

Lyddington Manor History Society Historic Building Survey

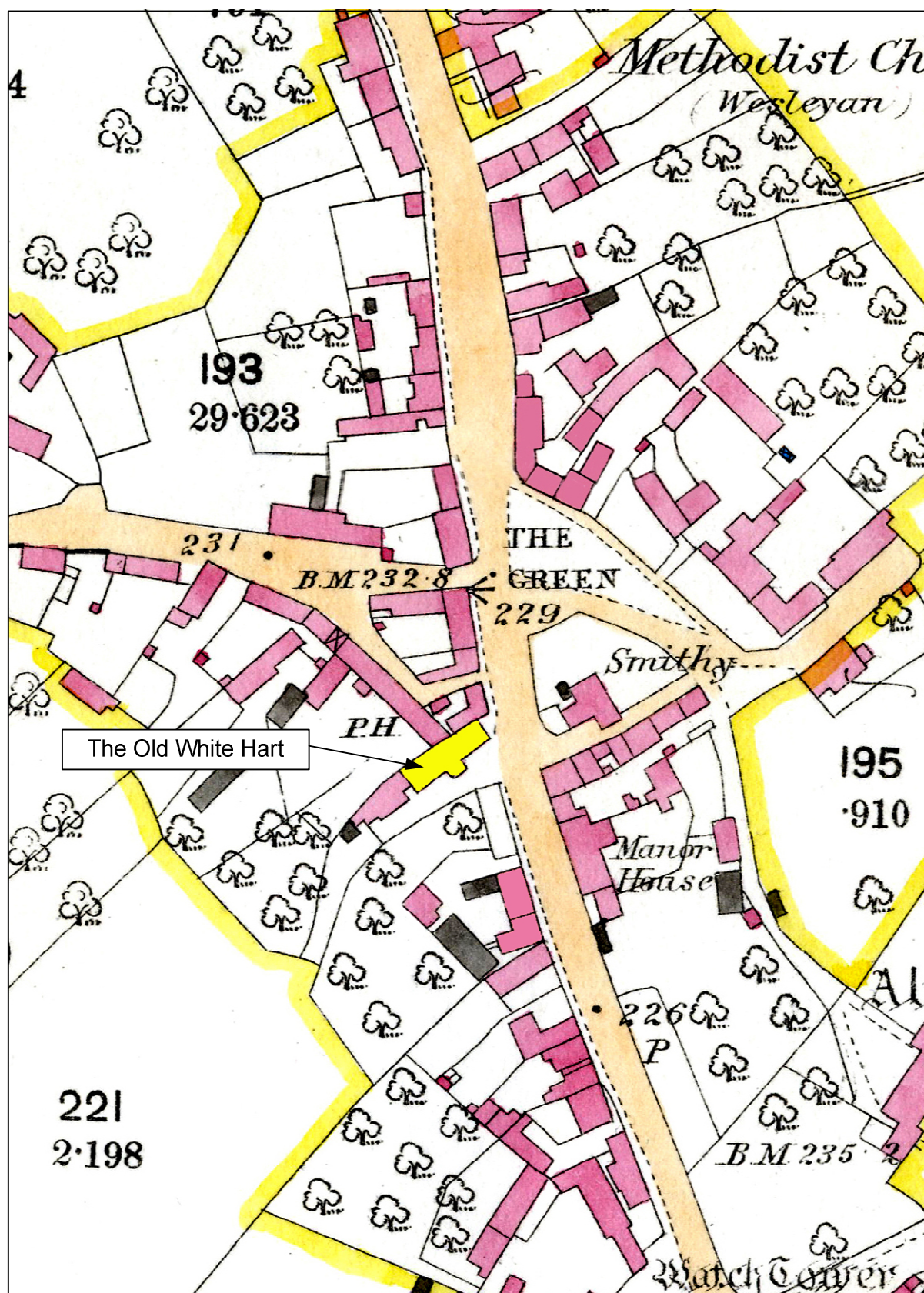
The Old White Hart 51 Main St, Lyddington, Rutland



Supported by

The National Lottery®
through the Heritage Lottery Fund





Location Map – The Old White Hart, 49 Main Street, Lyddington
(OS First Edition 1886)

HISTORIC BUILDING SURVEY REPORT

THE OLD WHITE HART 51 MAIN ST, LYDDINGTON

Survey

Date of survey: 18th October 2013

Surveyed by: Nick Hill & Robert Ovens

Summary

Only a small part of the early house survives here, but it is of considerable interest. Concealed by a later extension, a very rare cavetto-moulded stone window survives – an earlier type than the ovolo-moulded windows which were the almost universal local type in the 17th century. A re-set apex from a cruck truss indicates that a cruck building once stood here, which would date back to the 15th or early 16th century. The early house had one large and one smaller room on the ground floor. Extensions were added to the west and east in the 18th and early 19th century. By 1848, it had become the White Hart public house, with John Manton as landlord. Samples were taken for tree-ring dating in 2013, but the timbers failed to date.

Site

OS Ref: SP875971

Orientation: For report purposes, the gable end of the range located at the street frontage is taken as facing E.

The older block, which is the focus of this report, is of two storeys, with its gable facing S. To the E of this is the W-E range which runs up to the street frontage, with a further W-E range to the W of the older block. A rear yard and garden extends to the W and S.

Materials

Coursed ironstone, with roof of Collyweston slates to W and Welsh slate to E.

External features

The S gable of the older block is of rather irregularly coursed rubble ironstone to the main part, with small, irregular quoins to the SE corner. The upper gable and the upper W side have better coursed ironstone, with good quoins to the SW corner. The gable has a coped parapet with plain kneelers, with roof pitch of c.40°, and stone seating for a chimneystack of Victorian brick. Small slit window to ground floor, with ironstone jambs and head. The irregular stonework turns the corner onto the lower part of the E face, but there is then an irregular joint, where the main part to N and above has been re-faced. Two windows with deep brownstone lintels. The W return wall also well-coursed ironstone facing.

The E block has well-coursed ironstone, with deep brownstone lintels over the doorway and 4 windows.

At the N end, the older block projects into a small rear N courtyard, with the E wall visible. Well-coursed ironstone, with a ground floor window, now very small, but previously larger, with a longer timber lintel.

Internal features

The ground floor room of the older block is the focus of interest. Now the bar, with two W-E transverse beams, good ogee stops, most joists also original. The N beam has a continuous row of mortices for a former stud partition, with some irregularity at the W end, presumably for a doorway. . The S gable has a large stone fireplace, with stone cheek to the W and a rather cut-off looking ingle beam, chamfered with a run-out stop to the E but no stop to the W. Small window to W of the ingle, perhaps lighting an original larger ingle fireplace. The fireplace seems to have been inserted, as there is a straight joint to the SE corner.

To NE, the former front wall facing the Green (now inside the later E range extension) has a very interesting feature: a cavetto-moulded limestone window with two flat-headed lights. Sockets for vertical iron bars and V-shaped glazing groove for leaded lights. The inner face of the window is plain-chamfered, not cavetto-moulded. 17th century windows in the area all have ovolo moulding, so this is very rare, probably early. The W wall opposite has a square reveal with early timber built in, an early doorway.

To the N, behind the bar, is another room, with a roughly chamfered spine beam, no stops visible.

No early features visible to 1st floor. The roof has been entirely rebuilt in late C18/early C19, with softwood, and brickwork internally.

The C18/19 extension to W has a re-used piece of timber set in the S stone wall. This is the saddle which formed the apex of a medieval cruck truss – the mortices for the angled cruck blades are visible, as are the angled sides of the saddle, the vertical peg which used to fix the ridge beam, and the smoke blackening to the underside (NB no sooting where the blades were).

Site history

The 1804 enclosure map does not show the building very clearly. It indicates a W-E domestic range, with a possible short ‘T’ shape projecting S, rather as it does now. The house was located in a small yard, with an outbuilding abutting it to the W, another outbuilding to the SW, and a large outbuilding to the SE. The copyhold owner of this plot, amounting to 1 rood and 37 perches, was Joseph Manton. He also owned a large plot of agricultural land to the W, of over 2 acres, but held no other property in the parish.

The 1848 estate map shows the building much as it is now, with the E range extending up to the road frontage. The owner was now Clark Morris and the copyhold tenant John Manton, who also held Pageant House to the S. The building was by now a public house, described in the schedule as ‘The White Hart Public house barns

stables sheds yard and garden'. It remains much the same on the 1886 1st edition OS map.

Tree-ring dating

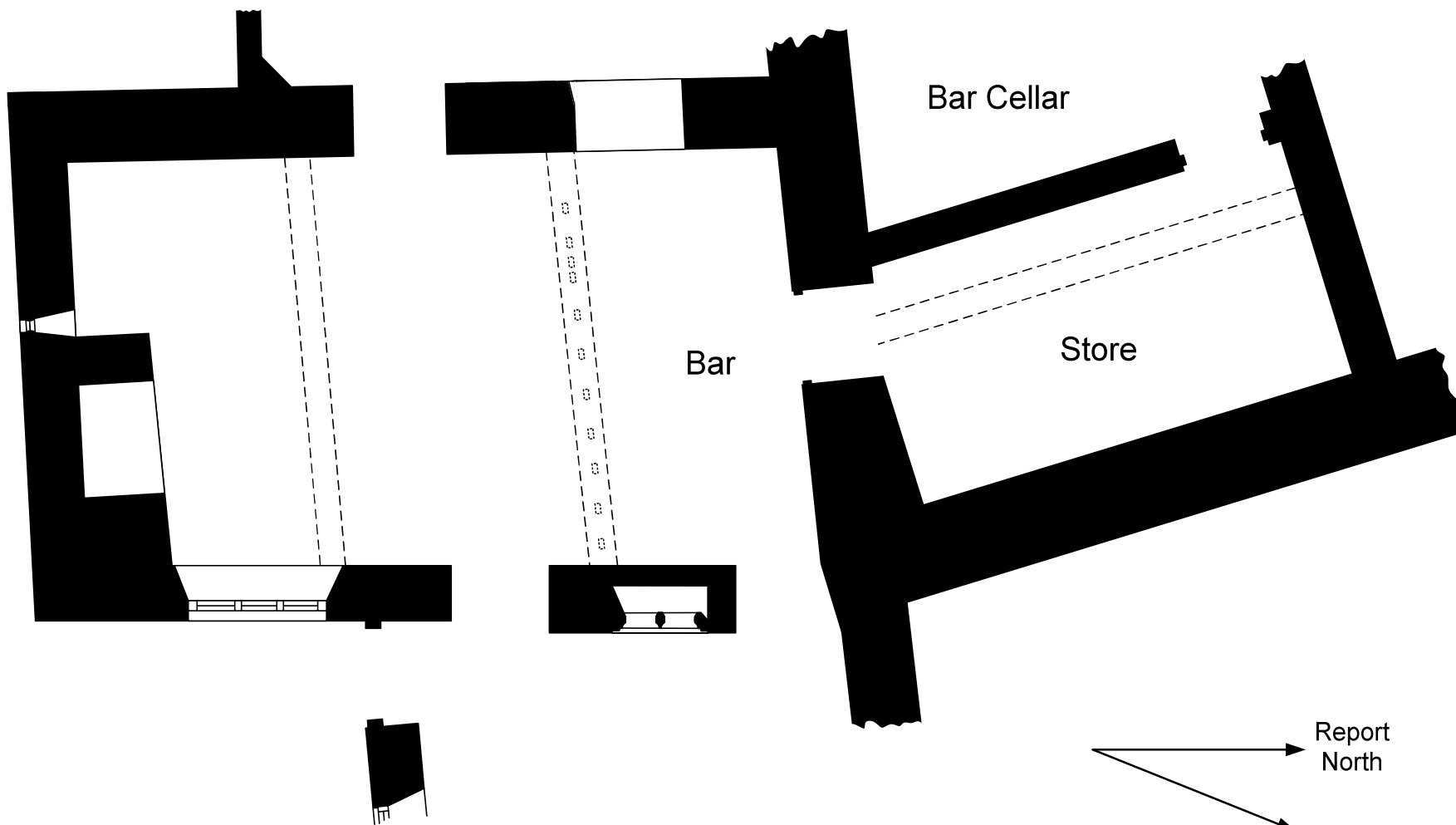
Samples were taken in 2013 by Robert Howard of Nottingham Tree-ring Dating Laboratory, but the timbers had insufficient growth rings and no dates could be obtained.

Date and development

The early block, with its rare cavetto-moulded window, may date from the late 16th or early 17th century. The south end formed a large room of two bays, perhaps with an earlier version of the surviving inglenook fireplace. A timber stud partition divided the southern room from a further room to the north, lit by the early stone window. It is unclear whether this room was of only a single bay, or extended further north. This early building may well have had a roof structure formed of crucks, as suggested by the cruck apex re-set in the wall of the western range. The cruck-built structure probably dated from the 15th or early 16th century, and had been incorporated within the stone rebuilding of the late 16th-early 17th century.

An outbuilding was added to the west during the 18th century. In the early 19th century, another domestic range was built to the east, and the original block underwent major alterations, with a new roof and much re-facing. This was probably the time at which it became a public house.

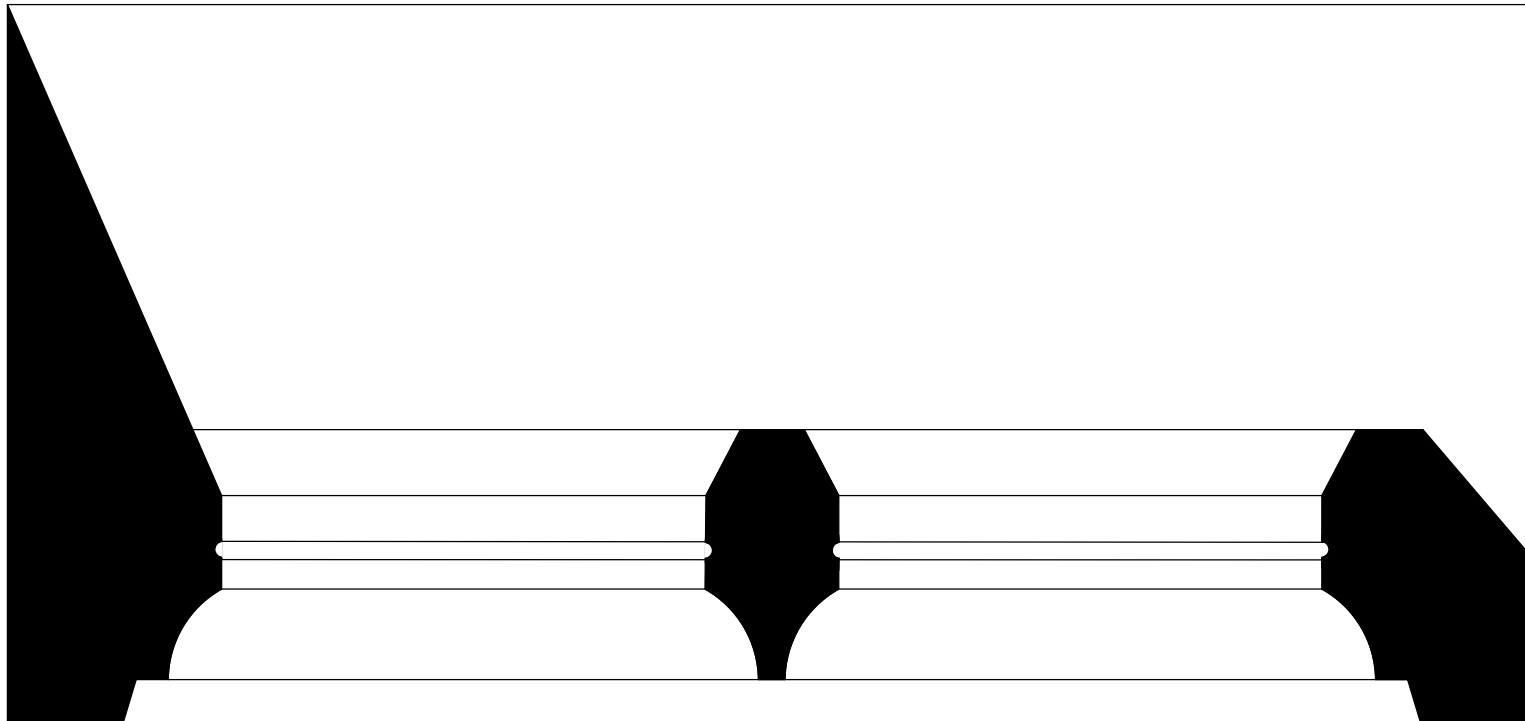
Nick Hill
December 2013



GROUND FLOOR

THE OLD WHITE HART, MAIN STREET, LYDDINGTON

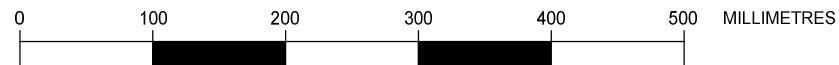




INTERNAL WINDOW SECTION

BAR SERVERY

THE OLD WHITE HART, MAIN STREET, LYDDINGTON



NH / RO October 2013



The original block from
the south-east



View from the south-west



The east side of the north block



The early cavetto-moulded stone window,
from the south-east



The south part of the original block, looking south-east



The north part of the original block, looking east



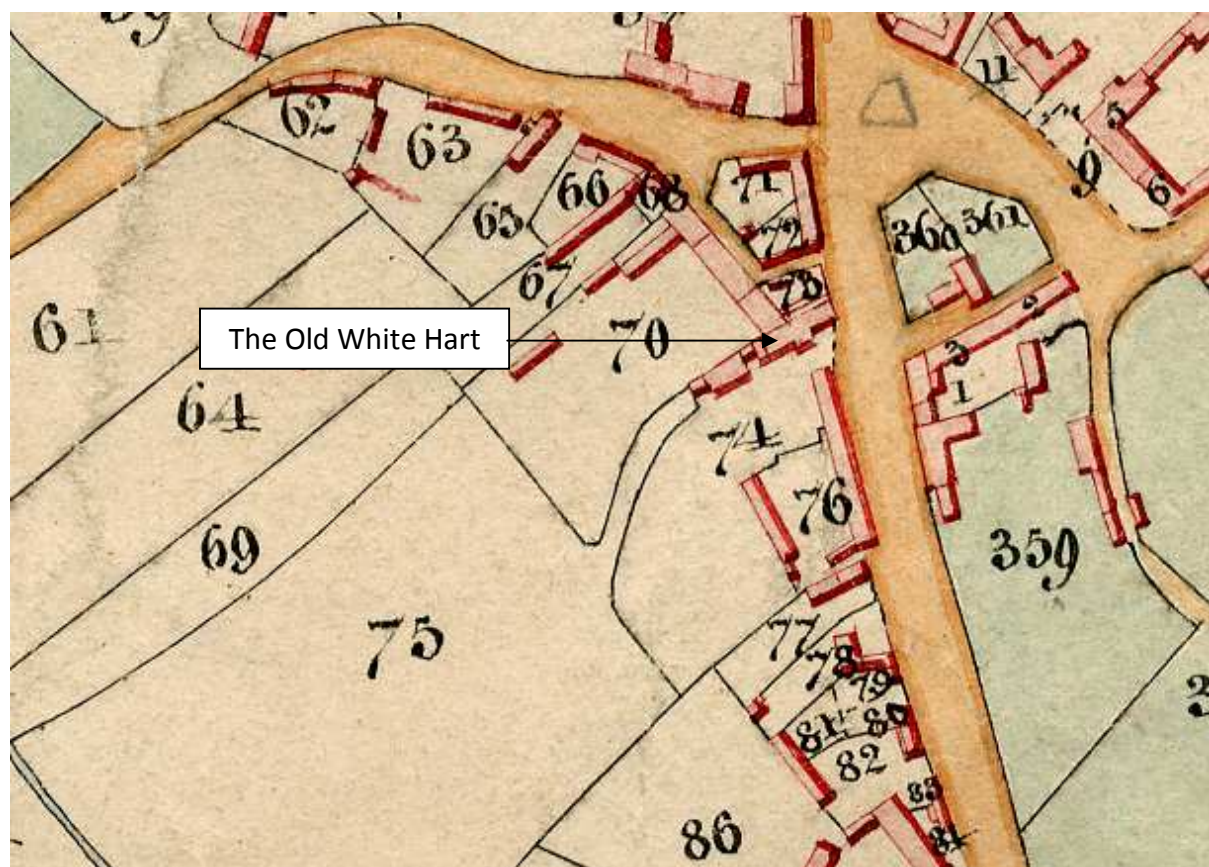
The cruck truss apex, re-set in the wall of west extension



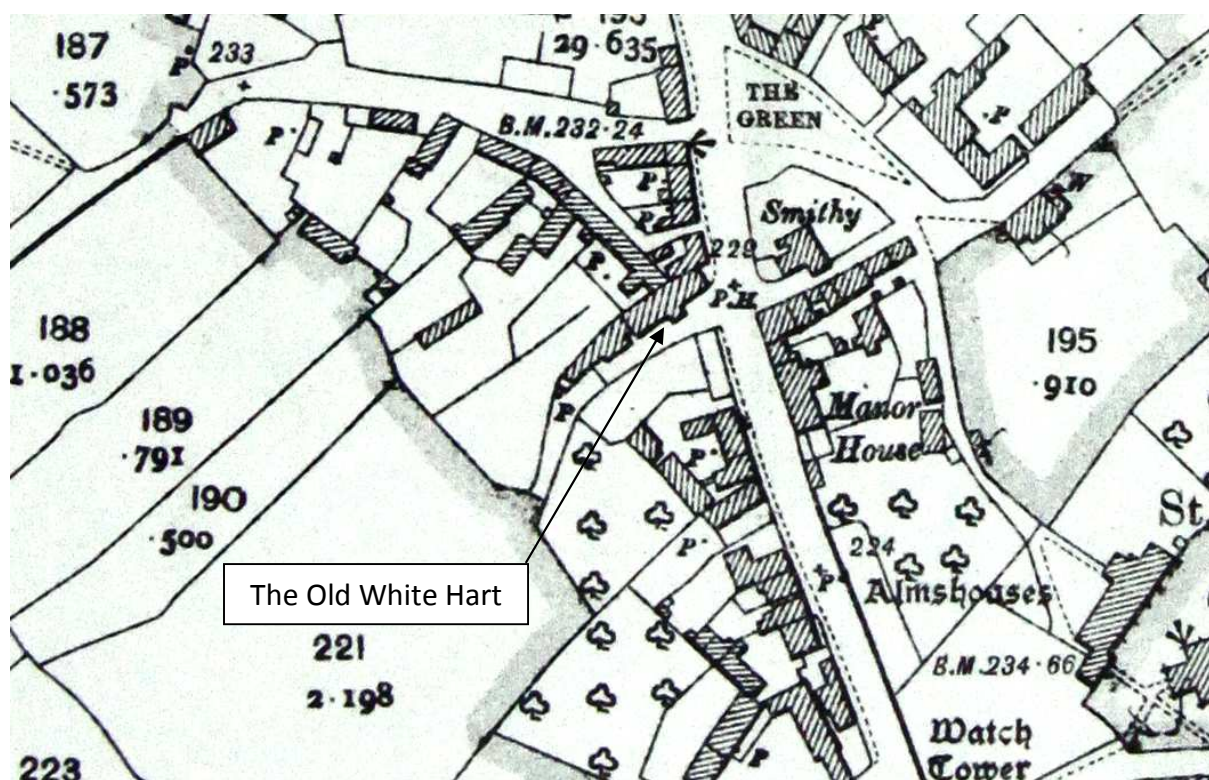
Robert Howard taking tree-ring dating sample



Lyddington Enclosure Map - 1804



Lyddington Estate Map, 1848 (Burghley Archives)



Ordnance Survey 2nd Series, 1904