



# Northamptonshire Archaeology

## Building Recording at 'Cromwell House' London Road, Wollaston, Northamptonshire April 2012



### Northamptonshire Archaeology

2 Bolton House  
Wootton Hall Park  
Northampton NN4 8BE  
t. 01604 700493 f. 01604 702822  
e. [sparry@northamptonshire.gov.uk](mailto:sparry@northamptonshire.gov.uk)  
w. [www.northantsarchaeology.co.uk](http://www.northantsarchaeology.co.uk)



Northamptonshire  
County Council

Tim Upson-Smith

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**STAFF**

Project Manager      Iain Soden BA, MfA  
Text                      Tim Upson-Smith BA, PG Dip  
Fieldwork              Tim Upson-Smith  
Illustrations          Amir Bassir BSc, PlfA

**QUALITY CONTROL**

	Print name	Signature	Date
Verified by	I Soden		
Checked by	P Chapman		
Approved by	A Chapman		

**OASIS REPORT FORM**

PROJECT DETAILS		
Project title	Building Recording at 'Cromwell House', London Road, Wollaston, Northamptonshire	
Short description	Northamptonshire Archaeology carried out building recording of the roof of an outbuilding at 50 London Road, Wollaston. The work demonstrated that the roof was a typical vernacular style; it was not possible to date the origins of the roof although the outbuilding appears on the 1st Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1880. The roof had been repaired in the near past as many of the common rafters were sawn 4" by 2" pine.	
Project type	Building recording	
Previous work	none	
Future work	unknown	
Monument type and period	Post-medieval building, Grade II listed	
Significant finds	n/a	
PROJECT LOCATION		
County	Northamptonshire	
Site address	50 London Road, Wollaston, Northamptonshire	
Easting Northing	SP 9055 6260	
Height OD		
PROJECT CREATORS		
Organisation	Northamptonshire Archaeology	
Project brief originator	Alex Stevenson	
Project Design originator		
Director/Supervisor	Tim Upson-Smith BA, PGDip	
Project Manager	Iain Soden BA MIfA	
Sponsor or funding body	Dr M Goldsmith	
PROJECT DATE		
Start date	3 April 2012	
End date	3 April 2012	
ARCHIVES	Location	Content
Physical		
Paper		
Digital		
BIBLIOGRAPHY		
Title	Building Recording at 'Cromwell House', London Road, Wollaston, Northamptonshire	
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Fig 2: Figure location plan

Fig 3: The roof, looking north-east, showing the battens still in place

Fig 4: The collared truss, showing the wayney-edged timber, looking south

Fig 5: Pine branch with bark purlin

Fig 6: The partition again showing the wayney-edged nature of the timber

Fig 7: The partition, looking south

Fig 8: Ordnance Survey 6" 1st Edition 1880

**BUILDING RECORDING AT 'CROMWELL HOUSE'**  
**LONDON ROAD, WOLLASTON**  
**NORTHAMPTONSHIRE**  
**APRIL 2012**

***Abstract***

*Northamptonshire Archaeology carried out building recording of the roof of an outbuilding at 50 London Road, Wollaston. The work demonstrated that the roof was a typical vernacular style; it was not possible to date the origins of the roof although the outbuilding appears on the 1st Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1880. The roof had been repaired in the near past as many of the common rafters were sawn 4" by 2" pine.*

**1 INTRODUCTION**

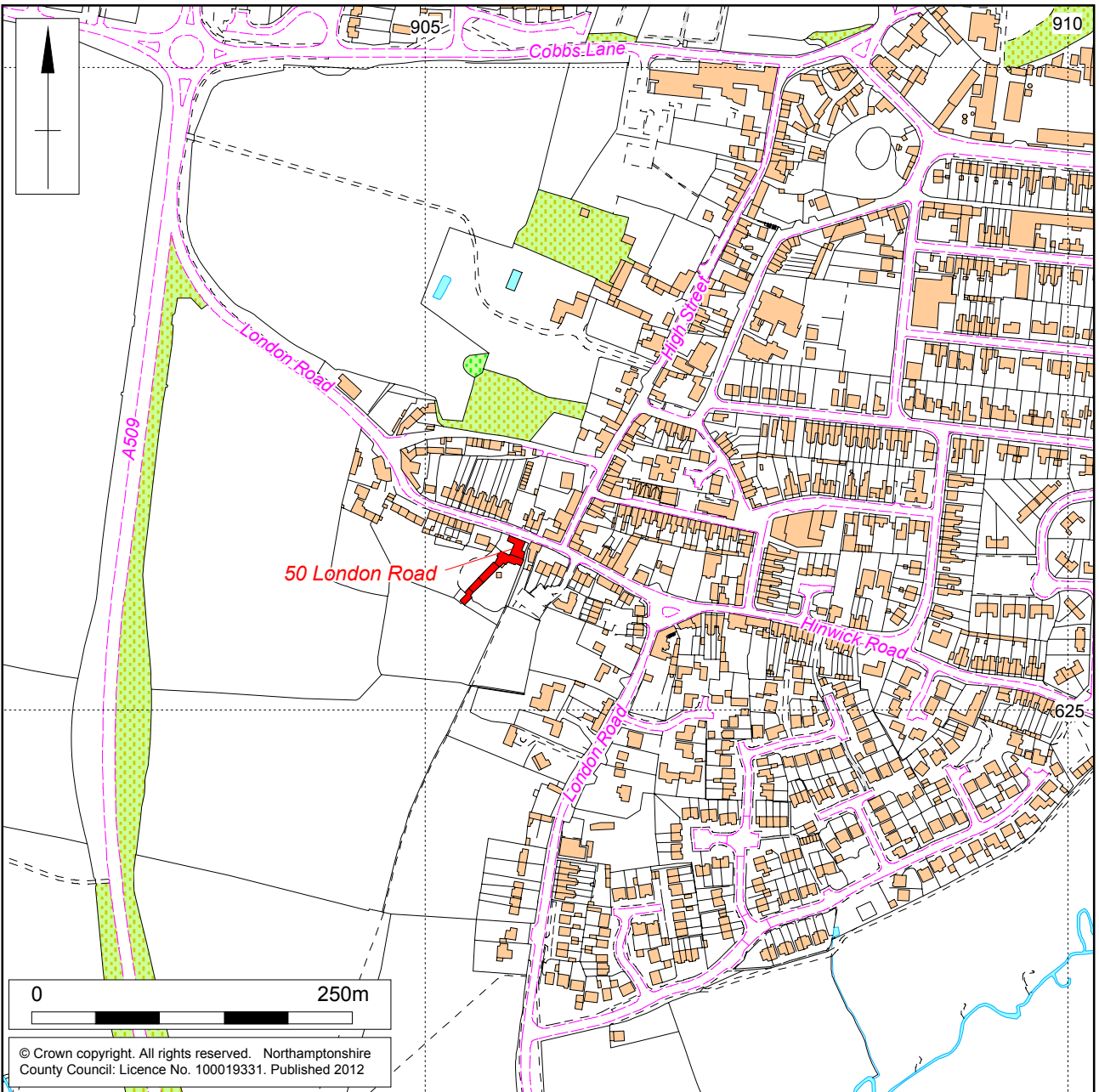
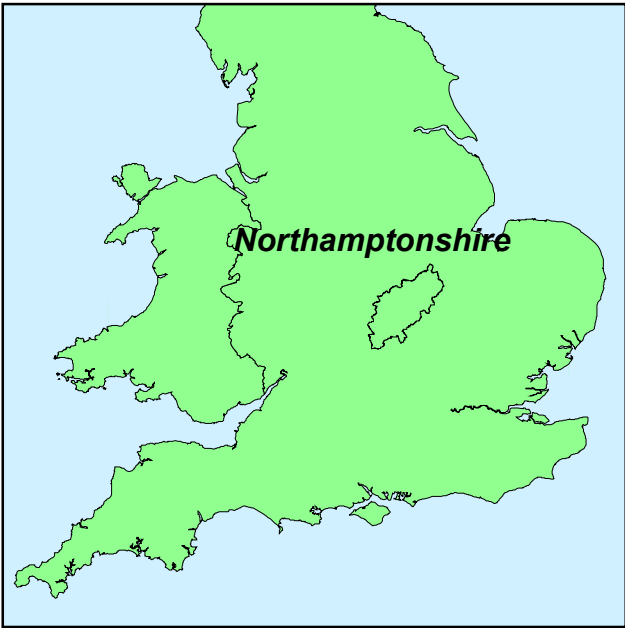
Northamptonshire Archaeology was commissioned by Dr Mike Goldsmith to undertake recording of an outbuilding roof at Cromwell House, 50 London Road, Wollaston, Northamptonshire (NGR SP, Figs 1 and 2). The work was required by Alex Stevenson, Wellingborough Council Conservation Officer, as part of a project for the repair/replacement of the roof.

The study area comprised the roof of one of the outbuildings to the rear of Cromwell House, a Grade II listed building. The outbuilding had been converted into a double garage (Fig 2). The listing description is included as Appendix 1.

**2 BUILDING ASSESSMENT**

**2.1 Methodology**

A site visit was made on Tuesday 3 April 2012. A photographic survey of the roof structure was undertaken using both digital and black and white negative photography. The survey was undertaken from a scaffold as it was not possible to gain internal access to the roof space (Fig 3).



Scale 1:5000 (A4)

Site location Fig 1



Scale 1:250 (A4)

Figure location plan Fig 2



The roof, looking north-east, showing the battens still in place Fig 3

## 2.2 Roof

The roof consists of a collared principal truss, which is roughly squared (Fig 4). The purlins are not themselves jointed to the principal truss but rest on the collar beam (Fig 4). The purlins are small diameter pine tree branches still retaining their bark (Fig 5), although there has been some replacement on the south-eastern side of the roof with more recent sawn timber (Fig 6). The majority of the common rafters are modern replacements, being 2" by 4" sawn pine.

There is a division within the roof space constructed from small diameter pine tree branch uprights with wayney edged boards between (Figs 6 and 7).

The roof had been tiled with terracotta pantiles, which it is proposed to replace with slate to be more in keeping with the main house.





The collared truss, showing the wayney-edged timber, looking south

Fig 4



Pine branch with bark purlin

Fig 5



The partition again showing the wayne-edged nature of the timber

Fig 6

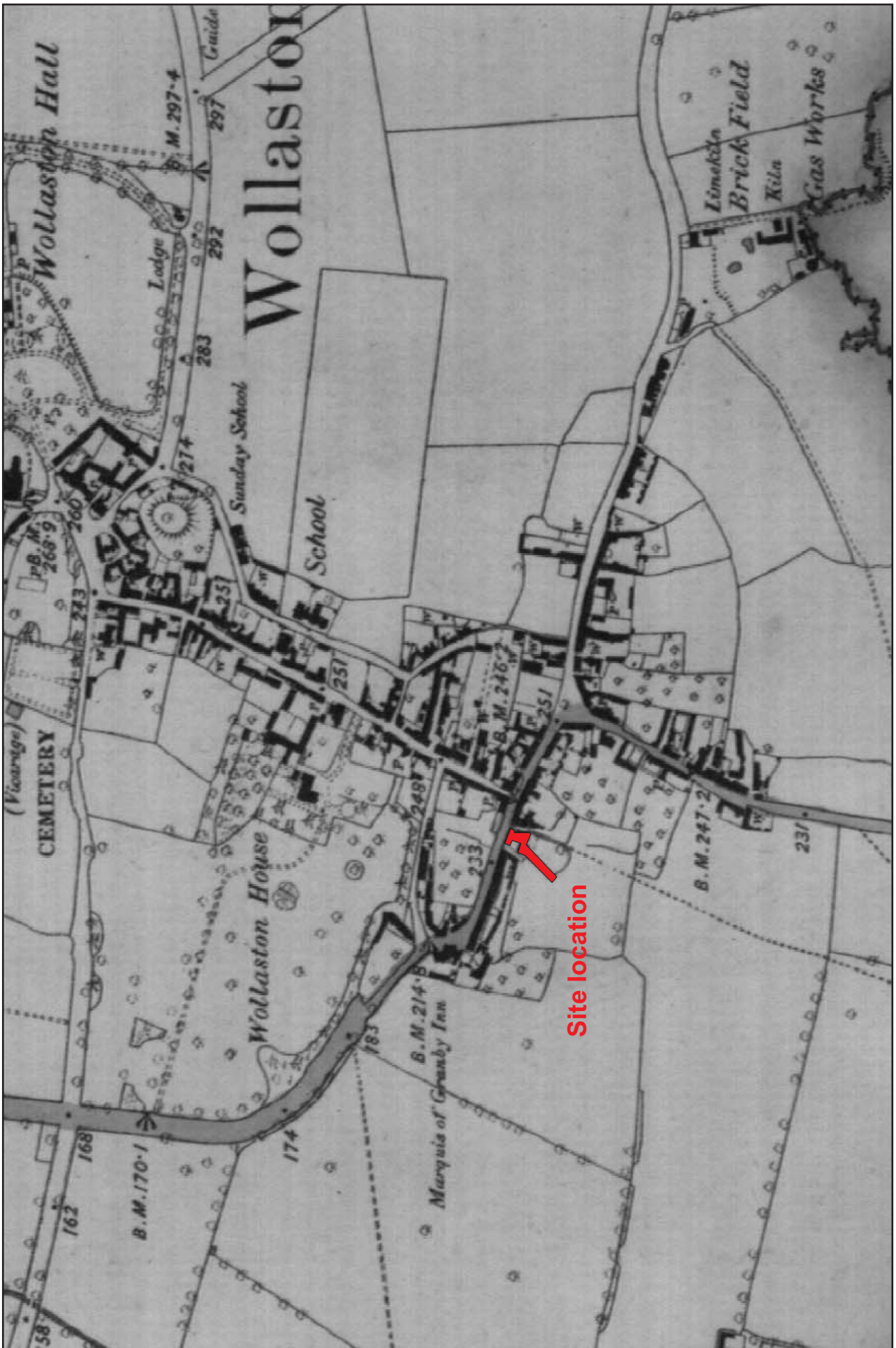


The partition, looking south

Fig 7

### **3 DISCUSSION**

The roof structure was made using whatever timber came to hand. In some cases it utilised roughly squared branches and untrimmed branches. As such the roof is a fairly typical example of a small vernacular building, comparable with others across the county (see for example Prentice 2006 or Upson-Smith 2008). The outbuilding appears on the 1st Edition Ordnance Survey Map of 1880 (Fig 8), and it is likely that the wayney-edged timbers date to this period or earlier, with the sawn timber representing more recent repairs.



Not to scale

1880 1st Edition 6" Ordnance Survey map Fig 8

## **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

EH 2006 *Understanding Historic Buildings A guide to good recording practise*, English Heritage

Prentice, J, 2006 *Building Recording During Repairs to the roof of 62 Billing Road, Brafield-on-the-Green, Northamptonshire*, Northamptonshire Archaeology report **06/115**

Upton-Smith, T, 2008 *A Building Assessment of the Attic Space at 111 High Street, Burton Latimer, Northamptonshire*, Northamptonshire Archaeology report **08/144**

## **Websites**

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

**APPENDIX: LISTED BUILDING DESCRIPTION**

Date listed: 02 August 1972

Date of last amendment: 13 May 1986

Grade II

WOLLASTON LONDON ROAD SP9062 (South side) 22/359 No 50 (Cromwell House) and 02/08/72 attached stables to rear (Formerly listed as No.50 (Cromwell House)) GV II House, now house and surgery. Late 17th century. Squared coursed limestone with slate and original plain-tile roof. U-shape plan. 2 storeys with attic. Entrance front has flanking cross wings breaking forward with central 2-window range with one leaded casement at first floor under wood lintel. Return wall of cross wing to right has one leaded casement, one sash and 4-panel door to left all under wood lintels. Blocked windows to right. Right gable has C19 canted wood bay window with partially legible date stone in gable. Ashlar gable parapets and kneelers and brick and ashlar stacks to ridge and end. Elevation to road is similar of 2-window range with cross wing to left now part rendered. Garden front to rear is rendered with some C19 sash windows. Stables with thatch roof attached to rear have 2 entrances, plank and stable doors under wood lintels. Gable parapet to far right. Interior not inspected.



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