

41 HIGH STREET, HARPENDEN, HERTFORDSHIRE, AL5 2SD

(NGR: 513381 214412)

**HISTORIC BUILDING RECORD
(ENGLISH HERITAGE LEVEL 3)**



**Commissioned by
Luke Godfrey**

Report No. 2012098

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Site Code: HSH 12
Project No. 5449
Report No. 2012098

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SUMMARY

In April 2012 Archaeology South-East (a division of the Centre for Applied Archaeology, UCL) carried out a programme of historic building recording of Grade-II-listed 41 High Street, Harpenden, Hertfordshire, AL5 2SD (NGR: 513381 214412; Fig. 1).

The building comprises a late-18th/early-19th century street-front range, with an earlier rear range. The rear range is itself of more than one phase, the earliest fabric identified probably belonging to the 17th century. However, what remains of the earliest structure is very fragmentary and the exact sequence of development is now very difficult to interpret. The second phase of construction, which has been ascribed to the period c. 1700, is represented by the remainder of the rear range.

Subsequent to the construction of the c. 1800 street range the building has undergone further, less substantial modifications and refurbishments.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In April 2012 Archaeology South-East (a division of the Centre for Applied Archaeology, UCL) carried out a programme of historic building recording of Grade II listed 41 High Street, Harpenden, Hertfordshire, AL5 2SD (NGR: 513381 214412; Fig. 1). The work was commissioned by Luke Godfrey in connection with a Listed Building Consent application (ref. 5/2012/0999) which has recently been submitted to St. Albans District Council. The Listed Building Consent application is for a single-storey rear extension and refurbishment and repairs to both the interior and exterior of the building, together with other minor alterations, which are required in relation to the proposed use of the building as a fish and chip restaurant.
- 1.2 Laura Levitt, Conservation Officer at St. Albans District Council has requested that a general record be made of the building as a whole, with a more detailed record (English Heritage Level 3) made of the rear range of the building.
- 1.3 The requirement for work was made in accordance with the requirements of the Government's new National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). NPPF took effect on the 27th March 2012.

2.0 SCOPE & METHODOLOGY

- 2.1 A general record was made of the building as a whole, with particular attention paid to the rear range. The latter was recorded to English Heritage Level 3 as defined in *Understanding Historic Buildings: A guide to good recording practice* (English Heritage 2006). A Level-3 record is essentially an analytical record.
- 2.2 The site was visited by Amy Williamson and Maggie Henderson on the 2nd April 2012 in order to carry out the recording work. This entailed the compilation of written notes, the verification of existing measured survey drawings, preparation of a measured cross-section and a photographic record.
- 2.3 The drawn record comprises plans of each floor of the building to illustrate its layout, together with external elevation drawings. These are based on existing measured drawings by AMA Design, which have been verified for their accuracy, amended and annotated where necessary. These have been supplemented by a cross-section through the rear range of the building, to illustrate its construction. The resulting scaled drawings are included within the report as Figs. 8 and 9.
- 2.4 The photographic record was made using 35mm black and white photography, duplicated with digital photography. Within the report selected digital images have been reproduced as plates, while a full catalogue of all photographs is included in the archive.
- 2.5 Background research was undertaken in order to place the building within its historical context. Research was carried out at Hertfordshire Archives and

Local Studies and included examination of primary and secondary documentary sources in addition to available, relevant cartographic sources. Other sources were identified and/or accessed via the internet, notably the Access to Archives (A2A) website and Promap for historic Ordnance Survey mapping. All sources consulted are listed in Section 7.

3.0 SITE LOCATION

- 3.1 The site lies at the centre of Harpenden, on the eastern side of the High Street which runs on a north-west to south-east alignment (NGR: 513381 214412; Fig. 1). It comprises a roughly-rectangular plot of land, with No. 41 extending the full width of the street frontage. A narrower, attached rear range extends along much of the north-west property boundary which it appears to incorporate, in part, within its construction. Buildings within the neighbouring property have been constructed directly abutting this wall, leaving only the north-west elevation of the street range visible on this side. The remainder of the site consists of a small yard which is bounded on the south-east side by a brick wall and on the north-east side by a neighbouring building.

4.0 HISTORIC BACKGROUND

- 4.1 The building was statutorily listed at Grade II on the 27th September 1984. The list description (National Heritage List, list entry no. 1174387) describes the building as:

House and shop. Early C19. Red brick. 3-storey narrow range with plain tile gable-ended roof. Dentilled brick eaves. 3 flush sash windows, those of 1st floor with gauged brick lintels. Contemporary single storey rear extensions on N. 1970s shop front. Included for group value.

- 4.2 The date given in the list description is clearly derived from the appearance of the street-front range, which this report has concluded dates to the late-18th/early-19th century. The rear range is earlier and encompasses more than one construction phase, the earliest fabric identified probably belonging to the 17th century.
- 4.3 Historical research yielded little information regarding the early history of the site. The earliest occupant identified was a doctor by the name of William Simon (undated typescript, HALS) who is said to have lived there during the first half of the 19th century. Dr Simons died in 1857, after having practised in the village for almost 50 years (*Wheathampstead & Harpenden Book V* 1991, 187).
- 4.4 At the time of carrying out the background research, the tithe apportionment of 1836 (HALS ref. OFF ACC 1108) was undergoing transcription and only a poor-quality reproduction was available for consultation. Consequently, it is not with complete confidence that the entry for plot 868 (see Fig. 3) was correctly identified. The entry listed the owner as John Bennett Lawes, the

then Lord of the Manor of Rothamsted, while the occupier was listed as John Robertson and others. The property was described as House and Gardens.

- 4.5 A photograph dating to the late-19th century (Brandreth, 1996; Plate 1) shows the front of the property as it was originally built, before the ground-floor door and windows were replaced by a shop-front. The historic street directories record some of the occupants of the building from this time and onwards. In 1890 a Sydney Ollard is listed, and in 1900, the house, which was then identified as The Pollards, was occupied by an Alfred Charles Osman Ashton.
- 4.6 It is understood that the property remained a private home until 1918 when it became the premises of the Harpenden School of Music. The directories record a Mrs Ernestine Heasman there in 1923 and 1927-8. From 1938-9 until the 1960s, the directories each list two entries for No. 41, indicating that the property was under dual occupancy during this period. In 1938-9 the property was occupied by a Miss Dorothy Saunders, teacher of music, and was also the premises of Arden Secretarial Training Collage (Miss M. Bridgeman, principal). In 1946 Miss Saunders continued in occupancy, though the entry for the secretarial collage had been replaced by a Miss W. G. Hughes, RRC nurse. By 1952 the premises was occupied by an antique furniture dealer, Miss Betty Beynon-Stocken, and by Connell and Silkstone, auctioneers, surveyors and estate agents.
- 4.7 By 1960 only Connells (estate agents) were listed, the property seemingly coming under single occupancy once again. The building has most recently been occupied by a Thai restaurant.

Cartographic Sources

- 4.8 The earliest cartographic source reproduced is that of Dury and Andrews, which dates to 1766 (Fig. 2). Although it is not possible to accurately pinpoint individual buildings, the map does give a good general impression of the pattern of settlement in Harpenden at this time. The area within which the site lies is depicted as a cluster of buildings at the northern end of Harpenden Common, clearly forming part of the historic core of the village.
- 4.9 The site is depicted on the Harpenden tithe map of 1836 (HALS ref. OFF ACC 1108 ; Fig. 3) where it is identified as plot 868. Its footprint is seen to conform essentially with the present outline, the street range extending the full width of the plot, with a narrower range attached at the rear. Neighbouring the site, the large building set back from the road on the northern side is 16th-century Bower's House, whilst to the south is the historic Cross Keys pub. A large pond is depicted in front of Bowers House.
- 4.10 The first edition Ordnance Survey map of 1879 (Fig. 4) shows the site in a similar level of detail. The footprint remains the same on this map, although a division is shown roughly halfway along the rear range. The subsequent Ordnance Survey maps of 1898 and 1924 (Figs. 5 and 6) do not depict this division, but otherwise show the building unchanged.

- 4.11 In the period intervening the production of the 1924 and 1967-75 (Fig. 7) Ordnance Survey maps, Harpenden underwent significant expansion and the High Street was modernised. The land in front of Bower's House was developed to form a parade of shops (Bower's Parade) and the pond was infilled and grassed-over. The site itself appears unchanged, with the exception that a small projection, roughly conforming to the extent of an existing lean-to, seems to have been removed. Outside the site, a building was constructed bordering the north-west boundary.

5.0 DESCRIPTION OF THE BUILDING (FIGS. 8 & 9)

Exterior

- 5.1 The building consists of a tall, three-storey (plus basement) range (Unit 1) facing south-west onto the High Street, with a lower two-storey range (Units 2 and 3) and single storey lean-to addition (Unit 4) adjoining at the rear. The street range is constructed in orange-red brick, laid in Flemish bond at the front and English bond on the remaining elevations, where there are also over-fired headers incorporated. There is a dentilated brick eaves-course to the front and rear elevations. The roof, which is gabled at the north-west and south-east ends, is covered with plain clay tiles. The principal (south-west) elevation comprises a modern bowed shop front, with glazed two-leaf door to the right-hand side (Plate 2). The first and second floors each have three twelve-pane double-hung sash windows, with exposed sash boxes; the first floor windows are without horns and are original, while the second floor sashes (which are horned) have been renewed. The first-floor windows are set beneath flat voussoired heads of gauged brickwork.
- 5.2 The late-19th century photograph (Plate 1) shows the building prior to the addition of the shop-front. There were two windows on the ground floor, with the main entrance located on the right-hand side. The original door-case incorporated a fan-light and had a broken pedimented head. A later photograph which dates to the mid-20th century (held at HALS; not reproduced) shows the building had another shop-front prior to the existing one.
- 5.3 The gable-ends of the street range are plain except for a low chamfered offset. The rear (north-east) elevation is partly obscured by the adjoining rear range. At the south-east end is a stair projection, which on the ground floor has a 20th century four-panel door set within a reduced-width aperture, and at the upper level has a 20th century window set within an enlarged original opening. The remainder of the rear elevation is plain except for a chimney stack which pierces the roof.
- 5.4 The exterior of the adjoining rear range has been extensively modified with the result that it is now impossible to ascertain the original location of doors and windows (Plate 3). It is of two storeys, constructed in brick, and has an uneven plain clay tile roof which is gabled at the north-east end. Roughly three-quarters of the ground-floor level of the south-east elevation is

concealed beneath render, although at first-floor level the brickwork is visible. To the south-west the brickwork of Unit 2 is seen to be orange and laid in a variable bonding pattern. A line of queen closers within this brickwork and a straight joint correspond with the north-east end of the unit. Beyond this, the first floor brickwork of Unit 3, which is red and laid in Flemish-garden-wall bond, is of 20th century date. Beneath this, a header course roughly 0.5m above the door-head denotes a change in the brickwork. Here, the brickwork, which is red and haphazardly laid, appears to be of the 17th century.

- 5.5 From south-west to north-east the ground floor contains a two-light window with robust pegged frame which has been modified with the addition of an over-light and a wide three-light window, both of which have bottom-hung, diamond-leaded panes. Beyond these are a four-panel door and a simple two-light casement window with top-hung opening section. The first floor contains a single leaded light, now with vent, a three-light window with rectangular leaded panes and a two-light casement also with rectangular leaded panes.
- 5.6 The gable-end is adjoined by the single-storey lean-to addition (Plate 4). The visible part is rendered and has a central chimney stack either side of which is a single-light casement; the north-west one with diamond leaded panes, the other plain-glazed. The chimney stack is of two phases: the earliest part, which rises internally, pierces the apex of the roof, while a modern added flue projects forwards from the elevation.
- 5.7 The lean-to is unremarkable. L-shaped in plan, it has a rendered exterior with mono-pitch plain clay tile roof. There is a single-light window set with plain obscured glass.

Interior – General Note

- 5.8 At the time of the survey refurbishment works had commenced within the building, with the result that many of the walls had been stripped of their plaster finish and the underlying structure revealed. For ease of cross-referencing, the room numbers referred to in the text follow the system established by the client.

Street Range (Unit 1)

- 5.9 The main entrance leads into a modified staircase hall (G.01). The original wall dividing this area from the principal ground floor room has been removed and the area is presently enclosed by a modern glazed partition. The original staircase to the first floor survives in modified form, and is essentially of dog-leg configuration with a half-landing set at the lower first-floor level of the rear range. It forms a closed string with stick balusters, Tuscan-column newels and a simple, ramped hand-rail. The balustrade of the lower section has been modified and now has a heavy ramped hand-rail with a plain square-section newel at its base (Plate 5). A small area at the rear of the staircase provides access north-west into the rear range, north-east into the yard, and south-west to the basement.

- 5.10 The main ground floor room (G.02) is essentially plain, having been modernised for its former shop/restaurant uses. The south-west side is formed by the modern bow-windowed shop-front, while the north-east wall contains a projecting chimney-stack, now blocked and plastered-over (Plate 6). On the right-hand side of the stack the wall-plaster has been removed revealing brick and block-work filling a previous inserted opening. On the left-hand side of the stack a hand-written inscription by an H. E. Webster documents alteration works that were carried out to the premises in July 1964.
- 5.11 The basement is reached by a straight flight of steps located beneath the main staircase. It comprises a large room (B.01) plus two WCs. Room B.01 has a brick floor and painted brick walls. The north-east wall has a relieving arch for the chimney-stack above, while the north-west and south-west walls each contain a single segmentally-arched niche.
- 5.12 The layout of the first floor essentially mirrors that of the ground floor, having a single large room (1.02) which is entered from the south-east by a six-panel door from the landing. This room has two sash windows with shutter-boxes (now sealed shut) on the south-west side (Plate 7), a fireplace with an Adamesque chimney-piece on the north-east, and an acanthus ceiling rose. A cupboard is housed within the recess on either side of the stack.
- 5.13 The second floor is reached by a separate staircase which is sited at the front of the building. The stair comprises a single flight, with winders at the top and bottom. The balustrade is in matching style to the main staircase, except on the landing where the stick balusters have been replaced (Plate 8). The landing (2.01) has been partitioned to provide a small room on the south-west side. The room is entered through a modern flush door. From this room a two-panel door with HL-hinges leads into the main room at this level (2.02). Its layout mirrors that of 1.02 below, having two sash windows to the south-west and fireplace to the north-east. The fireplace has lost its chimney-piece, although the two flanking cupboards each retain a two-panel door (Plate 9). In the south-east wall a doorway, with a modern flush door, has been inserted giving direct access into a small room, previously two (2.03/2.04) to the rear of the staircase. This room has a doorway from the landing on the south-west side and a window (now modern) on the north-east.
- 5.14 The roof was viewed through a missing section of the modern plasterboard ceiling above Room 2.02. It is of softwood construction, comprising a single principal roof truss consisting of principal rafters and a pegged collar claspings a single purlin in each roof pitch (Plate 10). Further support is offered by a pair of raking queen-struts on the truss, and on either side by intermediate collars bird's-mouthed to the purlins. The rafters meet at a ridge board at the apex, and there are also nailed rafter braces in each roof pitch.

Rear Range (Units 2-4)

- 5.15 With the exception of the small lean-to addition at the far north-east end (Unit 4), the range comprises three rooms set in line on each of the ground and first floors. The recent stripping of much of the interior has revealed it to be of two distinct structural units, with the north-easternmost bay (Unit 3) retaining the earliest structural elements.

Unit 2

- 5.16 Unit 2 is the later of the two units. The outer (north-west and south-east) walls of this range are mass-constructed, whilst the internal walls are of primary-braced studwork infilled with brickwork. The walls are generally finished (where this still exists) in a lime-based plaster, as are the ceilings which all have a characteristic uneven finish. The south wall is constructed in orange bricks (average dimensions 200mm x 105mm x 55-65mm) which are laid in an unresolved bonding pattern. On each floor level the brickwork of this wall has been truncated where the stair projection of the street-range was added at a later date (Plate 11). The wall plate, which is visible on the first floor, has also been truncated at this point.
- 5.17 The north-west wall has not been stripped to the same extent as elsewhere, though on the ground floor within Rooms G.04 and G.05 there appears to be encased an off-set at the base of the wall, suggesting that this wall of the building utilised a pre-existing wall (possibly a boundary wall) in its construction. It is not clear how far this range originally extended to the south-west as the south-west wall is formed by the rear wall of the later street range.
- 5.18 The partition walls, of which there are two, are located at the bay divisions (see Cross-Section, Fig. 9; Plates 12 & 13). Each comprises a pair of principal posts, which are inset from the outer walls, and jointed and pegged to a tie-beam. At ground-floor level, slender studs rise from a fragmentary sole-plate to the cross-beam, to which alternate studs are pegged. Above, the first-floor framing also incorporates a single primary-brace extending downwards from each of the posts to the cross-beam. At this level only the central stud and the primary braces are pegged. The roof is of clasped side-purlin type, consisting of two collars (located over the bay divisions) and common-rafter couples clasping a single purlin in each roof pitch (Plate 14). Above the tie-beams, each truss has six studs, four of which are pegged to the collar and tie-beam, plus another two studs above the collar. A single rafter-brace is located in each pitch at the north-east end of the roof.
- 5.19 Room G.03 on the ground floor is entered directly from the street range, through a modern fire-door. The north-west wall of this room contains a chimney-stack with large fireplace (Plate 15), on the left-hand side of which is a full-height cupboard (door missing). The south-west wall, which is formed by the rear wall of the street range, contains the blocked inserted opening noted within Room G.02 (Plate 16). The south-west wall contains the modified two-light window with over-light, while the north-east partition wall contains an

opening to adjacent Room G.04 (Plate 11). The ceiling structure is supported by a central boxed bridging joist. The floor has a smooth concrete finish.

- 5.20 Room G.04 is smaller than G.03. It contains the wide three-light window on the south-east wall, the opening from Room G.03 on the south-west, and the door to Room G.05 on the north-east (Plate 17). The ceiling contains a single chamfered bridging joist with run-out stops which extends in-line with that in Room G.03. The floor has a smooth concrete finish.
- 5.21 The layout of the first floor largely mirrors that of the ground floor. Room 1.03 is entered from the half-landing (1.01) within the street range through a two-panel door. On the north-west side of the room is a cupboard with a bead-moulded boarded and battened door located on the south-west side of the chimney stack, while the void to the north-east side of the stack is lath-and-plastered over (Plate 18). The single-light window, now with vent, is located in the south-west wall, while a door opening in the north-east wall leads into Room 1.04 (Plate 19). The floor in this and the adjacent room is of narrow softwood boards, although surviving within the cupboard are some earlier wider boards.
- 5.22 The most notable feature within Room 1.04 is the three-light window on the south-east wall (Plate 20). It has stout mullions, with a simple moulding to the arrises and rectangular leaded glazing (retaining some old glass). The opening lights have turnbuckle catches and tulip-leaf handles. From the exterior it is clear that this window is not in its original location, the brickwork having been cut to accommodate it, nevertheless its form is consistent with the c. 1700 date suggested by the timber-framing and it is possible that it has been reused from another location within the building. Inserted within the north-east wall is a 20th century door, through which a series of steps lead up into Room 1.05.

Unit 3

- 5.23 Unit 3, which comprises a single room on each floor, is more accurately described as being of one-and-a-half storeys; the first-floor level being accommodated partly within the roof-space. With the exception of the section of original, probably 17th-century brickwork visible on the exterior, the wall construction is most readily visible on the interior, as at ground-floor level the south-east and north-east walls have been stripped of their plaster finish, as have the north-west, north-east and part of the south-east walls on the first floor. The brickwork, which is orange, is laid in lime mortar in a haphazard bonding pattern (Plate 21). There is much variability in the dimensions of the bricks, although they are on average thinner than the bricks of the later units, with most measuring between 40 and 50mm. As with Unit 2, the apparent offset at the base of the north-west wall (presently tiled over) suggests that a pre-existing wall was utilised within its construction, and at both levels the north-east wall, which itself is probably of two phases, appears to abut the brickwork of the north-west wall. Further phasing is clear on the ground floor, where a straight joint in the brickwork is clearly visible in the south corner of the room, at the junction with Unit 2 (Plate 22).

- 5.24 The ground floor room (G.05) is accessible internally, through a doorway inserted in the north-east wall of G.04, and through an external doorway on the south-east (Plate 23). Each doorway contains a 20th-century four-panel door, of which the upper two panels within each are glazed. North-east of the external door is the two-light casement window with top-hung opening section. The north-east wall contains an inserted doorway into Unit 4 (Room G.06). The floor within this room is set c. 0.25m higher than that of the adjacent range and is finished with red quarry-tiles. The ceiling contains two principal axial joists supported within the brickwork of the south-west and north-east walls (Plate 12). Each is chamfered and stopped at either end. The south-east wall contains a horizontal timber, possibly originally a wall-plate, at ceiling level (Plate 23).
- 5.25 The first-floor room (1.05) is entered through the doorway in the north-east wall of Room 1.04, which has a 20th-century boarded, ledged and braced door. A series of steps compensate for the difference in floor level, which is c. 0.8m higher than that in the adjacent room. The exposed brickwork of the north-west wall appears similar to that exposed on the north-east and south-east walls on the ground floor, whereas that on the north-east wall at first-floor level is later (Plate 24). This wall contains a horizontal timber at eaves-level, above which the gable continues in similar brickwork. This wall contains a central chimney stack that projects into the room, flanked on either side by a single casement window. The south-east wall contains a two-light casement with robust frame and scrolled catch and stay-bar. The floor in this room preserves many of its historic boards.
- 5.26 The room is ceiled beneath the level of the collars, at which point two in-pitch purlins are visible. A hatch on the south-west side of the room gives access to the roof-space, including that above Unit 2. The roof is of 20th-century construction in precisely-sawn softwood, consisting of paired common rafters, which meet at a ridge board. Within the north-west pitch of this roof, there is the fragmentary survival of an earlier roof, consisting of a series of earlier rafters, now supported by a secondary purlin (Plate 25). The rafters appear to be set at a very slightly shallower pitch than the present roof, and are slightly shorter, the ends of the rafters preserving mortices and tenons for their now-lost couples from the opposing pitch.

Unit 4

- 5.27 The interior of Unit 4 is open as a single L-plan room (G.06), which is presently open to the roof (Plate 26). All visible fabric is modern; the floor which is set c. 0.1m higher than the adjacent room (G.05) being covered in modern tiles, whilst the walls are fully plastered. The roof is of simple lean-to form, comprising precisely-sawn softwood rafters. The south-east wall contains a single casement window with obscured glass.

6.0 DISCUSSION

- 6.1 The building encompasses several phases of construction and modification, although what remains of the earliest phase is very fragmentary and the exact sequence of development in this area is not entirely clear. The earliest structure on the site is represented by elements of Unit 3, namely the north-west wall, which may itself utilise a pre-existing wall within its lower level, and the early rafters surviving within the north-west roof pitch. Although the rafters provide little in the way of datable features, the visible brickwork associated with them appears to be of 17th century date. At ground-floor level, the north-east and south-east walls also seem to be of this date, and if one mirrors the line suggested by the surviving rafters, the projected roof-line of the south-east pitch corresponds with the possible wall-plate retained within the south-east wall (see dashed line on cross-section, Fig. 9). If this is correct, this structure would have had an asymmetrical roof, being higher on the north-west side than on the south-east. This roof-line does not equate with the form of the present gable end and it appears that at some point the south-east wall and roof have been raised to bring it into line with adjacent Unit 2 (see Section 6.4). The original south-west extent of the building is not known, as Unit 2 - which was added at a later date, either truncated the building at this end or at the very least replaced the original end wall. Given the fragmentary survival of this earliest phase the original function of this structure is not known.
- 6.2 The second phase of construction surviving on the site is represented by Unit 2. On the basis of the timber-framing techniques used within the two walls and roof, together with the visible brickwork of the south-east wall, Unit 2 has been ascribed a date of c. 1700. There are other features surviving within the building that are characteristic of this date, such as the three-light window to Room 1.04 and the two-panel doors at various locations on the first and second floor, which, although they do not appear to be in their original positions, may have been reused from within the building (parts of which may now no longer exist) during historic modifications.
- 6.3 As is the case with Unit 3, the original south-west extent of Unit 2 is not known, as the construction of Unit 1 which followed replaced the wall and anything once beyond it at this end. This, coupled with the fact that the surviving structure has been heavily modified over the years, makes it difficult to interpret this structure's original function. However, once Unit 1 had been constructed, this range would have performed a subsidiary service function to the main house.
- 6.4 It is possible that the construction of Unit 2 provided the impetus for the alteration of Unit 3 (see Section 6.1), with the south-east wall and roof being raised, and the gable end rebuilt, at least from the first floor level and upwards, to bring it into line with the new structure. There is however very limited evidence upon which to base a date as the present roof over this section has been replaced in modern times, while the brickwork of the south-east wall has also been rebuilt, possibly having failed owing to the absence of any internal structure tying the outer walls together. Nevertheless, the surviving brickwork

of the north-east gable end, which conforms to the later roof-line, appears similar to that visible within the construction of Unit 3, suggesting a date somewhere c. 1700.

- 6.5 Unit 1 is relatively straightforward, its internal and external characteristics placing its construction either in the late-18th or early-19th century. A notable survival, albeit having been subject to later modification, is the main staircase between ground- and first-floor level, and the matching flight to the second floor. Some fixtures and fittings are preserved from this phase including the fireplace and windows complete with shutters, on the first floor, while the two-panel doors on the upper floor, which are stylistically a little early for this part of the building, may have been reused from an earlier structure on the site.
- 6.6 Subsequent to the construction of the c. 1800 street range the building has undergone further, less substantial phases of modification and refurbishment. This seems to have been mostly since the building ceased to be used solely for domestic purposes in the early 20th century from which time the building has been put to various uses. One of the most notable alterations has been to the street frontage, where a shop-front was introduced (and then replaced) in the 20th century.
- 6.7 The lean-to addition (Unit 4) appears to be of later 20th century construction and is not shown on the 1967-75 Ordnance Survey map (Fig. 7). However, its footprint roughly corresponds with a structure depicted on the previous map editions and it is possible that it has earlier origins.

7.0 SOURCES CONSULTED

Documents and sources consulted at HALS

Assorted photographs of Harpenden

Brandreth, E. 1996 *The Archive Photographs Series: Harpenden*. The Chalford Publishing Company, Chalford.

Dury and Andrews map of Hertfordshire 1766

Harpenden High Street in the Mid-19th Century. Undated typescript, HALS pamphlet files.

Kelly's Directory of Hertfordshire & Kelly's Directory of St. Albans, Harpenden and Hatfield – various dates

OFF ACC 1108 1836: Harpenden tithe map and award. (Award only available as photocopy)

Wheathampstead and Harpenden Book V. 1991 *The History Publishing Society, Harpenden, Herts.*

Internet sources

Access to Archives

<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/a2a/>

Accessed 29th March 2012

English Heritage, The National Heritage List for England

<http://list.english-heritage.org.uk/>

Accessed: 29th March 2012

Promap

<http://www.promap.co.uk/>

Accessed 30th April 2012

Cartographic Sources (Promap)

1879 Ordnance Survey map at 1:2500 scale

1898 Ordnance Survey map at 1:2500 scale

1924 Ordnance Survey map at 1:2500 scale

1967-75 Ordnance Survey map at 1:2500 scale

8.0 DEPOSITION OF THE ARCHIVE

A full archive intended for deposition with the relevant local museum has been prepared. The archive has been assigned the site code HSH 12. The archive will comprise a hard copy of the full report, a pdf version of the report on CD, the full photographic record with registers, field notes and drawings.

9.0 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeology South-East would like to thank Luke Godfrey for commissioning this Historic Building Record. Archaeology South-East would also like to acknowledge the input of Laura Levitt, Conservation Officer at St. Albans District Council and the assistance of the staff at Hertfordshire Archives and Local Studies.

Appendix 1 OASIS Data Collection Form

OASIS ID: archaeol6-125092

Project details

Project name 41 High Street, Harpenden, Hertfordshire, AL5 2SD: Historic Building Record

Short description of the project In April 2012 Archaeology South-East (a division of the Centre for Applied Archaeology, UCL) carried out a programme of historic building recording of Grade II-listed 41 High Street, Harpenden, Hertfordshire, AL5 2SD (NGR: 513381 214412; Fig. 1). The building comprises a late-18th/early-19th century street-front range, with an earlier rear range. The rear range is itself of more than one phase, the earliest fabric identified probably belonging to the 17th century. However, what remains of the earliest structure is very fragmentary and the exact sequence of development is now very difficult to interpret. The second phase of construction, which has been ascribed to the period c. 1700, is represented by the remainder of the rear range. Subsequent to the construction of the c. 1800 street range the building has undergone further, less substantial modifications and refurbishments.

Project dates Start: 02-04-2012 End: 02-04-2012

Previous/future work No / Not known

Any associated project reference codes 5449 - Contracting Unit No.

Site status Listed Building

Current Land use Other 2 - In use as a building

Monument type HOUSE Post Medieval

Monument type SHOP Modern

Monument type RESTAURANT Modern

Significant Finds NONE None

Project location

Country England

Site location HERTFORDSHIRE ST ALBANS HARPENDEN 41 High Street, Harpenden

Postcode AL5 2SD

Study area 150.00 Square metres

Site coordinates TL 13381 14412 51.8163653455 -0.354942691464 51 48 58 N 000 21 17 W Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Archaeology South-East
Project brief originator	St. Albans District Council
Project design originator	Archaeology South-East
Project director/manager	Ron Humphrey
Project supervisor	Amy Williamson
Type of sponsor/funding body	Client

Project archives

Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive recipient	Local Museum
Digital Contents	'Survey'
Digital Media available	'Images raster / digital photography','Images vector','Survey','Text'
Paper Archive recipient	Local Museum
Paper Contents	'Survey'
Paper Media available	'Photograph','Plan','Report','Section','Survey '

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	41 High Street, Harpenden, Hertfordshire, AL5 2SD: Historic Building Record
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Williamson, A.
Other bibliographic details	Report number 2012098
Date	2012
Issuer or publisher	Archaeology South-East
Place of issue or publication	Portslade, East Sussex

Description	Bound A4 report
Entered by	Jane Briscoe (j.briscoe@ucl.ac.uk)
Entered on	4 May 2012



Plate 1: Late-19th century photograph showing original ground floor arrangement
(Source: Brandreth 1996)



Plate 2: South-west elevation with modern shop-front, looking north-east



Plate 3: South-east elevation of rear range, looking north



Plate 4: Lean-to (Unit 4) adjoining the north-east gable-end of Unit 3, looking south-west



Plate 5: Staircase, looking south-west



Plate 6: Room G.02, looking east



Plate 7: Room 1.02, looking south



Plate 8: First floor to attic stair, looking north



Plate 9: Room 2.02, looking north-east



Plate 10: Roof above Unit 1, looking south-east



Plate 11: Ground floor south-east wall of Unit 2, showing truncated brickwork at the junction with Unit 3, looking east



Plate 12: Unit 2 wall-framing, viewed from Room G.05, looking south-west



Plate 13: Unit 2 wall-framing, viewed from Room 1.05, looking south-west



Plate 14: Roof over Unit 2, looking south-west



Plate 15: Fireproof safe on north-west wall of Room 1.03, looking north-west



Plate 16: Rear wall of Unit 1 showing blocked inserted doorway, viewed from Room G.03, looking south-west



Plate 17: Room 1.04, looking north



Plate 18: Room 1.03, looking north-west



Plate 19: Rooms 1.03 and 1.04, looking north



Plate 20: Window on south-east wall of Room 1.04



Plate 21: North-west wall of Room 1.05, looking north-west



Plate 22: Straight joint within the brickwork at the junction of Units 2 and 3, view from Room G.05, looking south



Plate 23: South-east wall of Room G.05, looking south-east



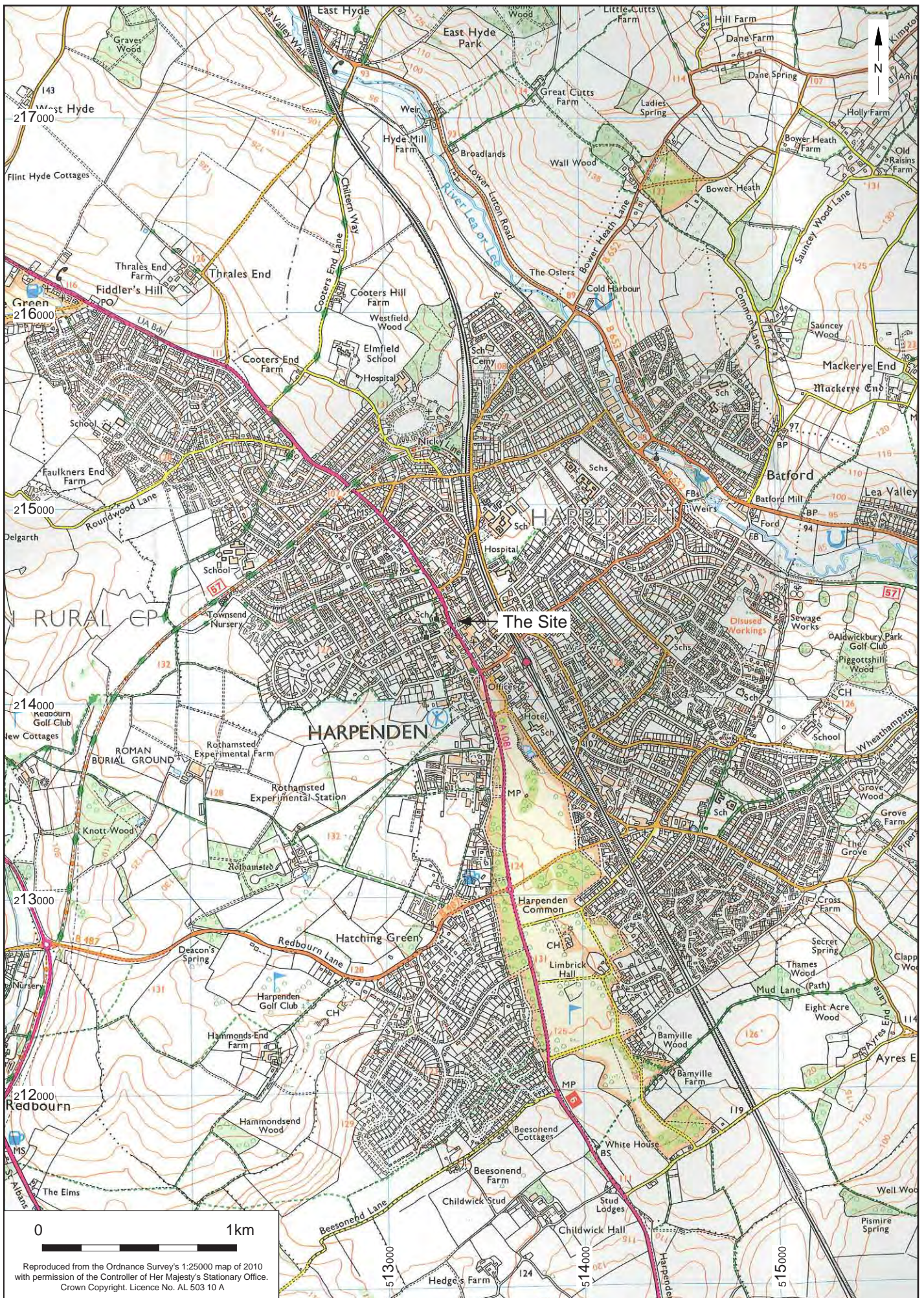
Plate 24: North-east wall of Room 1.05, looking north-east



Plate 25: Early rafters within roof over Unit 3, looking north-east



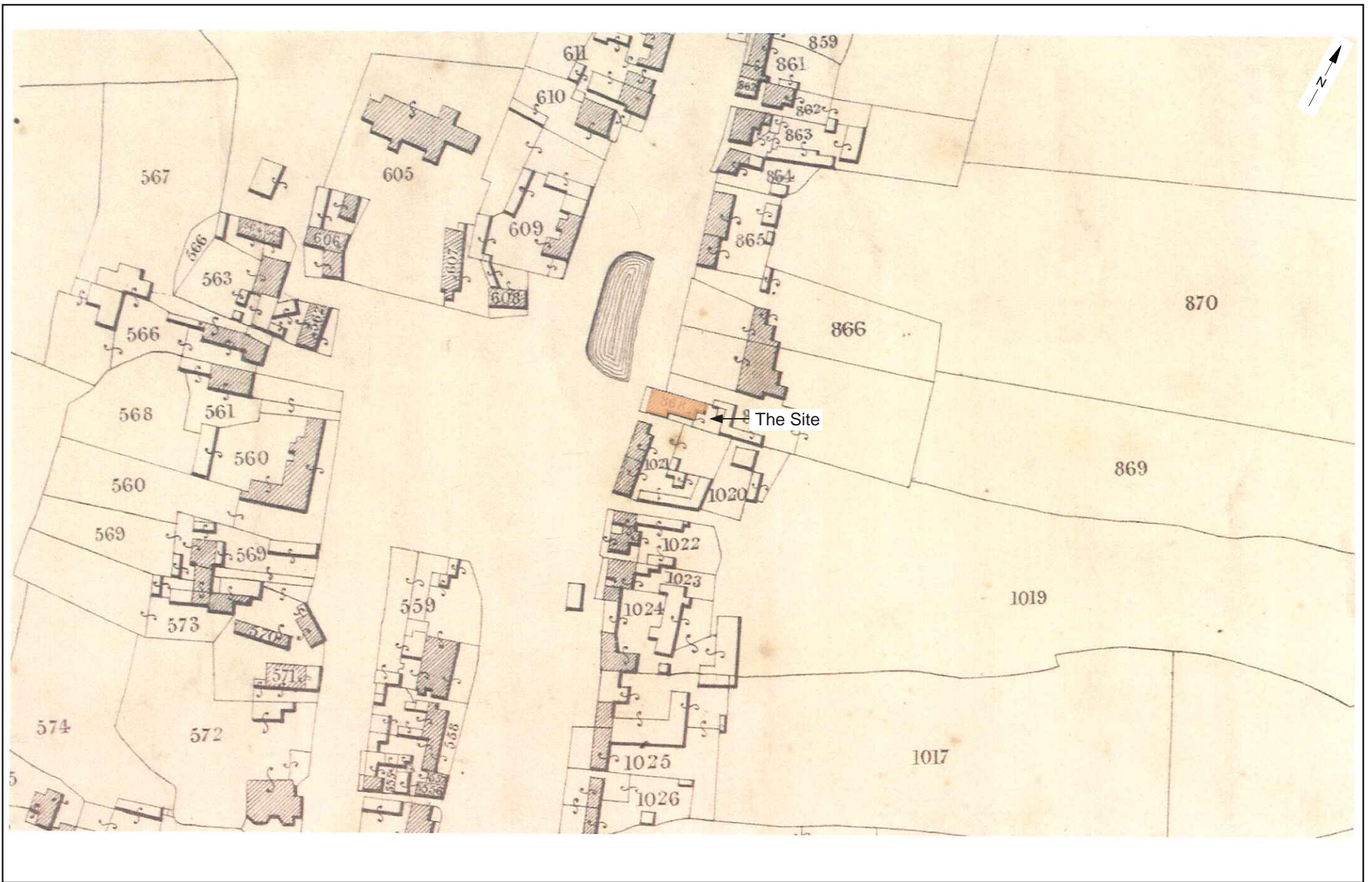
Plate 26: Room G.06, looking north-east



© Archaeology South-East		41 High Street, Harpenden, Hertfordshire, AL5 2SD		Fig. 1
Project Ref: 5449	April 2012	Site Location		
Report Ref: 2012098	Drawn by: AW			



© Archaeology South-East		41 High Street, Harpenden, Hertfordshire, AL5 2SD	Fig. 2
Project Ref: 5449	April 2012	Dury and Andrews' Map, 1766	
Report Ref: 2012098	Drawn by: AW		



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41 High Street, Harpenden, Hertfordshire, AL5 2SD

Project Ref: 5449

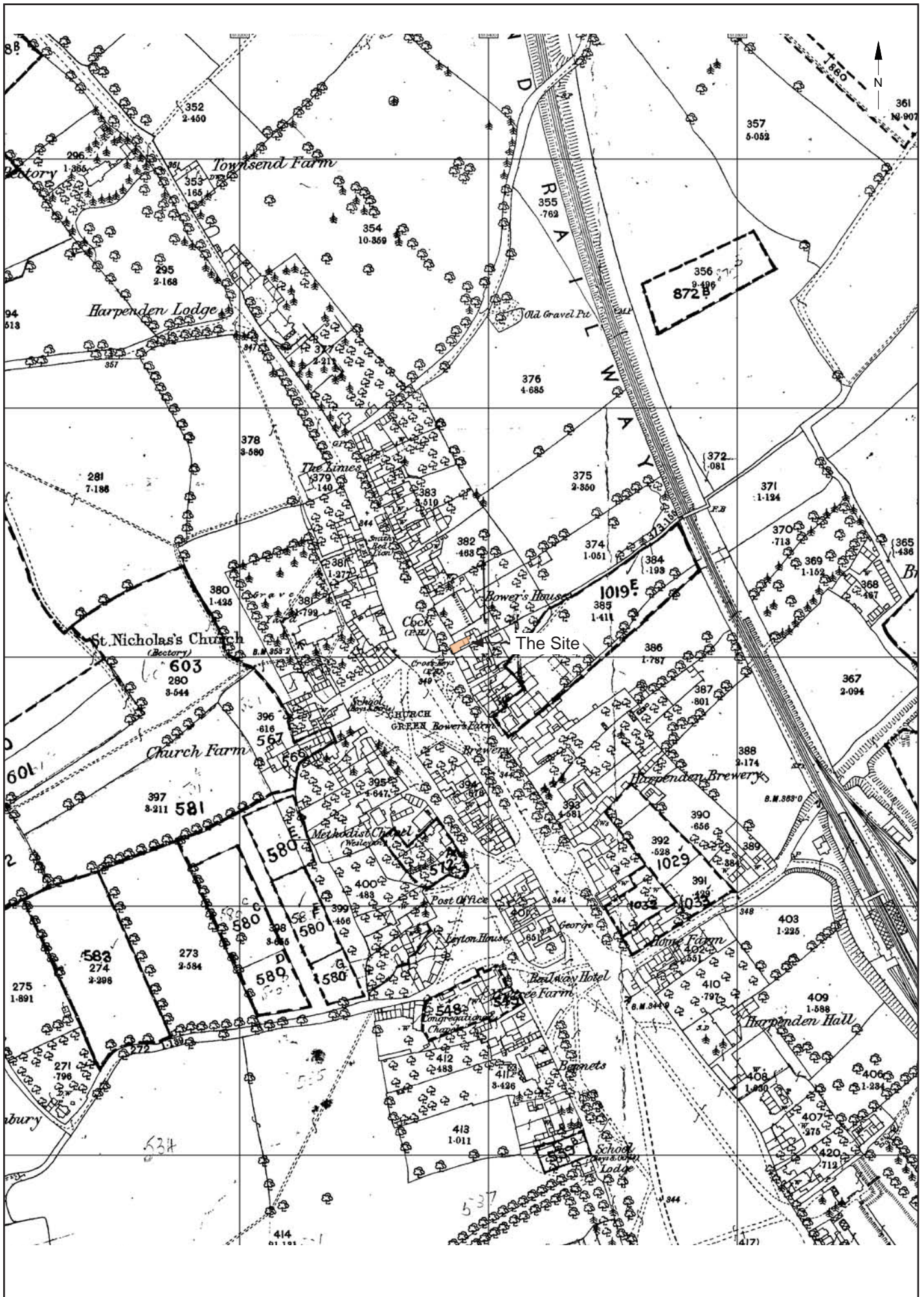
April 2012

Report Ref: 2012098

Drawn by: AW

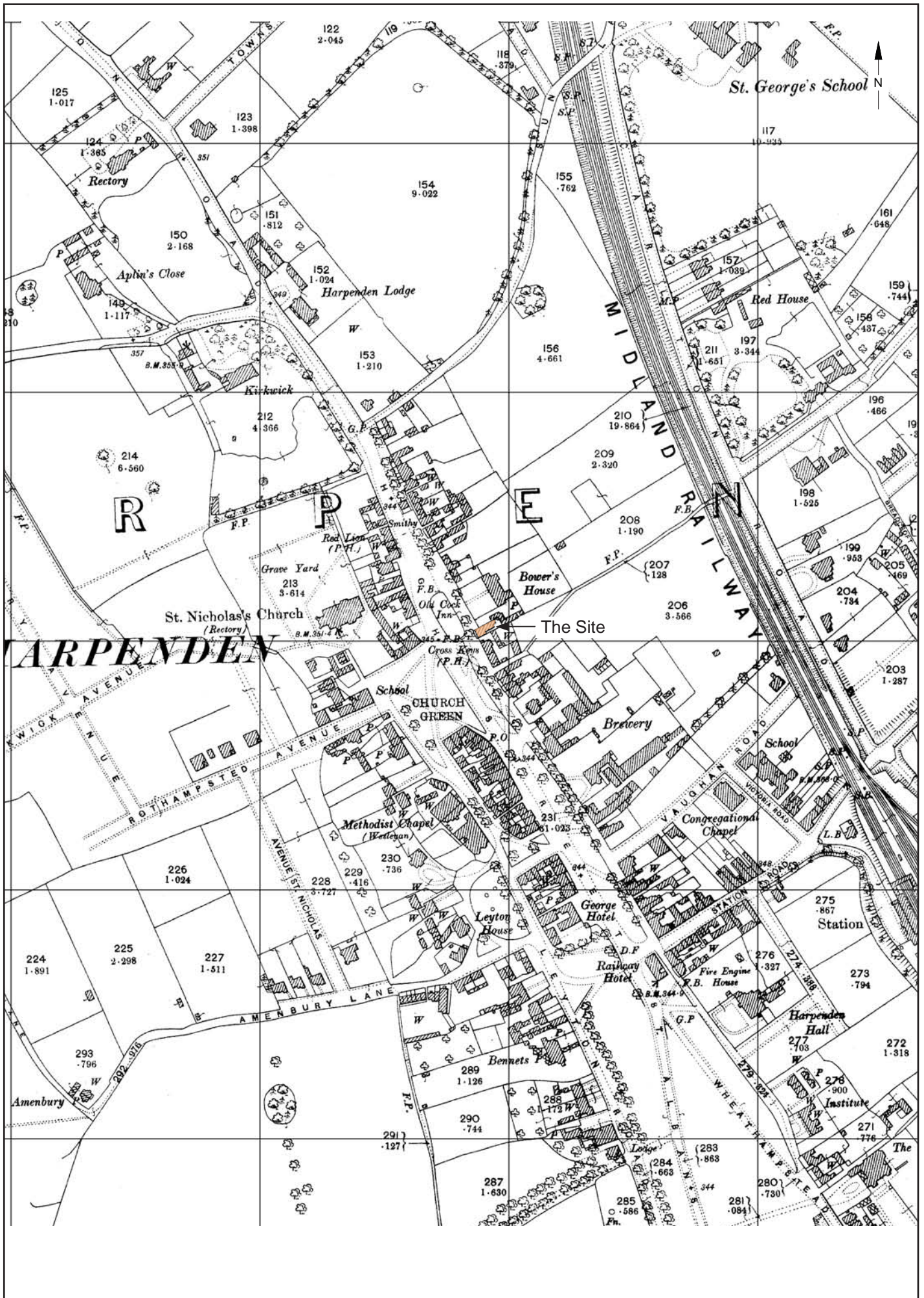
Harpenden Tithe Map, 1836

Fig. 3

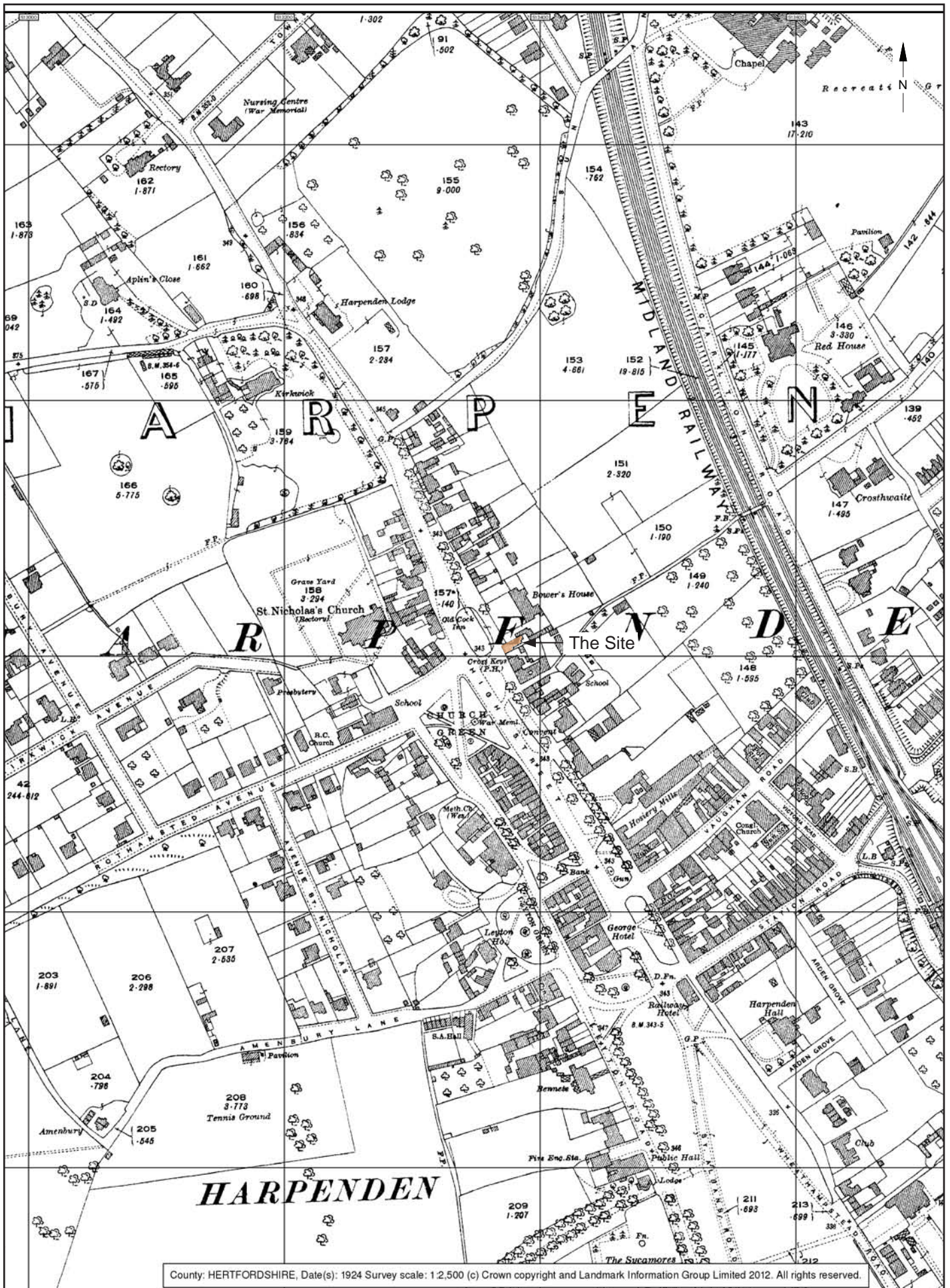


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Project Ref: 5449	April 2012	Ordnance Survey Map, 1879	
Report Ref: 2012098	Drawn by: AW		

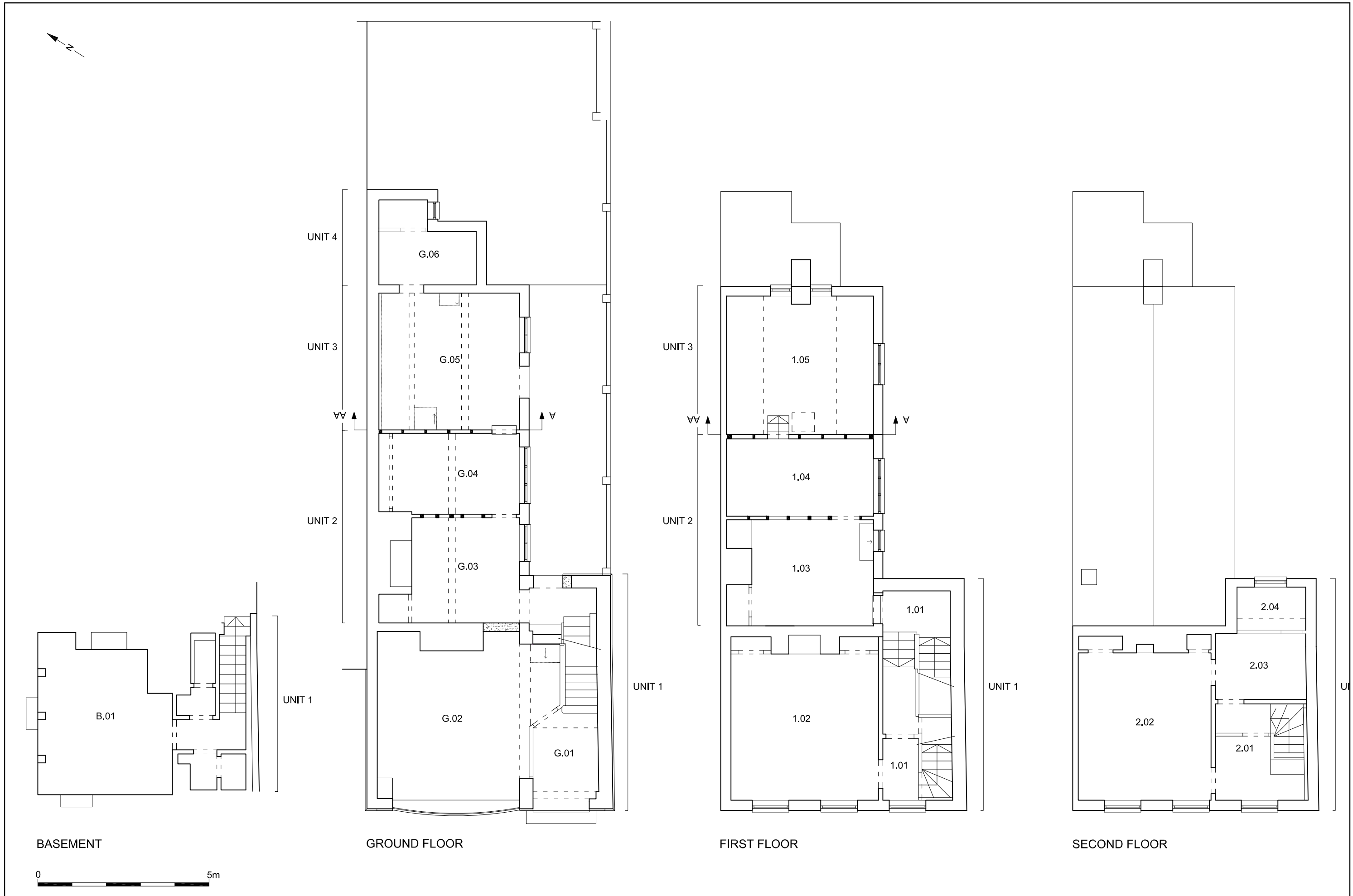
Fig. 4



© Archaeology South-East		41 High Street, Harpenden, Hertfordshire, AL5 2SD	Fig. 5
Project Ref: 5449	April 2012	Ordnance Survey Map, 1898	
Report Ref: 2012098	Drawn by: AW		

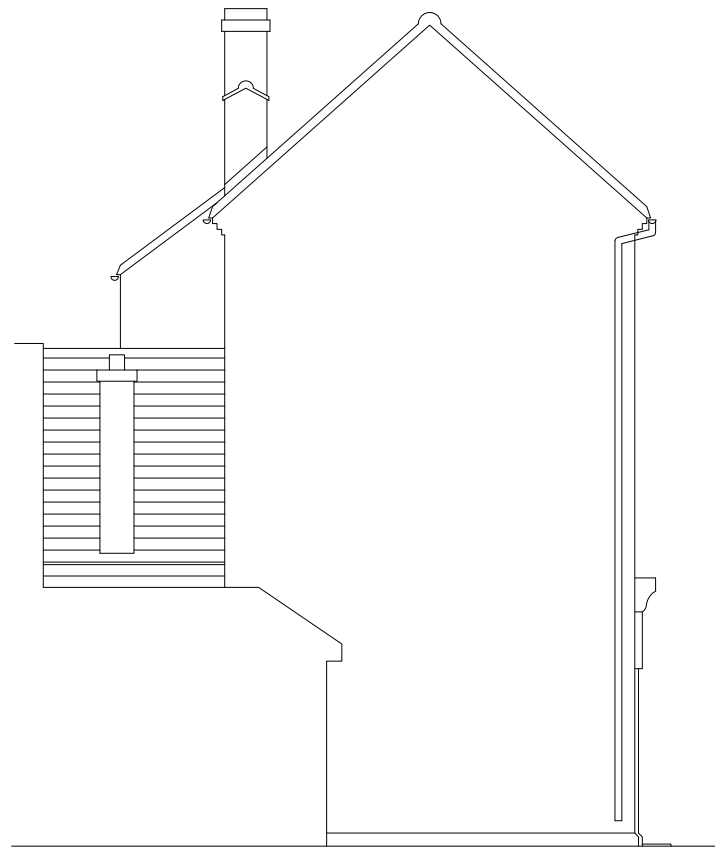


© Archaeology South-East		41 High Street, Harpenden, Hertfordshire, AL5 2SD		Fig. 6
Project Ref: 5449	April 2012	Ordnance Survey Map, 1924		
Report Ref: 2012098	Drawn by: AW			

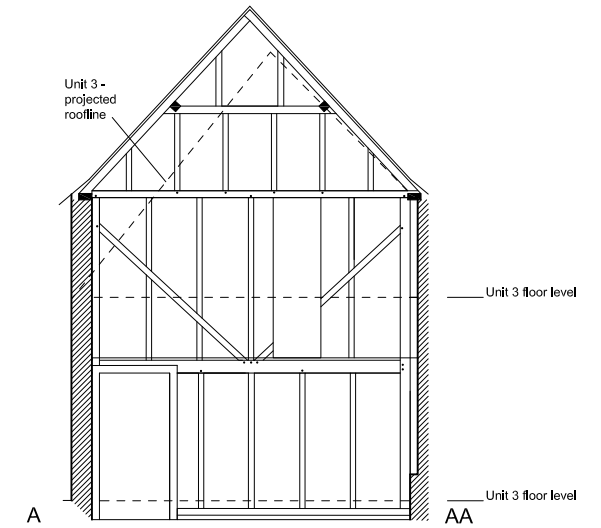




NORTH-EAST ELEVATION



NORTH-WEST ELEVATION



CROSS-SECTION (UNIT 2)



SOUTH-WEST ELEVATION



SOUTH-EAST ELEVATION



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