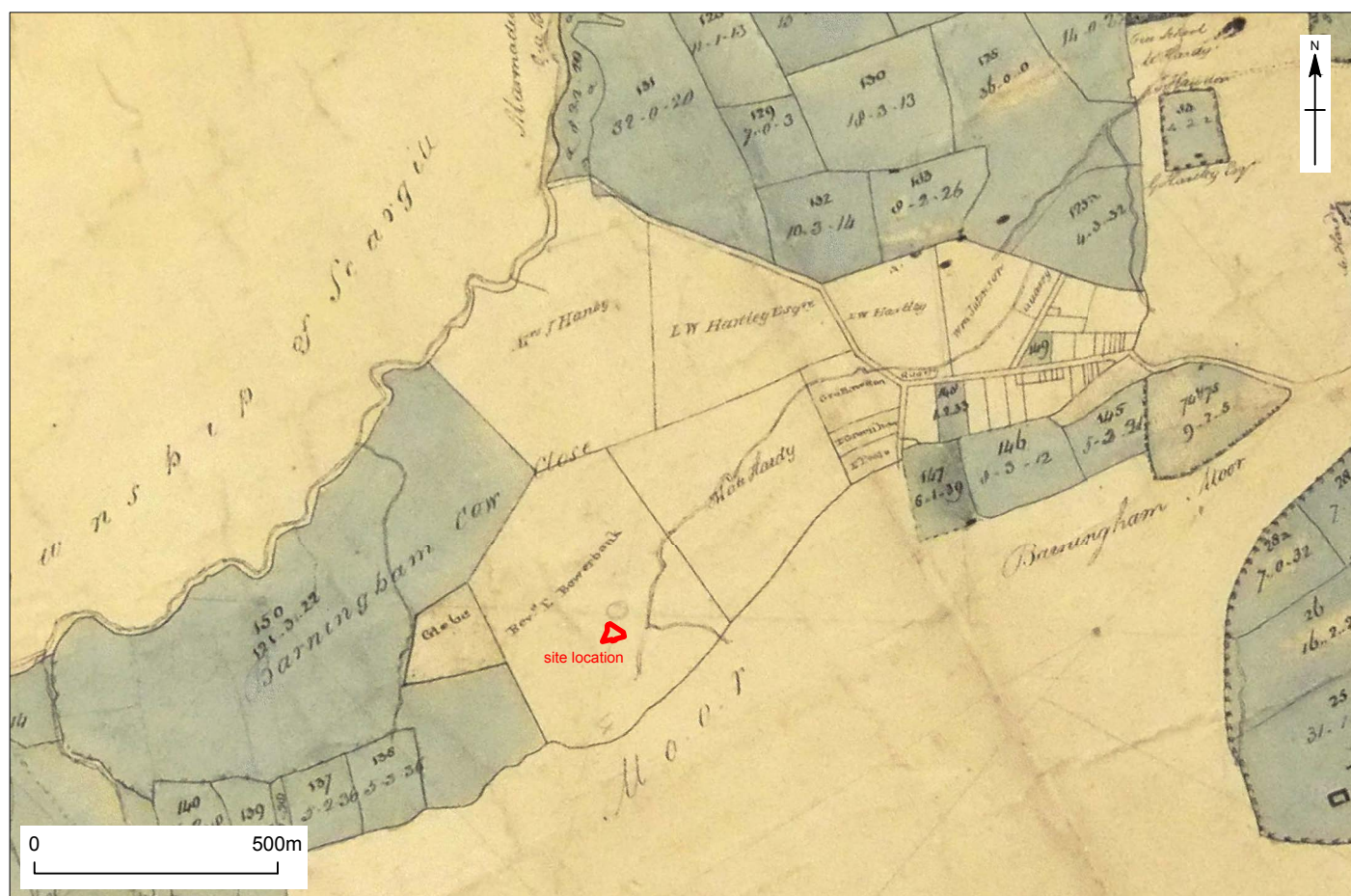


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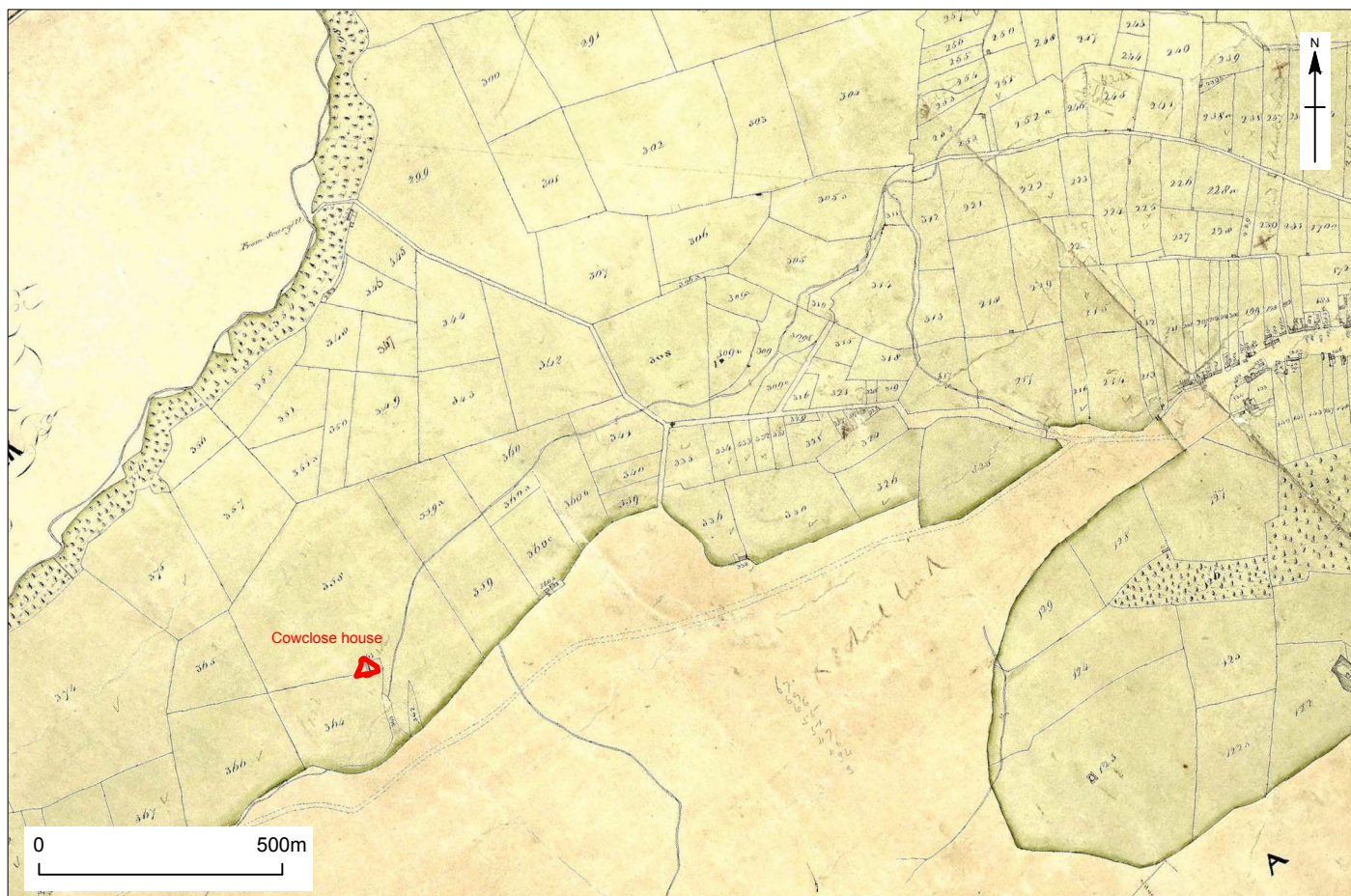
*Cowclose House, Barningham: 2007 Google Earth imagery*

*Figure 2*





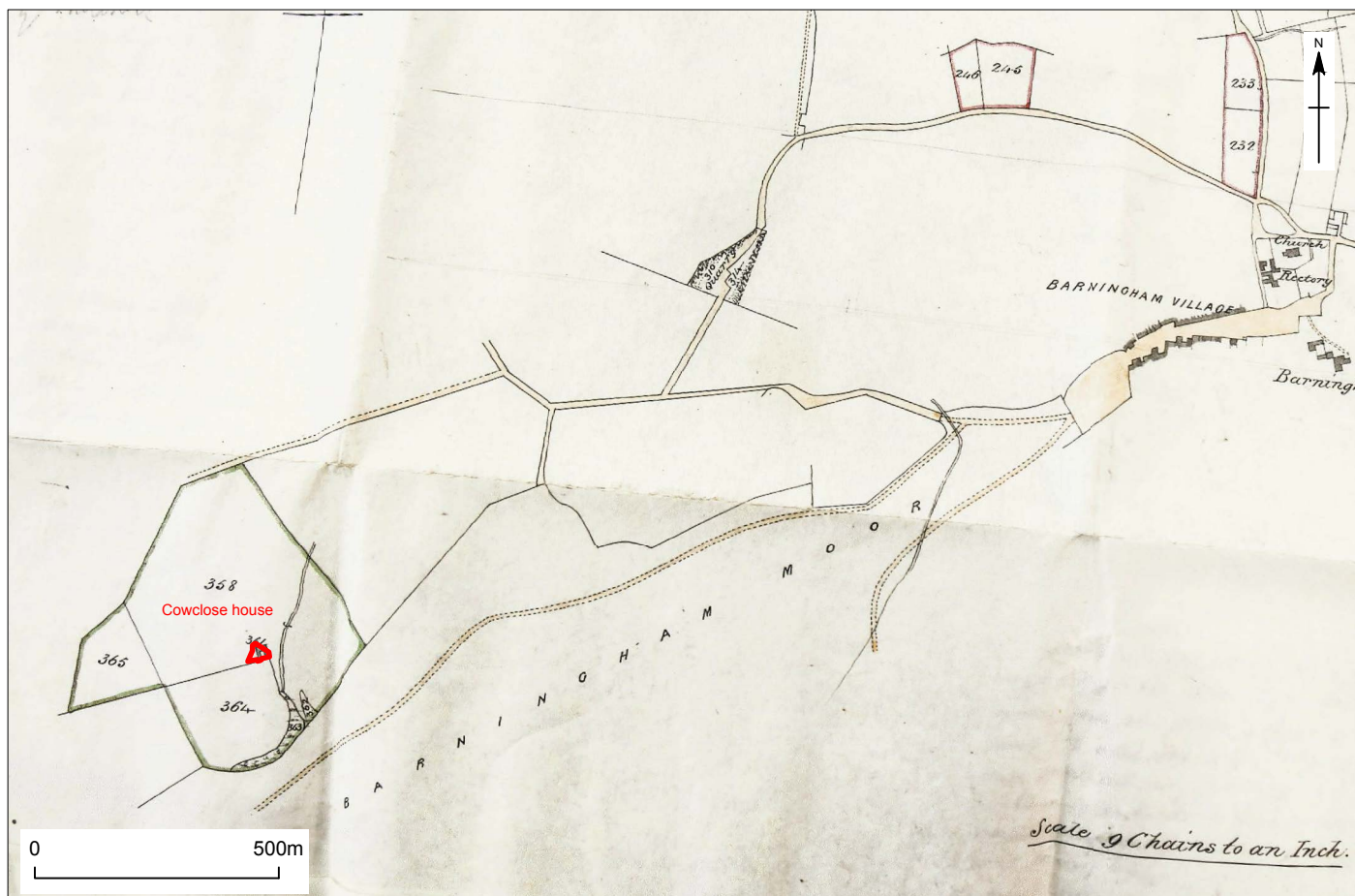




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Cowclose House, Barningham: 1838 Tithe map

Figure 5

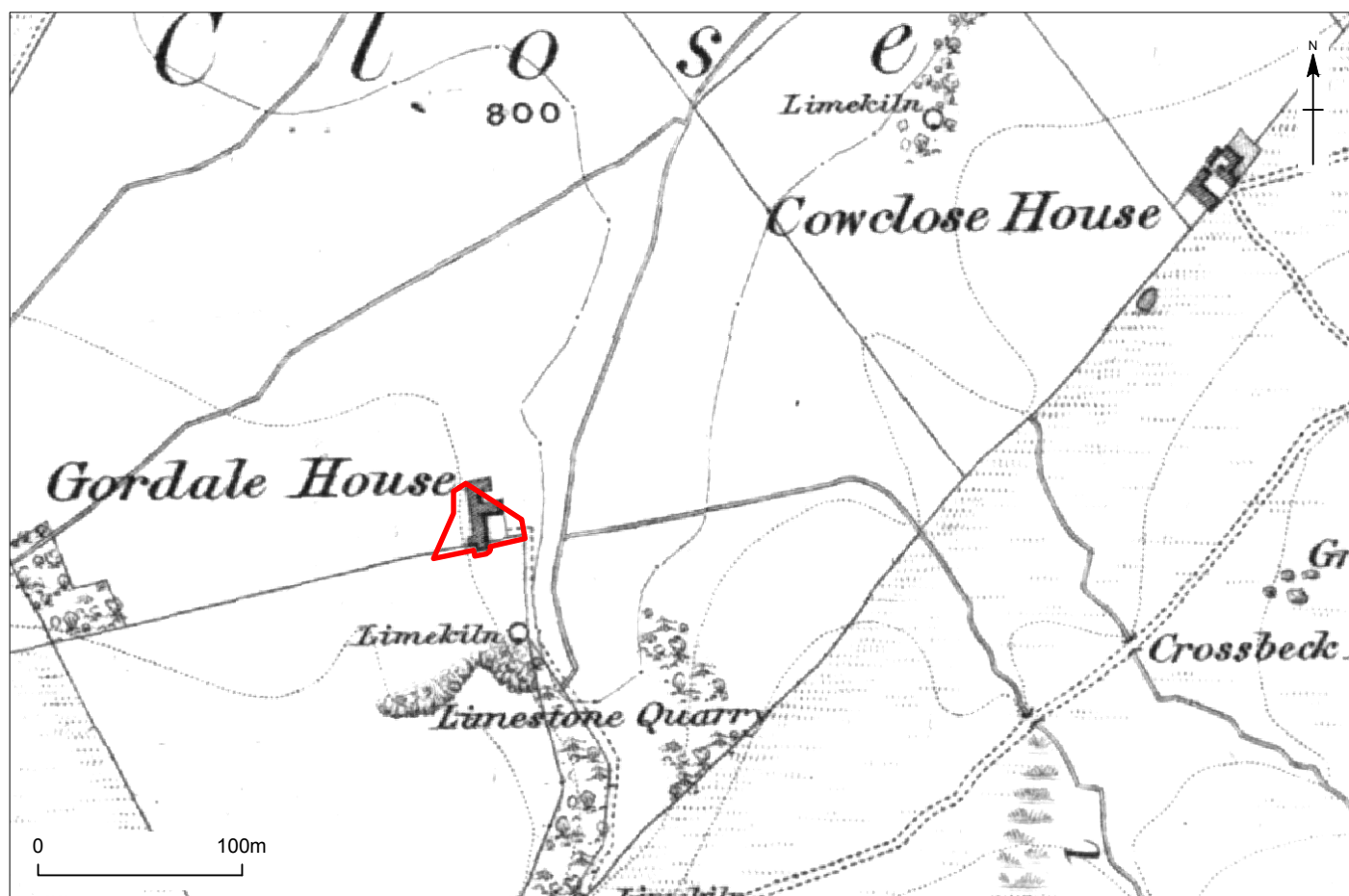


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Cowclose House, Barningham: 1854 Order of Exchange

Figure 6

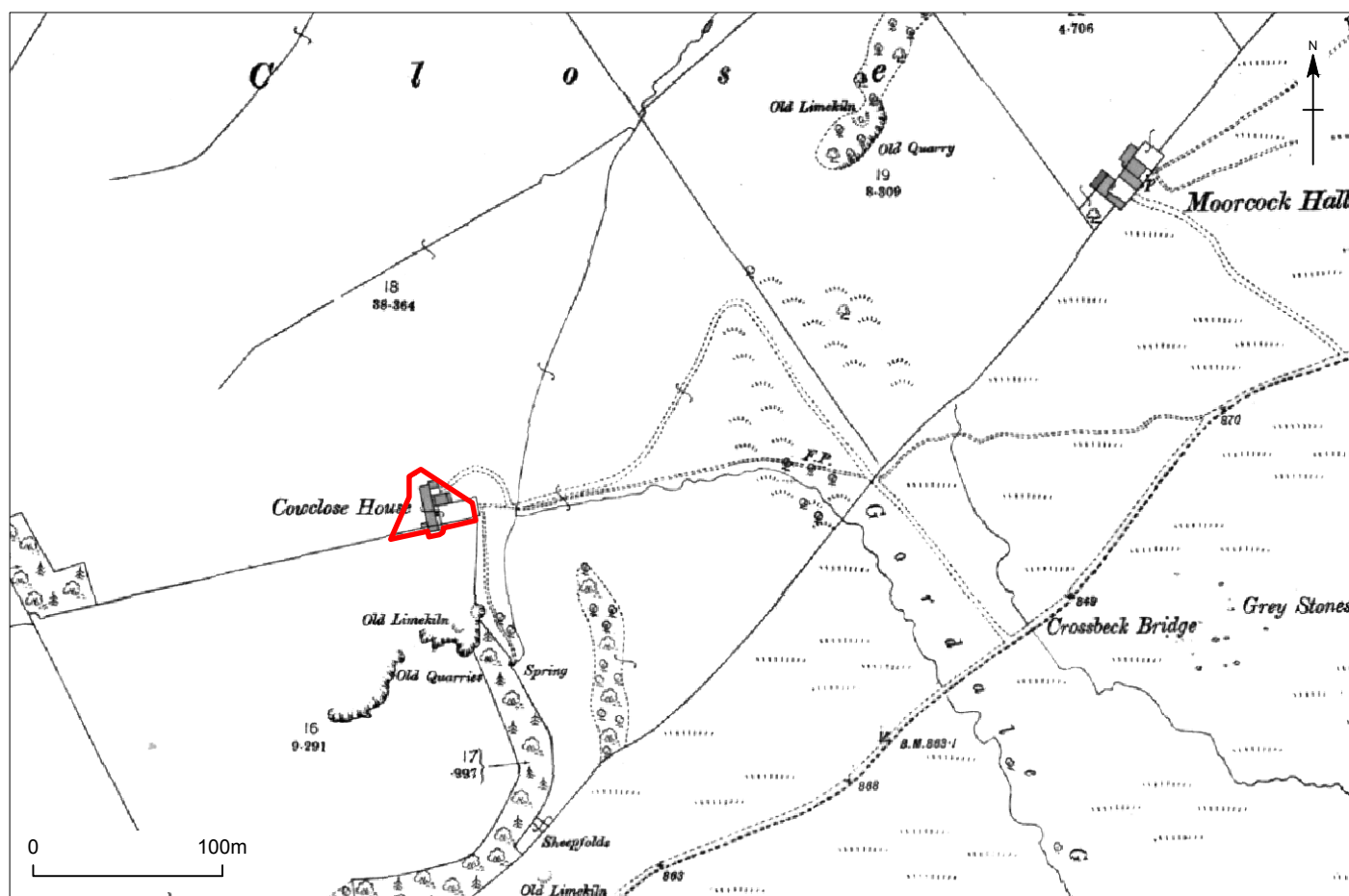




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Cowclose House, Barningham: 1856 six-inch Ordnance Survey map

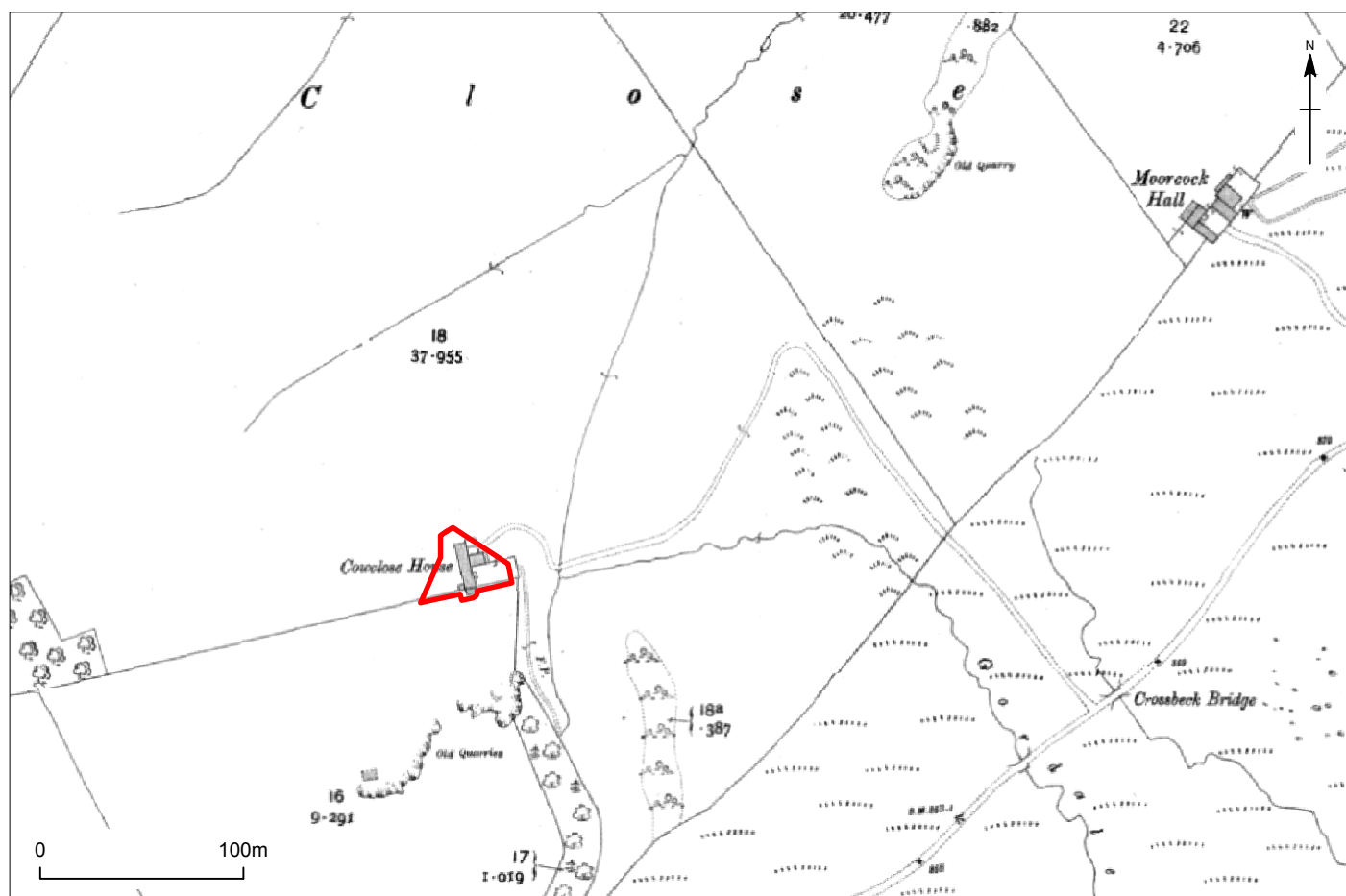
Figure 7



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Cowclose House, Barningham: 1893 25-inch Ordnance Survey map

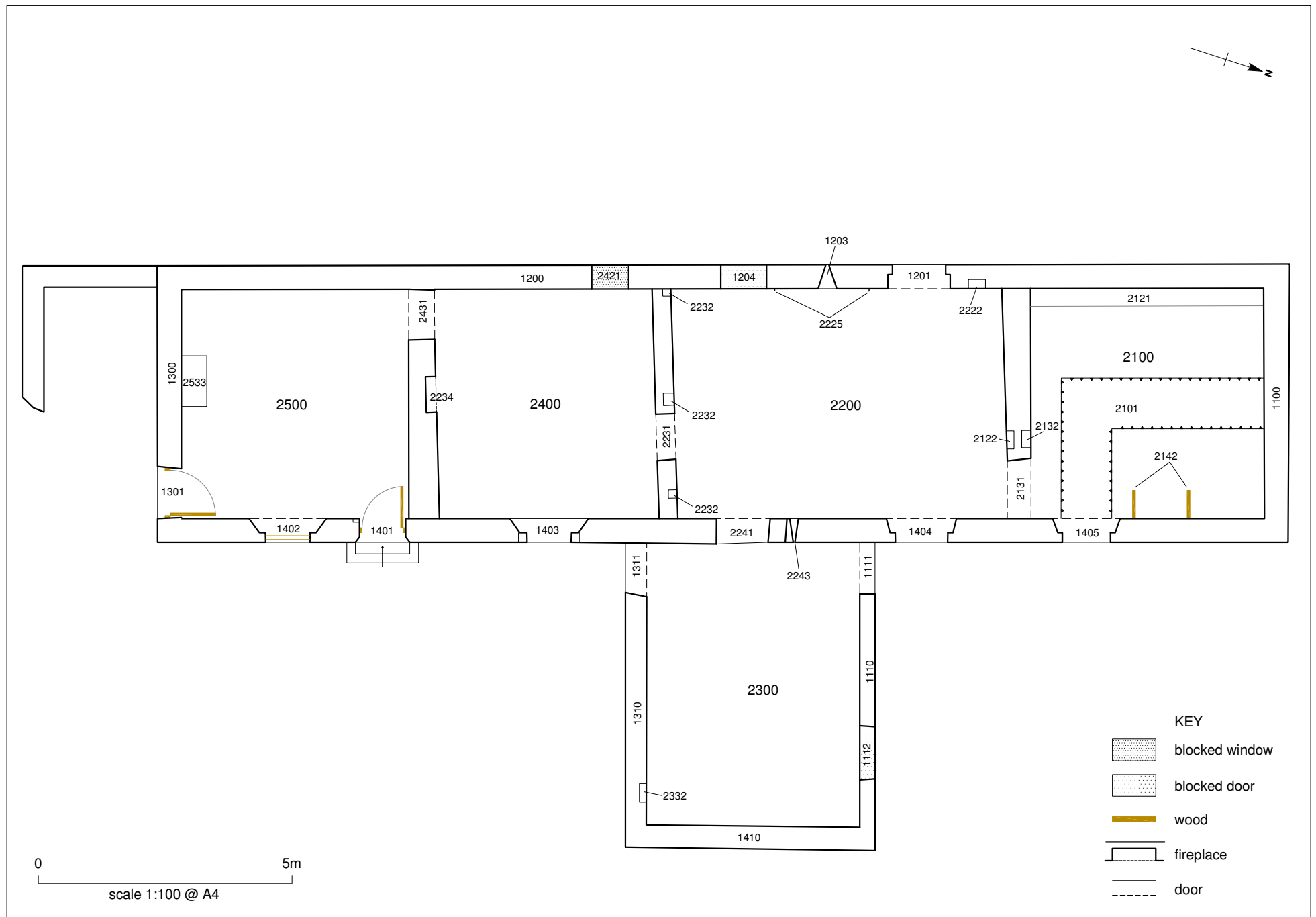
Figure 8

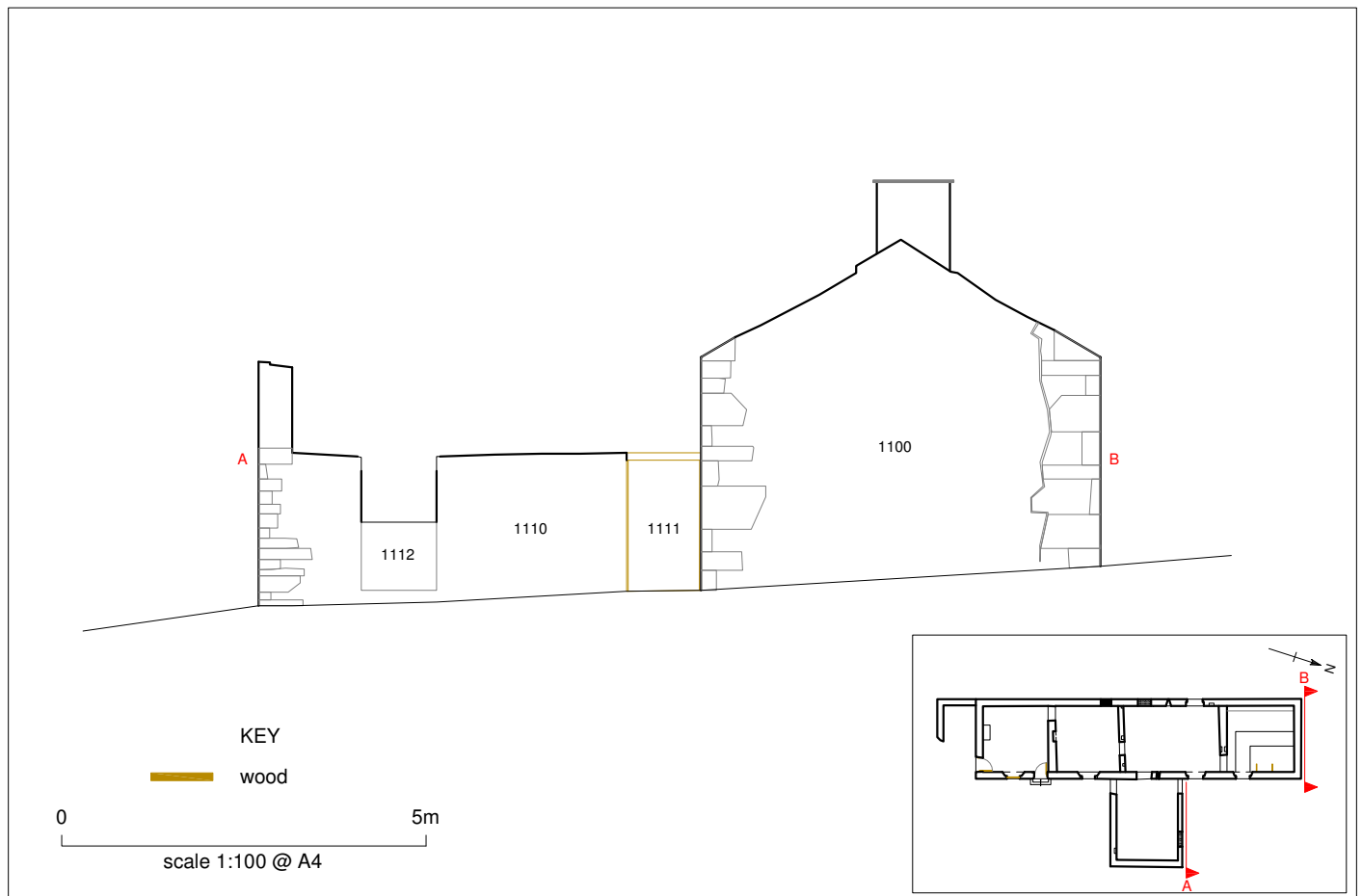


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*Cowclose House, Barningham: 1914 25-inch Ordnance Survey map*

*Figure 9*

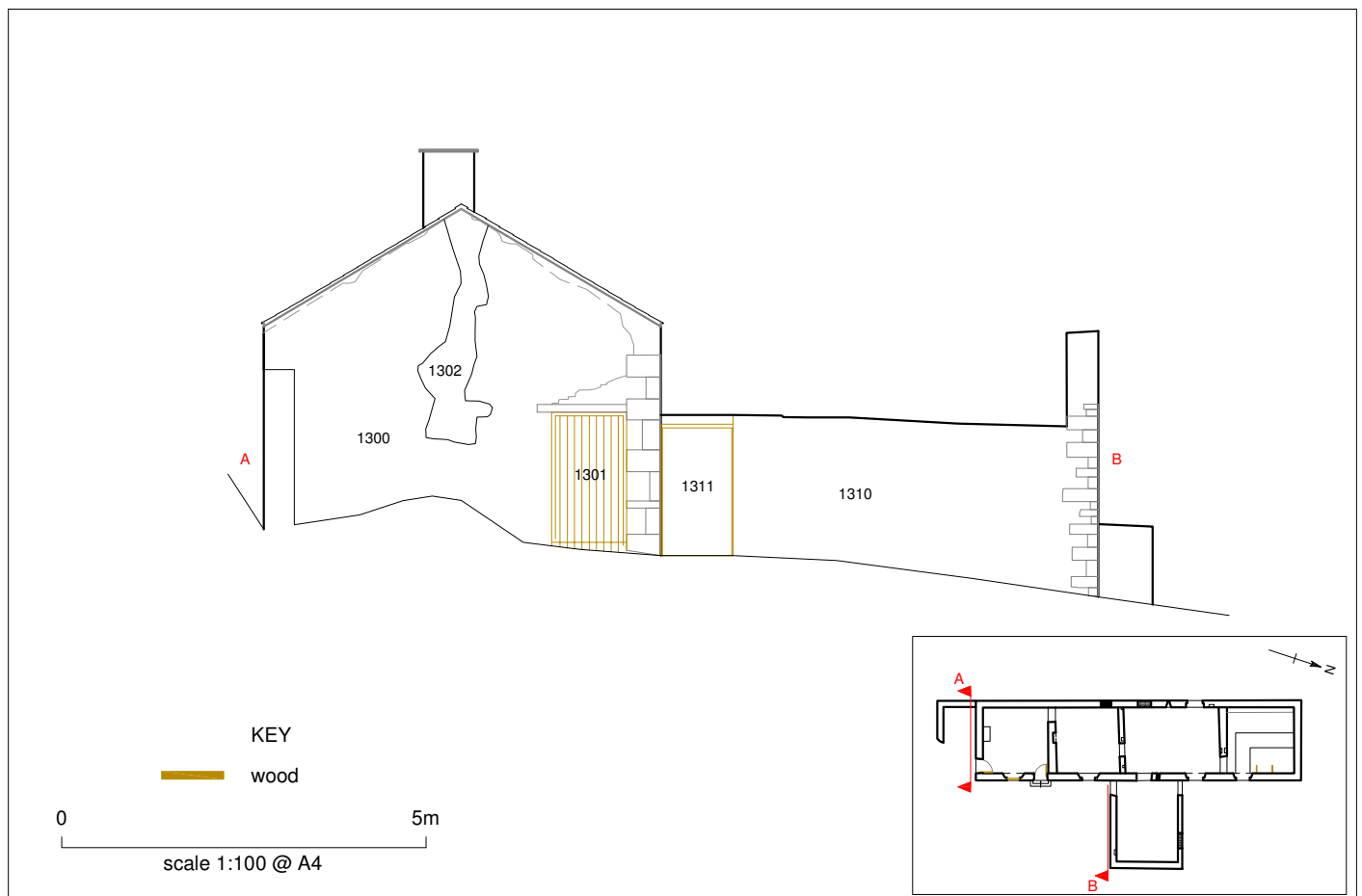




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*Cowclose House, Barningham: north elevation*

*Figure 11*



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*Cowclose House, Barningham: south elevation*

*Figure 12*



