# Cow Pasture Barns, Hainton, Lincs. <br> Archaeological Recording 

NGR: TF 193852
Planning Application No.: N/071/0686/02
Site code: HCP03
LCNCC Acen No.: 2003.236

Report for<br>Ms S. Cox<br>on behalf of<br>Mr Brown

LAS Report No. 640
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Cow Pasture Barns, Hainton, Lincolnshire<br>Archaeological Recording<br>NGR: TF 193852<br>Planning Application No.: N/071/0686/02<br>Site Code: HCP03<br>LCNCC Accn No.: 2003.236


#### Abstract

Summary The outbuilding complex at Cow Pasture Farm has developed through a process of gradual accretion, reflecting increases in landholdings or production. Nevertheless the resulting complex does reflect a degree of planning. The original barn was constructed at the same time as the adjacent farmhouse and is probably of late $18^{\text {th }}$ century date. Barns 2 and 3 were added soon after with a stable block on the west side of the crewyard. The crewyard was split into two with the addition of a cattle shed built across the centre of the yard in the mid $19^{\text {th }}$ century. An office/store was added by 1891 and a dutch barn in the 1960s.


## Introduction

Lindsey Archaeological Services was commissioned to undertake a building survey at the above site by Ms S. Cox on behalf of Mr Brown in accordance with the requirements of Planning Consent granted by West Lindsey District Council, and the general requirements of the Archaeology Section of Lincolnshire County Council as set out in the Lincolnshire Archaeological Handbook (Lincolnshire County Council Archaeology Section, 1998).

## Site Location and Description

Hainton is a small village located in the Lincolnshire Wolds, 15 km west of Louth. Cow Pasture Farm is situated 1.5 km north-east of the village on the A157 to Louth.

## Planning Background

Planning permission has been granted by East Lindsey District Council to carry out alterations to convert the group of barns at Cow Pasture Farm to accommodation subject to archaeological recording of the building. The barns are constructed in ironstone with pantile roofs; their external appearance suggests that they are of late $18^{\text {th }} /$ early $19^{\text {th }}$ century date.

## Scope of Work

The aim of the survey was to record the existing fabric of the building prior to alterations. The requirements of the survey were agreed with Dr Beryl Lott, Built Environment Assistant, Lincolnshire County Council and comprised:

- Photographic survey of all internal and external elevations and details of any architectural features, fixtures and fittings. No drawings should be made.
- Completion of building recording form supplied by the Archaeology Section, Lincolnshire County Council.
- Provision of short report to include an account of the recording, circumstances of the survey and summary of work carried out with an archive of photographs on CD.

Plans and elevations of the building were supplied by the client.

## Description

Cow Pasture Barn comprises a complex of outbuildings characterised by ironstone random rubble construction, with red brick detailing around openings and eaves (PI. 1). Cow Pasture farmhouse to the south west is built on the same alignment, and in the same style; it is presumably contemporary (PI. 2). The farmstead complex is arranged around two crewyards with a large central barn (1) and smaller flanking barns to the west (2) and east (3) on the north side. It is enclosed to the south and east by a brick wall. A north-south range of stables (4) adjoins the west barn (2) to the south (Fig. 2). The crewyards are divided by a central stone wall running south from the central barn (1). A later, lean-to cowshed (5) incorporates part of the dividing wall, opening into the western crewyard. A store/office (6) of $c 1890$ has been built against the southern boundary wall of the eastern crewyard. The northern part of the eastern crewyard is enclosed by a modern Dutch barn (7), which abuts the south face of barns (3) and (4).

## Central Barn (1)

The barn is constructed in stone with red brick detailing around the openings, with a dog-tooth eaves cornice of later brick (Pls 3 and 4). There are two pairs of opposed entrances on the north and south elevations. The north west entrance has been blocked in stone (PI. 3). This opening and its opposite entrance on the south elevation are identical in style: wide openings with brick jambs are of a distinctive 'long and short' design. They are topped by an ashlar block from which an elliptical arch of orange-red brick springs. The two entrances opening onto the crewyard have outward-opening, wooden double-doors with strap hinges (Pls 8 and 32).

The north east entrance is lower in height, and its dooframe recessed from the wall plane; its brick arch is segmental whereas the primary north west and south west doorways have elliptical arches. On the basis of these differences, the north east entrance is likely to be an insertion, albeit one imitating the style of the earlier openings. Its opposite entrance on the south elevation has been enlarged (Pl. 32).

On the north elevation, a large upper window has been inserted centrally between the
flanking doorways. It probably represents an enlargement of an original, smaller window. The bricks of its surround are darker and larger than those of the western entrances, and resemble the nineteenth century brickwork of the eaves cornice. This window is similar in style to the inserted north east doorway, and they may be of the same phase.

There are three diaper-shaped ventilation holes in honeycomb brickwork on both the north and south elevations (PI. 8); those on the north elevation are now blocked with one to either side of the window and one below (PI. 4). There are narrow ventilation slits above both the north west (PI. 4) and south west entrances (PI. 8); the former is blocked. Internally, the ventilation is channelled through two vertical slits positioned either side of the external slit, to prevent a direct cross-draught through the barn (PI. 9).

Internally, the barn is divided into four bays, with a half bay at each end (PI. 6). The roof is of king post construction with sawn rafters; six to each full bay, and five in the half bays at each end. The roof is hipped at the west end only (PI. 5). The rafters are clad in horizontal laths, which appear to be original. The roof was too high to allow close inspection but a mark was seen on the second truss from the west end of the barn (PI. 7). This is probably a batch mark rather than a carpenter's mark. Central barn (1) is present on the 1814 Heneage estate map (Fig. 6).

## Western Barn (2)

The western barn (2) abuts the west side of the central barn (1). Its eaves level is $c .5 \mathrm{~m}$ lower than that of the central barn, and the roof ridge is cantilevered beyond the east wall to meet the hipped gable of the central barn (PI. 3). It is of broadly similar construction: ironstone rubble with 'long and short' brick quoins and similar window surrounds. However, the evidence suggests that Barns (1) and (2) are of different builds. The arches spanning openings are mostly elliptical, with brick voussoirs set on edge (upright headers displayed). (Barn (1) has segmental arches composed of voussoirs set on end, ie. upright stretchers displayed). The eaves cornice is of dentilled, rather than dog-tooth type. The roof pitch is steeper.

The west gable of central barn (1) presently forms a party wall between the barns (1) and (2). The eaves cornice is present on this wall, showing that it was once the external elevation of a stand alone structure. The cornice has been cut by the insertion of a first floor doorway providing access between the two buildings at a level now removed (PI. 12). The cut is contemporary with the erection of the western barn.

Access to the barn from the crewyard is provided via a single doorway on the south elevation (Pl. 11). The double pintles indicate that the original door was a traditional split stable door. The two entrances at the west end of the south elevation are modern insertions. The west gable end contains a wide, high opening with a shallow segmental arch over. Its brick jambs have been removed and the opening cut back to the surrounding rubble walling, probably to receive a recent blocking of breezeblock and rubblestone cladding.

It is likely that the two ground floor windows are primary features (PIs 3 and 10); a third ground floor window at the west end of the north elevation has been brick-blocked (PI. 13). Also original are the two small, rectangular upper windows placed high up on the south elevation, their stone lintels built into the eaves cornice. On the north elevation, the three upper windows are later enlargements of the original eaves height windows; the lintels and red. brick jambs of these replaced windows remains. On the large central window, the enlarged area is marked by nineteenth century yellow brick jambs. The glazing is modern throughout. The upper windows probably lit a first floor level open to the roof, now removed.

Internally, Barn (2) currently comprises two rooms. The roof has been almost entirely replaced at the west end, and is hipped with a transverse collar joining the central collar from the hip, all clad with plasterboard. The central partition wall has had its access altered and has recently been reduced in height with a low elliptical arch copying original arches in the central barn (1) (PI. 14). The western barn (2) is present on the 1814 Heneage estate map (Fig. 6).

## Eastern Barn (3)

The building to the east of the central barn (1) was perhaps a cartshed with granary over. This was a common arrangement, combining the need for a raised, enclosed granary with the need for a roofed, open-fronted cartshed (Brunskill 1999,90). Access for the carts was on the northern, external face, rather than the crewyard. Early writers on agricultural improvement advocated north facing cartsheds as a measure to prevent the expansion of the iron tyres of the cartwheels (Wade Martins 1991, 193). It is also usual for cartsheds to turn their back on the crewyard; this stops cattle entering the building and injuring themselves or the equipment.

Barn (3) has been much altered. It was originally constructed in ironstone rubble, as Barns 1 and 2 , but the north elevation was largely rebuilt in the late nineteenth century/early twentieth century as a four bay red brick structure, with bullnose jambs to the openings. The four openings have modern brick blockings; the blockings of bays one (easternmost) and three incorporate modern doorways. A small portion of the primary build survives at the west end of the north elevation, consisting of original walling surrounding a doorway with an elliptical arch
and. 'long and short' jambs of red brick. Fragments of the west jamb of the adjacent arch also survive (PI. 15). Above the arches, the first floor is yellow brickwork with five windows (one has been enlarged within the last fifty years). Internally, the window jambs have bullnose bricks.

The east and south elevations are stone built (PI. 16 and PI. 32). The south elevation has been partially rebuilt and original features at ground floor level, such as opposed entrances, may have been concealed or removed (PI. 32). The three upper windows have stone surrounds, replacement stone sills and modern fenestration.

Barn (3) is of three cells. The west room is a stairwell, presently entered from a single door at the west end of the south elevation. It contains the only surviving original floor in the complex, which comprises bricks set on edge (all other floors are concrete). The central and eastern rooms are squarish and contain two entrances each. One of them may have been put aside for the storage of a gig. The hipped gable at the east end has been replaced within the last twenty years due to fire damage (PI. 16). The trusses are secured with the same type of iron straps as found elsewhere in barns (1) and (2) (PI. 18). The eastern barn (3) is present on the 1814 . Heneage estate map (Fig. 6).

## Stable Block (4)

The long west range (Stable 4) abuts the western barn (2) to the south by means of a covered cross passage giving access to the western crewyard from the west. The continuation of the eaves cornice onto the south elevation of Barn (2) indicates that the adjoining Stable (4) is a later addition. Although the junction of the two roofs is masked internally by plasterboard cladding, the ridge pole of Stable (4) is probably tenoned into the purlin of Barn (2).

The east elevation has six arched entrances fronting the crewyard, five of which are equally spaced. Each doorway is approximately 1.3 m in length, All the openings have been blocked except the northernmost which gives access to the cross passage, and the adjacent door which leads to room (a). This doorway is flanked by two windows of equal size; the window to the south is brick blocked. The eastern end of the south elevation features an area of brickwork with three small blind niches, since blocked (PI. 20). Their function is unclear but may be related to storage. The west elevation (PI. 1) contains two blocked doorways which have opposed entrances on the east elevation (fig 2). To the north is the entrance to the cross passage, and to its south, a window lighting room (d). A former wide entrance to room (a) has recently been removed and blocked by random rubble of similar character to the nearby blocking of the west elevation of Barn (2).

The roof is of common rafter construction with a thin continuous ridge piece and clasped purlins. The collars are thin and appear to be of pine. The principal rafters are of approximately the same scantling as the common rafters. Some rafters are machine sawn replacements. The northern room (a) has seven bays of three common rafters, except the end bays which have two rafters each. The central room (b) has five bays of three common rafters, except the southern end bay, which has one rafter. The small room (c) was created by the insertion of an internal partition. The roof is of dragonbeam construction under a hipped gable. The stable block (4) is present on the 1814 Heneage estate map (Fig. 6).

## Cattle Shed (5)

The cattle shed was built to front the western crewyard (a). The roof of cattle shed (5) abuts Barn (1) with a cross passage under. The cattle shed was built utilising the crewyard cross wall as its east wall ( Pl .30 ) and the southern boundary wall as its gable end. The roof rests directly on the cross wall to the east, and is supported by six yellow bullnose brick piers to the west (PI. 26). The red brick infill was inserted in the second half of the $20^{\text {th }}$ century with doors in the north and south bays. There are no features on the east elevation except for the door at the north end which gives access, via the cross passage, to crewyard (a).

The internal length of the shed is 19.4 m . Resting on top of each brick pier is an unsquared $\log$ forming a tiebeam, secured with metal braces (PI. s 27 and 29). The intermediate machine sawn tie beams, rafters, ridge piece and ridge collars are modern (Pl. 28). There are eight rafters per bay and a collar every four rafters, i.e. two per bay. There is evidence that there was a second collar position above the purlins in eight of the twelve collar rafters (PI. 28).

Both the cross wall and the later Cattle shed (5) post-date 1814, as they are not present on the Heneage estate map of that date (Fig. 6).

## Store/Office (6)

This red brick building of the late nineteenth century abuts the boundary wall to the south and the cross wall to the west. External access from south of the complex was initially provided via a door cut through the boundary; this was subsequently altered to a window (PI. 31). Its roof has been formed by extending the hipped roof of cowshed (5) to the east. The building was locked on the site visit, and not inspected internally. This building is not present on the 1814 Heneage estate map (Fig. 6), but appears on the 1891 Ordnance survey map (Fig. 7).

## Dutch Barn (7)

The latest addition to the complex was a Dutch barn, abutting the south side of barns (1) and (3). It is supported on reused telegraph poles which are stamped with the date 1964. Contemporary with its construction was the insertion of an opening at the north end of the eastern boundary wall, at its junction with the south east corner of Barn 3. The new entrance has jambs of brick (PI. 16) and the original scar of the boundary wall is visible in the fabric of Barn 3 (PI. 32).

## Discussion

Barn (1) was the first building in the complex, and was probably constructed in the mid-late eighteenth century. Flanking barns (2) and (3) followed soon after, built in a similar architectural style. In the early nineteenth century two north-south ranges were built to abut these buildings: the stable block (4) and a corresponding eastern wing (see Fig. 2). This eastern wing was demolished after 1955 (Fig. 8). The same construction phase included the formation of a single crewyard by building an enclosing south wall. This stage of development is visible on the 1814 Heneage estate map (Fig. 6).

The crewyard was separated in the mid nineteenth century by a cross wall, dividing the enclosed space into two crewyards. The late nineteenth century cattle shed (5) made use of this pre-existing wall, and was in turn abutted by a store/office of c1890. This stage of development is visible on the 1891 Ordnance Survey map (Fig. 7). A late nineteeth century east-west wall dividing the eastern crewyard into two equal halves is also visible on the 1891 and the 1955 (Fig. 8) Ordnance Survey maps (Fig. 2). The last addition to the complex was the post-1964 dutch barn (7).

## Conclusion

The outbuilding complex at Cow Pasture Farm has developed over perhaps 200 years through a process of gradual accretion, reflecting increases in landholdings or production. Nevertheless the resulting complex does reflect a degree of planning; it is categorised by Brunskill $(1999,105)$ as a foldyard planform. It is typical of a nineteenth century layout for a large farm, of perhaps 250 acres or more. There may be some significance in the complete detachment of the Farmhouse from the outbuildings, which is usual considering the farmhouse was built at the same time as the initial Barn (1).

The materials and techniques used are typical of vernacular building practice in the region. The choice of ironstone rubble and pantile, for example, reflects the regional availability of materials, the size and economic status of the smallholding, and the prevalent regional vernacular building style.

## Acknowledgements

LAS would like to thank Sara Cox for her assistance with the survey. The survey was carried out by Naomi Field and Michael Clark. The report was written by Naomi Field and Geraint Franklin. The illustrations were prepared by Mark Williams and Geraint Franklin, based on the survey carried out by Michael Kingsley Architect.

## References

Brunskill, R. (1999) Traditional Farm Buildings of Britain. Victor Gollancz, London.

Wade Martins, S.W. (1991) Historic Farm Buildings. Batsford, London.

Naomi Field and Geraint Franklin<br>© Lindsey Archaeological Services, August 2003

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Figure 1 Location of Hainton. Based on the Ordnance Survey 1:50,000 Landranger map, sheet 122 (top), and 1:25,000 Explorer mapping (bottom) sheet 282 © Crown Copyright. Reproduced with the permission of the Controller of HMSO. LAS Licence No. AL 100002165.


Figure 2: Plan of outbuilding complex (1:200 scale)

(b)

Barn (2)
Barn (1)
Barn (3)


Figure 3: (a) External north elevation of outbuilding complex, showing from left, Barn (3), Barn (1) and Barn (2) (b) External south elevation of Barn (2), Barn (1) and Barn (3).


Barn (2)
Stable block (4)



Figure 6: Extract from the 1814 Heneage estate map (Lincoln Archive Office)


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