

**LITTLE PELL, BLACKSMITH'S LANE,
WADHURST, EAST SUSSEX**

**HISTORIC BUILDINGS RECORD
(HISTORIC ENGLAND LEVEL 2)**

NGR: 564507 132074



**Commissioned by
Price Whitehead Chartered Surveyors**

**Site Code: PEL17
Project No. 160749
Report No. 2017010
OASIS ID: archaeol6-257061**

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WADHURST, EAST SUSSEX**



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Planning Ref: WD/2016/1163/F

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**ASE Report No: 2017010
OASIS id: archaeol6-257061**

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Revision:			

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SUMMARY

In January 2017 Archaeology South-East (a division of the Centre for Applied Archaeology, UCL) carried out a historic building record of the boiler house at Little Pell Farmhouse, Blacksmith's Lane, Wadhurst, East Sussex (NGR 564507 132074). The work was commissioned by Price Whitehead Chartered Surveyors to satisfy a condition placed on planning consent (Planning ref: WD/2016/1163/F) for the addition of a single-storey linked extension to the side and rear of the property and the conversion of the boiler house.

The boiler house was built as a lean-to extension in the late 18th or early 19th century and may have been contemporary with the underbuilding of the main farmhouse in brick, or the rebuilding of the farmhouse roof. The function of the lean-to remains unclear but possibly served an agricultural function related to the farm.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In January 2017 Archaeology South-East (a division of the Centre for Applied Archaeology, UCL) carried out a historic building record of the boiler house at Little Pell Farmhouse, Blacksmith's Lane, Wadhurst, East Sussex (Figures 1 & 2; NGR 564507 132074).
- 1.2 The work was commissioned by Price Whitehead Chartered Surveyors to satisfy a condition placed on planning consent (Planning ref: WD/2016/1163/F) for the addition of a single-storey linked extension to the side and rear of the property and the conversion of the boiler house. The historic building record was produced to update an existing survey carried out by Archaeology South-East in 2009 (ASE 2009), included in the report as Appendix 6. In addition to the historic building recording, an archaeological watching brief was carried out while foundations were dug for the extension. The resulting report is included as Appendix 4.
- 1.3 Condition 3 of the planning consent states:
- No development shall take place until the applicant has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological works in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted by the applicant and approved by the Local Planning Authority. A written record of any archaeological works undertaken shall be submitted to the Local Planning Authority within 3 months of the completion of any archaeological investigation unless an alternative timescale for submission of the report is first agreed in writing with the Local Planning Authority.*
- Reason: To ensure that the archaeological and historical interest of the site is safeguarded and recorded to comply with the National Planning Policy Framework paragraph 141.*
- 1.4 Further advice issued by Greg Chuter of East Sussex County Council in an email dated 30/08/16, requested that any buildings affected by the development and pre-dating 1945 be recorded to Historic England Level 2 (Historic England 2016).
- 1.5 This historic building record has been produced to satisfy, in part, the above condition. Provision has also been made for an archaeological watching-brief on the alterations to the building; if required, the results of this will be presented as an update/addendum to this report.

2.0 SCOPE & METHODOLOGY

- 2.1 The scope of work and methodology for the building recording is detailed in a written scheme of investigation produced for the work by Archaeology South-East (ASE 2016). The work was also carried out in accordance with the relevant ClfA standards and guidance.
- 2.2 The building was recorded to Historic England Level 2 as defined in *Understanding Historic Buildings: A guide to good recording practice* (Historic England 2016).
- 2.3 The site was visited by Christopher Curtis and Seth Price on 9th January 2017 in order to carry out the recording work. This entailed the compilation of written notes and the production of a drawn and photographic record.
- 2.4 The drawn record comprises a floor plan of the building, based on existing measured drawings provided by the client. This has been augmented and annotated where necessary. The resulting scaled drawing is included within the report as Figure 5.
- 2.5 The photographic record was made using digital photography. Within the report selected images have been reproduced as plates, together with a full index of the photographs and location plots (Appendix 2; Figure 5). A full catalogue of all photographs is included in the archive.

3.0 SITE LOCATION

- 3.1 Little Pell Farmhouse is situated 0.3 miles east-north-east of Wadhurst parish church, on the edge of a trackway leading from the village towards Bewl Water. The house is positioned parallel to the track, aligned on a north-east – south-west axis (hereafter assumed east – west). The principal façade faces north while the boiler house lies to the south-east of the building.

4.0 STATUTORY & NON-STATUTORY DESIGNATIONS

- 4.1 The farmhouse was listed Grade II on 31st December 1982 and is described in the list entry as an early 17th century timber-framed building with some timbering exposed at the back but re-fronted with red brick and grey headers on the ground floor and tile hung above (list entry no. 1194709; Appendix 3).
- 4.2 The farmhouse is situated within an Archaeological Notification Area (DES11128) defining the medieval and post-medieval farm complex of Little Pell Farm.

5.0 HISTORIC BACKGROUND

- 5.1 Little Pell Farm lies to the north-east of Wadhurst, a historic village first recorded in a charter of 1253. The name Wadhurst is derived from the Old English *Wada's Hyrst* meaning Wada's wooded hill, suggesting an Anglo-Saxon origin. The village grew between the 16th and 18th centuries due to the local iron industry. It was during this time that the present farmhouse was built.
- 5.2 The previous ASE survey (2009) states that the farmhouse was built around 1600 and originally comprised a three-bay main range and a two-bay rear range, seemingly built to the east of an earlier structure, occupying what is now the western bay of the house. The assumed-earlier structure was replaced around 1640 with a cross-wing which had its roof rebuilt in line with the main range in the late 18th century.
- 5.3 In the 19th century most of the external walls were underbuilt in brick and the first floor tile-hung. The rear range was extended by one bay and an outhouse built against it. The previous report also ascribes the lean-to, which now contains the boiler house, to this period of work.
- 5.4 The first map to show the site in detail is the Wadhurst Tithe map of 1840 (Figure 3). It shows the farm and house broadly in the same form as it is today, including a structure built at the south-east corner of the main range which could be the present boiler house.
- 5.5 The 1873 Ordnance Survey shows that, by that date, the outbuilding with WC had been built to the south of the rear range (Figure 4). Thereafter the Ordnance Survey maps show no change in the footprint of the building up to the present day.

6.0 DESCRIPTION OF THE BUILDING

Overview of the farmhouse

- 6.1 The two-storey timber-framed farmhouse comprises a three-bay main range with a cross-wing to the west, under the same roof, and a two-bay rear wing to the south. Externally, the building is clad with brick and tile-hanging and has a clay-tiled roof (Plate 1). Elements of timber-framing are visible on the rear elevation, and the upper parts of the rear wing and boiler house are clad with weatherboard (Plate 2).
- 6.2 The interior of the house is arranged around a lobby-entry plan, with an off-centred entrance leading to a lobby by the chimney stack, providing access to the principal rooms to either side.

The boiler house

- 6.3 The building currently referred to as the boiler house is a lean-to structure to the rear of the main range built, at least in part, before 1840. The structure is formed with brick walls, half a brick thick and laid in stretcher bond. Its gables are formed by timber-framing, clad with weatherboard to the east and faced with render to the west. The brickwork of the lean-to reveals some phasing and dating evidence. The east wall is constructed from the same red bricks with vitrified headers as the east wall of the main range (Plate 3). Although the bonding is different, changing from English garden wall to stretcher bond, there are no straight joints and it is likely that the walls were built as one. Above the level of the wall plate of the lean-to, the brick wall of the main range terminates with queen closers, respecting the timber-framed part of the lean-to (Plate 4). This indicates that the lean-to was either built at the same time as the underbuilding of the main range, or it was a pre-existing timber structure, underbuilt in brick at the same time. The vitrified brick headers and skintle-marks suggests a date from the late 18th or early 19th century.
- 6.4 The south and west walls of the lean-to are built with what appears to be later brickwork, using more uniform orange/red bricks without any vitrification (Plate 5). The brickwork includes a three-light mullion window with diamond-shaped panes which is probably contemporary with the brickwork and dates to the late 19th century.
- 6.5 The lean-to roof extends the pitch of the main range roof, forming a catslide. It is constructed primarily from reused timbers and features a central tie with a raking strut. The roof is carried by wall plates supported by brick piers to the south-east and south-west corners of the structure. The half-brick thick walls act mostly as infill (Plates 6 & 7).
- 6.6 The interior is accessed via two doorways, to the east and west, the former housing a modern plank-and-batten door, while the latter has a plank-and-batten door of fairly wide, regular bead-moulded planks and spearheaded

strap hinges, which could feasibly be of 19th century date. The east doorway appears to be a later insertion, with roughly-cut brick jambs, while the west doorway appears more likely to be original, with more neatly-finished brickwork around the opening and a doorframe formed by the wall plate with jambs nailed to it (Plate 8). The lean-to was always accessed externally and never communicated directly with the house; the wall between the lean-to and the main range incorporates an original midrail, precluding any former openings (Plate 9).

- 6.7 Internally, the space is ceiled with lath and plaster and lit by a three-light mullion window on its south wall.

7.0 DISCUSSION

- 7.1 The boiler house was probably built as a lean-to in the late 18th or early 19th century. It is not possible to ascribe a more precise date to the structure, due to the lack of diagnostic features. It is certain that the building predates the tithe map of 1840 and that it is at least contemporary with the brick underbuilding of the west wall of the main range. It is possible that the structure predates the brick wall and was originally entirely timber-framed and underbuilt at the same time as the main range. Most of the visible timbers in the lean-to are reused material, including some reused rafters. It is also possible that the structure was built broadly around the time the roof of the cross-wing in the main range was replaced in the late 18th century (Phase D) (ASE 2009).

- 7.2 The original function of the lean-to is not obvious; it is certain that it would have housed some auxiliary service function to the house or farm, such as a wash-house or dairy. However, as the lean-to was not directly accessible from the house a use connected with the farm perhaps seems more likely.

8.0 DEPOSITION OF THE ARCHIVE

- 8.1 A full archive intended for deposition with East Sussex Record Office (The Keep, Falmer) has been prepared. The archive has been assigned the site code PEL17. The full site archive will be prepared in accordance with the principles of English Heritage's *Management of Archaeological Projects* (1991). 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

- 9.1 Archaeology South-East would like to thank Price Whitehouse Chartered Surveyors for commissioning this report and Tony Fountain for the hospitality provided during the site visit.

10.0 SOURCES CONSULTED

Archaeology South-East, 2009. *An Archaeological Interpretative Survey of Little Pell Farmhouse, Wadhurst, East Sussex*. ASE unpublished report no. 1716.

Archaeology South-East, 2016. *Little Pell, Blacksmith's Lane, Wadhurst, East Sussex: Historic Building Recording Written Scheme of Investigation*.

Historic England, 2016. *Understanding Historic Buildings: A Guide to Good Recording Practice*. Swindon: English Heritage.

PLATES



Plate 1: North and west elevations (PEL17-0001)



Plate 2: South elevation (PEL17-0004)



Plate 3: East elevation of farmhouse and lean-to (PEL17-0008)



Plate 4: Queen closers at junction of east wall of farmhouse and lean-to, facing west (PEL17-0009)



Plate 5: South elevation of lean-to (PEL17-0005)



Plate 6: Lean-to tie beam and raking strut, facing west (PEL17-0019)



Plate 7: Interior of lean-to, facing west (PEL17-0012)



Plate 8: West elevation of lean-to (PEL17-0007)



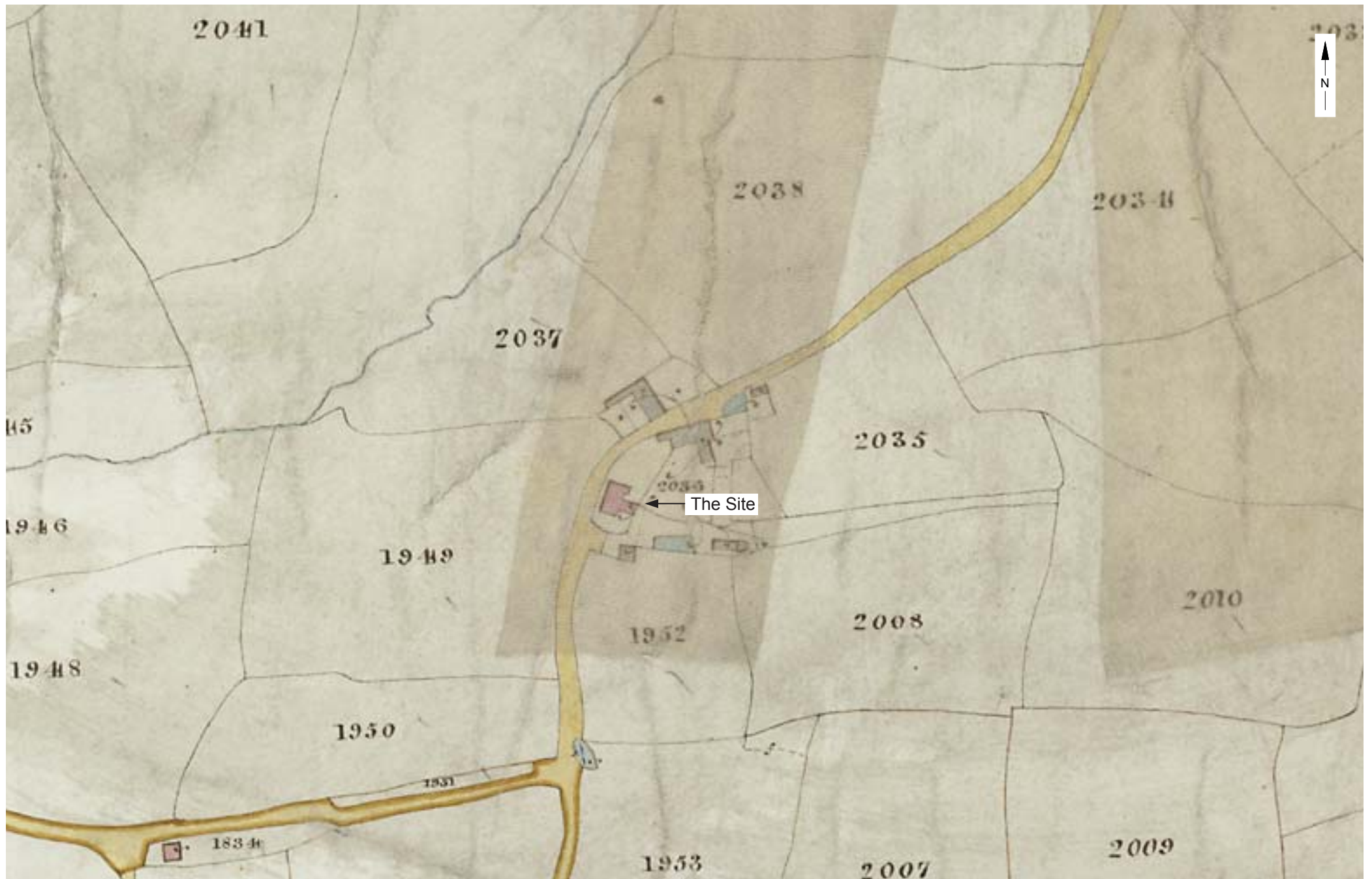
Plate 9: Wall shared between lean-to and main range, facing south (PEL17-0031)



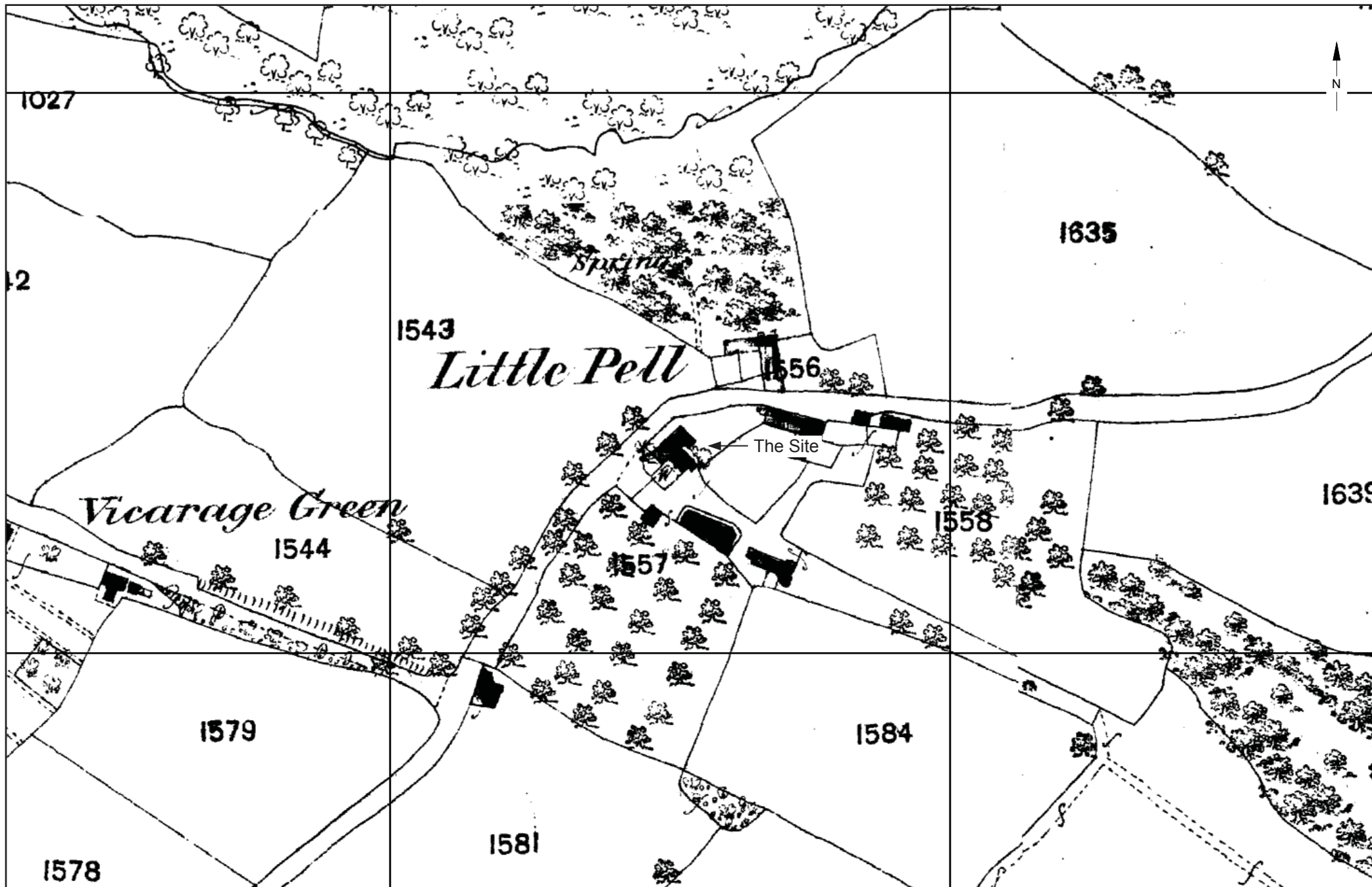
© Archaeology South-East		Little Pell Farm, Blacksmith's Lane, Wadhurst, East Sussex	Fig. 1
Project Ref: 160749	January 2017	Site location	
Report Ref: 2017010	Drawn by: CPC		



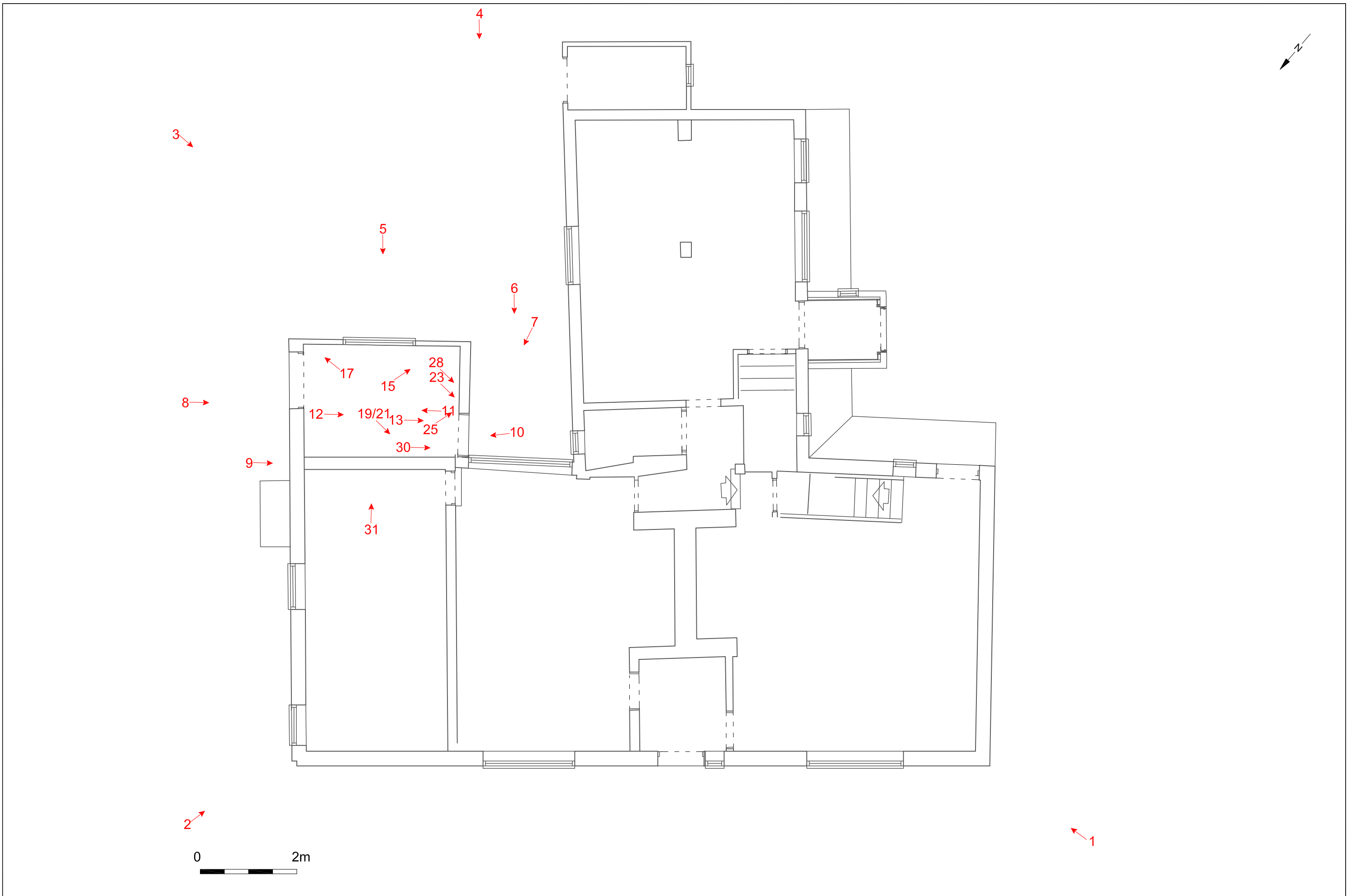
© Archaeology South-East		Little Pell Farm, Blacksmith's Lane, Wadhurst, East Sussex		Fig. 2
Project Ref: 160749	January 2017	Site Plan		
Report Ref: 2017010	Drawn by: CPC			



© Archaeology South-East		Little Pell Farm, Blacksmith's Lane, Wadhurst, East Sussex	Fig. 3
Project Ref: 160749	January 2017	Wadhurst Tithe Map - 1840	
Report Ref: 2017010	Drawn by: CPC		



© Archaeology South-East		Little Pell Farm, Blacksmith's Lane, Wadhurst, East Sussex	Fig. 4
Project Ref: 160749	January 2017	Ordnance Survey 1873-4	
Report Ref: 2017010	Drawn by: CPC		



APPENDIX 1 OASIS FORM

OASIS ID: ARCHAEO6-273311

Project details

Project name

Little Pell Farm, Blacksmith's Lane, Wadhurst, East Sussex

Short description of the project

In January 2017 Archaeology South-East (a division of the Centre for Applied Archaeology, UCL) carried out a historic building record of the boiler house at Little Pell Farmhouse, Blacksmith's Lane, Wadhurst, East Sussex (NGR 564507 132074). The work was commissioned by Price Whitehead Chartered Surveyors to satisfy a condition placed on planning consent (Planning ref: WD/2016/1163/F) concerning the single-storey linked extension to the side and rear of the property and the conversion of the boiler house. The boiler house was built as a lean-to extension in the late 18th or early 19th century and was either contemporary with the underbuilding of the main farmhouse in brick, or the rebuilding of the farmhouse roof. The function of the lean-to remains unclear but presumably served an agricultural function related to the farm.

Project dates

Start: 08-01-2017 End: 13-01-2017

Previous/future work

Yes / No

Type of project

Building Recording

Site status

Listed Building

Monument type

FARMHOUSE Post Medieval

Significant Finds

NONE None

Appendix 2 Index of Digital Photographs



PEL17-0001



PEL17-0002



PEL17-0003



PEL17-0004



PEL17-0005



PEL17-0006



PEL17-0007



PEL17-0008



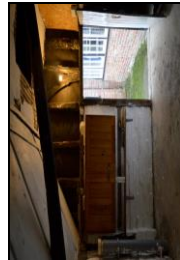
PEL17-0009



PEL17-0010



PEL17-0011



PEL17-0012



PEL17-0013



PEL17-0014



PEL17-0015



PEL17-0016



PEL17-0017



PEL17-0018



PEL17-0019



PEL17-0020



PEL17-0021



PEL17-0022



PEL17-0023



PEL17-0024



PEL17-0025



PEL17-0026



PEL17-0027



PEL17-0028



PEL17-0029



PEL17-0030



PEL17-0031



PEL17-0032



PEL17-0033



PEL17-0034



PEL17-0035



PEL17-0036



PEL17-0037



PEL17-0038



PEL17-0039



PEL17-0040



PEL17-0041



PEL17-0042



PEL17-0043



PEL17-0044



PEL17-0045



PEL17-0046



PEL17-0047



PEL17-0048



PEL17-0049



PEL17-0050



PEL17-0051



PEL17-0052



PEL17-0053



PEL17-0054



PEL17-0055



PEL17-0056



PEL17-0057



PEL17-0058



PEL17-0059



PEL17-0060



PEL17-0061



PEL17-0062



PEL17-0063



PEL17-0064



PEL17-0065



PEL17-0066



PEL17-0067



PEL17-0068



PEL17-0069



PEL17-0070

APPENDIX 3 BUILDING LIST DESCRIPTION

Name: Little Pell Farmhouse
List entry Number: 1194709

Location

LITTLE PELL FARMHOUSE, PELL LANE
The building may lie within the boundary of more than one authority.
County: East Sussex
District: Wealden
District Type: District Authority
Parish: Wadhurst
National Park: Not applicable to this List entry.
Grade: II
Date first listed: 31-Dec-1982
Date of most recent amendment: Not applicable to this List entry.

Details

WADHURST PELL LANE 1. 5208 Little Pell Farmhouse TQ 63 SW 15/404 II 2. Early C17 timber-framed building with some timbering exposed at the back but refronted with red brick and grey headers on ground floor and tile hung above. Tiled roof. Casement windows. Doorway with flat hood over. Two storeys. Three windows.

Listing NGR: TQ6450332070

Selected Sources

Legacy Record - This information may be included in the List Entry Details

National Grid Reference: TQ 64503 32070

APPENDIX 4: ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING-BRIEF (REPORT NO. 2017012)

1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Archaeology South-East (ASE) was commissioned by Price Whitehead Chartered Surveyors to undertake an archaeological watching-brief at Little Pell Farm, Blacksmiths Lane, Wadhurst, East Sussex, TN5 6DN (NGR 564507 132074). The archaeological watching-brief was concerned with the reduction of ground level and excavation of footings prior to the construction of a new extension (in the area shown in Fig. 4.1). This archaeological report forms an addendum to the historic buildings record for Little Pell Farmhouse.
- 1.2 The work was undertaken to satisfy a condition placed on planning consent (ref. WD/2016/1163/F) for the addition of a single-storey linked extension to the side and rear of the property and the conversion of the boiler house.

Condition No. 3

No development shall take place until the applicant has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological works in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted by the applicant and approved by the Local Planning Authority. A written record of any archaeological works undertaken shall be submitted to the Local Planning Authority within 3 months of the completion of any archaeological investigation unless an alternative timescale for submission of the report is first agreed in writing with the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: To ensure that the archaeological and historical interest of the site is safeguarded and recorded to comply with the National Planning Policy Framework paragraph 141.

- 1.3 A written scheme of investigation (WSI) was produced for the works (ASE 2016) to satisfy the above condition and was submitted to, and approved by, Greg Chuter, Assistant County Archaeologist, East Sussex County Council (ESCC), acting as advisor to the Local Planning Authority (Wealden District Council). The document sets out the methodology for the works. All work was carried out in accordance with the ClfA standards and guidance (ClfA 1999, 2001 and 2008). It was also carried out in accordance with the relevant portions of the Sussex Standards for Archaeological Fieldwork (2015), specifically Annexes C (Watching Brief) & F (Historic Building Assessment Survey), which are hereafter referred to as the Sussex Standards. These supersede the Recommended Standard Conditions for Archaeological Fieldwork, Recording and Post-Excavation in East Sussex (ESCC 2008).

2.0 SCOPE & METHODOLOGY

- 2.1 The aim of the archaeological watching-brief was to record, interpret and report on any archaeological remains exposed during groundworks (including artefacts or ecofacts of archaeological interest) to appropriate archaeological standards.

- 2.2 The site was visited by Seth Price and Christopher Curtis in January 2017 in order to carry out the archaeological watching brief and historic building recording work. The photographic record was made using high resolution digital photography. An index of the digital photography is provided (Appendix 2) and a full catalogue of all photographs is included in the archive.

- 2.3 The drawn record consists of measured plans and sections of the areas being impacted by the development. They are included within the report as Fig. 4.2.

3.0 SITE LOCATION

Geology

- 3.1 According to the British Geological Survey 1:50,000 scale geological mapping available online (BGS 2015 cited in ASE 2016), the bedrock geology at Little Pell Farm consists of sandstone and siltstone of the Tunbridge Wells Formation, formed approximately 134 to 140 million years ago in the Cretaceous Period. No superficial deposits are recorded.

Topography

- 3.2 Little Pell Farm is located in the heart of the High Weald, c.2km north-east of the village of Wadhurst. This area of Sussex is formed of a series of ridges, and while the village is situated on top of a ridge running south-east – north-west, the farm is located on the slope leading from the village towards the reservoir of Bewl Water (c.5km to the north east). Modern Ordnance Survey mapping indicates that while the village lies near the 140m contour, the site lies near the 120m contour.
- 3.3 Little Pell Farmhouse is situated on the edge of a trackway leading from the medieval and later market village of Wadhurst towards Bewl Water. The farmhouse is positioned parallel to the track, aligned on a north-east – south-west axis with its principal façade facing north-west. It historically forms part of Little Pell Farm, whose associated farm buildings survive to the north-east, east and south. Of note is an 18th century barn to the north-east of the farmhouse. Otherwise the farmhouse is surrounded by a mixture of agricultural/pastoral fields and small woodlands.

Archaeological Background

- 3.4 The following information has been derived from the Wadhurst Historic Character Assessment Report (Harris 2007).
- 3.5 No prehistoric finds or features have been found through controlled excavation in the surrounding area, and there has been only one prehistoric findspot described as a Neolithic macehead. The tool was found at Moseham House in the Lower High Street, c.300m south-west of the site. Later, a stone polisher was found nearby. None of the minor tributaries north or south of the ridge at Wadhurst are of sufficient scale to have been navigable, but the High Street has long been identified as part of the Newenden-Hawkhurst-Ticehurst-Wadehurst-Frant prehistoric or Roman ridgeway.
- 3.6 No Romano-British finds or features have been found in the vicinity of the site, but numerous discoveries related to ironworking activities have been recovered in the wider area.

- 3.7 The status of Wadhurst prior to the 12th century is unclear, but the Old English form identified as *Wada's hyrst* and meaning "Wada's wooded hill" suggests an Anglo-Saxon origin. The name is first recorded in 1253, when it was granted its charter. The small market village started to slowly expand, and it grew especially during the 16th, 17th and 18th centuries because of the thriving iron industry. It is during this period, that Little Pell Farmhouse was built.
- 3.8 No previous archaeological investigations have been conducted at Little Pell Farm.

4.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING-BRIEF

4.1 Methodology

- 4.1.1 A watching-brief was maintained during groundworks associated with the redevelopment work, specifically during the removal of topsoil and ensuing reduction of the ground level to the development's target level (c.49.38mAOD). Observations ceased when undisturbed natural geology was reached.
- 4.1.2 All excavations were examined for the presence of archaeological features or deposits and all spoil was scanned for the presence of artefacts.
- 4.1.3 All deposits encountered were recorded in accordance with accepted professional standards using ASE standard record sheets. A full digital photographic record of the area was kept and forms part of the site archive. The contents of the below-ground element of the project archive are tabulated below (Table 1).

Number of Contexts	10
No. of files/paper record	1
Photographs	48 digital images
Bulk Finds	0

Table 1: Quantification of site archive

4.2 Results

Overview

- 4.2.1 No significant archaeological deposits were encountered. The underlying geology of the site [1010] (sandstone and siltstone of the Tunbridge Wells Formation, hereafter referred to as 'natural') is a compact pale yellow/orange sandy clay, with occasional sandstone inclusions.
- 4.2.2 Directly overlying the natural across the majority of the site was a subsoil [1003] deposit of mid-brown-yellow sandy clay, comprising disturbed and mixed topsoil and natural. The subsoil contained occasional fragments of ceramic building material (CBM); both brick and tile. The subsoil had an average depth of c.200mm. The mixing appears to have resulted from ongoing bioturbation (roots and worm action) as well as the digging-over of the topsoil above. The subsoil appears to thin towards the south, downhill, side of the site.
- 4.2.3 Overlying the subsoil was both topsoil [1001] and vegetable patch soil [1002]. [1001] was a lawned-over loamy sandy clay with moderate CBM and other late 19th/20th-century inclusions with an average depth of 200mm. [1002] was similar to [1001] albeit regularly turned and aeriated with more frequent CBM and other late 19th/20th-century inclusions likely deriving from manuring. The

similarities between [1001] and [1002] suggest that the vegetable patch may previously have been larger than was seen during the watching-brief.

4.2.4 A number of modern pits, dug to accommodate the bodies of small mammals (likely cat), were cut through the topsoils ([1001] & [1002]) into the subsoil [1003]. In addition to degraded animal bone, the pits contained modern window glass, CBM, and pottery within a matrix of loamy sandy clay redeposited from the topsoils ([1001] and [1002]). The home owner noted that they had buried their cat in the vicinity in the last few years (pers. comm.). Three of the pits ([1004], [1006], and [1008]) were recorded for posterity, while the other features were tested and dismissed due to their modernity and insignificance. The backfill of the three recorded pits was [1005], [1007], and [1009]. All of the modern pits are depicted on the site plan (Fig. 4.2). The majority of the pits were situated beneath the vegetable patch.

4.2.5 Overlying the natural at the west end of the site, adjacent to the east wall of the boiler room of the farmhouse, a late 19th or early 20th-century clay drain pipe was observed running parallel to the wall. Two additional concrete-capped later 20th-century drains were situated above and to the east of the earlier clay pipe. Redeposited [1001] was packed around the drains and lawned over.

4.2.6 No finds or samples were collected from the contexts encountered.

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)
1001	Layer	Topsoil			0.30
1002	Layer	Topsoil/Ploughsoil			0.30
1003	Layer	Subsoil			0.20
1004	Cut	Pit	0.47	0.40	0.19
1005	Fill	Backfill	0.47	0.40	0.19
1006	Cut	Pit	0.7	0.70	0.13
1007	Fill	Backfill	0.7	0.70	0.13
1008	Cut	Pit	0.4	0.40	0.12
1009	Fill	Backfill	0.4	0.40	0.12
1010	Layer	Natural			

Table 2: Deposits recorded during watching brief

5.0 DISCUSSION

- 5.1 The archaeological watching-brief uncovered no notable archaeological deposits. A series of shallow, modern pits were uncovered cut into the subsoil. The development area has been used as a vegetable patch for some time, with manuring, bioturbation and turning of the soil resulting in homogenous topsoils with an admixture of late 19th- and 20th-century inclusions. The working of the land may have truncated earlier shallow archaeological deposits, the topsoil being relatively shallow, although no trace of finds predating the late-19th century was observed. It is likely the area of land has been cultivated for much of the site's history.

6.0 SOURCES CONSULTED

Archaeology South-East, 2009. *An Archaeological Interpretative Survey of Little Pell Farmhouse, Wadhurst, East Sussex*. ASE Project No. 3947.

Archaeology South-East, 2016. *Little Pell Farm, Blacksmiths Lane, Wadhurst, East Sussex, TN5 6DN: Historic Building Recording & Archaeological Watching Brief Written Scheme of Investigation*. ASE Project No. 160749.

CIfA, 2014. *Standard and Guidance for the Collection, Documentation, Conservation and Research of Archaeological Materials*

Harris, R, 2007 *Wadhurst: Historic Character Assessment Report – Sussex Extensive Urban Survey*

Internet Sources

CiFA, 2008 CIFA Standard and Guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials,
http://www.archaeologists.net/sites/default/files/nodefiles/ifa_standards_materials.pdf

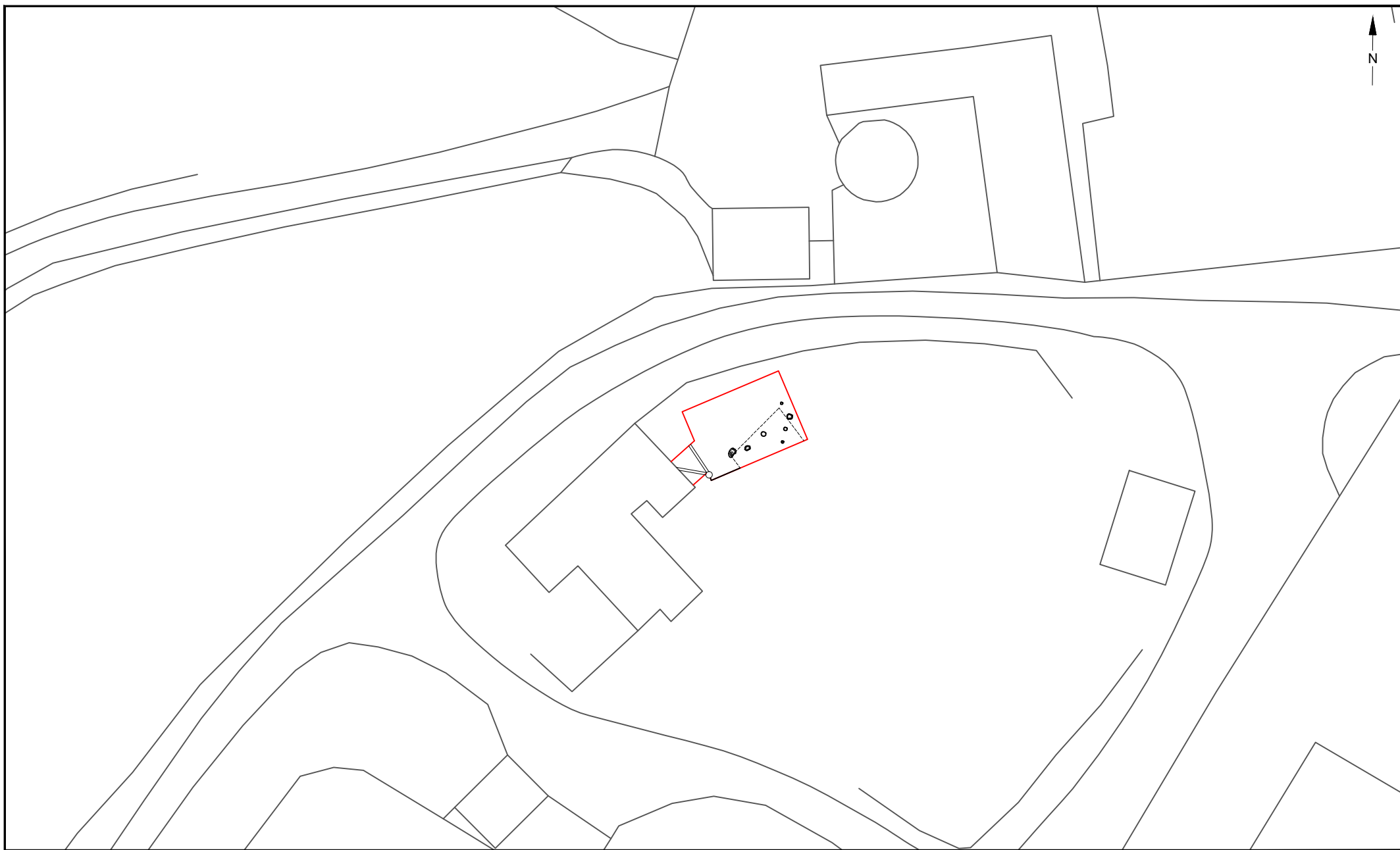
Date accessed: 13th January 2017

7.0 DEPOSITION OF THE ARCHIVE

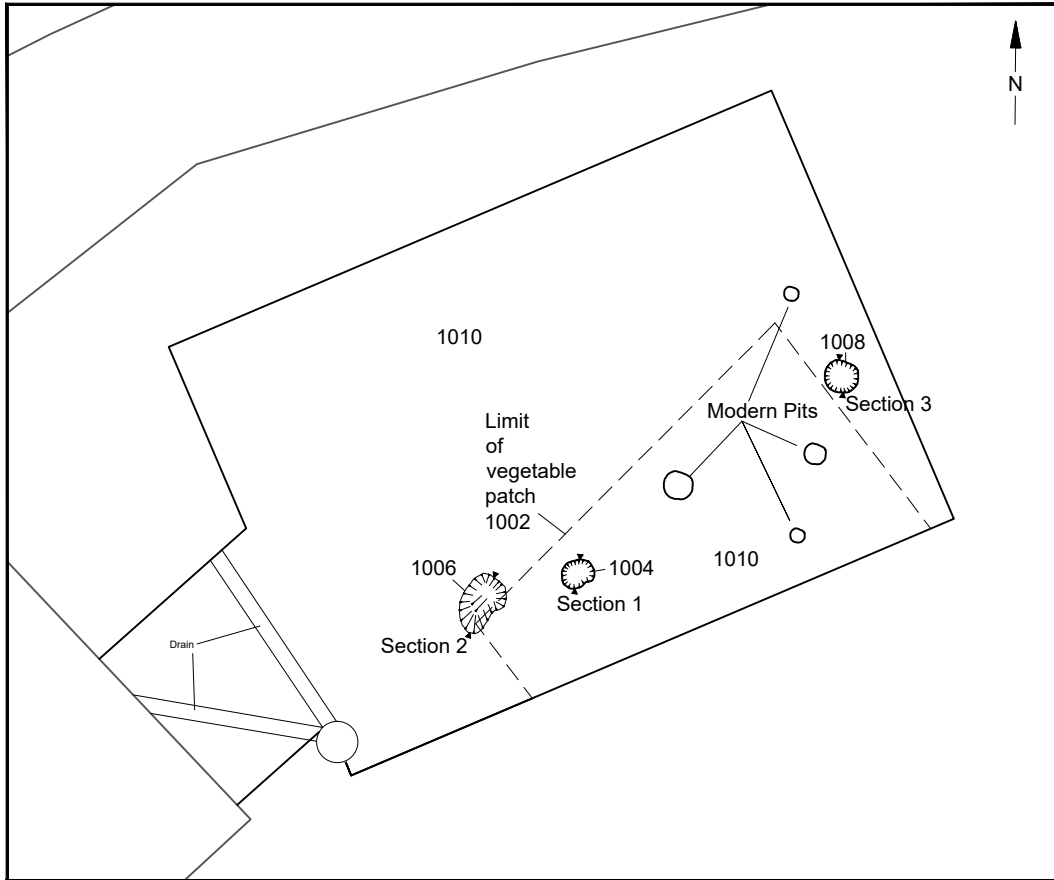
A full archive intended for deposition with a suitable local museum has been prepared in accordance with the guidelines set out in English Heritage's *Management of Archaeological Projects 2* as well those published in *Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long-term Storage* (United Kingdom Institute for Conservation, 1990) and *Standards in the Museum Care of Archaeological Collections* (Museums and Galleries Commission, 1994). The archive has been assigned the Archaeology South-East site code PEL17. 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 sketches.

8.0 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeology South-East would like to thank Bruce Whitehead of Price Whitehead Chartered Surveyors for commissioning this archaeological watching-brief.



© Archaeology South-East		Little Pell Farm, Wadhurst	Fig. 4.1
Project Ref: 160749	January 2017	Site overview showing archaeological deposits	
Report Ref: 2017012	Drawn by: SP		



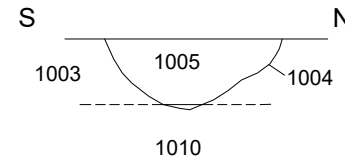
Site overview facing north-east



Site overview facing north-east, following reduction

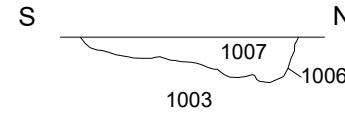
Illustrative Modern Pit Sections

Section 1



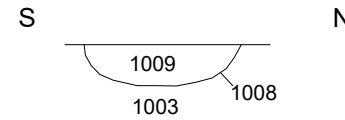
Section 1

Section 2



Section 2

Section 3



Section 3

Appendix 5: HER Summary

Site Code	PEL17					
Identification Name and Address	Little Pell Farm, Wadhurst, East Sussex					
County, District &/or Borough	Wealden District Council					
OS Grid Refs.	564507 132074					
Geology	Tunbridge Wells Formation					
Arch. South-East Project Number	160749					
Type of Fieldwork			Watching Brief	Standing Structure		
Type of Site	Green Field					
Dates of Fieldwork			WB. 09/10.01.2017	Other Building Recording – 09.01.2017		
Sponsor/Client	Price Whitehead Chartered Surveyors					
Project Manager	Ron Humphrey					
Project Supervisor	Seth Price					
Period Summary						
			PM ✓			
<p>Summary</p> <p>Archaeology South-East (ASE) was commissioned by Price Whitehead Chartered Surveyors to undertake an archaeological watching-brief at Little Pell Farm, Blacksmiths Lane, Wadhurst, East Sussex, TN5 6DN (NGR 564507 132074). The archaeological watching-brief was concerned with the reduction of ground level and excavation of footings prior to the construction of a new extension.</p> <p>The archaeological watching-brief uncovered no notable archaeological deposits. A series of shallow modern pits were uncovered cut into the subsoil. The development area has been used as a vegetable patch for some time, with manuring, bioturbation and turning of the soil resulting in homogenous topsoils with an admixture of late 19th- and 20th-century inclusions. The working of the land, may have truncated earlier shallow archaeological deposits, the topsoil being relatively shallow, although no trace of finds predating the late-19th century were observed.</p>						

**An Archaeological Interpretative Survey of
Little Pell Farmhouse, Wadhurst, East Sussex**

Commissioned by Mr. Tony Fountain

Project Ref. 3947



by Jane Clubb BA MA & David Martin FSA IHBC MIFA

2009

**AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL
INTERPRETATIVE SURVEY
OF**

**LITTLE PELL FARMHOUSE,
WADHURST, EAST SUSSEX**

**Commissioned by
Mr. TONY FOUNTAIN**

PROJECT REF. 3947

**by
Jane Clubb BA MA
&
David Martin FSA IHBC MIFA**

**Archaeology South-East
Institute of Archaeology
University College London**

2009

STANDING BUILDINGS

ARCHAEOLOGICAL INTERPRETATIVE SURVEYS

AN INTRODUCTORY NOTE

ABOUT THESE SURVEYS

The intended purpose of an *Archaeological Interpretative Survey* is to give an overview of the date, sequence of construction, and principal architectural features of a building. As such, they should not be regarded as a detailed archaeological record, nor should they be taken as definitive. Further research, particularly that undertaken during building works, is likely to refine and extend the archaeological record and could modify the dates suggested.

These reports are aimed at three groups of user, namely those owners who wish to know more about their property, those persons (architects and planners) who are charged with the responsibility for both conserving the buildings and ensuring that they are carefully adapted to the needs of the future, and finally the academic carrying out wider historical or archaeological research. A secure use for the future is, in our opinion, the only way of ensuring the long-term survival of any historical building.

INVESTIGATIVE TECHNIQUE

Unless noted to the contrary, the assessments involve a visual inspection of the fabric, both internally and externally, including any accessible roof voids and basement areas. Except where building works are being carried out, intrusive techniques are inappropriate. Interpretation of the fabric and fittings therefore relies principally upon inspection of the visible evidence. As part of the interpretative procedure, a measured outline survey of every property is undertaken.

THE WRITTEN REPORT








For ease of reference the written reports are divided into sections under a series of headings and sub-headings. The typical sequence of headings is as follows:-

- 1 Location of the building.
- 2 Sequence of development.
- 3 Detailed architectural description, arranged period-by-period.

THE DRAWINGS

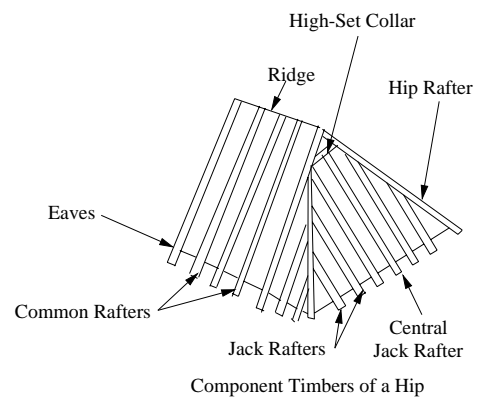
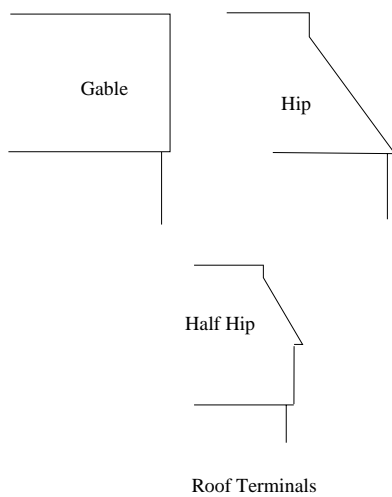
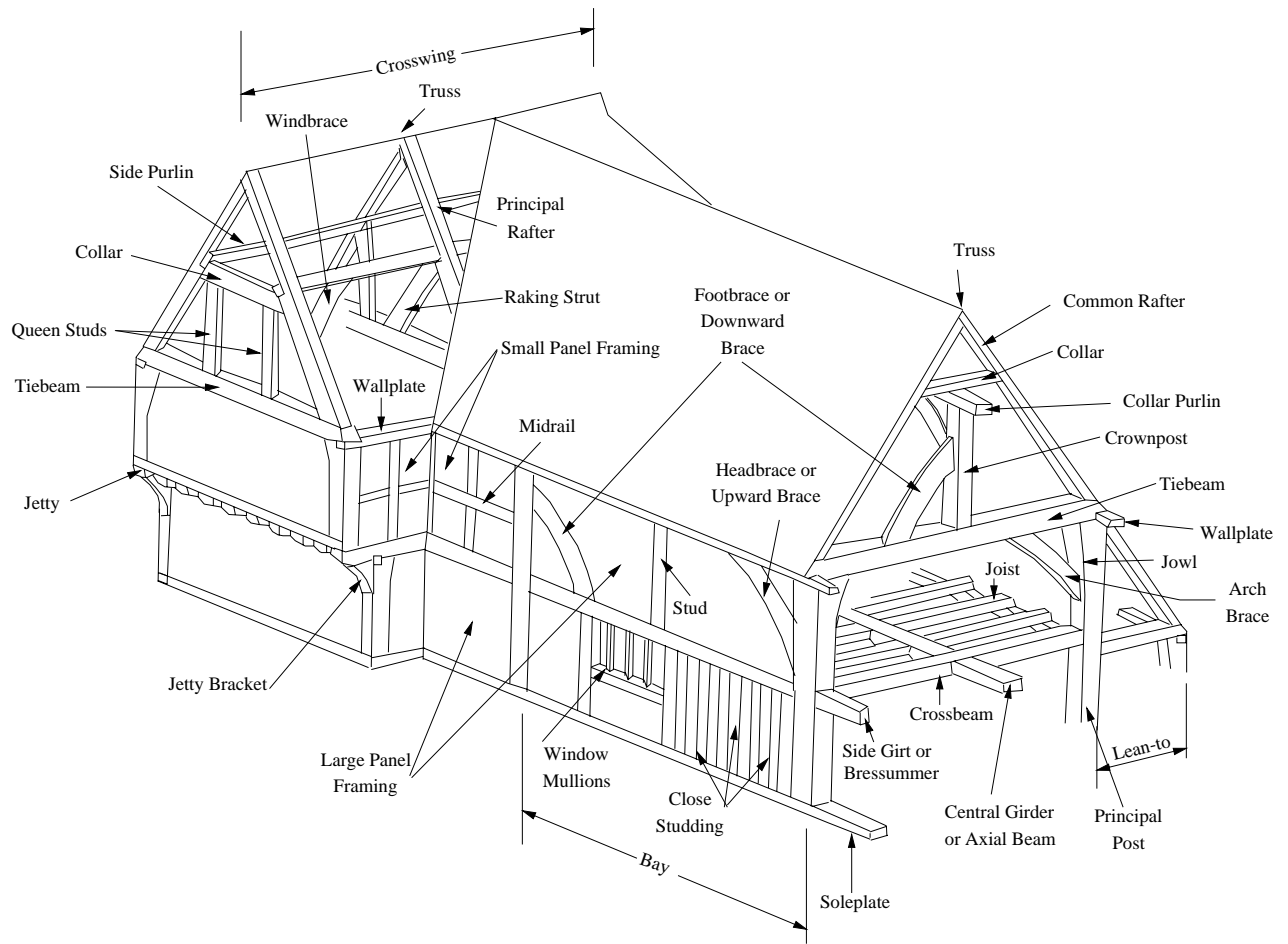
A set of drawings produced from an measured outline survey is included within the body of each report. The purpose of these drawings is to identify the features included within the written text and to illustrate, as far as is known, the form of the structure during its various stages of development. For clarity the drawings have been prepared in the form of scale 'sketches', rather than detailed archaeological record drawings. For reasons of economy, the making of detailed archaeological drawings is restricted to stripped-out or exceptionally important buildings.

The symbols as used in the drawings attached to this report are as follows:

	Surviving Timber-Framed Wall
	Surviving Brick or Stone Wall
	Features evidenced but destroyed or masked from view
	Beam or feature immediately overhead
	Conjectural or very approximate
	Structural timber
	Details unknown or doubtful

OTHER CONVENTIONS USED -

- 1 Doors are shown in plan only where known: hence rooms may appear to have no obvious means of access.
- 2 With the exception of rafters, wallplates, and some chimneys and roof-lines, sections show features cut by or immediately adjacent to the cutting line only.



GLOSSARY OF PRINCIPAL TERMS

REPORT NO. 1716

LITTLE PELL FARMHOUSE, WADHURST

NGR TQ 6450 3207

LOCATION

Little Pell Farmhouse is situated 0.3 miles ENE of Wadhurst parish church, on the edge of a trackway leading from the village towards Bewl Water. The house is positioned parallel to the track, aligned on a NE-SW axis (hereafter assumed east-west) with its principal facade facing north-west (hereafter assumed north).

OVERVIEW OF THE BUILDING [Drawing Nos. 1716/1-3]

The building as erected around c.1600 [**Period A**] was timber-framed and comprised a three-bay main range and a two-bay rear range. They seem to have been built to the east of an earlier structure, which gave access to both ranges. The surviving evidence within the period-A building indicates that the single room and chamber in the eastern bay of the main range were completely separate from the other rooms in the range, having no interconnecting doorways. The attic was only accessed from this separate bay. There are some unusual features within the building which suggest that initially it may not have functioned as a house, though other features suggest that it was indeed intended for domestic use. Whichever was the case, the building did not comply to a standard layout.

Around 1640 [**Period B**], the assumed-earlier structure to the west was replaced with a short crosswing, and the structure was modified to function as a lobby-entry house of more-standard plan-form. A new chimney served the hall, parlour and hall chamber, and access was cut through into the eastern bay from the hall and hall chamber. The rear range appears to have continued in service use, accessed from both the hall and parlour and housing the entrance to the cellar. The cellar lies beneath the parlour, with a separate, assumed-period-B part underneath the northern part of the rear range.

Only minor modifications took place at the turn of the century, c.1700 [**Period C**], with the insertion of a closet and a fireplace into the parlour chamber, upgrading the chamber to a more comfortable suite. A stair may have been inserted at this date in order to give independent access to the improved chamber, but this stair could have been built earlier. Other alterations of this date involved modifying the stairs and layout at the opposite end of the house.

In the later part of the 18th century [**Period D**], the external appearance of the

crosswing was disguised by rebuilding the roof structure in-line with that of the main range, the front slope of which was also reconstructed. This modification necessitated raising the front wallplate of the main range in order that the eaves could be made level. The bay window on the crosswing was removed.

In various schemes of post-period-D work, the ground-floor external frame has been underbuilt in brick, using different styles of brickwork. The western wall has decorative nogging between the timbers, the front wall is laid in Flemish bond with burnt headers, and at a later date the western wall was laid in English-Garden-Wall bond. The rear range too was brick-underbuilt; this part of the house was extended to the south by one bay. This extension appears to be quite recent. Attached to the south-eastern corner of the rear range is a brick-built outhouse. A further extension, laid in stretcher bond, was built against the south wall of the main range. The first-floor walls of the main range and the upper part of the western ground-floor wall have been tile-hung.

Internally, the period-B stairs have been removed from the eastern room and the associated opening in the floor has been infilled. The possible period-C stair in the parlour has been replaced by a modern flight, and the enclosing partition has been removed; some studs survive against the modern stair, but these look to be of nineteenth-century date.

Also of apparently nineteenth-century date is the repositioning of the first-floor partition between the main range and the rear range, creating a larger area to the south of the chimney. It may have been at this date too that the roof over the rear range was modified; the reused medieval common rafters are now attached to a ridgeboard, and some appear to have been replaced. The ceiling over the kitchen chamber seems to be of 20th-century date, as do the rafters in the hip. Unfortunately, the walls and ceiling of the kitchen chamber have been plastered and thus all details are currently hidden.

The slender late-18th century timbers used in the roof have proved to be of insufficient size and have needed to have extra strengthening added. To this end, side-purlins have been inserted along the whole front roof slope and also across the rear slope of that part over the crosswing. These purlins are supported by raking struts, the ends of which are nailed to the side of the corresponding rafters.

All work carried out since period D is excluded from the more detailed architectural description which follows.

LISTED STATUS OF THE BUILDING

Little Pell Farmhouse was listed grade II on 31st December 1982, its listed building reference being TQ 63 SW 15/404. The description in the list entry is purely for the purpose of recognition and is normally, therefore, primarily based on external appearance. The date is given as early C17. [Source: English Heritage, Images of

England - website]. The description must not be treated as a comprehensive schedule of those elements which are legally protected as, no matter what the grade, the legislative cover not only relates to both the interior and exterior, but also extends to any building within the curtilage which predates the 1st July 1948.

DETAILED ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

PERIOD A (c.1600) [Drawing Nos. 1716/4-5]

LAYOUT

When first built, this two-storeyed structure comprised a three-bay main range, measuring 8.90 metres (29'2") long and 6.15 metres (20'2") wide, and a two-bay rear range, 5.50 metres (18'0") long x 5.00 metres (16'5") wide, aligned at right-angles to it, projecting partly to the west of the main range. Although of similar date, there is no guarantee that the two period-A ranges were constructed as part of the same building campaign. Furthermore, the curious positioning of the two ranges in relation to one another suggests that they represent a phase (or phases) in the progressive reconstruction of an earlier house which stood on the site, and that part of the earlier existing structure was at this time retained, standing to the west of the period-A main range. If this was the case, the last part of the earlier house was destroyed during period B (see below).

The main range is divided on both floors into a two-bay space to the west and a single-bay room to the east. In Drawing No. 1716/4 the two-bay room, which measured approximately 6.00 metres (19'8") long, has been designated the 'hall', though it may not have been used as a hall in the traditional sense (see 'Discussion of Function' below). There is no clear evidence for a period-A heating system, but the two-bay ground-floor room may have been served by a fireplace, located at the western end of the room, in the area occupied by the period-B stack. At the eastern end there was a bench fixed to the timbers in truss B-B.

The eastern room was not accessible from the 'hall', and the same was also the case on the upper storey, suggesting that this space had a specific use which was separate from the function of the two-bay room and chamber. This separation is further emphasized by the fact that the eastern room contained the sole identified period-A stairs, leading to the first-floor chamber and from there to the attic area. It is not known how the 'hall' chamber was accessed, but it was probably via the now-destroyed earlier part of the building to the west.

The rear range probably comprised a single space on each floor, and appears to have incorporated a single-flue stack (see 'Chimneys' below). The range probably functioned

as a kitchen.

WALL DESIGN

The frame of the period-A building is constructed using a mixture of quite slender timbers (such as the tiebeams) and heavy timbers (such as the principal posts and crossbeam C-C). There is evidence to suggest that at least two timbers may be second-hand: this may account for the variation in scantling. The tiebeams are held in normal assembly over the swelling heads of the principal posts. Wall infills are constructed using a mixture of large- and small-panel framing: the external walls are of small-panel type, whereas the interior partitions are framed in large panels. The large-panel construction can be seen in truss B-B (Drawing No. 1716/5). Here the ground-floor part of the truss is divided into four equal panels by pegged-in studs. Toward the base of the surviving studs there are mortices for pegs which would have supported a fixed bench. The first-floor part of the truss has a central stud and both principal posts were footbraced. The northern footbrace survives: it is straight and measures at least 240 mm deep.

The pattern of small-panel framing in the external walls is not uniform throughout the building: it can be seen in Drawing No. 1716/5, Front Elevation and Section X-X. The midrails are interrupted by the studs: these timbers are mostly slender, measuring 110 mm - 130 mm, though some larger-section timbers have been incorporated at the eastern end of the rear wall. Those midrails which double as the window cills are set higher than the midrails in the closed panels. In the front wall the side-girts are positioned level with the first floor. However, the rear wall is framed in a very unusual manner, utilising two side-girts, dividing the wall horizontally into three tiers. Within the smaller panels studs and midrails have been incorporated. There must have been a very specific reason for adopting this type of framing, but that reason is currently unknown. The braces incorporated into the elevations appear to be inset from the external face of the timber frame in order that the external lath-and-plasterwork could be continued unbroken across the wall panel, hiding the brace from view. This is a feature which was used commonly in Eastern Sussex during the 17th century: earlier examples are known, but these tended to incorporate curved, rather than straight bracing.

The open truss within the 'hall' and 'hall' chamber (truss C-C) has no secondary framing at ground-floor level. At first-floor level the truss was headbraced, using long, probably-straight braces (now removed, but evidenced by mortices). There is a large, filled-in mortice in the top face of the crossbeam, but there is no corresponding mortice in the soffit of the tiebeam; unless this mortice was associated with some form of part-height fixture (which seems unlikely) it may be concluded that the crossbeam is a secondhand timber.

WINDOWS

There are no surviving visible period-A windows, but the openings of two in the east elevation and one in the rear wall can be located with confidence. Others have been shown in their likely positions in Drawing No. 1716/5. The window in the rear wall is adjacent to the rear principal post of truss C-C at first-floor level, and lit the 'hall' chamber. The opening measures 1.45 metres (4'9") wide. The windows in the eastern end wall lit the eastern chamber and the attic area: both are set to the north of the central timber. The attic window-cill is pegged in place, but the first-floor window has an internally projecting cill. These windows are of roughly similar dimensions, measuring 1.20 metres (3'11") x 620 mm (2'0") and 1.25 metres (4'1") x 730 mm (2'4") respectively. Given the date of construction, and the proportion of the period-A windows, it is likely that some (perhaps all) were glazed from the outset.

There appears to have been a first-floor window to the east of the front principal post of truss C-C, mirroring that at the rear, though measuring 1.85 metres (6'0") wide. There may also have been a small window (590 mm x 610 mm; 1'11" x 2'0") at the western end of the front wall of bay C-D, in the top part of the narrower wall panel. In the first-floor front wall at the eastern end, and also at the eastern end of the rear wall on both storeys there is a horizontal wall panel divided into two by a short stud. These openings are approximately equal in size, and none show any distinguishing features. It is likely that one of the two panels in each area was originally a window opening, but this cannot be confirmed at the present time. Of the two panels, the windows were most likely positioned adjacent to the principal post, in similar fashion to that at the western end of the front wall. Because of the doubt, they are shown question-marked in the reconstruction drawings.

Within the rear range, there may have been a window against the northern principal post of truss E-E at ground-floor level, but this cannot be confirmed under present circumstances.

DOORWAYS

There are no period-A doorways surviving. Indeed, there was originally no access between the two parts of the period-A main range. All intercommunication between the main range and the rear range was probably via the now-destroyed (assumed earlier) structure to the west. The eastern bay must have had separate external access, but due to the brick-underbuilding of the frame, the evidence for such a doorway has either been removed or hidden.

FLOORS AND CEILINGS

The period-A main range was fully-floored from the outset. All these floors are supported by longitudinally-set joists jointed into the crossbeams and tiebeams. The

joists measure 110-120 mm wide x approximately 95 mm deep, with blunted edges.

The first floor of the rear range is of central-girder construction. This central girder is jointed into crossbeam E-E at its northern end and into an intermediate crossbeam, lodged over the side-girt between trusses F-F and G-G, at its southern end. Truss F-F has never incorporated a crossbeam. The girder is chamfered, with stepped-and-hollowed stops, and the joists have blunted edges, though many have rotted-out sapwood which has destroyed their edges and given them a waney appearance.

STAIRS

The only identifiable period-A stairs are located in the eastern bay, though it is not known whether these stairs were in the form of fixed steps, or whether they were ladder-like. The form of the hatch in the attic floor suggests that at least the first-floor stair was of the latter type. The opening for the stair in the first floor is located in the south-western corner of the bay. In its present form the opening measures 860 mm (2'9") wide and 2.20 metres (7'2") long but originally it was somewhat narrower, having been widened during period B.

The hatch in the attic floor is aligned at right angles to that in the floor beneath, and is positioned against truss B-B. The opening is neatly trimmed, with the trimmer pegged into the trimming joists. It measures 920 mm (3'0") x 1.40 metres (4'7").

CHIMNEYS

The position of the intermediate crossbeam in the rear range, together with the mortice evidence for two widely-spaced studs in the crossbeam's soffit suggests the location of a fireplace serving this rear room. The distance between the stud mortices is 2.70 metres (8'10"). There are stave holes in the underside of the crossbeam, but these would likely have taken staves supporting infill between the fireplace lintel and the crossbeam. A lack of stave holes between the stud mortices and the external walls suggests that there were open areas either side of the probable fireplace. The jack rafters within the hip are modern, indicating that the chimney rose through the roof slope at this point.

It is possible that there was originally a fireplace and chimney at the western end of the 'hall', but the period-B stack has removed or hidden all traces of any period-A chimney in this location.

ROOF

The roof over the main range is of side-purlin construction, with diminished principal rafters. The purlins (which measure 120 mm x 140 mm) were supported by a collar in the eastern stub-gable. The surviving purlin is in two parts, bridle-jointed together to the

east of truss C-C. In trusses B-B and C-C raking struts (230 mm wide) support the extant purlin, which removes the difficulties of headroom under collars within the attic area. Of the two sets of raking struts only those rising to the rear slope survive: that in truss B-B is straight whilst in truss C-C the raking strut is slightly cranked. No period-A work survives in the front roof slope, as it was replaced in period D (see Period D: 'Roof'). However, it is likely to have been windbraced, as the extant period-A rear slope incorporates straight, one-way windbracing triangulating the eastern end of the two northern roof bays. The eastern roof terminal is half-hipped, but it is not known how the western end of the roof was terminated: it probably butted against the assumed-earlier structure which stood beyond it. The eastern stub-gable incorporates three studs (two queen studs and a central stud).

The roof over the rear range is also of clasped-side-purlin construction with diminished rafters, and with a collar in truss E-E. This collar was supported by now-removed queen-studs, evidenced by mortices in the collar's soffit. It is not known whether the chamber in this rear-range was ceiled or open to the roof.

DISCUSSION OF FUNCTION

The period-A structure has been assumed to have functioned as part of a house during this period, augmented by whatever accommodation existed in the assumed structure to the west. The offset location of the rear range in relation to the main range suggests that the main range may have been constructed to the east of an extant cross-passage. If so, the now-destroyed part presumably represented the service bay of a medieval house, with the cross-passage giving access into the kitchen within the rear range.

Features which support the hypothesis that this building was constructed as a house include the use of windows, especially those whose proportions suggest that they were glazed: if this was not a house, the windows would probably have been of unglazed type. In addition, the evidence for a fixed bench on truss B-B seems to give clear indication that the two-bay ground-floor room was indeed a hall, with the high-status end towards the east, and an (assumed) fireplace at the opposite end. All this fits a quite standard sequence of progressive reconstruction in which a medieval open hall was replaced by a fully-floored hall, leaving the earlier service bay and entrance area intact.

So, if the building fits this model so well, why the doubts? The problems relate to the eastern end bay, beyond what seems to have been the high-end of the new, fully-floored hall. In the standard textbook arrangement this bay would have been used as a parlour accessed direct from the hall and would have contained a stair rising to the parlour chamber above. But in this instance the bay was not interconnected with the hall and must have been reached via an external doorway. Furthermore, it was through this bay that access was gained to the large three-bay storage area in the roof. This arrangement gives the impression of a suite of spaces designed to serve either as agricultural storage or for some form of trade-related activity — not the kind of use

usually attributed to an area beyond the high-status end of a domestic hall. Even so, such an interpretation is not without parallel. A similar arrangement, of similar date, exists at Partridges, Iden — the only difference in this instance was that there was a doorway communicating between the high-end of the hall and the service/storage rooms beyond the 'high-end' bench [East Sussex Record Office HBR/1/860, revised report 1988]. In this instance the interpretation as to the use of the spaces is confirmed by a detailed probate inventory. It shows that the ground floor of the bay beyond the high-end was utilized as a milkhouse and buttery, with a stair rising from the milkhouse to a first-floor chamber called the 'old mill room' which contained a quern and a quantity of stored crops. As at Little Pell, a trap-door in the ceiling gave access to the attic area, and this too was used for crop storage.

With this parallel in mind, and bearing in mind that by c.1600 the hierarchical layout of houses was in the process of breaking down, the likelihood must be that the building was indeed constructed to fulfil a domestic function.

PERIOD B (c.1640) [Drawing Nos. 1716/6-9]

LAYOUT

At this date the (probable) earlier structure to the west of the period-A main range was replaced by a two-storeyed, two-bay crosswing (with a cellar beneath) measuring 5.20 metres (17'0") wide. Though it is framed at right-angles to the main range, it is only as long as the main range is wide, which in plan-form gives it the appearance of an in-line extension, a point further emphasized today by the in-line form of the present period-D roof. Originally, however, the crosswing roof was aligned at right angles to that of the main range and was gabled to front and rear (see 'Roof' below). Furthermore, although the fact is today disguised by the period-D alterations, the walls of the crosswing stood taller than those of the adjacent period-A main range. As in the main range, the attic space was always intended to be utilised.

With the building of this crosswing, the house assumed a more-standard plan-form. The new part functioned as a parlour on the ground-floor, with a principal chamber above. The parlour was served by a fireplace in a new three-flue chimney stack, which also served the hall and hall chamber. The front door gave into a lobby to the front of the new chimney, from which doors led into the parlour to the west and the hall to the east. Beyond the hall, the formerly-separate eastern room was now brought into use with the rest of the house, as doors were cut through truss B-B. One of these ground-floor openings led to the stairs which accessed the first floor. The rear range continued in use as a kitchen. On the ground floor it seems to have been accessed from both the hall and parlour via a short corridor to the rear of the chimney. Due to later plasterwork, it is not known how the first-floor chamber in the rear range was accessed from the main range. The stairs from the period-B cellar rose within the rear range; the cellar

itself has an additional, possibly-contemporary room which extends underneath the northern part of the kitchen. On the first-floor access to the hall chamber was via the eastern chamber. It is possible that a doorway led around the rear of the chimney into the parlour chamber.

WALL DESIGN

The wall framing of the new crosswing is much more regular than that of the period-A structure, and is most clearly seen in the south and west walls (Drawing Nos. 1716/8 & 1716/9). Like the earlier wall design, the framing is of small-panel type, with interrupted midrails positioned in-line. An exception is where the midrails double as window cills in the west wall, where they are positioned slightly higher. No braces are incorporated into the frame. The tiebeams are straight and are carried in normal assembly, though unlike the earlier posts, the period-B principal posts have splay-cut heads. The west and south wall panels between the principal posts (and the intermediate post in the south wall) are divided into four by centrally-spaced studs and midrails, but this is not repeated in the front (north) wall, where a bay window was incorporated. In this elevation, two full-height intermediate posts interrupt the crossbeam, dividing the wall into three, of which the central part would have housed the bay window. To either side of the window on the first floor, midrails were jointed between the full-height intermediate posts and the principal posts.

The internal first-floor partition which separates the closet from the hall chamber is also of period-B date and incorporates midrails, but in this partition the studs are not positioned an equal distance apart, as they double as door jambs.

The walls of the cellar underneath the parlour are of the same dressed stone as the ground-floor fireplaces, incorporating a number of niches. In the area of the steps and the part of the cellar underneath the rear range the walls are partly of brick. The different materials used may indicate a slight difference in the date of the separate parts of the cellar, but the two rooms appear to be contemporary with one another.

WINDOWS

The bay window in the centre of the front wall of the period-B crosswing has since been removed, but the jambs survive. These rise full-height, are 170 mm wide, interrupt crossbeam J-J, and are positioned 1.90 metres (6'2") apart. There were no windows in the rear wall of the crosswing, but two windows on each floor seem to have been incorporated into the west wall, set in the upper wall panels either side of the central principal post. These openings measure 1.40 metres (4'7") x 740 mm (2'5") and are reported (by a previous owner) to still remain *in situ* beneath the present weather cladding.

DOORWAYS

The ground-floor door openings within the period-B part of the structure have been modified during later periods. Their approximate locations are shown on Drawing No. 1716/6.

There were three doors cut through truss B-B during this period: two on the ground floor and one on the first floor. On the ground floor, the southern wall stud was removed and two new studs inserted so as to act as the door jambs, creating two openings 810 mm wide. The opening to the new staircase is plain; it is rebated on the hall face, has no head, and the soleplate was not cut. The adjacent door, leading into the eastern room, is now blocked, but retains its pegged-in head and is chamfered around the opening. The soleplate was cut down slightly so as to lower the step into the room. The first-floor doorway was formed by notching in a new stud 770 mm to the south of the central stud. This opening utilised the tiebeam as its head.

The two period-B doorways through the inserted partition beside the chimney in the hall chamber are plain. Only that leading into the closet, which is very narrow at 600 mm (1'11") wide, has a separate head. The southern opening is approximately 760 mm (2'6") wide.

FLOORS AND CEILINGS

The first floor of the crosswing is supported by north-south-aligned joists measuring 120 mm x 95 mm. The crossbeam of truss J-J is chamfered; the chamfer has simple run-out stops at the eastern end, but stepped-and-hollowed stops at the western end. The reason for this difference is unknown. The attic floor is of central-girder type, the girders being slightly shallower than the tiebeam of truss J-J and both are chamfered with run-out stops. The joists (120 mm x 75 mm) have blunted edges but were at one time underplastered, which would have created a ceiling divided into four panels by the tiebeam and girders.

STAIRS

The stairs in the eastern room were made slightly wider by moving the trimming joist further north. These stairs have since been removed. It is possible that there was also a flight of stairs in the position of the present staircase against the southern wall of the crosswing. The first-floor partition which encloses a bulkhead above the stairs is of a later date, but this partition may post-date the stair (see Period C below). The cellar steps are of brick.

CHIMNEYS

The new period-B chimney stack is of three flues, serving the hall, parlour and hall chamber — a fourth flue was added during period C (see below). Above first-floor level the stack is of brick, but the ground-floor fireplaces are constructed of dressed stone. Unusually, the two fireplaces are of a similar size: the hall fireplace is 2.45 metres (8'0") wide x 850 mm (2'9") deep; the parlour fireplace is 2.30 metres (7'6") wide and 820 mm (2'8") deep. It is more common for the parlour fireplace to be much narrower and shallower than the hall fireplace, reflecting its use for purely heating purposes. The size of the parlour fireplace in this instance suggests that it too may have been used for cooking, or at least was not merely used to provide heat. This suggests that the inhabitants of the house at this time did not place great emphasis on the strict hierarchy of internal spaces that can be seen in other houses of similar date. Both fireplaces are quite shallow, suggesting that the fireplace in the rear-range kitchen continued to be used for the more noxious of the domestic tasks.

The first-floor fireplace heating the hall chamber has been infilled and a later, timber surround has been fixed over the blocking. The stack rises to a rebated cap, the upper part of which may have been rebuilt at some later date — the style of the bricks changes where the tumbling ends.

ROOF

The roof over the crosswing was gabled to the front and rear, as indicated by the mortice for the eastern principal rafter on tiebeam H-H. Given that there was a bay window at the front, the roof is very likely to have projected northwards in order to weather the bay. However, the roof was completely rebuilt during period D and thus this point cannot be confirmed.

PERIOD C (c.1700) [Drawing No. 1716/10]

LAYOUT

The parlour chamber was upgraded at this period by the insertion of a fireplace and a partition forming a closet in the southern part of the chamber. The closet took up the western half of the newly-enclosed area and a stair in the eastern part rose to a landing in the south-eastern corner of the crosswing. On the ground floor the stairs appear to have been enclosed by a now-removed partition: the soleplate to this partition seems to survive. The interior of the eastern bay of the main range was subdivided on the first floor to provide an extra chamber.

WALL DESIGN AND DOORWAYS

The framing of the closet's partition utilises slender studs and midrails, some of which are quite waney. The door opening is positioned towards the centre of the partition: this opening is 600 mm wide and has a low head. The door is of two fielded panels hung on 'HL' hinges.

In the eastern bay of the main range, a central partition was inserted on the first floor: this partition may have been part of the period-B alterations, but as it has been removed, its precise phasing cannot be ascertained. The partition created a landing at the top of the period-B stair, and formed a small private chamber in the northern part of the bay. The door through the partition was at the eastern end: it was modified at a later date, evidenced by the two drop-notches cut into the eastern wall's intermediate post.

STAIRS

As there is a contemporary bulkhead built within the parlour closet, there was clearly a stair positioned against the southern wall of the parlour crosswing during this period. However, the stair may have been built during period B (see above). There has certainly been some alteration to the stair trap, as the ends of the trimmed joists have been packed-out. However, the earlier stair has now been replaced, and therefore the details and phasing of the original are impossible to clarify.

CHIMNEYS

A fireplace was inserted centrally into the eastern wall of the sized-down parlour chamber. It was 1.70 metres (5'7") wide, positioned between timber studs, and was 1.25 metres (4'1") tall, underneath a timber lintel. The lintel survives, though the opening is now blocked. The flue serving this fireplace is tapped into the westernmost flue of the stack within the roof space, allowing the fireplace to be added without the need to modify the existing chimney cap.

PERIOD D (Late 18th C) [Drawing No. 1716/10]

The modification which took place at this date had a profound effect upon the external appearance of the house (compare Plate 1 with Drawing No. 1716/8). It involved remodelling the front roof slope of the main range, and rebuilding the crosswing roof to create a continuous in-line roof over both the main range and crosswing. At the same time, the crosswing's bay window was removed. The roof over the crosswing was rebuilt spanning between trusses H-H and K-K, maintaining a similar ridge height as

that over the main range. It is of staggered butt-purlin construction, utilising timbers of small scantling: the rafters measure 80 mm x 90 mm, the purlins 90 mm x 140 mm. The new, infilled 'truss' over the western wallplate of the crosswing incorporates a collar, under which a door leads through from the attic over the main range to the space over the crosswing. A collar truss divides the two roof bays, whilst the western stub gable is of regularly-spaced studwork supporting a half-hip which is absent of high-set collar at its apex. A small window is incorporated into the stub gable.

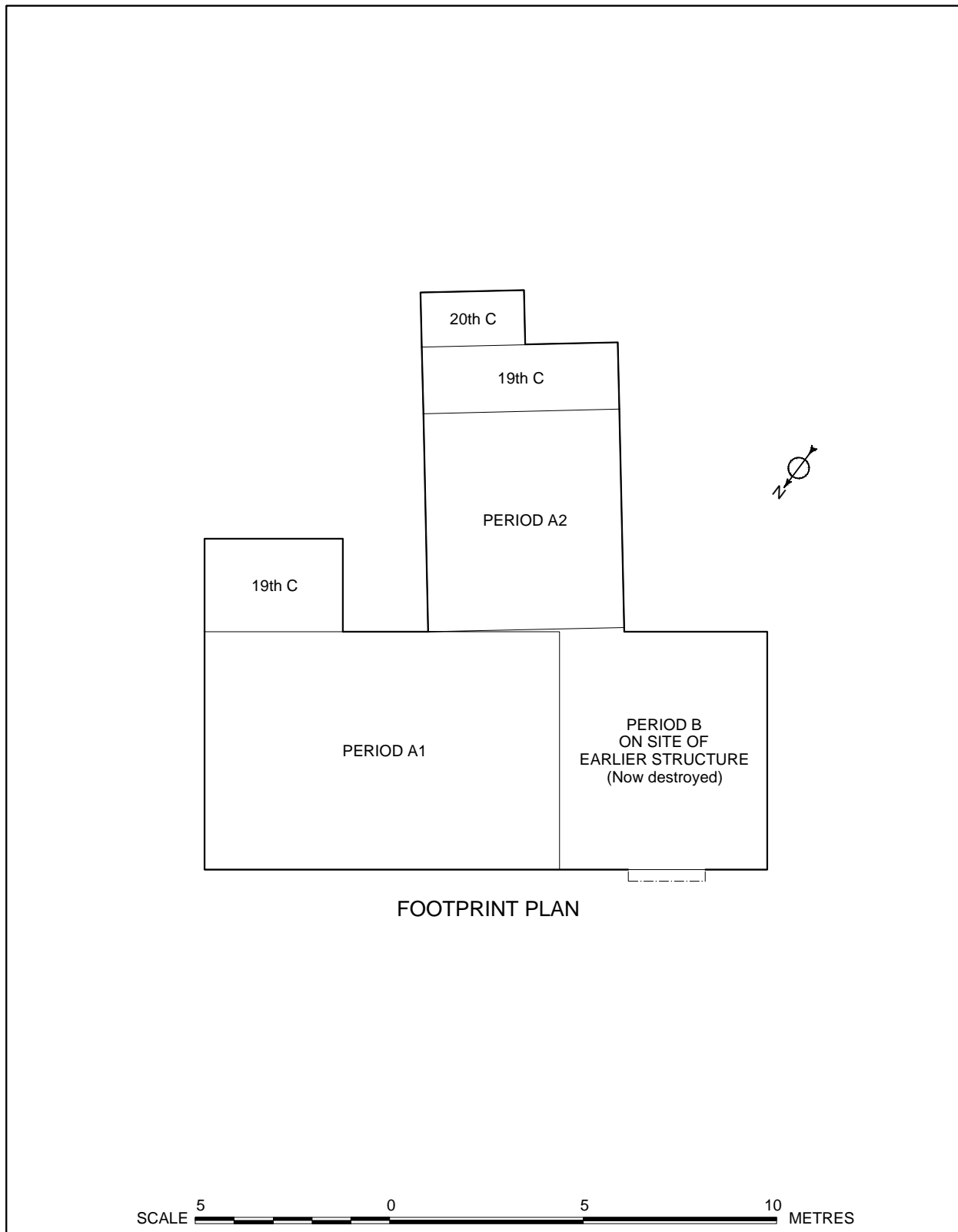


*Plate 1
Front elevation*

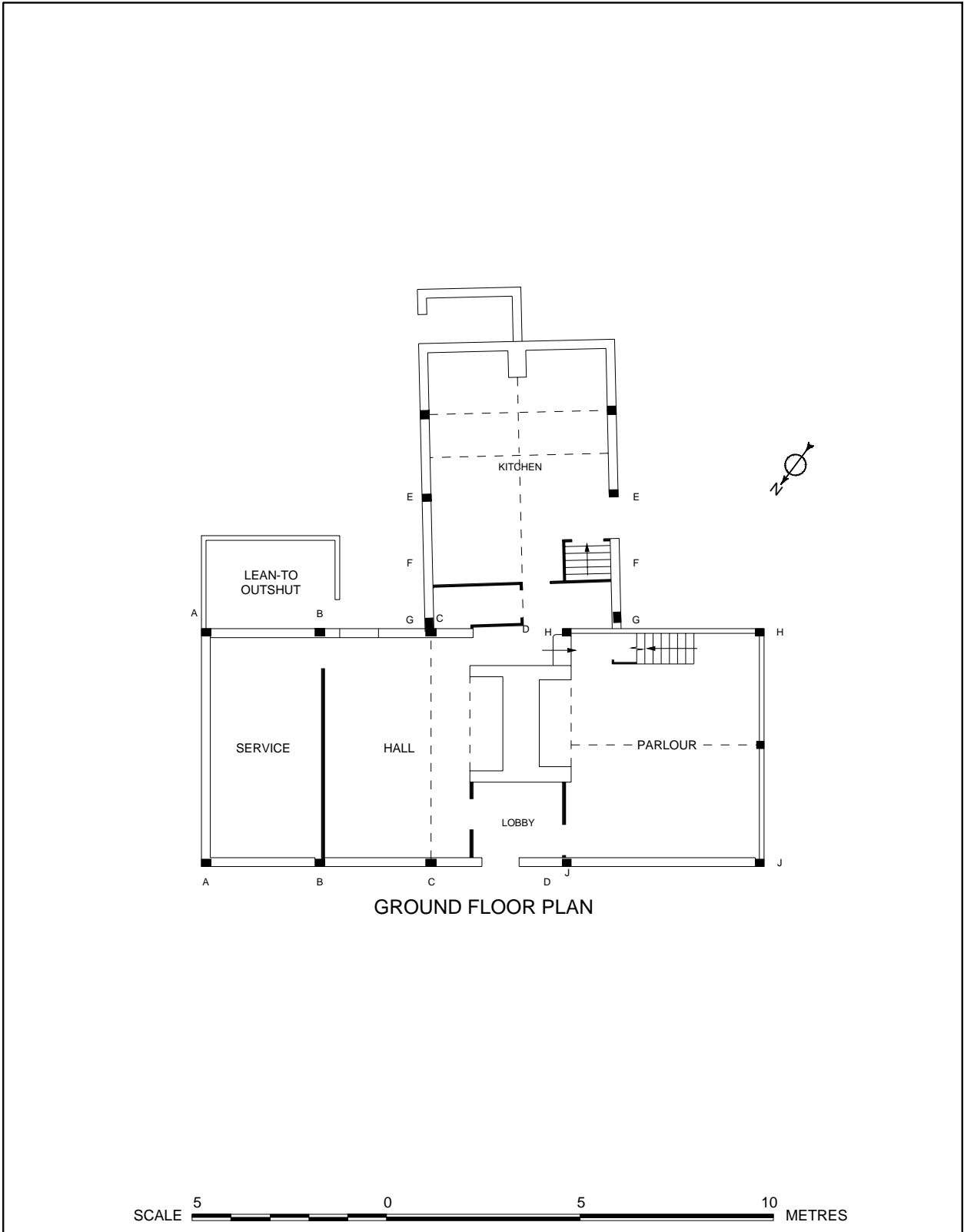
In order to create a single roof-slope continuing across the crosswing and the main range, a new wallplate had to be inserted over that of the main range, located at the same level as the tiebeam of truss K-K. This is supported off the period-A wallplate by means of pegged-in studs positioned widely apart. The rear slope has not been altered, nor has the height of the roof, which has resulted in unequal roof pitch at front and rear. At trusses A-A, B-B and C-C, the new wallplate is held in place by an iron strap attached back to the period-A tiebeams. This period-D roof-slope is also of staggered butt-purlin construction, utilising equally slender timbers. The northern (front) period-A roof struts in trusses B-B and C-C were removed as part of this modification.

The western roof slope over the rear range was extended northwards at this date in order to carry it over the new roof-slope of the crosswing.

NOTE:- The present external door leading into the lobby is of uncertain date, but is of antiquity. It is of counter-boarded construction.



LITTLE PELL FARMHOUSE, WADHURST, EAST SUSSEX OUTLINE PLAN SHOWING SEQUENCE OF DEVELOPMENT				Site Ref	P104/16		
				Drawing No.	1716/1		
Drawn By	J Clubb	Revision No	-	Date of original survey	2009	Date of this revision	2009



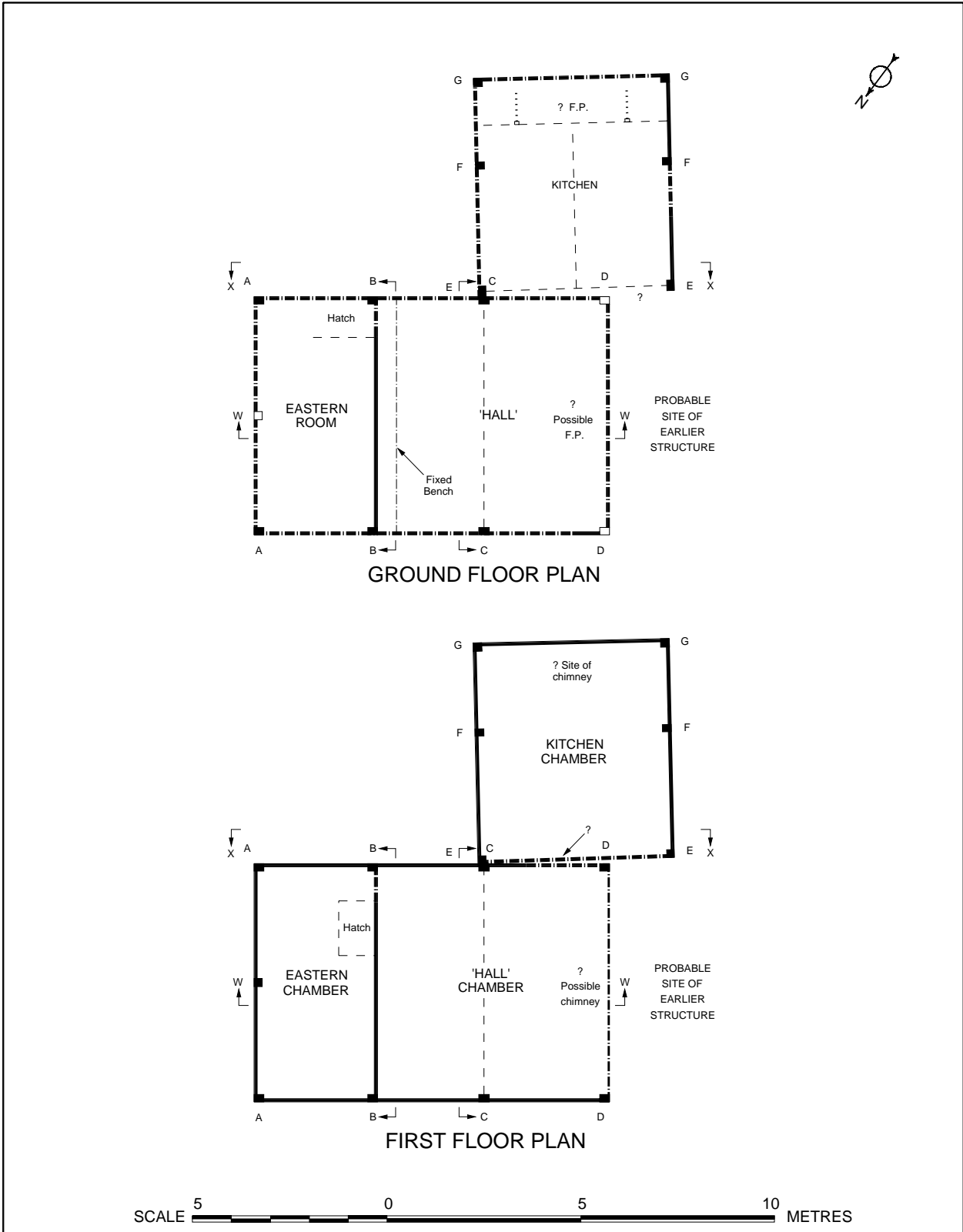
LITTLE PELL FARMHOUSE, WADHURST, EAST SUSSEX PLAN AS EXISTING, 2009				Site Ref	P104/16
				Drawing No.	1716/2
Drawn By	J Clubb	Revision No	-	Date of original survey	2009
				Date of this revision	2009



FIRST FLOOR PLAN

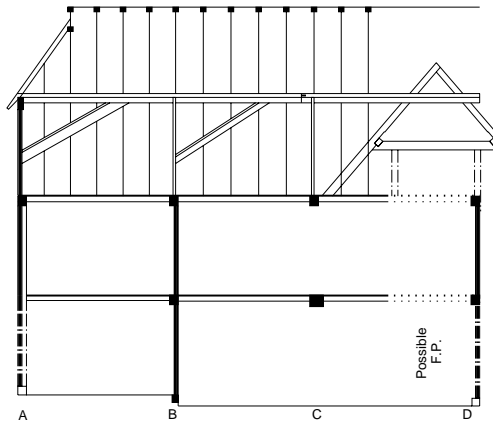
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 METRES

LITTLE PELL FARMHOUSE, WADHURST, EAST SUSSEX PLAN AS EXISTING, 2009				Site Ref	P104/16
				Drawing No.	1716/3
Drawn By	J Clubb	Revision No	-	Date of original survey	2009
				Date of this revision	2009



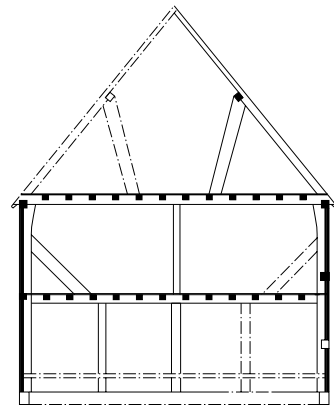
LITTLE PELL FARMHOUSE, WADHURST, EAST SUSSEX PERIOD-A RECONSTRUCTION DRAWINGS				Site Ref	P104/16
				Drawing No.	1716/4
Drawn By	J Clubb	Revision No	-	Date of original survey	2009
				Date of this revision	2009

NOTE: BRACES SHOWN IN DOTTED OUTLINE ARE INSET FROM THE EXTERNAL WALL FACE

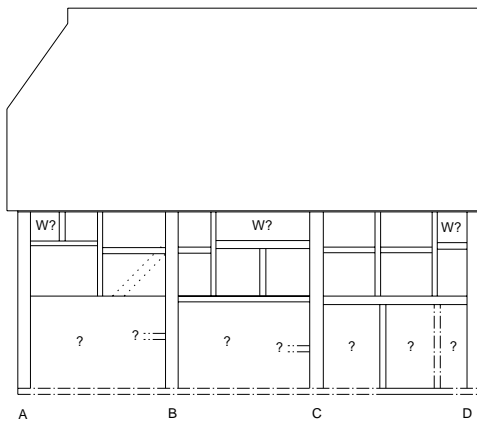


LONGITUDINAL SECTION W-W

PROBABLE
SITE OF
EARLIER
STRUCTURE

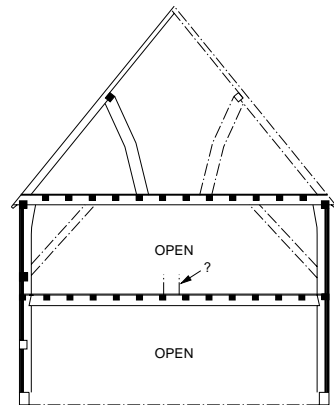


TRUSS B-B

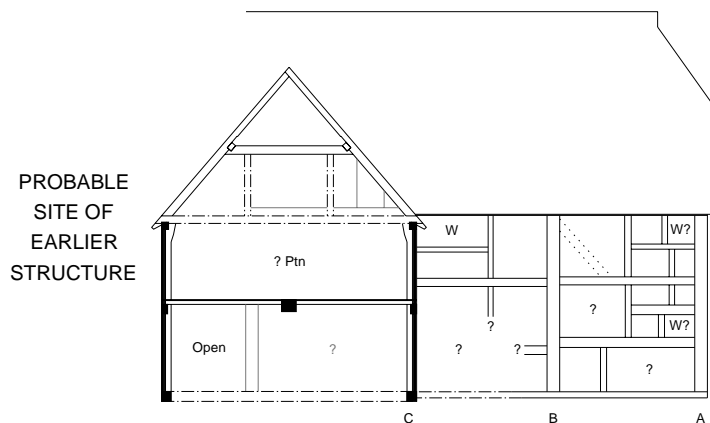


FRONT ELEVATION

PROBABLE
SITE OF
EARLIER
STRUCTURE



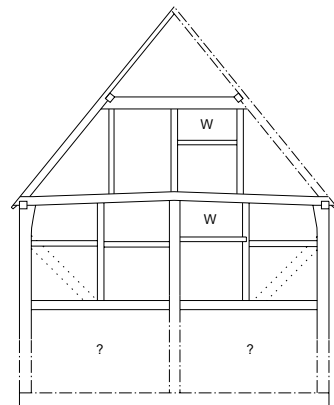
TRUSS C-C



SECTION X-X

PROBABLE
SITE OF
EARLIER
STRUCTURE

REAR ELEVATION
OF MAIN RANGE



EAST ELEVATION



**LITTLE PELL FARMHOUSE, WADHURST, EAST SUSSEX
 PERIOD-A RECONSTRUCTION DRAWINGS**

Site Ref **P104/16**

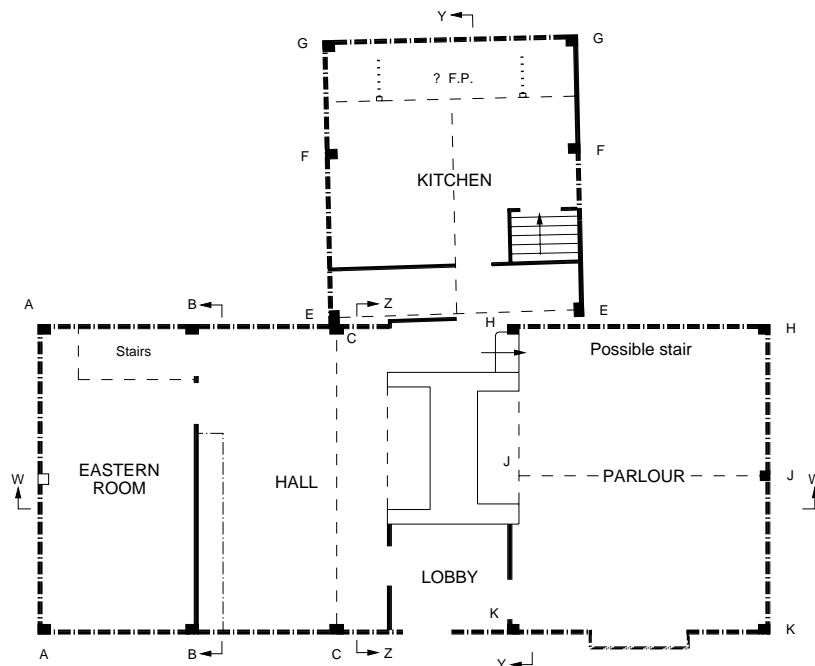
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Drawn By **J Clubb**

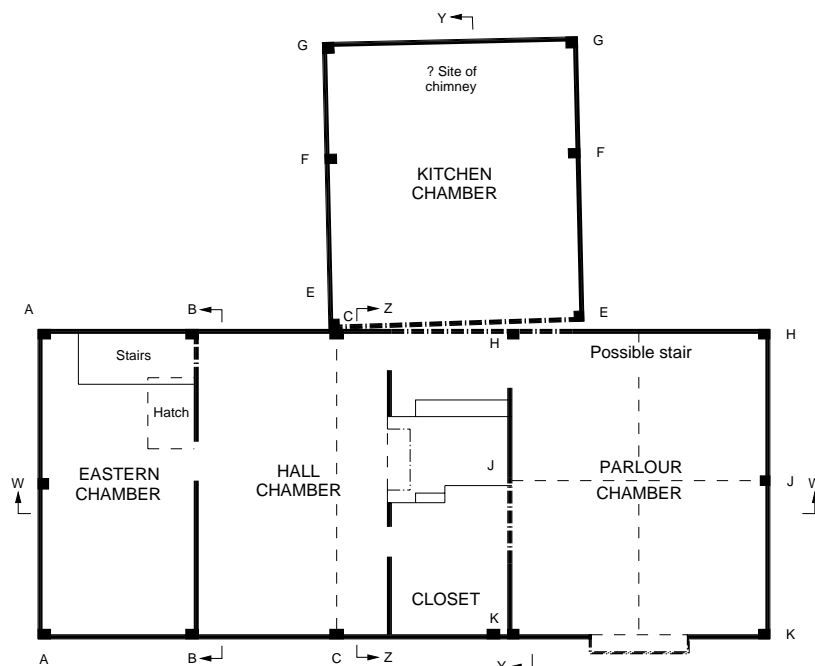
Revision No **-**

Date of original survey **2009**

Date of this revision **2009**



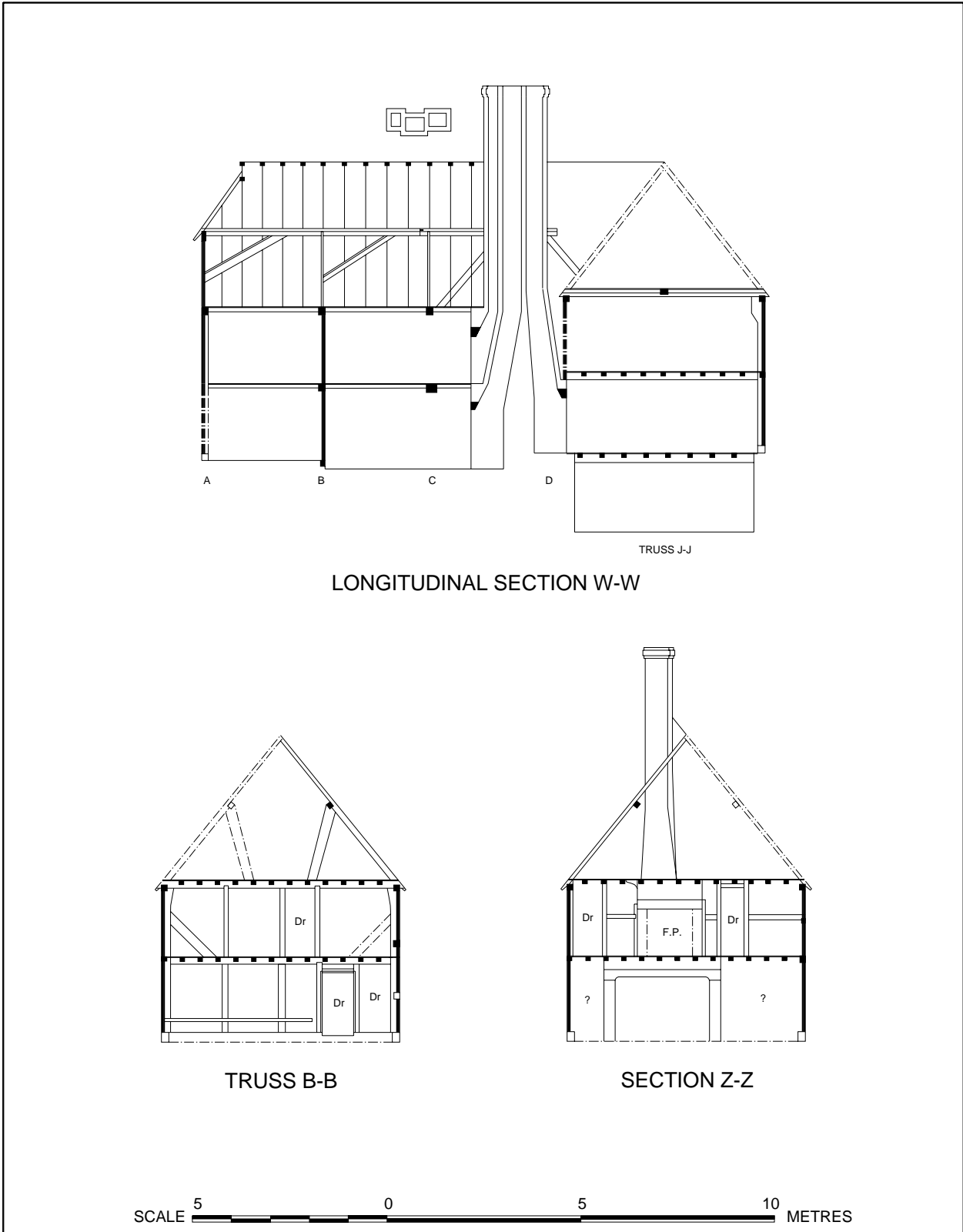
GROUND FLOOR PLAN



FIRST FLOOR PLAN

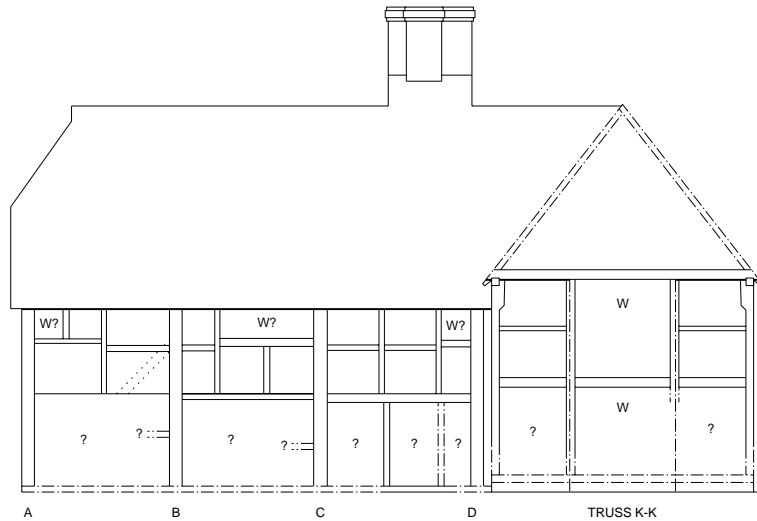


LITTLE PELL FARMHOUSE, WADHURST, EAST SUSSEX PERIOD-B RECONSTRUCTION DRAWINGS				Site Ref	P104/16
				Drawing No.	1716/6
Drawn By	J Clubb	Revision No	-	Date of original survey	2009
				Date of this revision	2009

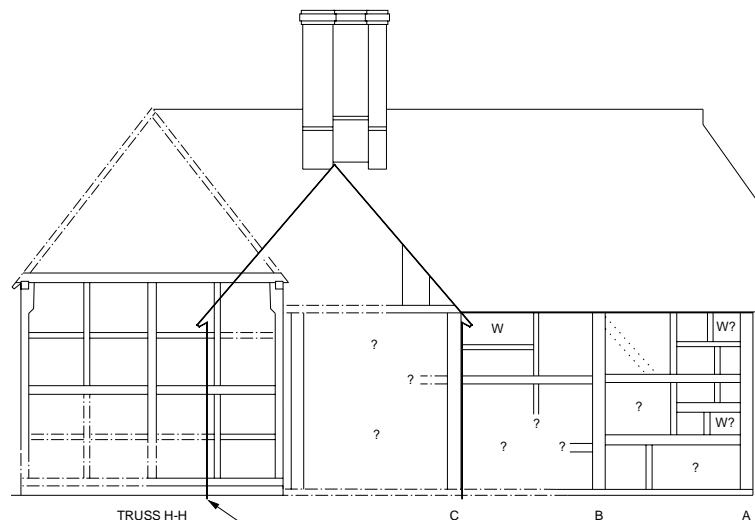


LITTLE PELL FARMHOUSE, WADHURST, EAST SUSSEX PERIOD-B RECONSTRUCTION DRAWINGS				Site Ref	P104/16
				Drawing No.	1716/7
Drawn By	J Clubb	Revision No	-	Date of original survey	2009
				Date of this revision	2009

NOTE: BRACES SHOWN IN DOTTED LINE ARE INSET FROM THE EXTERNAL WALL FACE



FRONT ELEVATION

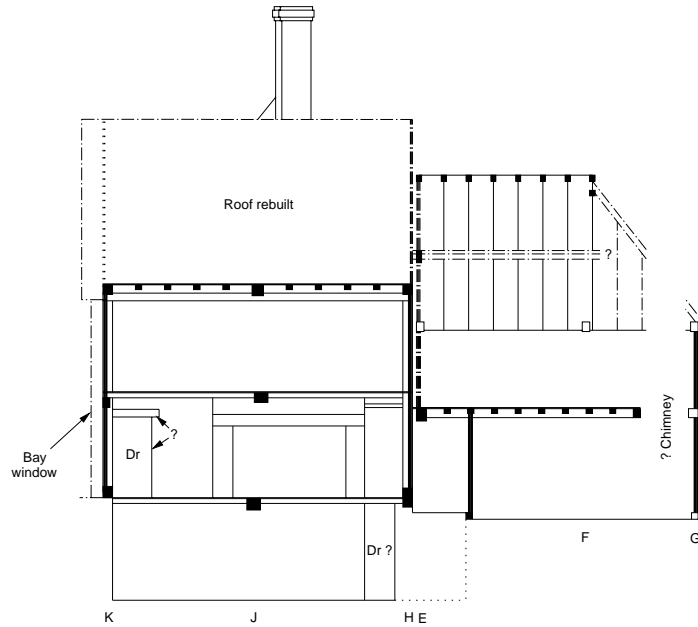


REAR ELEVATION OF MAIN RANGE

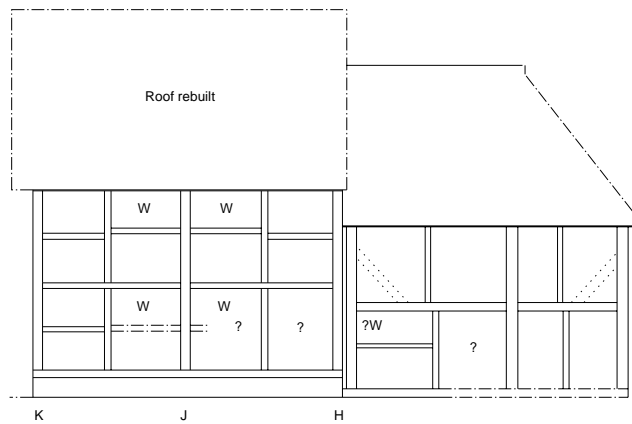
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 METRES

LITTLE PELL FARMHOUSE, WADHURST, EAST SUSSEX PERIOD-B RECONSTRUCTION DRAWINGS				Site Ref	P104/16
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Drawn By	J Clubb	Revision No	-	Date of original survey	2009
				Date of this revision	2009

NOTE: BRACES SHOWN IN DOTTED OUTLINE ARE INSET FROM THE EXTERNAL WALL FACE



SECTION Y-Y

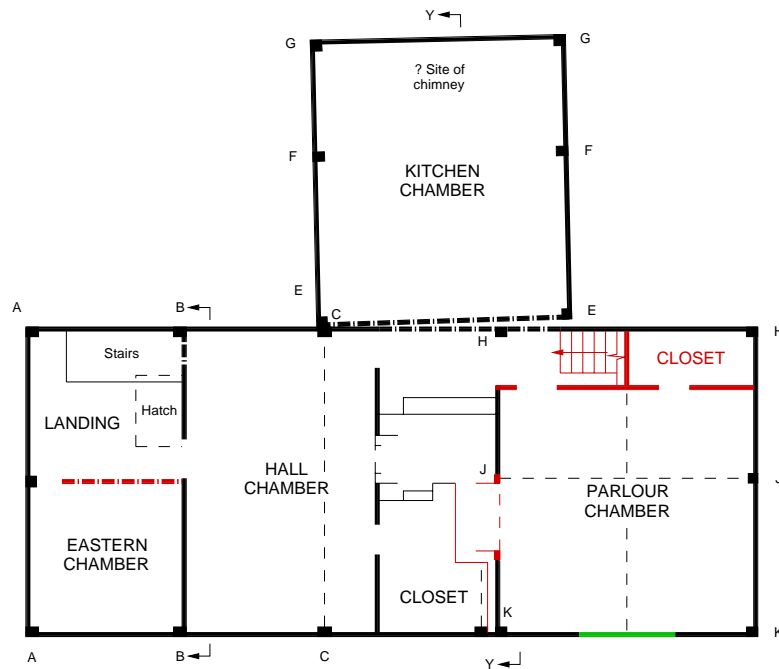


WEST ELEVATION

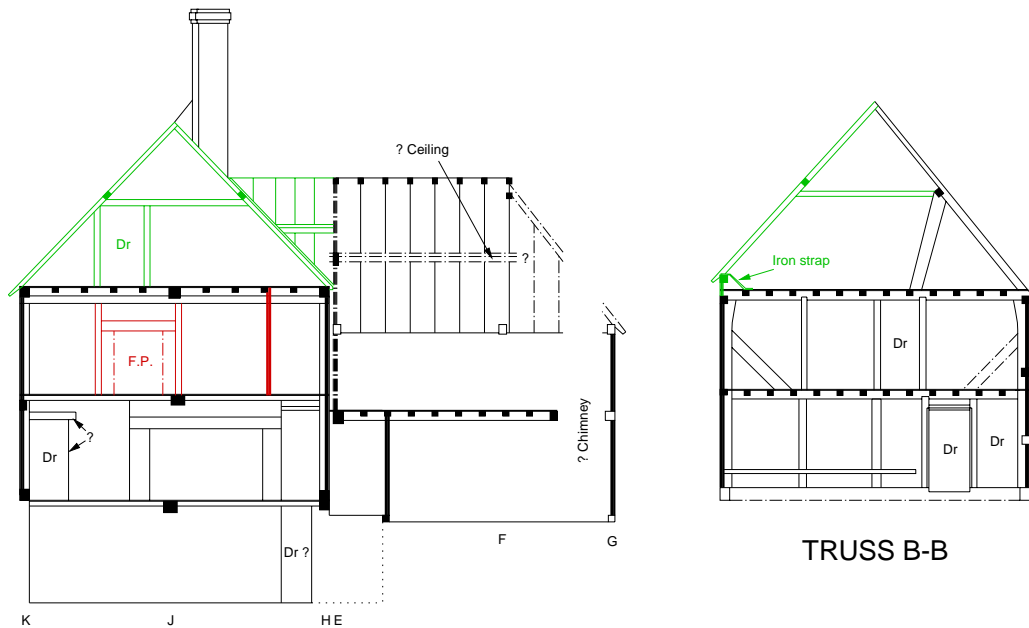
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LITTLE PELL FARMHOUSE, WADHURST, EAST SUSSEX PERIOD-B RECONSTRUCTION DRAWINGS				Site Ref	P104/16
				Drawing No.	1716/9
Drawn By	J Clubb	Revision No	-	Date of original survey	2009
				Date of this revision	2009

PERIOD C
 PERIOD D



FIRST FLOOR PLAN



SECTION Y-Y

TRUSS B-B

SCALE 5 0 5 10 METRES

LITTLE PELL FARMHOUSE, WADHURST, EAST SUSSEX PERIODS-C AND -D RECONSTRUCTION DRAWINGS				Site Ref	P104/16
				Drawing No.	1716/10
Drawn By	J Clubb	Revision No	-	Date of original survey	2009
				Date of this revision	2009

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