

ROCKING HALL SHOOTING HUT,  
ROCKING MOOR, THRUSCROSS,  
NORTH YORKSHIRE

ARCHITECTURAL AND  
WILDLIFE SURVEY



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On behalf of

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**ARCHITECTURAL AND WILDLIFE SURVEY,  
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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In November 2010, Ed Dennison Archaeological Services Ltd (EDAS) were commissioned by the Bolton Abbey Estate, through the project architect Peter Gaze Pace, to provide an input into a management plan for a mid 18th century shooting hut (known as Rocking Hall) on Rocking Moor, north-west of Blubberhouses, North Yorkshire (NGR SE 1102 5785 centred). The project, which involved an architectural and wildlife survey of the shooting hut, was required to inform its restoration as part of a Higher Level Stewardship Scheme Agreement with Natural England.

At first glance, Rocking Hall appears to be an early (and possibly very early) surviving example of a purpose-built shooting hut on a large country estate. Its design may have been either directly derived from or closely influenced by the work of William Kent, and it draws on elements of other building types of this period, such as gate lodges and summerhouses. It is reputed to have been built in 1758. However, an undated illustration depicts the building without its north and south wings (which were present by at least the 1850s), and so it might represent an earlier watch tower or folly/summerhouse-type building which was subsequently converted into a shooting hut, possibly as early as the mid 18th century. This conversion appears to have involved the addition of north and south wings, as well as the existing shallow pitched roof.

Without further documentary and landscape research, it is not known why Rocking Hall was built exactly where it is. Access to the grouse moors must have been the principal consideration, but it may be that the presence of the adjacent 'Rocking Stone', a natural geological feature, was a deciding factor for this particular location. Some thought was also clearly given to the long-distance visibility, both from and to the hut. It is clear that the hut deserves wider consideration as part of the creation of landscapes of pleasure and recreation on the Bolton Abbey estates. Although its primary function is most likely to be that of a purpose-built shooting hut, the folly-like aspects of the building, together with its proximity to the Rocking Stone and the apparent deliberately arranged approach to the building, all suggest that non-shooters may also have been entertained there.

There does not appear to have been any earlier settlement on the site, and the adjacent building, previously described as a 17th century farmhouse, appears to be a broadly contemporary mid 18th century structure. The deliberate juxtaposition of the two buildings means that the house is either hidden or appears to be part of Rocking Hall itself, when viewed from the main access track, and both buildings effectively shield the Rocking Stone from long distance views. The house may have served as stables, accommodation for staff and/or a watching post to guard against poachers.

A daytime internal and external bat survey of the shooting lodge was undertaken, as well as an emergence survey. The evidence suggests that the north cell of the lodge provides a temporary feeding and/or roosting area for a very small number of Pipistrelle bats. It is therefore recommended that appropriate precautionary mitigation measures are undertaken to ensure that the status of the local population of bats is maintained prior to, during and after any proposed repair works.

# 1 INTRODUCTION

## Reasons and Circumstances for the Project

- 1.1 In November 2010, Ed Dennison Archaeological Services Ltd (EDAS) were commissioned by the Bolton Abbey Estate, through the project architect Peter Gaze Pace, to provide an input into a management plan for a mid 18th century shooting hut (known as Rocking Hall) on Rocking Moor, north-west of Blubberhouses, North Yorkshire (NGR SE 1102 5785 centred).
- 1.2 The project, which involved an architectural and wildlife survey of the shooting hut, was required to inform its restoration as part of a Higher Level Stewardship Scheme Agreement with Natural England. The scope of the recording work was defined by a brief prepared by Dr Margaret Nieke, Yorkshire and the Humber Historic Environment Advisor to Natural England (see Appendix 3), and this was supplemented by an EDAS methods statement (see Appendix 4). The architectural and ecological recording work was funded by the Bolton Abbey Estate and Natural England.

## Site Location and Description

- 1.3 Rocking Hall is a purpose-built mid 18th century shooting hut, erected for the 4th Duke of Devonshire and forming a key element of the early sporting landscape of the Bolton Abbey Estate. It stands in an isolated position on Rocking Moor, some 4km to the west of Thruscross Reservoir and at an elevation of c.395m. The shooting hut is situated within a c.55m square walled enclosure, on the east side of a large 'rocking stone', with a further building to the west, suggested to be a remnant of an earlier farmstead; for the purposes of this report, this latter building is referred to as 'the house'.
- 1.4 The main existing access to the enclosure is from the south-east, along an unsurfaced trackway also forming part of the Dales Way Link public footpath. Within the wider landscape, the surrounding moorland continues to rise gently to the north, but falls away markedly to the east, south and west. The area to the immediate south of the shooting hut in particular provides superb and wide-ranging views to the south-east, south and south-west. The shooting hut and house are visible on the skyline from the vicinity of Spittle Ings House, 3km to the south-east, when they are approached from the south-east, but are then lost from view for some distance as the footpath/trackway dips into an area of lower ground before rising again. However, both buildings are very prominent on the horizon when seen from the east, particularly from the Greenhow Hill Road running north from Blubberhouses, some 5km to the east.
- 1.5 The shooting hut has not been the subject of any previous detailed study, although it has been noted as part of a wider study of historic grouse shooting landscapes in the Yorkshire Dales (Done & Muir 2001). Neither the shooting hut nor the adjacent house are listed, and they are not recorded on English Heritage's National Monuments Record or the North Yorkshire Historic Environment Record; however, the shooting hut is listed on the Yorkshire Dales National Park's Historic Environment Record (Site MYD36614).
- 1.6 At the time of the survey, both the shooting hut and associated house were in reasonable structural condition, although both had problems with their roof structures. With the exception of some tables in the shooting hut, their interiors were largely empty.

## **Aims and Objectives**

- 1.7 The primary aim of the architectural survey work was to provide a photographic, drawn and written record of the shooting hut, while the bat survey was to identify the presence of any of the protected species in the buildings. The survey results would then help to inform the preparation of a management plan for a proposed restoration project, and would make appropriate recommendations for any mitigation work as part of the proposed restoration work.

## **Survey Methodologies**

- 1.8 As noted above, the scope of the architectural and ecological survey work was defined by a Natural England brief and an EDAS methods statement (see Appendices 3 and 4).

### *Building Recording*

- 1.9 The building recording comprised four main elements, namely limited documentary research, and drawn, photographic and written recording. Together, the four elements equate to a Level 2 a visual and descriptive record as defined by English Heritage (2006, 13-14). The on-site drawn and photographic recording was undertaken on 25th November 2010.

- 1.10 As has already been stated, the shooting hut has been subject to limited previous study as part of wider work on historic grouse shooting landscapes in the Yorkshire Dales (Done & Muir 2001), and the information gathered during this wider work has been incorporated into this report. In addition, relevant contemporary and later secondary sources have also been used, although examination of the Bolton Estate archives was not included as part of the project; a full list of sources consulted is given in the bibliography (Chapter 7) below.

- 1.11 The drawn record comprised a ground floor plan of the shooting hut at a scale of 1:50. This plan shows all significant details such as inserted or blocked openings, original fixtures and fittings, and items relating to original and subsequent uses. Detailed inspections were undertaken behind and around any stored material to ensure that all relevant features were noted. A long section through the building was also produced. The information for the drawn record was captured using both traditional hand-held and remote measurement techniques. Final inked drawings were then produced by hand to publication standard and are presented as reduced versions of the full sized field drawings using conventions established by English Heritage (2006, 18-37).

- 1.12 The photographic record was achieved using a digital camera. Once again, English Heritage guidelines were followed (English Heritage 2006, 10-13). Subject to access, all photographs contain a graduated scale, and artificial lighting was used where necessary, in the form of electronic flash. The photographic record (see Appendix 1) includes a register detailing the location and direction of each shot, a figure showing the position and direction of each shot, and thumbnails of the photographs; selected larger prints accompany the main text of the report. A full set of photographic prints has been included with the project archive (see below).

- 1.13 Although no detailed recording work was required on the house to the west of the shooting hut, enough measurements were taken in the field to allow the preparation of an outline ground floor plan of the building. This was supplemented

by digital photographs and written observations, so as to inform the understanding of the shooting hut itself and the development of the enclosure within which it is located.

#### *Wildlife Survey*

- 1.14 The wildlife survey involved inspecting the shooting lodge for bats, to confirm their presence or absence, and if present, to assess and inform any future repair programmes.
- 1.15 A daytime external and internal inspection was undertaken on 19th May 2011. At this time of year, bats are likely to be using their main summer roosts, some of which will be maternity (breeding) roosts. Evidence for bats includes their physical presence in small cracks within the fabric of a building, staining with oil from bat fur, and scratching and droppings. The shooting lodge was systematically searched, including the loft space; accessible cracks were examined with the use of a Clulite Lamp (1,000,000 candle power) while ladders were used to access the upper levels. An evening nocturnal emergence bat survey was also undertaken on 19th May 2011. Two observers were utilised either side of sunset, using frequency division and heterodyne bat detectors and digital recorders.

#### **Report and Archive**

- 1.16 This report forms a detailed written record of the shooting hut, prepared from the sources of information set out above, cross-referenced to the drawn and photographic record. It describes the surviving structures, and analyses their form, function, history, and sequence of development. The buildings are also placed within their historical, social and estate context where possible, using the available documentary and secondary evidence. The detailed written record includes a Statement of Significance, which assesses the structures from both a local and regional perspective, and comments on the contribution of the building to the local landscape character, public amenity and biodiversity. This report also includes a summary of the results from the wildlife survey, while the full unedited Bat Report (Holloway 2011) appears as Appendix 2.
- 1.17 The full archive, comprising paper, magnetic and plastic media, relating to the project has been ordered and indexed according to the standards set by the National Archaeological Record (EDAS site code RHT 10). It was deposited with the Bolton Estate on completion of the project.

## 2 HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

### Introduction

- 2.1 As has already been noted above, the shooting hut has been included in a previous study of historic grouse shooting landscapes in the Yorkshire Dales (Done & Muir 2001), and the following section draws heavily upon this study.

### Grouse Shooting

- 2.2 Grouse shooting has had a long-lasting and varied impact on the upland heather moors of northern Britain. The practice of burning heather moorland greatly pre-dates the development of grouse shooting, forming part of the agricultural management of sheep, but it ceased when sheep were excluded from the grouse moors. However, following a fall in the numbers of grouse in the 1870s, it was realised that grouse needed both old heather plants for shelter and young shoots for food, and so sheep were bought back to graze the moors and programmes of selective burning recommenced. In creating a favourable environment for grouse to breed, it was not only the vegetational patterns in the landscape that were modified. There were also ecological interventions, for example, the destruction of birds of prey, which dates back to at least the late 18th century (Done & Muir 2001, 195-196). By the end of the 18th century, shooting prowess was regarded as an important manly virtue, and sporting codes of conduct were regarded as a hallmark of gentlemanly status (e.g. Payne-Gallwey 1899). At this time, a personal invitation was required from the aristocratic landowner to join an organised shoot, often undertaken in the form of 'walked-up shooting' with pointer dogs, the birds being shot as they flew away from the shooters. However, after repeal of the game laws in 1831, tenants could shoot over their holdings, and were allowed to sell the game that they had shot (Done & Muir 2001, 197).
- 2.3 In the Yorkshire Dales and elsewhere, grouse shooting also existed within a broader social context than merely that of a gentlemanly pursuit. It developed at a traumatic stage in the history of rural society, during and immediately following Parliamentary Enclosure. However, from the 1880s, when sheep prices fell, grouse shooting came to form an important economic element of estate management, with the letting of shooting rights proving to be highly profitable. The local population could also find part-time work as flankers, beaters and pickers up, and there was also a wider economic benefit to the local community, for example to those offering accommodation, transport or dealing in game. Nevertheless, as the railway network expanded, and rural holidays and forays for the masses from town and cities became more available, there was increasing conflict between those wishing for greater access to moorland used for shooting and those who wished to restrict such access (Done & Muir 2001, 198-199).
- 2.4 The manner in which shooting was undertaken changed in response to improving technology and social mores. At beginning of the 19th century, grouse shooting was regarded as a tiring and muscular pursuit. However, as the sport developed, it became less and less the activity of robust individuals, with more comfort and shelter expected; the social occasion, rather than the hunting, came to matter the most. In the late 18th century, upland inns were frequently used as shooters' accommodation, but purpose-built shooting lodges or huts began to appear on the moors early in the 19th century. Where shooting moors were relatively distant from the lodge accommodation, shooting huts or shelters were constructed on the edge of the moors, where food and drink could be consumed in comfort. These normally comprised stone-built structures comprising separate rooms for shooters and



beaters as well as shelter for the horse which carried up the refreshments (Done & Muir 2001, 197 & 204-205).

- 2.5 Although 'shooting on the wing' was taking place in the early 18th century in the Yorkshire Dales, it became much easier after the mid 19th century due to improvements in gun technology (Griffin 2007, 118-119). The improved guns were shorter and lighter, and quicker to load and fire, and this generated a need to make the birds harder to hit. This gave rise to the use of lines of beaters to drive birds towards the shooters, a fast-flying grouse flying towards the shooter being a more difficult target to hit. At first, enclosure walls were sometimes used as artificial butts but the adoption of driven-shooting was increasingly expressed in the landscape by the construction of shooting butts to partly conceal the shooters from the birds (Payne-Gallwey 1892, 309-323). Many different types of butts were constructed, but all were carefully positioned according to the configuration of the local terrain, the prevailing wind direction and the flight paths used by the grouse; if the latter changed, then a re-alignment of the butts could be required. The butts also had to be positioned so as not to be visible on skyline when the grouse were driven from the perimeter of the moor towards its centre. On some estates, watching houses were built in prominent positions on moor tops in an attempt to control poaching (Done & Muir 2001, 202-203 & 207-208).
- 2.6 Grouse shooting declined after the First World War, the heavy casualties suffered by British forces having devastated the numbers of both estate owners and workers. There were also greater pressures of access to the countryside, with increasing demands from several quarters to allow moorland previously closed to the public to become more open (Done & Muir 2001, 204). Nevertheless, grouse shooting remains an important element of many upland estates in northern Britain, and the management of the landscape for grouse continues to exert a significant impact.

### **Grouse Shooting on the Bolton Abbey Estate**

- 2.7 Surviving advertisements from the very end of the 18th century indicate that grouse shooting was taking place on the Duke of Devonshire's Bolton Abbey Estate by this date, with local notables forming informal shooting parties and being requested to report any signs of poaching that they encountered (Done & Muir 2001, 197). However, relatively well-organised shooting must have been taking place for some time before this, as Done and Muir (2001, 205) state that Rocking Hall was purpose-built as a shooting or lunch hut in 1758 (the house to the west is described as a 17th century farmhouse).
- 2.8 Driven grouse shooting appeared on the Bolton Abbey Estate in 1840, and a series of numbers carved into the stones of a tall field wall on the slopes of Simon Fell may relate to shooters' positions early after this date. However, shooting butts were subsequently constructed - the form universally adopted on the estate being half-round, with stones placed around a C-shaped wooden template (Done & Muir 2001, 203 & 208). King George V made an annual visit to the Bolton Abbey Estate for grouse shooting, and came to Rocking Hall in 1911. On this occasion, there were three drives in the morning and four in the afternoon, separated by a luncheon when shooters were joined by their ladies brought up from Bolton Hall (Done & Muir 2001, 201 & 205).

## Rocking Hall

- 2.9 Although not a building Listed as being of Special Architectural or Historic Interest, Rocking Hall is a structure of more than local architectural interest. Done and Muir (2001, 205) state that it was built in 1758, although no reference is given for this precise date. In the 19th century, it was also called 'Rocking Stone Hall' and 'Roggan Hall' (Langdale 1822, 389; Grainge 1822, 510); 'Roggan' is a common local name for a rocking stone. 'Roggan' is depicted on Jeffreys' 1771 map of Yorkshire, as a two storey, two chimney but hipped roofed structure (see figure 3) which presumably represents the house to the west of the shooting hut. It is interesting to note that the house is drawn in elevation, as compared to all the other adjacent farmsteads etc, which implies that it was a significant and important structure. This is also the first time that the name 'Roggan' appears in the historical documents (Smith 1963, 127).
- 2.10 The 1st edition 6" Ordnance Survey (1854) map names the shooting hut as 'Rocking Hall', and places it to the west of centre of a square walled enclosure (see figure 4) in an otherwise open and largely unenclosed landscape. Three tracks converge on the east side of the enclosure, where the only apparent point of entry at this date seems to have been located; in fact, it is noticeable that for some distance to the east, the majority of tracks shown on the map are converging on the enclosure. These tracks to Rocking Hall run from Hay Slack Allotments to the north, Raven Stones and Bramley Heads to the east, and King's Allotment to the south-east. A single track, directly aligned on Rocking Hall, then passes through the east wall of the enclosure and runs straight to Rocking Hall. To the west, the 'Rocking Stone' is marked, and to the west of this, the house. There are two small square structures attached to the west wall of the enclosure. A 'Well' is also depicted just to the north-east of the enclosure.
- 2.11 There had been only minor changes by the time the 2nd edition Ordnance Survey 6" map was published in 1892 (see figure 4). In addition to the tracks noted above entering the east side of the enclosure, a further track ran into the enclosure and to Rocking Hall from the south and south-west across Long Ridge. An oval depression had appeared to the south side of the earlier track running in from the east, which the modern map marks as a disused shaft (see figure 2). The northern of the two small structures attached to the west wall of the enclosure in 1854 is no longer shown. By now, the square enclosure formed part of the enclosure landscape, with a long wall running north-east/south-west across Rocking Hall. No shooting butts are marked in either 1854 or 1892. On the 1909 Ordnance Survey map, no structures are attached to the west wall of the enclosure.
- 2.12 Edmund Bogg, writing in 1904, produces an illustration of Roggan Hall, drawn by A Sutton (Bogg 1904, 41) (see figure 3). The original date of Sutton's work is not given, although the frontispiece notes that the illustrations were "prepared expressly" for the book. However, it is a very puzzling sketch as it differs from the existing structure in a number of significant respects. Firstly, it only depicts the central part of the existing three bay structure, and the north and south wings are not shown (see Chapter 3 below); this implies that they are later additions, although there is no convincing structural evidence to suggest this, and indeed the three bays are clearly shown on the historic Ordnance Survey maps (see figure 4). Secondly, rather than having a pitched roof, the upper part of the structure is carried upwards in the form of a rather squat, sub-square tower, with a projecting low parapet which appears to have further angled projections to the corners. The sketch also suggests that the structure may have been surmounted by a low pyramidal roof topped by a ball finial. Assuming that the sketch is an accurate

representation, it is of considerable importance as it suggests that Rocking Hall might not have originated as a shooting lodge (see Chapter 5 below).

- 2.13 The Hall or the adjacent house does not appear in any of the 19th century census data for Thruscross township, which implies that neither were permanently occupied at this time. There are entries for a 'Rocking House', occupied by various schoolmasters, but this refers to a school in West End to the east of the Hall, rather than Rocking or Roggan Hall. Nevertheless, some periodic occupation is implied by an isolated reference which notes that John Blackwood, a sea captain later to work in Australia, was living at the Hall in the 1840s ([www.airmynyorks.co.uk/ebab.htm](http://www.airmynyorks.co.uk/ebab.htm)).

### 3 ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTIONS

#### Introduction

- 3.1 The two recorded buildings are described below in a logical sequence. After an initial discussion of their setting, the plan form, structure and architectural detailing of each building is described first, followed by the external elevations and a circulation description of the interior, from the lowest to the uppermost floor level. Reference should also be made to the floor plans and sections (figures 5 and 6) and plates, and the photographic record which appears as Appendix 1; photographs are referenced in the following text in bold type and square brackets, the numbers before the stroke representing the film number and the number after indicating the frame e.g. [1/32].
- 3.2 Both buildings are parallel, on a very slight north-east/south-west alignment (see figure 2); for ease of description, they are considered to be aligned north-south. Unless otherwise noted, the terms used to describe surviving timber-framing and roof structures are taken from Alcock *et al* (1996) and Campbell (2000). Where possible, specific architectural terms used in the text are as defined by Curl (1977). Finally, in the following text, the term 'modern' is used to denote features or phasing dating to after c.1945.

#### Setting and Surroundings

- 3.3 Both buildings forming the subject of this report are located within a square drystone-walled enclosure, measuring c.55m along each side (see figure 2). The enclosure is set at an elevation of c.395m, in an isolated location on Rocking Moor, some 4km to the west of Thruscross Reservoir. As noted in Chapter 1 above, the area to the immediate south of the shooting hut in particular provides wide-ranging views to the south-east, south and south-west [1/725, 1/737 and 1/740]. The shooting hut and adjacent house are visible on the skyline from some distance away [1/778].
- 3.4 The drystone wall defining the encircling square enclosure stands on average 1.20m high and measures 0.70m wide at the base, tapering slightly to the top. It is built from roughly coursed and squared gritstone, with upright, slightly slanting, coping, and no projecting throughstones. The wall was not inspected in detail, but the only original entrance appears to have been located in the centre of the east side. Here, a gateway opens onto a track, which is aligned exactly on the shooting lodge itself, rising gently as it runs towards the latter [1/715]. It is very noticeable that, when approached from this direction, the house is set directly behind the shooting hut, and so appears to be part of the hut itself, rather than a separate structure [1/714].
- 3.5 With the exception of the two buildings, the only other significant feature within the enclosure is the large rocking stone placed between them [1/734, 1/735 and 1/739] (see plate 2); the position of the two buildings means that the rocking stone is largely obscured. The remainder of the interior of the enclosure is largely empty. There are some poorly defined earthworks, largely shallow sub-rectangular sub-circular depressions, the most prominent being located to the south of the trackway approaching from the south-east. However, there is no clear evidence that either the shooting hut or house are surrounded by, or were once part of, earlier enclosures, field systems or other features. In the approximate centre of the west wall of the enclosure, there is a raised sub-square earthwork, measuring c.2.50m along each side, and standing 0.50m high. The south side appears to be partly

faced with stone, and it may represent the structure shown here on the early Ordnance Survey maps (see figure 4), perhaps a privy of some kind. The enclosure wall on the west side of the structure contains ragged joints which are approximately in line with the sides of the earthwork [1/733]; this is likely to represent a rebuilding of the wall when the west side of the structure collapsed.

### **The Shooting Hut** (see figure 5)

#### *Plan form, structure and materials*

- 3.6 The shooting hut forms the eastern of the two recorded buildings, standing to the west of the centre of the enclosure (see figure 2). It is slightly terraced into the natural ground surface, which here slopes gently downwards from west to east. There are no abutting or adjoining structures, and there is no structural, earthwork or cartographic evidence that any have ever been present.
- 3.7 The shooting hut has a tripartite rectangular plan, with maximum external dimensions of 9.60m north-south by 4.95m east-west; it is slightly wider on the north side if a stepped plinth is included. It is of a single storey, with a relatively shallowly pitched roof of corrugated asbestos cement sheeting to the central part, and steeper single-pitch roofs covered with stone slates to the flanking north and south cells (see plate 1); the sheeting was erected in the 1950s, while the slate roofs were recovered in the last 30 years or so (Pace 2011, 7). Internally, the building has a maximum total height of 4.60m from the ground floor to the underside of the roof ridge.
- 3.8 The hut has load-bearing external walls, varying between 0.50m and 0.60m in width; the internal walls between the central and flanking cells are much narrower, measuring barely 0.15m, suggesting they may be of brick. All the external walls are built of coursed squared gritstone ashlar, much of which retains strong diagonal tooling marks, with fine ashlar dressings; there are prominent but plain quoins to the north, west and south elevations. There are some minor variations to the masonry within the elevations, for example, in the depth of the courses between the central and flanking parts of the west elevation. There is also a possible construction break towards the top of the west elevation, running across the top of the quoins (see plate 5). The gritstone is generally set with a hard cement mortar mix, although some original lime pointing is visible on the north elevation. Internally, there is a single storey to all three parts; the central part has a relatively low inserted modern ceiling, set 2.30m above the floor level. The central cell is floored with flagstones, the north cell with worn stone setts, and the south cell with re-used irregularly-shaped flagstones pointed with a cement mortar. All three parts of the hut retain modern softwood roof structures, which are of no historic interest [1/774].

#### *External elevations*

- 3.9 The principal elevation of the shooting hut faces east towards the track approaching through the original gateway in the east side of the enclosure [1/713]. It is Palladian in style (see plates 3 and 4). This east elevation rises from a stepped plinth, with a flight of three stone steps rising to the doorway in the central part; the second step from the base has projecting lugs to the sides which overlap the lowest step of the stepped plinth. The central doorway has a flat lintel, and retains an outer plank and batten softwood door of later 19th century appearance, hung on round-headed strap hinges [1/717] (see plate 4); scarring to the south jamb of the doorway indicates that the original doorway was secured in a different

manner. The outer door opens to reveal a pair of part-glazed inner doors, again of later 19th century appearance [1/721] (see plate 3). The outer and inner doors are flanked by narrow windows, fitted with removable board shutters to the exterior. The north window has been partly blocked, and is fitted with a small timber two-pane casement [1/767]. The south window is fitted with an eight-pane timber casement, which has similar glazing bars to that in the north window [1/768]. Both doorway and windows are set within a recessed panel. The lintel of the doorway is formed by a projecting string which runs across the central part of the elevation [1/716]. Below the string, the recessed panel is flanked by rusticated bands, whilst above, there are projecting rock-faced quoins to either side of the central bay. The recessed panel has a semi-circular head, with alternate projecting rock-faced voussoirs. The keystone is formed by a carved male face, perhaps slightly more weathered than the surrounding masonry [1/720 and 1/762], which is thought to have come from Bolton Abbey. The projecting string is carried across the full width of the central part of the elevation and continues across the flanking parts [1/719]. These flanking parts have centrally placed doorways [1/718], but are otherwise without decoration. The central part of the elevation has flat coping to the apex, which appears somewhat insubstantial in comparison to the detailing around the recessed panel below.

- 3.10 The stepped plinth continues around the base of the south elevation, as does the projecting string, which effectively forms the eaves of the single pitch roof of the south cell. The south elevation is largely featureless, with the exception of a small centrally-placed blocked window which retains a pair of pintles on the east side [1/724] (see plate 5). The projecting string course is carried across the entire width of the west elevation, although the stepped plinth is visible only at the base of the north and south ends due to rising ground levels [1/723 and 1/729]. A stone ridge stack rises from the apex of the central bay, over hollow-chamfered stone coping, far more substantial than that to the east. The north elevation [1/722] is very similar in appearance to the south elevation, but there is no evidence that it was ever pierced by a window; an existing small central vent is a modern insertion.

### *Circulation*

- 3.11 At the time of the survey, the only access to the interior of the central part of the hut was through the central doorway in the east elevation. This central part is formed by a single cell, measuring 4.60m north-south by 3.65m east-west, which is floored with flagstones. The internal walls are roughly plastered and whitewashed [1/764 and 1/766]. There are few visible features of historic interest. A fireplace in the centre of the west wall has a plain monolithic lintel and jambs (see plate 6) [1/763]. Above each of the windows in the east wall, there is a wooden coat rack retaining round-headed pegs (see plate 7) [1/765]. A ceiling trap over the south-east corner of the ground floor gives access to the space above the inserted modern ceiling. Again, there are few features of interest visible within; the rear of the semi-circular arch over the recessed panel in the east elevation is visible internally [1/775]. There is also no clear evidence for the original form of the roof, or of any original ceiling over the central cell.
- 3.12 Like the central part, the only access to the interior of the south cell is through the doorway in the east elevation. The doorway is now fitted with a modern wicket-gate, but it once retained a full-height door [1/761]; the original iron latch fastener with scrolled end survives to the north jamb [1/776 and 1/777]. The internal walls of the south cell are roughly plastered and whitewashed. The principal internal feature is a tall fireplace with plain monolithic lintel and jambs in the centre of the west wall (see plate 8); small holes and marks to the lintel indicate that a piece of

timber was once affixed to it [1/759]. There is a small section cut out of the south jamb towards its upper end. A low wooden bench, supported on stone uprights, runs along the base of the north wall, and there is an opening for the window in the centre of the south wall opposite [1/760].

- 3.13 Like the south cell, the doorway to the north cell now has a low wicket-gate, but was also once fitted with a full-height door. The walls are again roughly plastered and whitewashed. There is a window opening in the centre of the north wall with a softwood lintel, of the same size as that to the south cell [1/770] but no external indication survives that a window was ever fitted here; a modern vent has been inserted. Low stone benches run around the base of the west and south walls [1/769 and 1/772], and there is a small square recess at a high level in the west wall of uncertain function [1/773]. The south wall was once fitted with shelving supported on plain wooden brackets [1/771].

### **The House** (see figure 6)

#### *Plan form, structure and materials*

- 3.14 The house forms the western of the two recorded buildings, standing to the west of the centre of the enclosure (see figure 2). It is slightly terraced into the natural ground surface, which here slopes gently downwards from west to east. There are no abutting or adjoining structures, and there is no structural, earthwork or cartographic evidence that any have ever been present.
- 3.15 The house has a rectangular plan, with maximum external dimensions of 8.95m north-south by 5.60m east-west. It is of two storeys, with a pitched roof covered with stone slates, and chimneys at the north-east and south-east corners of the roof's east slope (see plate 9). Internally, the building has a maximum total height of 5.70m from the ground floor to the underside of the roof ridge. The house has load-bearing external walls, averaging 0.45m wide. All the external walls are built of coursed squared gritstone, with prominent quoins and moulded kneelers supporting the gable coping; many of the quoins have strong diagonal tooling marks. The gritstone is set with a lime mortar.
- 3.16 Internally, the house is of two storeys but is now open to the roof apex, as the first floor has been removed. The northern third of the ground floor is floored with large cobbles [1/751], with a kerb along their south side. The central part of the floor steps up, and comprised neatly cut flagstones aligned north-south. The southern part of the floor is laid in similar material, but aligned in the opposite direction (i.e. east-west) [1/750]. A single hardwood first floor beam survives over the ground floor, with mortices in the upper surface to house joists [1/746]. The beam bears much historic graffiti, including the well carved words 'Irene & Dennis Young 1932' [1/756], as well as numerous initials [1/757]. The first floor was crossed by a pair of hardwood roof trusses, both of the same form (see plate 12). Each truss originally comprised a slightly cambered tie-beam set directly into the wall at either end, rather than resting on a wall plate. The principal rafters rising from the tie-beam each support a pair of staggered through purlins. The northern truss has the incised numerals '1' to the south face, and the southern truss the incised numerals '11' to the north face. Both are of pegged construction throughout, and both have had softwood struts inserted at a later date. The common rafters and ridge piece are of modern softwood [1/745 and 1/747].

### *External elevations*

- 3.17 The principal elevation of the house faces east towards the Rocking Stone and the shooting hut [1/726 and 1/727], and is symmetrically arranged; the overall appearance is severe and perhaps somewhat like a Northumbrian bastle house (see plate 9). There is a central ground floor doorway, with plain but substantial lintel and jambs, retaining a modern plank and batten door (see plate 10) [1/728]. To the first floor, above the doorway, there is a single small blocked window, flanked by a larger blocked window to the south and a window fitted with a six-pane fixed timber casement to the north. The south gable [1/736] is blank, with the exception of a single central shuttered ground floor window. The west elevation [1/732] is also sparsely detailed. A ground floor window with an eight-pane fixed timber casement at the north end was once a doorway, as evidenced by the blocking beneath. There is a smaller shuttered window at the south end of the ground floor, and to the first floor, above the former doorway, a small window retaining a six-pane fixed timber casement. There is a small blocked window towards the apex of the north gable [1/730 and 1/731].

### *Circulation*

- 3.18 At the time of the survey, the only access to the interior of the house was through the central ground floor doorway in the east elevation. The door opens into a small inset in the raised flagstone floor which occupies the central part and south end of the ground floor. The internal walls of the house are roughly plastered and whitewashed [1/742 and 1/752], but the plaster at the north end of the west wall at both floor levels is of a markedly better appearance [1/749]. There is a fireplace built across the south-east corner of the ground floor (see plate 11) [1/744], apparently a modern creation in its existing form but almost certainly replacing another similar feature here, served by the stack at the south-east corner of the roof's east slope. The small window at the south end of the west wall contains a four light fixed timber casement with a timber lintel [1/748]. There was once another fireplace built across the north-east corner of the first floor, now indicated only by scarring on the wall [1/753 and 1/754].



## 4 WILDLIFE SURVEY

### Introduction

- 4.1 As noted in Chapter 1 above, the bat surveys comprised a daytime external and internal inspection, and an evening nocturnal emergence survey. The resulting Bat Report (Holloway 2011) appears as Appendix 2, while the following text provides a summary of the findings.
- 4.2 All species of bats are protected under The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 and the Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations 1994. Under this legislation, it is an offence for any person to:
- intentionally kill, injure or take any wild bat;
  - intentionally disturb any wild bat while it is occupying a structure or place that it uses for shelter or protection;
  - intentionally damage, destroy or obstruct access to any place that a wild bat uses for shelter or protection;
  - be in possession or control of any live or dead wild bat, or any part of, or anything derived from a wild bat; or
  - sell, offer or expose for sale, or possess or transport for the purpose of sale, any live or dead wild bat, or any part of, or anything derived from a wild bat.
- 4.3 The Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 amends the above Wildlife and Countryside Act to also make it an offence to intentionally or recklessly damage, destroy or obstruct a place that bats use for shelter or protection.
- 4.4 The bat surveys were therefore undertaken to identify any of these protected species, to have an input into the management plan, and to make appropriate recommendations for any mitigation work as part of the proposed restoration of the buildings.

### Survey Results

#### *Status of bat species in the local/regional area*

- 4.5 No bat records within a 2km radius of the Rocking Hall shooting lodge were held by the North Yorkshire Bat Group (NYBG). Nevertheless, the shooting lodge is within the natural range of a number of bat species. Those that are widespread and common include Common pipistrelle *Pipistrellus pipistrellus*, Soprano pipistrelle *Pipistrellus pygmaeus*, Noctule *Nyctalus noctula*, Brown long-eared bats *Plecotus auritus* and Daubenton's bat *Myotis daubentonii*. Other 'widespread but rare' and 'widespread but scarce' species are listed in Table 1 of Appendix 2).

#### *Bat survey - daytime inspections*

- 4.6 Externally, gaps suitable for bat entry into potential roosts were noted between the overlapping stone slates of the south and north rooms, in the stonework of the east elevation and between the stone slate roof and wall, and in the lead flashing where the sloping stone slate roofs of the north and south rooms abut the respective walls of the central room. However, no signs of bats were recorded at these locations, nor on any of the external surfaces of the Rocking Lodge.
- 4.7 There were several other potential bat entry sites into the building. In the central space, entry was possible via the stone chimney and fireplace, as well as occasional gaps between the internal stonework of the chimney itself. However,

no signs of bats were recorded on any of the internal surfaces of this room or within the accessible parts of the chimney. In the south cell gaps suitable for bat entry were visible between the top purlin and internal, northern, wall, although no signs of bats were recorded. In the north cell, although the gaps between the top purlin and wall were too wide for roosting bats, there were some suitable gaps for bat entry around the wooden lintel above the missing doorway in the east elevation, although no signs of bats were recorded here. Other bat access was also possible through gaps between the overlapping roof slates and, potentially, through gaps within the partially blocked vent hole c.25m above floor level in the west elevation. Indeed, a single bat dropping was recorded on the whitewashed wall c.0.6m below this vent; the size and shape of the dropping suggested that it belonged to a Pipistrelle bat (*Pipistrellus spp.*). No signs of any bats were recorded on any of the internal surfaces of the loft space.

- 4.8 In summary therefore, the evidence indicates that at least one Pipistrelle bat *Pipistrellus spp* has fed within the north cell. The proximity of the bat dropping to the partially blocked vent is also indicative that a Pipistrelle bat *Pipistrellus spp.* may have temporarily roosted within a wall cavity at this location (although no bat droppings were actually recorded within the vent hole). In conclusion, the evidence indicates that the north cell provides a temporary feeding and/or roosting area for a very small number of Pipistrelle bats *Pipistrellus spp.*.

*Bat survey - nocturnal emergence survey*

- 4.9 No bats were seen to emerge from either the shooting lodge or the house to the west, and no bats were seen or heard feeding in the general vicinity.

**Interpretation / Evaluation of Survey Results**

*Presence / absence of bats*

- 4.10 The single bat dropping on the internal wall of the north cell indicates that this space provides a temporary feeding and/or roosting area for a very small number of Pipistrelle *Pipistrellus spp.* bats.

*Site status assessment for bats*

- 4.11 The shooting lodge supports a temporary, non-maternity, feeding and/or roosting area for a very small number of Pipistrelle *Pipistrellus spp.* Bats, and is therefore considered to be of some local conservation significance. It remains unknown whether the building also supports any winter hibernation roosts.

**Impact Assessment**

*Short-term impacts: disturbance to bats*

- 4.12 Without the implementation of mitigation, there is a low risk that short term impacts on bats by the proposed repair works at a vulnerable time of year would result in the damage and loss of roosts. This could come in the form of disturbance and possible direct harm to bats, either crushed during roof work or entombed during pointing work. The impact on bats at a local scale could be moderate.

*Long-term impacts: bat roost modification*

- 4.13 The proposed repair works would result in irreversible changes to the site layout and local environment for bats. This includes the replacement of the main roof, and the full repair of the north and south stone slate roofs; the insertion of sarking boards would prevent bat access into the internal space of the building from the roof. Air-flow and flight paths within, and access into, the building would be changed by the replaced roof and sealing of some small bat access points. This is likely to have a negative impact on bat usage of the building.
- 4.14 Other modifications potentially resulting in bat roost loss include raising the existing timber ceiling of the main room (thus reducing the loft space), inserting new doors in the north and south rooms (thus closing easy bat access routes into these areas), masonry repairs and the complete blockage of the vent hole in the west elevation of the north room.
- 4.15 In summary, the proposed repair works would remove many of the existing entrance/exit routes for bats that currently occur with a likely negative impact on bat usage of the building.

*Long-term impacts: bat roost modification*

- 4.16 Without mitigation, the full repair of the roofs and the additional joinery and masonry work are likely to remove the existing feeding/roosting area within the north room.

*Predicted scale of impact*

- 4.17 The repair proposals are likely to remove the temporary, non-maternity, feeding and/or roosting area for Pipistrelle *Pipistrellus spp.* bats within the north room. This work is therefore likely to have a small negative impact on these bats at the local level, and appropriate mitigation measures are therefore required to offset such losses.

**Mitigation**

- 4.18 A series of mitigation measures are therefore recommended in the Bat Report (see Appendix 2 for details). In summary, they include:
- the insertion of a 'bat stone' in the external west elevation of the north room to allow bats to enter the partially blocked vent hole from the external elevation;
  - the building contractor should be made aware of the possibility of bats roosting in the roof and/or walls of the building, and of what action is required should bats be discovered;
  - new spaces with similar dimensions to the existing bat roost should be created, e.g. by using 'bat stones' instead of new air bricks in the west gable, by inserting further 'bat stones' in the west elevation, by creating spaces in the mortar beneath the ridge tiles and gaps between the stone slates, by creating 'bat access slits' adjacent to the purlins and wall plates);
  - put a monitoring plan in place to assess the effectiveness of the mitigation works.
- 4.19 If these mitigation measures are not able to be implemented during the proposed works, work would have to be stopped and delayed until a Bat Licence is granted

from Natural England to cover what would otherwise be considered unlawful works.

## 5 ARCHITECTURAL DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

- 5.1 The survey undertaken at Rocking Hall has raised a number of issues relating to the development and function of the building, and these are discussed in more detail below. However, it should be noted that any understanding of the building and its environs would be greatly enhanced by research in the Bolton Abbey Estate archives, and by further detailed inspection of both the enclosure within which it is situated and the wider moorland landscape. Such research would undoubtedly resolve questions such as when the hut was built (Done and Muir (2001, 205) say 1758, although no supporting evidence is given). Also, given how grouse hunting was supposed to have been carried out at this date, i.e. walking or riding with pointers flushing out birds to fly away from a small numbers of shooters, why it was necessary to have a fixed lunch hut?
- 5.2 Although unlisted, Rocking Hall is a building of more than local architectural interest. The current survey has found no evidence to contradict the 1758 date offered by Done and Muir, but it has not been possible to assign the structure to a specific architect. However, it is interesting to note that, both in terms of its present appearance and structure, the existing hut shares some characteristics with gate lodges of the 1730s to the 1750s, particularly those designed by William Kent (see for example, the c.1738 Palladian lodge at Claremont, Surrey (Mowl & Earnshaw 1995, 31)). Pace (2011, 3-5) notes that the hut has echoes, more as a composition than in detail, of Kent's designs for the Banqueting House at Euston Hall in Suffolk (1746) or the Menagerie at Horton in Northamptonshire built for Lord Halifax by Thomas Wright during the 1750s. Pace further notes that work at Bolton Hall and other structures on the Bolton Abbey Estate during the late 1720s has been putatively ascribed to Kent. This is not to suggest that the hut was designed by Kent himself; as Mowl and Earnshaw (1995, 31) state, many of Kent's lodge designs, for example, are approximately and unsatisfactorily dated, and the final buildings could also be erected by jobbing architects working to Kent's designs or from pattern books influenced by Kent's works. Nevertheless, it is reasonable to suggest that the design of Rocking Hall was either derived from a sketch made by William Kent or was closely influenced by knowledge of his work elsewhere. However, although the proportions of the hut are correct for a Palladian design, the main elements being a cube and the end rooms giving a ratio of 20 by 40, Rustic elements have been introduced, and there is no proper cornice and pediment; the single pitch roofs of the north and south parts are also steeper than would normally be expected. It is therefore possible that these details have been lost through alteration over subsequent years, or that the building was originally built in a reduced form (Pace 2011, 3-5).
- 5.3 The latter might be suggested by the undated sketch by Sutton (Bogg 1904, 41) (see figure 3), and this depiction raises a number of possible interesting alternatives - it is assumed that the sketch is an accurate representation. The map evidence indicates that Rocking Hall had achieved its existing three-cell plan form by the mid 19th century, so Sutton's sketch must date to before this; how much earlier is of significance to what has been discussed above regarding Kent's influence. The sketch suggests that the building (then called 'Roggan Hall') originally comprised only the central cell, and so if it had been remodelled in the style of Kent (i.e. by adding a pitched roof and the north and south cells), then it is most likely to have been done in the mid 18th century when Kent was fashionable. If this were to be the case, then one would have to consider what such a structure, as depicted by Sutton, was doing in this isolated position in the early 18th century, given that there is no good evidence for surrounding earthworks or remains associated with either a larger building or a larger settlement. Perhaps the most

plausible function would be some kind of small hunting lodge or watch tower, or it may be a folly/summerhouse, possibly associated with visiting the Rocking Stone. The works to convert the building into a shooting lodge, such as the addition of the north and south wings, and the pitched roof, have been carried out with great care, as would be expected on an estate which such a high status owner. Nevertheless, some faint structural evidence for these alterations remains, for example the differential coursing in the west elevation and the construction break towards the top of the central part of the same elevation.

- 5.4 If Rocking Hall was either purpose-built or converted into a shooting hut in the mid 18th century, it is an interesting, and possibly early, example of one building form (for example, the gate lodge) adapted to another purpose. This may have been because there was a lack of a firm model at this date of what a shooting hut should be. However, Rocking Hall might equally have been given this form because of its placement within a well-established estate by an owner who wished, and had the means, to display his knowledge of fashionable architectural tastes. Pace (2011, 3-5) suggests that Rocking Hall is very much in the tradition of 18th century follies, and this comparison might well be pursued further in the original approach to the building within the enclosure from the east, with the track precisely aligned on the centre of Rocking Hall and the adjacent house virtually invisible behind it.
- 5.5 Although it is traditionally thought that the carved head on the east elevation comes from Bolton Abbey, it too may be an original early 18th century feature, as grotesque heads were sometimes used as keystones in the arches of 18th century lodges (Mowl & Earnshaw 1995, plate X); it is clearly shown on Sutton's sketch. In terms of its use as a shooting hut, it is assumed that the central cell formed a heated room where shooters took their refreshment, and that the south cell was a heated room for the staff; given that the hut predates the use of driven-shooting, this may have been used initially by keepers, rather than beaters, and might even have been used to prepare the food, given the size of the fireplace. The north cell was unheated and once equipped with shelves, suggesting use, at least latterly, as a store. Although the hut retains a few original 18th century fittings, such as the latch plate to the south cell's doorway, it is likely that the windows and doors were replaced during the 19th century, and that the coping to the east elevation was also altered at a later date. The major change in the 20th century was the re-roofing of all three parts of the building, and the insertion of the ceiling over the central part. There are no facilities in the building, although these could have been provided by the two small structures shown on the historic maps attached to the west side of the enclosure.
- 5.6 Without further documentary and landscape research, it is difficult to discuss in any detail why Rocking Hall was located exactly where it is. The prime consideration would have been access to the grouse moors, but this could have been achieved in numerous other locations. Perhaps the presence of the Rocking Stone (a natural geological feature) was significant, and it is interesting that this was retained within the site, rather than being removed. It is also clear that the long-distance views, both from and to the hut, were important considerations. With these issues in mind, it is clear that the hut deserves wider attention as part of the creation of landscapes of pleasure and recreation on the Bolton Abbey estates. Although its primary function is most likely to be that of a shooting hut, the folly-like aspects of the building, together with its proximity to the Rocking Stone and the apparent deliberately arranged approach to the building (see below), all suggest that non-shooters may also have been entertained there.
- 5.7 On current evidence, it is considered unlikely that Rocking Hall (in whatever form) was sited here because of the existence of an earlier farm or settlement. Although

Done and Muir describe the adjacent building as a 17th century farmhouse, it does not closely resemble one, nor is there any clear indication in the surrounding area of the walled enclosures, field system and other structures that would be expected to surround a farmstead of this date (as at, for example, Hard Ing to the south-east). Furthermore, as has already been noted, the relationship between Rocking Hall and the house is such that when Rocking Hall is approached from the east along the track, the house is either hidden or appears to be part of Rocking Hall itself. This arrangement must be deliberate. The shooting hut and the house also effectively shield the Rocking Stone from long distant views, meaning that people had to actually visit the site to inspect it closely.

- 5.8 The house was not studied in detail as part of the current survey, but its general arrangement might suggest stabling at the north end of the ground floor, with possibly heated accommodation at the south end and on the first floor. Without further research in the Bolton Abbey estate archive, it is not possible to say when the house was built, and what purpose it served. If it is not a 17th century structure, it could well be contemporary with the presumed mid 18th century conversion of Rocking Hall into a shooting lodge - this is implied in the visual relationship between the two. It could have been built to accommodate staff to prepare for the shoot, to accommodate the horses of the shooters, and/or to act as a watching post to guard against poachers. However, some of these functions would probably suggest a later date, rather than a contemporary one, as they do not appear to fit well with late 18th century grouse shooting practice as described by Done and Muir. Alternatively, it could have been used by staff as a central point from which to manage the moor and this part of the estate - an isolated reference suggests that it or the adjacent shooting hut was occasionally occupied, but the absence of any 19th century census data implies that neither was a permanent residence.
- 5.9 It is very likely that changes in shooting practices between the late 18th century and the mid 19th century had significant effects on the way Rocking Hall was used, but this would require further documentary and landscape research on the creation and management of the shooting landscape around the building. For example, a key requirement would be to establish the position of early shooting butts and their relationship to the network of tracks shown to the east of Rocking Hall on the 19th century maps. The presence of King George V at Rocking Hall in 1911 demonstrates that the shooting hut remained an important part of the estate's shooting landscape into the early 20th century, and it still partly fulfils its original purpose today.

## 6 STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

- 6.1 The Natural England project brief (see Appendix 3) also required the preparation of a Statement of Significance, which would 'assess the structure [of the recorded building] from both a local and regional perspective, and a comment on the contribution of the building to the local landscape character, public amenity and biodiversity'.
- 6.2 Without further documentary and landscape research, it is difficult to make anything other than rather limited observations about the significance of Rocking Hall. It appears to be an early (and possibly very early) surviving example of a purpose-built shooting hut on a large country estate, and it may have originated from an earlier structure, perhaps a hunting lodge, watch tower or folly. Its design may have been either directly derived from, or closely influenced by, the work of William Kent, an architect of national importance in the first half of the 18th century. The design of the hut draws on elements of other building types of the early to mid 18th century, such as gate lodges and summerhouses, and therefore provides the opportunity to better understand the development of the shooting hut as a building type. It has at least one surviving associated structure, and together, the two provide an important opportunity to better understand the organisation and development of grouse shooting as a gentlemanly pursuit in the mid to late 18th century. Through the study of the surrounding landscape, there is also an opportunity to discern how such structures were adapted to the changing shooting practices of the mid 19th century.
- 6.3 In terms of its contribution to the local landscape character, the Rocking Hall complex is highly visible, especially from the east, although it is not clear from a distance what the function of the building is, and it could be mistaken for a field barn or other agricultural structure. Rocking Hall is located on the Dales Way Link public footpath, and therefore has good public access.



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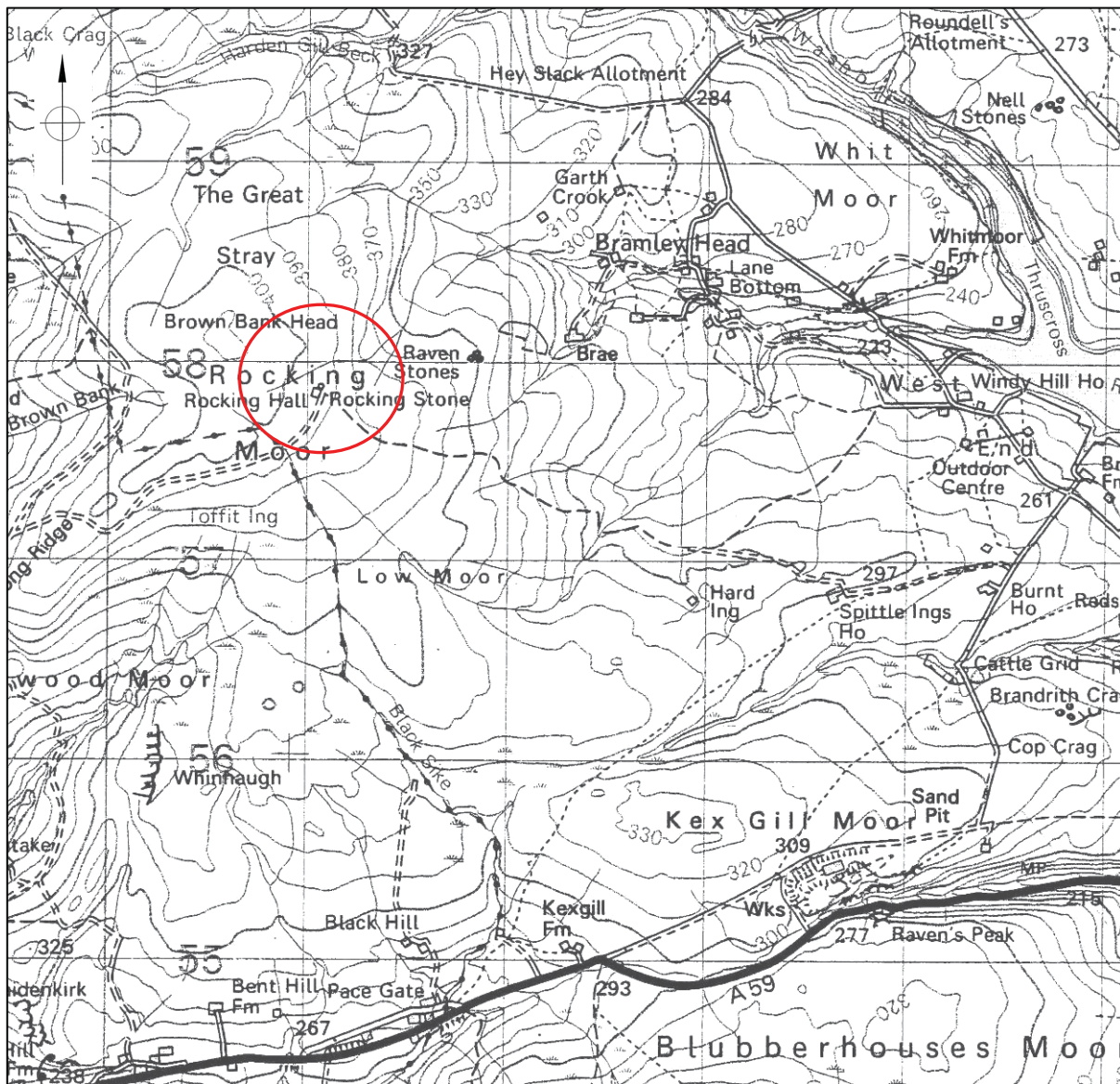
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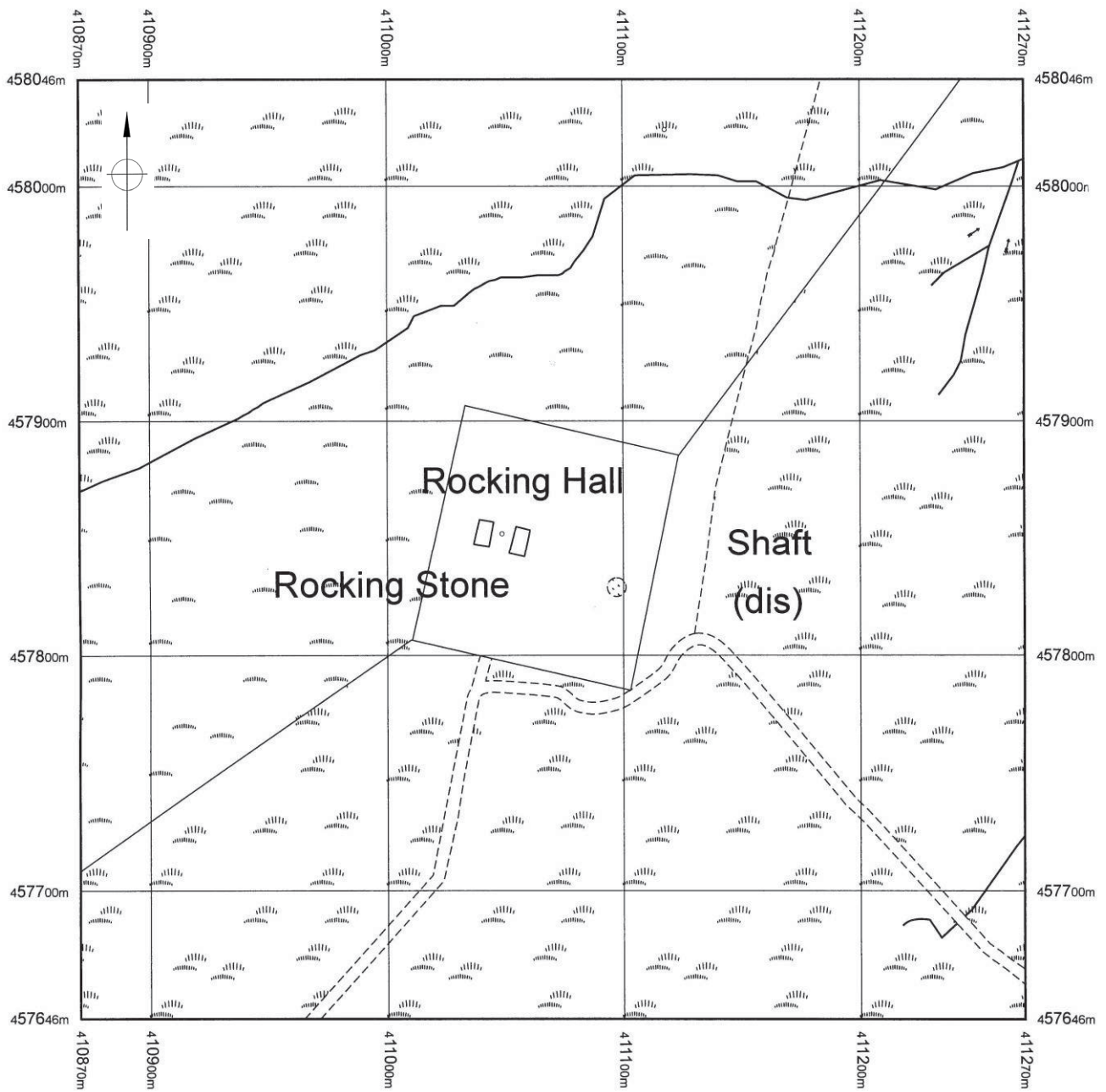
## **8 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

- 8.1 The architectural and wildlife survey at Rocking Hall was commissioned by the Bolton Abbey Estate, through the project architect Peter Gaze Pace, and was funded by Natural England and the Estate. EDAS would like to thank Alasdair Jones-Perrott (Assistant Agent) and Peter Pace for their assistance and co-operation in carrying out the survey work.
- 8.2 The architectural survey was undertaken by Shaun Richardson, who also produced the site archive and a draft report. Peter Pace also provided additional photographs. The wildlife survey was undertaken by Dr Madeline Holloway of Ecological Information Network Consultants (EINC), and she also produced the stand-alone wildlife report. The final report was produced and edited by Ed Dennison of EDAS, with whom the responsibility for any errors remains.



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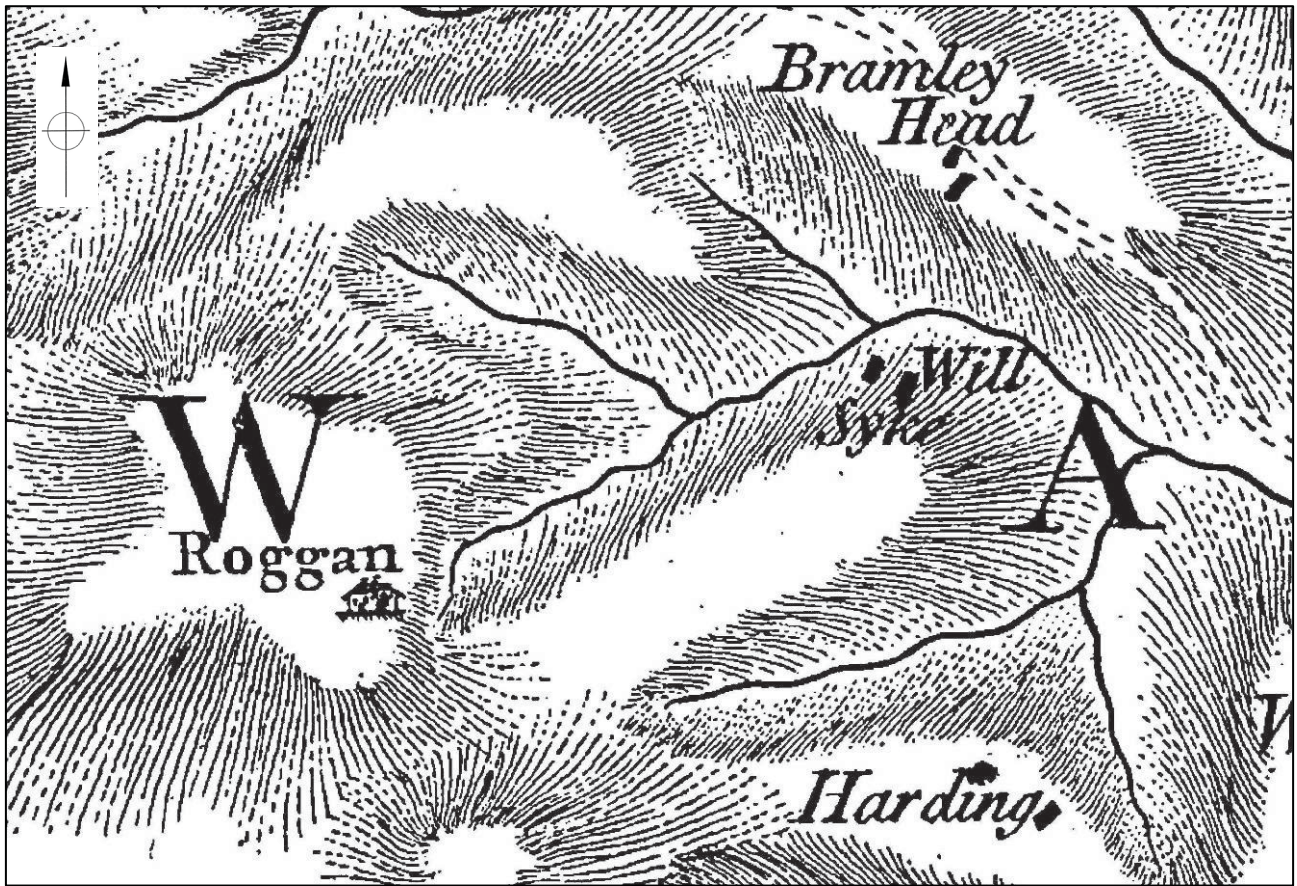
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TITLE		GENERAL LOCATION	
SCALE	NTS	DATE	JUNE 2011
EDAS		FIGURE	1



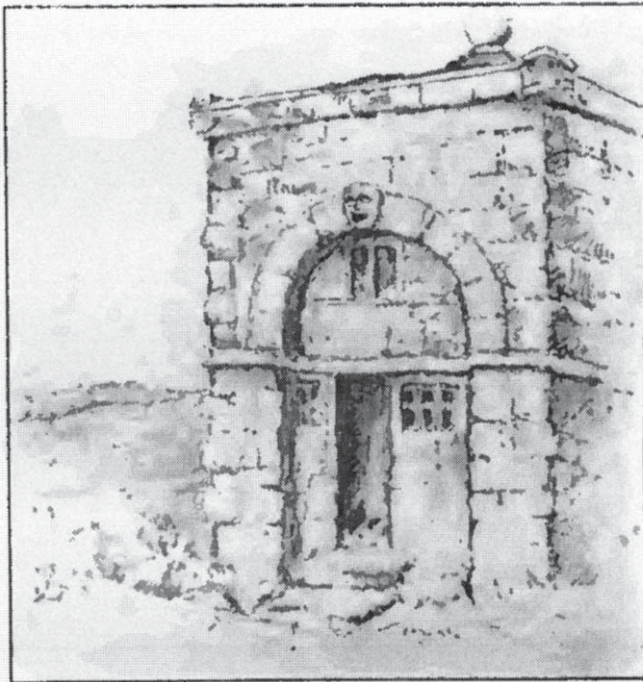
Hall to the right (east) of Rocking Stone, house to left (west).

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PROJECT		ROCKING HALL	
TITLE		SITE LOCATION	
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EDAS		FIGURE	2



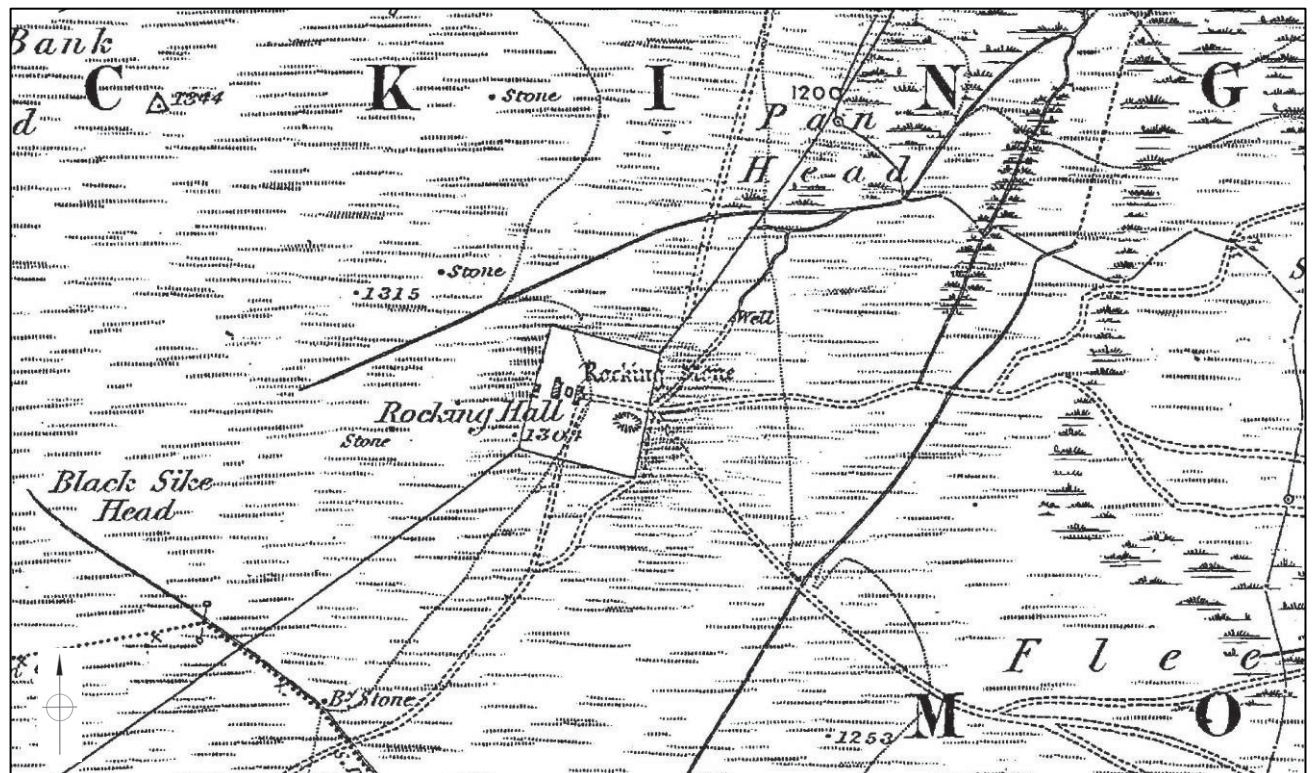
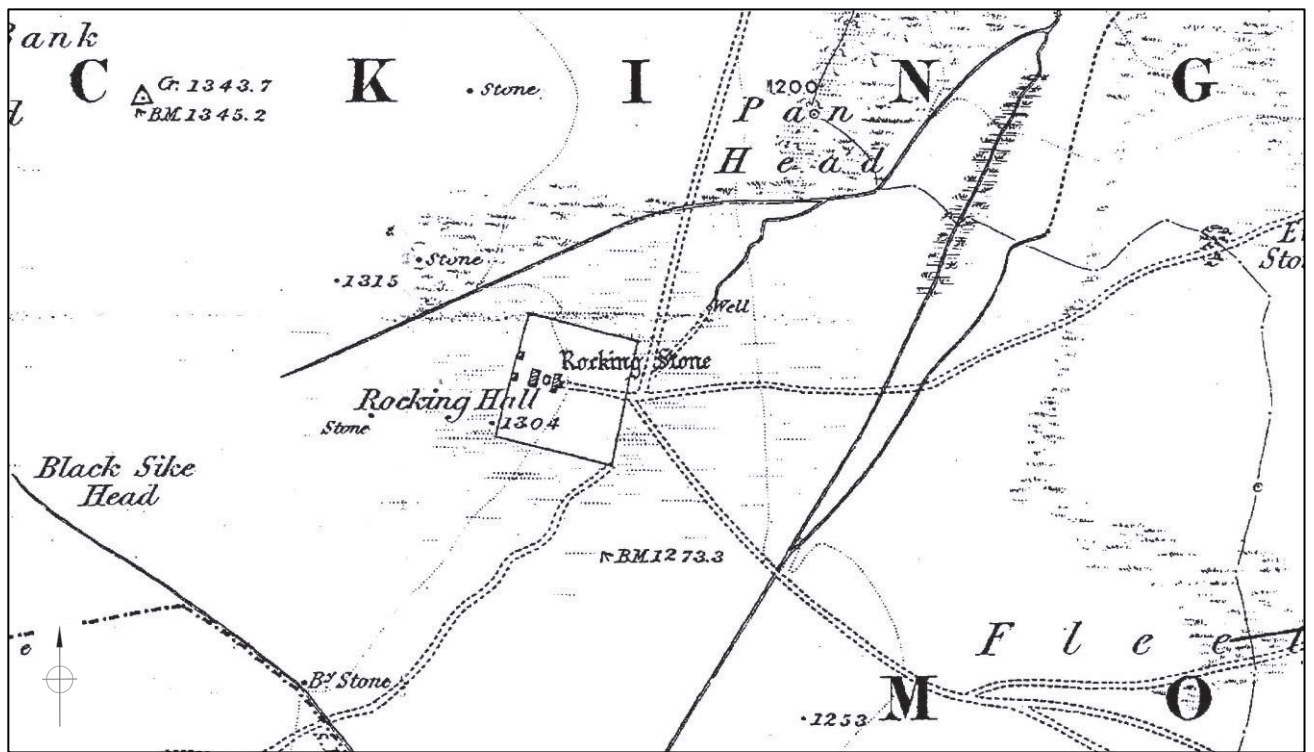
Extract from Jeffreys' 1771 map of Yorkshire (plate 7).



ROGGAN HALL.

Roggan Hall sketched by A Sutton, reproduced by Bogg 1904, p41.

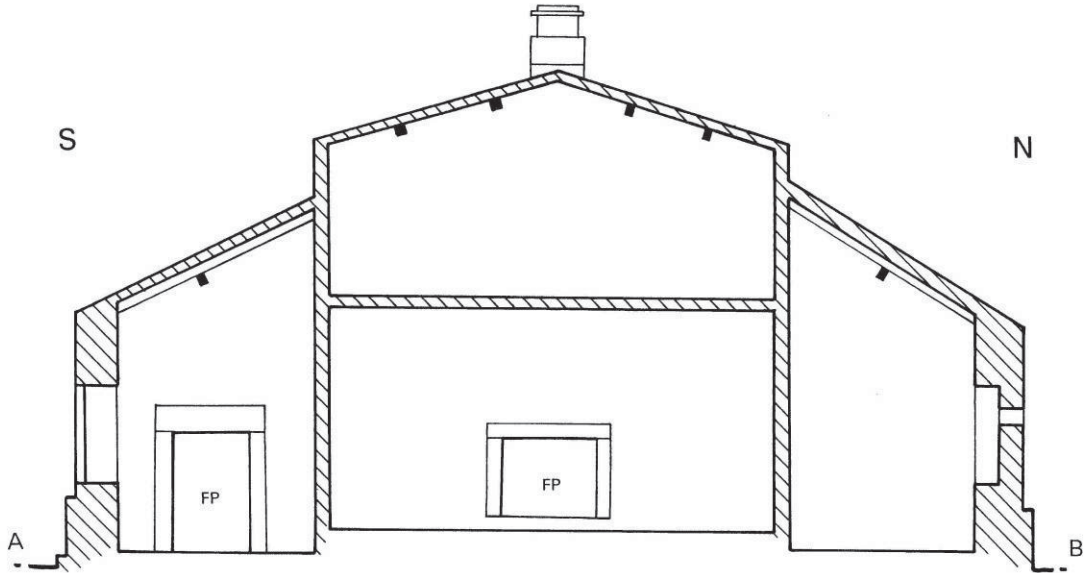
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TITLE	HISTORIC DEPICTIONS	
SCALE	NTS	DATE JUNE 2011
EDAS	FIGURE 3	



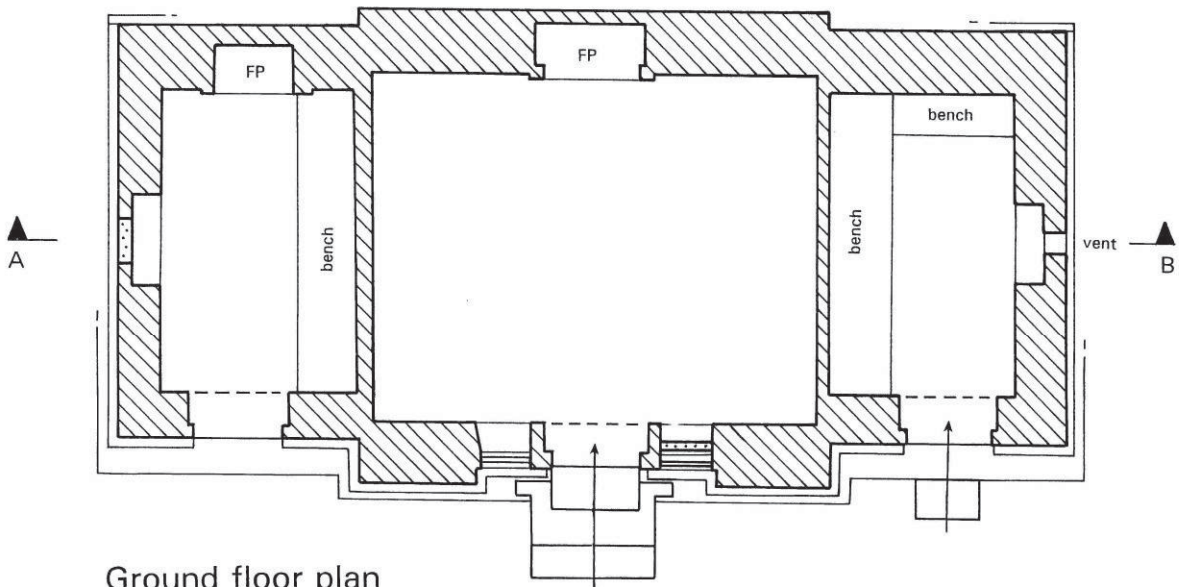
Top: Ordnance Survey 1854 6" map sheet 152.  
 Bottom: Ordnance Survey 1893 6" map sheet 152.

PROJECT		ROCKING HALL	
TITLE			
HISTORIC ORDNANCE SURVEY MAPS			
SCALE	NTS	DATE	JUNE 2011
EDAS			FIGURE
			4

PROJECT		ROCKING HALL	
TITLE			
PLAN AND SECTION OF HALL			
SCALE	AS SHOWN	DATE	JUNE 2011
	EDAS	FIGURE	5

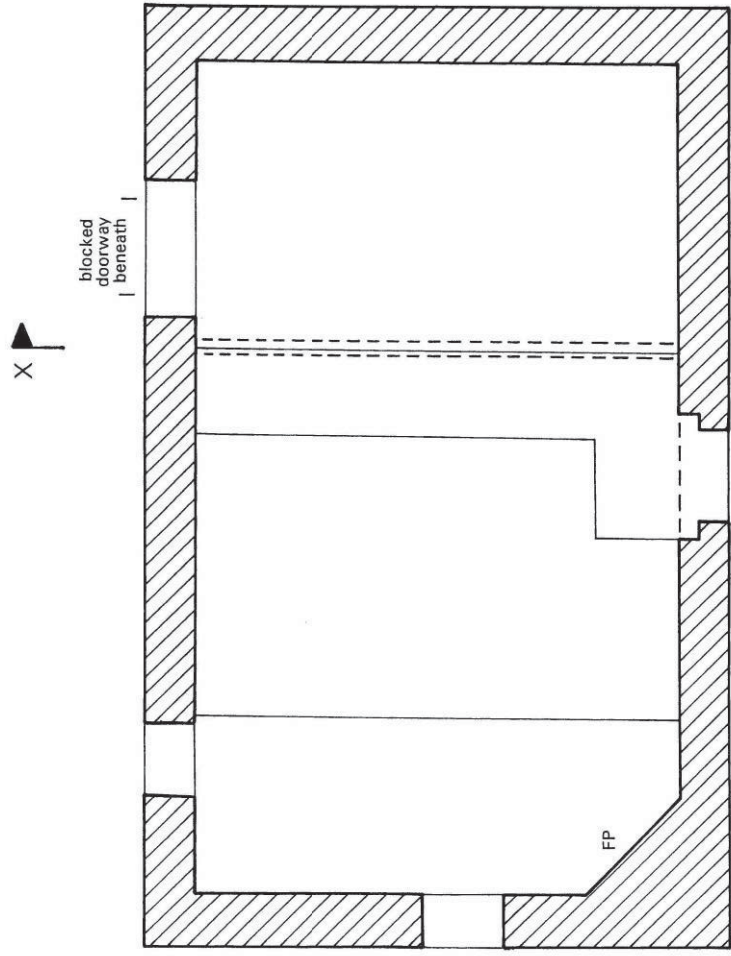


Section

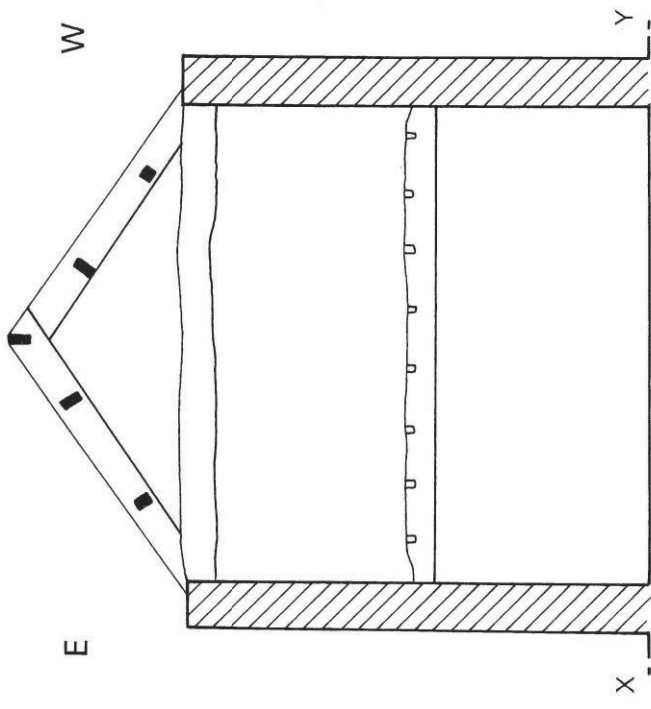


Ground floor plan





Ground floor plan



Section



PROJECT	ROCKING HALL		
TITLE	PLAN AND SECTION OF HOUSE		
SCALE	AS SHOWN	DATE	JUNE 2011
	EDAS	FIGURE	6





Plate 1: Rocking Hall with house behind, looking N.



Plate 2: South elevations of house and Rocking Hall, with Rocking Stone between, looking N.



Plate 3: East elevation of Rocking Hall, looking W.



Plate 4: Detail of east elevation of central bay, looking W.



Plate 5: South and west elevations of Rocking Hall, looking NE.



Plate 6: Fireplace in west wall of central bay, looking W.



Plate 7: Partially blocked window in north-east corner of central cell, looking E.



Plate 8: Fireplace in west wall of south cell, looking W.



Plate 9: South and east elevations of house, looking NW.



Plate 10: Door in east elevation of house, looking W.

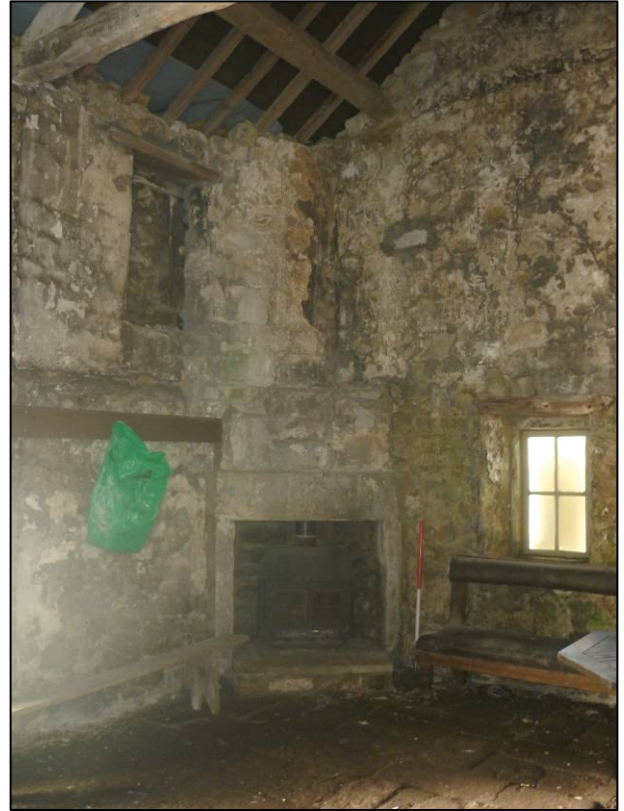


Plate 11: Fireplace in south-east corner of house, looking SE.



Plate 12: North roof truss in house, looking N.

**APPENDIX 1**

**PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD**

## Photographic Register

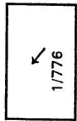
Film 1: Colour digital photographs taken 25th November 2010

<i>Film</i>	<i>Frame</i>	<i>Subject</i>	<i>Scale</i>
1	713	Rocking Hall, E elevation, looking W	1m
1	714	Rocking Hall, E elevation with house behind, looking W	1m
1	715	Rocking Hall, view of E elevation with house behind, looking W	1m
1	716	Rocking Hall, central cell, E elevation, looking W	1m
1	717	Rocking Hall, door of central cell, E elevation, looking W	1m
1	718	Rocking Hall, S end of E elevation, looking W	1m
1	719	Rocking Hall, N end of E elevation, looking W	1m
1	720	Rocking Hall, carved face on E elevation, looking W	1m
1	721	Rocking Hall, inner door to central cell, E elevation, looking W	1m
1	722	Rocking Hall, N elevation, looking S	1m
1	723	Rocking Hall, W elevation, looking NE	1m
1	724	Rocking Hall, S elevation, looking N	1m
1	725	Rocking Hall, looking N	1m
1	726	House, E and S elevations, looking NW	1m
1	727	House, E elevation, looking N	1m
1	728	House, central door in E elevation, looking W	1m
1	729	Rocking Hall and Rocking Stone, looking SE	1m
1	730	House, N gable, looking S	1m
1	731	House, blocked upper window in N gable, looking S	1m
1	732	House, W elevation, looking E	1m
1	733	Square structure on boundary wall to W of house, looking NW	1m
1	734	House, stone and Rocking Hall, looking NE	1m
1	735	House and Rocking Hall, looking N	1m
1	736	House, S gable, looking N	1m
1	737	Rocking Hall, looking NE	1m
1	739	Rocking Hall, stone and house, looking N	1m
1	740	Rocking Hall, looking NE	1m
1	742	House, internal S wall, looking S	1m
1	744	House, fireplace in SE corner, looking SE	1m
1	745	House, S roof truss, looking S	-
1	746	House, internal N wall, looking N	-
1	747	House, N roof truss, looking N	-
1	748	House, ground floor window at S end of W wall, looking W	-
1	749	House, N end of W wall, looking NW	-
1	750	House, ground floor flagstones in central part, looking W	-
1	751	House, ground floor cobbles in N part, looking N	-
1	752	House, first floor interior, looking SE	-
1	753	House, first floor interior, looking NE	-
1	754	House, first floor fireplace, looking NE	-
1	755	House, graffiti to beam, looking S	-
1	756	House, graffiti to beam, looking S	-
1	757	House, graffiti to beam, looking N	-
1	759	Rocking Hall, fireplace in W wall of S cell, looking W	1m
1	760	Rocking Hall, interior of S cell, looking W	1m
1	761	Rocking Hall, latch plate to doorway in S cell, looking N	-
1	762	Rocking Hall, carved face on E elevation, looking N	1m
1	763	Rocking Hall, fireplace in W wall of central cell, looking W	1m
1	764	Rocking Hall, interior of central cell, looking NW	1m
1	765	Rocking Hall, interior of central cell, looking NE	1m
1	766	Rocking Hall, interior of central cell, looking SE	1m
1	767	Rocking Hall, N window in central cell, looking E	-
1	768	Rocking Hall, S window in central cell, looking E	-
1	769	Rocking Hall, interior of N cell, looking W	1m
1	770	Rocking Hall, interior of N cell, looking NW	1m
1	771	Rocking Hall, interior of N cell, looking SW	1m
1	772	Rocking Hall, interior of N cell, looking W	1m
1	773	Rocking Hall, interior of N cell, looking W	1m
1	774	Rocking Hall, roof space over central cell, looking N	-

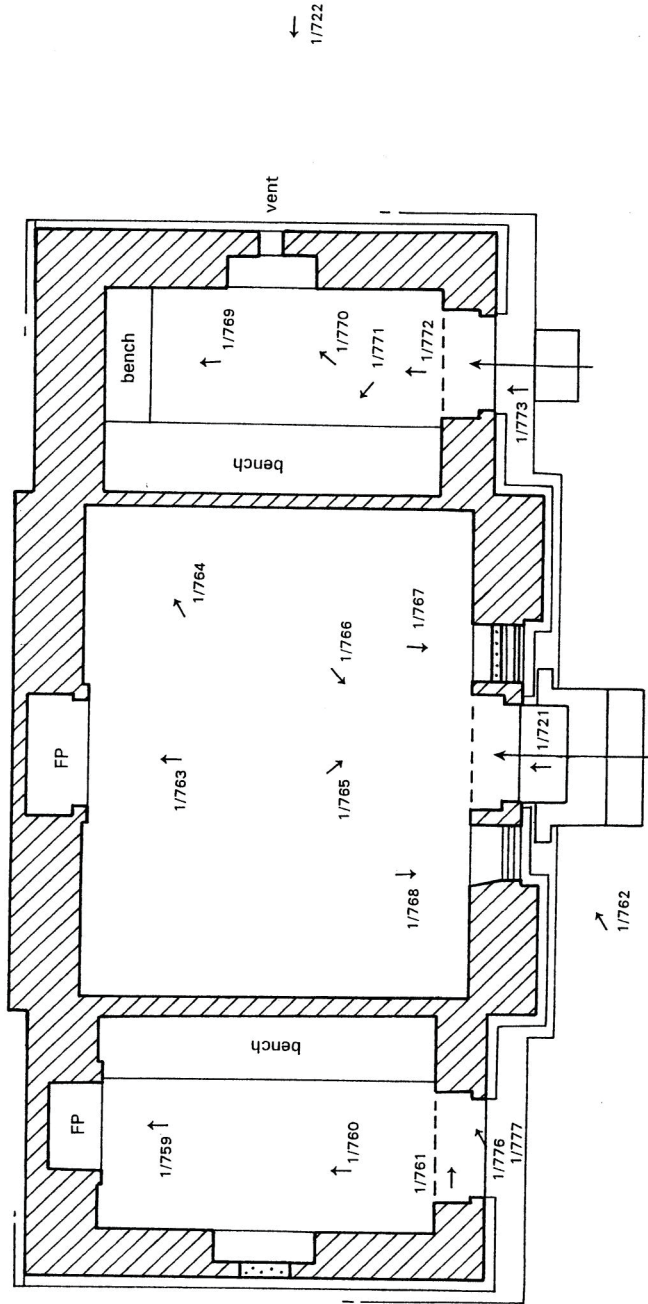
1	775	Rocking Hall, rear of arch in roof space over central cell, looking E	-
1	776	Rocking Hall, latch place to doorway in S cell, looking N	-
1	777	Rocking Hall, latch plate to doorway in S cell, looking N	-
1	778	Rocking Hall, viewed from the E, looking W	-



Photos of distant views not shown

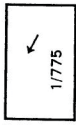


DIRECTION OF PHOTOGRAPH WITH  
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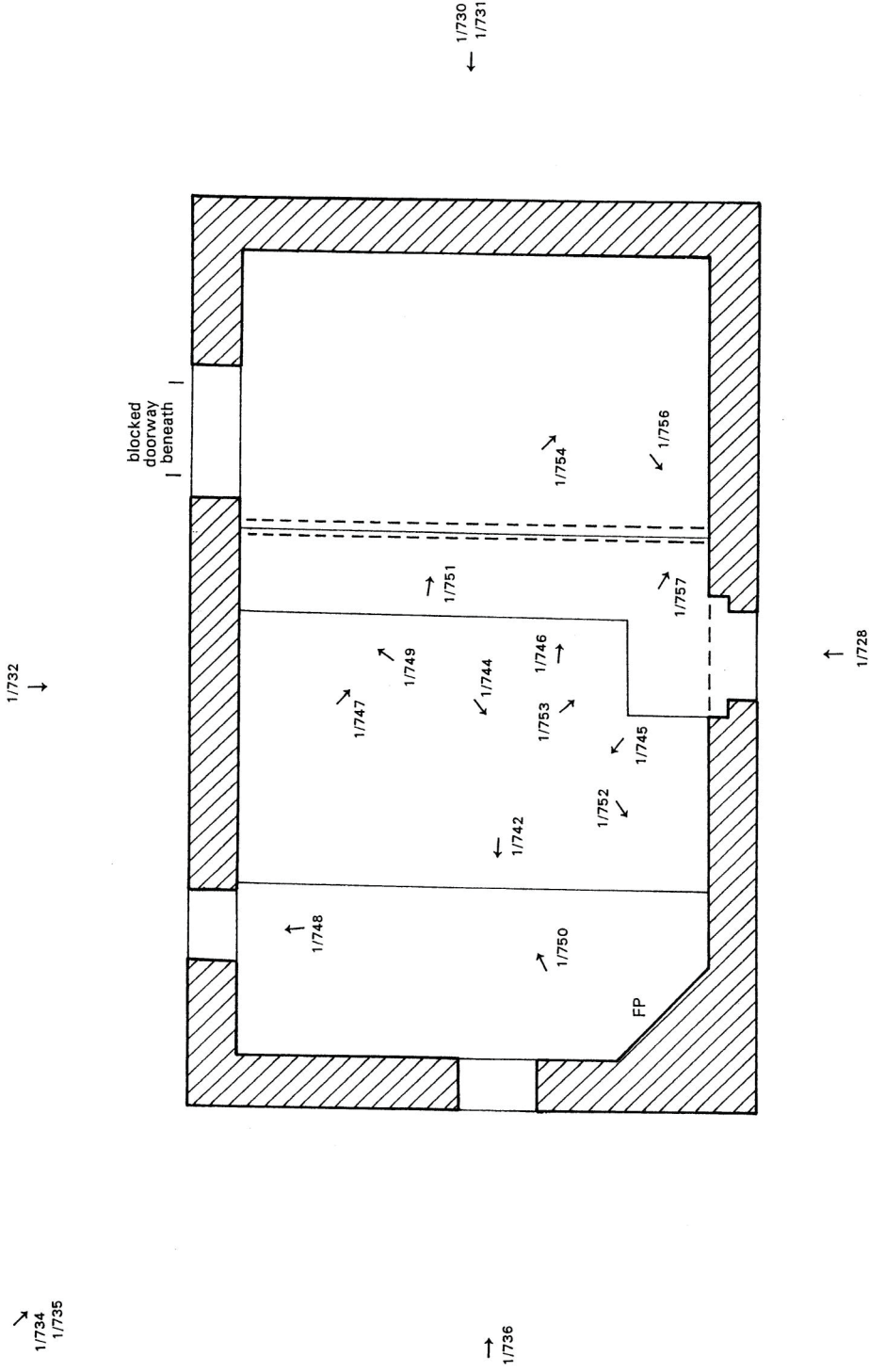


PROJECT	ROCKING HALL		
TITLE	HALL: PHOTOGRAPHIC LOCATIONS		
SCALE	AS SHOWN	DATE	JUNE 2011
	EDAS	FIGURE	A1/1

Photos of distant views not shown



DIRECTION OF PHOTOGRAPH WITH  
FILM AND PHOTO NUMBER



PROJECT	ROCKING HALL		
TITLE	HOUSE: PHOTOGRAPHIC LOCATIONS		
SCALE	AS SHOWN	DATE	JUNE 2011
	EDAS	FIGURE	A1/2



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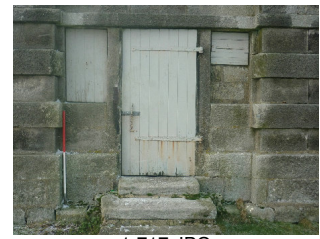
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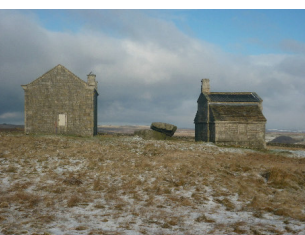
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**APPENDIX 2**  
**WILDLIFE REPORT**

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**EINC**

Ecological Information  
Network Consultants



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**ROCKING HALL SHOOTING LODGE  
ROCKING HALL MOOR, FEWSTON MOOR  
BOLTON ABBEY ESTATE**

**Bat Report**

**May 2011**

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**ROCKING HALL SHOOTING LODGE, ROCKING MOOR, FEWSTON MOOR,  
NORTH YORKSHIRE, BOLTON ABBEY ESTATE**

**Bat Report**

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DRAWING 7A	ELEVATIONS AND SECTIONS (AS PROPOSED)

**FIGURES**

FIGURE 1	MODIFIED 'BAT STONE'
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**PLATES**

PLATE 1	EAST ELEVATION
PLATE 2	SOUTH ELEVATION: GAPS SUITABLE FOR BAT ENTRY INTO POTENTIAL ROOSTS BETWEEN OVERLAPING STONE SLATES
PLATE 3	EAST ELEVATION (CENTRAL ROOM): SMALL HOLE FOR BAT ENTRY INTO POTENTIAL ROOST JUST BELOW THE ROOF
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**ROCKING HALL SHOOTING LODGE  
BAT REPORT**

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PLATE 5	EAST ELEVATION: SMALL HOLE FOR BAT ENTRY INTO POTENTIAL ROOST AT THE JUNCTION BETWEEN THE SOUTH ROOM AND CENTRAL ROOM
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PLATE 11	EXAMPLE: THE CREATION OF POTENTIAL BAT ROOST SPACES UNDER RIDGE TILES



## **1 INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Background to activity**

1.1.1 At the request of EDAS (Ed Dennison Archaeological Services) EINC was commissioned to undertake a bat survey of the Rocking Hall Shooting Lodge at Rocking Moor, Fewston Moor, Bolton Abbey Estate, North Yorkshire. The objective of the survey was to identify and assess the bat interest of the building and to inform the likely impact(s) of any proposed repair works.

### **1.2 Legislation**

1.2.1 All species of bats are protected under The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 and the Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations 1994. Under this legislation it is an offence for any person to intentionally kill, injure or take any wild bat; to intentionally disturb any wild bat while it is occupying a structure or place that it uses for shelter or protection; to intentionally damage, destroy or obstruct access to any place that a wild bat uses for shelter or protection; to be in possession or control of any live or dead wild bat, or any part of, or anything derived from a wild bat; or to sell, offer or expose for sale, or possess or transport for the purpose of sale, any live or dead wild bat, or any part of, or anything derived from a wild bat.

1.2.2 The Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 amends the Wildlife and Countryside Act to also make it an offence to intentionally or recklessly damage, destroy or obstruct a place that bats use for shelter or protection.

## **2 SURVEY METHODOLOGY**

### **2.1 Status of bat species in the local/regional area**

2.1.1 No bat records within a 2km radius of the Rocking Hall Shooting Lodge were held by the North Yorkshire Bat Group. Nevertheless, the Shooting Lodge is within the natural range of species of bats listed in Table 1.

**Table 1** Bat species within 100km of the site

<b>Species</b>	<b>National status</b>
Common pipistrelle <i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus</i>	Widespread and common
Soprano pipistrelle <i>Pipistrellus pygmaeus</i>	Widespread and common
Noctule <i>Nyctalus noctula</i>	Widespread but uncommon
Leisler's bat <i>Nyctalus leisleri</i>	Widespread but rare
Brown long-eared bats <i>Plecotus auritus</i>	Widespread and common
Natterer's bat <i>Myotis nattereri</i>	Widespread but frequent
Daubenton's bats <i>Myotis daubentonii</i>	Widespread and common
Whiskered bats <i>Myotis mystacinus</i>	Widespread but scarce

**ROCKING HALL SHOOTING LODGE  
BAT REPORT**

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Brandt's bats <i>Myotis brandtii</i>	Widespread but scarce
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**2.2 Survey area**

2.2.1 The Rocking Hall Shooting Lodge occurs at Grid Reference SE 111 578 on the Landranger Series OS 104, as shown in Drawing No. 1 (Site Plan). It occurs on top of Greatstray, close to the summit of Brown Bank Head (410m high).

**2.4 Field Survey**

*Daytime Inspection*

2.4.1 A daytime external and internal inspection for bats in the Rocking Hall Shooting Lodge was undertaken on 19<sup>th</sup> May 2011. At this time of year bats are likely to be using their main summer roosts and evidence for the presence of bats includes:

- Presence of bats – bats may be recorded roosting in small cracks within the external or internal walls of the building and/or retaining wall(s), at the junction of wall(s) with ceiling(s), window and/or door lintels and adjacent stonework.
- Staining – where sites are used heavily by bats the stone around the roost entrance may become stained with oil from the bats fur. Scratches on the stone worn smooth by the passage of bodies would also be used as evidence where this was attributable to bats rather than roosting or nesting birds.
- Droppings – bat droppings in crevices, stuck to walls below suitable crevices, and on the ground below suitable crevices. However, droppings may have been washed away by rain and bad weather, which will have occurred prior to the survey.

2.4.2 Equipment used and at hand included:-

Opticron 8 x 32 close-focusing binoculars (Field 6.4<sup>0</sup>)  
Cluson 1M candle-power lamp  
Fibre-optic endoscope

2.4.3 The building was systematically searched for bats, bat droppings and any other signs beneath potential bat roost sites. Accessible cracks for bats were examined with the use of a Clulite Lamp (1,000,000 candle power). In addition, the loft space was also comprehensively searched for signs of bats.

*Emergence survey*

2.4.4 An evening emergence survey was conducted on 19 May 2011. One observer was stationed at the north east corner of the building with good views of the east and north elevations. A second observer was stationed at the south west corner of the building with good views of the west and south elevations.

## ROCKING HALL SHOOTING LODGE BAT REPORT

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- 2.4.5 In addition, two AnaBat SD2 detectors were used to help record bats. One was stationed inside the north room, immediately beneath the bat dropping, with the recorder facing towards the roof. The second one was placed within the fireplace of the central room, also with the recorder facing towards the roof. These were set to record bat sounds for the duration of the emergence survey.
- 2.4.6 The survey commenced twenty minutes before sunset and lasted until c. 1.5 hours after sunset. The weather was cold but dry, with a light breeze, and so was considered suitable for bat emergence and foraging.
- 2.4.7 The equipment used for the survey included:-
- Batbox Duets (frequency division and heterodyne bat detectors)
  - Batbox 111 detectors (heterodyne bat detectors)
  - Edirol R-09 digital recorders (used to record frequency divided echolocation)
  - BatScan v9.6 (sound analysis software)
  - Two AnaBat SD2 bat detectors (frequency division automated recording static bat detectors)

### *Personnel*

- 2.4.8 All the survey work was undertaken by Dr. Madeline Holloway, (Licence No. 20112140) with the assistance of Jane Liddle (Licence No. 20093123).

## **2.5 Constraints**

- 2.5.1 There were no major constraints. Nevertheless, any external signs of bats may have been washed away by previous bad weather (wind and rain).

## **3 RESULTS**

### **3.1 Daytime Inspection**

- 3.1.1 The ground plan and elevations for the Shooting Lodge are shown in Drawing Nos. 3 and 4. These show that the central room and loft is covered by a pitched, corrugated asbestos cement roof and that sloping stone slate roofs cover the south and north rooms respectively (Plate 1). Gaps suitable for bat entry into potential bat roosts occur between the overlapping stone slates of the south and north rooms as shown in (Plate 2), although no signs of bats were recorded.
- 3.1.2 Occasional gaps suitable for bat entry into potential roosts were also recorded within the stonework of the external east elevation and between the stone slate roof and wall (Plates 3 and 4 respectively) but no signs of bats were recorded. Further gaps suitable for bat entry into potential roosts were recorded under gaps within the lead flashing where the sloping stone slate roofs of the north and south rooms abut the respective walls of the central room (Plate 5).
- 3.1.3 No signs of bats were recorded on any of the external surfaces of the Rocking Lodge.

## ROCKING HALL SHOOTING LODGE BAT REPORT

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- 3.1.4 The following description outlines each different internal aspect of the building and whether there were any signs of bats:

### Central Room

- 3.1.2 Possible bat entry into this room was via the stone chimney and fireplace. In addition, occasional gaps between the internal stonework of the chimney itself were suitable for bat entry into potential roosts (Plate 6). However, no signs of bats were recorded on any of the internal surfaces of this room or within the accessible parts of the chimney.
- 3.1.3 Approximately 30 mouse droppings were recorded on the floor, mostly beneath the benches and tables.

### South Room

- 3.1.4 The sloping, uninsulated, stone slate roof was supported by a timber framework and the remains of two old swallow nests were recorded within the roof rafters; old swallow droppings also occurred on the bench below one of the nests. The chimney above the fireplace within the western elevation was blocked by the sloping roof and a missing doorway and stone-blocked window cavity occurred in the east and south elevations respectively.
- 3.1.5 Gaps suitable for bat entry into potential roosts were visible between the top purlin and internal, northern, wall (Plate 7). However, no signs of bats were recorded on any of the internal surfaces.

### North Room

- 3.1.6 This was similar in structure to the south room although a fireplace within the western elevation was absent and, in addition, a small, glass-paned, window occurred in the north elevation. Whilst the gaps between the top purlin and wall were too wide for roosting bats there were some suitable gaps for bat entry into potential roosts within the wooden lintel above the missing doorway of the east elevation. No signs of bats, however, were recorded beneath the door lintel.
- 3.1.7 Nevertheless, a small, mostly blocked-up, vent hole occurred approximately 2.5m above ground level within the whitewashed, internal, wall of the west elevation (Plate 8). External skylight was visible through the vent hole, initially indicating that it may be too draughty for bats to roost within. A single bat dropping, however, was recorded on the whitewashed wall approximately 0.6m below the hole (Plates 9 & 10). The size and shape of the dropping suggested that it belonged to a Pipistrelle bat (*Pipistrellus spp.*). Bat access into the internal space of this room was possible via the missing doorway within the east elevation, through gaps between the overlapping roof slates and, possibly, through gaps within the partially blocked vent hole within the west elevation wall (Plate 11).
- 3.1.8 In summary the evidence indicates that at least one Pipistrelle bat *Pipistrellus spp* has fed within the North Room. The proximity of the bat dropping to the vent hole is also indicative that a Pipistrelle bat *Pipistrellus spp.* may have temporarily roosted within a wall cavity at this location (although no bat droppings were actually recorded within the vent hole). In conclusion the

## ROCKING HALL SHOOTING LODGE BAT REPORT

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evidence indicates that the North Room provides a temporary feeding and/or roosting area for a very small number of Pipistrelle bats *Pipistrellus spp.*.

- 3.1.9 The remains of two old swallow nests were also recorded within the roof rafters.

### Loft

- 3.1.10 Apex height (distance from ridge beam to loft floor) was 2m and the uninsulated, corrugated, asbestos cement roof sheets were visible above the roof rafters. No ridge beam occurred at the apex of the pitched roof, with mortar filling the apex joint between the pitched sheets. Daylight was visible through cracks between the asbestos roof sheets and wall plate at the northeast and northwest corners of the loft and bat access into the loft was therefore possible via such gaps. No signs of bats were recorded on any of the internal surfaces of the loft.

- 3.1.11 Approximately 50 mouse droppings were recorded scattered across the timber floor.

### **3.2 Emergence Survey**

- 3.2.1 No bats were seen to emerge from either the Rocking Shooting Lodge or the house west of Rocking Hall. In addition, no bats were seen or heard feeding in the general vicinity.

## **4 INTERPRETATION/EVALUATION OF RESULTS**

### **4.1 Presence/absence**

- 4.1.1 The single bat dropping on the internal wall of the north room indicates that this room provides a temporary feeding and/or roosting area for a very small number of Pipistrelle *Pipistrellus spp.* bats.

### **4.2 Site status assessment**

- 4.1.1 Rocking Hall Shooting Lodge supports a temporary, non-maternity, feeding and/or roosting area for a very small number of Pipistrelle *Pipistrellus spp.* bats and is therefore considered to be of some local conservation significance.
- 4.1.2 It remains unknown whether the building also supports any winter hibernation roosts.

## **5 IMPACT ASSESSMENT IN ABSENCE OF MITIGATION**

### **5.1 Short-term impacts: disturbance**

- 5.1.1 Without the implementation of mitigation, there is a low risk that short term impacts on bats by the proposed repair at a vulnerable time of year would result in the damage and loss of roosts. This could come in the form of disturbance and possible direct harm to bats, either crushed during roof work

or entombed during pointing work. The impact on bats at a local scale could be moderate.

## **5.2 Long-term impacts: bat roost modification**

- 5.2.1 The proposed repair works would result in irreversible changes to the site layout and local environment for bats. This includes the replacement of the main roof with a stone slate roof underlain with tanalised sarking boards. It also includes the full repair of the north and south stone slate roofs which would also be underlain with tanalised sarking boards. The insertion of sarking boards would prevent bat access into the internal space of the building from the roof. Whilst it is not proposed to use any underlay in the repaired roof the existing ventilation, air-flow and flight paths within, and access into, the building would nevertheless be changed due to the replaced roof and sealing of some small bat access points. This is likely to have a negative impact on bat usage of the building.
- 5.2.2 Other modifications include raising the existing timber ceiling of the main room and thus reducing the loft space here. In addition, new oak doors would be fitted to the currently missing door spaces of the North and South Side Rooms. These currently provide easy bat access routes into these areas. Masonry repairs would include re-pointing all the joints to all elevations, wall faces, reveals, string course, plinth, gable, and chimney. Of particular note is that such work would be likely to also include the complete blockage of the vent hole in the west elevation of the North Room and hence further blockage of bat access into this room.
- 5.2.3 In summary, the proposed repair work would remove many of the existing entrance/exit routes for bats that currently occur with a likely negative impact on bat usage of the building.

## **5.3 Long-term impacts: bat roost loss**

- 5.3.1 Without mitigation, the full repair of the roofs and the additional joinery and masonry work are likely to remove the existing feeding/roosting area within the North Room.

## **5.4 Predicted scale of impact**

- 5.4.1 The repair proposals are likely to remove the temporary, non-maternity, feeding and/or roosting area for *Pipistrelle Pipistrellus spp.* bats within the North Room. This work is therefore likely to have a small negative impact on these bats at the local level and appropriate mitigation measures are therefore required to offset such losses. These are described in Section 6.

# **6 RECOMMENDED MITIGATION MEASURES**

## **6.1 Mitigation Strategy**

- 6.1.1 The proposed repair works would result in the modification and/or destruction of a small, temporary, non-maternity, feeding and/or roosting area for *Pipistrelle Pipistrellus spp.* bats within the North Room. As noted in

## ROCKING HALL SHOOTING LODGE BAT REPORT

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paragraphs 1.2.1 and 1.2.2 the modification/destruction of such a roost is considered to be an offence and such work should therefore be legally covered by a Bat Licence from Natural England. However, to prevent costly delays and the need to apply for a Bat Licence from Natural England it is recommended that the proposed repair work be undertaken on the condition that the mitigation measures recommended in this report are also implemented. Thus, the recommended mitigation measures would modify the proposed repair works described in the Specification for Major Fabric Repair Report (March 2011) to ensure that the existing bat roost is retained *in situ*.

6.1.2 The recommended mitigation measures are described as follows:

1. The bat roost within the partially blocked vent hole in the west elevation wall of the North Room would be retained *in situ*. Nevertheless, bat access into the North Room, and hence into wall cavity at this location, would be reduced. For example, the proposed oak boarded door required to replace the missing door in the east elevation (refer to item No. 3.5.1 of the Specification Report - March 2011) would prevent bat entry at this location. In addition, the insertion of the proposed sarking boards would prevent the current bat access into the North Room via the overlapping, un-insulated stone slates. To offset such loss of bat access a 'bat stone' (with bat access gaps of 20-25ml) would be inserted into the external west elevation wall to allow bats to enter the partially blocked vent hole from the external elevation (Drawing 7A). An example of such a 'bat stone' is shown in Figure 1. Other mitigation measures to offset loss of bat access into the North Room are described in Mitigation Measures 5 and 8 below.
2. The contractor would be made aware of the possibility of bats roosting in the roof and/or walls of the building. Caution would be applied to dismantling procedures with any cavities beneath the roof covering, timbers and walls checked for bats as work proceeds. It is essential that the contractor is also aware of what action to take should roosting bats be found i.e. that a Licensed Bat Worker should be immediately notified, the cavity covered or protected and all work stopped. Further advice would be sought from the Licensed Bat Worker, although it is likely that any roosting bat(s) should be able to disperse 'naturally' as they would not be part of a maternity roost. If this is not the case, the torpid bat(s) would be carefully transferred, by the Licensed Bat Worker, from the roost into one of the wall cavities created within the west elevation wall (refer to Mitigation Measure No. 5).
3. The proposed repair works are likely to significantly modify the existing potential bat roost spaces of the building and this may result in a small negative impact to the local bat population. To mitigate for the modification of the existing bat roost within the building (refer to Mitigation No. 1), an assurance would also be required to create new spaces with similar dimensions to the existing bat roost. These are described as the following key elements (Nos. 4 – 8) within the proposed mitigation strategy.
4. The proposed repair work requires the insertion of two air bricks in the West gable, using broken slates to form a grill with an added stainless steel insect proof gauze behind to ventilate the roof space (refer to item No. 3.3.10 of the Specification Report - March 2011). To provide access

## ROCKING HALL SHOOTING LODGE BAT REPORT

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for bats into the potential roosting cavities within the roof space this specification would be modified by, instead, the insertion of two 'bat stones' at the proposed locations, with bat access gaps of 20-25ml (Figure 1).

5. Further bat access into some of the wall cavities within the west wall would be created by the insertion of four additional 'bat stones' either at, or one course below, eaves level as illustrated in Drawing 7A. Once again, the 'bat stones' would have bat access gaps of 20 – 25ml as shown in Figure 1.
  6. Gaps with a minimum height of 20mm and length of between 30 and 150mm would be created in the mortar under the stone ridge tiles every 2 metres or so on the main roof. It is appreciated that the stone ridge tiles must be firmly fixed to the roof due to the extreme exposure of the site (refer to item No. 3.1.2.9 of the Specification Report - March 2011). Nevertheless, broken slates would be used, as far as possible, to span the roof slating battens on either side of the roof pitch as illustrated in Plate 11. All the ridge tiles would then be securely bedded and fixed to the roof by applying mortar above the broken slates. This method would create suitable spaces for roosting bats below the broken slates.
  7. As many as possible of the existing stone slates will be re-used together with second-hand grey stone slates (items 3.1.2.4 and 3.2.1 of the Specification Report - March 2011). Thus, gaps between the uneven, overlapping slates of the repaired roofs would therefore provide numerous gaps for bat access into the new slate-sarking board voids of the building.
  8. To ensure that bats can continue to access the internal space of the North Room 'bat access slits' (with dimensions 20 – 25mm x 40 – 80mm) would be cut within the underlying sarking board every 2m adjacent to the purlin and wall plate. This measure would allow bats to crawl directly from the beneath the ridge slates into the internal space of the North Room and *vice versa*.
  9. Finally, a monitoring plan would be put in place to assess whether the bat population has responded well to the mitigation measures outlined above and to inform ongoing roost management. This would consist of a pre-emergence examination of the new potential roost spaces and counting the number of bats leaving the roost(s) on emergence in June/July following completion of the work.
- 6.1.3 Finally, it must be stated that if, for any reason, any of the above mitigation measures are not able to be implemented during the proposed works described in the Specification Report - March 2011 then all work should be stopped immediately. Work would then have to be delayed until a Bat Licence was granted from Natural England to cover what would otherwise be considered unlawful works.



## 7 REFERENCES

Bat Conservation Trust (2007) *Bat Surveys – Good Practice Guidelines* Bat Conservation Trust.

English Nature (2004) *Bat mitigation guidelines*. English Nature, Peterborough.

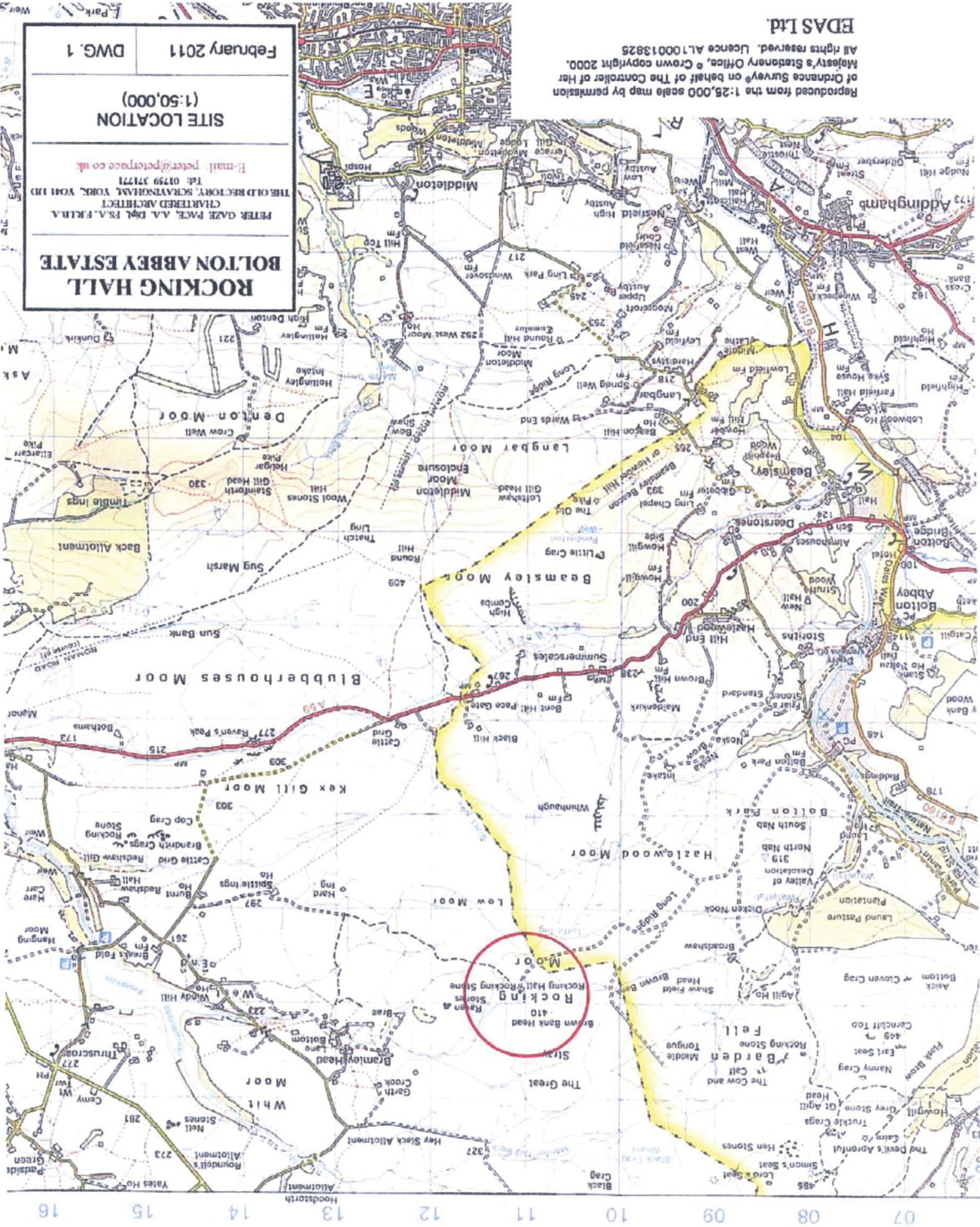
Joint Nature Conservation Committee (2004) *Bat Workers' Manual* Joint Nature Conservation Committee ISBN 1 86107 558 8.

Russ, J. (1999) *The Bats of Britain and Ireland* Alana Books ISBN 0 9536049 0 X

Walsh, A. L., and Harris, S (1996) *Foraging habitat preferences of vespertilionid bats in Britain*. Journal of Applied Ecology 33: 325-344.

**Rocking Hall Shooting Lodge  
 Rocking Moor, Fewston Moor, North Yorkshire  
 Bolton Abbey Estate**

**Location Map**



**ROCKING HALL  
 BOLTON ABBEY ESTATE**

PETER GAZE PACE, A.A. Dipl. P.S.A., F.R.I.B.A.  
 CHARTERED ARCHITECT  
 THE DIRECTORY, 26, MARK LANE, YORK, YO1 1JF  
 Tel: 01753 371771  
 E-mail: peter@peterpace.co.uk

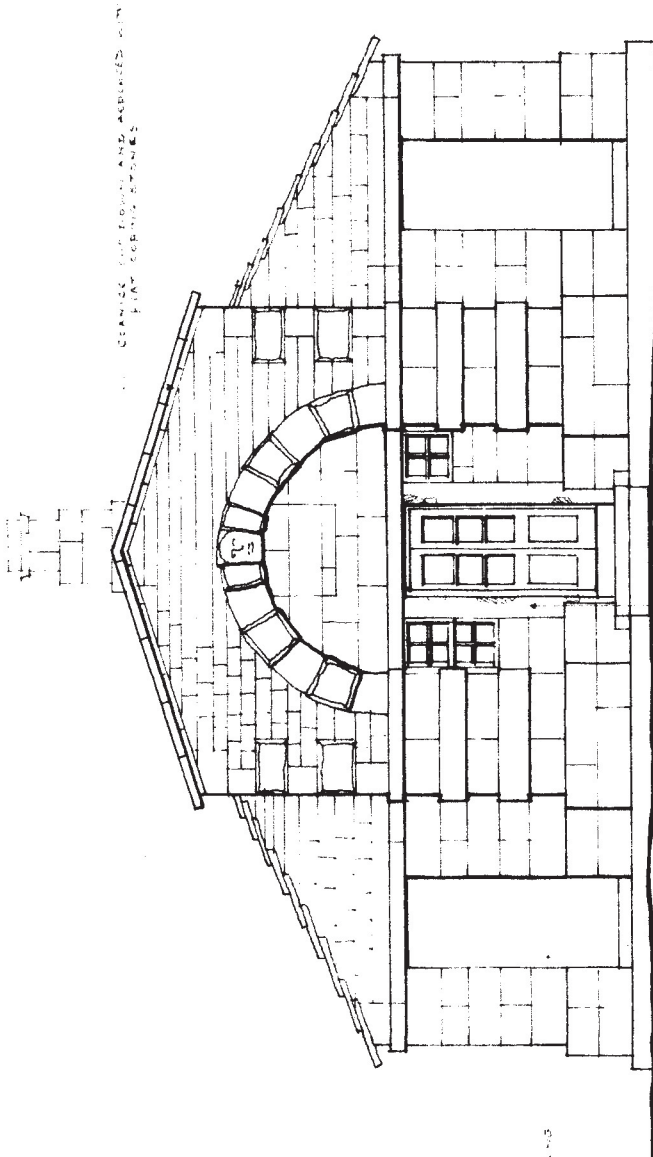
**SITE LOCATION  
 (1:50,000)**

February 2011  
 DWG. 1

BDAS Ltd  
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**Rocking Hall Shooting Lodge  
 Specification for Major Fabric Repairs.**

Date: March 2011  
 Peter Gaze Pace Chartered Architects

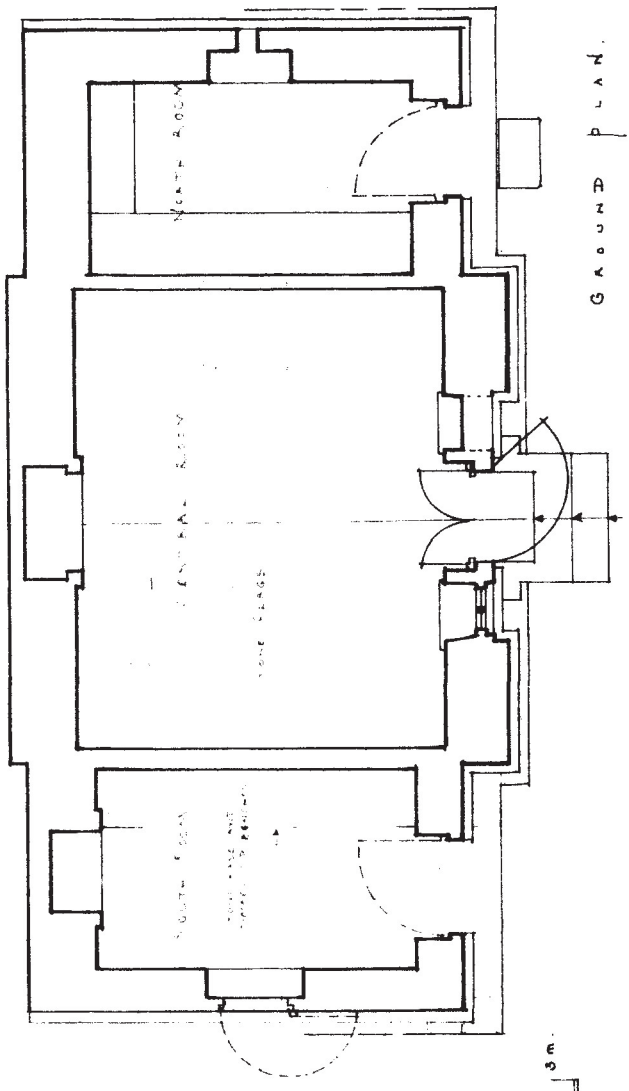


CEILING JOINTS TO BE REPAIRED WITH  
PLAIN COPING STONES

MASONRY TO BE  
REPAIRED TO  
MATCH EXISTING  
WORK TO ALL  
FACES TO BE REPAIRED  
WITH PLAIN COPING STONES  
RESPECTIVE TO JOINTS

2008-03-13

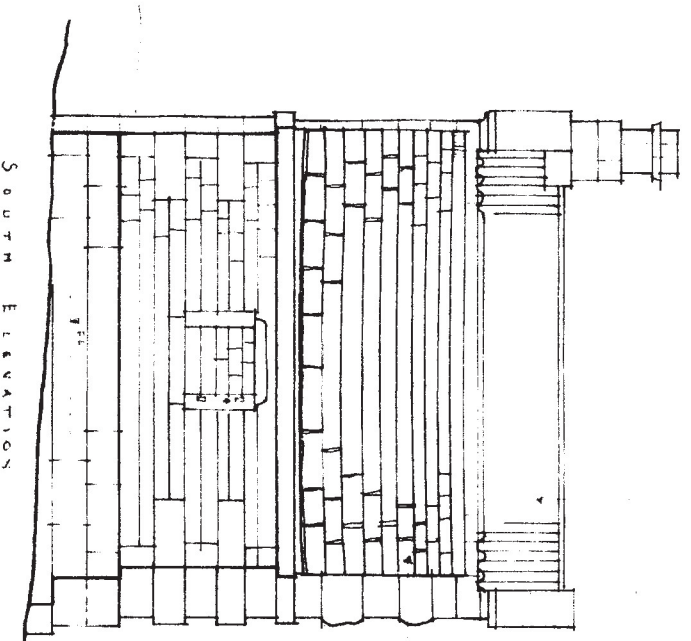
REPAIR STONE JOINTS DAMAGED  
BY ROBBING SCHEME  
AND WINDOWS TO BE  
REPAIRED TO MATCH  
EXISTING SCHEME  
EAST ELEVATION



GROUND PLAN

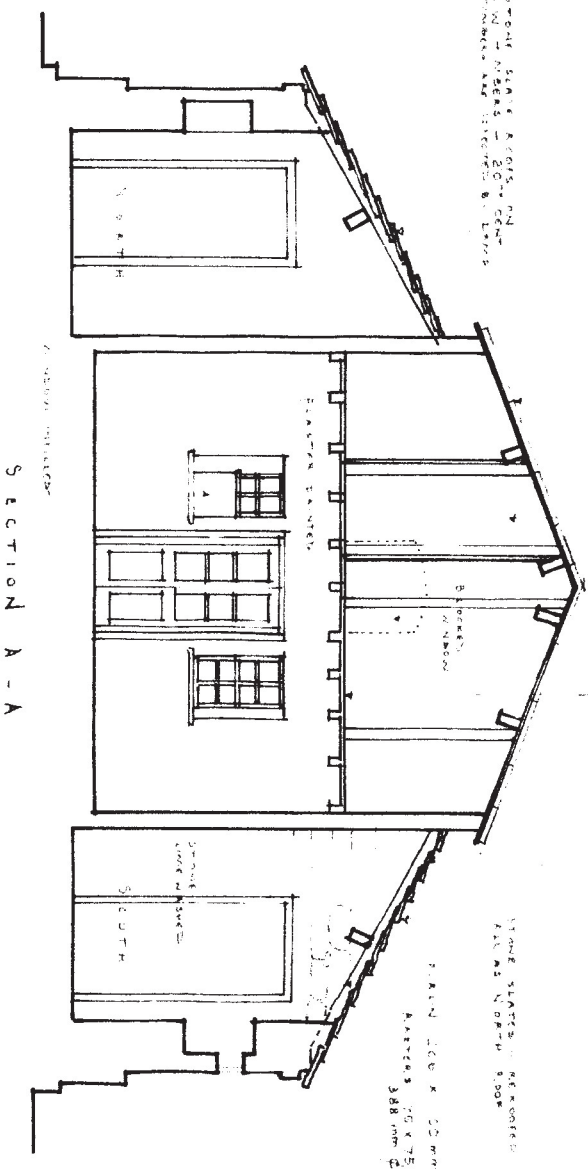


<b>ROCKING HALL</b> <b>BOLTON ABBEY ESTATE</b>
PETER GUY PAGE, A.A. INC. USA, F.R.I.B.A. CHARTERED ARCHITECT THE OLD RECTORY, SCRATTONHAM YORK, YO41 1DQ TEL: 01759 431771 E-MAIL: peter@peterpage.co.uk
<b>GROUND PLAN AND EAST ELEVATION</b>
<b>AS EXISTING</b>
<b>FEB 2011 DWG. 3</b>



SOUTH ELEVATION

MASONRY AS SHOWN WITH  
SOMEWHAT OF NEW STONE WORK  
DEPENDENT ON TIME.



SECTION A-A

EXPOSED BRICKWORK, CORNER  
ROOF NEW STONE FROM STRUCTURE  
AND STONE SLATE COVERING  
ROOF AND INTERIOR WALLS

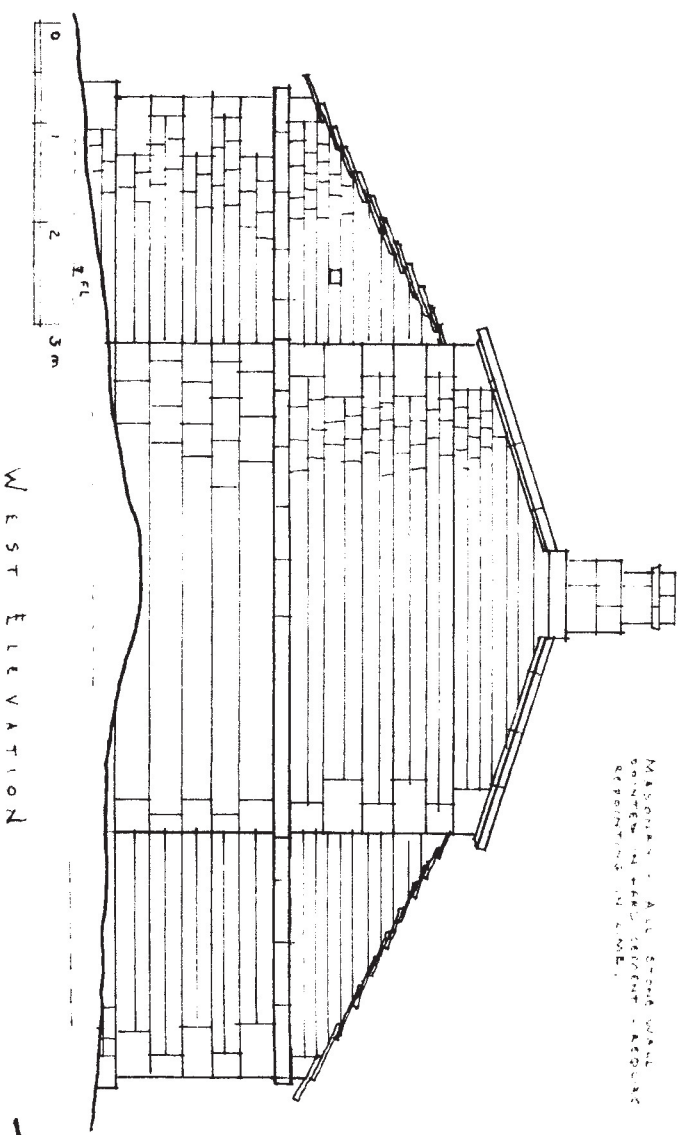
FLAT ROOF SLATE ROOF ON  
SOUTH SIDE - 20' x 20'  
CORNER AND INTERIOR WALLS

ROOF WALL

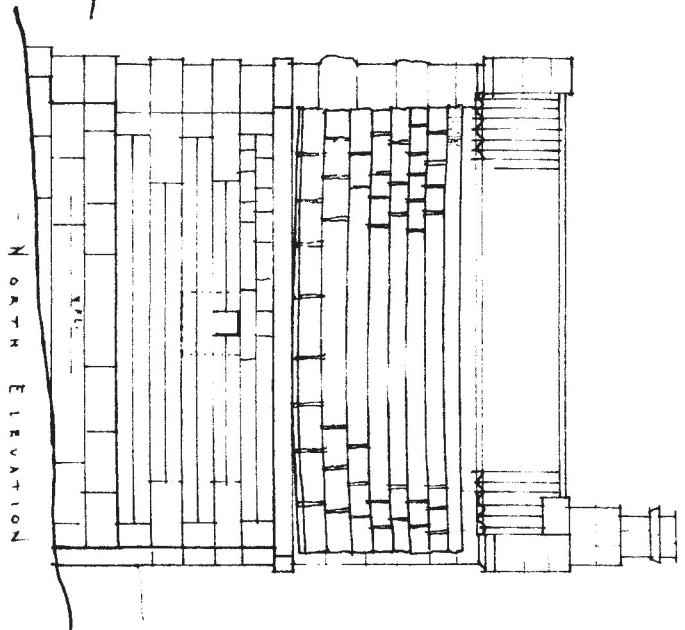
ROOF CORNER INTERIOR

STONE SLATE ROOF  
AS SHOWN ON PLAN

PLAN 20' x 20'  
ROOF CORNER  
AS SHOWN ON PLAN



WEST ELEVATION



NORTH ELEVATION

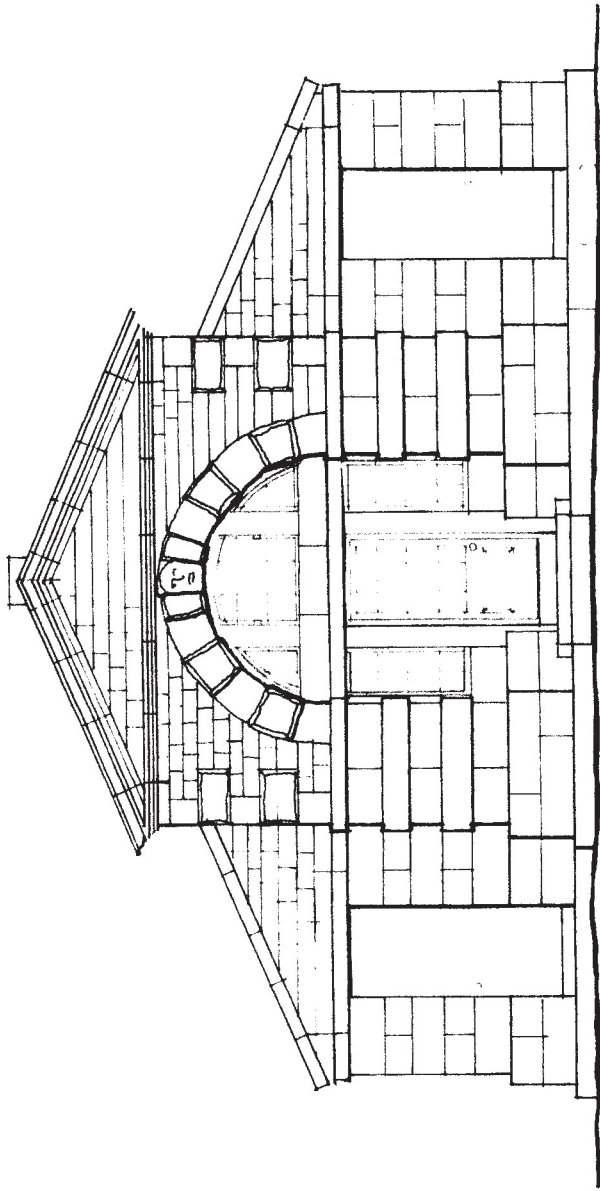
**ROCKING HALL**  
**BOLTON ABBEY ESTATE**

PETER GAZD PAVL, A.A. INC. P.S., F.R.I.B.A.  
CHARTERED ARCHITECT  
THE GARDEN, THE BELL, YORK, YORK YO1 1PD  
Tel: 01793 37771  
E-mail: peter.gazd@pavlgazd.co.uk

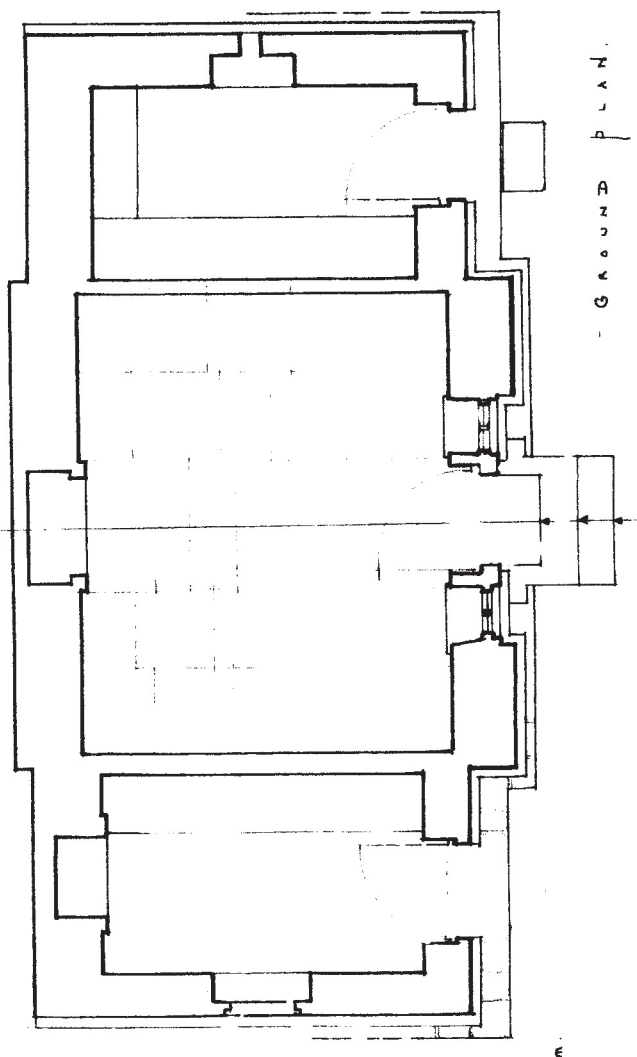
**N. S. + W. ELEVATIONS  
AND SECTION A-A**

**As Existing**

**March 2011 dwg. 4.**



EAST ELEVATION.



GROUND PLAN.



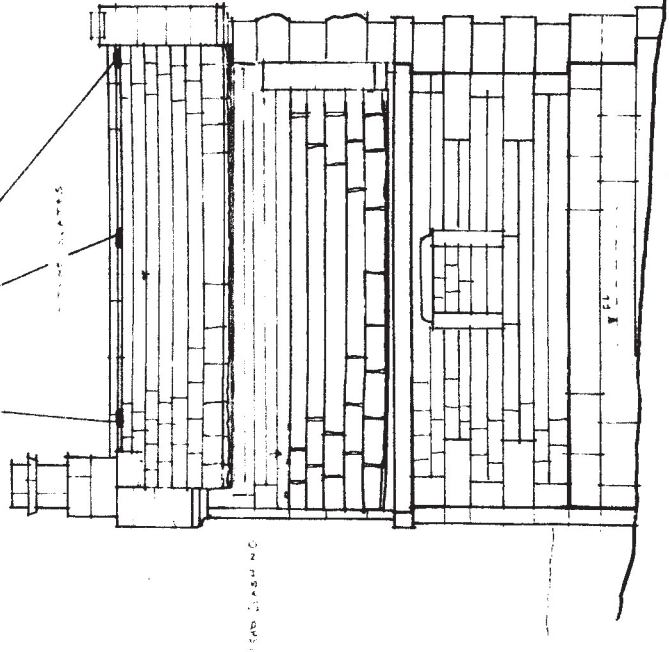
A.



A.

<b>ROCKING HALL</b>	
<b>BOLTON ABBEY ESTATE</b>	
PETER OATZ PACE, A.A. INC. P.S.A. FELISA	
CHARTERED ARCHITECTS	
THE OLD RECTORY, BARNHAM, YORK, YO11 1JD	
Tel: 01753 371771	
E-mail: peter@peterpace.co.uk	
<b>GROUND PLAN</b>	
<b>AND EAST ELEVATION</b>	
<b>AS PROPOSED</b>	
<b>MARCH 2011 DWG. 6 B</b>	

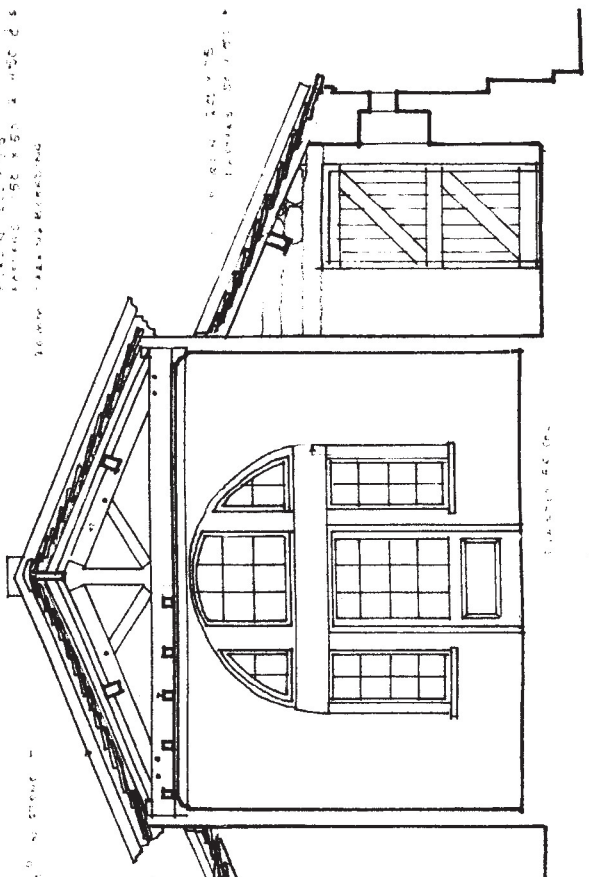
CREATE 'BAT ACCESS GAPS' IN THE MORTAR BELOW THE RIDGE TILES



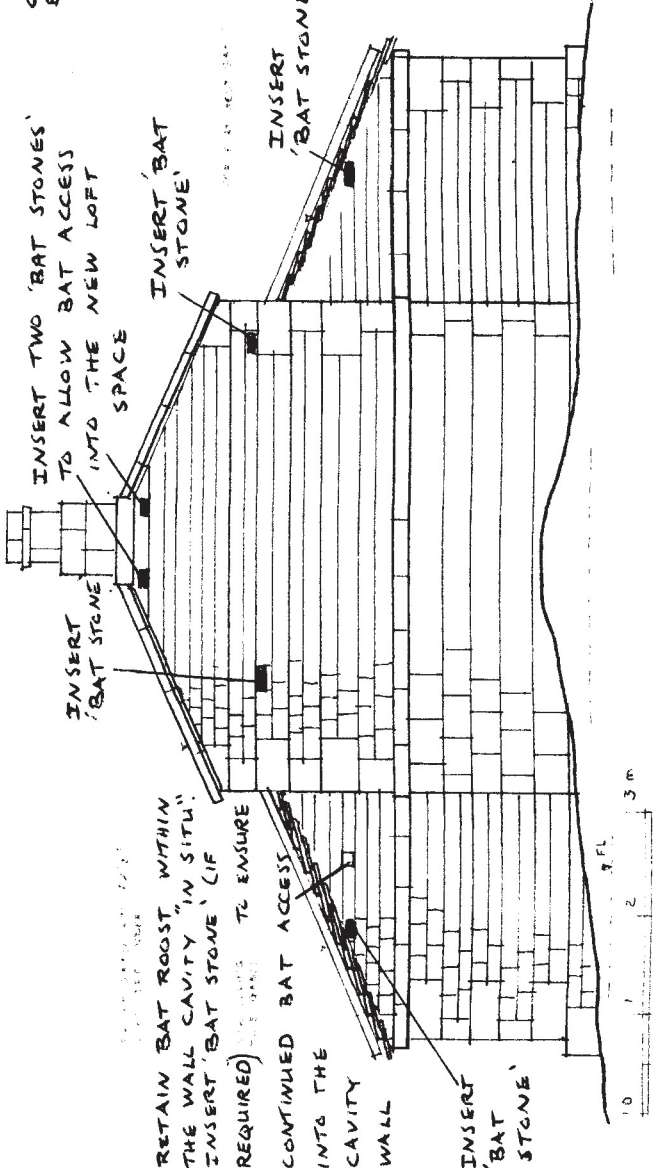
SOUTH ELEVATION

RETAIN BAT ROOST WITHIN THE WALL CAVITY "IN SITU". INSERT 'BAT STONE' (IF REQUIRED) TO ENSURE CONTINUED BAT ACCESS INTO THE CAVITY WALL

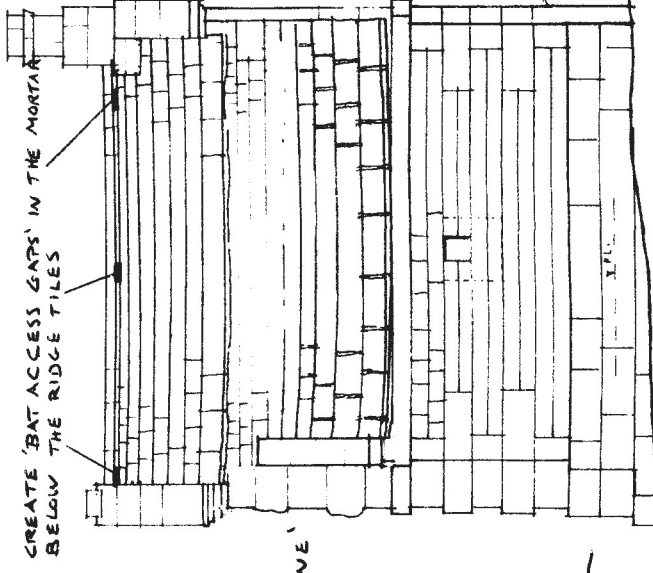
CREATE 'BAT ACCESS GAPS' WITHIN THE SARKING BOARDS TO ENSURE BATS CAN CONTINUE TO ACCESS THE NORTH ROOM



NORTH ELEVATION



WEST ELEVATION



SECTION A - A

100% TO ORIGINAL EXTERIORS  
USE X 100 TO 2 BIRM  
6.14.10. 2007.75  
KAYE 150 X 50 X 1000 2.4  
1000000 1000000

100% TO ORIGINAL EXTERIORS  
USE X 100 TO 2 BIRM  
6.14.10. 2007.75  
KAYE 150 X 50 X 1000 2.4  
1000000 1000000

**ROCKING HALL**  
**BOLTON ABBEY ESTATE**

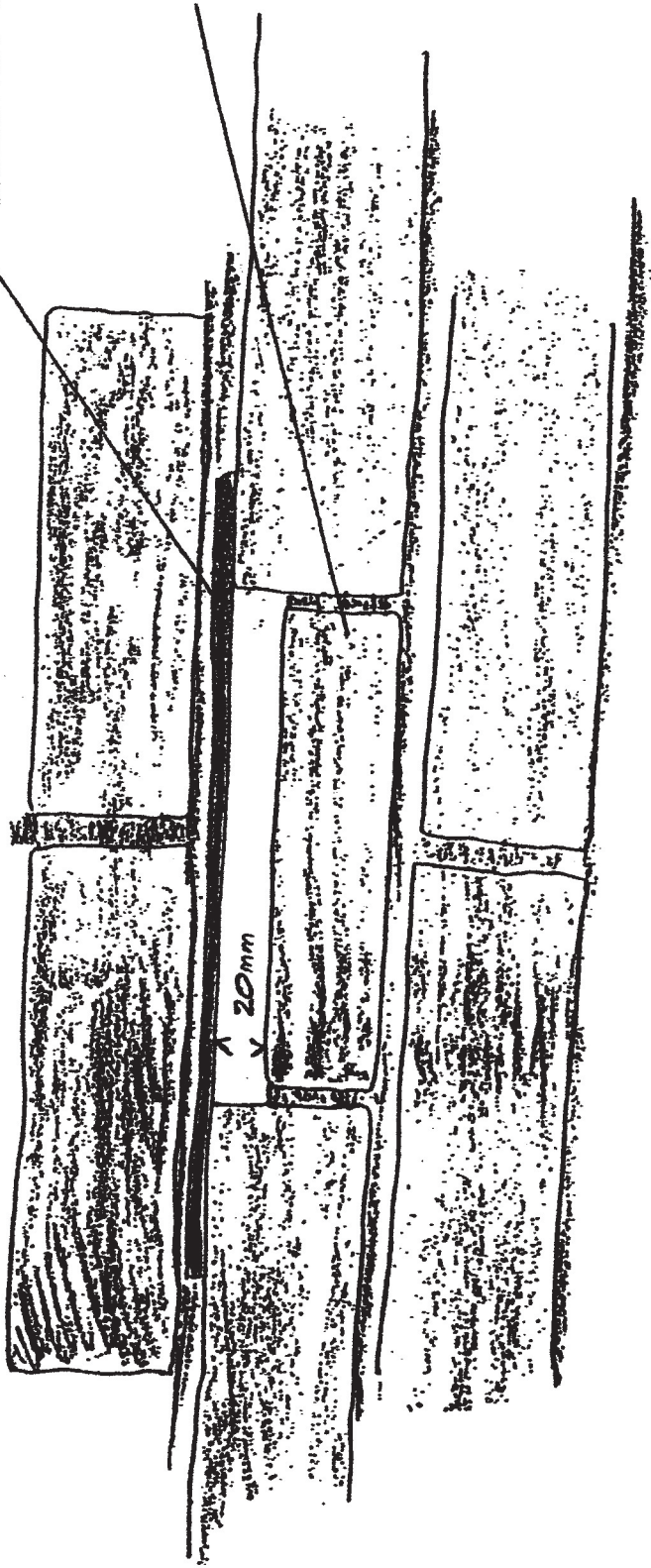
PETER GAZE PACE A.A. INC. P.S.A. P.R.I.B.A.  
THE OLD FACTORY, SKYWAYBRIDGE, YORK, YO41 1DD  
Tel: 01799 317171  
E-mail: peter@peterpace.co.uk

**ELEVATIONS AND SECTIONS**

**As Proposed**

**MARCH 2011 DWG. 7A**

Insert slate into mortar to bear the stones above



Modified "bat stone" cut down as shown, inserted and pointed up

FIGURE 1  
DIMENSIONS OF A  
"BAT STONE"

**Plate 1** East elevation



Central room covered by corrugated asbestos sheets

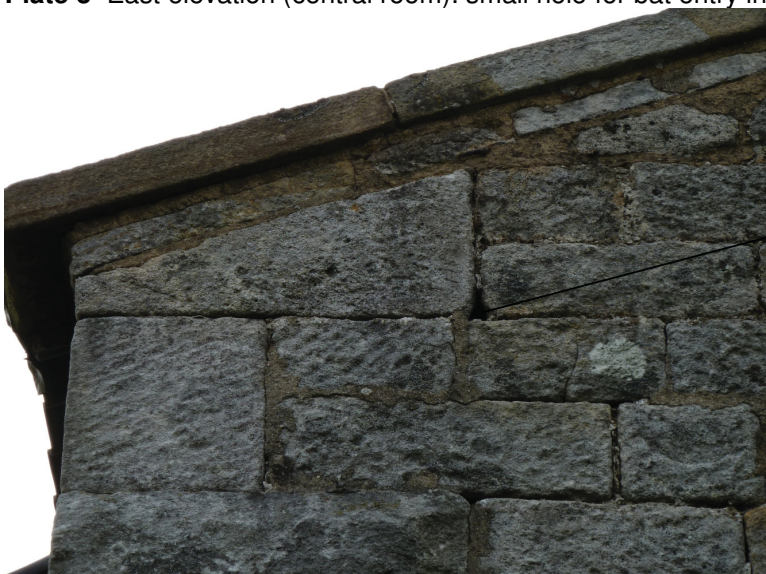
North room covered by sloping stone slate roof

South room covered by sloping stone slate roof

**Plate 2** South elevation: gaps suitable for bat entry into potential roosts between overlapping stone slates



**Plate 3** East elevation (central room): small hole for bat entry into a potential bat roost just below the roof



Small hole suitable for bat entry into a potential bat roost



**Plate 4** East elevation (north room): small hole for bat entry into a potential bat roost just below the roof



Small hole suitable for bat entry into a potential bat roost

**Plate 5** East elevation: small hole for bat entry into a potential bat roost at the junction between the south room and central room



Small hole suitable for bat entry into a potential bat roost

**Plate 6** Central room: internal fireplace: gaps suitable for bat entry into potential bat roosts within the stonework



**Plate 7** South room: gaps suitable for bat entry into potential bat roosts between the wall and roof



Narrow gaps suitable for bat entry into potential bat roosts between the roof timbers and internal northern wall

**Plate 8** North room: small hole in the whitewashed, internal (western) wall



**Plate 9** North room: bat dropping 0.6m below small hole in the internal (western) wall



Single bat dropping recorded 0.6m below the small hole

**Plate 10** North room: close-up of the bat dropping (refer to Plate 9)



Single bat dropping recorded 0.6m below the small hole

**Plate 11** Example: the creation of potential bat roost spaces under ridge tiles (cross-section)



The ridge tiles would mortared into the topmost pantiles (or slates) either side of the pitched roof.

Broken pantiles (or slates) placed across the top of the pantiles on either side of the roof apex would ensure that the space immediately underneath, but above the topmost battens, remained free of mortar and hence available as a potential bat roost space.

Roof battens.

Potential bat roost space between the broken pantiles (or slates) and topmost roof battens.

Topmost roof pantiles (or slates) on either side of the pitched roof.

**APPENDIX 3**

**NATURAL ENGLAND PROJECT BRIEF**

## **Project Brief for a Management Plan for a Building Restoration Project.**

### **Rocking Hall Shooting Hut**



**Prepared for:**

The Bolton Abbey Estate  
HLS Agreement: AG00246299

July 2010

**By:**

Dr. Margaret Nieke  
Historic Environment Advisor  
Natural England

Tel: 0300-060-1898

**Natural England**

Foss House, 4th Floor  
King's Pool  
1-2 Peasholme Green  
YORK YO1 7PX

Email: [margaret.nieke@naturalengland.org.uk](mailto:margaret.nieke@naturalengland.org.uk)

**National Grid Reference: SE111 579**

## **Introduction**

It is proposed to consider restoration of a single range of the Rocking Hall Shooting Box under a Higher Level Stewardship (HLS) Scheme Agreement . Grant aid is available from Natural England for drawing up a management plan, which is required in the first instance, both to identify the works required to bring the building back to good repair, and to provide a full specification and fully costed schedule for repair. Our aim is to fund this Management Plan in 2010 to allow restoration works to proceed – subject to budget availability- in early 2011.

Rocking Hall is a purpose built shooting hut said to have been first built in the 1750's for the 4th Duke of Devonshire. The hut forms a key element of the early sporting landscape of the Bolton Abbey Estate. Situated in a dominant landscape position it comprises a central banqueting room with two smaller attached wings, each open-fronted. Whilst the main room is locked the two side wings are open and are well-used as walkers shelters associated with adjacent open access land. The hut was built to provide a suitably covered refreshment stop for the main shooting party. It is located within a small walled allotment and sits in front of and looking away an earlier smaller farmstead building. The early history of this complex is uncertain and would benefit from further research. The small scale farming allotment might be linked to nearby lead mining and this may be an early miner-farmer settlement. Given the interesting early history of this buildings and its setting a competent historic buildings archaeologist should be included in the team to investigate it. Despite being a designed building with some architectural embellishment ( some perhaps formed from re-used stone from Bolton Abbey) Rocking Hall is not listed. The central hall has been re-roofed with asbestos sheeting in the recent past and this is giving most current cause for concern. Ideally this needs to be re-roofed. Whilst covered by an Estate wide Inheritance Tax Exemption (ITE) the scale of repairs required is probably more than the maintenance covered by this.

## **Objectives of this Brief & Submission of Quotes**

- This brief should be used by the applicant to obtain three itemised quotes for the preparation and production of the management plan. Quotations should be based on the requirements set out in each section of this brief and each item of work costed separately.

**A Management Plan like this needs to be drawn up by appropriately qualified conservation architects who are members of the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) or are building conservation qualified members of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS). Contact details for individual members can be found at : <http://www.aabc-register.co.uk/>. Or <http://www.rics.org/Services/Findasurveyor/spotlight2.htm>. A list of conservation professionals who have previously expressed an interest in agri-environment scheme work in Yorkshire and the Humber is attached.**

- The submission should also include:
  - A method statement demonstrating how the work will be undertaken,
  - Identification of who will undertake the work and an outline of their professional expertise in building conservation and buildings of this type.
  - Requirements for CDM cover, input from structural engineers etc should be made clear. Where appropriate providers of these services should be identified and their input clearly costed.
  
- This brief and the resulting Management Plan should be used to facilitate full liaison with Natural England concerning the technical details of any subsequent application for grant aided work to restore the building.

**Appendix One, ‘Higher Level Stewardship: The Repair and Restoration of Historic Buildings. Applicants’ Guide’** explains in more in detail the principals of funding under agri-environment schemes, and should be referred to in conjunction with this brief.

### **Content of the Management Plan**

#### **1. Summary**

A short concise summary identifying:

- Site Location
- Site Description, including a site plan to an appropriate scale
- The aims of the restoration
- Current condition of the building and the threats and issues it faces

#### **2. Summary of the Historical Development and Statement of Significance**

A brief summary of the historical development of the building; where appropriate illustrative photographs of the building from key viewpoints should be included and cross-referenced to a scaled plan. Some limited archive work will be required to try and date the original complex more accurately and link it to local land ownerships. If possible an understanding of the history of the enclosed allotment and adjacent building should be presented. A statement of the significance of the building should be included, assessing the structure from both a local and regional perspective, and commenting on the contribution of the building to the local landscape character, public amenity and biodiversity. For an understanding of the history of Grouse Shooting the following should be consulted:

*The Landscape History of Grouse Shooting in the Yorkshire Dales: Andrew Done and Richard Muir **Rural History 2001 195-210.***

### **3. Analysis and Recording**

Undertake a site survey of the building looking at its form, use of materials and methods of construction, past function, style of architecture and changes/adaptations over time and the reasons for the changes. This should be cross-referenced with the information gathered in 2 and 3 above.

A record of the building as it presently exists, and analysis of the fabric likely to be affected by repair should be made using appropriately scaled plans, drawings and photographs, equivalent to Level 2 of English Heritage's *'Understanding Historic Buildings: A Guide to Good Recording Practice'* (available at [www.helm.gov.uk](http://www.helm.gov.uk) under Guidance Library). Level 2 is a visual and descriptive record. A brief to guide the building recording based on the English Heritage guidance is attached (Appendix Two). Depending on the nature and level of necessary repair identified within the management plan, appropriate recording may also be required during repair works and after their completion.

### **4. Wildlife Survey**

Identify the location of any wildlife species which use the building either seasonally or throughout the year and consider their requirements and mitigation, and the legal obligations under the relevant wildlife legislation, when compiling the plan and scheduling of works.

If protected species are found, a licence may be needed before work can take place. Certain species using a building may be protected under the UK Wildlife & Countryside Act (1981) and/or European wildlife legislation. Species lists can be found at:

<http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/conservation/wildlife-management-licensing/habsregs.htm>

or by contacting your local Natural England office.

### **5. Condition Survey**

Using floor plans and elevations as a baseline, prepare a comprehensive, photographically illustrated condition survey of the building. Comments should be made on the feasibility of repair, highlighting good points as well as looking at defects and the remedies required. The survey should prioritise work into areas into immediate (1-2 years), necessary (2-5 years) and desirable (10 -20 years). The key concern of the project will be to make the roof fully watertight.

Further detailed survey of particular problem areas may be required, However all commentary, photographs or additional survey work must be tied into a scaled plan.



Discussion with the Natural England HEA will be essential at this stage to discuss approaches to building repair. These must focus on conservation of the building 'as found' but there will be scope for discussion on the most appropriate remedies, and approaches to conservation and future management of the various wall openings, including the main doorways.

## **6. Building Repairs and Alterations**

Using information from 1 to 5 above, identify the repair work required and prepare a full specification for materials and work methods, together with a schedule of works in order for comparable quotations from building contractors to be obtained.

**At this stage the consultant should provide a draft copy of the Management Plan to both the owner and the Natural England HEA which covers the above points of the brief. This will enable Natural England to comment further prior to proceeding with an invitation to building contractors to tender for the building work.**

## **7. Tender and Tender Reporting**

Using the agreed specifications and schedules of work, obtain three competitive quotes from building contractors with demonstrable experience of working on building conservation projects and buildings of this type. Evaluate and make an assessment of the tenders and provide a written and justified recommendation to Natural England and the owner as to which offers the best value. At this stage the consultant should also provide a quote for the costs of managing the project through to completion.

## **8. Reporting Requirements**

Natural England will require 2 copies of the final Management Plan in a bound A4 printed format. Where appropriate to guide the repair work A3 annotated drawings folded to A4 should be included.

An additional copy should be submitted to the Conservation Team at North Yorkshire County Council . FAO:

Linda Smith,  
Heritage Section,  
Planning and Countryside Unit,  
County Hall,  
Northallerton,  
DL7 8AH

Tel: 01609-780780

## **Appendix One**

### Higher Level Stewardship: the Repair and Restoration of Historic Buildings Applicants' Guide

A guide to help applicants understand which types of buildings and what restoration works are eligible for grant aid under Higher Level Stewardship (HLS): *attached as separate document.*

## **Appendix Two**

### **Brief for Building Recording**

#### **Introduction**

This brief outlines the necessary level of building recording. It should be used to inform the production of the Management Plan.

#### **Level of Recording**

The building recording should be undertaken to Level 2 of 'Understanding Historic Buildings: A Guide to Good Recording Practice' as referenced in section 4 above. This guidance should be referred to in conjunction with this brief.

Both the exterior and interior of the building will be photographed and a plan made. The examination of the building will produce an analysis of its development and use and the record will include the conclusions reached.

A level 2 record will typically include:

#### **Written Record**

1. The precise location of the building.
2. The date of the record and the name(s) of the recorders.
3. A summary statement describing the buildings type or purpose, materials and possible date(s).
4. A short account of the buildings plan, form, age and development sequence, where known. There should also be a note of building's setting and contribution to the local landscape.

#### **Drawn Record**

1. A site plan drawn to an appropriate scale.
2. A floor plan to scale which should show the form and location of any structural features of historical significance (e.g. blocked doorways and windows, former openings, masonry joints, changes in internal levels).

3. Drawings (to scale or fully dimensioned) recording the form and location of other significant structural detail (e.g. timber framing, roof construction, internal features relating to use such as troughs, fittings etc).

### **Photography**

Photography should be undertaken before and after works. Should the situation warrant it (for example a high level of repair to historically significant fabric) then photos should be taken during works. The record should consist of:

1. Views of the exterior of the building, including details of any structural features of historical significance  
2. Views of the interior of the building, including details of any structural features of historical significance.

The photographs should be tied in with the block plan.

### **Deposition of Record**

The results of the building recording are to be included within the Management Plan.

One copy of the building recording, as described in Section 9 above, should also be submitted to Historic Environment Record at the County Council.

### **Appendix Three**

List of professionals who have expressed an interest in HLS buildings work in Yorkshire and the Humber.

**APPENDIX 4**

**EDAS METHODS STATEMENT**

# ED DENNISON ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES LTD

18 Springdale Way • Beverley • East Yorkshire • HU17 8NU • Tel/Fax: 01482 870723

## MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR A BUILDING RESTORATION PROJECT, ROCKING HALL SHOOTING HUT, ROCKING MOOR, FEWSTON, NORTH YORKSHIRE

### EDAS METHODS STATEMENT

*Summary of the Historical Development and Statement of Significance (item 2 of Natural England brief).*

A brief summary of the historical development of the building will be produced, based on observations made during the site survey and locally-based research. The latter will involve historic map regression and available documentary sources, which will try and date the complex more accurately and link it to local land ownerships. This research will also include a consideration of the history of grouse shooting and the surrounding sporting landscape. The historical development will be linked to appropriate illustrative photographs of the complex from key viewpoints and cross-referenced to a scaled plan.

The Statement of Significance will assess the complex from both a local and regional perspective, and comment on its contribution to the local landscape character, public amenity and biodiversity.

*Analysis and Recording (item 3 of NE brief).*

A survey of the building will be undertaken, looking at its form, use of materials and methods of construction, past function, style of architecture and changes/adaptations over time and the reasons for the changes.

A record of the building as it presently exists will be made, comprising an appropriately scaled ground floor plan, internal/external digital photographs and detailed description, equivalent to Level 2 survey as defined by English Heritage's 2006 publication "Understanding Historic Buildings: A Guide to Good Recording Practice"; a Level 2 survey is a visual and descriptive record. Other drawings will be produced as appropriate - this may include a section through the building to record the former roof structure and other details. The fabric likely to be affected by future repair will also be analysed and commented on. The photographic record will include distant views, general shots of each elevation and close-up shots of any structural or other features of historical significance. The photographic record will be tied into an overall site plan.

Depending on the nature and level of necessary repair identified within the management plan, appropriate recording may also be carried out during and after repair works.

*Wildlife Survey (item 4 of NE brief).*

A desk-top study will be undertaken, to gather and collate information from specialist consultees such as the North and East Yorkshire Ecological Data Centre and the North Yorkshire Bat Group.

All species of bats are fully protected under current legislation and so a systematic daytime inspection for bats roosting in the building will be undertaken between May and August. This is the time when bats are at their most active and hence most likely to be detected (sub-optimal times for such a survey occur the rest of the year, from September to April). The survey would search for droppings beneath and/or within potential bat roost sites, such as any small holes/crevices within the walls, door lintels, roof space(s) and timber support structures.

One nocturnal exit survey using at least three surveyors would be undertaken, supervised by a Bat Licence Holder at this time.

Depending on the findings of the initial daytime survey and the nocturnal survey, an extra nocturnal and/or dawn bat survey may be required.

It is recommended that the results of the bat survey be available in a full report at least two months prior to the commencement of any restoration work. This is to ensure that, should bats be recorded within the building, there is enough time available to apply for, and be granted, a Bat Licence from Natural England before the commencement of any works. The aims would be to ensure that an approved mitigation statement is available for the continued welfare of the existing local bat population, and that any unnecessary and costly delays to the possible commencement date(s) of the proposed restoration works are avoided.

The wildlife survey would evaluate the building for roosting bats according to their national, regional, district, parish and/or local ecological value. The survey would also summarise relevant information from UK and Local Biodiversity Action Plans on priority habitats and species. The wildlife section of the report would be written in the format of a Method Statement, sufficient in detail to submit as part of an application for a Licence from Natural England in Respect of Bats, and also sufficient in detail to satisfy the local authority. It would include sections on the type of surveys undertaken (including a habitat description and an interpretation/evaluation of the results), an impact assessment (including long-term impacts etc.) and a section on mitigation and compensation.

### *Report*

A stand-alone EDAS report would be produced, collating the results of the above, for inclusion as an appendix in the larger management plan and/or summary extraction as necessary.

Ed Dennison  
EDAS  
8 September 2010