

CONTENTS

SUMMARY	3
1 INTRODUCTION	4
1.1 Project origins	4
2 METHODOLOGY	5
2.1 Project design	5
2.2 Desk-based assessment	5
2.3 Walkover survey	5
2.4 Archive	6
3 BACKGROUND	6
3.1 Location, topography and geology	6
4 HISTORICAL CONTEXT	7
4.1 Historical background	7
5 DISCUSSION	8
5.1 Academic merit	8
6 RESULTS	8
6.1 Methodology	8
6.2 Survey results: the Barn (Building1)	9
6.3 Survey results: the Byre (Building 2)	18
6.4 Phasing	22
6.5 Discussion	23
7 ARCHIVE	25
8 ACKNOWLEDGMENTS	25
9 BIBLIOGRAPHY	25
APPENDIX A	
Development proposals	27

FIGURES

Figure 1	Location of study area	4
Figure 2	Location of study building in red outline	6
Figure 3	1 st Edition 1866 OS map	8
Figure 4	Location of rooms mentioned in the results section	9
Figure 5	Upper floor plan of Barn showing arrangement of roof trusses	10
Figure 6	Roof towards southern part of barn showing trusses resting on wall	10
Figure 7	Section showing arrangement of roof trusses	11
Figure 8	Ground plan of the Barn showing filled doorways	12
Figure 9	Western elevation of barn (Building 1)	13
Figure 10	Blocked doorway and steps	13
Figure 11	Extant and blocked doorway and vent	13
Figure 12	Interface between construction phases external and internal	14
Figure 13	Interface between construction phases external and internal	14
Figure 14	Northern end of re-built barn	15
Figure 15	Small doorway adjacent to archway	15
Figure 16	Infilled archway	16
Figure 17	Eastern elevation of later addition	16
Figure 18	Eastern elevation of Barn (Building 1)	16
Figure 19	Stone porch, eastern elevation	17
Figure 20	Infilled doorway, phase 3 of the barns development	17
Figure 21	Two infilled ventilation slits	18
Figure 22	Brick window surround, east wall	18
Figure 23	Ground plan of the byre (Building 2)	19
Figure 24	Eastern elevation of the byre (Building 2)	19
Figure 25	Western elevation of the byre (Building 2)	20
Figure 26	Eastern elevation of the byre	20
Figure 27	Western elevation of the byre	20
Figure 28	Northern elevation of the byre (Building 2)	21
Figure 29	Northern elevation of the byre	21
Figure 30	Roof within Room 1, the byre	21
Figure 31	The byre, the interior of Room 1	22
Figure 32	The byre, the interior of Room 2	22
Figure 33	Interior of Room 3	22
Figure 34	Feeding trough and feeder within Room 3, the byre	22
Figure 35	Barn and Wythmoor House	23
Figure 36	Wythmoor House, south elevation	23
Figure 37	Proposed new building featured in the development	26
Figure 38	Ground plan of proposed development adjacent to Midcroft House	27

SUMMARY

The Level III building survey at Wythmoor House, Stockdalewath recorded a probable early to mid 19th Century stone threshing barn and an adjoining stone byre belonging to the later 19th Century verifying the observations undertaken when originally listed in 1984 as a Grade II building.

There appeared to be some structural evidence that the extant barn possessed earlier construction elements although it appears unlikely that they were established prior to *circa* 1800.

Filling of doors within the barn, denoted a shift in use from threshing barn, to cart shed and finally a store.

The byre was utilitarian and probably always served as accommodation for animals.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project origins

Cumbria County Council's Historic Environment Service (CCCHES) was consulted by Carlisle City Council regarding a planning application for the conversion of a barn and single storey outbuildings to 2 holiday cottages at Wythmoor House, Stockdalewath, Dalston, (NY 38665 45115), Planning Application No. 1/08/0597.

The scheme has the potential to affect the character and appearance of buildings of special architectural and historic interest. The proposal will affect the character and appearance of the buildings and, as a result, a condition has been placed on planning consent requiring a programme of archaeological building recording to be undertaken prior to the conversion taking place

In order to ascertain the historical and archaeological merits affected by this development, the brief issued by the curatorial authority requires investigation of known historical records through a rapid desk-based assessment and the survival of extant buildings via a programme of building recording equivalent to Level 3 as described by English Heritage *Understanding Historic Buildings A Guide to Good Recording Practice, 2006*.

The desk-based assessment included visits to Carlisle Library and The Cumbria Record Office, Carlisle. The objective of this exercise was to collate sufficient detail to identify the issues and potential for academic research, provide a series of questions for targeted archaeological enquiry and outline, if any, possible mitigation response.

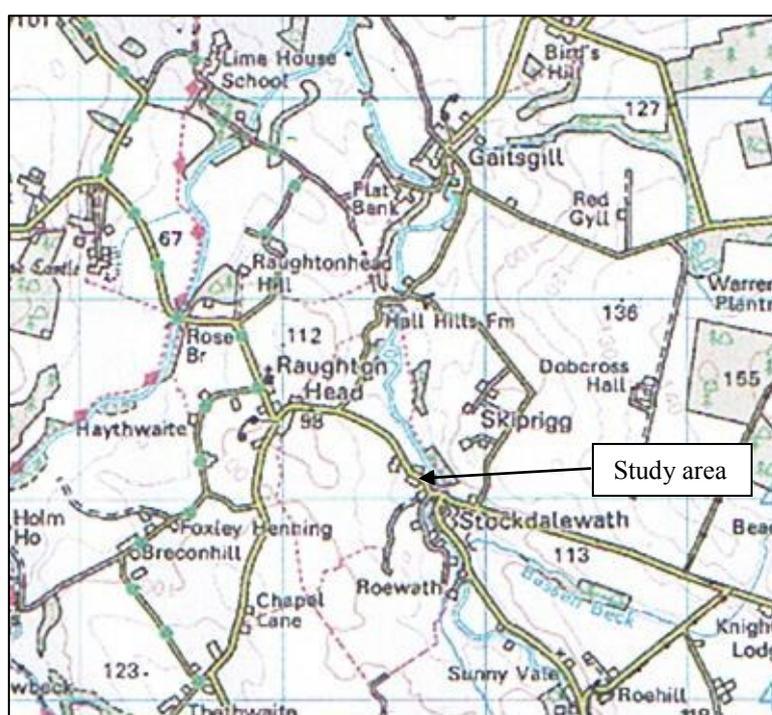


Figure 1. Location of study area
(OS copyright licence no. 100044205). Scale 1:50,000

METHODOLOGY

2.1 Project Design

In response to a request by Cumbria County Council Historic Environment Service, Gerry Martin Associates Ltd submitted a project design (Written Scheme of Investigation) for the archaeological recording of extant buildings. This document outlined the contractors' professional suitability, a brief historical summary of the study area, general objectives required of the project, the methodology and the resources needed for the successful implementation of this work.

The project design on being accepted by the curatorial body, Gerry Martin Associates Ltd was commissioned to undertake the desk-based assessment and the archaeological survey by the client Mrs Lynn Pears.

The following report has been assembled to the relevant standards and protocols of the Institute of Field Archaeologists, combined with accepted best practice and in accordance with the brief prepared by the curatorial authority.

Fieldwork took place on October 7th 2009.

2.2 Desk-based assessment

In accordance with the Design Brief, the desk-based assessment investigated primary and secondary historical sources, maps and other literature in order to set the survey results into their past cultural, historical and topographic context.

The physical study area centred on (NY 38665 45115) comprising a 500m radius from the proposed development.

The desk-based assessment comprised a search of three archival repositories.

Carlisle Library provided sources for published works including newspaper articles, archaeological and antiquarian reports, photographs and journals.

Cumbria Record Office, Carlisle was sought for the earliest tithe map for the parish, details of landowners and occupiers and cartographic evidence.

The Historic Environment Record, online, provided the Sites and Monuments Record describing previous archaeological observations and electronic media showing the spatial distribution of these findings

2.3 Walk-over survey

A walkover of the immediate vicinity of Wythmoor Hall on October 7th 2009 did not suggest any upstanding monuments such as derelict buildings, walls or tofts existed. The study building was bounded by an extant road to the east and surrounded by extant stone buildings including Wythmoor House, a building of probable eighteenth century date.

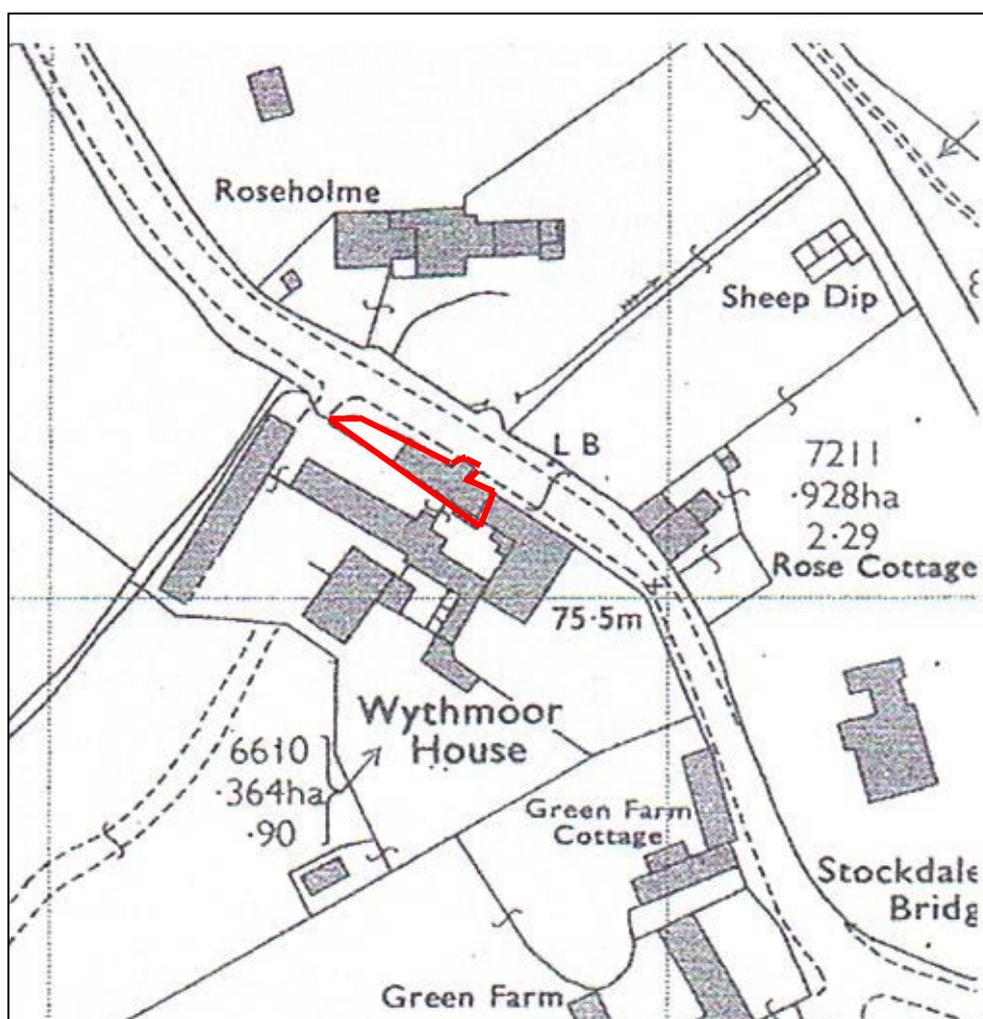


Figure 2. Location of study building in red outline. Scale 1:1250

2.4 Archive

The archive has been compiled in accordance with the project design and the guidelines set out by English Heritage (1991) and the Institute of Field Archaeologists (1994, 2007 and 2008).

The archive will be deposited with an appropriate repository and a copy of the report donated to the County Sites and Monuments Record, as requested by the curatorial authority.

3 BACKGROUND

3.1 Location, topography and geology

The study area (NY 38665 45115) lies at a height of approximately 80.00m OD within the historic core of Stockdalewath, a village noted for farmhouses fronting onto a main single street and stone buildings dating from the 18th Century.

The drift geology comprises pink Boulder Clay and yellow sands, the outwash from glacial activity between 2,000,000 and 10,000 years ago.

Solid geology is formed from Old Red Sandstone.

4 HISTORICAL CONTEXT

4.1 Historical background

The present Wythmoor House, a Grade II listed building, was listed on 19th September 1984 reference 128-1/10/00160, SMR number 16277. Its entry in the register is described as follows:

House and adjoining outbuildings. Dated over entrance 1783 with initials J & M M; C19 extension and outbuildings. Painted rendered walls in chamfered plinth with painted V-jointed quoins; graduated greenslate roof; ashlar chimney stacks. 2 storeys, 2 bays; single storey extension to left under common roof. 6-panel top-glazed door in painted eared architrave with reeded entablature and date panel under dentilled pedimented cornice. Sash windows with glazing bars in painted stone surrounds. Dummy windows in extension to left have painted glazing bars; large garage door to rear. Lower 2-bay C19 extension with 2-pane sash windows continues as barn. Projecting cart entrance and vented openings to road; rear has external stone steps to left door. Barn is included partly for G.V with house. Other outbuildings not of interest.

Earlier antecedents are suggested by deeds relating to High Wythmoor regarding a customary house and land in the Manor of Dalston 1746-1773; ref YDX174/45.

On June 4th 1670, Volume I of the marriage registers of Workington Parish Church records a John Phillipson of Wythmoor marrying Mabel Hodgson (Phillimore & Rushton-Harrison, 1910).

Whether these references refer to the study building is uncertain. Formal addresses do not occur until the mid 19th Century when universal postal delivery begins following the advent of the penny post in 1840. Poor literacy and use of the vernacular rather than received spelling also confuse explicit identification of buildings and locations.

The first edition Ordnance Survey map of 1866 (figure 3) records the present barn with its porch, the present outbuildings and Wythmoor House to have been extant, but the byre is not recorded although the curving sweep in the road that forms its eastern boundary is intelligible. The byre is not recorded on the Second Edition Twenty-five Inch Ordnance Survey map of 1900 (an unenclosed polygonal space adjacent to the road is illustrated) or the 1971 edition (an enclosed polygonal plot has been drawn). This appears to have been a surveying oversight rather than a post-1971 development.

The 1866 and 1900 Ordnance Survey maps denote an orchard directly north of the study buildings but removed by 1971.

The Historic Environment Record maintained by Cumbria County Council lists three entries in relative close proximity to Wythmoor House:

- HER 698 Castlesteads Settlement. Crop-marks and a find-spot probably belonging to the Iron Age to Roman-British period, approximately 500m eastwards
- HER 19603 Coin find. A probable Tudor coin, approximately 500m westwards
- HER 40241 Farmstead at Riverside. A post-Medieval roofed building, approximately 500m southwards

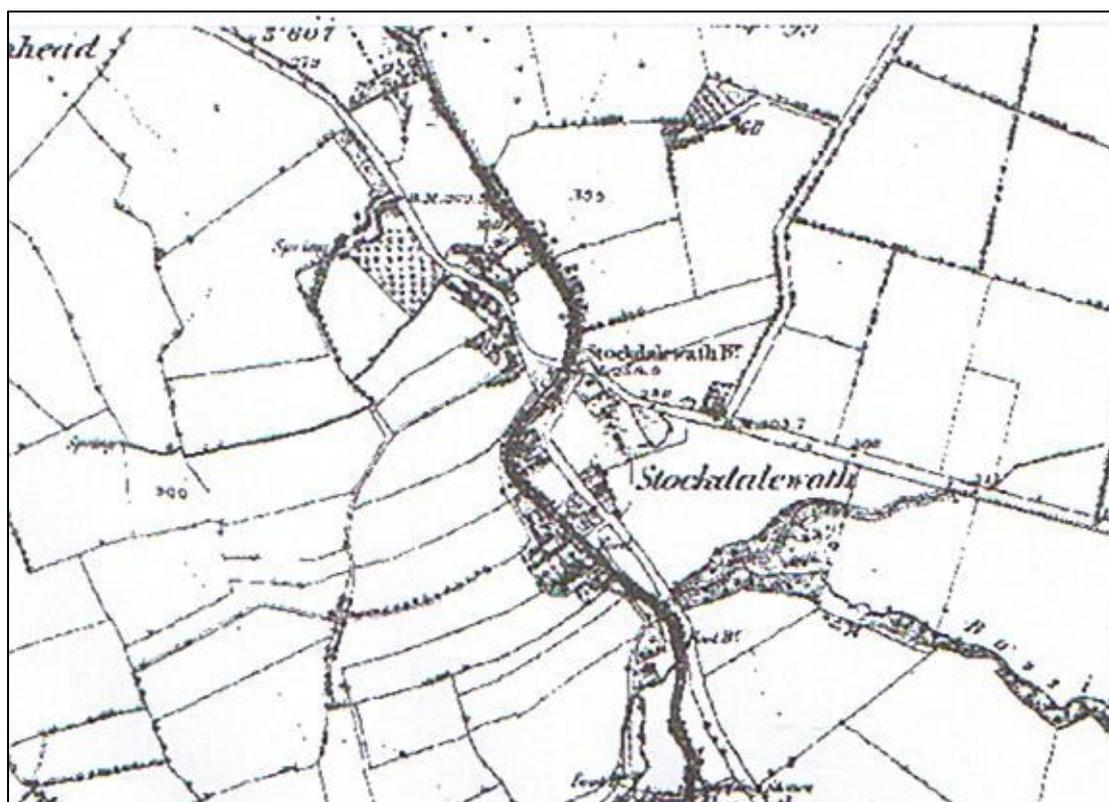


Figure 3. First Edition Ordnance Survey map from 1868

5 DISCUSSION

5.1 Academic merit

Past cultural settlement in Cumbria has been predominantly rural, where farming has been the main economic driver and product. Increasingly, those features associated with past farming technique have been lost or converted for domestic use or for local tourism.

A challenge to historians, archaeologists and other researchers is to compile a record of those rural buildings that indicate past agricultural practice and social conditions before their industrial, agricultural and social context is lost.

6 RESULTS

6.1 Methodology

The buildings in the study area were surveyed on October 7th 2009 by Gerry Martin using a Disto measuring device and hand-held GPS equipment.

The buildings were fully accessible although natural light was restricted within the study buildings requiring flash photography.

The survey comprised of scaled photographic recording of the interiors and elevations of all the buildings, with detailed photography of any worthy architectural elements.

Using the architectural plans, notations were undertaken regarding the characteristics of these farm buildings, including metrical data, thresholds, materials and building techniques employed.

The investigation has used the following nomenclature in order to identify the various structures under review.

- The barn (Building 1) refers to the large stone structure adjoining Wythmoor House
- The byre (Building 2) refers to the later stone building adjoining the barn to the north. This is divided into two spaces of which the northern room has been sub-divided by a timber partition into stalls (2 and 3).

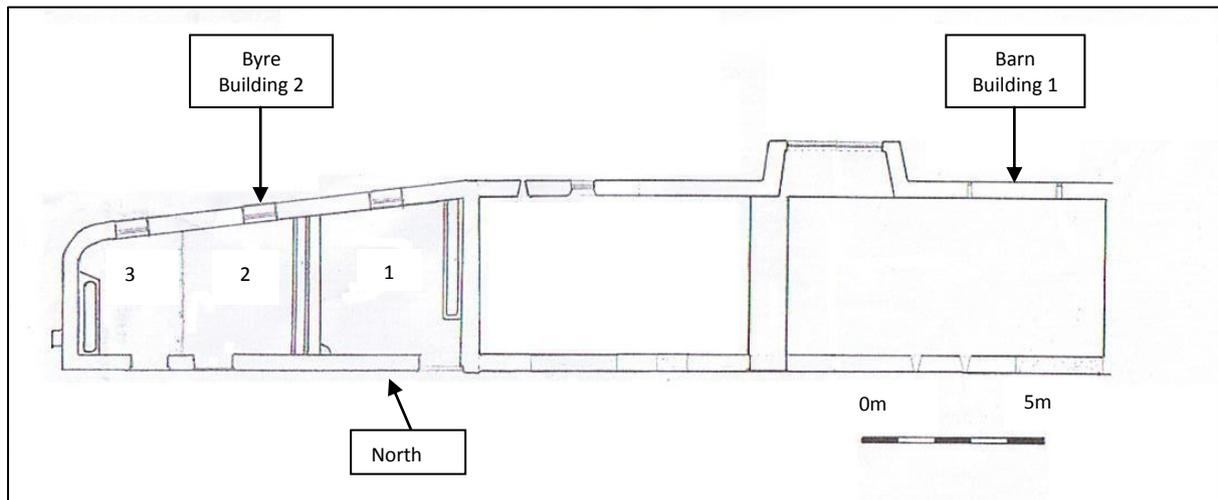


Figure 4. Location of rooms mentioned in the results section

The corpus of the following report is formed from these notes and photographs.

6.2 Survey results; the Barn (Building 1)

The current stone barn comprises a rectangular ground plan 17.50m x 5.25m with a height of 3.67m rising to 5.56m at its apex. A stone porch 3.80m in width protrudes 1.00m forwards on its eastern side. The floor of the barn has been set in concrete with a series of stone flags connecting the rear and front doors.

Wall thickness for the stone barn was uniformly 0.50m around the whole structure.

Roof

The barn has a hipped roof that consists of a red sandstone ridge that caps fifteen rows of slates measuring 0.15m x 0.30m. The lower part of the slate roof is overlain by two sets of red sandstone shingles measuring 0.41m x 0.32m above a cast iron eavesdrop. The slates are uniform in arrangement but are probably not the original roof fabric.

On the eastern side, the roof bears a single light measuring 1.10m x 1.00m containing two glazed windows.

The roof is supported by five wooden trusses, of which the first three at the southern end are of some antiquity, being hand-finished, whilst the remaining northern trusses are modern. Surmounting the shell of the building, the roof construction consists of five horizontal timber beams (0.20m x 0.20m) upon which two timber ties at an approximate 60 degree angle form a triangle comprising the roof truss. The eastern ties overlie the western ties with a timber ridge beam at the

apex, whilst a horizontal timber brace consolidates the truss. Two sets of timber purlins (0.20m x 0.20m) carry the roof above the trusses.

The three older roof trusses located towards the south appear to correspond to an earlier phase of stone fabric belonging to Building 1 forming a rectangular structure measuring 13.00m x 5.25m. These three trusses rested above the shell of the building whilst the other two northern trusses butted the wall fabric.

The middle truss within the earlier southern group overlies a timber lintel that probably reflected an earlier entrance before being replaced by a stone porch.

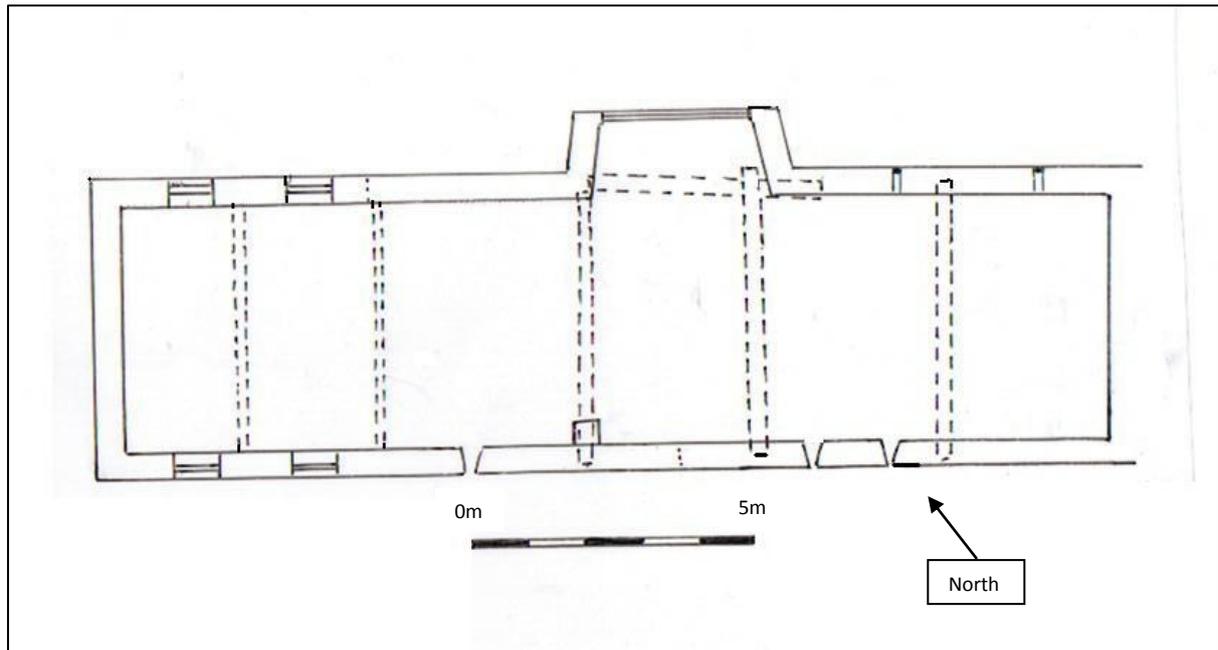


Figure 5. Upper floor plan of Barn showing arrangement of roof trusses



Figure 6. Roof towards southern part of barn showing trusses resting on the wall fabric

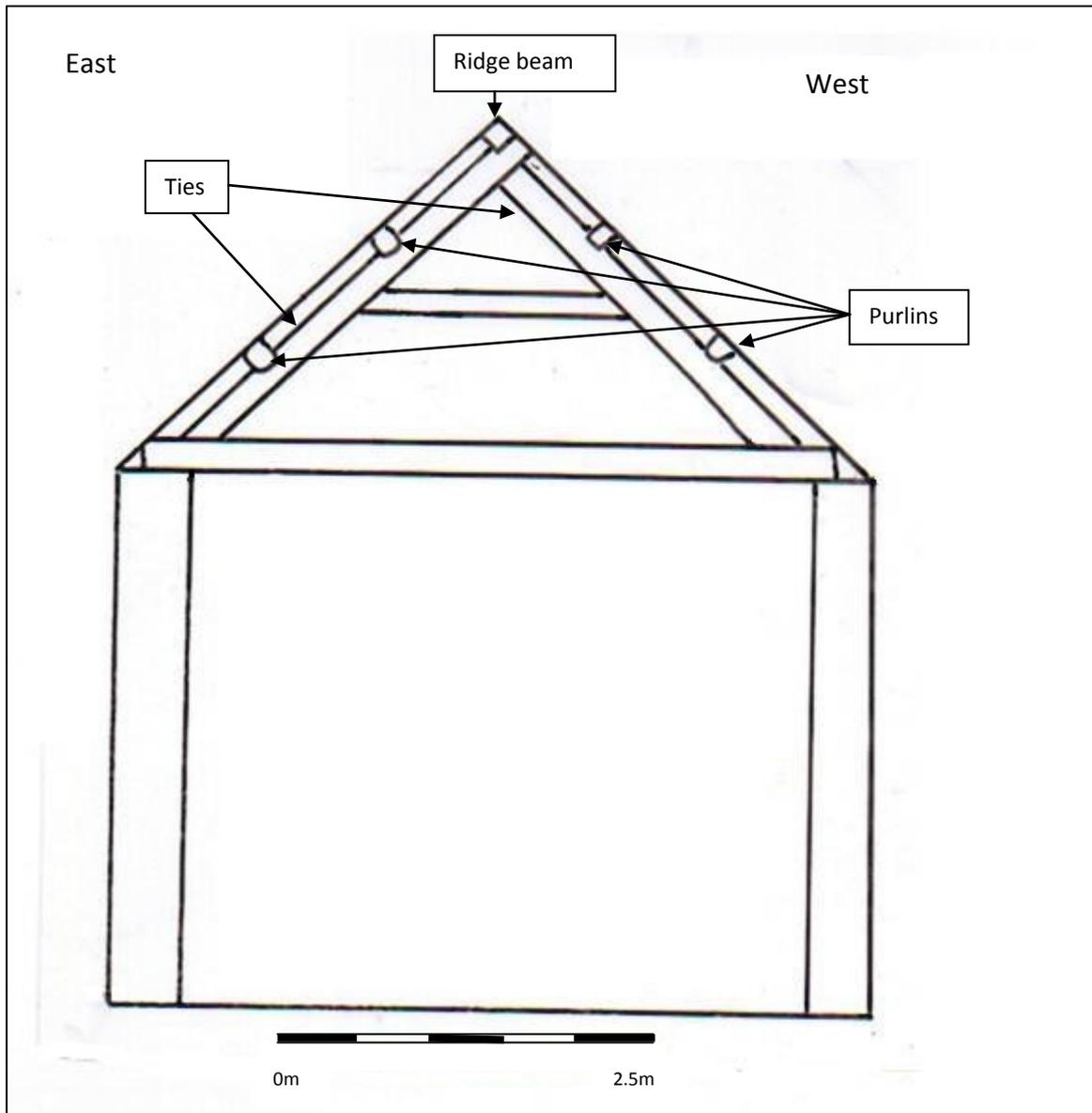


Figure 7. Section showing arrangement of roof trusses

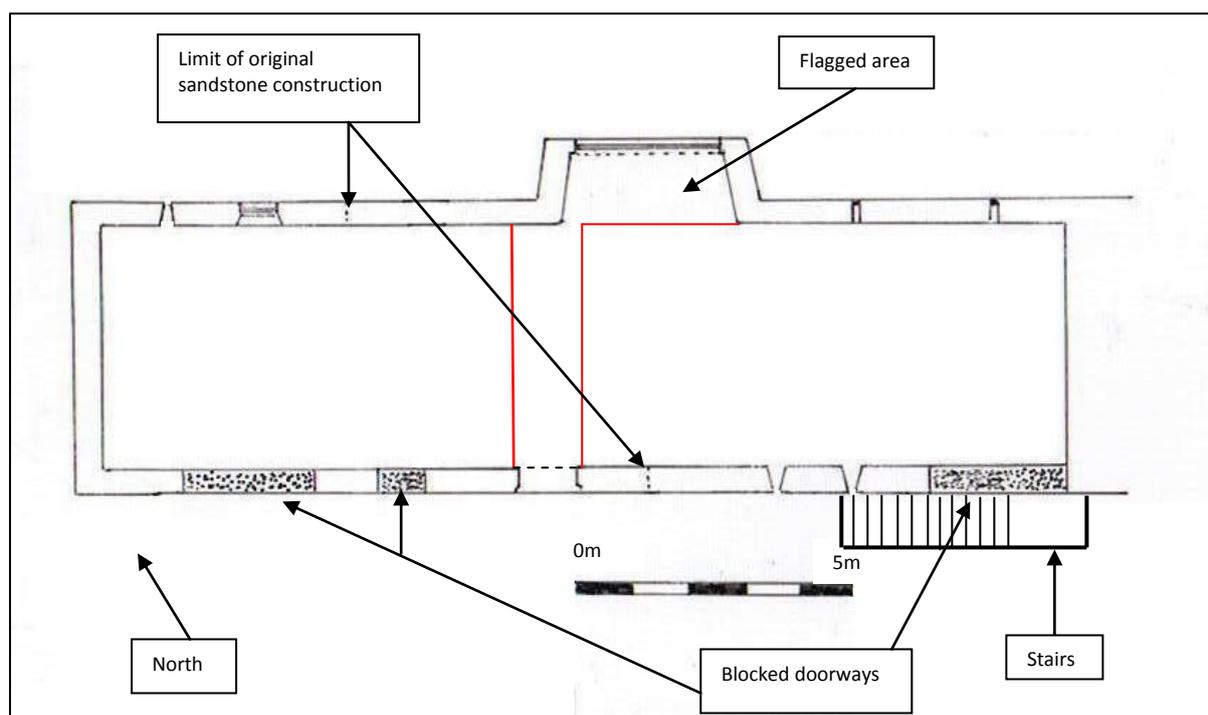


Figure 8. Ground plan of the Barn showing filled doorways

Western elevation

The western elevation of the stone barn appears to illustrate at least six structural phases that can be summarised as follows:

1. Construction in roughly hewn stone of the southern part of the barn
2. Infill of the southern doorway
3. Construction of a flight of stone steps into Wythmoor House
4. Northward refurbishment in higher grade sandstone of the barn
5. Infilling of an archway and doorway
6. Modern additions and usage

Phase 1

The original phase appears to comprise a 7.00m length of angular coursed stonework built using local red sandstone. Three ventilation slits bearing stone sills, varied in size between 0.50-0.70m in height and 0.20m in width were constructed whilst a doorway 2.50m in height and 1.75m in width was also inserted.

The wall does not appear to have been rendered but has been re-pointed with white sandy mortar.

Phase 2

The southern doorway (figure 9) was filled with predominantly irregularly dressed limestone with some irregular red sandstone blocks laid in regular courses using a white sandy mortar.

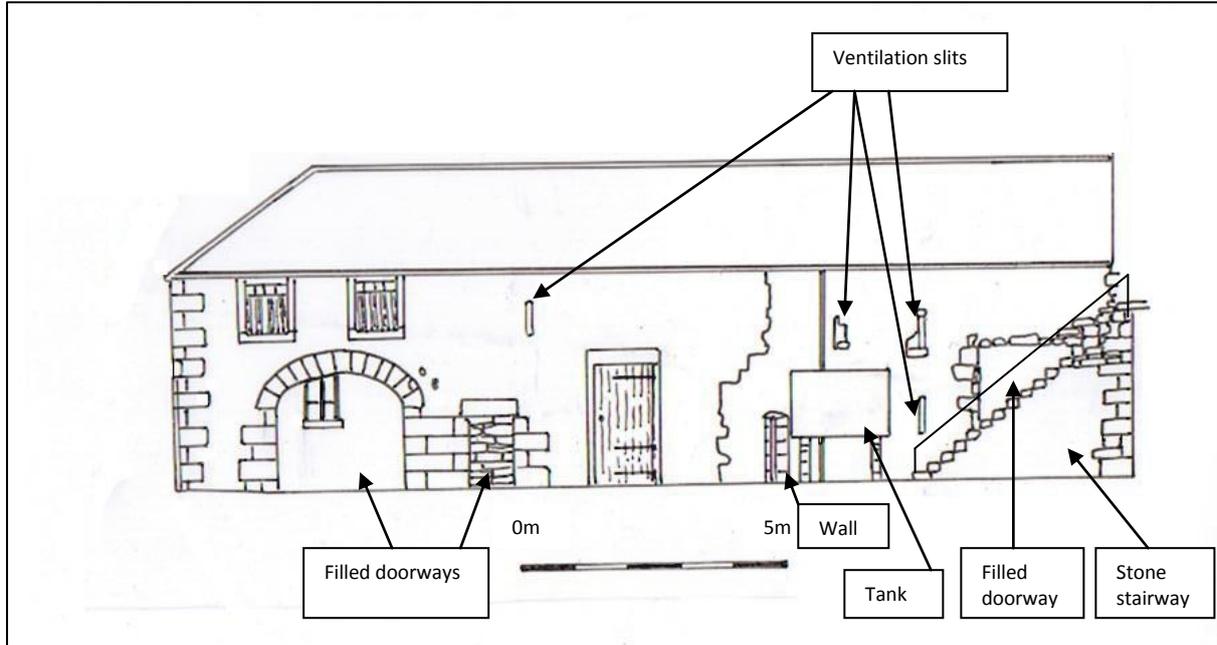


Figure 9. Western elevation of barn (Building 1)

Phase 3

A rectangular plan, stone flight of steps (figure 10) leading to the first floor of Wythmoor House was built in front of the blocked doorway (phase 2) measuring 3.25m in height, 3.80m in length and 1.20m in width. This feature appeared to be a solid construction formed from red sandstone blocks with red sandstone steps with accompanying iron hand rail.

The southern end of the steps consisted of a vertical face with dressed red sandstone blocks forming quoins on the western elevation.



Figure 10. Blocked doorway and steps



Figure 11. Extant and blocked doorway and vent

Phase 4

The barn was extended northwards with the construction of an elaborate archway, two stone windows, a blocked doorway and an extant doorway forming a rectangular ground plan measuring 17.50m x 5.25m.

The building fabric predominantly comprised dressed, red sandstone blocks that formed neat, close fits. The coursed stonework consisted of regular stone blocks bonded by a white, lime mortar. Within the western elevation, the interface between the two construction phases is denoted by rough hewn blocks, poorly coursed, meeting smooth, dressed sandstone blocks forming regular courses (figure 12).

Internally, on the eastern elevation, the interface between the two phases of construction is illustrated by a vertical interface with a lack of keying between the courses (figure 13).



Figures 12 and 13. Interface between construction phases external and internal

The new construction possessed stone quoins at the northern end of the structure formed from neatly dressed, red sandstone blocks approximately 0.55m x 0.30m x 0.30m. This end reflected the insertion of two relatively recent roof trusses that probably formed a two storey amendment to the existing barn.

This enlargement possessed two parallel upper windows that bore symmetry with two windows shown on the eastern elevation. The window jambs measured 1.20m x 1.05 with dressed red sandstone jambs and sills. The windows were unglazed except for a row of four small square window panes (0.20m x 0.20m), filled by alternating vertical timber planks.

The windows were slightly offset from a monumental arch beneath (figure 14). The archway formed a portal 2.35m in width and 2.25m in height constructed from neatly dressed, red sandstone blocks that rose to a height of 1.50m before developing into a voussoir of twelve dressed red sandstone blocks, locked by a red sandstone keystone.

The lower part of the southern element of the archway was formed from large dressed red sandstone blocks 0.90m x 0.30m that stood to a height of 1.25m that then formed the northern side of a filled doorway.

The southern side of the doorway (figure 15) was formed from dressed red sandstone blocks (0.60m x 0.30m). The doorway measured 1.25m in height and 0.90m in width surmounted by a dressed red sandstone lintel (1.10m x 0.30m).



Figure 14. Northern end of re-built barn

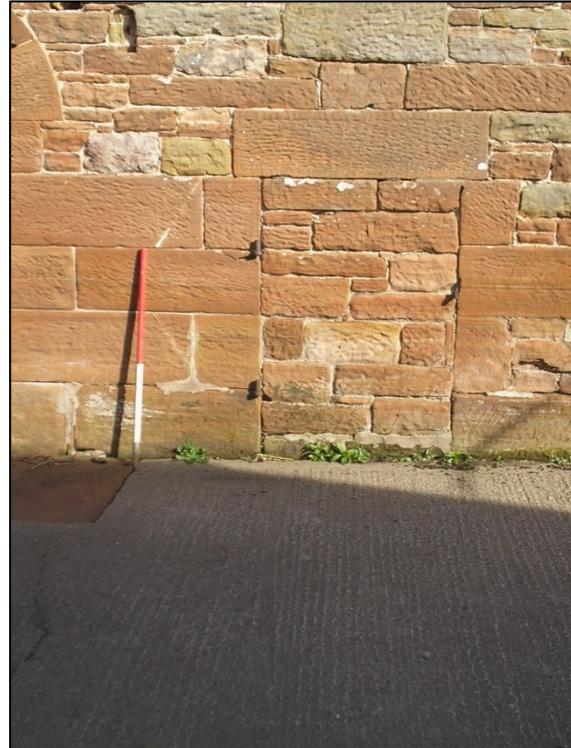


Figure 15. Small doorway adjacent to archway

A small ventilation slit (figure 11) measuring 0.60m x 0.10m respected the height at the base of the stone window sills suggesting that the upper storey may have extended southwards for approximately 6.00m.

A central doorway (figure 11) measuring 2.55m in height and 1.35m in width probably belonged to this phase although it may have been inserted later as it did not possess stone quoins, merely a thin machine cut red sandstone door jamb surmounted by a more substantial red sandstone lintel. The door was made from tongue-and-groove timber planks with three iron hinges.

Phase 5

A small doorway was later filled with coarsely finished red sandstone blocks of various sizes (figure 15) lain in regular courses.

The archway (figure 16) was also filled but with neatly coursed stonework comprising of red and yellow dressed sandstone blocks (approximately 0.30m x 0.20m). A single window (0.76m x 0.64m) was inserted comprising four glazed panes and a stone sill.

Phase 6

A stone wall (figure 12) 1.30m in height and 0.40m in thickness formed a gate with an adjacent outbuilding.

A modern downpipe lay behind a modern oil tank resting on breeze block supports (figure 12) abutted the western elevation of the study building.



Figure 16. Infilled archway



Figure 17. Eastern elevation of later addition

Eastern elevation

The original stone structure was covered by a white lime pebble-dash that obscured any architectural detail. This finish covered an area measuring 12.70m in length until it developed into open stonework.

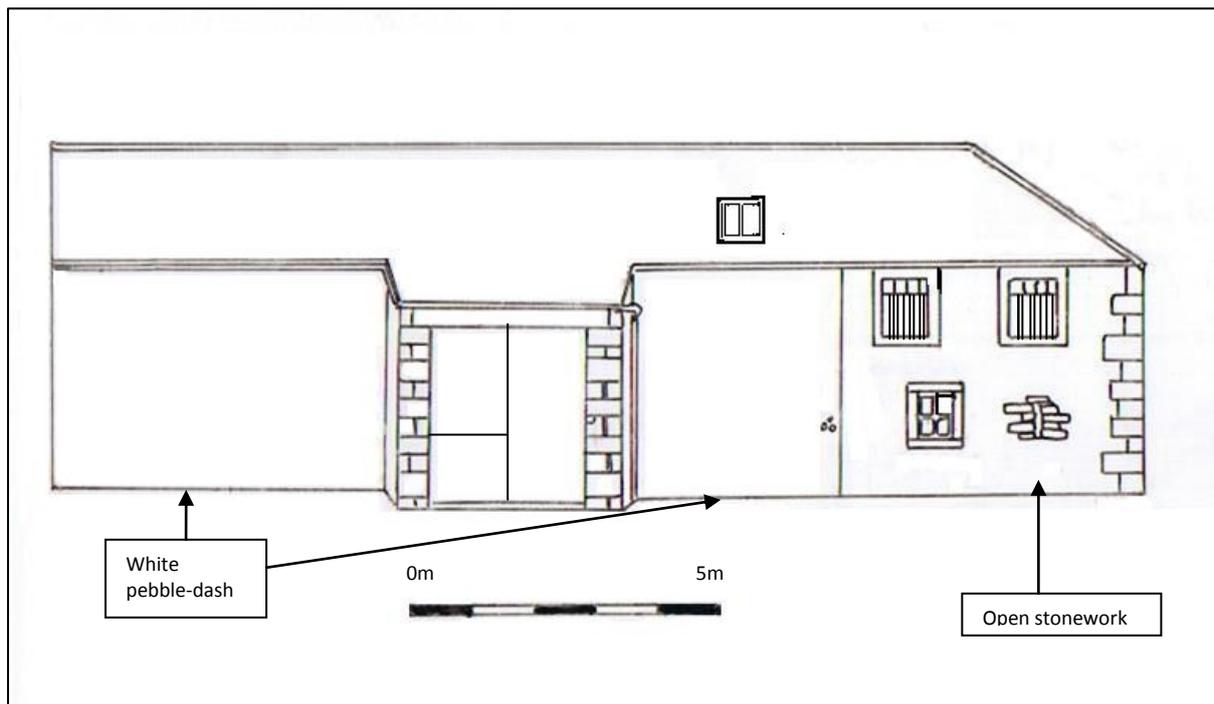


Figure 18. Eastern elevation of Barn (Building 1)

Phase 4

The northern part of the eastern elevation displayed two symmetrical upper windows, a lower window and ventilation slit part of a stone extension to the barn equivalent to Phase 4, described above (figure 17).

The enlargement to the barn possessed stone quoins at the northern end of the structure formed from neatly dressed, red sandstone blocks approximately 0.60m x 0.30m x 0.30m. The remaining fabric comprised regular dressed, red sandstone blocks of varying sizes laid in regular courses using a white sandy mortar.

This extension possessed two parallel upper windows that bore symmetry with two windows shown on the western elevation. The window jambs measured 1.20m x 1.05 with dressed red sandstone jambs and sills. The windows were unglazed except for a row of four small square window panes (0.20m x 0.20m), filled by alternating vertical timber planks.

A lower window (figure 17) measured 1.05m x 0.90m and consisted of a red sandstone window jamb, lintel and sill enclosing a glazed window comprising four window panes (0.30m x 0.24m) within a timber window frame.

Adjacent to the lower window, (figure 17) lay a ventilation slit measuring 0.60m x 0.10m formed from red sandstone blocks approximately 0.50m x 0.15m.

Within the slate roof, a small glazed light was inserted measuring 0.45m x 0.50m in size and comprised two window panes.



Figure 19. Stone porch, eastern elevation



Figure 20. Infilled doorway, phase 3

A stone porch (figure 19) measuring 3.80m in width protrudes 1.00m forwards of the eastern elevation. A wide planked timber door 2.55m x 3.00m in height is flanked by two sets of red sandstone quoins that extend backwards to be keyed into the main fabric of the barn. The stone blocks which form the quoins measure 0.55m x 0.30m and are bonded by white sandy mortar.

The porch roof maintains the barns' slate fabric whilst cast iron guttering and pipe discharges rainwater towards the ground.

Interior

The interior of the original part of the barn (Building 1) was finished with a cream lime-wash covering a mortar render from which bare stonework only occasionally protruded. The re-built northern extension was ostensibly white lime-wash but with a thinner finish with a higher proportion of open stonework.

The interior denoted a number of features that were not recognisable on the outside.

- The Phase 3 filled doorway (figure 20) was revealed to possess a timber lintel.
- Two ventilation slots (figure 21) measuring 0.60m x 0.10m were revealed on the eastern wall of the original fabric towards the southern end of the barn. A similar filled ventilation slot of similar proportions was located 2.00m further north.
- The lower window (figure 22) on the eastern elevation located within the rebuilt northern extension possessed a brick casement.



Figure 21. Two infilled ventilation slits



Figure 22. Brick window surround, east wall

6.3 Survey results; Byre (Building 2)

The byre rose to a height of 3.80m formed by red dressed sandstone blocks bonded by a white sandy mortar and butts an earlier sandstone barn (Building 1). Wall thickness for the stone byre was uniformly 0.50m around the whole structure.

The ground plan consists of a polygonal shaped building 5.25m in width narrowing to 4.00m and 11.00m in length divided into three stalls.

- Room 1 measured 4.20m x 4.00m
- Room 2 measured 3.50m x 3.90m
- Room 3 measured 3.00m x 3.60m

The byre has a hipped roof being of slate construction upheld by modern, machine-turned roof trusses rising to a height of 1.80m.

The floor was laid in concrete whilst the interior was finished in a thick lime-wash in all three rooms all of which contained a single modern animal trough.

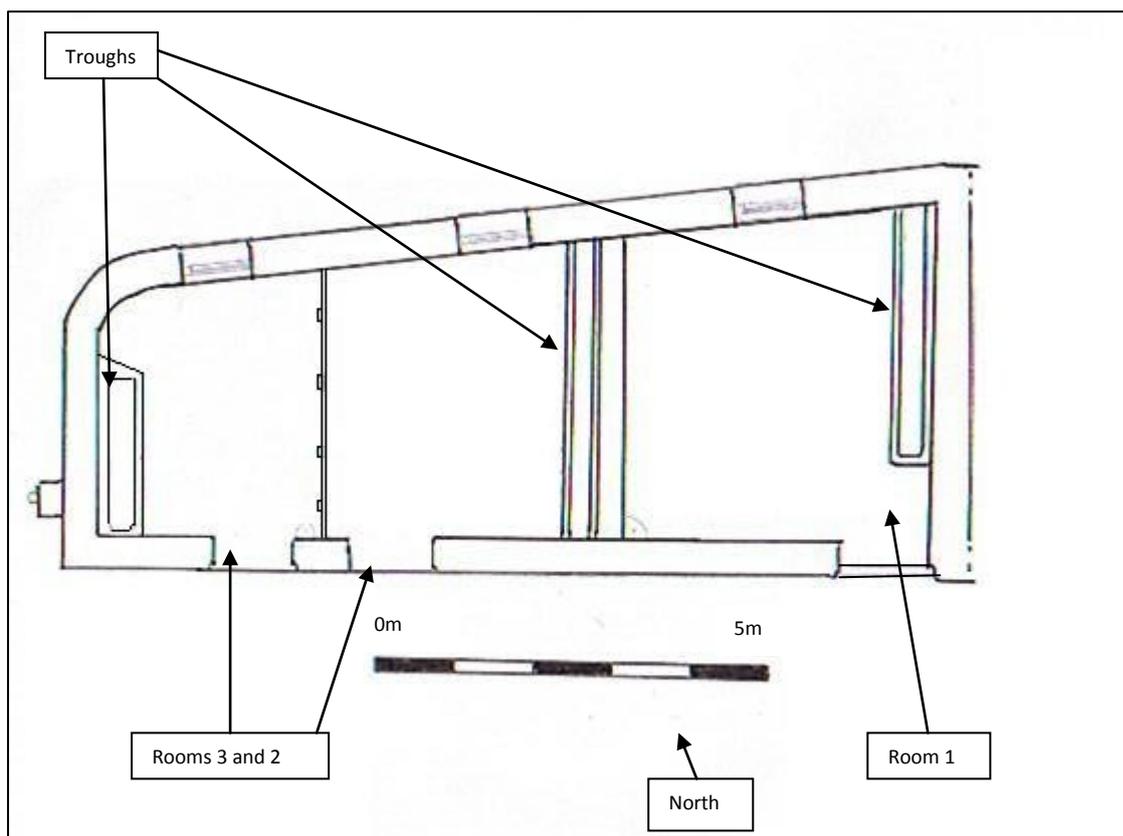


Figure 23. Ground plan of the byre (Building 2)

Eastern elevation

The eastern elevation displayed three identical windows (figure 26) measuring 0.90m x 0.70m, comprising timber frames holding three panes of glass. Each window was set 2.50m apart.

A name plaque “Wythmoor House” has been placed between the second and third window.

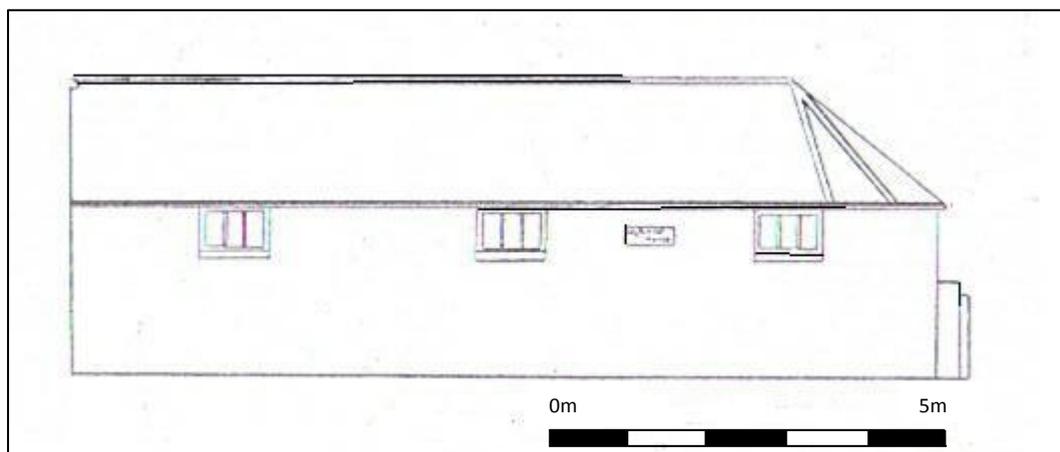


Figure 24. Eastern elevation of the byre (Building 2)

Western elevation

The western elevation displayed three skylights measuring 0.50m x 0.40m in size comprising double panes of glass.

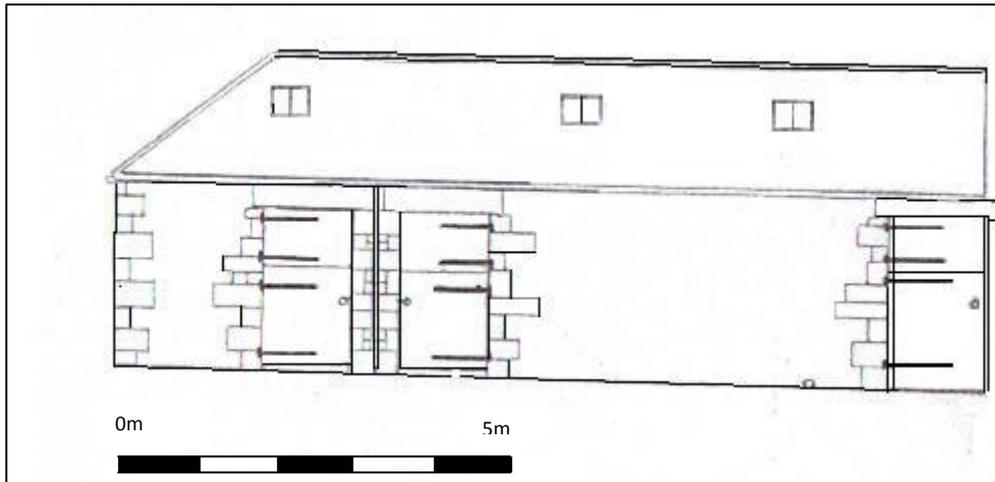


Figure 25. Western elevation of the byre (Building 2)

Each room is accessed by three timber planked doors (figure 27) measuring 1.10m x 2.00m that divided into two parts. These doors rested within dedicated doorways consisting of red sandstone dressed quoins measuring between 0.30 and 0.70m x 0.30m in size surmounted by red sandstone lintels measuring 1.60m x 0.30m.



Figure 26. Eastern elevation of the byre



Figure 27. Western elevation of the byre

Northern elevation

The northern elevation illustrated a curved north-eastern corner that allowed the eastern wall to taper at its northern limit.

The elevation was constructed from the same uniform dressed red sandstone blocks displayed on the eastern and western elevations.

A stone gate post stood to a height of 1.55m and was 0.55m in width.

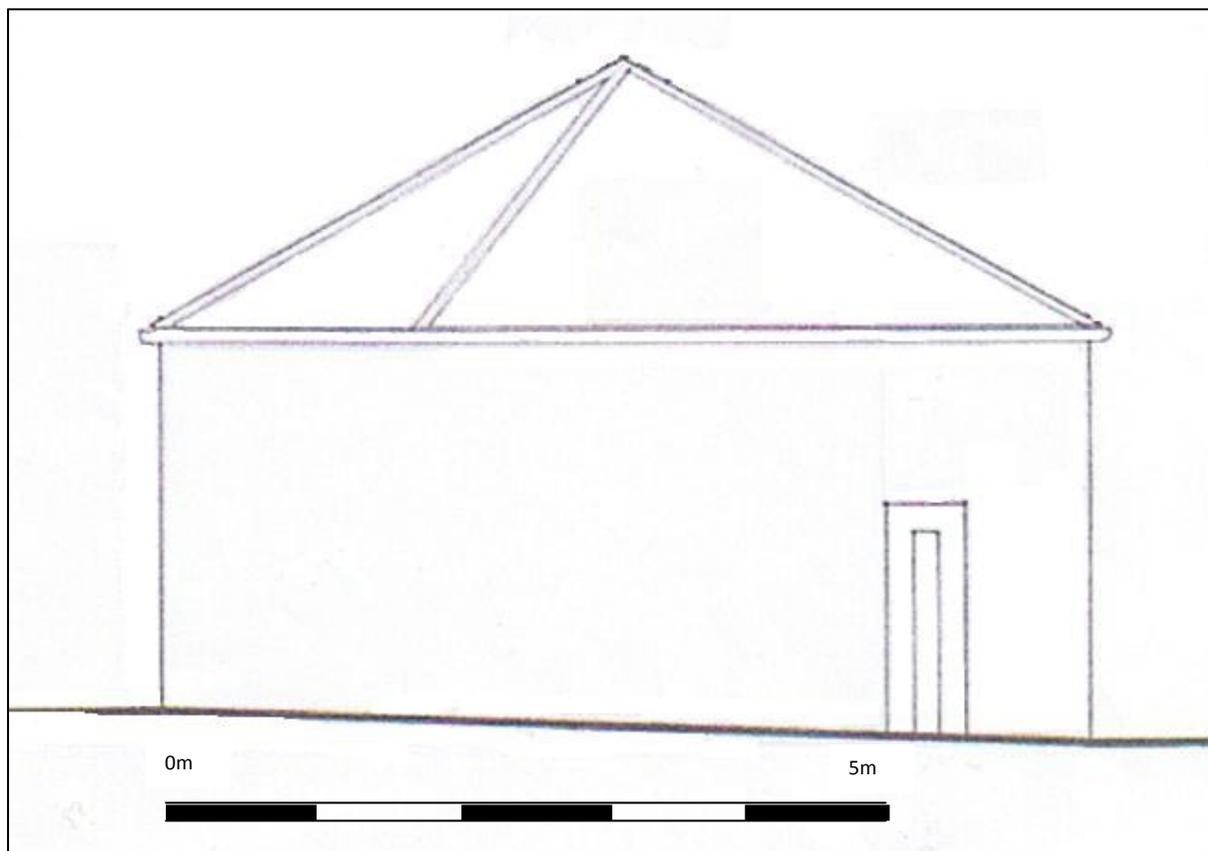


Figure 28. Northern elevation of the byre (Building 2)



Figure 29. Northern elevation of the byre



Figure 30. Roof within Room 1, the byre

Room 1

A lime-washed room measuring 4.20m x 4.00m containing a stone trough (3.40m x 0.50m) set within a brick stand.

The southern wall to this room comprised the end wall of Building 1 (the barn) consisting of dressed red sandstone blocks (figure 30).

The northern party wall between Rooms 1 and 2 was formed from red bricks finished in white-wash (figure 31).



Figure 31. The byre, the interior of Room 1



Figure 32. The byre, the interior of Room 2

Room 2

Room 2 measured 3.50m x 3.90m and was lime-washed (figure 32). It contained a trough measuring 3.60m x 0.45m formed from split ceramic pipes set into brickwork and finished in lime-wash. A timber hay feeder rested above the trough.



Figure 33. Interior of Room 3



Figure 34. Feeding trough and feeder within Room 3, the byre

Room 3

Room 3 (figure 33) measured 3.00m x 3.60m and was also lime-washed. It contained a trough (figure 34) measuring 2.20m x 0.50m formed from split ceramic pipes set into brickwork and finished in lime-wash. A timber hay feeder rested above the trough.

6.4 Phasing

Eight broad structural phases are relevant to the study buildings. These are summarised as follows:

1. Construction or re-construction of Wythmoor House and an northern adjunct in stone prior to the barns' construction
2. Construction in roughly hewn stone of the southern part of the barn (Building 1)

3. Infill of the southern doorway
4. Construction of a flight of stone steps into Wythmoor House
5. Northward refurbishment in higher grade sandstone of the barn
6. Infilling of an archway and doorway
7. Construction of the stone byre (Building 2)
8. Modern additions and usage

These structural phases are discussed below.

6.5 Discussion

Phase 1 Wythmoor House

On the eastern side, a white render has obscured the structural relationship between Wythmoor House and the earliest phase of the stone barn (figure 35, extreme right) whilst a stone staircase (Phase 3) has blocked the view of this relationship on the barn's western side (figure 10).



Figure 35. Barn and Wythmoor House



Figure 36. Wythmoor House, south elevation

South facing Grade II listed Wythmoor House (figure 36) appears to have been originally a neatly symmetrical double-pile house (Brunskill 2002, 81-82) with service rooms and kitchen towards the back, the main living rooms towards the front. A bay was added to the west that may have served as servants' quarters (Ibid, 83). Typically, this form of house dates from 1750-1850. Wythmoor House is in keeping with this supposition possessing a date inscription of 1785 below the pediment at the front entrance.

The door with its triangular pediment, stone frieze and date stone reflects the classical revival that heavily influenced architecture in the late 17th and early 18th centuries (Breckon & Parker 1996, 131). With its compact rectangular plan and facade of clean and symmetrical lines where well-proportioned windows were balanced by an imposing central door, the zenith of this style was reached during the late 18th and early 19th centuries – the Georgian period (Ibid 31-32).

The sash windows, a late 17th to early 18th century innovation, are set back from the wall, complying with the London Buildings Act of 1707 and 1709 that required four inches depth in order to mitigate against a potential fire hazard. As a consequence, this style was widely adopted elsewhere (Ibid, 119). The six pane double sash window as illustrated at Wythmoor House was the most popular and common form of classical style glazing (Ibid 33).

A further domestic wing (figure 35, centre) appears to have been added to the main building forming a northern extension that marked the interface with a later stone barn.

Phase 2 Stone barn construction

There exists a possibility that the stone barn may have been built independently of Wythmoor House before connection via the construction of a northern wing (figure 35) to Wythmoor House. However, based on recent observation it would appear that the stone barn was constructed after the northern wing was built, as the lower elevation of the study building, (the barn) appears to respect an existing structure.

The rectangular plan barn measured at least 12.70m x 5.25m in size (figure 8), a ground plan that appeared to respect the location of three vernacular roof trusses belonging to the original stone barn phase.

Phase 3 Demise of stone doorway

The blocking of the rear doorway indicated a major alteration regarding the spatial use of the stone barn possibly suggestive of a change of use.

Phase 4 Stone stairway

The imposition of a stone stairway allowed permanent access to the range of first floor rooms located within the stone adjunct behind Wythmoor House. Possibly, this range of accommodation was for servants or farm-workers segregating the private space belonging to the farmer and his family from hired labour.

Phase 5 Re-build of stone barn

The enlarged rectangular plan barn measured 17.50m x 5.25m in size and probably reflected another major shift in use or a substantive increase in productivity reflecting a division of space within the barn.

The re-building of the barn, extending slightly northwards and with the addition of a projecting porch probably either enlarged an existing threshing floor or reflected a change to a threshing barn. The structure would have required a threshing floor, storage bays for sheaves and straw, ventilation slits and an opposite door for light and draught (Brunskill 1969, 140-141). Possibly, the low door at the rear was associated with this action.

The archway at the rear of the barn probably accommodated a cart or other horse-drawn wagons, a trend that appears to occur from the mid 19th Century as farm incomes rose and agricultural improvements and increased capitalisation gathered momentum.

Above the archway, a small garret room possibly existed although no floor is currently present and there was no indication of beam recesses or ledges. Most probably the windows were an architectural device rather than servicing a secondary floor.

Phase 6 Demise of door and archway

A further spatial re-organisation occurred with the blocking of a small doorway and the archway.

Most probably, use as a threshing barn ceased and the study building became a store. Possibly, this may reflect a shift from predominantly arable to pastoral farming with greater emphasis on accommodation for animals. This may parallel a fall in grain prices from the second half of the 19th Century when cheaper imports from overseas and the repeal of the Corn Laws lead to depression in British agriculture from around 1870 onwards.

Phase 7 Construction of stone byre

The construction of a byre was probably contemporary with the filling of doorways within the barn (Phase 6).

The finish for the byre was of a high standard with architectural embellishments that included a rounded corner (figure 29), an aesthetic device that complemented the entrance into the farm. Right-angled walls and door jambs were finished with quoins complementing the style of the stone barn.

The byre could have been originally a single space despite being accessed via three doorways but was latterly divided into three cells partitioned by a 20th Century brick wall and a timber panel. The stalls within the byre were functional; white-washed walls, wooden hay feeders with ceramic pipes forming feeding troughs.

Phase 8 Modern adaptations

During the later part of the 20th Century, a number of minor alterations of little architectural merit were initiated. These included:

- Installation of an oil tank built on breeze blocks
- Construction of a stone gatepost at the entrance to the farm
- A small dwarf wall and a five bar gate within the farmyard
- Two skylights inserted into the byre roof

7 ARCHIVE

The archive for this project will be deposited with the appropriate archaeological curator, Tullie House, Carlisle. This archive has been assembled in accordance within the protocols of Management of Archaeological Projects (MAP2).

8 ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I am grateful to Mrs Lynn Pears for her assistance with the fieldwork and commissioning the work. I would also like to thank Jeremy Parsons for his help and guidance with the archaeological brief, the staff of Carlisle Library with my research into the local history of the area and the staff of Cumbria Record Office, Carlisle with the map regression and other documentary research.

9 BIBLIOGRAPHY

Breckon, W. & Parker, J Tracing the History of Houses, Bristol, 1996

Brown, D.H. Archaeological Archives a Guide to Best Practice in Creation, Compilation, Transfer and Curation, London, 2007

Archaeological building survey (level III), Wythmoor House, Stockdalewath

- Brown, R.J. The English Country Cottage, London, 1980
- Brunskill, R.W. Illustrated Handbook of Vernacular Architecture, London, 1969
- Brunskill, R.W. Traditional Buildings of Britain, London, 1997
- Brunskill, R.W. Traditional Buildings of Cumbria, London, 2002
- English Heritage Understanding Historic Buildings, A Guide to Good Practice, London, 2006
- Harrison, J.A.C. Old Stone Buildings, Newton Abbot, 1982
- IFA Institute of Field Archaeologists' Standards & Guidance documents (Desk-Based Assessments, Watching Briefs, Evaluations, Investigation and Recording of Standing Buildings, Finds), London 2001
- RCHME Recording Historic Buildings: A Descriptive Specification (3rd edition), London 1996.

APPENDIX A

Development proposals

The proposed development entails a change from a defunct agricultural use to a residential purpose. The current barn will consist of four bedrooms, kitchen and living space set over two floors, whilst the byre will become a studio.

The construction of a first floor and minor interior partitions are proposed within the barn but these will not compromise the integrity of the structure that is currently an open space.

Within the byre a brick partition will be removed in order to create a single studio whilst the three feeding troughs will also be discarded.

The development will maintain virtually the same frontage onto the road (figure 3).

On completion of the development the building elevations will conform to figure 3 and the ground plan will adhere to figure 4.

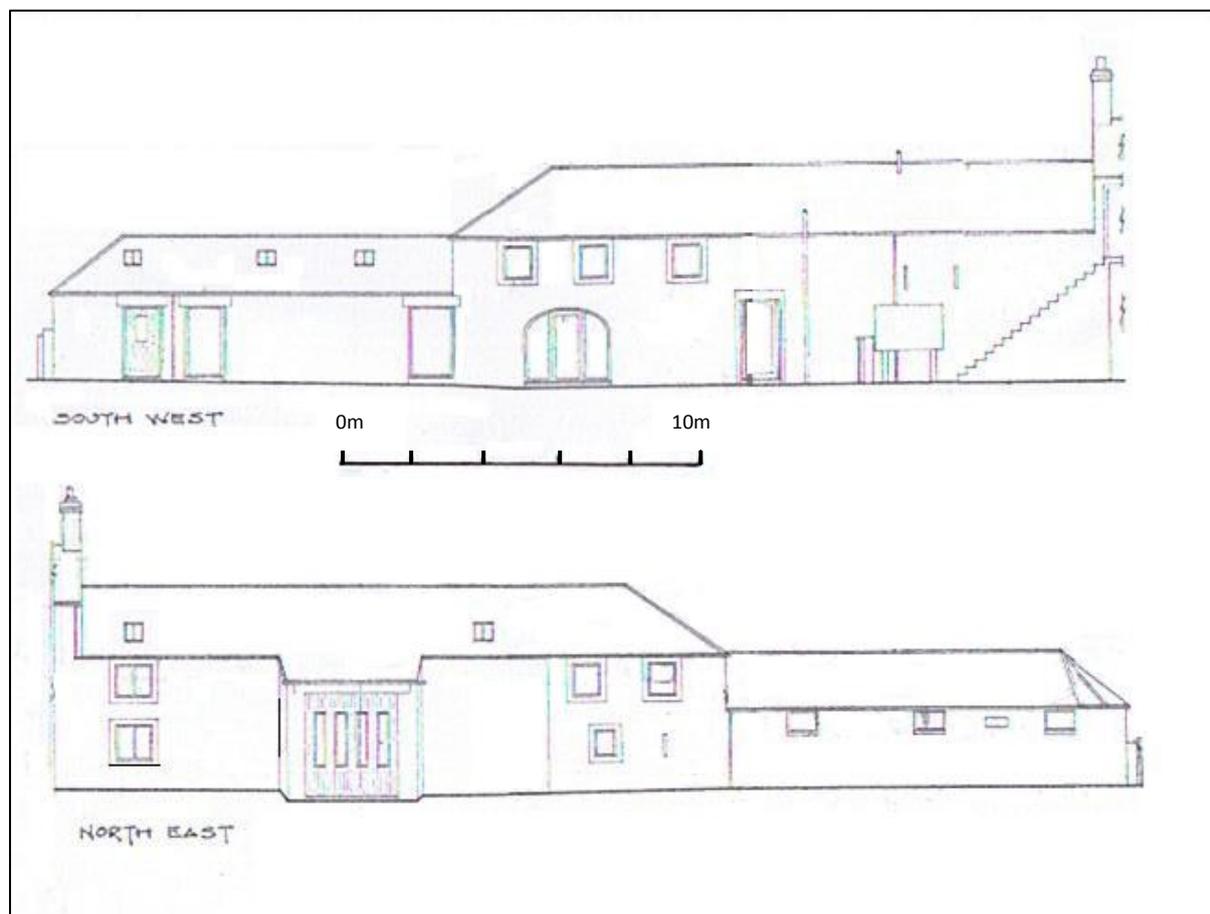


Figure 37. Proposed new building featured in the development.

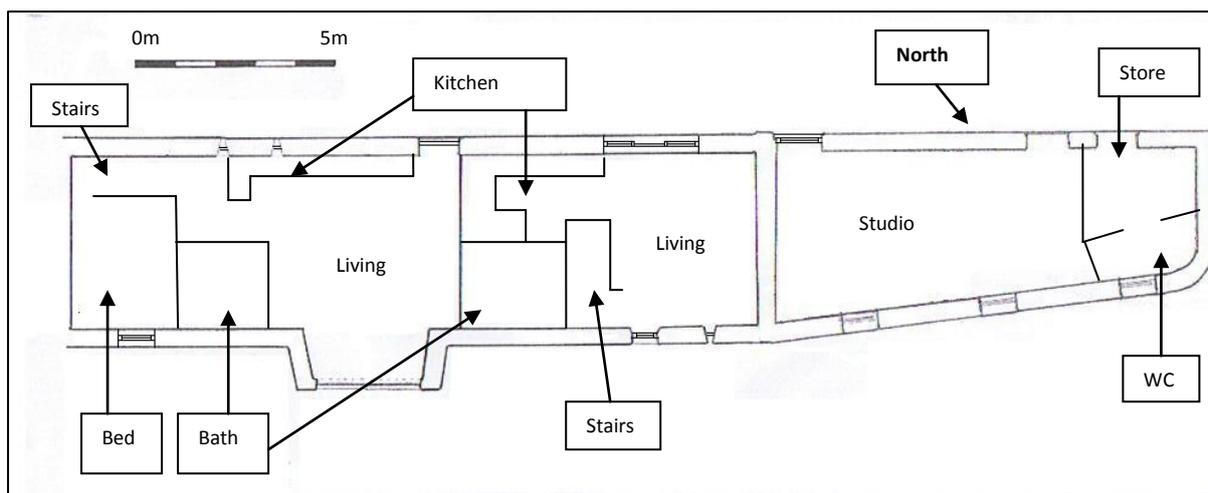


Figure 38. Ground plan of proposed development adjacent to Wythmoor House