

UNCLE TOM'S CABIN

There was a business called Uncle Tom's Cabin's "Refreshment Rooms" listed in the Kelly's Directories in Minnis Road in 1885-6. It was run by Ambrose Golder and stood on the left side of the road just above Old Bay Cottage, where the upper parade of shops now stands. The Golder family had a number of different businesses in the village between 1870 and 1939.

The farm land around this area was being used at this period as one of Birchington's three brickfields, so there would have been no shortage of customers among the brick makers.

The establishment that later traded under this name did not appear until after 1905, by which time the brickfield had closed down. So it is quite possible that when the clientele were reduced, the original Cabin closed down as well.

When the Hotel was demolished in 1964, Uncle Tom's Cabin was also taken down, much to local people's sorrow.